5th Ward News

HARRISON, JORDAN, NEAR NORTH, SUMNER-GLENWOOD, NORTH LOOP, WILLARD-HAY

From Council Member Don Samuels

JULY 2012 - SUMMER EDITION

5TH WARD NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS

Harrison Neighborhood Association (HNA)
503 Irving Avenue North
Suite 100
Minneapolis, MN 55405
612.374.4849

Heritage Park Neighborhood Association (HPNA)
612.664.8195

Jordan Area Community Council (JACC)
2900 James Ave North ste #108
Minneapolis, MN 55411
612.886.4539

North Loop Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 582178
Minneapolis, MN 55458-2178
612.339.3904

Northside Residents Redevelopment Council (NRRC)
1313 Penn Ave North
Minneapolis, MN 55411
612.335.5924

Old Highland Organization
www.oldhighland.org
info@oldhighland.org

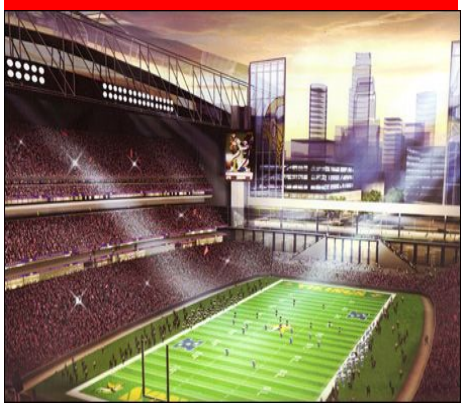
Willard-Homewood Organization-
www.willard-homewood.org
info@willard-homewood.org

Upper Willard-Homewood Organization (UWHO)
www.upperwho.org
upperwillardhomewood@yahoogroups.com

The Office of Council Member Don Samuels publishes an electronic newsletter to keep you up to date on what is happening in the 5th Ward.

*If you would like to receive this newsletter please send an email to monique.cuff@ci.minneapolis.mn.us and put the words **NEWSLETTER** in the subject line.*

Why I Supported The New Vikings Stadium



This Spring, the Minneapolis City Council voted in favor of the new Minnesota Vikings stadium by a 7 to 6 margin. I supported the plan for one main reason: jobs.

The unemployment rate in north Minneapolis is far higher than it is city wide. We do not have the luxury of waiting for the "perfect" project. We have young Northsiders graduating from Summit Academy who have to fall in line behind union workers who are already sitting on the bench. By supporting the stadium deal, these workers will be able to move to their place in line, get work, and establish careers.

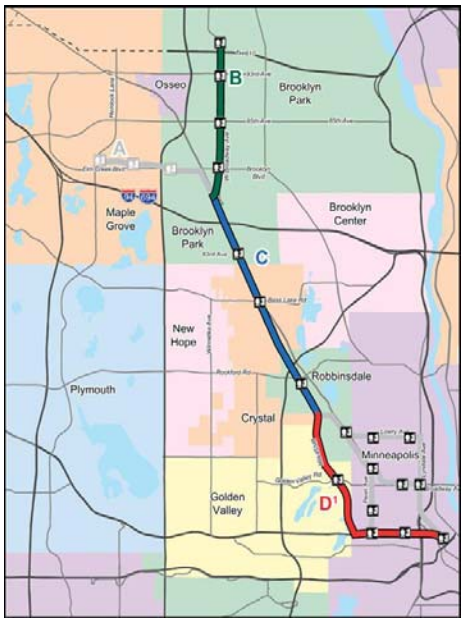
The City of Minneapolis has made a commitment to require a 32% hiring rate of minority contractors for the construction of the stadium. Additionally, I have required that there be ongoing, monitored participation by minorities at all levels and participation in ownership & operation of concessions.

Thank you for your support of the stadium plan and GO VIKINGS!

Bottineau PAC Selects D1 Line

On **Wednesday, May 30th,** The Bottineau Policy Advisory Committee voted for the D1 line (Olson Hwy to BNSF railroad right of way), C (Bottineau Blvd/Hwy 81), and B (Brooklyn Park).

I have supported the D1 line because I believe that it is the preferred route of the community and it means that Penn Ave will not have to be destroyed, and hundreds of people will be able to stay in their homes. As a compromise, I proposed that we bring street cars back to West Broadway that will connect passengers to the light rail line on Olson Hwy. The City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, and the Metropolitan Council have all thought this was a good idea and we are currently in the Alternatives Analysis stage of the process. I will keep you up to date with the latest developments with the Bottineau line.



The Interchange Project Breaks Ground

On July 9th, 2012, the groundbreaking ceremony for The Interchange Project took place behind Target Field. The Interchange will serve as a central, multi-modal transportation hub and community gathering space in the 5th Ward portion of downtown Minneapolis.

Located next to Target Field, connected to the North Loop neighborhood and adjacent to the historic Warehouse District, this unique destination will connect communities by linking the region's growing light and commuter rail transit network, as well as more than 1,900 daily bus operations and miles of bike and walking trails. The Interchange will open in 2014.

The Interchange will easily connect communities throughout the region through the Hiawatha LRT (the METRO Blue Line), Northstar Commuter Rail, and the Central Corridor LRT (the METRO Green Line), currently being constructed. The proposed Southwest and Bottineau Transit ways will also stop at the Interchange destination. .

Healthy City, Thriving Families

In June, the Minneapolis Health Department wrapped up the Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) initiative, a two-year federal obesity prevention grant to increase physical activity and improve nutrition by making healthy options more readily available and affordable for residents. As a result of $2.2 million in funding, residents now have more options for healthy eating and activity where they live, work, and play, including:

- Six additional Nice Ride bike share kiosks in North Minneapolis to connect residents to commercial nodes across the city
- Establishing Venture North Bike Walk & coffee, the Northside's first full-scale bike and pedestrian center offering new and refurbished bicycles and gear; accessories; bike repair and educational opportunities for North Minneapolis you

CPPW dollars were targeted primarily to North Minneapolis due to the area's disproportionately high rates of obesity, chronic disease and poverty, low levels of physical activity, and fruit and vegetable consumption. Going forward, CPPW project will continue partnerships with community organizations to create jobs, improve safety, and build strong communities on the Northside.

National Night Out 2012

The 29th Annual National Night Out event is Tuesday, Aug. 7. Once again, Minneapolis' nationally recognized effort, coordinated by the Minneapolis Police Department with the able assistance other departments, will organize hundreds of get-togethers ranging from small front yard gatherings to elaborate events in parks and on blocked-off streets.

Event registration is underway. Whether it's your first time planning an event or you're continuing a tradition of years on your block, register your event online or through 311. If you want to block off your street, you can do so for free through July 24th. Not all streets can be blocked, depending on traffic flow. From July 25th through August 2nd, there is a $100 fee.

National Night Out is an annual nationwide event that encourages residents to get out in the community, hold block parties and get to know their neighbors as a way to encourage crime prevention. Last year, more than 60,000 Minneapolis residents gathered during National Night Out to celebrate with a record 1,173 events in all 83 neighborhoods of the city.

Register your event at:

http://www.minneapolismn.gov/nno/nno_register

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2012
POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Mentors Make A Difference!

The Council on Crime and Justice is looking for volunteers of all ages and backgrounds to serve as mentors in two separate support groups. One group is for ex-offenders who have recently been released from prison, and the other is for their loved ones (moms, dads, wives/girlfriends, adult children) who are helping the men transition from prison. Reentry can be stressful for both the ex-offender and those who care about them, and support from community members is vital for a successfully transition.

All mentoring is done in a group setting at the Reentry Hub located on 1101 West Broadway Avenue in Minneapolis. Mentoring groups are offered at various times and include both daytime and early evening hours. The commitment is minimal at approximately 3-6 hours per month but the reward is lasting.

If this opportunity is interesting to you, please contact Zach Psick at psickz@crimeandjustice.org or at 612-353-3016

Summer Food Program

The Minneapolis Public Schools Food Service Department sponsors The Summer Food Service Program in Minneapolis schools, parks, and community sites. The Program is paid for with federal dollars available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Meals served through the Minneapolis Public Schools Summer Food Service Program are free to all children ages 1-18. The 2012 Summer Food Service Program will be running until Friday, August 17th.

5th Ward Locations:

- **City View** (3350 N 4th St) **B** 9:15-10:00am
- **Farwell Park** (1201 Sheridan Ave N) **L** 12:00-1:00pm
- **Harrison Community Center** (503 Irving Ave N) **D** 5:00-6:00pm
- **Heritage Park Apartments** (1000 Olson Memorial Hwy) **L** 11:45-12:30pm
- **Hospitality House** (1220 Logan Ave N) **B** 8:15-9:30am **L** 12:30-2:00
- **Jerry Gamble Boys & Girls Club** (2410 Irving Ave N) **B** 8:30-9:00am **L** 12:00-1:30pm
- **North Commons** (1801 James Ave N) **L** 12:00-1:00pm
- **North YMCA** (1711 W Broadway) **B** 7:30-9:00am **L** 12:00-1:00pm
- **Oak Park Neighborhood Center** (1701 Oak Park Ave N) **B** 8:00-9:00am **L** 12:00-1:00

Emergency Preparedness

On May 6th, the Health Department participated in "Operation Medicine Delivery," an emergency preparedness exercise directed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in partnership with the U.S. Postal Service. The exercise tested the public distribution of medications in the event of a health emergency. Empty pill bottles were successfully delivered to about 37,000 residences by mail carrier with law enforcement escorts to the 55411 zip code.

Communication methods included:

- Sending a letter and automated phone call to each household in the affected area
- Giving fliers in English, Hmong, Somali and Spanish to churches and neighborhood and community organizations for distribution in their communities
- Sending press releases to media including radio, T.V. and community papers.

The agencies involved gained valuable insights from the two-day, full scale emergency exercise that would be needed to successfully deliver medication. For more information, contact Janet Mengelkoch at 612-673-3729 or janet.mengelkoch@minneapolismn.gov

Water Your Trees!!

While a rainy spring and early summer have temporarily kept our trees watered, our yard and boulevard trees need an inch of water every week throughout the spring, summer and fall. If it rains less than one inch in any week, trees need to be watered to help them recover. Past years of high temperatures and drought conditions are a problem even for otherwise healthy trees and put them at serious risk of long-term damage.

Extended drought conditions can make trees vulnerable to insects and disease and cause permanent damage to young and old trees alike. Young trees three to five years old are especially susceptible.

An effective way for residents to water a tree is to turn on a slow stream of water (just so the hose is weeping) for a few hours. Watering in the evening after dinner time is most effective since it minimizes evaporation, and trees tend to take most of their water during the night. Watering one tree weekly for the warmer months costs only about $3 for the entire season.

For information on tree care and the urban forest, call the Park Board's Forestry Department at 612-313-7710 or visit www.minneapolisparks.org

Get Financially Fit!

Join EMERGE for their series of financial fitness classes to help you become financially fit by taking control of your money, getting out of debt, and improving your quality of life!

All Classes Are Free and Open To The Public

Session 1: Budgeting to Create Savings

Session 2: Debt Reduction and Asset Building

Session 3: Building a Good Credit Report

Session 4: Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions

Sessions are every Wednesday for four weeks from **6:00-9:00p.m.** All classes are held at EMERGE (1101 West Broadway).

For more information, contact Shawna Thompson: 612-529-9267 or thompsons@emerge-mn.org

Free Spay/ Neuter Services

The Minnesota Spay and Neuter Assistance Program (MNSNAP) has been granted dollars to perform spay and neuter operations free of charge in 2012!

But why should you spay or neuter your pet?

- Sterilized pets tend to live longer, healthier lives
- Sterilization decreases the risk of dog bites
- Fewer bad behavioral problems
- Sterilization saves on vet bills
- Reduces your pet's risk of some cancers and infections
- Reduces the overpopulation of unwanted and homeless animals.

All qualified pet owners in the 5th Ward can receive free spay/ neuter through MNSNAP. Advanced registration is required. Go to www.mnsnap.com/faq/income-qualified-owner-application. To schedule an appointment, please complete the online registration form, one form per pet, or call 612-720-8236 for assistance.

The Community Room

Arts At NorthPoint!

NorthPoint Health and Wellness will be hosting several events on **Saturday, July 28th** from **9:00-1:00 p.m.**

- "**Let Yourself Soar Kites**" This is an opportunity for each child to draw on their kite what makes them soar to new heights!
- "**Home Is Where The Heart Is**" Make a token/charm in a chosen shape and make a pouch to put it in.
- "**Strength Animal face Painting**" Have your face painted like the strength animal you chose or pick a unique design of your choice
- **Naima Richmond** will be reading stories to children in the Dental Lobby

The NorthPoint permanent art collection will be on display throughout the building presenting North Minneapolis artists.

I'm In The Dog House

Minneapolis Animal Care & Control (MACC) is hosting a unique and creative fundraising event on **Saturday, September 29th** from **11:00-2:00 p.m.** called "I'm In The Dog House".

They have invited local celebrities and community leaders to be "kenneled" during the event. These individuals will ask their friends and colleagues to make a financial donation to the Animal Shelter in order to "adopt" the individual and release him/her from the kennel.

MACC has a number of ways for you to support the Animal Shelter on the day of the event, and support our mission to work with our citizens to create safe and healthy communities for people and animals.

For more info: Jeanette Wiedemeier Bower,612-673-6244 Jeanette.Wiedemeier@minneapolismn.gov

Worlds Longest Soul Train Line!

On **Saturday, July 28th** from **2:00-8:00p.m.** Obsidian Arts, KMOJ, and FLOW invite you to join them on West Broadway to break the Guinness World Record for the Longest Soul Train Line!!

Part public art project, part community gathering, this record attempt seeks to bring 1000 people together to pay homage to the Soul Train Line—a particularly vibrant cultural artifact from the African American tradition.

FLOW invites and encourages you to bring your skates, your Soul Train era gear, and your soulful attitude to this community positive art and culture project.

Register for FLOW at www.FLOWnorthside.org

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From Council Member Don Samuels

Dessert With Don

MINNEAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL WARD 5

Last Monday of Each Month

This Month's Topic is:

Hennepin County Pedestrian Plan
Monday, July 30th

(Next Month: TBD)

At This month's Dessert With Don, we will be having a community workshop for the Hennepin County Pedestrian Plan.

The purpose of the plan is to improve conditions for walking so that it can become a safer, more convenient, and more enjoyable transportation choice.

Your quality of life is my number one concern and I will make it a priority for the city. I hope to see you there!

For more information call 612.673.2205. Hope to see you there!