



MinneapolisConnects

News and Information from Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations
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December 2014

Upcoming Events

12/3: Homegrown Minneapolis Annual Open House

12/4: Loring Park Curry Dinner Fundraiser and Holiday Boutique

12/4: Logan Park's Film Series: Celebrating the Multicultural Identity of Northeast Minneapolis

12/5: Holiday on 44th

12/5 – 12/7: Seward Winter Frolic and Art Crawl

12/6: New Webber Park Library – community meeting

12/6: Lynnhurst Holiday Bazaar

12/8: Ventura Village: Helping People Help Bees

12/9: Loring Park Winterfest

12/11: Nicollet Mall Project update

12/11: Northeast Park Athletic Field and Recreation Building – Open House

12/13: Lyndale: La Posada Celebration

12/13: Bryn Mawr: Saturnalia Festival

12/17: ECCO Holiday Caroling Party

12/17: Lowry Hill East Annual Holiday Party

12/30: Nokomis East: Night Before New Year's Eve

Additional events and details can be found online:
minneapolismn.gov/ncr/calendar

Minneapolis pledges a new relationship with the Hmong Community



Minneapolis Mayor Betsy Hodges was honored by the Hmong Community during a Baci ceremony performed on Thursday, November 13th at Fairview Park in North Minneapolis. The event was organized by Michael Yang, Southeast Asian Community Specialist, for the Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) Department, in partnership with Minneapolis Hmong leaders, Houa Vang, Choua Blong Moua, Zongleng Pha, Chairman of the Hmong 18 Council and the Cleveland Neighborhood Association. The Baci ceremony was performed as a first step in the process of building greater trust between the Hmong community and the City of Minneapolis.

The “Baci” is a traditional Hmong ceremony used to welcome and honor individuals, especially those who are in leadership positions. The ceremony cultivates the spirits in the body to withstand all challenges. During the ceremony honoring Mayor Hodges, participants tied white strings around her wrists to provide her strength, courage and blessings. Flowers, fruits, candies and eggs were used to cultivate her spirits in the body.

“The Hmong community has been traditionally left out by City government, and Mayor Betsy is the first Mayor from Minneapolis to come out and listen to the Hmong community elders and leaders. I am grateful that the Mayor values and cares about a trusted relationship with the Hmong community.” Souwan Thao, Thao/Kue Family Representative to the Hmong 18 Council.

To learn more about the work of the Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) department, visit www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr.

Neighborhood Stories: Standish Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA) chili fest at Sibley Park



What constitutes a chili? Evidently, it doesn't need to have hamburger in it (chili con carne). Neighbors who attended SENA's second annual chili cook-off on Friday evening, October 17, tasted eight variations of chili—some with no meat at all. There were even gluten-free and dairy-free entries.

The winning chili—a turkey red bean dish by Jennifer Edwards—was both the judges' and the crowd's favorite. Second place went to Linh Ho for a chili featuring beef and bacon fat. Shirley Yeoman's vegetarian chili with cashews and raisins won third place. Winners received gift cards from local businesses

(Northbound Brewpub; A Cupcake Social; and Elevated Beer, Wine & Spirits). Besides chili, people enjoyed fresh bread from A Baker's Wife, vegan cornbread from home-based baker Seymour Munchmore, and a keg of root beer from Elevated Spirits. S'mores were available for dessert.

The chili fest was an opportunity for neighbors to get better acquainted and to learn more about the work of SENA. One person, new to the neighborhood, was especially enthusiastic. She liked that neighbors had a chance to sit down and talk with each other, rather than just "mingle" in a crowd.

The Standish Ericsson Chili Fest, like similar events in Holland and CARAG, brings neighbors together for a meal rather than a meeting. The potluck format, as well as donations from local businesses, helps keep costs low and consistent with CPP Guidelines on event expenses. The event also encourages a bit of healthy neighborhood competition!

Story excerpted from the SENA news.

Comment on proposed 2015 City budget

On Wednesday, Dec. 10, the City Council plans to approve the City's 2015 budget. Before that happens, you will have a chance to share your thoughts about the proposed budget and property taxes. You can also share comments online at the City's website.

Public hearing on proposed 2015 budget
6:05 p.m., Dec. 10
Room 317 of City Hall

If you can't attend the Dec. 10 hearing, you can submit comments on the proposed budget online. All comments submitted online by Dec. 9 will be entered into the public record and shared with the mayor and council members. Visit: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/news/WCMS1P-133878>.

There are lots of ways you can learn about the City's proposed 2015 budget. You can see the proposed budget on the City website. Hennepin County has also mailed out truth in taxation forms to all property owners, who can also look up their property tax information online at: <http://www16.co.hennepin.mn.us/pins/addrsrch.jsp>.

To discuss the proposed budget, the City Council held a series of budget hearings. Back-to-back rebroadcasts of those hearings will be on Minneapolis 79 – the City's cable channel – every weekend until a few days before the budget is approved Dec. 10. This gives everyone the opportunity to learn more about the budget proposal and its potential impact in advance of the two public hearings. A schedule of the weekend budget hearings "marathon" is available at www.minneapolismn.gov/tv/79schedule. All of the budget hearings can also be watched online at www.minneapolismn.gov/tv/79.



2014 neighborhood survey underway



The Neighborhood and Community Relations Department is currently conducting a survey to collect demographic information about the body of volunteers serving as board members of City-funded neighborhood organizations. Results from the survey will help us better serve current board members and target our efforts to encourage more participation from under-represented populations.

The survey results will be available in early 2015.

The Neighborhood and Community Relations department encourages all board members to take the survey, and appreciates all the great work you do on behalf of your neighborhoods, and the city!

Sign up to be notified whenever a Snow Emergency is declared

You may have already received mail that could help you avoid tickets and tows when snow season arrives. The City of Minneapolis sent out about 176,000 Snow Emergency brochures, one to each household in the city. The brochure has graphics and text showing where to park during the three phases of a Snow Emergency.

Stay informed

There are a number of ways to learn when Snow Emergencies are declared and what to do when they are. Put many of these tools to use, not just one or two. The more ways you use to learn about a Snow Emergency, the more prepared you will be, and the less likely you will be to be towed because you didn't know one was declared. Visit the City of Minneapolis website: www.minneapolismn.gov/snow to find all the ways to stay informed about snow emergencies.



Spread the word in multiple languages

The City of Minneapolis has developed informative videos in English, Spanish, Somali and Hmong are available online to help explain where you can park when a Snow Emergency is declared:

- [Minneapolis Snow Emergency Parking Rules](#) (English)
Find out where to park your car when a Snow Emergency is declared to avoid a ticket and a tow. Learn more in this edition of the Minneapolis "Did you know..." series.
- [Reglas de Estacionamiento de las Emergencias por Nevada](#) (Spanish)
Averigüe dónde estacionar su carro cuando se ha declarado una Emergencia por Nevada para evitar una multa y remolque. Más información en esta edición de las series de Minneapolis Sabía usted.
- [Xanibaada Goobaha Baabuurta La Dhigto Xilliga Gurmada Barafka](#) (Somali)
Hel meel aad baabuurka dhigato marka lagu dhawaaqo gurmada barafka looga xaaqayo wadooyinka si aan gaariga lagaaga jiidin laguuna ganaaxin. Faahfaahin dheeraad ah waxaad ka heli kartaa nuqulkaan magaalada Minneapolis ee taxanaha "Ma ogtahay...."
- [Kev Cai Li Choj Txog Kev Kub Ceev thaum Daus Tau Lo](#) (Hmong)
Thaum muaj daus tau lo, lub nroog yuav tsum tau kaus kev. Pej xeem yuav tsum tau tshem lawv lub tsheb, lub nroog thiaj li kaus tau kev du lug. Yog xav paub ntxiv, sais nroog Minneapolis cov tshooj xov xwm hu, "Koj pos paub".

How can Minneapolis be a better arts and creative city?

The City of Minneapolis is leading a planning process to think more strategically about how its arts and creative assets can best contribute to the local and regional economy and improve Minneapolis' quality of life. The City would like to hear from you about your participation in Minneapolis arts and culture; you can take an online survey. Results from this survey will greatly inform the Creative City Road Map, a plan for Minneapolis arts and culture for the next 10 years.

Watch www.creativeminneapolis.org for updates and more information about the process and events, a survey, and what Minneapolitans are saying and thinking about how the arts and creative activities connect to their lives.

Two neighborhood organizations seeking qualified candidates to fill vacancies

The **Tangletown Neighborhood Association (TNA)** seeks a Neighborhood Coordinator to provide staff support for its community engagement initiatives, outreach activities and events, and administrative duties under the direction of the TNA board. A full job description can be found at: <https://db.tt/tq8nmIPD>.

This is a part-time, flexible, contract position at approximately 10 hours per week at \$25/hour. To apply, please send a cover letter, resume, and three references to info@tangletown.org with "TNA Coordinator Position" in the subject line by **December 10th, 2014**.

The **Lind Bohanon Neighborhood Association (LBNA)** is seeking a part time staff person to provide administrative support for the board and the organization and other duties as needed. A full job description can be found at: <https://db.tt/FexeMyyC>.

Compensation for this position will be \$15.00 - \$24.00 per hour commensurate with experience. Please mail a cover letter, resume, references and a writing sample or financial report to:

Lind Bohanon Neighborhood Association
C/O NCR
105 5th Avenue South #425
Minneapolis, MN 55401

The deadline for submitting applications for the LBNA part time staff position is **December 31st, 2014**.

Shop the winter farmers markets in Minneapolis

The season has begun for winter farmers markets.

It's easy to buy local produce. Three of the markets accept "electronic benefits transfer" cards as payment to give residents on federal food assistance easier access to fresh, healthy food.

Local produce is nutritious and affordable. Buying food directly at a farmers market strengthens the community between the farmer and the eater, and it supports the regional economy by allowing the local farmer to keep 80 to 90 cents per dollar of sales.

Check out Homegrown Minneapolis for more ways to get healthy, local food on the table. Homegrown Minneapolis is a citywide initiative expanding our community's ability to grow, process, distribute, eat and compost more healthy, sustainable, locally grown foods. <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/homegrown/index.htm>.

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The City of Minneapolis invites and encourages participation by every resident to each program, service and event within our city. Should you require an accommodation in order for you to fully participate, or should you require this document in an alternative format, please let us know by contacting 612-673-3737.