

neighborhood associations begin planning for 2011

Hildreth Hill met to plan activities for 2011. Neighborhood association organizers will meet on February 12th to learn about new GNRC initiatives and plan 2011 neighborhood and multi-neighborhood events.

pride in our pocket parks

Residents representing six neighborhoods and a City DPW representative met to discuss 2011 park improvement projects, including providing benches by playground areas, adding or improving signage and plantings at park entrances, and a series of social events in each park.



Named the **Pocket Park Passport Project**, the series of themed social events in each park will start in late spring with a bike rally at Bicentennial Park. The goal of the social events is to stimulate awareness and usage of the parks.

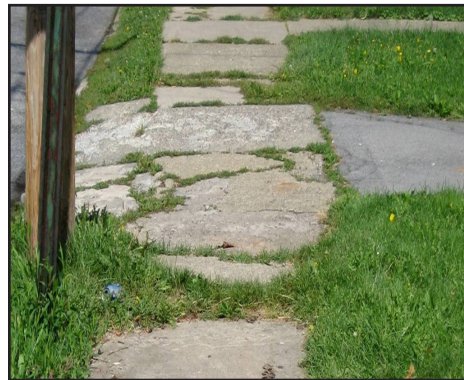
Loren Marshall, HWS student assisting with the campaign, will be conducting a **survey** to get feedback on usage of Richards, Jefferson, and Ridgewood parks.

teaming up

The GNRC is exploring the possibility of joining forces with NeighborWorks Rochester (Rochester, NY) the Jamestown Renaissance Corporation (Jamestown, NY) and the City of Batavia to share a common set of techniques for neighborhood revitalization. The multi-city consortium may also jointly seek grant funding from foundations or other sources. Representatives from all four communities met this month in Batavia to begin sketching out a framework for collaboration.

snapshot of 2011 GNRC initiatives

The GNRC is a flurry of activity as 2011 initiatives are beginning to be rolled out. Below is a sample of the different types of initiatives available this year ...



50:50 sidewalk program

Frontage sidewalks for up to 30 homes will be repaired through a 50 percent matching program. The goals of the program are to improve walking conditions on heavily trafficked sidewalks and to improve the visual appearance of the City's neighborhoods. Additional details will be released in February.

the great geneva neighborhood challenge

The 2nd annual challenge will begin this spring. Neighbors will have an opportunity to compete for curb appeal project funding. Winning groups will help each other improve their homes this summer. Solicitation for private sponsorship is wrapping up now.

SUNY Geneseo neighborhood branding project

Neighborhood associations will apply to participate with SUNY Geneseo students in a neighborhood branding exercise. Student teams will work with associations to develop their unique identity, and will propose marketing ideas for the neighborhood associations (such as logos, tag lines, social networking ideas, etc.). Teams will also propose a Geneva brand.

gnrc visitor, volunteer, website & media log

90 visitors:

- 27 residents
- 53 city employees
- 7 partners
- 2 students
- 1 other

3 active and 9 continuing architectural design resident clients and 2 landscape design resident clients

910 website hits this month

15 volunteer hours

city gathers vacant property information

The Office of Neighborhood Initiatives has embarked on a project to identify all vacant and abandoned structures in the City. According to the National Vacant Properties Campaign, "these properties hurt us all by lowering property values, creating serious environmental hazards, draining our inadequate police and fire services, and pulling apart the social networks of our neighborhoods."



By gathering this information, Geneva City staff and community leaders will be able to develop strategies that keep these properties from negatively impacting the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

key city decision makers available on Saturdays

To better serve its customers, the City of Geneva will make key members of its staff available on a rotating basis on Saturday mornings at the GNRC. For more detail, see the calendar at www.genevanrc.org.