



The Victory View

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Special points of interest:

- Victory Neighborhood is the Garden Spot of the city, a Hidden Gem , the Best Undiscovered Neighborhood , has Victory Memorial Drive winding through it and is within blocks of the Mighty Mississippi . What do you like best about the Victory Neighborhood ?



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What Do You Love About the Victory Neighborhood?

What are the things that you love about living in the Victory Neighborhood? Is it Victory Memorial Drive, the people/your neighbors, or the small town feel or sense of community? If you are a new resident of the neighborhood, what drew you here? The quality and affordability of the homes, the local restaurants, the arts scene or the high-quality elementary school? The Victory Neighborhood Association (ViNA) would like to know.

On the other hand, where are the opportunities for improvement in the neighborhood? Do we need more community events or more youth activities? More businesses?

Do you see issues and problems that challenge the stability of the neighborhood , such as lack of upkeep of houses and yards , trash in the streets , traffic at 44th and Penn? ViNA would like to know this as well.

ViNA is a partner with the City in building a better city and creating and maintaining a vibrant, safe, welcoming and livable neighborhood. As ViNA works to preserve and build on the existing assets of the neighborhood and address the issues and problems that challenge us, the ViNA Board of Directors wants to know where the residents think the organization should be focusing their efforts in the next



What we love about the neighborhood .

18 months.

We began asking this question at the May 25 neighborhood meeting and surveyed residents at the Ice Cream Social. We will continue to survey residents over the course of the summer. You can obtain the survey from the ViNA office, in area businesses and on our website. Watch the website for a link where you can take the survey online if you prefer. Questions ? Contact the ViNA office.

Camden Farmers Market—Opens July 12



The Camden Farmers Market will open for its FIFTH year on Thursday, July 12th at 3 pm. Our regular vendors offering fresh lo-



cally grown produce will be returning and be joined by a vendor selling home processed jams and pickles.

Also NEW this year, the Camden Farmers Market will be accepting EBT. The CMF is open at The Warren, 4400 Osseo Road, every Thursday through October 4. 3-7 pm.

Block Clubs Wanted

A neighborhood block club is a group of neighbors committed to working together to watch out for one another and address quality of life issues that affect their neighborhood. Block clubs provide the structure through which the police, city officials, and the community meet one another; building trust and recognition in a partnership to

reduce crime and improve neighborhood livability.

Neighborhood block clubs are a good defense against crime because neighbors that know one another create safe neighborhoods. Organizing a neighborhood block



A block club is a group of neighbors working together

club starts with just one person who is interested in making a difference in his/her neighborhood. Block clubs provide a means for us to get to know our neighbors and work together toward common solutions to common problems. When we take time to meet our neighbors, we often find they share the same concerns and problems.

If you are interested in starting a block club or being a key communicator for your block please contact Kristopher Ehlert at the Victory Neighborhood Association.

Outreach to Asian Residents

The Victory Neighborhood Association is a partner with the Patrick Henry High School (PHHS) Asian Cultural Club to reach out and engage our Asian residents. The latest census shows that nearly 5% of Victory residents are Asian, but rarely, if ever, do they participate in the many projects, activities, programs and events that ViNA has to offer.

This summer, two members of the ACC are working as interns for ViNA to try to identify and connect with the Asian families in the neighborhood. They invited several families to the Ice Cream Social and we were happy to see some of them there. The interns will continue their out-

reach to survey the Asian residents about their likes and dislikes about living in the neighborhood and to try to connect them with their neighbors for National Night Out.

If you know of an Asian family on your block with whom you would like to connect, our interns can help—especially with interpretation. Contact the ViNA office if we can help with our outreach.

ViNA interns can help residents connect with their Asian neighbors.

Meet Your Directors - David Dexheimer

David has been a resident of the Victory Neighborhood for 15 years.

"I embrace the diversity that this neighborhood has to offer and find it amazing that even though we are part of a major city, the feel of Victory is like a small



town where everyone knows everyone." Passionate about the community, the desire to break the stereotype of "North Minneapolis" and helping make this neighborhood the

best place to live in Minneapolis are the main drivers that spurred David to get involved with the Victory Board.

The proud parent of two sedate cats and two neurotic dogs, David enjoys gardening and spending time with his "family" of friends here in Victory.

Business Corner– Shop Local !

Are you aware of all of the products and services that are available right here in your own neighborhood? How many of our local businesses do you frequent? What drives your decision to shop locally—or not?

Through a Great Streets Business Support Grant from the City of Minneapolis, The Victory Neighborhood Association has created a 'brand' for our businesses on the two commercial nodes at 44th and Penn and 42nd and Thomas and will be promoting those



businesses with a mailer three times this year. The purpose is to increase awareness of our local businesses and encourage our residents to patronize them.

In order to gauge the positive impact of these efforts, we are surveying both the local business owners and a random sampling of Northside residents before the mailer goes out to measure the current awareness

level. After the three mailers go out we will resurvey to see if awareness has increased and if there is any increase in patronage.

Many residents comment that they would like to see additional businesses in our neighborhood. If we are to attract more businesses we need to show that we support the ones that we have. Plus shopping locally helps our local economy. Studies show that for every \$100 spent in a locally owned business, \$68 stays in the community (in wages, taxes etc.). That same \$100 spent in a big box store or chain restaurant leaves only \$43 in the community.

Great Events - Thank You!

Our residents have let us know that our events are an important part of living in Victory. The events would not take place without our wonderful volunteers and community partners. The 18th annual Victory/Camden Garage Sale took place on June 2 with over 80 participants. New this year was a Flea Market held in the gym at Loring Community School. Special thanks for Angela Scaletta for coordinating everything and organizing the

map and to Guided Salvage for the printing of the map which they have sponsored for many years. We would also like to thank the staff at Loring School for their cooperation. Even though it was extremely hot and muggy, the 19th annual Ice Cream Social was held on June 27 with great attendance. We would like to thank Emily Wolfe and her wonderful staff at Webber Park, Jon Olson's Dairy Queen for providing the ice cream

sundaes, performances by the Asian Cultural Club students who attend Patrick Henry and Larry Thomas and the Abbott Blues Band for the music. Of course, the members of the Events Committee and the ViNA Board of Directors, and other volunteers, played an important part in the success of the event. If you would like to get involved in planning future events, please contact the ViNA Office - 529-9558.

Garden Tour

The Victory Neighborhood has been called by some the "Garden Spot" of the city—a title that is richly deserved because of the number and variety of gardens in the neighborhood. Last year's Garden Tour was even featured on WCCO TV. August 5, will



be everyone's opportunity this year to get up close and personal with some of these gardens.

The 4th annual Garden Tour will once again begin with a community picnic at noon at the Loring

Schoolyard Garden at 44th and Thomas. "Tourists" can also pick up their tour guides there and between 1 and 4 pm take the self guided tour of this year's gardens. This year we are also encouraging local realtors to bring their home hunting clients to the tour to showcase the Garden Spot of the city.

VICTORY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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Board of Directors.

Chairman: Diane Spector
Vice Chairman: David Dexheimer
Secretary: Kris Brogan
Treasurer: Ann Kaari
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Kristopher Ehlert
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More to come Events

Music in the Heart of Victory - Fridays in August

Music on the patio at Papa's Restaurant at 42nd and Thomas 5 pm—7 pm on Fridays in August; August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31. Everyone welcome. Sponsored by Papa's Restaurant , Camden Music School , and ViNA

Victory Garden Tour - August 5

Pick up your tour guide and start the self guided tour with a community picnic at the Loring Schoolyard Garden—44th and Thomas. Picnic noon—1 pm .Garden Tour 1—4 pm. Door PRIZES.

Movie in the Park - August 11

Bring your blanket or lawn chair to Victory Park (4416 Upton next to Loring School) for a viewing of the Academy Award winning movie "The Help" . The movie begins at dusk. Popcorn and Lemonade will be provided.

Kids Cook Potluck Picnics for the Community

Sunday , July 29th -5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 12th – Pie Auction Event -5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. Pizza, Potluck and Pies

In the Schoolyard Garden—44th and Thomas

Everyone has Riverfront Property

Besides living in the Garden Spot of the city , we can also say that everyone who lives in the Victory Neighborhood truly has riverfront property. We live within blocks of one of the largest and longest rivers in the world ; the Mighty Mississippi.

Sometimes those of us who have lived in the area for a long time and even the newcomers tend to take the river for granted . We forget what a beautiful , powerful and important resource the river is and the responsibility we have to be stewards of the river to ensure that it remains a great resource for generations to come. We very often don't connect (or remember to connect) our actions in our homes, yards and gardens and

with in the community with the river and the impacts they have on it.

Every catch basin in the Victory neighborhood connects to the stormwater sewer system which eventually, one way or another, ends up in the Mississippi . Grass clippings, leaves and other yard waste that are in the street enter the stormwater system and the river where they add nutrients that contribute to algae bloom. That goes for pet



droppings as well . The algae , beside being ugly , sucks the oxygen out of the water that is needed by fish and other aquatic life.

To be good stewards of the Mississippi River , as

well as Ryan Lake and Shingle Creek through which some of our stormwater flows, remember the following :

- Keep grass clippings out of the street .
- If you fertilize your lawn do not allow the excess to flow off of hard surfaces into the street.
- Do not rake your leaves into the street—even when the street sweepers are coming the next day !
- Pick up pet waste and dispose of it properly—even in your own yard— to prevent it from washing into the street and down into the stormwater system .
- Keep the catch basins free so that stormwater ONLY can flow freely into the stormwater system .