



NNO/August 2010

Eighth Ward News

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

From Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden

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Reach Out to Drop-Outs: We Want You Back!



Minneapolis Public Schools and the Youth Coordinating Board have joined forces to raise public awareness about the dropout crisis in

Minneapolis and enlist the entire community's help to resolve it. **We Want You Back** is a grass-roots effort to identify, connect with and ultimately invite un-enrolled young people to complete their credits and get their diploma.

Saturday, September 11 is our citywide door-knocking event – we need your help! Teams of community and school district volunteers will connect young people with resources, support and information. Minneapolis Public School staff will re-enroll students on the spot.

Visit www.wewantyoubackmpls.org to learn more, sign up and help out! Questions? Contact Ann DeGroot 612-673-2312 or ycb@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Vote in the Primary: August 10th



We have a new primary date this year: **Tuesday, August 10th!** To accommodate mailing overseas ballots to military personnel, Minnesota moved the primary from Sept to August.

This is a critical year to make your voice heard in the primary election. The Governor's race and Minneapolis School Board are two of the critical races where your primary vote will determine who is on the ballot in November. Please vote!

Polls are open 7am-8pm. Where do you vote? Call 311 (612-673-3000 outside of Minneapolis) or go to www.sos.state.mn.us or www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/elections to find your polling place.

Restore Our Tree Canopy: Water Your Boulevard Trees!



This spring, the Minneapolis Park Board planted over 400 trees in boulevards to replace about 250 boulevard trees lost during last year's tornado and to improve the tree canopy along 40th Street, the route of the River Lake Greenway. In addition, residents are encouraged to call the park board to request boulevard trees and build our city's tree canopy.

If you have a new boulevard tree, please consider ordering a FREE gator bag from the Park Board. A gator bag zips around the base of the tree. You stick your hose in and fill it up -- the bag then self-waters the tree with just the right amount of water. When the bag is empty you refill (about once per week). This is a new service offered by the Minneapolis Park Board to help keep boulevard trees healthy.

To order a FREE tree watering gator bag, or to order a tree, call the Minneapolis Park Board at 612-313-7710. According to the Park Board, these watering bags are excellent ways to ensure young (up to 5 years old) trees remain healthy. Please pass this information on to your neighbors!

Se Habla Español en la Oficina de Distrito 8

Si usted necesita ayuda, llame por favor la oficina de distrito 8 y yo le puedo ayudar. Se llama Jennifer y usted me puede llamar por teléfono en (612) 673-2208.

Jennifer White, 8th Ward Council Associate, is fluent in Spanish and available for any Spanish-speaking constituents who may need assistance.

311 Website Lets You Ask for Help 24 Hours a Day



Is there a streetlight out on your block? Do you want to report a pothole? Do you have concerns about housing inspections issues? Do you want to report graffiti and send the city a picture of the offence? You can take care of these things and more at the 311 on-line reporting center.

To make an online service request, go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/311 and click "online service requests." It's easy and fast to make these online reports. After you've tried it out, you can take a survey to tell the City how well the online service worked for you. Just click on "311 satisfaction survey" on the main Minneapolis 311 website.

What's New in Ward 8? Check it out!



Here are some of the new projects and businesses in the 8th Ward. Think local!

- **Chicago Avenue Repaving**, 31st Street – 38th Street – work to happen in 2010
- **River Lake Greenway**: Construction in October 2010 (finally!)
- **46th Street Bus Rapid Transit Station at I-35W**: Station will be open and operating by December 2010
- **Chicago Ave Fire Arts Center, 3749 Chicago**: Change is happening before our eyes at 38th & Chicago. Check out the beautiful exterior and sign up for classes.
- **Nicollet Square, 3700 Nicollet**: Housing for formerly homeless youth and young adults, plus office space. Building will open in 2010
- **South City Café** in the new **Lory Building**, 3405 Chicago – open now, with a beautiful community garden next door. Stop by!
- **Safari Restaurant**, 3010 4th Ave S – this popular restaurant, also in the Midtown Exchange, now has an 8th Ward location. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner.
- **Steven Be's Knitting**, 3448 Chicago Ave S. Workshops, fabrics, classes

- **Soccer field at El Colegio**, 4137 Bloomington. Funded by Hennepin County, this field will be constructed in 2011 and serve as a community amenity
- **Blackbird Restaurant** will open at the long vacant 3800 Nicollet building. Look for grand opening info in Fall 2010

Upcoming Meetings and Events



August 19: Southern Bike

Connection Meeting: 6:30pm at Stewart Rec Center, 2700 12th Ave S.

Meeting to discuss bicycle boulevard proposed on 17th Avenue with focus on 17th Ave between 24th and 38th St.

August 30: Southern Bike Connection Meeting

6:30pm at Pearl Lake Rec Center (41 E Diamond Lake Rd). Meeting to discuss bicycle boulevard proposed on 17th Avenue S, with focus on 17th Ave from 38th Street to 60th Street.

September 2: Park Board Meeting on Dog Park Proposal for Martin Luther King Park

Thurs, Sept. 2nd 6:30pm at MLK Park (4055 Nicollet Ave S). Q's? Call the Park Board and your Park Board Commissioner at (612) 230-6400.

September 11: We Want You Back Community Door Knock!

Training will be provided. Visit www.wewantyoubackmpls.org for more info.

Community Office Hours



Join Elizabeth for her **community office hours** every Monday, 9-11am, at Sabathani Community Center, 310 E 38th Street, Room 129. Call for an appointment or just stop by to visit. You can always contact the 8th Ward office directly with your questions at (612) 673-2208.

Sign-up for the Ward 8 E-Newsletter!



Want monthly updates on City and Ward 8 neighborhood issues? Send an e-mail to elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us with "subscribe" in the subject line or call us at (612) 673-2208.