



August 2007

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, 8 pm
Phelps Park, 3900 Chicago

Central

CANDO
Meets 3rd Thursday, 6:30 pm
Sabathani Community Center
310 East 38th Street, 3rd Floor conf rm

Central Weed & Seed
Meets 2nd Wednesday, 5:30 pm
Green Central School

Field-Regina-Northrop

www.frnng.org
Meets 3rd Wednesday, 7 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, 7 pm
821 E 35th Street

38th & Chicago

38th & Chicago Task Force
Meets 3rd Monday, 7 pm
Calvary Church, 39th and Chicago

National Night Out – A Time for Neighbors to Celebrate Community

Minneapolis regularly ranks as one of the top cities in the nation for number of National Night Out parties. Together with being recognized as a top city for volunteerism, it is clear that Minneapolitans value helping one another and togetherness. On this August 7, 2007, as we attempt to grasp the enormity of the I-35W bridge tragedy, our collective action and energy is all the more important.

We grieve together for those victims of the bridge collapse and their families, including those physically and mentally injured. The images of the school bus filled with youth from *Waite House* in the Phillips neighborhood have both haunted and inspired many, as we are grateful that all occupants of that bus reached safety. Those wishing to support *Waite House* children and their families may donate on-line at www.puc-mn.org or by calling 1-888-642-6848. Donations are also being coordinated by several local foundations: To help, you can visit www.MinnesotaHelps.org.

Our community has responded in amazing ways to this tragedy, from the heroic actions of residents who rushed to help those on the collapsed bridge to those who have given spiritual, physical, and financial support in the following days. We are immensely thankful for the expert response of our City, County, and State emergency responders and the professionalism of all City Employees who have been working on the I-35W bridge collapse and conducting the necessary work of the City. Please join us in thanking City Employees and particularly our first responders – police, fire, and other emergency personnel – by saying "thanks," sending e-mails, and writing cards to express your feelings.

Stay in Touch with Elizabeth! On City and Ward Issues

Join Elizabeth for her **community office hours** every Monday, 9-11:00 am, at Sabathani Community Center, 310 E 38th Street, Room 129. Call for an appointment or just stop by. You can always call the 8th Ward office with your questions at 612.673.2208.

Meet Elizabeth monthly at **Early Mornings with Elizabeth!** Come enjoy breakfast with Elizabeth at her monthly community roundtable, exploring topical issues with featured guest speakers. Free coffee courtesy of Turtle Bread! **Early Mornings is every fourth Friday of the month, 7:30-9:00am, at Turtle Bread, 4762 Chicago Ave. S.** Future dates: September 28, October 26, January 25.

Se Habla Español en la Octavo: Ayuntamiento del Barrio

Si usted necesita ayuda, llama por favor la octava ayuntamiento del barrio y yo le puedo ayudar. Mi nombre es Jennifer y usted me puede llamar por teléfono en 612.673.2208. Jennifer White, 8th Ward Council Associate, is fluent in Spanish and available for any Spanish-speaking constituents who may need assistance.

Minneapolis Police Department Working With Neighbors

Crime Prevention Specialists serve a vital role, along with police officers, in fostering good police-community relationships. These professionals provide crime and safety information to neighborhoods and block clubs via regular e-mail updates. They also help organize block clubs, respond to crime trends, work on problem properties, identify and respond to landlord-tenant issues, along with many other responsibilities.

The crime prevention specialist for your neighborhood is listed below:

- CPS Karen Notsch (3rd Precinct: Bancroft, Bryant, Central, Powderhorn) Karen.notsch@ci.minneapolis.mn.us, (612) 673-2856
- CPS Sue Roethele (3rd Precinct: Field Regina Northrop) sue.roethele@ci.minneapolis.mn.us, (612) 673-2839
- CPS Tom Thompson (5th Precinct: King Field) Thomas.thompson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us (612) 673-2823

The Minneapolis Police Department maintains a website at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/ that is full of helpful information including crime maps, statistics, and neighborhood policing plans. To sign up for MPD e-mail alerts, go to <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crimealert/emailst.asp>. Additional information on chronic offenders in the 3rd precinct may be found at www.walterleegutzmer.com/index.html, courtesy of Phillips Weed & Seed.

Minneapolis Offers Rewards for Graffiti Convictions



Minneapolis has launched a new reward program to encourage people to call 911 if they see graffiti vandals in action. A caller whose information leads to an arrest and conviction can receive a reward of up to \$500.

Anyone who sees graffiti on a home or business should call 311 to report it, which is the first step toward having it cleaned up or painted over. But if you see a graffiti vandal in action, a call to 911 will allow police to respond and may lead to a reward if an arrest is made.

For more information on the reward program, or to find out how to contribute to the fund, visit www.anti-graffiti.org. Thanks goes out to the Minnesota Paint Council for making the first donation to jump-start the fund. For more information on how Minneapolis is working to get rid of graffiti, and to report graffiti on-line, visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/graffiti.

Prostitution Update

Prostitution is a top crime and safety issue that we are working to address with the help of neighbors and our many safety partners. There are many new efforts in place.

The 3rd Precinct's Community Response Team (CRT) has made more than 275 prostitution-related arrests this year alone, hundreds more than any other precinct. Hennepin County has, starting in 2007, funded a probation officer dedicated to working with prostitution offenders. The city attorney assigned to the 3rd Precinct, Paula Kruchowski, is now detailed to work primarily on prostitution cases, ensuring that there is strong collaboration between police, prosecutors, and the courts and offenders receive consistent sentences for their crimes.

What can you do to help?

- Organize your neighbors to call 911 with as many details as possible about prostitution-related activity that you and your neighbors witness
- Take down "john" license plate numbers and contact your crime prevention specialist (CPS) to send the vehicle owner a "Dear John" letter
- Let the police and your CPS know if you see familiar faces of chronic offenders – police and probation officers may know of existing warrants or be able to enforce "geographic restrictions" prohibiting certain offenders from being in our neighborhoods
- Help the police identify **problem addresses**, where you believe illegal activity is happening, and **vacant homes** that are open to trespass

By working together, we can send the strong message that pimps, johns, and prostitution are not welcome in our neighborhoods. Your ideas on how we can best work with the community are always appreciated.