July 2010



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

Minneapolis Park Board Hosts Meeting on Dog Park Proposal for MLK Park

The Minneapolis Park Board will host a community conversation on a proposal for a dog park in MLK Park:

- Thursday, July 22, from 7:00 8:30 pm
- Martin Luther King Park Rec Center

The Park Board currently has installed dog parks in 4 of its 6 park districts. One area not served by a dog park is south central and southwest Minneapolis.

Neighbors from Kingfield and Bryant neighborhoods have organized to request support from the Park Board for a dog park location in MLK Park. Three potential locations have been proposed: 1) The NE corner of the park (behind the tennis bubble and next to the pedestrian bridge over I-35W); 2) the SW corner of the park (along the soundwall near 42nd Street); 3) The NW corner of the park (at the corner of Nicollet and 40th Street).

The Park Board is hosting this community meeting to hear from all stakeholders to the park about the dog park proposal and the locations discussed to date. The Park Board has not yet taken any action on the dog park proposal or discussed it in committee or full board meetings – the first formal step for the Park Board will be to set a date for its Land Use/Planning Committee to consider the proposal and hold a public hearing.

If you cannot attend the meeting and would like to learn more, please call the Minneapolis Park Board and your Park Board Commissioners at (612) 230-6400.



Upcoming Events



July 4: National Geographic at Powderhorn's July 4th Celebration. Alexandra Cousteau and Expedition Blue Planet/National Geographic will be at Powderhorn Park

throughout the day on July 4th to highlight Metro Blooms work installing free raingardens in Central and Powderhorn neighborhoods. Metro Blooms' project is an important effort to improve water quality in Powderhorn Lake. Starting at 3 pm, stop by for plant giveaways, raingarden walking tours, and other activities. www.metroblooms.org.

July 7: Chicago Ave Fire Arts Center Tour! Get a sneak peak from 11am-12pm on Wed, July 7, of the Fire Arts Center, at 3749 Chicago. This is a special opportunity for community members to get an advance look before doors open this summer.

July 12: Foreclosure Prevention Door Knock
Join Jewish Community Action (JCA) and
Powderhorn Park (PPNA) for door to door
outreach. JCA will provide materials, maps, and
talking points to connect Powderhorn residents with
free foreclosure prevention and tenant's rights
counseling. Spanish speakers are encouraged to
join us! Mon July 12, 5-8pm, PPNA offices 821 E.
35th Street. RSVP to katie@ppna.org.

July 21: Juvenile Justice Forum. Youth Crime In Our Neighborhood: How DOES the Juvenile Justice System Respond? Share, listen and learn about the Juvenile Justice System and find out what happens when young people go through this system. We'll talk about gaps in the system and brainstorm what the community can do to bridge those gaps. Wed, July 21, 6:30-8:30pm, Pillsbury House 3501 Chicago.

Ready, Set VOTE AUGUST 10TH



Yes, it's true - - the primary election for 2010 is August 10th this year! To accommodate mailing overseas ballots to military personnel and others,

the State of Minnesota has moved the primary from its traditional September date to August 10 for 2010.

This is a critical year to make your voice year in the primary election. The Governor's race, and Minneapolis School Board elections, are just two of these critical races where your primary election vote will determine who is on the ballot in November. Please vote!

Absentee voting has been available since June 25 – if you will not be available to vote August 10th, please apply for an absentee ballot. You can find out more by dialing 311 or go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/elections/absentee-voting.asp.

Apply for Minneapolis Climate Change Grants



Minneapolis is providing grants to help residents take steps to save energy in buildings. A wide range of organizations can apply, including nonprofits,

neighborhood associations, businesses, and parks and libraries.

- **Grant amount:** \$7,500- \$10,000 (no match required)
- Application deadline: 4 p.m. Monday, July 26, 2010

To learn more about the grants, to get an application, and to see project ideas, go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability/ and under "what's new," click the "2010 Climate Change Grants".

Bike Share Program Gets Rolling in Minneapolis



Minneapolis is recognized as one of the most bikeable cities in the United States. Now, it's home to the nation's largest bike sharing system in the country.

The system, called Nice Ride Minnesota, began providing wheels to bicyclists this month. There are around a thousand bikes available at 75 kiosks located throughout downtown Minneapolis, the University of Minneapolis campus and in a number of nearby areas. An annual subscription to Nice Ride costs \$60 (\$50 for students) and includes coupons worth up to \$500 to local retailers and eateries that operate within the service area.

Nice Ride Minnesota is a nonprofit organization created to bring public bike sharing to the metro area. It receives major financial support of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota and Transit for Livable Communities' Bike Walk Twin Cities program. For more information on Nice Ride Minnesota, including a map of kiosk locations, go to www.niceridemn.org.

Invest in Trees, Not Insecticides, to Fight Emerald Ash Borer



Now that the emerald ash borer has made its way into Minneapolis, many residents are searching for ways to prevent the spread of this invasive species. That's raising concerns that insecticides will be overused and further damage our urban

environment.

The City Council has passed a resolution encouraging residents not to apply insecticides to their trees to guard against emerald ash borer. Results in other cities indicate that all ash trees in the region are likely to die from the beetle even when insecticides are used. Plus, insecticides sprayed on trees can eventually wash off trees and end up in our lakes, creeks and the Mississippi River. The City's resolution follows the practice of the Minneapolis Park Board, which has chosen not to use insecticides on any boulevard trees because of these concerns.

Instead of using insecticides, Minneapolis urges residents to focus limited resources on growing the next generation of trees and preserving the long-term health of the ecosystem. Do your part by planting diverse tree, bush and native grass

species, and replacing both infested and non-infested ash trees with other tree species.

City Hires an Internal Auditor to Increase Accountability



The Minneapolis City Council's Audit Committee has approved the appointment of Magdy Mossaad to the position of Internal Auditor. In this job, Mossaad will head the City's newly created Department of

Internal Audit, which will plan, direct, and coordinate the internal audit strategy for the City of Minneapolis, including all City departments, boards, and commissions.

Mossaad is currently a Senior Auditor for the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, where he has worked for 10 years. Prior to that, he worked in accounting, finance, and auditing in Ohio and overseas in Saudi Arabia and Egypt. He is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), and Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). He has completed his Master of Business Administration from the University of Minnesota – Duluth.

Mossaad and two other auditors will report to the newly formed Audit Committee. Among its key functions, the new department will develop an annual audit plan and establish guidelines, policies, and procedures for conducting internal audits. It will also supervise audit activities and closely examine how City financial resources are being deployed to identify opportunities for improving how the City operates.

Free Wireless Hotspots Revealed



As part of the City's community benefits agreement for its citywide wi-fi network, 117 free wireless hotspots have been made

available throughout the city. These wireless hotspots allow you to use a computer outside in the hotspot for free (signals are unlikely to reach inside buildings).

The hotspot locations were chosen by looking for places where people already congregate, places where we want to increase attention to wi-fi availability, and where there was nearby access to the wireless transmission nodes.

Locations are marked with signs that say Free Wifi. You can view all locations at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/wirelessminneapolis

Where to go in Ward 8? Try out 38th & Bloomington, 42nd and Cedar, 38th & Grand; 35th and Chicago; 40th and Chicago, 48th & Chicago; 46th and Nicollet, or 41st & Bloomington. (Unfortunately, some spots like 38th & Chicago and 38th & Nicollet could not be selected because of technical difficulties)

Due to Homeland Security regulations, you will need to register with a credit card when using the hotspots. These hotspots are added to other community benefits – such as free wireless in many youth/adult computer labs including all that are in Park buildings.

Protect New Trees: Water your boulevard!



This spring, the Minneapolis Park Board planted over 400 trees in boulevards to replace about 250 boulevard trees lost during last year's tornado and to improve the tree canopy along 40th Street, the route of

the new River Lake Greenway Bicycle Boulevard.

If you have a new boulevard tree, please consider ordering a FREE gator bag from the Park Board. A gator bag zips around the base of the tree. You stick your hose in and fill it up -- the bag then self-waters the tree with just the right amount of water. When the bag is empty you refill (about once per week).

To order a FREE tree watering gator bag, call the Minneapolis Park Board at 612-313-7710. According to the Park Board, these watering bags are excellent ways to ensure young (up to 5 years

old) trees remain healthy. Please pass this information on to your neighbors!

We Want You Back!



Minneapolis Public Schools and the Youth Coordinating Board have joined forces to raise public awareness about the dropout crisis and graduation gap in Minneapolis and enlist

the entire community's help to resolve it. "We Want You Back" invites un-enrolled young people to come back to school, complete their credits and get their diploma. The program's ambitious goal is to attract back 200 youth and put them on a path where they can be successful.

MPS estimates that up to 1,900 young people dropped out of school between 2008 and 2010. Some of these former students are very close to earning their diploma, lacking only a few credits or a passing grade on one of the state's tests.

How You Can Help: The We Want You Back campaign is looking for volunteers to help reach young people who did not finish school.

- Summer neighborhood fairs and events. Volunteer for 2-4 hours.
- Saturday, Aug 14 and Sunday, Aug 15 attend the Empower Me! Conference for young people at Minneapolis Convention Center.
- Saturday, September 11 join hundreds of people walking together, dropping information fliers, and talking to neighbors around the city.

To sign up to volunteer, please visit www.wewantyoubackmpls.org

Community Office Hours



Join Elizabeth for her community office hours every Monday, from 9-11:00am at Sabathani Community Center, 310 E. 38th Street, Room 129. You can always call the 8th Ward Office

with your questions at (612) 673-2208.