



March 2011

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 Tuesday, 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

Residents Can Apply to Play an Important Role in Redistricting in Minneapolis

You have a once-in-a-decade opportunity to participate in redistricting the city, creating boundaries for elections in 2012 and beyond. It's an important process, because having districts with equal populations helps ensure there is fair representation no matter where you live. Redistricting happens every ten years, following the U.S. Census, and for residents who are interested, there is a new opportunity to play an important role in the redistricting process that's about to start.

In 2010, Minneapolis voters transferred authority for developing new boundaries for the city's thirteen wards and the Park Board's six districts to a Redistricting Group made up of the Charter Commission and an appointed Advisory Group. The Charter Commission is now soliciting applications for the Advisory Group.

The Charter Commission seeks applicants who will bring diversity to the Redistricting Group, are active citizens, have knowledge of the many communities within the city, and will serve on a nonpartisan basis. Please note that while Advisory Group members are expected to participate in a nonpartisan manner, current or past involvement in political party activities does not disqualify an applicant from service.

The job description and application form are posted on the Charter Commission's website at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/charter-commission.

All applications should be submitted as outlined in the application by the March 25, 2011 deadline. Interviews will be conducted in April, 2011. If your group is interested in a presentation or if you have any questions, please call the Commission Coordinator, Peggy Menshek, at 612-673-2287 or email her at peggy.menshek@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

Minneapolis Prepares for Potholes



It's the time of year when temperatures can climb above freezing during the day, then dip below freezing at night. These freeze-and-thaw cycles can lead to the formation

of potholes. There are up to three different road crews out each day placing temporary "cold patches" to potholes during the winter months, helping make roads more drivable until permanent patches are made during road construction season.

Since the start of January:

- More than 5,000 truckloads of snow have been removed from City streets. That's in addition to the regular plowing efforts by Public Works.
- More than 200 tons of temporary asphalt mix, or cold patch, have been used to fix potholes.
- About 16,000 of the 20,000 corners in the City have been cleared of snow piles left after plowing.

To report a pothole for repairs, call 311 (612-673-3000 outside Minneapolis), Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Reports can also be made online at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/311.

For more information on snow removal, go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/snow.

Need Help with Energy Bills? Funds are Available for Qualifying Residents



For residents who need assistance paying gas or electric bills, help may be a

phone call away. **Community Action of Minneapolis** is accepting applications for energy assistance. Funding is limited and available first-come, first-served.

Help paying your bills

Homeowners and renters who meet income eligibility requirements can receive financial assistance for paying for the increased costs of heating homes during the winter.

Make energy efficiency improvements

Homeowners and renters who qualify for energy assistance may also be eligible for weatherization assistance, which provides \$6,500 worth of energy saving improvements to a home free of charge. On average, residents save 26 percent in energy costs following weatherization.

For more information including detailed income guidelines, call Community Action at 612-335-5837 or visit www.campls.org.

Sabathani Welcomes New Executive Director Clyde Turner



Sabathani has selected Clyde Turner as executive director of Sabathani Community Center. Mr. Turner began serving Sabathani this February, and is the fourth executive director since Sabathani was founded in 1966.

Clyde Turner has more than 34 years of experience in human services working with communities, families and children. He was most recently Manager of Ramsey County Family Support Services Division composed of the Child Foster Care, Adult Foster Care, Adoption and Guardianship units. Many people know Clyde Turner for his love of basketball. After serving as a star basketball player at the University of Minnesota, Mr. Turner was drafted by the Milwaukee Bucks of the NBA and played several years in Europe. Especially close to his heart is the Clyde Turner Educational Basketball Camp, which he founded 26 years ago to focus on the recreational and character development of youth.

We welcome Clyde Turner and look forward to his leadership at Sabathani Community Center.

Minneapolis Has New Focus on Problem Rental Properties



After months and years of planning, the City of Minneapolis will launch in April 2011 a tiered inspections program, putting the most attention on problem rental properties. Properties will be divided into three tiers. The third tier is reserved for poorly managed properties that require excessive city services. These properties will be on a one-year-annual inspections cycle and will be closely scrutinized for code and licensing standard violations.

Properties are selected for each tier based on a set criteria, including past housing code violations, police calls, and other factors. The property's posted rental license will include the "tier" information, so that it is visible to tenants and others.

The goals of the tiered inspections program include focusing proactive inspections on substandard rental properties, improving quality of rental properties, and promoting better management and maintenance of rental properties.

In addition, Minneapolis has launched a website aimed at sending a message to rental property owners who don't follow rental licensing standards. The new site posts the names of property owners who have had their rental licenses revoked, properties condemned or demolished, and those who have been ruled ineligible to hold a rental license for five years.

Visit the website and get more information on how Minneapolis is holding property owners accountable for how they maintain their properties at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/inspections/accountable.asp.

Looking for a Dog or Cat? Check Out the City's "Pet of the Week"



Minneapolis Animal Care & Control wants pet lovers to know that there are many dogs, cats, rabbits, ferrets, and other animals available for adoption every day. More than 500 animals are adopted to the public every year.

Each week, Minneapolis Animal Care & Control will post a "Pet of the Week" on the City's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/cityofminneapolis). This will include picture and description of an animal that is available for adoption. Those interested in adopting the featured pet should contact Minneapolis Animal Care & Control by visiting the shelter or calling 311 (612-673-2000 outside Minneapolis) for more information.

Take Advantage of State Property Tax Refund Program



As you prepare to file your taxes for 2010, please review whether you qualify for a property tax refund.

Both renters and homeowners may qualify for property tax refunds. While you may qualify for multiple refund programs, if your net property tax has increased more than 12% from 2010 to 2011, you are eligible for a special property tax refund regardless of income.

For more information and to review eligibility requirements, talk to your tax advisor or contact the Minnesota Department of Revenue at (651) 296-4444 or www.taxes.state.mn.us/prop_refund/.

Inexpensive Trees Available for Minneapolis Residents



Need a tree? The Tree Trust is offering good-sized trees at affordable prices to residents of Minneapolis. Trees being offered for sale are containerized stock that are each between 6 to 10 feet tall. **Beginning Monday, March 14**, Minneapolis residents as well as business owners and nonprofit organizations can order one tree for their property. Trees are being made available to Minneapolis residents at a cost of \$25 each.

Available species should include: Apple 'Honeycrisp'; Blue Beech; Juniper 'Welchii'; Kentucky Coffeetree; Maple 'Sienna Glen'; Oak 'Regal Prince'; Redbud (Minnesota strain); Serviceberry 'Autumn Brilliance'.

Trees are available on a first-come, first-served basis, and quantities are limited. Trees must be picked up on May 21 – 23 at the City of Minneapolis Impound Lot, 51 Colfax Avenue North. (You may arrange for someone else to pick up your tree, as well.) To place an order or for questions, please contact Karen Zumach, Tree Trust, at (612) 590-2536 or go to www.treetrust.org.

Newly Appointed Chair of the Metropolitan Airports Commission: MPLS Resident Dan Boivin



Congratulations to **Dan Boivin**, Governor Dayton's newly appointed Chair of the Metropolitan Airports Commission. Chair Dan Boivin has served on the MAC since 2002 as Mayor Rybak's representative, and is a resident of Minneapolis. The Minneapolis-St Paul Airport has continual impact on Minneapolis residents due to airport noise and other environmental issues.

Ward 8 Community Office Hours



Elizabeth holds community office hours every Monday, from 9 - 11:00am at Sabathani Community Center, 310 E. 38th Street, Room 129. Please drop by or call our office for a time certain meeting. Also, you can always call the 8th Ward Office with your questions at (612) 673-2208 or e-mail Elizabeth with your questions at elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

Sign-up to Receive 8th Ward Updates



Want to receive this newsletter and other important 8th Ward updates electronically? Send an email with the word, "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line to

elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

Early Mornings with Elizabeth!



Early Mornings with Elizabeth! a monthly breakfast program at **Turtle Bread, 4762 Chicago Ave South**, takes place the **Fourth Friday of each month from 7:30am –**

9:00 am. Come and enjoy breakfast with neighbors and participate in discussions about relevant city issues. *Free coffee, courtesy of Turtle Bread!*