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Activism and the FBI

A special Breakfast with Gary co-sponsored by Elizabeth Glidden

Join City Council Members Gary Schiff and Elizabeth Glidden for [breakfast](#) on Friday, October 29th at 7:30 a.m. Guest speakers include Coleen Rowley, former FBI agent and Time Magazine's Person of the Year 2002; Bruce Nestor from the National Lawyers Guild; and Chuck Samuelson from American Civil Liberties Union Minnesota.

The [breakfast](#) will be at [Mercado Central](#), 1515 East Lake Street, starting at 7:30 a.m. \$5 buys breakfast.



Coleen Rowley, former FBI agent and whistleblower will speak at *Breakfast with Gary* on Friday, Oct. 29th

Last month, the FBI served search warrants on six Minneapolis homes in an apparent search for information regarding travel to the Palestinian Territories and Colombia. The panelists will discuss the use by Federal prosecutors of the expanded definition of ["material support for terrorism."](#) Activists maintain the law is too broad and infringes upon Americans' rights to seek change in U.S. foreign policy. The U.S. Supreme Court [recently ruled](#) in a 6-3 decision that Congress may indeed outlaw support in the form of speech without offending the First Amendment, even if the support is aimed at legal activities or peaceful settlement of disputes by humanitarian groups.

Business is booming in Corcoran



[Doughnut Cooperative](#) owners (l-r) Laura Kennedy and Dawn Lee displaying some fresh goods. (photo courtesy of Katie Cannon/Heavy Table)

While the American economy slowly crawls back, businesses on one corner in Minneapolis' Corcoran neighborhood is booming

. A total of five new small businesses have opened in recent months on the corner of Twenty-Thirdrd Avenue South and East 35th Street. New businesses include a doughnut collective, a skate board shop, hair salon, a realty business and a yoga studio.

[The Doughnut Cooperative](#) offers handmade, artisan doughnuts including dairy and egg-free versions for vegan customers. The cooperative is scheduled to with limited hours this month. Next door, skateboard aficionados frequent the [Air Raid Skate Shop](#). [Shear Art Hair Studio](#) offers a host of services, from cut and style to hair coloring, hair removal, skin treatments, and manicures. [Hiawatha Yoga](#) moved to this corner, and offers small yoga classes with individual attention. Realtor [Cynthia Frost](#) opened her office, Total Freedom Realty, and has worked with all types of buyers and sellers. She has purchased and renovated a number of Minneapolis homes, and started a "Bargain Home Tour" to help people find, finance, and fix a home or investment property.

"We have seen a 25 percent increase in requests for city small business loan programs this year," says Cathy Polasky, the city's director of economic development. "And we also see a trend of new businesses opening in clusters –they get energy from each other." Polasky says business expansions are also picking up. Forbes Magazine recently listed Minneapolis-St.Paul as one of the fastest economically recovering regions in the country.

Judge recommends power lines be buried

An administrative law judge has agreed with the Minneapolis City Council and neighborhood groups, issuing a [recommendation](#) earlier this month that a high-voltage power line over the Midtown Greenway be buried by Xcel Energy under 28th Street East.



Xcel Energy's image of proposed high voltage power lines over the Midtown Greenway.

Judge Beverly Jones

Heydinger recommended that the lines be located as closely as possible to the center of the street to keep lines away from homes, sidewalks and trees. The judge also approved two substation sites, one on the north side of the Greenway, between Portland and Oakland Avenues. The second substation site is east of Hiawatha Avenue next to the Greenway. The judge's report did not specify who should bear the added \$13.6 million dollar cost of burying the lines. The city backs having this cost spread broadly to all rate payers, rather than limited to the customers who are in close proximity to the line.

"The process isn't over yet," said Council Member Schiff. "The Public Utilities Commission can set aside the judges recommendation and approve Xcel's preferred route." Xcel is also required to prove the need for a new high-voltage power line, which may delay putting the lines into service until 2013.

Minneapolis grows economy with stimulus funds

al recovery dollars to boost local initiatives. This includes funding for energy, environment, health, human services, housing, urban development, jobs, employment, public safety, and transportation. To date, Minneapolis has applied for \$142.9 million and has been awarded \$63.4 million.

Nearly one-third of funds granted to Minneapolis earlier this year went to the Neighborhood Stabilization Program, for housing revitalization in targeted neighborhoods. Additionally, the Minneapolis Public Housing Agency is investing \$49.9 million in Recovery Act funds into more than 6,000 units.

Minneapolis estimates 1,116 new jobs were created with the help of federal recovery dollars. A majority of individuals hired through Recovery Act funds were city residents and from minority populations in Minneapolis with an average wage of \$19.66 per hour. Of the jobs that were created, 65 percent were permanent jobs. [Click here](#) for more detailed information about the Minneapolis Economic Recovery Strategy.

Neighborhood sustainability networking fair

The [Alliance for Sustainability](#) is hosting the Midtown Transition Town and Neighborhood Sustainability Networking Fair on Saturday, November 13 from noon to 5:00 p.m. The event will be held at South High School at 3131 19th Avenue South in Minneapolis.

Neighborhood volunteers in attendance will meet to plan how each neighborhood can build local resilience. Keynote speaker Richard Heinberg will present at 1:00 p.m. Heinberg is the author of *The Party is Over* and *Power Down*. At 2:00 p.m. there will be a local solutions panel and open space conversations on community garden hubs, home energy audits, community solar, biking/walking, and eco-psychology. Afterwards, neighborhoods will break out and meet to plan next steps. The event ends with a potluck and free time for additional networking. For more information and to RSVP, call Sean at 612-331-1099 or [click here](#).



Author [Richard Heinberg](#) will be the Transition Fair keynote speaker.

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