



Your neighborhood for a lifetime.

MILL CITY COMMONS

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MILL CITY MUSINGS

MCC Members-Only Website Update

We are pleased to announce the on-line launch of the Mill City Marketplace, our preferred vendor directory accessible only to members of Mill City Commons via our website! The directory allows you to:

- Find, rate, and recommend vendors in the Mill City Marketplace.
- Refer new vendors to MCC staff for inclusion in the Marketplace
- Learn about discounts offered by participating vendors

Upload your profile picture on the MCC members-only website, and you could win a gift certificate from Spoonriver or CorAzon! Instructions are available [here](#).

Last week we mailed out the vendor directory and a website user guide. We are planning a website workshop at the MCC office in June. We will walk members through the site and answer questions. We are always available to help if you have questions before then. The website exists to make your life easier. Check it out!

CAVORT!

On Friday, May 14th the Guthrie Theater, our program partner, hosts the Conference About Volunteers of Regional Theatre (CAVORT) and MCC is showing some Midwestern hospitality by providing salads, breads and desserts for lunch! We are looking for members to contribute these light dishes and then stay for lunch and a brief discussion on the great partnership between MCC and the Guthrie. [Click here](#) for more details and to sign up to bring food!

MCC works hard to highlight the people and things that make our neighborhood great. We hope you will join us for these upcoming events!

From Crystal Desert to Rich Coast, a photographic journey with neighbor Gary Smaby on May 11, 7:30 - 9 pm. For more than forty years, Gary Smaby's artistic eye has peered through a camera lens; capturing memorable images that run the gamut from classic portraiture to experimental new media. His acclaimed body of photographic work has been variously featured on gallery walls, album jackets, as well as on the web and in publications like The New Yorker. Gary will share a new series of photographs taken during a one-month journey last December through two of the world's most unique ecosystems: Antarctica and Costa Rica. [Click here](#) to RSVP.

Exploring Mindful Meditation on May 13, 7:30 - 9 pm, with MCC member Julie Corty. Join Julie and her co-facilitator Jean Fagerstrom for an introduction to meditation and the practice of mindfulness. This short workshop will be centered on various guided meditations and an overview of mindfulness, its origins in Buddhism and its implications for health and well-being. At the end, there will be discussion of additional meetings for those interested. Register [here!](#)

St. Anthony Falls Lab Tour, this month's member recruitment event, at 9 am on May 15. Join us for a unique opportunity to visit the world's only fluid-mechanics laboratory that uses a natural waterfall as its prime water source! Meet for coffee and an up close and personal look at the falls followed by a tour of the lab itself. Register [here!](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

Have some free time you'd like to spend giving back? Check out these volunteer opportunities!

MCC Member to Member Volunteering

New volunteer requests from members have recently been posted on our member to member volunteer site. [Click here](#) to check out what's available and register for the site if you haven't done so already.

Volunteer Opportunities Continued...

Neighborhood Volunteering

People Serving People (PSP) is a non-profit in our neighborhood whose mission is to serve homeless children and their families and provide a new opportunity for a healthy, stable family life. PSP runs a weekly Women's Support Group and is looking for a volunteer with a green thumb that can donate flowers for the moms in the group to plant outside the building. The activity would take place on a Friday in May from 1-2:30pm. Contact [Lindsey Tiede](#) at 612.277.0256 if you are interested in volunteering. View all of PSP's volunteer opportunities [here!](#)

Mill City Commons is committed to providing members with information on volunteer activities available in our neighborhood. If you have an activity you would like announced in the newsletter please email leah@millcitycommons.org.



Mill City Marketplace Vendor Spotlight

Swanson Painting & Wallcovering, LLC, is a fourth generation finish contracting company that serves decorators, remodelers, and individual homeowners, as well as general contractors. They are a small crew of confident craftsmen who have worked with each other between 10-25 years, excelling in cleanliness, quality, and efficiency. The recommendation of MCC members for Swanson Painting & Wallcovering to join Mill City Marketplace speaks volumes for this relationship-based company, which serves families for years. For more information on MCC vendors and discounts, please log in to your account at www.millcitycommons.org.

Neighborhood Happenings

Peace in the Middle East: A Palestinian Perspective. May 6, 12pm. Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nicollet Mall and 12th Street.

Join the MN International Center for this free presentation by Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, founder and secretary-general of Miftah, The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue. You are also invited to the pre-event concert at 11:30 am and post-forum discussion. This event is free and open to the public.

People Serving People Open House. May 6, 2-6pm. People Serving People, 614 3rd St. South.

Come and enjoy a down-home-family-picnic-style open house with lemonade and popcorn stands and snacks specially prepared by PSP's Culinary Arts Training Program students. Play trivia games and win prizes! Hear the PSP Preschoolers sing at 4pm! No need to RSVP!

Ten Thousand Things Theatre presents My Fair Lady. May 7-9, 14-16, 21-23, 28-30, 2010. Minnesota Opera Center, 620 N 1st St.

Ten Thousand Things brings its hallmark approach to musical theater with the company's first-ever production of My Fair Lady. New York-based director Lear deBessonet will explore Lerner and Loewe's tale through the lenses of class and feminism. The cast features Kate Eifrig as Eliza and Steve Hendrickson as Henry Higgins, with Bradley Greenwald, Kimberly Richardson, and Luverne Seifert. This small theater makes a big impact in the Twin Cities! Learn more [here](#).

The Next Generation of Parks Speaker Series: London's Green Grid. May 13, 7 p.m. Humphrey Institute Cowles Auditorium, 301 19th Avenue South.

Conceived as a "living network of parks, green spaces, river, and other corridors," London's ambitious Green Grid initiative will improve the quality of open space for people and wildlife, manage water quality and the risk of flooding, improve public health, enhance biodiversity, and link communities. Jamie Dean will present this comprehensive and integrated approach to urban planning. The East London Green Grid is the recipient of the 2008 Landscape Institute's President's Medal and Strategic Landscape Project Award. The entire speaker series is free and hosted by The Minneapolis Parks Foundation (MCC member Cecily Hines is Executive Director!) in partnership with the Walker Art Center and the Metropolitan Design Center. Click [here](#) for all the details.