

Community 11 Connections

News from Council Member John Quincy



Contact John:

350 S. 5th Street
Suite 307
Minneapolis, MN
55415

Phone: (612) 673-2211

Fax: (612) 673-3940

[John.Quincy@
ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:John.Quincy@ci.minneapolis.mn.us)

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Quincy's Corner

April showers invariably leads to both May flowers and road construction. There may not be a strong causation between rain in April, and the start of road construction, but it always seems to follow.

As road construction season begins, and other important projects by the city's public works department are underway, please keep our local businesses in mind. A minor inconvenience for long term benefits—**shop local!**

On page 3 of this issue of the newsletter, I have an article and web links to the major projects affecting bike and car traffic throughout the 11th Ward. In addition to those projects, MnDOT has hired a contractor to do plantings along the recently completed 35W/Crosstown project.

This year they will be planting along 35W between 42nd St. and Minnehaha Creek, as well as the section of 35W in Richfield. Next summer they will be planting the middle part of the project, from Minnehaha Creek to the border with Richfield. They will be planting on both the residential and the highway sides of the soundwalls. MnDOT and the City appreciate any help with watering that residents would be willing to do while the plants are getting established.

There is a listing of home crime safety tips on page 2, as well as information about the next Minneapolis One Read. This year's book is "Spirit Car" by Diane Wilson. Even though the formal community conversation doesn't start until October, it is never too early to get a jump on reading the book.

Happy Spring!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Quincy".

City Focus

Protect your home as you enjoy the warmer weather

Temperatures are climbing, and that has folks all around town doing yard work and opening their windows to let in the fresh air.

While everyone should keep enjoying the milder weather, the Minneapolis Police Department wants all residents to take some simple steps to avoid becoming victims of springtime crimes of opportunity.

Each year the MPD sees a rise in burglaries and thefts in the spring because of open windows and doors, as well as thefts from yards and garages.

Some common sense tips to help prevent becoming a victim include:

- Pinning windows so that they open only far enough to allow air in but not far enough to allow a burglar to use them to gain entry to your home. Six inches is recommended.
- When working in the backyard remember to secure the front door. Some burglars are brave and fast enough to enter your home and make off with valuables before you know they have even been there.
- Don't leave garage doors open—even for a few minutes. The visible items
- stored there make a very tempting target to someone passing by.
- Don't leave valuable items such as bicycles and lawn equipment in your yard, especially overnight.
- Beware of the influx of door-to-door salespeople and home repair contractors. Do your homework before hiring anyone to do work on your home and get a written estimate before work begins. And remember that all door-to-door salespeople must be licensed by the City, so ask to see a license.
- Report suspicious activity in your neighborhood to 911 immediately. Waiting

to call will most likely take away the opportunity for officers to reach the people behind the suspicious activity. A number of home burglars have been caught as a result of neighbors calling 911 right away.

- Never allow someone you don't know into your home. Common ruses used to gain entry are requests to use a phone or to get a drink of water.

For more information on burglary prevention, go to: www.minneapolismn.gov/police/crimeprevention.

Plans are under way for second “community read”

“Spirit Car: Journey to a Dakota Past,” has been selected as the next One Minneapolis One Read book. This will be the second year of the citywide “read,” where the entire community is encouraged to read a single book and join in a community conversation. The community read will launch in October.

Read the book

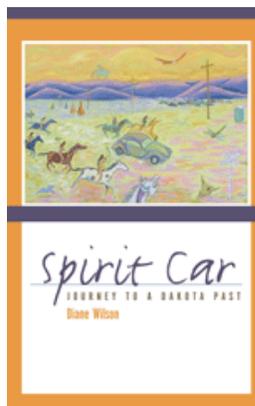
“Spirit Car: Journey to a Dakota Past,” was written by Minnesotan Diane Wilson. Wilson grew up in a Minneapolis suburb and then followed questions about her family's past to South Dakota and Nebraska, where she tracked down information about her maternal relatives through five generations. The result of Wilson's quest for discovery is “Spirit Car,” a book of vignettes she

created in her desire to honor the lives of her Dakota Indian family.

The story of Wilson's family begins with a vivid account of the 1862 Dakota War in Minnesota and then follows her family members' nomadic travels across South Dakota and Nebraska in their struggle to survive.

At its heart, One Minneapolis One Read is a community-driven effort with individuals, neighborhood groups, educa-

tors, businesses and nonprofits all coming together to make this a truly citywide read.



“Spirit Car” is available in paperback at local independent and chain bookstores, online booksellers and www.mhspress.org. It's also available through Hennepin County Library and as an e-book.

Join the conversa-

tion

This second year of One Minneapolis One Read will launch in October with many opportunities for people to join in the community conversation. Neighborhood groups, book clubs, libraries, literary centers

and others will hold public events where folks can come together to discuss the book. The City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County Library and Minneapolis Public Schools are promoting literacy and respectful public dialogue in this initiative. Minneapolis residents can play a positive role in their communities and explore important – sometimes difficult – issues that they face as a community by reading “Spirit Car” and getting involved.

Visit the oneminneapolisone-read.com for more information and to get involved. You can also join in the conversation on Facebook (www.facebook.com/OneMinneapolisOneRead)

Construction Season is upon us

There are a number of construction projects that will be affecting residents of Ward 11.

The Lyndale Ave Bridge over Minnehaha Creek is the big project in Ward 11 this year. Hennepin County is building a complexly new bridge at that location. At this point, that crossing is closed for the duration of the project. Hennepin County staff state that they are on schedule and likely will have the bridge open to traffic again by mid-October.

Lyndale Ave- At the same time, Hennepin

County and the City are taking advantage of the bridge being closed to reconstruct Lyndale Ave south of the bridge down to 56th St. The street will be open during the entire construction period, but traffic will be restricted.

28th Avenue- Over the next two years, the city will be resurfacing 28th Ave from 40th Street to the southern city boundary. This year they will be concentrating on the stretch south of 50th St.

This will be a mill and overlay project where they remove the top couple of inches of asphalt,

mix in new, fresh asphalt, and put a new top layer back down on the road. This increases the lifetime of a road surface.

Park and Portland Aves. Hennepin County will also be resurfacing Park Ave and Portland Ave. Portland Ave will be done from downtown all the way to Crosstown 62. Park will be done from downtown to 46th St. Both of these projects will be mill and overlay resurfacing. This should be a couple week project, starting in September.

Nicollet Ave- Over the next two years, the City

will be reconstructing Nicollet Ave between Lake Street and 36th St. This project is not in Ward 11, but, especially with the projects on Lyndale, it is a project that will affect people's commute.

Page pipelining- The final project is below ground, but still will affect driving and biking. The water department will be relining water pipes in the Page neighborhood, but in order to do that, they will be cutting holes in various streets and digging down to the water pipes to allow their equipment access.

City construction Projects for 2012- <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/cip/index.htm>

Lyndale Ave Bridge <http://www.hennepin.us/lyndalebridge>

Lyndale Ave Street reconstruction <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/cip/all/WCMS1P-083842>

28th Ave resurfacing <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/all/WCMS1P-084567>

Nicollet Ave http://www.minneapolismn.gov/cip/all/cip_nicollet31-40_index

Portland Ave—www.tinyurl.com/portlandresurface

Park Ave—www.tinyurl.com/parkresurface

Page pipelining- <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/all/WCMS1P-091345>

Be considerate and follow the law when having recreational fires

It's getting to be the time of year when many Minneapolis residents enjoy a small outdoor recreational fire.

Residents who like to have a fire in their yards should keep these City ordinances in mind to keep Minneapolis safe and livable.

PLEASE be considerate of your neighbors!

- Outdoor fires are permitted between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m.
- Keep fires small, less than three feet in diameter and no more than two feet high.

Burn only untreated, unpainted, dry wood. Never burn cardboard boxes, trash or debris, because the smoke can be toxic. www.minneapolismn.gov/environment/air/airquality

- Fire 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.
- Fire must be constantly attended by someone 18 years

or older and completely out before being abandoned

Illegal burning can result in a \$200 fine. **To report an illegal or unsafe fire, call 911.**

40th Anniversary of Pairing Hale and Field Schools

Commemorate and celebrate the 40-year anniversary of Hale and Field Schools' joining into one educational unit.

The paired schools were the first effort by the Minneapolis School System to comply with orders from the Minnesota State Board of Education and Minnesota Human Rights Commission to develop plans for racial desegregation.

The U. S. Supreme Court's unanimous decision in 1954 in the Brown vs. Board of Education lawsuit declared it was unfair and unequal education to separate black and white students into separate schools.

From 1967 to 1970 the Minneapolis Schools Administration held 200 community meetings to discuss plans to deal with the city's existing "de facto" segregation. Since Hale and Field were neighboring schools with very different student populations (Hale had a 2% minority ratio and Field had a 57% minority ratio), they were well suited for the first school-pairing project for desegregation.

The paired schools began in September 1971 with Hale housing grades K-3 and Field housing grades 4-6.

All neighborhood families did not welcome the history-making educational change;

2000 changes were made to have Hale offer grades K-4 and Field offer grades 5-8.

The pairing of Hale and Field Schools for desegregation was truly a historical happening which brought forth many strong emotions and lasting changes in their communities. Forty years later we have two very highly rated schools, an integrated expanded-community and friendships developed in the 1970+ years among parents and among students that are still on-going.

A group of people who were very actively involved in preparations for the changes in 1970-71 is now planning the 40th Anniversary Event. The planning committee has worked diligently to find folks involved in the early years of pairing to invite them for a reunion with parents, students and teachers on May 6th.

They also invite families and school personnel involved through the years at Hale and Field to join in the 40th anniversary celebration on May 6th at Pearl Park Community Center.

RSVPs appreciated (to help with planning), but not required. Contact Jane Galbraith by telephone 612-825-7266 or by e-mail janebgal5@gmail.com

some families chose to move away from the newly integrated schools and some families remained in their homes but sent their children to private or parochial schools.

New families especially wanting to be involved in the integrated schools moved into the area. Many educational changes and innovations also took effect at Hale and Field, along with a hot lunch program and bus transportation for the students to go to the schools.

Hale and Field became popular school choices in subsequent years and enjoyed fine active parental involvement. Many years after the pairing, Minneapolis wanted to move to neighborhood-based schools each having grades K-8.

Hale and Field parents asked the School Administration and Board to leave their neighborhood in its current form and in

40th Anniversary Party Open House
Pearl Park Community Center
Sunday, May 6, 2012
from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Commemorate and celebrate the
40-year anniversary of the pairing
of Hale and Field Schools!



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, New Creations Ministries

[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

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, llama (612) 673-2700; **Somali** - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac (612) 673-3500