



9th Ward E-News

From Minneapolis Council Member Gary Schiff

November 21, 2006

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World AIDS Day: Stop AIDS, Keep the Promise



The story of bead artists is told in a new film premiering on World AIDS Day

This year's [World AIDS Day](#) theme, Stop AIDS, Keep The Promise, references the goal set in 2005 at the G-8 summit, where world leaders promised universal access to AIDS treatment by 2010. Since then, there has been little action toward committing the new resources to reach that goal. Globally, only one out of ten people have access to AIDS treatment today.

World AIDS Day will be marked in Minneapolis with the Midwest premiere of the Norwegian film,

Bigger Than Barbie (www.biggerthanbarbie.com). The film chronicles the life of a beader raising two children orphaned by AIDS. Tickets for the 8 pm. movie are \$10, with a \$75 VIP reception and auction at 6:30 pm. at The Woman's Club, 410 Oak Grove Street. Call (612) 872-1152 for tickets. All proceeds benefit Open Arms' HIV/AIDS programs. A South African Beaded Art Sale follows on Saturday, December 2 from 10 am to 6 pm at City Center, 40 S. 7th St.

For a full list of events in Minnesota commemorating World AIDS Day, [Click Here](#).

Economic development results: less crime

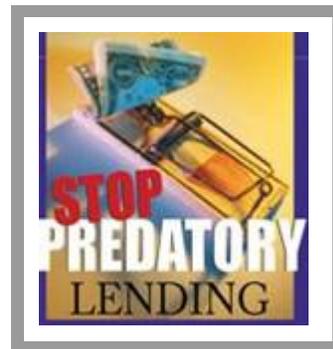
Six months after the opening of Midtown Exchange, crime within four blocks of the Chicago and Lake intersection has dropped significantly. The drop in crime has been so substantial, that the Third Precinct now leads the city in crime

reduction.

Part 1 crime, which include both violent and property crimes, are down 25% in the area. In the Third Precinct, Part 1 crime has been reduced 4%. City wide, Part 1 crimes have increased 5% since 2005. "We have a lot of work to do to make every neighborhood safe, but our progress in Midtown Phillips this year shows that economic development, including affordable housing, can help revitalize a community," Gary Schiff, Ninth Ward Council Member said.

311 now helps homeowners facing foreclosure

The City of Minneapolis' 311 service is now offering help to residents facing possible foreclosures. 311 operators will connect residents with counselors at the Northside Residents Redevelopment Council, Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity or the Homeownership Preservation Foundation.



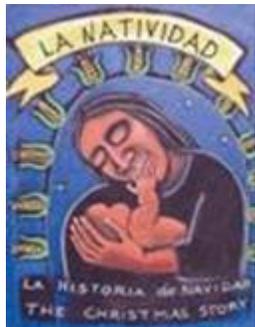
In 2006, more than 2,400 Hennepin County homes have been sold in Sheriff's Department sales, nearly double the rate from one year earlier. "Much of the problem stems from predatory lending," said Gary Schiff, Ninth Ward Council Member. "Artificially high property appraisals and unfair lending practices are wiping out wealth and hurting neighborhood stability." In the Ninth Ward, the Powderhorn Neighborhood has particularly affected. For more on predatory lending and foreclosures in the Twin Cities click [here](#).

EPA to discuss next round of arsenic clean up

The [EPA](#) will hold meetings on the last Tuesday of each month beginning in November to discuss the risk assessment process and give residents an opportunity to ask questions about arsenic contamination. Sampling and clean-up is underway in Phillips, Powderhorn, Longfellow and Corcoran neighborhoods. All meetings will be held at the Midtown YWCA at 2121 E. Lake Street from 7:00p.m. to 8:30p.m. Meeting dates are November 28, January 30, February 27 and March 27.

For more information, contact EPA Community Involvement Coordinator Cheryl Allen at (800) 621-8431. For additional information on arsenic contamination in Phillips, Powderhorn, Longfellow and Corcoran neighborhoods, [Click here](#).

Heart of the Beast to perform La Natividad



Join your neighbors for a traditional Mexican “Las Posadas” procession this Christmas season. Las Posadas commemorates the journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of shelter, combining street theater with social celebration.

La Natividad: Three Nights of Christmas Drama will be held Friday, December 15 at 6:30 pm, Saturday, December 16 at 6:30 pm and Sunday, December 17 at 4:00 pm. Audiences will move from the Mercado Central to the Avalon Theatre in a torch-lit procession to St. Paul’s for Nativity and fiesta with music, food and piñata. Tickets can be purchased by calling 612-724-3862.

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