



September 2009

Eighth Ward News

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

From Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden

Subscribe to 8th Ward E-news by sending an e-mail to:

elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Bancroft

Bancroft Neighborhood Assoc Council

www.bancroftneighborhood.org

Meets 2nd Thursday, 7 pm

4120 17th Avenue South

Bryant

Bryant Neighborhood Association

Meets 1st Thursday, 7 pm

Phelps Park, 3900 Chicago

Central

CANDO

www.CANDOmpls.org

Meets 3rd Thursday, 6:15 pm

Sabathani Community Center

310 East 38th Street, Room 304

Field-Regina-Northrop

www.frnng.org

Meets 3rd Wednesday, 6:30 pm

1620 E 46th Street

Kingfield

www.kingfield.org

Meets 2nd Wednesday, 7 pm

ML King Park, 40th & Nicollet

Powderhorn

www.ppna.org

Meets 2nd Thursday, 6:30 pm

821 E 35th Street

38th & Chicago

38th & Chicago Implementation
Committee

Meets 3rd Monday, 7 pm

Pillsbury House 3501 Chicago Ave S

Celebrate 38th! Experience Fun, Food, Music and Community on Saturday, September 19th

38th Street has connected our communities for over a century – it's time for us to **Celebrate 38th!** Mark your calendar now for this diverse day-long series of events on the 38th Street corridor. The action stretches from Lakewood Cemetery to 38th and Bloomington, with clusters of activity at 38 & Blomington, 12th, Chicago, 4th Nicollet, Pleasant/Grand as well as Lakewood Cemetery (at Dupont).

Ride the bus: 38TH Street has been an important cross-town bus line since the days of the streetcar. Today, Route 23 moves along 38th Street, with service every 30 minutes on Saturdays. You can ride Route 23 for 2.5 hours in both directions to Celebrate 38th! For \$1.75 (\$0.75 for seniors/youth).

History Hounds: Sniff out history up and down 38th while you enjoy the day's events – then bring your completed History Hound card to Nicolett Ace Hardware between 11 am and 2 pm to receive your free prize and a chance at a special grand price in a drawing to be held at 2 pm.

What else? Bands, sidewalk sales, food, murals, and more! The neighborhoods of Bancroft, Powderhorn, Central, Bryant, and Kingfield are participating. Up to date listings of events are available at www.kingfield.org/celebrate-38th.

Minneapolis Crime Alerts



The Minneapolis Police Department has launched a new crime alert service that you can receive by cell

phone, through e-mail, or online. Anyone can sign up to stay connected with important public safety news in their area, including crime alerts, community updates, and important advisories. Go to www.nixle.com -- once there, you can find Minneapolis under the "featured cities" section.

Neighborhood Policing Plans - Beginning in 2007, every neighborhood in Minneapolis has had its own neighborhood policing plan, developed by the police and community working together. The plans are updated each year. To find out when and where the meeting is in your neighborhood and to review past neighborhood plans and results, go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us and type "neighborhood policing plans" in the search box. You can also call "311" for your neighborhood meeting schedule.

Southwest LRT Public Hearing



Plans for a Southwest LRT line have been underway for several years, connecting downtown Minneapolis with southwestern suburbs. This route is planned to pass

through Eden Prairie, Hopkins, Minnetonka, St. Louis Park and a number of Minneapolis neighborhoods.

The Southwest LRT line would be another piece of our Twin Cities transit system, connecting with the existing Hiawatha light-rail line, the Central Corridor light-rail line to Saint Paul slated to open in 2014 and the Northstar Commuter rail line that will begin taking passengers later this year.

A public hearing will be held later this month for residents to share their thoughts on a preferred route. The event will be:

Southwest Light Rail Transit project public hearing

Sept. 17 at 6:30 p.m.
Hopkins Eisenhower Community Center lunchroom
1001 Highway 7, Hopkins

The hearing is hosted by the Southwest Policy Advisory Committee. For more information on the Southwest Light Rail Transit project, please visit www.southwesttransitway.org.

Streetlight Fee NOT Approved by the City Council



Recently, Minneapolis sought public feedback on a proposed streetlight fee, where a typical single-family property owner would pay about \$20 per year. The streetlight fee was proposed because Governor Pawlenty recently cut \$21.3 million existing state aid to Minneapolis, requiring an examination of all options for keeping basic City services funded. Currently, it costs about \$3 million a year needed to keep the street lights on in Minneapolis.

After holding public hearings on this issue, and debating whether fees (used by many cities including St Paul) should be utilized for city services or whether all services should be paid by property taxes, the Minneapolis City Council decided **not** to approve a streetlight fee. Further discussion on how to pay for city services will happen as part of the budget review process by the City Council.

Vote Nov. 3rd – Using Ranked Choice Voting!



This year, Minneapolis will use Ranked Choice Voting for the first time. With this voting method, we will no longer have a primary for city races for Mayor, City Council, Park Board, and Board of Estimate and Taxation.

An outreach and education campaign is underway – with a speakers bureau, materials that will be distributed to every voter, and other unique ways to connect with voters in Minneapolis. In the 8th Ward,

we have already sponsored three education events, and offered more for groups small and large. As well, Minneapolis has hired double the regular amount of election judges, to ensure voters will have the support they need when they go to the polls.

Want to learn more, including how you can help educate your friends and neighbors? Go to www.voteminneapolis.org!

LiveMSP.org – A Great Place for Resources and Neighborhood Information



Live MSP is an initiative celebrating city living and promoting all of the neighborhoods in Minneapolis and Saint Paul. At www.livemsp.org,

residents can find information about home renovation and home purchase incentives; links to event calendars and other city resources; and learn more about all of the neighborhoods in both cities.

Most importantly for many residents, LiveMSP.org has a comprehensive listing of home loan products for buyers and existing homeowners – including neighborhood specific loan programs.

You can follow Live MSP on Twitter at www.twitter.com/livemsp, or on facebook at LiveMSP.

2010 Budget Discussions Underway



On August 13, Mayor Rybak delivered his 2010 budget proposal to the City Council. In the coming months, the City Council will hold a series of

hearings on the budget, examining it in detail and analyzing the impacts on city services and residents.

A public hearing will be held on November 19, 2009, to receive comment on the budget. This will be at 6 pm, City Hall, 350 South 5th Street. The City

Council will vote on the budget on December 7, 2009. You can review the proposed budget at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/city-budget.

Highlights from the Mayor's proposed 2010 budget and budget presentation include:

- Minneapolis **state funding has been cut** by the Governor's unallotments of \$13.2 million in 2008, \$8.5 M in 2009, and \$21.3 M in 2010
- Minneapolis' required **funding for pensions** has dramatically increased – from \$7 million in 2003 to \$25.1 million in 2010.
- Minneapolis spending has increased 1% from 2003 to 2010, while state spending has increased 12%
- **Total City spending is cut** by \$100 million in the Mayor's budget, with a \$19 million cut to the general fund (this fund supports police, public works, fire, and other basic services)
- The Mayor has proposed a **property tax increase** of 11.3% for 2010, dropping to 5.5% in 2011, and then 6%. Because the consolidated TIF district decertifies in 2010 (this is the funding source for NRP – neighborhood funding), the 11.3% property tax increase has been described as having an "actual" impact of 6.6%.

Domestic Abuse Services



The 3rd Precinct has an important resource for anyone who has concerns about an abusive relationship.

Lucky Farah, an experienced advocate from the Domestic Abuse Project (DAP), has office hours at the Midtown Safety Center (2949 Chicago) on Thursdays, 1-4 pm. Lucky speaks Somali, English and Kiswahili (a Kenyan language). She can answer questions, write orders for protection and help with safety planning in a secure, convenient location just north of Chicago and Lake. Drop-ins are welcome.

If you'd like more information, please contact Lucky at 612-673-3289 or John Baumann at Midtown Safety Center, 612-825-6138.

Handcuffs and Hammers



Did you know, a house is being built across from Field School on 4th Avenue? This was the site of a problem property, which ultimately became a foreclosed property. Neighbors called Habitat for Humanity to see if it could help with

solutions. It was chosen as a "WomenBuild site" and is the future home of Basra Hersi, a working mother of three. Women Build is Habitat's volunteer program for women who want to learn construction skills and make a difference by building homes and communities.

Enter the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) **Handcuffs and Hammers team**. When a group of women in the Criminal Investigations division heard of the WomenBuild project, they thought it was a perfect opportunity to give back to the community in which they work. They organized a team, raised funding to pay for their supplies for the day, and then spent Thursday August 20th working on the new home.

Thank you to the Handcuffs and Hammers team, neighbors, homeowner Basra Hersi, and Habitat for Humanity for their work on a great project for our neighborhood!

Changing School Options



The Minneapolis Public School District has been engaged in a dialogue about ways to configure and "right size" the district. MPS currently

has excess school building capacity and financial pressure to reduce the number of facilities, while increasing student academic outcomes aligned to the goals of the Strategic Plan 2007-12.

Boundaries for elementary, middle, and high schools are changing. Some programs will close or be merged. The number and type of magnet programs offered in the city will change. The School Board and MPS administration have been working on this plan with widespread community participation since January, 2009.

At this meeting, the plan will be presented, MPS administrators will answer your questions, and School Board members will listen to the conversation. The Board will vote on the full plan on September 22. Detailed information is available at www.mpls.k12.mn.us/.

Upcoming meetings:

September 10 – 6:30pm (Social gathering 6:00 p.m.)

Roosevelt High School, 4029 – 28th Ave S | Co-hosted by Area B

Information about schools in SE/South Central Minneapolis (E of Chicago Ave and SE of 35W and 15th Ave SE to University Ave)

September 14 – 6:30 p.m.

Washburn High School, 201 West 49th St | Co-hosted by Area C

Information about schools in SW Minneapolis (W of Chicago Ave and S of Cedar Lake)

Ward 8 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 or Elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.