

Community 11 Connections

News from Council Member John Quincy



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Volume 4, Issue 1

January, 2013

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Quincy's Corner

The New Year is off and running. As we begin the new year, I remain committed to The City of Minneapolis' six overarching goals of *A Safe Place to Call Home*; *Jobs & Economic Vitality*; *Livable Communities*, *Healthy Lives*; *Many People, One Minneapolis*; *Eco-Focused* and *A City That Works*. These goals serve as our roadmap for delivering quality services to our residents in an efficient and collaborative way.

The new year is also a time to reflect and review the prior year. In next month's *Community Connections*, we will take an in-depth look at the 2012 crime statistics for our neighborhoods, as well as the 311 service calls, to see where and how we can improve.

REMINDER to folks about shoveling sidewalks

Keeping our sidewalks free of ice and snow is the neighborly thing to do, and it's the law. For your own benefit and to help your neighbors, people pushing strollers or using wheelchairs, and the many people in Minneapolis who walk, please do your part. [Details here.](#)



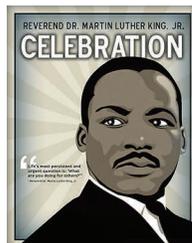
Recycle your holiday lights Don't know what to do with those old or no longer working strings of holiday lights? Making the switch to energy efficient LED holiday lights? Recycle Your Holidays™ is a one-of-a-kind statewide holiday light recycling program in Minnesota. Drop off unwanted light strings at any of 450+ participating locations during the holiday season, through the end of January each year. Several Ward 11 locations are participating, including Diamond Lake Hardware, Annunciation Church and McRae Park, in addition to many more Minneapolis locations. <http://recycleminnesota.org/>

Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour – *nominate homes by Tuesday, January 15*

Have you remodeled a kitchen, bath, master suite or whole house? Added on, or finished existing space in attic, basement or garage? You could be one of the 50 or more homeowners and professionals featured on the 2013 Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour held on April 27-28. For more information, call Tour Coordinator Margo Ashmore at 612-867-4874 or email mfashmore@aol.com. More details at: <http://msphometour.com/>



Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration and Annual Food Drive on Monday, January 21



Drop off non perishable food items at your local Minneapolis Recreation Center or bring handmade knitted items for The Love Light Project supporting local teenage victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The food and mitten drive concludes with a community celebration of the legacy of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This event is sponsored by the [Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board](#). More details at: <http://db.tt/tQENXYiv>

City Focus

City crews tackle massive water main break

On Thursday, January 3, one of the City's biggest water mains was ruptured at a private construction site in downtown Minneapolis.

That break caused approximately 14 million gallons of water to spill onto the street near the corner of Hennepin Avenue and 2nd Street North, causing residents as far south as the Chain of Lakes to lose water pressure.

Thanks to the hard work of City crews, that spill was contained and normal water pressure

was restored to all but a few customers that same day.

All but three blocks of 2nd Street North had water service fully restored in just a few hours. That includes every bar and restaurant in downtown Minneapolis. The few buildings that still lacked water were placed on a temporary water service in the following days.

Meanwhile, nearly all of the streets that needed to close were reopened around 24 hours after

the water main break. The water spilled onto Hennepin Avenue – one of the busiest streets in downtown Minneapolis.

Before opening the street, crews removed water and ice and also made sure the roadway was not damaged by the excess water. About 24 hours after the water main break, northbound Hennepin Avenue was back open for the evening rush.

Minneapolis is the state's largest producer of drinking water, pro-

ducing around 60 million gallons every day for approximately a half million people.

Throughout the water main break, the City delivered tap water that met or was better than federal Safe Drinking Water standards.

For more information about Minneapolis tap water, go to www.minneapolismn.gov/water.

Take a survey and help Minneapolis bridge the digital divide

In January, the City of Minneapolis will once again survey city residents to get their perspectives about how they use computers, mobile devices and the Internet to better their daily lives.

About 12,400 households will receive the survey in the mail from National Research Center, Inc., an independent research firm that will conduct the survey.

Households contacted to complete the survey will be selected randomly throughout the entire city, with the goal of reaching a diverse cross-section of Minneapolis residents.

The City is surveying residents again in 2013 to see how the state of the digital divide in Minneapolis has changed since 2012. The digital divide is the gap between individuals and groups in their access to information and communication technologies, and their use and knowledge of these technologies.

Results from the 2012 survey showed that while 82 percent of City households have computers with Internet access, only 57 percent of Phillips residents and 65 percent of Near North residents have Internet access at home.

The survey also showed that residents aged 55 and older and those with incomes under \$50,000 per year are the least likely users of technology.

Surveys will be mailed out beginning this week. If you receive a survey in the mail, please take a few minutes to complete the survey and mail it back in the envelope provided.

The City of Minneapolis will use the results to better understand technology use in the city and to help guide the City's efforts in closing the digital divide.

Residents who wish to complete their survey in Spanish, Somali or Hmong will see an instruction in their language on the postcard and cover letter letting them know how to request a survey in their language. People can request the survey in additional languages by calling 311 or 612-673-3000.

The entire report from the 2012 survey is on the City's website at www.minneapolismn.gov/it/inclusion.

Folks are also able to use an interactive map to compare neighborhood data to city-wide data.

Step-Up Youth Applications Now Available

The City of Minneapolis STEP-UP program trains and matches Minneapolis youth ages 14-21 in summer internships at local businesses. STEP-UP is focused on serving youth from low-income families or youth that have risk factors making it challenging to find employment on their own.

Internships are generally 20-40 hours per week for 6-10 weeks from mid-June to August. Depending on the age and skill level of the intern, interns

may work in subsidized jobs at a non-profit organizations or employer paid positions in the business community.

The [STEP-UP youth application](#) is now available!

In 2013, all youth must apply online. If a youth requires assistance with their application, they can contact Tammy Dickinson at 612-673-5041 or they can visit the [STEP-UP page](#) for agencies that offer staff and/or computer assistance.

The deadline to apply is March 4, 2013.

All applicants MUST:

- **Live** in Minneapolis
- Be 14-21 years old by June 1, 2013 (no exceptions)
- Not be currently enrolled in college (PSEO is ok)
- Be eligible to work in the US by June 1, 2013 and have proper documentation

- Meet guideline incomes or have a substantial barrier to getting a job (for example IEPs, English language learners, or pregnant and parenting teens).



More information is available on the [STEP-UP page](#).

Step-Up Information www.minneapolismn.gov/cped/metp/cped_stepup

Step-Up application- stepup.iapplicants.com/ViewJob-246265.html

Calendar of Events

January 15	Minneapolis St. Paul Home Tour nominations due
January 16	8:00-9:00 am: Community Coffee Hour at Sovereign Grounds 6:30—8:00 pm: Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Meeting at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church (1620 46th Street E)
January 21	6:30 PM: Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration at Martin Luther King Park (4055 Nicollet Ave S) 7—8:30 pm: Tangletown Neighborhood Association Meeting at Fuller Park (4800 Grand)
January 24th	7—8:30 pm: Nokomis East Neighborhood Association Meeting at the NENA office (3000 50th Street E)
January 28	7—8:30 pm: Hale Page Diamond Lake Community Association Meeting at Emmanuel United Methodist Church (5144 13th Avenue S)