

9th Ward E-News

From Minneapolis Council Member Gary Schiff

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Brother Ali this Friday at *Breakfast with Gary*



Hip hop artist [Brother Ali](#) will be the featured speaker at [Breakfast with Gary](#) this Friday, September 24th.

Join City Council Member Gary Schiff with guest speaker [Brother Ali](#) for this month's [Breakfast with Gary](#) on Friday, September 24th at 7:30 a.m. A Minneapolis-based hip-hop artist, Brother Ali will speak about the Twin Cities hip-hop scene as well as how his own artistry and music. Known for being politically and socially aware without being preachy, Brother Ali has made his mark, with multiple albums with local record label [Rhymesayers Entertainment](#). His voice, large stature, and albino features make him a unique and commanding presence.

Ali has been featured in hip-hop magazine *The Source* as well as being named a "New Artist to Watch" in [Rolling Stone](#). His latest album, [Us](#), explores the strengths and flaws of the human condition, exploring everything from drug abuse to divorce to homophobia. Most recently, he has been a spokesman for the Minneapolis Public Schools "We want you back" campaign to [get dropouts to return to school](#). [Breakfast with Gary](#) is a monthly meeting held from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. at

the [Mercado Central](#), 1515 East Lake Street. \$5 buys breakfast.

Going solar in south Minneapolis



Ann and Tom O'Toole show off their new solar system and rebates.

A new business in south Minneapolis is hoping to help residents make the shift to more sustainable power sources. [Applied Energy Innovations](#) has opened up shop at 4357 Minnehaha Avenue South. The business installs and promotes affordable renewable and energy-efficient equipment, including use of HVAC equipment, solar systems, wind and geothermal.

Ann and Tom O'Toole's home in the Corcoran neighborhood is one of the first to go solar with the company's help. The O'Toole's leveraged rebates and tax incentives to cover 75% of the \$24,000 photovoltaic system. The system produces up to 107% of their electrical energy needs. The O'Tooles are also taking advantage of a power purchase agreement signed with Xcel Energy that will require the utility company to buy power back from the family.

Minneapolis residents can check out the system as part of the *Solar Home Tour* on October 2nd that will showcase a number of Minneapolis homes. For more information about this event, visit www.mnrenewables.org.

Avoid the tow during street sweeping



This October,
Minneapolis will
begin street

be cleaned.

sweeping across the city. Residents can avoid getting ticketed or towed by making sure their car is moved prior to sweeping. “No Parking” signs will be posted at least 24 hours before a street is swept. Parking will be banned from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the day a street is swept. Residents can check the [lookup tool](#) on the city website the weekend before the street sweep program begins to see when their street will be cleaned. Residents can also call 311 or (612) 673-3000 to find out more about the schedule. Vehicles not removed will be towed to the [Minneapolis impound lot](#).

Comprehensive street sweeping takes place twice a year in Minneapolis, once in spring, and once in fall. It takes about five weeks to complete. Public Works crews sweep every mile of the city’s more than 1,100 miles of streets, curb to curb. This keeps neighborhoods clean and livable, and also protects local waterways. Leaves and other debris on city streets can clog storm drains and pollute lakes and rivers.

Learn about green buildings



A tour of the new [Hiawatha Public Works facility](#) is part of a [green building lecture series](#) open to the public in September and October.

The city of Minneapolis is offering a [lecture series](#) open to the public, focused on green buildings. In September and October, participants can learn more about the various green

building certification programs within Minnesota. The series will feature local experts and a range of topics. On Tuesday, September 21 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m., John Carmody from the [Center for Sustainable Building](#) will talk about sustainable building guidelines. Mark Benzell from [MN GreenStar](#) will talk about his organization on Tuesday, October 5 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Both lectures will be held in room 319 of City Hall at 350 South Fifth Street.

On Friday, October 8, Paul Miller from Public Works will host a tour of the greenest city building, the new [Hiawatha Public Works facility](#). It will be from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on October 8, meeting at the building at East 26th Street and Hiawatha. Nick

Carver, a building official from Maplewood, will speak about [International Green Construction Code](#). He will speak on Thursday, October 14 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in room 333 of City Hall. The final speaker will be Sheri Brezinka of the [Minnesota Chapter of United States Green Building Council](#). She will speak about [LEED](#) and LEED for Homes on Thursday, October 26th from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

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