Community Connections



News from Council Member John Quincy

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Quincy's Corner

As spring arrives – we have an opportunity to enjoy not only the weather – but the many things that makes Minneapolis a great place to live. New businesses like Low Brow, (42nd and Nicollet), Sun Street Breads (46th and Nicollet) and Candy Alley at 48th and Chicago Avenue have opened this spring. The Wise Acres Eatery at 54th and Nicollet, near Tangletown Gardens, will open soon.

This past weekend, I was delighted to share in the "Grand Re-Opening" of the newly enlarged and renovated Nokomis Library. A 4,300-square-foot addition, more room for children, teens, and adults, a refreshed collection of books, CDs, and DVDs, more computers, and a meeting room now located on the main level are highlights of the three-year renovation project. Click here or visit the Hennepin County Web site for more details.

We also celebrate the re-opening of 60th Street, the street damaged by the recent gas main fire in south Minneapolis. It is now open to traffic, restoring easy access to area schools, churches, and businesses around Cub Foods in the Windom neighborhood.

The March 17th fire left a gaping hole in the street and caused extensive damage to underground utility pipes. City crews have restored 60th Street between Nicollet and 35W. The exit to 60th Street from I-35W is also open, along with the onramp to the freeway. The traffic signal on 60th Street between Nicollet Avenue and the freeway is still out of service, and temporary stop signs remain in place. A replacement traffic signal is expected to be in operation later this month.

The coming of spring also brings construction season! We have a lot going on in the area including street sweeping, pothole filling, and resurfacing projects in the Wenonah, Hale, Page, and Diamond Lake neighborhoods. Last year you may recall the Windom neighborhood project was completed, including sections on Diamond Lake Road and Nicollet Avenue.

These extensive resurfacing projects (last performed nearly 40 years ago) will provide significant street condition improvements – extending the life and usefulness of our neighborhood streets and community corridors for years to come. Big projects like these require the help of affected property owners through an assessment, in addition to the City's capital improvement funds.

Sincerely,

Je Dig

City Focus

New Public Works Facility (Almost) Green Beyond Measure



The City of Minneapolis'
Hiawatha Public Works
Facility has received the
highest certification
awarded by Leadership in
Energy and Environmental
Design (LEED). The LEED
Platinum certification
means the building is officially one of the greenest in
the nation.

A project earns points for meeting criteria on a LEED "scorecard." A project's score places it within one of four categories: Certified, Silver, Gold and Plati-

num. Platinum is the highest LEED level, and only seven buildings in Minnesota have reached LEED Platinum status. The \$11 million Hiawatha facility, which houses several divisions of the Public Works Department, earned LEED points for such features as water-efficient landscaping, extremely efficient energy use, reusing materials, using daylight in many of the indoor spaces, and using innovative design. The facility was designed

by RSP Architects and built by Knutson Construction Services. Sustainable materials not available from existing materials at the site are from local companies such as Vast, Wood from the Hood, and Shetka Stone.

The award-winning facility was constructed on a site that used to house a complex of 18 Public Works buildings, some dating back to the turn of the 20th century. The main building, which originally served as an infirmary for sick horses for the Fire Department and the City Engineer's Office, was stripped down to its brick-and-mortar shell and renovated as office space.

Pothole Patching Gets a Financial Boost

The Mayor and City Council approved up to an additional \$1 million to accelerate the City's pothole repair work to double the number of repair crews out patching potholes at the beginning of the summer construction and maintenance season. This will allow the City to accelerate repairs to the streets and alleys and fix the most significant problems sooner. Minneapolis will start the season with extra crews dedicated to permanent pothole repair work that could possibly advance general pot-

hole repair on arterial streets by up to two months, and allow for repairs on some streets that would not have been addressed otherwise.

To patch potholes, crews first clean and "prep" the pothole with a liquid asphalt cement that acts like glue. Once that's done, asphalt is applied, rolled and compacted in the hole for a long-lasting repair. Pothole patch crews prioritize their work, weighing factors such as the amount of traffic a street carries,

the severity of a particular pothole problem and whether the street is slated for more extensive repairs sometime during the year.

To report a pothole for repairs, drivers can call 311, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Reports can also be made online. Public Works uses reports that come in from the public, as well as their observations in the field, to prioritize work and address street issues as efficiently and effectively as possible with the given resources.

City Links

Minneapolis Home Page

Hennepin County Libraries

Minneapolis Public Schools

City of Minneapolis lobs

Garbage Service

Maps of Minneapolis

Separating Your Recycling

Snow Emergency

Online Services

Apply for Block Party Permit

Home Improvement Permits

Pay Your Utility Bill

Property Information

Report Graffiti

Address-Based Lookups

Council Ward Finder

Garbage

Recycling Schedule

Police Precinct Finder

Property Information

Spring & Fall Street Sweeping
Schedule

Snow Emergency Parking
Rules

Voting Precinct Finder

We are reminding folks about the importance of 911 and raising awareness of what to do and what not to do when calling to report an emergency.

Tips for calling 911:

- Do not hang up. If the call isn't answered immediately or if you encounter silence on the line, do not hang up and redial unless the silence lasts more than 8 seconds.
- Do not hang up if you call 911 by accident. Hang ups require 911 operators to call back the number the incoming 911 call came from. This happens up to 500 times a day and uses valuable 911 resources including phone lines that should be used for answering emergency calls.

- Give your location when calling 911. This includes address, intersection, and landmarks. Be prepared to give a short description of a suspect.
- Help can be sent while you talk. A caller should state the problem briefly, answer the operator's questions, and stay on the line until the operator terminates the call.
- You can ask 911 operators to stay on the line until help arrives.
- The situation does not have to be an emergency to call 911. Please call 911 to report suspicious behavior and criminal activity in progress.
- If you need an interpreter, let the operator know or simply say, "Language line."

Know What To Do When Calling 911

When to call 911:

- If the situation requires an ambulance or the fire department to respond immediately.
- To report a situation that requires a police officer at the scene (for example: assaults, burglaries, kidnapping, domestic disputes, auto theft, accidents in which there are injures / or it is unknown whether injuries have occurred, etc.).
- To report a crime that is in progress.
- To report suspicious criminal activity that you witness (for example: sounds of shots fired, cries for help, sounds of glass breaking or if you see an unfamiliar person carrying items from a house).

When not to call 911

There are also many reasons not to call 911. Please should avoid calling 911 to get directions, legal advice, or to find out if someone is in jail. The Hennepin County Sheriff's Jail Roster is available online at http://www4.co.hennepin.mn.us/webbooking/ or by calling 612-348-5112. People should also not call 911 to report city issues that do not need

police, fire, or an ambulance

to respond. They should use

the City of Minneapolis Web

site or call 311.



Check out Minneapolis 2010 Census Results

2010
MINNEAPOLIS
POPULATION
382,578

Did your neighborhood grow since 2000? What percent of Minneapolis' population is Hispanic? How does the city's overall growth compare to the region, the state and other Midwest cities? You can find answers to these questions and learn more about the demographics of Minneapolis from a new website that captures the results and analysis of data from the 2010 Census. Information is now available at:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/census.

The website includes the first round of data released by the Census Bureau in March and tables and maps that show results by ward, park commissioner district, neighborhood and Census blocks for:

- Total population
- Race and Ethnicity of population
- Number of housing units and vacancy
- Maps of population distribution by race and ethnicity

In the coming weeks, additional maps and analysis will be posted. The site will be expanded as the remaining 2010 data pertaining to age, gender and households is released over the summer. The Minneapolis Charter Commission is now ana-

lyzing the data and beginning their work on redistricting, per the change to City Charter approved in last fall's election.

The site also includes information about the previous outreach efforts around the 2010 Census that yielded a 78 percent "mail participation" response rate for the City of Minneapolis, one of the highest participation rates in the U.S for major cities, as well as archived information from the 2000 Census.

Food Resource Hubs Promote Growing Local Food



Do you want to grow your own food, but don't know how? Are you interested in low-cost seeds, seedlings, wood chips or classes? Do you want to become part of a neighborhood-based support network of urban gardeners?

If the answer to these or related questions is "yes," then join a Local Food Resource Hub, a new initiative of the City of Minneapolis, community partners, and Gardening Matters.

Hubs are designed to get Minneapolis residents and community gardeners the tools and education they

It's getting to be the time of year when many enjoy a small outdoor fire. Residents who like to have a fire in their yards should keep these City ordinances in mind to keep Minneapolis safe and livable:

- · Outdoor fires are permitted between 9 am and 10 pm.
- Keep fire small, less than three feet in diameter, and less than two feet high.
- Burn only untreated, unpainted, dry wood. Never burn cardboard boxes, trash, or debris - the smoke can be toxic. (For



need to grow, preserve, cook, and compost their own fresh produce, by offering supplies, classes, and connections.

Hubs — which are not physical locations, but rather partnerships of individuals, businesses and community organizations — are now serving residents and community gardens in three Minneapolis neighborhoods: North Minneapolis, Powderhorn/ Central, and West Phillips/ Ventura Village.

The Local Food Resource Hubs Network was a recommendation originating from Homegrown Minneapolis, a



comprehensive initiative of the City of Minneapolis to improve the growing, processing, distribution, consumption, and waste recovery of healthy, sustainable, locally-grown foods within the city.

Residents can join a Local Food Resource Hub and select one of three types of membership: \$10 for a household garden, \$30 for a community garden or nonprofit, or \$10 for an advocate. A limited number of memberships are available on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve your membership spot, contact Gar-



dening Matters (612) 821-2358 or download the membership form (in English, Spanish, Hmong, or Somali) at http:// www.gardeningmatters.org/ hubs. Questions can also be emailed to info@gardeningmatters.org.

The Local Food Resource Hubs Network is made possible by funding from the Minneapolis Department of Health and Family Support and the Minnesota Department of Health's Communities Putting Prevention to Work initiative of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The Do's and Don'ts of Recreational Fires in Minneapolis

air quality information, go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ airquality.)

- Fires must be at least 25 feet away from a structure or combustible material and in a fire ring or pit with edges more than six inches high.
- · Have a hose or fire extinguisher present.
- · Postpone the fire when the wind exceeds 10 mph.
- To report an illegal or unsafe fire, call 911.

For more Minneapolis law on recreational fires, visit the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances, Chapter 178 at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ government/laws.asp.

Be a good neighbor

These simple suggestions could help keep neighbors in harmony:

 Postponing a fire when Minneapolis is under an air pollution advisory or alert. Fires release fine particles that contribute to air pollution and can aggravate a number of health problems, including asthma. Sign up for air quality alerts at http:// mn.enviroflash.info.

- · Letting neighbors know when planning a fire.
- Postponing a fire when smoke will blow directly at a neighbor's house.
- Limiting the number of fires to once a week - at the most.

For more information on recreational fires or to register a complaint about a recreational fire, call 311 or email Minneapolis311@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

For more information on air quality, visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/

sustainability/air-quality.asp.

Neighborhood Notes

Over the last year, the Ward 11 office has been working closely with Cedar Avenue United. The Field, Regina, Northrop Neighborhood Association, fellow Council Members Glidden and Colvin Roy, and County Commissioner McLaughlin on pedestrian and traffic flow improvements along Cedar Avenue.

Since the southernmost section of Cedar (from Fat Lorenzo's to 46th Street) received a traffic study and improvements during Council Member Benson's term, this initiative focused on moving the energy northward, from 46th Street to 42nd Street.

This month, Public Works will install the agreed upon improvements. Some of the changes include:

 Installing pedestrian countdowns at the Cedar/42nd Street and Cedar/46th Street intersections, which not only

Cedar Avenue Safety Improvements

help those crossing the street but also have been shown to reduce right angle crashes.

- Adding, relocating, and replacing speed limit signs.
- Installing an exclusive right turn lane at Cedar Avenue/46th Street to help with traffic flow.
- Installing temporary curb extensions at the Cedar/44th Street intersection to aid in pedestrian crossings.

Additionally, the City will increase and target traffic enforcement and review signal timing to reduce the number of speeding cars.



Ward Neighborhood Associations

Field, Regina, Northrop Neighborhood Group

3rd Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 pm, Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church

Hale, Page, Diamond Lake Community Association

4th Monday, 7-8:30 pm, Emmanuel United Methodist Church

Kingfield Neighborhood Association

2nd Wednesday, 7-8:30 pm, Martin Luther King Park

Nokomis East Neighborhood Association

4th Thursday, 7-8:30 pm, NENA Office

Tangletown Neighborhood Association

3rd Monday, 7-8:30 pm, Fuller Park

Windom Community Council

2nd Thursday, 7-8:30 pm, Windom Community Center

Celebrate Arbor Day with the Park Board



The 2011 Minneapolis
Park and Recreation Board
(MPRB) and People for
Parks (PFP) Arbor Day Celebration will take place May
19, 12:30—3 pm at Pearl
Park. During this event,
new trees will be planted
near mature ash trees as a
"buddy" program to ensure
continued canopy cover
when ash trees are removed due to Emerald Ash
Borer.

The 2011 Arbor Day event is co-sponsored by PFP, a local non-profit organization. PFP is the recipient of a \$75,000 charitable bequest by the Carl T. Remick Jr. estate which specified that the donation be used to reforest Minneapolis parks and public places. This is the 2nd Arbor Day celebration made possible by the generosity of Mr. Remick's bequest.

More than 100 trees of 11 varieties will be planted throughout Pearl Park. Volunteers will help to plant, water and mulch these new trees with hands-on assistance provided by MPRB Forestry staff.

The Arbor Day celebration and other tree related volunteer opportunities are designed to engage members of the community and increase the awareness of the environmental, economic, and health benefits of trees in our neighborhoods. This event also maintains Minneapolis' status as a Tree City USA for the 32nd year.

Citywide, the Park Board's Forestry Division will plant over 4,000 new trees this spring and an additional 1,500 trees this fall to replace those that have been lost due to storms, Dutch elm disease, Emerald Ash Borer, and other causes.

E-Newsletters Abound! Subscribe Now!

Tangletown E-Newsletter

In April, Tangletown
Neighborhood Association
kicked off their new
monthly e-newsletter. To
stay up-to-date on Tangletown issues, events and
opportunities, visit the TNA
website at

www.tangletown.org and sign up to subscribe.



MPD 5th Precinct E-Newsletter

The 5th precinct (serving the West side of Ward 11) is now producing the new 5th Precinct Spotlight; a quarterly newsletter they've just started in order to provide information to the community about what's happening in the precinct.

Each issue will have a variety of information—stories about different cases, crime prevention information, resources in other languages, highlights on the community, updates from the Inspector, and more. Sign up at:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/5th-precinct.asp

Calendar

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May 5	7—8:30 pm: Friends of Diamond Lake Annual Meeting (refreshments at 6:30) at Pearl Park (414 Diamond Lake Road E)
May 11	5:30—7 pm: Windom Community Council Annual Meeting at Museum of Russian Art (5500 Stevens Avenue S)
	7—8:30 pm: Kingfield Neighborhood Association Meeting at Martin Luther King Park (4055 Nicollet Avenue S)
May 14	9:30—11:30 am: Second Saturday with Representative Jean Wagenius at Mayflower Church (106 Diamond Lake Road E)
May 16	11 am—2 pm: Minneapolis Police Department—3rd Precinct Open House at 3rd Precinct House (3000 Minnehaha Avenue S)
	7—8:30 pm: Tangletown Neighborhood Association Meeting at Fuller Park (4800 Grand Avenue S)
May 18	8–9 am: Community Coffee Hour at Sister Sludge (4557 Bloomington Avenue S)
	6:30—8:00 pm: Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Meeting at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church (1620 46th Street E)
May 19	12:30–3 pm: Arbor Day Celebration at Pearl Park (414 Diamond Lake Road E)
	6—8 pm: Minneapolis Police Department—5th Precinct Open House at 5th Precinct House (3101 Nicollet Avenue S)
May 23	7—8:30 pm: Hale Page Diamond Lake Community Association Meeting at Emmanuel United Methodist Church (5144 13th Avenue S)
May 24	6:30—7:30 pm: Nokomis East Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting at Crosstown Covenant Church (5540 30th Avenue S)
May 26	7—8:30 pm: Nokomis East Neighborhood Association Meeting at the NENA office (3000 50th Street E)
May 27	5—6 pm: Ward Happy Hour at First Course (5607 Chicago Avenue S)



If you need this material in an alternative format please call Ahmed Muhumud at (612) 673-2162 or email Ahmed.Muhumud@ci.minneapolis.mn.us Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons may use a relay service to call 311 agents at (612) 673-3000. TTY users may call (612) 673-2157 or (612) 673-2626.

Attention: If you have any questions regarding this material please call (612) 673 2211. Hmong - Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu (612) 673-2800; **Spanish** - Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, Ilama (612) 673-2700; **Somali** - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac (612) 673-3500