



Community Newsletter

May 18, 2009

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**Knock Knock,
Who's there?
NHS ☺**

Soon a surveyor will be knocking on your door and asking for your opinion, a paper survey may come in the mail or an email with a link to complete an electronic survey. The survey will be asking how you feel about the neighborhood. A participatory evaluation method will be used to measure impact and inform change.

The City of Racine officially adopted the ***Live Towerview: Building a Neighborhood of Choice*** in January of this year. This vision was developed from neighborhood interviews, community meetings and focus groups. This plan provides guidance to all those concerned about neighborhood revitalization in Racine around the most effective alignment of strategies to outcomes and how resources can best be allocated to maximize neighborhood impact.

This vision includes specific actions that will lead to preserve, protect and perpetuate the value of residential neighborhoods. The definitive outcome of successful neighborhood revitalization is transitioning an urban neighborhood into a desirable neighborhood of choice. In this kind of neighborhood it makes economical and emotional sense for people to invest their time, money and energy. In this kind of neighborhood neighbors are able to successfully manage neighborhood related issues and change.

Community Leaders continue to work together to create positive change in the Towerview neighborhood. Positive events bring neighbors together. These include landscaping projects, block parties, yard sales, block lighting projects, installing coordinated house numbers – a whole range of block-focused activities that encourage neighbors to work with each other. Along with these block-focused projects there are events and activities that can help transform neighborhood image and engage people. These can include a neighborhood picnic, formation of groups of people interested in certain things like cooking, gardening, or youth activities. We have planned some neighborhood pride events for the summer.

Walden Green School is hosting a Garden Party May 29th. Students and neighbors are planting a rain garden in the outdoor classroom.

Neighbors will join together to cheer up the playground on 17th and Grand on June 6th in celebration of National NeighborWorks week. Neighbors are planting flowers and painting park benches a neighbor is registering a Grand Ave American Idol contest.

One block is hanging American Flags on porches to celebrate the 4th of July followed by a turkey and fish fry in the block captain's back yard.

We look forward to collaborating with neighbors and partners to initiate the strategies outlined in the *Live Towerview: Building a Neighborhood of Choice*. Many people live in communities where nobody listens. Efforts will be made to hear from you but you have to speak up to be heard. We are anxious for your participation.

Stay informed visit our website www.nhswi.org or call Rachel Westergren the NHS Community Builder at 633-3330 extension 226 to get involved.