

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Near Northwest Neighborhood, Inc.

August 2009

Work continues on California Avenue

The Near Northwest Neighborhood, Inc. (NNN) is proud to announce its 2009 property development efforts. This year the organization will continue work in the California Avenue Revitalization Project Area – by improving a number of homes in the 900 – 1000 blocks of California Avenue. This coming year's work will help to reinforce past investments along California Ave. and Portage Ave. where 14 homes have previously been impacted.

Hammers are already swinging at 921 and 1023 California Ave. – with work planned to start later this summer at 1017 California Ave. In addition to the rehabilitation of these wonderful homes, a dilapidated, vacant house was recently demolished at 1005/1009 California Ave. – ideally making way for a new home to be built in the near future.

The NNN is excited to continue its partnership with Habitat for Humanity of St. Joseph County through the construction of another two story home in the neighborhood! Habitat for Humanity is currently building a home at 1001 California Ave. based on plans that were developed to ensure the home fits into the character of the surrounding neighborhood. This new addition to the neighborhood has all the same features as 601 Cottage Grove - which was built in partnership with Habitat for Humanity last year - including: two stories, full basement, hip roof, large front porch and enhanced architectural details.

All of this exciting work makes California Ave. the perfect location for the 2009 Arts Cafe. As work continues at these properties, the NNN is looking forward to its signature annual event and the opportunity to invite the community to join us as we celebrate the great things happening in our neighborhood. So don't forget to mark the **Arts Cafe** on your calendar for **Sunday, November 1st**.

End of the Summer Celebration 2009

It's a Neighborhood Picnic and all Near Northwest neighbors are invited!
Join us for the 2009 End of the Summer Block Party

Saturday, August 29, 2009

3:00pm until 6:00pm

at Leeper Park Tennis Center

837 N. Lafayette Blvd.

(Intersection of Lafayette & Park Place)

Games, prizes and fun for all.

Free Hotdogs and Hamburgers for everybody.

Bring **and** share your favorite side dish or dessert with neighbors based on the first letter of your last name: A-L Dessert, M-Z Side Dish

Youth must be accompanied by an adult

For more information call Marilyn at 232-9182

Participate in the Citizen's Police Academy: Learn more about how the Police Department works

The South Bend Police Department and the South Bend Weed & Seed Alliance, Inc. have teamed up to offer a Citizen's Police Academy to our community members. Some of our past graduates came to learn about police work. Others wanted to learn how criminals work — so they won't become victims. Still others wanted to be "the eyes and ears" for the police by reporting suspicious activity in their own neighborhoods.

Have you ever wondered.....

...Can police really do the cool stuff I see on T.V.?

...What do I do if I am a victim of a crime?

...How do you dust for finger prints, and how are they examined?

...What programs does the Police Department offer to the public?



If you would like answers to these questions or others like them, then the Citizen's Police Academy may be for you!

YEAR-AT-A-GLANCE

Environmental Committee

Thursday, August 20, 2009

5:30 pm

NNN Offices

Safety Committee

Thursday, August 27, 2009

5:30 pm

NNN Offices

End of the Summer Celebration & Neighborhood Picnic

Saturday, August 29, 2009

3 pm - 6 pm

Leeper Park Tennis Center

837 N. Lafayette Blvd.

Fall Plant Swap

Sunday, September 13, 2009

12:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Grace Community Center Community

Garden, 746 Sherman Avenue

Arts Café

Sunday, November 1, 2009

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

THINGS AROUND TOWN

South Bend Silver Hawks Baseball

August 20-27

Game times vary

Coveleski Stadium

www.silverhawks.com

Football Fridays Block Party

Sept. 4th & 18th, Oct. 2nd, 16th & 23rd

5 pm - 9 pm

Downtown South Bend, in the 100 block of Michigan Street

www.dtsbfootballparty.com

Arsenic and Old Lace

Sept. 11-13, & 16-20

8 pm (Sundays 3 pm)

South Bend Civic Theatre

www.sbct.org

Art Beat

Saturday, September 26, 2009

10 am - 6 pm

Downtown South Bend

www.artbeatsouthbend.org

Robin Williams "Weapons of Self-Destruction" Comedy Tour

Thursday, October 1, 2009

8 pm

Morris Performing Arts Center

QUESTIONS? Call us at 232-9182

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Con't from page 1: Weed & Seed

The Citizen's Police Academy was established to promote an understanding of the South Bend Police Department and its responsibilities. In addition, the Academy provides training in all aspects of law enforcement and the issues that police officers face on a daily basis. Our Academy goal is to foster a spirit of cooperation between the city, its citizens and their Police Department. It is hoped that graduates will get to know more about the men and women who are protecting their community and why they make the decisions they do while performing their duty.

The Citizen's Police Academy is a 13 week program, **beginning September 8, 2009 and ending December 1, 2009. The classes are held on Tuesday nights from 6pm-8:30pm.** Class size is limited to 40 participants, and is free of charge. Potential candidates for the Citizen's Police Academy must meet the following criteria:

- Minimum age of 18 years old,
- No prior felony convictions (certain Misdemeanor Offenses may disqualify you also), and
- Subject to criminal history check.

You may obtain an application in the lobby of the Police Department, at the Near Northwest Neighborhood, Inc. Offices or download an application by visiting the South Bend Police Department web page at www.southbendpolice.com. For further information please contact Academy coordinators: Cpl. Aaron Cassel (574) 235-9401 or Lt. Richard Powers (574)235-9402.



NNN Listserv is FREE!

If you have e-mail access and are not yet on the NNN listserv, please send an email to nnnorganizer@sbcglobal.net so that we can add you. This will allow you to receive electronic communications and reminders about important activities in the neighborhood.

Upward Basketball has another successful year!

By Kanta Khan and Pastor Stephen Perkins

"Every child plays. Every child learns. Every child is a winner." Those words are the theme behind the Upward Basketball Program, sponsored the first week of July by Faith Baptist Church for neighborhood kids from kindergarten through fifth grade. For four days, over fifty children gathered from nine till noon for Faith's yearly basketball camp. Since 2005, Faith has offered Upward Basketball, a nationally known and free program, to neighborhood families and it seems to be catching on. The first year, Faith's Pastor Stephen Perkins remembers having only four children the first day of the camp, apart from 5 little ones who came with one of the coaches (fortunately that week ended with over 30 kids). This year, over 20 attended the first day, with a total of 59 by the end of the week.



Co-hosted with Faith's Food Pantry Partners, Grace Church of Granger (the initial home of Upward Basketball in the Michiana area), coaches and helpers guided the young campers to see basketball as more than raw competition. Rising above the role models currently available in pro sports, the children learned about basketball, respect, about acceptance of people different from themselves, about listening to authority, about love, about God and about what it truly means to be a winner in life.

The old African Proverbs which says, "It takes a village to raise a child" is so true in our day and culture. It seemed as if we had a small village of workers to help make this year's Upward Basketball another successful year. We hope to see your kids next year. We can be reached by contacting Faith Baptist Church at: 574-233-6428.

A Key to Safe Streets... RESPECT

By Marilyn Gachaw

In the near future the Safety Committee will be sharing some innovative crime prevention approaches with neighbors throughout the near northwest neighborhood. Meanwhile here's a list of do's and don'ts I'd like to share with you to jump start the momentum for building safer neighborhoods. Everyone can get involved. It doesn't matter if you've just moved in or have been here for 50 years, whether you are a tenant or homeowner; you are a neighbor and part of what makes this neighborhood good or bad!

Since the core of a good neighborhood is the type of relationships established among its neighbors, here's the first step in building positive relationships - respect those next door, down the street and around the corner. While people have their own ideas of what a good neighbor is, there are some basic guidelines established either through the City's code and zoning laws or through common courtesies that improve the quality of life in our neighborhood. If everyone practices this list of do's and don'ts we're on our way to keeping our neighborhood friendly, clean and safe. Beginning today, together let's make a difference – RESPECT your neighborhood!

Do's

- Maintain your yards – cut down tall weeds and vegetation.
- Schedule big items of household waste for a large trash pickup.
- Keep your dog on a leash when it is off of your property.
- Clean up your pet's animal waste deposited on public and private property.
- Place your bagged household garbage (not yard waste, recyclables or construction materials) in the city container for trash pickup on your designated day.
- Keep the area around your trash container picked up.

Don'ts

- Park on unpaved yards, lawns or in the alley. Keep motorcycles/mopeds off of sidewalks.
- Play loud music, TV or have voices that can be heard outside of your apartment, home or car.
- Ask visitors to blow their car horn to announce their arrival. Ask them to park and knock on your door or call you on a cell phone.
- Place BIG trash items out until the evening before the scheduled pick up date.
- Allow your dog to bark excessively.
- Leave emptied trash containers at the curb side after collection.
- Throw litter on the ground, sidewalk or in the street. Dispose of empty bottles, candy wrappings, etc. into a trash container.