NNN Community Dates

NNN Chili Supper
Wednesday March 7, 6-8PM, Holy Cross School Gymnasium, 1020 Wilbur St

NNN Adopt a Block and Mulch Madness
Saturday, April 14, 8AM-Noon, starting from the NNN Community Center, 1013 Portage

The Local Cup Pay-It-Forward Coffee Shop at 1009 Portage Avenue is Open
FRIDAY 9AM-1PM
SATURDAY 9AM-1PM
SUNDAY 1-4 PM

Yoga Classes in the Mary Grace Room with Anne Clark
Mondays and Wednesdays, 4:00-5:15 PM

Drawing & Painting with David Allen
Fridays, 10 AM-12 PM

NNN Community Center, $10 per session
Zumba with Carlos Centellas in the Community Center
Tuesdays and Fridays, 6-7 PM, $5.00

Urban Garden Farmer’s Market;
On Hatus until Late Spring

NNN 55+ Group
Monthly Potluck Dinner, Call 232.9182 for details.

Kids Time in the Community Center or Mary Grace Room, 10-11:30 AM
January 20 and 27; February 3, 10 and 24; March 3 and 24; April 7, 21, 28; May 5

Registration Required Events:
Please Call the office for additional contact information

Girl Scout Troop 51006 Meets Monday Nights
SB Neighborhood Resources Connection’s Engaging Youth Engaging Neighborhoods course meets Wednesdays
John Raven is holding Spinefullness classes on Wednesdays
Michiana Community Male Chorus meets Thursday evenings
Michiana Monologues Rehearses on Sundays
Argentine Tango Classes will be starting on Saturday Evenings in February

Muessel School will be hosting Face (Family and Community Engagement) adult learning sessions of various lengths on Saturdays, also starting in February

Near Northwest Neighborhood, Inc.
1007 Portage Ave
South Bend, IN 46624

Save the DATE

NNN Chili Supper and Adopt a Block Dates Scheduled.

We are pleased to announce dates for our major annual NNN Spring events.

This year we are holding the Chili Supper on Wednesday, March 7. The Chili supper is always a solidly engaging community event where we relax and enjoy each the company of our neighbors.

The supper will start at 6 PM at the Holy Cross School Gymnasium.

We are looking for volunteers for set up at 4 PM and take down at 8 PM. We also need kitchen helpers from 5 PM through the evening.

All Chili, Corn Bread and desserts for the event are donated by neighbors who make this event possible. Please call the office (232.9182) if you can help with any of these food items.

Adopt a Block is our Earth Day-connected event when we come together and clean up our neighborhood. April 14 (one week before Earth Day) is the date for this year’s event.

In addition to neighbors uniting to clean up our neighborhood streets, neighbors and Notre Dame volunteers can volunteer to hoist shovels for Mulch Madness. See Page 3 for more on their worthy mission.

Meet at the 1013 Portage Community Center at 8 AM on April 14 for light munchies and coffee, before getting adoption block and mulch assignments and heading out into the neighborhood to clean it up!

Finally, the NNN Annual Meeting date is not yet finalized. We are evaluating how the annual membership meeting can better serve our member interests. We will publish the date and event details soon, and hope you will look out for this announcement.

This work is funded for one year by an environmental justice grant from the EPA and a matching grant from the St. Joseph County Community Foundation.

We have an awesome trio, that brings a wide range of relationships and experiences to us. Please welcome our Community Outreach Team.

Kim Brantley attended Muessell primary school as a child and is a long-time member of St. Paul Bethel Baptist Church at Lindsey and Scott Streets. She works part-time as a receptionist at Alford’s Mortuary.

Emily Dean moved to the neighborhood last year with her husband who is studying at Notre Dame. Previously, she taught high school history in a racially and culturally diverse school system in Virginia. Emily has two preschool age children.

Kim Clowers helped start an anti-violence initiative in the Fremont Park neighborhood after a series of shootings there. She helped organize a block-party that drew six hundred people, and started a literacy program and peace circles for children. For a time she was a NNN neighbor, living on Diamond Ave.

Our Community Outreach Team will focus on the problem of high levels of lead contamination in our neighborhood. They will be building relationships with many families in Census Tract 6 with children under the age of seven.

One goal will be to increase the percentage of children who have been tested for lead contamination. (Only 8% of the children have been tested in recent years).

YOGA Class Longevity

The next time you see our resident Yoga Guru, Ann Clark, shake her hand and thank her for 5 years of yoga classes at the NNN.

Ann recently totaled up sign ins on notebooks she uses to record who comes to class. It turns out there are almost 1,700 sign ins on those pages. That means hundreds of neighbors, friends and acquaintances have Anne and the NNN to thank for a firm grounding in the Practice of Yoga.

Ann still holds Yoga classes Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00-5:15 in the Mary Grace Room, 1005 Portage Ave. Monday is Gentle Restorative Yoga and Wednesday is Developing Your Yoga Practice. All are welcome.

BYO mat and wear loose fitting, comfortable clothing to find out why Ann has helped so many for so many years enjoy the benefits of practicing Yoga.
Organizing Project Steering Committee

Last year, with help from our Neighborhood Networker, Andre Stoner, the NNN has strengthened and built new relationships with leaders across the community and hosted trainings in one-on-one relational meetings. This helped build a base for the NNN to give leadership to pressing issues of lead contamination and the possibilities of our Portage grocery down-sizing or closing.

Now, seven leaders in the neighborhood have stepped up to give support and direction to our ongoing community organizing work. This committee is forming, distinct from the NNN Board of Directors, to increase leadership opportunities, and the voice of neighbors regarding issues which impact our neighborhood. They will listen to neighbors, strategize about current work and help identify other specific issues affecting our neighborhood where we can make a difference. This Steering Committee met for the first time in December.

Members are:

- Rev. Shirley Coates, pastor at Emmanuel Community Church
- Jess Hunter-Bowman, recent law school grad, father, member of Cana Community, Cottage Grove neighbor
- Dela Jonez, mom, grandma, and long-time resident of Cleveland Ave
- Joy Moore, immigration attorney, mom and neighbor on Cottage Grove
- Mike McGee, elder at Kingdom Life Christian Cathedral, sanitation worker in our neighborhood
- Rev. Gilbert Washington, pastor of St. Paul Bethel Baptist Church
- Traci Winston, founder of Hear Our Tears, and a member of St. Paul Bethel Baptist Church.

Mike Hebbeler will serve as an NNN board liaison to this steering committee.

We are excited about the experiences and relationships of each member of the Steering Committee and the leadership they will bring as we work together to create this kind of community. As you see them, please introduce yourself and share your vision for the neighborhood with them.

Coal Line Trail Update

The City of South Bend has updated us on the Coal Line Trail, which is an anticipated recreational trail connecting the South West Edge of the NNN with the East Bank Trail. It will be constructed in Phases and there will be future Public Meetings as planning for the trail progresses.

Made possible by federal transportation funds, construction on the Coal Line Trail project is slated to begin in 2020 and continue in 2021. For more information, including the proposed trail route details and public presentations to date, please visit www.coaline trail.com.