

# Selby Community News

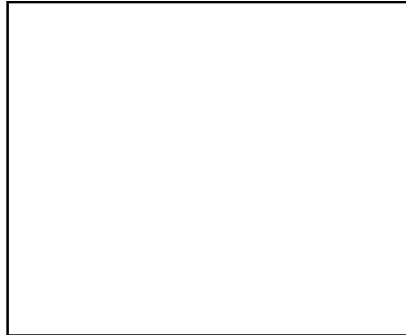
Volume 1, Issue 2

Information on this page prepared by Selby Area CDC

July/August 2002

## Selby Grotto Project on the Move

Selby Area CDC and Legacy Management & Development plan a fall construction start for commercial space and housing along Selby Avenue at Grotto Street extending west toward Avon. We are fine-tuning the details and seeking tenants for office/retail space on a great commercial corridor. Call 651-291-7704 for more information.



## “Selby Way” Theme... What do you think?

As we continue strengthening the Selby Avenue area we are trying to capture in words that special something about our neighborhood. “Selby Way” seems to describe a place and a way of doing things. We'd like your feedback on what Selby Way means to you? Is it knowing your neighbors, the names of the business owners, the fact that people help one another in all kinds of ways? Give your thoughts in 25 words or less and forward to [www.selbyareacdc.org](http://www.selbyareacdc.org). Or write us at Selby Area CDC 626 Selby Avenue, Ste. C. St. Paul MN, 55104. We will collect your thoughts to use for promoting the area.

## Rondo Days Celebration

Mark your calendars for July 20 & 21 for the Annual Rondo Days Celebration, which will be held at J.J. Hill School. You know there will be food to tantalize everyone's taste buds, lots of folks you haven't seen in a while, rides for the little ones, much talent on stage, good music and just an all around good time. For information about Rondo Days call 651-646-6597.

## Looking for Leaders

The Summit University Area Neighborhood Leadership Program (NLP) is recruiting candidates for its next training session to begin in fall 2002. Participants explore the art of and practice of community leadership by learning new skills and assessing leadership styles. The session kicks off with a two-day retreat in late September followed by a series of five workshops that conclude in February. Residents from all walks of life, aged 18-85 who live, work or volunteer in the Summit-University neighborhood are encouraged to apply. For more information call Patti Jo Martin at 651-642-4057.

## Fix-Up Funds Still Available

Attention homeowners living between Selby, Victoria, Lexington and Concordia. The STAR Exterior Fix-Up Matching Fund still has resources available for income-eligible homeowners. Call Selby Area CDC at 651-291-7704 for more information.

## Selby Avenue Development Implementation Task Force Underway

A key result of the March Selby Avenue Visioning session was renewed commitment to creating a more pedestrian friendly avenue. The Selby Coalition group that began working on recommendations three years ago is expanding into a “let's get the work done” task force. For more information call 651-291-7704.

The Selby Community News is a collaboration of Selby Area CDC, Summit University Planning Council, Youth Service Community Institute, and Summit-University Weed and Seed. We have joined together to provide information to the Summit University Area residents regarding our programs and services.

If you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact any of the organizations.

# The Front Porch

627 Selby Avenue • Phone Number 651-228-1855 • Email district8@ci.stpaul.mn.us • www.district8staul.org

## National Night Out

National Night out is August 6. Events that night in Saint Paul are planned in each neighborhood. Plans for the Summit-University neighborhood National Night Out are being coordinated by Barbara Metzger along with volunteers from block clubs and others in the neighborhood. Barbara encourages persons to contact her if they would like in the past or new things that they would like included in this event. Volunteers are also needed to help with planning and carrying out the event. She can be reached in the office, 627 Selby, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Monday, Wednesday or Thursday. She can be reached by telephone at 228-1855



## Board Bio: Darryl F. Spence, Sr.

*In each issue of the Front Porch, one of the members of the SUPC is introduced with some personal information about that member.*

After growing up in Ohio and spending three years in the Air Force, Darryl Spence came to St. Paul and settled in the Summit- University neighborhood. He met his wife when they both worked at HealthPartners; they have an eleven-year-old daughter, Brianna, and a four-year-old son, D.J. Darryl is Assistant Pastor at Community Baptist Church in North Minneapolis. He plans to begin seminary studies in the fall as well as to run for the position of State Representative from District 65A.

Darryl has lived on Carroll Avenue for eleven years. "Summit- University is the best neighborhood with the least recognition that I've ever lived in," he says. "It's a true representation of what America is about."

## OVER THE BACK FENCE

### Things We Do in Summit-U

#### Trudy (Dayton Avenue)

I like to walk around the Cathedral and count the angels. I love the four angels that exemplify the four virtues in the four corners just below the dome.

#### Alfonso (Ashland Avenue)

I like working in my yard. In the summer I have a garden--mostly flowers. It's a quiet neighborhood, not too noisy.

#### Tanya (Fuller Avenue)

I just moved here this winter. Now I like having a yard to work on--it's good for the kids too. And it's comfortable because I'm within walking distance of shopping.

#### Nanette (Victoria Avenue)

I moved here from Chicago in January, and I'm nowhere near done exploring. I chose St. Paul over Minneapolis because it's more of a neighborhood and reminds me of Oak Park, where I used to live. My dog Solomon is perfectly happy too.

#### Ron (Summit Avenue)

It's a good place to walk the dog. My wife goes to the Mississippi Market all the time. We've been thinking of trying Zanders too.

#### Scott, Jennifer, and baby Owen (Selby Avenue)

We like to walk around with the baby. On Selby we go the coffeehouse Golden Thyme and to Goody's Par Four barbershop. We've been watching the renovation on the building across the street from where we live. We're excited about all the changes on Selby.

#### Golden Thyme: Heart of a Neighborhood

"We're halfway between a bar and a church," says Mychael Wright, owner and operator of Golden Thyme, the gourmet coffeehouse and cafe at 921 Selby Avenue. "Since we opened two years ago, we've become a gathering place for the neighborhood."

Mychael has spent 37 of his 44 years in Summit-University area, completing his training as a computer graphics specialist at the Technical College and, along with his wife, raising his three children here. He ran the Grand Slam in Minneapolis, the largest entertainment facility in the Upper Midwest, for five years, and then decided to join with his brother-in-law, who was renovating the building in which the Golden Thyme now exists. He wanted to invest in a place that would offer fellowship to all types of people in the neighborhood that had, as he says, become isolated from itself.

"Probably the most exciting thing is the number of reunions that have happened here," Mychael comments. "Neighbors who haven't seen each other for years reconnect at the Golden Thyme. And people from organizations and businesses hold their meetings here--they've noticed they get a lot more done under this roof than at their offices."

The Golden Thyme is open weekdays from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sundays 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Its name comes from a classic rhythm-and-blues tune by Frankie Beverly Maze called Its Your Golden Time of Day.

"But 'Golden Thyme'?" the interviewer asks. "Why that?"

Mychael, stopping to greet a customer, smiles. "It's a good conversation piece," he replies.

---

---

# ◆ This is... For The Youth ◆

---

---

Volume 1, Issue 2

The information on this page was compiled and/or written by YSCI.

July 2002

---

---

## **SUMMIT UNIVERSITY "STANDS UP FOR CHILDREN"**

On Saturday, June 8th, over 300 community members gathered at Carty Park (People's Park) to **stand together** in support of our children and celebrate. Several organizations distributed information regarding their programs. They also provided an assortment of activities that included face painting, children's crafts, 3 on 3 basketball and others. St. Paul Police and Fire Fighters joined us for the day with a Fire Truck, Squad Car, and Ambulance. A special thank you to Officer Ries who cooked hotdogs and hamburgers all day.

The sponsors want to thank the following organizations, businesses and individuals for their donations: Aurora St. Anthony Neighborhood Develop Corporation, Baldinger's Bakery, Art Blakey Sr., Officer Darryl Boerger, CMI, Inc. - New Beginning Ctr., Booker Construction, Catholic Charities, City of Saint Paul, Julia Cruz, Officer Bob Donahue, Dale Street Greenhouse, Fabulous Fern's Bar & Grill, Will Hale's Tadpole Parade, William Flowers, Theresa Fountain, Golden Thyme Coffee, Officer Nick Kellum, Officer Ian Kough, Robert Logan, McDonald's, Minnesota Twins, Moody-Roberson Family, Maurice Nins, Northwest Midway Family Center, Paisanos, Precious Unique Boutique, Resources for Child Care, River of Life - Generation Zion, Rivertown Market, St. Paul Saints, Sanctuary of the Heart, Rev. Darryl Spence, THE SALON for you,! Mrs. Carrie Thomas, University Bank, Western State Bank, Youth Service Community Institute, and YWCA of St. Paul

The sponsors of the event were Youth Service Community Institute Afterschool Collaborative, Saint Paul Police and Fire Departments, Summit university Planning Council, Summit University Weed and Seed, Resources for Childcare, Northwest Family Center/Healthy Start & Speak Up, Clean Up Crime.

Stand for Children is American's only nationwide grassroots voice for children.

## **2002 STATEWIDE YOUTH SUMMIT!**

Save the date for Wednesday, November 6, 2002! The MN Alliance with Youth Statewide Summit will be held at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The theme is "Connecting the Five Promises Across Streams of Service." The focus will be on resource sharing among organizations and communities that utilize the Five Promises, strengthening our community, and organizational efforts. Sessions will share stories about building successful collaborations and partnerships, youth policy, securing public/private resources and support, connecting across generations, project planning for impact, reaching unconnected kids, and preparing the community and organizations for transition and reentry students, and service as a delivery tool for the Five Promises. Don't miss this opportunity to learn and network with youth and adults from around the state focused on fulfilling the 5 Promises.

For more information check out the MN Alliance with Youth web site at [www.mnyouth.org](http://www.mnyouth.org)

## **VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR STUDY ON PEOPLE RAISING GRANDCHILDREN, OTHER YOUNG RELATIVES**

Volunteers are being sought to participate in a study on people 60 years of age and older who are raising their grandchildren and other people's children. All information will be confidential. Participants will not be identified and their names will not be used.

It involves only a single interview, one-to-two hours in length. Interviews will be conducted face-to-face in your home or at a local community agency. Each participant will receive a \$20 Target gift card as compensation immediately after the interview.

To volunteer for the study, contact Priscilla Gibson, the University of Minnesota School of Social Work at 612-624-3678 or 1-800-779-8636. Dr. Gibson will provide additional information or answer any questions about the study.

---

---



## Summit U Weed and Seed

### **What is Weed and Seed?**

Operation Weed and Seed is a U.S. Department of Justice community-based initiative, it is a multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and community revitalization.

Operation Weed and Seed is foremost a strategy—rather than a grant program—which aims to prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and gang activity in designated high crime neighborhoods across the country.

The strategy involves a two-pronged approach: law enforcement agencies and prosecutors cooperate in "weeding out" criminals who participate in violent crime and drug abuse, attempting to prevent their return to the targeted area; and "seeding" brings programs and human services to the area, encompassing prevention, intervention, treatment, and neighborhood revitalization. A community-orientated policing component bridges weeding and seeding strategies. Officers obtain helpful information from area residents for weeding efforts while they aid residents in obtaining information about community revitalization and seeding resources. Through these efforts, residents throughout America have hope that they can enjoy a safer and better quality of life.

### **Urban Youth Talent Show**

What does a Michael Jackson imitator, rappers, dancers and some of the best vocalists to hit the Twin Cities have in common?

The final Urban Youth Talent Show competition and After Party will be July 13th, at the RiverCentre. The Best of the Best will try out for title of Grand Prize winner of the first annual Urban Youth Talent show. Tickets cost \$10.00 and are available through Ticket Masters and community outlets.

The talent show is from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM. The After party will be from 8:30 to 12:00 AM and features surprise guest artists and groups. Look for over \$1,000.00 worth of prizes/giveaways for contestants and audience members.

At the Rondo kickoff after-party, there will be a battle of the D. J.s between established radio stations and underground D.J.s. There is also a dance contest

for more prize money and a whole lot of fun! The After party will be for youth in grades 7th to 12th grade. School I.D. required.

Sponsors for this event are Target Market, Rondo Days, G.O.L.D, Market That, Summit University Weed and Seed, Another Level Records, What's Up!

Additional Highlights... There will be a youth After Party for grades 7th to 12th grade following the drill team competition on July 20th at the RiverCentre. For more information call 646-4483

### **National Night Out (NNO)**

SUWS and the Summit University Planning Council will co-sponsor this year's National Night Out celebration, a unique crime/drug prevention event which has been scheduled for August 6, 2002 at Carty Park (People's Park) at Carroll and St. Albans. We cordially invite you and your neighbors to be a part of our NNO 2002 team. Join us for free food, prize drawings and entertainment.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

NNO has proven to be an effective, inexpensive and enjoyable program to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in our fight for a safer neighborhood. Plus, the benefits our community will derive from NNO will most certainly extend well beyond the one night. There is no cost to participate!

To volunteer on the 2002 NNO Committee contact Julia Cruz, SUWS, 224-7782 or Barb Metzger, Summit University Planning Council, 228-1855. Get your neighbors together and come out to celebrate the Summit U neighborhood.

### **Get Involved with Weed and Seed**

SUWS is looking for individuals who can make at least a year commitment to serve as steering committee members or to work on a sub-committee? Candidates must be 16 years to 100, reside within the following boundaries: Lexington to Dale, University to Hague, or work/serve within the boundaries. Interested individuals can contact Julia Cruz for more information at 224-7782.