



VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD



OCTOBER '21 NEWS

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- The Ventura Village Neighborhood Association meeting for October will be Wednesday, Oct 13th at 7 PM. We will meet in person at ICCM Church, 1812 Park or by Zoom. You can obtain the link by emailing or calling our neighborhood.
- The Phillips Neighborhood Clean Sweep will be Saturday, October 9th. You can join your neighbors to help clean up by meeting at Welna Hardware, 2438 Bloomington, or at the Center for Changing Lives, 2400 Park at 9 AM. Please put out any household trash by 9 AM
- Our Saviour's Community Services has a new permanent Executive Director. He is Michael Huffman, who previously served as director of Outreach and Services at St. Stephen's.
- In September the Indigenous Peoples Task Force submitted a General Land Use Application to the City of Minneapolis for development of the Mikwanedun Audisookon Center for Art and Wellness. This is a necessary step to building the Center at the 2300 block of 13th Avenue.
- Also in September Norway House had it's groundbreaking for the expansion of it's current building on Franklin Avenue.
- Every Thursday in October Hope Community is having a harvest distribution and community workday at it's garden at 1900 Portland. You are invited to help from 4 PM till 7 PM.
- You can now listen to the KRSM Youth Interns introduced in last month's Alley. They now have their own show every Saturday 12 to 2 PM on KRSM Radio, 98.9 FM.

STILL CLEANING UP THE PAST STEVE DREYER

This residential home in Ventura Village was one that showed elevated levels of arsenic in its soil when the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) began testing in 2004. In 2007 residences in Phillips and nearby neighborhoods were listed on the National Priorities List to be remediated. Remediation included the removal, disposal and replacement of the residence's topsoil. Since 2004 the EPA has completed remediation activities at over 500 residential properties in the neighborhood. This year the last 4 properties that tested positive including this home on East 21st Street will be remediated.



Above 1 & 2: Contaminated soil being removed
Left: Remediation completed



WE WANT YOUR LEAVES MELISSA TRENT

Are you looking for a sustainable way to get rid of your leaves this fall?! You can donate your leaves to our backyard farm at Waite House Community Center, and they will be incorporated into our compost system. By donating your leaves to us, you'll be helping to build healthy, nutrient rich soil for our garden beds next spring, and protect our bare soil, by covering for the winter

How it works:

Send me (Farmer Mel) an email between October and November notifying me that you have leaves that you'd like to be picked up. Please include the location and the best time to pick them up. I, or a community volunteer will respond to you within one week for pickup. Contact Melissat@pillsburyunited.org for pickup and drop off locations.



Pillsbury United Farm Apprentices: Eli, Riga, Gemo, and Farmer Mel

Fall Sustainable Gardening tip:

Once you've completed pruning your perennials, or removing your annual plants for the season, put your gardens "to bed" by covering any bare space with leaf mulch or leaves. Adding leaves to the surface of your garden protects the soil from weathering and erosion, insulates your perennial plants, adds life to the soil, and provides protective habitat for animals and insects in the spring.

CONSIDERING SPACE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD KALI PLIEGO

Crime prevention depends greatly on the built environment; taking careful consideration of access points (gates, doors), hard and soft barriers (fences and flower beds), sight lines (vegetation is cut back), and activated space. As you move around the neighborhood, take note of vacant lots and buildings, boarded windows, and graffitied walls. Experience tells us that as we allow these "negative" spaces to linger, the stronger the connection is to criminal activity. Community activation of space is defined by the term territoriality. Within this term is the word "territorial", which suggests a protective posture. It's about ownership, pride, care, and community. Crimes are less likely to occur where people perceive the space is cared for (source: Cozens, Paul and Love, Terrence; 2017; The Dark Side of CPTED).

Ventura Village has great examples in real life of this concept taking root. From the crews that gather to paint over graffiti, to the groundbreaking to expand Norway House, to a revitalized 628 E Franklin, to New Life Family Services clinic currently under construction, and more. All this activation has an impact on safety!

But we also continue to deal with challenges of crime hot spots and homeless encampments. What are ways the community can show up as caretakers of our space, with a lens specifically focused on these issues? With the school year now freshly upon us, perhaps it's community members walking and biking around the neighborhood at bus times to make sure our children are protected. Be intentional about chatting with neighbors about this topic, and see what you come up with—then, don't forget to ACT!

KRSM ANDREA PIERRE

Great things are coming up at KRSM this fall. We had a very productive summer adding 13 new shows to the line up. We just completed our first Open Streets festival at West Broadway on September 11th. It was so much fun being out in community and making new connections. Please look for us at Open Streets Lyndale on October 10th and Open Streets Minnehaha on October 24th. Next year we are planning huge giveaways and a celebration to commemorate 5 years broadcasting live on air! Stay tuned for more information in the coming months. If you would like to reach out to us to donate, volunteer or connect our email and website is contact@KRSMradio.org or www.KRSMradio.org

A FRESH START ANNA GRUEN

After a year and a half of juggling online learning and hybrid learning, Trinity First Lutheran School has returned for the 2021-2022 school year with full in-person classes.

This Lutheran school in the heart of the Phillips neighborhood focuses on holistic family education and support. Not only do we offer sports, small classroom sizes, and quality academics for students, but parents are also given a variety of resources: family education nights, ESL classes, and a participation program that allows them to earn credit towards lowering their tuition.

Our special education program also sets us apart. For over 20 years, students with a variety of gifts and learning styles have been successfully served through this program. We are grateful to be able to serve the community in this special way.

New to us this year is our campus Pastor Jon Kuehne. Since joining us in January, Pastor Jon has been providing spiritual leadership for our staff, students, and families.

We might say we're ready for a "normal year" again, but we know that there is no such thing as "normal"! Every day and every school year is a miraculous adventure and an opportunity to grow and change together as a community. We still have space in our enrollment, but classes are filling up quickly. If you are looking for a school family, call to register your child today at (612) 871-2353