

10th Ward e-News

from Council Member Meg Tuthill

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Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 9am-5pm

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February 2012



Myrtle Vikla Receives Citizen Commendation Award!



CPS Amy Lavender and Lt. Jack Kelly present Myrtle Vikla (center) with the Citizen Commendation Award. (Photo Credit: Aryca Myers)

Congratulations Myrtle Vikla! At the Lyndale Neighborhood Association meeting on January 23rd, Myrtle (Myrt) was recognized by Crime Prevention Specialist Amy Lavender and Lt. Jack Kelly for reporting suspicious activity at a nearby property. As a result of her tip, a recently released violent offender was removed from an illegal rental property and was moved out of the Fifth Precinct. Myrt has been a dedicated crime prevention volunteer for many years. Thank you Myrt for your continued efforts to keep your neighborhood safe.

Dine Out for LHENA

The next Dine Out for LHENA will be **on Wednesday, February 22nd at Leaning Tower of Pizza (2324 Lyndale Ave S)**. Simply mention "LHENA" to your server and a significant portion of all sales made will be donated to support Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association (LHENA) programs and services. Leaning Tower of Pizza is open from 4:00 pm until 2:00 am. For more information, visit [LHENA's](#) webpage.

Minneapolis Animal Care and Control Advisory Board Vacancy

The Minneapolis Animal Care and Control Advisory Board is currently seeking applicants for two appointments. One vacancy is for a resident of the City of Minneapolis, and one for an animal-related business owner and/or stakeholder. The term for these vacancies will start immediately and expire on 06/30/2013. The candidates will be appointed by Minneapolis Animal Care & Control staff. The Minneapolis Animal Care & Control Advisory Board was created to assist the Animal Care & Control (ACC) with policy and community outreach activities.

Deadline: open until filled, application review process will begin Friday, February 24th, 2012. For more information, visit the [Animal Care and Control Advisory Board Vacancy](#) webpage.

CARAG Chilly Chili Fest

Come out of the cold and share a bowl or two of good, hot chili with your friends and neighbors! CARAG's annual fundraiser for the Joyce Uptown Food Shelf will be held on **Sunday, February 26th from 12:30-3:00pm at Bryant Square Park (3101 Bryant Ave S)**. Enjoy delicious chili (meat and vegetarian), fixings, and a beverage and get a door prize ticket for **only \$3!** All proceeds benefit Joyce Uptown Food Shelf. They will also be collecting non-perishable food items. Door prizes are from area businesses and will be given out towards the end of the night so make sure to stick around!

Also, this year CARAG will be striving to make the Chili Fest a "zero-waste" event. The goal will be to create no waste going into the landfill. Rather, everyone will be able to compost or recycle the waste from the event. This is a great community event you won't want to miss!

Become a Block Leader!

Being a block leader is as easy as 1) Attending a short, informal training, 2) Giving your email to the 5th Precinct Crime Prevention Specialists to receive alerts, and 3) Sending information to your neighbors. It's as simple as that! If you are interested in becoming a block leader, the 5th Precinct has two trainings coming up: **Monday, February 27th from 5:30-6:30pm** or **Tuesday, March 6th from 11:00am-12:00pm**. Both trainings will be **held at the 5th Precinct Community Room (3101 Nicollet Ave)**.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact either of the 5th Precinct Crime Prevention Specialists: CPS Amy Lavender (amy.lavender@minneapolismn.gov / 612.673.5407) or CPS Chelsea Adams (chelsea.adams@minneapolismn.gov / 612.673.2819)

Minneapolis residents can play an important role in redistricting

Every 10 years, following the US Census, state and local boundaries for voting districts are redrawn to reflect shifts in the population. This includes the ward and park board boundaries within the City of Minneapolis. The redistricting process is currently under way in Minneapolis and being led by a citizen advisory group appointed by the Minneapolis Charter Commission.

As Minneapolis residents, you have a once-in-a-decade opportunity to participate in redistricting. It's an important process, because having districts with equal populations helps ensure there is fair representation no matter where you live. The new voting boundaries will be used in the 2012 election and beyond.

There are two upcoming Public Hearings where Minneapolis residents can comment on the first "official draft" maps. The hearings will be held:

Wednesday, February 29th – 5:00-7:00pm at Webber Community Center (4400 Dupont Ave. N.)

Thursday, March 1st – 5:00-7:00pm at the Hosmer Library (347 E. 36th St.)

Minneapolis residents can email questions or ideas about maps or documents to the Redistricting Group at Redistricting2012@minneapolismn.gov. You must include your name and address (attachment size is limited to 10 MB).

For more information, visit the City's [Redistricting 2012](#) webpage.

Compostable Yard Waste Bags

Yard waste will be collected beginning the week of April 9th. New this year, Minneapolis residents must comply with State law requiring yard waste to be bagged in paper or compostable bags. Plastic yard waste bags will not be picked up. Watch for more information in your mailbox. Questions? Contact Solid Waste and Recycling at SWandRsupervisors@minneapolismn.gov or 612-673-2917.

\$25 City Trees Program starts in March!

It's that time of year again for the City Trees Program! Started in 2006, the City Trees program provides trees for \$25. **Order your tree starting March 12, 2012!** 1,500 trees will be offered for sale. Act quickly as the trees normally sell out within three weeks!

Minneapolis residents, businesses and nonprofits can order 8 foot trees in a variety of species, including a fruit tree, for **only \$25**, limit one per property. For a sneak peak at the tree species available this year, visit the [Tree Trust](#) webpage. Trees are available on a first come, first served basis – so order early for the best selection! **You can pick up your tree on May 12th-14th at the Minneapolis Impound Lot.** In the past five years 6,000 trees have been planted in Minneapolis through the City Trees program. Last year only 6% of the trees purchased through this program were planted in the 10th ward. Let's do better this year and boost the tree canopy in all of our neighborhoods!

If you are interested, you can also look at the City's tree canopy using an [interactive map](#) organized by neighborhood and individual parcel. Shown on the map are estimates of the amount of tree canopy currently present, as well the amount of canopy that could potentially be established.

New Parking Meters coming to the Uptown/Lyn Lake Area

The Uptown/Lyn Lake area has been selected to receive new parking meters, similar to the ones that have recently been installed Downtown. The new parking meters will be installed in the following area: the north and south boundaries are 28th St W and 36th St W, and the east and west boundaries are Blaisdell Ave S and Thomas Ave S.

The City's Parking and Traffic Services hopes to have the **pay stations put in by the end of February with the numbered posts following a few weeks after.** Please continue to pay the old meters until the new numbered posts are installed. **Please note** – installation of both the pay stations and the numbered posts is weather permitting! If we receive any snow during that time frame, the installations will have to be delayed until the snow has melted.

There will be two additional changes going along with the installation of the new meters. **Both of these changes will go into effect when the new meters are operational.** First, the **enforcement time will change** to Monday through Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 12 a.m. (midnight). Currently the meters only go until 10 p.m. Second, the **rates per hour will change** to:

\$1 per hour during the day (daytime hours are from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.)

\$2 per hour during the evening (evening hours are from 6 p.m. to 12 a.m.)

The time limit will stay the same of 2 hour time limit during the day (8 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and 4 hours during the evening (6 p.m. to 12 a.m.).

Sponsor a Parking Meter Post to be a Bike Rack as well!

As part of the meter conversion project, the City is upgrading a limited number of the new meter signs to also become bike racks. Until **April 1st**, you can choose a location for one or more of these bike racks for only \$50 each (approximately half the cost). Installation will be done at no cost to you by the City. There is no limit on how many you can sponsor. These racks can only be installed where there are existing meter posts. If you would like to sponsor one or more racks or have any questions, please contact Susan at [mplsbikeracks@yahoo.com](mailto:mpls-bikeracks@yahoo.com) or 612-568-6227.

Nicollet Avenue Construction Update

The Nicollet Avenue reconstruction is about to start! In 2012, Nicollet Avenue from Lake Street to 36th Street will be reconstructed. In 2013, Nicollet Avenue from 36th to 40th Streets will be reconstructed. The phasing plan was determined through citizen and stakeholder involvement. The intent is to maximize on street parking and minimize the duration of disruption during construction.

Access to Nicollet Avenue Businesses will remain open at all times during the construction.

Nicollet Avenue Construction Update (con't)

Beginning in April, some water main work will be done on Nicollet Avenue starting between Lake and 32nd Streets. This work will result in some temporary lane closures. The main construction will begin in May and continue into November. More detail will be available when the contractor is selected.

Nicollet Avenue was last constructed in 1954 and resurfaced in 1977. The newly reconstructed Nicollet Ave will be six feet narrower with new sidewalks, curbs and gutters, and street lighting. Storm drain improvements will also be made. In addition, Nicollet Avenue will be enhanced by streetscape improvements, including trees, and artistic elements.

Our local businesses need you. Please patronize the businesses affected by this project.

Lunch with Leslie!

Due to a conflict in my schedule, the next Meet with Meg will become Lunch with Leslie! Please join Leslie Foreman, our 10th Ward Policy Aide, on **Tuesday, March 13th, 2012 from 12-1pm at the 5th Precinct's Community Room (3101 Nicollet Ave)**. Lunch with Leslie will be a chance to talk with my policy aide, ask her questions, and voice any concerns you may have. Bring your sack lunch! Cookies and lemonade are provided! Meet with Meg is held the second Tuesday of every month.

Attention: If you want help translating this information into a language other than Hmong, Spanish or Somali, please call 311.

Hmong - Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2800;

Spanish - Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llama 612-673-2700;

Somali - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500.