



February 2012

# Eighth Ward News

*"Bancroft, Bryant, Central, Field-Regina-Northrop, Kingfield, Powderhorn"*

From Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden

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## Bancroft

Bancroft Neighborhood Association  
[www.bancroftneighborhood.org](http://www.bancroftneighborhood.org)  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 7 pm  
4120 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

## Bryant

Bryant Neighborhood Organization  
[www.welovebryant.org](http://www.welovebryant.org)  
Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 7 pm  
Urban League South, 411 E. 38<sup>th</sup> Street

## Central

CANDO  
[www.thecentralneighborhood.com](http://www.thecentralneighborhood.com)  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 6:15 pm  
Sabathani Community Center  
310 East 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 304

## Field-Regina-Northrop

[www.frnng.org](http://www.frnng.org)  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 6:30 pm  
1620 E 46<sup>th</sup> Street

## Kingfield

[www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org)  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 7 pm  
ML King Park, 40<sup>th</sup> & Nicollet

## Powderhorn

[www.ppna.org](http://www.ppna.org)  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 6:30 pm  
821 E 35<sup>th</sup> Street

## One Minneapolis, One Read

February, which is Black History Month and I love to Read Month, is the last month of events highlighting One Minneapolis, One Read. One Minneapolis, One Read is Minneapolis' first-ever community read, where everyone is encouraged to read the chosen book, "The Grace of Silence" by Michele Norris. Go to [www.OneMinneapolisOneRead.com](http://www.OneMinneapolisOneRead.com) for background information, events, and resources.

Mark your calendars for these events:

- Feb 5, 1:30 pm, and Feb 12, 1:30 pm, **One Minneapolis One Read: Interviews Premiere, North Regional Library**. Attend the premiere and discussion of videos on race relations. A group of Minneapolis teens teamed up with MVStudio last fall to interview family members or someone in their community about their experiences with race relations.
- February 6, 2012, 7-9 p.m., **"The Grace of Silence" Discussion**, at *Washburn High School, 201 W. 49th St., Minneapolis*. The discussion will explore neighborhood histories in the context of race, and how this impacts current race relations in America. To register, call Washburn Community Education at 612-668-3450.
- February 25, 2012, 2-3 p.m. **One Minneapolis One Read: Challenges of Black Genealogy**, Sumner Library. Registration required, begins Jan 28, at Hennepin County Library website or call 612-543-6875. Master storyteller and librarian Jerry Blue will share the experience of tracing his family history. He also will demonstrate resources to help you dig up your own black roots.

Read the Book: Join the Conversation!

## Celebrate Black History Month at Sabathani



This Saturday, Feb 4, from 3-5, join your neighbors at Sabathani Community Center for "What Happened to the Village – A Celebration of Black History Month". This event will feature poetry, spoken word, skits and a Call to Action! The Keynote Address will be given by Ron Bell, Vice Chair, Sabathani Board of Directors.

## Empty Bowls Event Supporting Nicollet Square



You have a chance to meet neighbors and support Nicollet Square, a supportive housing development for formerly homeless youth, at Kingfield's first Empty Bowls Event. Join us:

- **Kingfield Empty Bowls, Thursday, February 9, 4-8 pm, at Nicollet Square, 3710 Nicollet.**

Empty Bowls is an international grassroots effort to fight hunger. For many years, Powderhorn has hosted an extremely successful Empty Bowls event that involves many community members. Guests are invited to a simple meal of soup and bread. In exchange for a cash donation, guests are asked to keep a bowl (which has been handcrafted and donated by a local potter or organization) as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world.

In Kingfield, Empty Bowls is helping to end homelessness, and donating all money raised to Nicollet Square, which houses 42 formerly homeless youth in our community.

This event is organized by the KFNA Event Committee and the Nicollet Square Advisory Council. You can find out more and donate to Empty Bowls or volunteer at [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org).

## Community Sing to Benefit Minnesotans United for All Families



Minnesota Community SINGS presents a fun evening of group singing – all voices welcome, song sheets provided.

Proceeds go towards the effort to defeat the proposed constitutional amendment which would ban marriage for same-sex couples in Minnesota. **Saturday, Feb. 18, 7pm** at Calvary Lutheran Church, 3901 Chicago Ave. S. Tickets at the door: \$15/adults, \$5/kids. For more info, please email [mnsings@gmail.com](mailto:mnsings@gmail.com) or visit [www.mnsings.com](http://www.mnsings.com).

## Attend the City's First-Ever Communities Connections Conference



Would you like to learn about the tools available to make your neighborhood group even more successful? Then join us for the first-ever Community Connections

Conference on Saturday, Feb. 11.

- **Communities Connections Conference, FREE, Saturday, Feb. 11, 2012, 2540 Park Ave. S. Register and get more information at [www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/conf](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/conf) or call Carrie Day Aspinwall at 612-673-2243.**

The conference is designed for neighborhood organizations, cultural communities, nonprofit organizations, city departments, and residents to share best practices of neighborhood engagement. A major theme of the conference is building diversity and increasing participation in neighborhood organizations and communities.

Workshop topics include: bridging the digital divide, reducing waste at local events, social justice, neighborhood safety and success stories of collaborations with City departments. Information booths, food, entertainment and your attendance will all help make this a great event!

## STEP-UP Summer Jobs: Your Company Can Help Minneapolis Youth!



STEP-UP Summer Jobs, a partnership with Achieve!Minneapolis and the City, places young people from Minneapolis in meaningful paid summer internships with top local companies, public agencies and nonprofits. The program connects businesses with the next generation of talented and diverse workers and provides critical hands-on job skills for young people.

Since 2004, STEP-UP Achieve has connected over 4,200 young people in jobs with more than 200 employers ranging from Cargill, Best Buy and Target to Hennepin County and many other organizations. STEP-UP Achieve interns collectively earned \$1.3 million in wages in 2011, a significant contribution to low-income families in Minneapolis.

Your organization can participate in STEP-UP by pledging summer jobs and internships. STEP-UP Achieve has a goal of 700 summer jobs. Many current STEP-UP Achieve employers have increased their pledges, such as University of Minnesota (60 jobs); US Bank (30 jobs) and Health Partners (20 jobs).

STEP-UP helps match youth to pledged jobs based on skill and interest and provides ongoing support for the youth and employer. For more information and to participate go to: [www.achievempls.org/step-achieve-summer-jobs](http://www.achievempls.org/step-achieve-summer-jobs). Be part of the solution: provide summer jobs!

## Snow Emergency Clears Streets “Like Magic” in City’s New Public Service Announcement



You’ve seen infomercials with sales pitches for knives, cookware, laundry and even blankets with sleeves. This month, Minneapolis Snow Emergency joins these products with a public service

announcement that uses off-beat humor to grab the attention of drivers.

You can watch the Minneapolis Snow Emergency PSA on the City’s YouTube channel at [www.YouTube.com/CityofMinneapolis](http://www.YouTube.com/CityofMinneapolis). This PSA was written, produced and edited in-house by talented City staff. Videos on Snow Emergency rules as also available in Spanish, Somali and Hmong.

## Minneapolis Bicycling Update



Already one of the top cities in the country for bicycling, Minneapolis improved even more over the past year. In 2011 bike traffic numbers increased, the bicycle crash rate decreased and the number of bikeways doubled. Here are

some details:

- **Bikeway network expanded** - 37 miles of bikeways were added in Minneapolis in 2011. There are now 167 miles of bikeways!
- **Ridership increased** - From 2010-2011 the number of bicyclists increased 25 percent, and from 2007-2011 the number of bicyclists jumped 47 percent.
- **Bike-vehicle collision rate decreased** - Over the past 18 years, the annual bicyclist-motorist crash rate decreased from 10 percent to 4 percent of all bicycle commuters. This drop comes at a time when bicycling has increased dramatically.

You can find out more about the City of Minneapolis Bicycling improvements [www.minneapolismn.gov/bicycles](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/bicycles).

## Taking a Look at Regional Taxicab Regulation



Did you know that every city in the Twin Cities Region has the ability to set individual regulations and rate structures for taxicabs? This system can be

contradictory and confusing, with different regulations from city to city.

Councilmember Glidden has worked with leaders in Minneapolis, St Paul, and the Minneapolis Airports Commission – the three largest jurisdictions that regulate taxicabs – to prepare a joint request to the Met Council to evaluate regional taxicab regulatory models for the jurisdictions to review. While we are a long ways from a solution, this is a good first step to exploring whether a regional model can meet customer and driver needs and cut regulatory red tape.

## Redistrict Minneapolis – Get Involved, Draw Some Maps!

The Minneapolis Charter Commission (serving as the Redistricting Commission) is beginning to redraw political boundaries - ward and park board - to account for changes in the population throughout the city over the last ten years. They have expanded their “unofficial” membership to allow for better, broad-based community representation thru an additional nine, non-voting members who are part of the Redistricting Group. Where these lines are drawn can have a big impact on how your community is represented in city hall.

There will be opportunities for public input on proposed maps and other opportunities for you to be involved. Go to:

[www.minneapolismn.gov/redistricting2012](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/redistricting2012) to find out how to get involved. There are two upcoming public hearings, where the Redistricting Commission will present and receive public comment on the first “official draft” maps. These hearings are:

- February 29, 5-7pm, Webber Community Center, 4400 Dupont Ave N
- March 1, 5-7pm, Hosmer Library, 347 E. 36<sup>th</sup> Street

To help with the redistricting process, the non-profit organization Common Cause has launched an online tool that allows people to draw city council wards. You can try it out at [www.drawminnesota.org](http://www.drawminnesota.org).

## Help the City Take Action on Climate Change



If you're concerned about climate change, you can participate when the City of Minneapolis updates its **Climate Action Plan**, a

roadmap to help the City reduce greenhouse gas pollution in the city.

Given current trends, the Midwest is likely to face increased heat waves, reduced air quality and more periods of both floods and drought. To respond to the challenges of climate change and energy security and as part of its commitment to being an eco-focused city, the City of Minneapolis has adopted targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The **Climate Action Plan** will measure the impact of current City efforts and develop new initiatives that focus on transportation, buildings and waste.

For more information on the Climate Action Plan update and ways Minneapolis residents can participate, go to [www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/climate](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/climate).

## Support Your Local Library: Join The Friends of Hosmer



The Hosmer Friends are a newly forming group dedicated to supporting the Hosmer Library through fundraising, volunteering, and advocacy. Please join the

Friends at their next meeting on **Feb 9, 5:30 pm**, at Hosmer Library. For more information, contact Hosmer Library at (612) 543-6900.

## Sign-up to Receive 8<sup>th</sup> Ward Updates



Want to receive this newsletter and other important 8<sup>th</sup> Ward updates? Go to the Ward 8 website and sign up for e-news at: [www.minneapolismn.gov/Ward8](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/Ward8).

You can always call the Ward 8 office for information at (612) 673-2208.