



Ninth Ward E-News

From Minneapolis City Council Member Gary Schiff
www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward9

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Join Gubernatorial Candidates at Breakfast with Gary!



Sen. Becky Lourey Sen. Steve Kelley

Gubernatorial candidates Senator Becky Lourey and Senator Steve Kelley are scheduled to participate in a candidate forum at April's Breakfast with Gary on Friday, April 28th.

Candidates Peter Hutchinson, Attorney General Mike Hatch, and Governor Tim Pawlenty have been invited to participate. During the forum, candidates will have a few minutes to introduce themselves and then will take questions from the audience.

Breakfast with Gary is a monthly meeting for 9th Ward constituents held from 7:30 to 9:00am the final Friday of the month at the Café of the Americas (3019 Minnehaha Avenue South). \$5 buys breakfast.

Beat Cops to Patrol Bloomington Avenue

Starting this weekend, the Minneapolis Police Department will have 2 officers assigned for overtime to staff late night foot patrols in the Bloomington Avenue corridor on weekend nights. There continues to be full time Bloomington Ave beat officers everyday 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. in addition to having two officers detailed to cover this area each day from 2:00 a.m. until 6:30 a.m. and the regular sector one (Phillips) 911 cars in service 24/7.

As the Minneapolis Police Department receives more funds and moves into summer, the frequency of these overtime details will increase and will also cover many other areas of the 3rd precinct. The Minneapolis Police Department is working on a department wide summer strategy that will also bring additional resources from within the MPD and from outside agencies to help with expected increases in crime and livability.

In the long term, the Minneapolis Police Department is hiring many more officers but that takes time. The good news is that the permanent staffing will be increasing as we move forward.

Caring Corcoran Neighbors “Community Kick-off”

Caring Corcoran Neighbors will be hosting a “Community Kick-off” on Longfellow Avenue between 31st and 32nd Streets East on Saturday, May 13 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The purpose of the event is for neighbors to talk to other neighbors, community leaders and local organizations about what they are doing to rid the community and city of prostitution.

Prostitution is not only responsible for daily livability issues, but it also perpetuates other crime and safety issues such as drug dealing and robbery. In addition it repels potential home buyers, renters, students, parents and new businesses.

The event will be an opportunity for residents to find out what this and other communities have done and are doing to deter “johns” from coming to the neighborhoods, keep the pimps and drug dealers out and offer help to the women who have been drawn into prostitution.

For more information regarding this event, contact the Corcoran Neighborhood Organization at 612-724-7457.

Phase II Lake St. Construction Begins

Phase II of the Lake Street Reconstruction Project began March 27th from 21st Avenue to 14th Avenue. The \$25 million project, one of the largest



road construction efforts in county history, began in 2005. One lane of traffic in each direction will remain open.

Throughout construction businesses will remain open. They need our continued patronage to stay open. Remember to buy locally when possible. Completion of the entire street renovation from I-35W to the Mississippi River is scheduled for 2008.

Phase I of the Lake Street construction is now complete as the

Midtown Exchange nears completion. Allina has consolidated offices into the building. A Hennepin County Service Center, where you can get a driver's license, a passport or other documents is opening in mid-year; condos are for sale; apartments are for rent; and the adjacent Sheraton hotel and transit station recently opened.

"Renovation of the Sears site, along with other new businesses, is imperative to the revitalization of Lake Street," said City Council Member Gary Schiff.

During the month of May various businesses will begin to open to the public. The Grand Opening Celebration is set for June 3, 2006. Stay tuned for further details.

Marsha Patti Brekke Benefit



Friends and family of Marsha Brekke, a Corcoran resident and longtime community volunteer, will host a benefit to help the

Brekke family with costs as Marsha undergoes treatment for cancer. The benefit will be held at Ebenezer Lutheran Church on Friday, April 29 beginning at 11:00 a.m. There will be live music and a silent auction. A live auction and short program will conclude the benefit.

Marsh Patti Brekke was diagnosed with breast cancer and is now in stage four, with the cancer in her liver, bones and lymph nodes. Due to the intensity of the treatment, the side effects have made it difficult for Marsha to work and have put a financial strain on her and her daughters.

Please help support Marsha and her daughters by attending the benefit. Donations will also be accepted at all TCF banks to the **Marsha Brekke Benefit Fund.**

For more information regarding this benefit, please email benefit4marsha@yahoo.com.