10th Ward e-News

from Council Member Meg Tuthill

Shop local. Play local.

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Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 9am-5pm

Visit us at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward10

January 2011

Thank you for helping this winter!

We would like to send a **HUGE** thank you to our neighbors who stepped up during our major winter storms and helped family, friends and neighbors.

Welcome Inspector Clark!

The 5th Precinct Commander, Inspector Eddie Frizell, is being deployed to Iraq with his National Guard unit. We wish him a safe and speedy deployment.
Inspector Matt Clark comes to us from the 1st precinct. His goals for the 5th Precinct include ensuring prompt and professional police service, reducing crime by effectively addressing community crime patterns, and increasing community engagement on public safety issues. When you see Inspector Clark please give him a warm 10th ward welcome!

2011 property value notices are in the mail

2011 property value notices have been mailed to property owners throughout the city.
The property value listed on this statement is what will be used to determine your 2012 property taxes. To ensure that the City's assessments are fair and accurate, the Minnesota Department of Revenue uses an industry standard tool called a "sales ratio study" to measure the accuracy and quality of the City's assessment level. Sales ratios are computed by dividing the assessor's market value by the sale price of each individual property. Individual ratios are then analyzed according to property type and municipality to measure the level of assessment. The acceptable level of assessment in Minnesota is to have a sales ratio between 90 percent and 105 percent and Minneapolis consistently meets this requirement.

If you disagree with the estimate of value on your property, there are several options available to appeal the assessment. First, call the phone number labeled "Valuation Questions" on your statement to discuss your concerns with a deputy assessor responsible for valuing your property. Explain why you believe your property value is less than what is indicated on the statement. The deputy assessor can explain how the property value and classification were determined. If you have homestead questions about your property call the phone number labeled "Homestead Questions" on your statement. If you want to appeal your property valuation to the City of Minneapolis Board of Appeal and Equalization, call (612) 673-3358 for an appointment. **April 30th is the deadline to submit appeals** to the Minnesota Tax Court.
For more information, please visit the City's Appeals Process webpage.

City of Lakes Loppet

The City of Lakes Loppet is a cross-country ski festival featuring the beautiful trails and lakes of the Twin Cities. The Loppet is also a festival for the whole family that includes a snow sculpture contest, the Skijoring National Championships, ice bike racing, expanded sprints and, of course, the Luminary Loppet. The event will take place on Saturday, February 5th & Sunday, February 6th with many of the events either taking place or ending in the Uptown area by Lake of the Isles and Lake Calhoun. For more information, please visit the City of Lakes Loppet webpage.

Potential Mobile Food Cart Expansion

Last year the City of Minneapolis passed an ordinance allowing Mobile Food Vendors in the Downtown Improvement District in Minneapolis. The Mobile Food Vending ordinance is now being reconsidered for revisions. There is the opportunity to discuss expanding Mobile Food Units outside of downtown. During last year's discussion some residents and small businesses indicated they would be interested in having Mobile Food Units in the 10th ward; especially in the Uptown area. We are interested in your feedback on this issue.

A few things to consider are: Where will the Mobile Food Vendors be allowed to operate? Sidewalks in downtown are generally wide enough to accommodate the Mobile Food Units but sidewalks outside of downtown usually are not. This means Mobile Food Vendors outside of downtown would need to be located on the street and/or in commercial parking lots. Should they be allowed at parking meters? Should there be a limit on the number of vendors per block? What hours should they be allowed to operate? Should they be limited to specific streets?

Here is a link to the current Mobile Food Vendor ordinance. Please scroll down to **188.485: Mobile Food Vehicle Vendors** for the full ordinance.

We would like **your feedback by February 10th**. At that time Meg will review all of the comments received and decide if there is enough interest to pursue expanding Mobile Food Vendors into the 10th ward.
Please send us your thoughts, concerns, questions and ideas. Send them to Leslie at: Leslie.foreman@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Community Energy Services soon available in all of Ward 10!

Community Energy Services (CES), a residential energy program, has served over 2,800 Minneapolis households and is helping homeowners save energy and money in their homes. With several upcoming workshops scheduled in the area, Ward 10 homeowners have many opportunities to get involved. **Ward 10 is the only ward to have 100% involvement by the NRP neighborhood organizations**.

CES provides homeowners with free educational workshops where they can schedule a customized home energy visit. The visit includes a blower door test which measures air leaks as well as the installation of money saving materials. These materials may include compact fluorescent light bulbs, low-flow showerheads, faucet aerators, pipe wrap, a programmable thermostat and more. $400 worth of services and materials for a co-pay of only $30! Homeowners are also provided with home energy tracking, information on financing and access to specialized rebates available only to program participants.
Upcoming workshops are being held on:

- Thursday, March 10th, 6:30 p.m.
  Grace-Trinity Lutheran Church (1430 28th St. W)
- Saturday, March 12th, 10 a.m.
  Bryant Square Park (3101 Bryant Ave. S)

To reserve your spot at one of these workshops or for more workshop dates, contact Ashley Robertson at (612)335-5869 or arobertson@mncee.org. For more information, please visit the CES webpage.

Community Energy Services is a partnership between the Center for Energy and Environment, City of Minneapolis, CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy with funding provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund and the City of Minneapolis Block Grant Funding.

Meet with Meg!

Join us for Meet with Meg for lunch on **Tuesday, February 8th from 12 pm to 1 pm** at the 5th Precinct's Community Room (3101 Nicollet Ave S). Meet with Meg is a time for you to talk with her, ask questions, and voice concerns. Bring your sack lunch! Cookies and lemonade are provided! Meet with Meg is held the second Tuesday of every month.

We want to hear from you! We are looking for your input on who you would like to see/hear from at Meet with Meg for Lunch. We would like to start inviting local and city officials to Meet with Meg in the new year and we need your help! If you have any ideas of whom you would like to hear from or of a topic that is of interest to you, please email 10th ward associate Breanna Patsch at breanna.patsch@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

Attention: If you want help translating this information into a language other than Hmong, Spanish or Somali, please call 311.
Hmong - Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2800;
Spanish - Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llama 612-673-2700;
Somali - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500.