



January 2008

# Eighth Ward News

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

## From Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden

Subscribe to 8<sup>th</sup> Ward E-news by sending an e-mail to:

[elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us)

### Neighborhood Meetings

#### Bancroft

Bancroft Neighborhood Assoc Council  
[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  
Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 7 pm  
Phelps Park, 3900 Chicago

#### Central

CANDO  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 6:30 pm  
Sabathani Community Center  
310 East 38<sup>th</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor conf rm

Central Weed & Seed  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 5:30 pm  
Green Central School

#### Field-Regina-Northrop

[www.frnng.org](http://www.frnng.org)  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 7 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

#### 38<sup>th</sup> & Chicago

38<sup>th</sup> & Chicago Task Force  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 7 pm  
Calvary Church, 39<sup>th</sup> and Chicago

## Precinct Caucuses are February 5<sup>th</sup> – Get Involved and Caucus!

On Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, Minnesota's three political parties with major party status – Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL), Independence Party, and Republican Party – will hold precinct caucuses throughout the state. Minnesota Greens will Caucus on March 4.

You should contact the party of your choice for more information about precinct caucuses, including caucus locations.

- DFL: (651) 293-1200; [www.dfl.org](http://www.dfl.org)
- Independence: (651) 487-9700; [www.mnip.org](http://www.mnip.org)
- Republican: (651) 222-0022; [www.mngop.com](http://www.mngop.com)
- Green: [www.mngreens.org](http://www.mngreens.org)

Beginning January 15<sup>th</sup>, those who want to attend caucuses can call the county auditor's office at (612) 348-515 for caucus locations, or go to [www.hennepin.mn.us](http://www.hennepin.mn.us) and click on *Voting and Elections*. Also, you can check the Secretary of State's website at [www.sos.state.mn.us](http://www.sos.state.mn.us) for precinct caucus locations and a description of the caucus process after January 15<sup>th</sup>.

At stake in 2008 are elections for President and U.S. Senator from Minnesota. As well, all State Representatives and U.S. Representatives are up for re-election. In Senate District 61B, which includes much of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward, State Representative Neva Walker has decided not to run for re-election, leaving that race wide open. We thank Representative Walker for what will be eight years of service to SD 61B and wish her well in her future endeavors. This will be an exciting year for Minnesota and for our nation. We hope you start now by getting involved and caucusing with the party of your choice!

## Nominations Sought – Ward 8 Community Leader Awards!



On January 25<sup>th</sup>, Elizabeth will present the **2<sup>nd</sup> annual 8<sup>th</sup> Ward Community Leader Awards** and the **Stephanie Ball-Bailey Youth Leader Award**. If you know of a neighbor, block club, organization, business, youth group, or faith-based program in the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward that deserves recognition, we would like your input! Please send nominations (in 150 words or less) to [Elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:Elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us) or mail to Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden, 350 South Fifth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55415 no later than January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

The awards will be presented at Early Mornings with Elizabeth on **January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008 from 7:30 – 9:00am** at Turtle Bread (4762 Chicago Ave). Be sure to mark your calendars for this fun filled event where great neighbors will be recognized! Free Coffee courtesy of Turtle Bread!

## Safe City News



**Convenience Store Update:** On January 4, 2008, the Market Express at 32<sup>nd</sup> and Chicago signed an agreement with the Minneapolis Licensing Department to surrender its licenses, effective March 31, 2008. Starting now, Market Express is actively seeking a new owner for the business. Any new owner will be required to adhere to strict conditions for operation. Thank you to **Julie Casey, Licensing Inspector**, for her work in finding a solution for a business that has been the subject of multiple neighbor complaints and concerns about nearby criminal activity. Thanks as well to the many neighbors and the Parkside West block club for their engagement and attention on issues surrounding the Market Express.

**Problem Properties Update:** Two problem properties that have negatively impacted Central and Powderhorn neighbors for years will be dealt with at the upcoming City Council meeting January 18<sup>th</sup>. The rental licensing board and the Public

Safety Committee of the City Council have approved revocation of the rental license held by the owner of 3420 Chicago. Any new owner of 3420 Chicago will have to comply with strict conditions which will remain on the rental license, such as promptly addressing crime and safety issues, installing cameras, and other duties. As well, a long vacant property at 3445 Elliot has been ordered demolished. The City received 22 impact statements from neighbors about 3445 Elliot, with 21 of those advocating demolition. Our great thanks goes to the neighbors and block clubs in Central and Powderhorn that worked on these two properties, to the City's Problem Properties Unit, as well as to **Crime Prevention Specialist Karen Notsch** and the MPD for many hours spent on addressing problems caused by these properties.

**Graffiti Prevention Micro-Grants Available in 2008.** As part of the 2008 budget, the City County approved \$150,000 which will be available for micro-grants for gang graffiti prevention. Your imagination is the limit for use of these funds, though the purpose must be tied to prevention of gang graffiti. Mural programs and youth-created PSA's are two ideas that neighbors have advocated for in past years. Look for more information in coming months from the Solid Waste Department on micro-grants for gang graffiti prevention.

**Chronic Offenders information:** For those who want more information about neighborhood chronic offenders, there is website you can visit for up-to-date information on outstanding warrants and other data on chronic offenders that frequent east Lake Street and nearby areas. Please go to [www.walterleegutzmer.com](http://www.walterleegutzmer.com) for the current copy of the Community Law Enforcement Action Network (CLEAN) information.

**Citizen's Academy:** Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a police officer? Learn directly from investigators, precinct commanders and officers about use of force, investigations, 911 operations, and more. You will participate in scenarios and simulation exercises. Applications are now accepted for a 10-week Spring Citizen's Academy, evenings from March 11 – May 13. **The registration deadline is February 22<sup>nd</sup> and space is limited.** For any questions on registration and other information, go to

[www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/citizens-academy.asp](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/citizens-academy.asp) or contact Crime Prevention Specialist Carol Oosterhuis at (612) 673-2874 or [carol.oosterhuis@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:carol.oosterhuis@ci.minneapolis.mn.us).

## Metro Paint-A-Thon Seeks Homeowners in Need



The Metro Paint-A-Thon, a program of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches, helps seniors and people with physical disabilities continue to live independently in their own homes. In 2007, volunteers scraped, primed and painted 135 home exteriors for low-income clients, at no cost to the homeowner. 2008 will mark the 25th year that Paint-A-Thon volunteers serve in the 7-county metro area.

Your help is needed to get information about the Paint-A-Thon into the hands of homeowners who can benefit! Applications are available at [www.gmcc.org/paint-a-thon](http://www.gmcc.org/paint-a-thon) or by contacting Deidre Pope, Director Metro Paint-a-Thon, at (612) 721-8687, x321 or [dpope@gmcc.org](mailto:dpope@gmcc.org). The application outlines eligibility requirements and additional program information. **Help a neighbor – tell them about Metro Paint-a-Thon!**

## M.L. King Day Celebration and Peace Walk



The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's 2008 Martin Luther King Jr Day Celebration will take place **Monday, January 21, 2008, from 6:00 – 7:30pm**. The program will kick off with a short rally at Central Green Gym, then a Silent Candlelit Peace Walk from Central Green Gym to ML King Park led by Ward 8 Council Member Elizabeth Glidden and District 3 Park Commissioner Scott Vreeland. Upon completion of the Peace Walk, a short program comprised of music, entertainment and the presentation of the MLK Award will take place at ML King Park.

## Minneapolis to Build Largest Urban Solar Array



Minneapolis has been selected to receive a \$2 million grant to construct the largest urban solar array in the upper Midwest. The grant is funded through the Xcel Energy Renewable Development Fund, and will allow Minneapolis to build a 600 kilowatt solar array on the roof of the City's Public Works Currie Maintenance Facility. The array will be made up of 3,000 panels, which would generate enough electricity to power nearly 80 homes. The electricity could allow the City to expand its fleet of plug-in hybrids, which would be able to recharge at Currie using solar energy.

In April 2007, the City released the first-of-its kind report, *Minneapolis GreenPrint*, which details the efforts Minneapolis is making to protect our environment and the challenges it still faces. To learn more about sustainability in Minneapolis, and to view the *GreenPrint* report, visit [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability).

## Minneapolis Updates its Comprehensive Plan

Minneapolis is updating its long-term plan for growth and development, which directs how the Minneapolis of the future will look, feel and function.

A Southside meeting on the Comprehensive Plan update is scheduled for Thursday, January 17, 2008, 7-9:00 pm, at MLK Park (40<sup>th</sup> and Nicollet).

Residents have until **February 15, 2008** to review the draft plan and provide feedback. The plan is available for review and comment at [www.minneapolisplan.info](http://www.minneapolisplan.info).

## Make 2008 a Year to Get Fit



If you're looking for a fun way to stay active in 2008, get some of your friends, family

members or co-workers together and take part in Get Fit Twin Cities.

Participants throughout the metropolitan area are forming teams of two-to-ten people. Team members then track their minutes of physical activity and report their progress online or by mail. Everyone taking part in Get Fit receives fitness and nutrition tips, gets great deals on fitness activities, and is eligible for random prize drawings.

## “Claim It” – Free Tax Assistance for Working Families



Help the United Way promote their fabulous program, “Claim It!” - a campaign to increase usage of the Earned Income Tax Credit, Working Family Credit,

and other credits that help put money in the hands of working people. These credits, along with FREE tax preparation and other initiatives aimed at increasing access to public benefits, savings accounts and assets, help people pay for basic needs such as rent (which helps support stable living), clothing and food and move towards greater financial stability and independence. **The annual “Claim It!” fair is being held on Saturday, January 27 at the Minneapolis Convention Center, starting at 10:00 am.**

## Planning for NRP’s Future

In 1989, The City of Minneapolis -- along with the Parks, Schools, Libraries, and Hennepin County -- created the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), a 20-year program funded through capturing a portion of property taxes on certain commercial properties in the City. These taxing districts “decertify” in 2009, requiring Minneapolis to reassess how it funds, supports, and works with our critical neighborhood-level civic infrastructure.

The City Council has taken an important step in this process by distributing for public review as of December 20, 2007, a **Framework for the Future for NRP**. The **Framework** was composed by a workgroup including several Councilmembers, the

Director of NRP, and a Mayor’s office representative. The report recommends that the City fund administrative support services for neighborhoods, that neighborhoods need some discretionary funds which could be provided through a Neighborhood Investment Fund, and that the City must provide better support to community engagement efforts. The report recommends several avenues for finding discretionary funding for neighborhoods, including asking for support from the State Legislature for several options.

To review a copy of this report and supporting information, go to [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/communications/communityengagement/asp](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/communications/communityengagement/asp).

## Discover Art Sleds!



Mark your calendars! The first annual **Powderhorn Art Sled Rally is Saturday, Feb 16, 2 pm**. Double-decked, winged, outriggered and water-jet-propulsed sleds created by local artists will hit the slopes of Powderhorn Park soon.

Who could say no to such fun as a sledding run, decorated slopes, snow jumps, hot coffee, cocoa, and music!

Free Art Sled Workshops will be held at Powderhorn Park on Saturdays, 1:30 – 4:00, Jan 26, and Feb 2, 9, and 13. At these workshops, local professional artists will help you create your own art sleds with materials at hand.

Need more information? Contact organizer Julian McFaul at (612) 532-6764.

## How to Reach Elizabeth



Join Elizabeth for her community office hours every Monday, from 9-11:00am at Sabathani Community Center, 310 E. 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 129. You can always call the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward Office with your questions at (612) 673-2208.