

## CULTURAL DIVERSITY - BY DEB SEYLER

I have lived on the West side of Rockford for the last 40yrs. Obviously , I love this side of town and what it offers. Obviously I love the west side and all that it offers. Now that we have our own Wal-Mart we have no reason at all to go to the east side! Just kidding.....

One of the best things about Rockford is the cultural diversity of it's neighborhoods and stores. Rockford hasn't always been like that though. From its inception, the founding fathers and their families settled into neighborhoods drawn along ethnic lines. The Swedes had the east side; the Italians had the southwest and north sides; the Poles had the mid-town section. The reason they stayed in those areas was for one reason above all else: language. They could speak with the new immigrants in their native tongue. They shared the same ethnic holidays and customs. When they married they chose mates from the same neighborhood, then lived and raised their families in that neighborhood, too.

But it's not that way anymore. The boundaries have blurred and faded away, leaving neighborhoods rich in cultural diversity. NESNA is a perfect example of this. Take a look at the businesses around Main St.. and Auburn. Included is a Celtic themed shop, an Italian restaurant, a Hispanic furniture store, an African-American beauty salon, and a German restaurant. So I ask myself, "Where are the people who frequent these stores and/or restaurants?", when it comes to the neighborhood meetings every second Thursday of the month? We are trying some new ideas and activities that would interest a broad range of the NESNA population. It would make our neighborhood even better if the culturally diverse population of NESNA was better represented in some way.

Those of us on the governing board would like to see a broader range of the ethnic population represented in our neighborhood. We have committees that would welcome a more diverse participation, and we would relish any additional input and support.

*This is the third month this has been run. We still need help!*

## NESNA WEBSITE

Go to [www.northendsquare](http://www.northendsquare) to get past newsletters or to find out more about us.

## COOKIE EXCHANGE

To take part in the cookie exchange, you need to bring three dozen **homemade** cookies - please no Oreos or Pecan Sandies - along with a note telling the name of the cookies and if there is anything special about them - been our favorite Christmas cookie for years, etc. A copy of the recipe would be welcome and we will print them up in a couple pages for everyone.

Coffee and juice will be provided. We can sit, talk and eat cookies after the exchange and get to know each other a little better.

## BURPEE MUSEUM DECEMBER HOME SCHOOL CLASSES

Burpee Museum of Natural History offers special home school classes to children between the ages of 5 - 14 years this December. Check your calendar! Save the date and join us at the Burpee for fun and interesting hands-on-activities that will captivate and capture the minds of your students! You don't want to miss the fun!

Native Americans of the Southwest:

Dec 1st, The Anasazi;

Dec 8th, The Apache & Navajo;

Dec 15th, The Hopi & Zuni

Pre registration is required. Call 815-965-3433 x 1020 for more information

Fee per 2 hour class: members \$12 for one child, \$9 for each additional sibling; Non members \$16 for one child, \$13 for each additional sibling

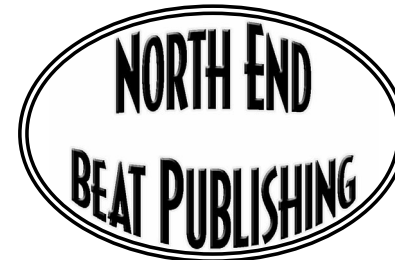
Free parking is available at the Burpee Museum at 737 North Main Street or in the Riverfront Museum Park parking lot directly next door at 711 North Main Street. Burpee hours are Monday -Saturday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm. Admission is \$5/adult; \$4/child (ages 3-17). Members FREE. For further information call 815-965-3433 or log on at [www.burpee.org](http://www.burpee.org).

## DECEMBER MEETING - DEC. 8

- A cookie exchange will take place. Bake some, bring some, go home with a whole different batch. Check inside for details.
- Election of officers for 2006.
- Luminaries

## JANUARY MEETING - JAN. 12

- Mayor Morrissey will be the featured speaker
- Happy New Year!
- New Officers installed



### Graphic Design and Layout

*Flyers, Newsletters, Ads, Business Cards, Letterheads, Business Forms, Posters, Picture Restoration, Invitations, Personalized Greeting Cards, Booklets, Banners and MORE!*

Call Doug at 243-9832

Proudly designing and producing this newsletter since January 2005.

M-F: 9am to 8pm  
SAT: 9am to 8pm

ALL WALK-INS WELCOME

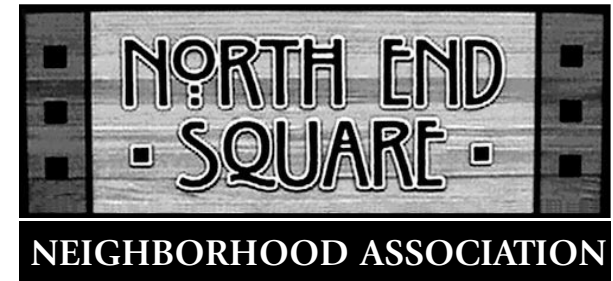
**CJS CUSTOM CUTS**

**\$1.00 OFF!**  
with this coupon

1415 North Main Street  
(815) 962-4023



WORKING TO IMPROVE OUR  
NEIGHBORHOOD FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL



## DECEMBER 2005

NEXT MEETING:

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>

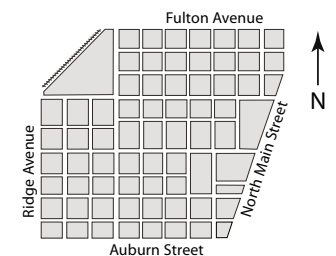
7:00 P.M.

THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1221 CUSTER AVENUE

### FEATURED EVENT: COOKIE EXCHANGE

PRESIDENT: MIKE DIVENTI . . . . .961-1104  
VICE PRES.: BOB REVER . . . . .962-6268  
SECRETARY: LYLE SYVERSON . . . . .966-2455  
TREASURER: CHUCK THOMAS . . . . .968-6428  
EDITOR: DOUG SCHRODER . . . . .243-9832  
ELDERLY, SPECIAL NEEDS & SHUT-INS:  
MARY ENGLUND . . . . .965-2239

Neighborhood Boundaries



P.O. Box 993, ROCKFORD, IL 61105-0993

[WWW.NORTHENDSQUARE.COM](http://WWW.NORTHENDSQUARE.COM)

This newsletter is supported by membership dues and advertising. It is delivered, by hand, to your door each month by neighbors who have volunteered their time and support.



### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I hope that you all had a good Thanksgiving. We are almost done with another year and are looking forward to another great year yet to come. We have a cookie exchange which will be fun, and elections of new officers at this next meeting. There has been a lot of exciting talk at our board meetings as of late about doing some new and different things this next year. It's good to hear the enthusiasm in peoples voices as they tell us about their ideas and how to implement them. All I can say is GO FOR IT.

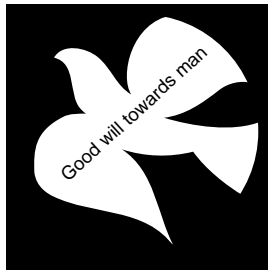
I am retiring from public life this year to build up my business and will no longer be a part of NESNA (we have moved out of the boundaries), but I will still keep up with what is going on, as you folks are an important part of the fabric of Rockford.

My best to the new board that will take over immediately after the election. My thanks to all who worked so diligently on NESNA'S behalf. My thanks to my predessors who worked so hard to build a dynamic organization.

A special thanks to both Aldermen Bill Timm and John Beck. Two men that work tirelessly on our behalf.

Thanks for the memories and the opportunity to serve. It's been fun.

Mike



### A LETTER FROM BILL TIMM

This letter was emailed to Chuck Thomas from Nina Sheriff of Phoenix, Arizona on behalf of Bill Timm.

Dear North End Square Residents:

For nine years I have had the pleasure of serving as Alderman for the North End Square and the Ninth Ward. North End Square has been an outstanding neighborhood organization. In fact, I would rate it as one of the best.

Neighborhood organizations receive more attention from various departments in the City of Rockford such as the Building Department, Zoning Department, Public Works, Neighborhood Standards and the Police Department. It is very important that North End Square remains as a vital group involved in all city issues. Look at the boundaries of this organization and you will see well kept homes, clean areas and improvement being made all of the time.

In recent months, I have noticed a decline in the numbers attending the meeting. It is important that you join North End Square and attend the meetings. These meetings are a forum to inform your alderman of any issues that need to be addressed.

At the January meeting, the Mayor will be the speaker. He is very interested in the quality of life in the City. I ask all of you to attend this meeting and bring your questions and have a one on one with your Mayor.

Please join North End Square Association and become an active participant.

Happy Holidays!

Alderman Bill Timm  
(815) 962-7592



.....and a partridge in a pear tree.

### WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Charles J. Gray - 1523 Huffman Blvd.  
Michelle M. Carroll - 1816 Latham St.  
Nelson G. Chavez - 1604 Grant Ave.

Kay Veit and Elizabeth Powers make up the Welcoming Committee. These names and addresses are found in the Rockford Register Star with the real estate transactions. If you are a renter and new to the neighborhood, contact Kay or Elizabeth and you too can be included in the next newsletter.

### NESNA BOOK CLUB

Book Club meeting at Theres Moncelle's House 1623 Grant Ave Sunday Dec. 18 at 6:00 pm. We are reading three Truman Capote's short stories of your choice and will be discussing the themes, style, etc. We will decide at the meeting when we will be seeing the new Copote movie.

### BURPEE'S BUSY BEES OPEN HOUSE

**WHEN:** Saturday December 10th 12 - 4.30 pm

**WHERE:** Burpee Museum of Natural History  
737 N. Main Street, Rockford

**WHAT:** Burpee's Busy Bees Open House

We invite you to attend this free open house to introduce our new preschool program at the Burpee Museum of Natural History. Burpee's Busy Bees is a new weekly preschool program for children 4 and 5 years old (and for 3 year olds starting in January). Learn all about this new program and tell us what elements of early childhood education programming best meets your needs.

This nature based preschool program teaches the same concepts and skills as traditional preschools, but with the natural environment as the main focus. Activities are designed to meet the Illinois Early Learning Standards. During this open house parents interested in the program can meet the teacher, visit the classroom, see examples of the types of activities BBB's do and enjoy refreshments. No fee to attend Open House, Museum Admission: \$5 adults \$4 children

**CONTACT:** 815-965-3433 Sheila Rawlings Director of Education.

## NESNA 2006 Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: NESNA

P.O. Box 993  
Rockford, IL 61105-0993

OR

Simply turn in this form with your \$10 at any one of the neighborhood meetings

Check any one of the boxes to show the areas where you are interested in helping:

- Membership Drive
- Picnic
- Property Committee
- Garage Sale
- Garden Walk
- Beautification
- Fundraiser
- Newsletter