



October 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

VOTE! November 3

Elections for all city offices will be held on Tuesday November 3rd. On the ballot will be candidates for city council, mayor, park board, and board of estimate and taxation.

This is the first year that Ranked Choice Voting will be used. This voting method was mandated by the voters who approved a 2006 charter amendment by a 2:1 margin. In ranked choice voting, Minneapolis voters may rank up to three candidates for single and multiple seat municipal offices. Find out more about ranked choice voting at www.voteminneapolis.org.

Need information on where to vote?

- Call 311 weekdays 7 am – 11pm
- Go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/elections/ to find out where you vote ("Find your voting precinct"), get information on absentee voting, and more
- View the **actual sample ballot** for your precinct by using the Minneapolis Elections website, above, to "Find your voting precinct" - you can view the actual ballot on-line!

South Minneapolis Housing Fair October 20th

Whether you own your home or are thinking of buying your first, you will find valuable information at the upcoming South Minneapolis Housing Resource Fair. At this free open house event, you can:

- Hear presentations about low interest home purchase and home renovation loan programs;
- Learn more about the Federal government's "Making Home Affordable" program to lower your monthly mortgage payments;
- Visit one-on-one with financial and housing educators, community-based organizations, mortgage lenders, and real estate agents to learn about new programs, available homes, and more.

The free South Minneapolis Housing Resource Fair will be on Tuesday, October 20, 2009, 5:00 – 7:30 PM, Park Avenue United Methodist Church, 3400 Park Avenue.

For more information about Minneapolis neighborhoods and home loan programs of all kinds, go to the www.livemsp.org. You will be surprised at all of the good information you can find!

Ward 8 Development Roundup

As we head toward winter, several exciting development projects are about to start or are underway. Here are just some of the neighborhood investments to come along Chicago Avenue:

- **3405 Chicago.** This long-vacant building is next to a vacant lot, representing a recently demolished problem commercial property. A new owner has closed on 3405 Chicago and is about to start construction, rehabbing the building with storefront windows and other amenities. The planned businesses to come include a small coffee shop and store selling used goods.
- **3749 Chicago – Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center.** This long-awaited arts center for 38th & Chicago will have its groundbreaking on October 30th, with building renovations to start soon after.
- **4302 Chicago – the former Delux Spa** building, has been purchased by a new owner, who is renovating the building for a full service beauty salon with hair and skin care services.

Congratulations to these new building owners – we look forward to these new neighborhood partners opening their doors.

Making an energy-efficient home improvement? You might get a rebate

Minnesota homeowners may be eligible for up to \$4,000 in rebates for certain energy-efficiency improvements. A rebate program administered by the Builders Association of Minnesota is making \$3 million available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Funds will go fast and are

available first-come, first-served. If you're having energy-efficiency work done on your home, make sure to ask your contractor if it is eligible for the "Project ReEnergize" rebate.

The home must be owner-occupied and built before 2000. The improvements must be done by a Project ReEnergize qualified contractor. A list of project qualified contractors will be posted Oct. 1 at www.projectReEnergize.org/contractor-list.aspx. Only work completed after Oct. 1 is eligible for rebates. Project must be completed before rebate application can be submitted.

For more information on eligibility, visit www.ProjectReEnergize.org.

Minneapolis Outlines Plans for H1N1 Response

To ensure that Minneapolis is prepared and able to respond appropriately to the H1N1 flu virus, the City's public health and emergency preparedness officials have been updating the City's emergency response plan. The City has plans for vaccination implementation and dispensing strategies, City workforce protection, and ensuring continuity of critical City functions.

The City's vaccination strategy includes encouraging people to visit their regular health care provider, working with the Minnesota Visiting Nurse Agency to assist with vaccinations of first responders and high risk individuals, providing vaccinations at schools, community and employer-based sites, and mass immunizations and North and South High Schools.

The City's plans to ensure continuity of critical City functions will be approved by the City Council in October.

For more information on H1N1 and pandemic flu, go to <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/emergency/flu-home.asp>.

Twin Cities Healthy Start awarded \$4.6 million over next five years to reduce infant mortality

Twin Cities Healthy Start in Minneapolis will receive \$4.625 million over the next five years through the Healthy Start program at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The grant will be used to reduce infant mortality among the Minneapolis and Saint Paul African-American and American Indian communities.

This type of community-based prevention program is expected to help save lives and millions of dollars in health care costs down the road.

Minneapolis Federal Stimulus Dollars – View Applications and Awards Online

The federal stimulus funding opportunities require enhanced transparency and accountability to the public and policy makers on how the funding is awarded and spent. Minneapolis has updated its Economic Recovery Website that make it easier than ever to track these dollars.

Go to www.minneapolisrecovery.us to check it out.

You can see the dollars requested and received and how they relate to City goals and priorities. You can also see the specifics of individual projects. The City of Minneapolis has received more than \$30 million in Recovery funds, and more than 600 people have been put to work so far because of that funding. Other entities, like Minneapolis Public Housing, have also received funding.

First Responders Celebration: Saturday October 24

Join your friends and neighbors for a celebration of the great community and City response to the tornado that hit our neighborhoods this year! This is our chance to thank City employees, Minneapolis Park Board, neighborhood businesses and organizations, and each other for pulling together and looking out for one another in the aftermath of the tornado that damaged homes and downed trees in South Minneapolis.

- **Saturday, October 24, 2009, 10:00 am – noon, St. Peter’s AME Church, 401 E. 41st Street**

Featuring Free food – coffee and light snacks, Music & MADDADS, and resources for residents (including Department of Commerce staff to assist with insurance complaints and questions).

Free Wi-Fi Accounts for Community Non-profits

Minneapolis has 100 free wireless Internet accounts for non-profit organizations that provide free computer access to the public. To be eligible, organizations must be located in the city of Minneapolis.

Specifically organizations must be Minneapolis-based Non-Profit organizations that:

- Provide public computer access (“community technology centers”)
- Provide technology literacy training, and/or
- Provide technology support for underserved communities

Go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/wirelessminneapolis/ for an application. **APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY OCTOBER 30TH!** Questions can go to **Jennifer Lastoka** at Jennifer.Lastoka@ci.minneapolis.mn.us or (612) 673-3163.