5th Ward News

HARRISON, JORDAN, NEAR NORTH, SUMNER-GLENWWOD, NORTH LOOP, WILLARD-HAY

From Council Member Don Samuels

NOVEMBER 2007

5TH WARD NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS

Harrison Neighborhood Association (HNA)
503 Irving Avenue North
Suite 100
Minneapolis, MN 55405
612.374.4849

Jordan Area Community Council (JACC)
2009 James Ave North
Minneapolis, MN 55411
612.886-3202

North Loop Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 582178
Minneapolis, MN 55458-2178
612.339.3904

Northside Residents Redevelopment Council (NRRC)
1313 Plymouth Ave. North
Minneapolis, MN 55411
612.335.5924

Old Highland Organization
www.oldhighland.org
info@oldhighland.org

Willard-Homewood Organization
www.willard-homewood.org

*The Office of Council Member Don Samuels publishes an electronic newsletter to keep you up to date on what is happening in the 5th Ward. If you would like to receive this newsletter please send an email to don.samuels@ci.minneapolis.mn.us and put the words **NEWSLETTER** in the subject line.*

Public Safety and Regulatory Services Committee to Take-On Dangerous Dogs

The PS & RS Committee, chaired by Council Member Samuels, will tackle the problem of dangerous dogs.

After the recent attacks in North and Northeast Minneapolis, Council Member Samuels introduced changes to the ordinance that effect the owners of these ferocious animals.

Understanding that the vast majority of these dogs are owned by loving and responsible owners, Council Members Samuels and Lisa Goodman, convened a task-force to review best practices that would reward responsible dog ownership, yet protect the general public from the few dog owners who create unsafe situations for the community.

The work of the task-force was completed and the proposed changes will be discussed at the November 14th, PS & RS Committee hearing at 9:00 AM.

Residents are encouraged to attend and testify. For more information about the Dangerous Dogs Ordinance, contact the Clerks office at 673-2046 or visit the website at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/

FALL STREET SWEEPING

Every fall, Public Works crews sweep every mile of the City's 1,100 miles of streets-curb to curb– to help keep our neighborhoods clean and livable and to protect our waterways. Leaves and other debris on the streets can clog storm drains and pollute our lakes and rivers

Fall street sweep usually begins in mid-to-late October and takes about five weeks to complete.

Watch for "No Parking "signs on sweep days.

Watch for Snow Emergency brochures in your mailbox

Minneapolis residents should watch their mail over the next several days for information that could help them avoid tickets and tows when snow season arrives. The City of Minneapolis is sending out nearly 175,000 Snow Emergency brochures, one to each household in the city. Folks should hold on to the brochures throughout the winter and have them handy whenever a Snow Emergency is declared. Every time Minneapolis declares a Snow Emergency, City crews have to plow all 1,100 miles of Minneapolis streets curb to curb. This requires the public move their vehicles from streets so they can be completely cleared. The Snow Emergency brochures contain easy-to-follow parking rules that explain where people can and cannot park during a Snow Emergency. By reaching out to educate people about Snow Emergency parking rules, the City hopes to help people avoid tickets and tows. Each snow season Minneapolis spreads the word about Snow Emergencies by direct mail, e-mails, text messages, automated phone calls, the Internet, and by working with the media. For more information on Snow Emergencies in Minneapolis, and for Snow Emergency information in other languages, visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/snow/.

Happy Thanksgiving

From the
5th Ward Office
Don, Jose and
Monique

The HOPE Collaborative

Community Meeting

LOCAL & NATIONAL SCHOOL SUCCESS STORIES

Tuesday - November 6, 2007
6pm - 8 pm
Capri Theater
2027 West Broadway,

Keynote Speaker: Dan French - Executive Director, Center for Collaborative Education (CCE) Boston Massachusetts

CCE has advocated for, and assisted in the development of the Boston Pilot Schools. He is a Former Director of Instruction and Curriculum for the Massachusetts Department of Education, and special educator. Ed.D. from UMass./Amherst. Author of 1998 Phi Delta Kappan article, “The State’s Role in Shaping a Progressive Vision of Public Education.”

Originally proposed by the Boston Teachers Union, Pilot Schools are part of the Boston Public Schools. They are small public schools of choice whose directors have considerable autonomy in budget, curriculum and personnel.

French will be sharing new research about the considerable progress students are making in the Boston Pilot Schools.

The Community Room

Northside Arts Collective announces the 3rd annual arts auction and homecoming!

The Northside Arts Collective (NAC) will hold it's Third Annual Homecoming and Fundraiser. The event will be held Thursday, November 8th, 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the historic Capri Theater, 2027 West Broadway.

The affair will feature entertainment by The Two Sopranos—a local singing group; NAC artists, Jeana Sommers and Richard Amos, creating original works of "art in real time" for auction; a raffle to win prizes from original art work by Northside artists and gift certificates from the many wonderful Northside businesses who support NAC's mission.

The event is free,. Raffle tickets are $5 each or 5 for $20 and available at the event or by calling the NAC office (612-643-2050).

Please refer to www.nacarts.org for more details about shows, events and classes

Open House for the Link's New Home

You are invited to come see the Link's new home! Wednesday, November 14th 2007, 4:00pm to 7:00pm, 1210 Glenwood Avenue North.

- Take a tour of our newly purchased and remodeled building
- Win amazing raffle items
- Participate in a scavenger hunt
- Learn how we are expanding to meet the needs of the community
- Get to know the youth workers that make changes in the lives of youth
- Find out about ways to help The Link make an impact in the community
- Refreshments Served

RSVP via email to kgillman@thelinkmn.org or call 612-871-0748.

North Community YMCA Embarks on Major Renovation

The current North Community YMCA will be temporarily closed and transformed into the North Community YMCA Youth and Family Enrichment Center.

The newly renovated 38,000 sq. ft. facility, which will reopen in the fall of 2008, will address core concerns voiced by the residents of North Minneapolis.

The new North Community YMCA will significantly increase its impact in the lives of North Minneapolis youth by providing positive, structured, healthy programs such as:

- after-school programming
- Innovative youth programs such as reading, spoken word, drama, dance, music, math and technology
- Leadership and character development programs and activities
- College preparatory programs
- Career exploration programs and training
- Adventure learning programs with a high-ropes course
- YMCA Swim Academy learn-to-swim program
- Youth sports such as basketball, soccer, volleyball, and triathlon club
- Children's programming, including summer offerings
- Collaborative programs with other community organizations, schools, and local partners to better serve families in North Minneapolis

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www.ci,minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward5

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City makes it easy for folks to tell judges how crime impacts their communities

Residents and business owners know how livability crimes affect their neighborhoods. Now, an Internet tool makes it possible for them to share that information with the courts, so the true impact of crime in our neighborhoods can be taken into account when sentencing an offender.

For the first time, the City of Minneapolis has made it possible to give a community impact statement online rather than in person. By filling out a short community impact statement, people can tell the courts how crimes really affect the livability of their neighborhood. Prosecutors can then present these statements to judges during sentencing.

In addition to the online convenience, the search tool makes it easier than ever to search through the database of cases. Residents can look up cases by offense, alleged offender, street address or general location of the offense.

You can get to the community impact statement Internet page by going to the City Attorney's Web site: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/attorney.

Fake Guns, Real Fear

The Minneapolis City Council approved new restrictions on facsimile firearms, the so-called "fake guns" that have been used in real crimes in Minneapolis. The ordinance, introduced by Council Member Don Samuels, aims to improve public safety by taking the restrictions that already exist on real guns and placing those same restrictions on gun replicas that closely match the real thing.

According to the new ordinance, carrying or having a facsimile firearm in a public place is prohibited. Existing laws only governed real weapons—replicas were not classified as weapons and therefore were permitted in public.

"Our police have told us many times that guns that look like the real thing, even if they're fake, have the same potential to be used in crime or to lead to tragedy," said Council Member Samuels, chair of the council's Public Safety and Regulatory Services Committee. "The fact that dozens of replica guns are used in crimes each year shows they can be just as damaging as the real things. This new ordinance gives police a new tool to get more of those guns off the streets."

In 2006, the Minneapolis Police Department recovered 294 replica guns, including 47 that had been used in crimes. In the first half of 2007, more than 130 of those guns had been recovered, including at least 29 that were used in crimes. During that year-and-a-half, those guns were used in a wide variety of crimes, including 47 assaults or threats and 14 burglaries, as well as dozens of auto thefts and several kidnappings.