



April 2011

Eighth Ward News

"Bancroft, Bryant, Central, Field-Regina-Northrop, Kingfield, Powderhorn"

From Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden

Subscribe to 8th Ward E-news by sending an e-mail to:

elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Bancroft

Bancroft Neighborhood Assoc Council

www.bancroftneighborhood.org

Meets 2nd Thursday, 7 pm

4120 17th Avenue South

Bryant

Bryant Neighborhood Association

Meets 1st Tuesday, 7 pm

Urban League South, 411 E. 38th Street

Central

CANDO

www.CANDOmpls.org

Meets 3rd Thursday, 6:15 pm

Sabathani Community Center

310 East 38th Street, Room 304

Field-Regina-Northrop

www.frnng.org

Meets 3rd Wednesday, 6:30 pm

1620 E 46th Street

Kingfield

www.kingfield.org

Meets 2nd Wednesday, 7 pm

ML King Park, 40th & Nicollet

Powderhorn

www.ppna.org

Meets 2nd Thursday, 6:30 pm

821 E 35th Street

38th & Chicago

38th & Chicago Implementation Committee

Meets 3rd Monday, 7 pm

Pillsbury House 3501 Chicago Ave S

Ward 8 Property Tax Discussion with Mayor Rybak

On Tuesday, April 26, 6:30-8 pm, at Martin Luther King Park, 4055 Nicollet, Mayor Rybak will join Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden for a property tax conversation with Ward 8 residents.

Mayor Rybak will discuss the City budget and property taxes and receive input from residents for the 2012 budget. Please join Mayor Rybak and Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden for this important discussion.

Did you know?

- **Minneapolis generates revenue for Minnesota.** Minneapolis will send the State over \$456 million in sales and property tax revenues in 2011. In 2010 it got \$64.4 million dollars from the state in the form of Local Government Aid (LGA).
- **Minneapolis has reduced spending.** Minneapolis has 10% fewer full-time positions today than it did 10 years ago, and has cut City spending 7% over the past 10 years after inflation. Since 2002 Minneapolis has experienced \$297 million in LGA cuts.
- **Minneapolis is fiscally prudent.** Minneapolis has regained its AAA bond rating from the nation's three major bond rating firms. It has eliminated \$130 million in debt since 2002.
- In 2011, the City will receive about \$168 million dollars from property taxes. The cost of funding police, fire and public safety is \$196 million dollars.

Legislative Update:

Current proposals from the House and Senate target Minneapolis for significant cuts from the revenue sharing program between cities and the state called local government aid. The most extreme proposal, from the House, would strip Minneapolis, St Paul, and Duluth of all LGA, while allowing suburban communities to still receiving this funding source.

Other programs targeted for cuts that impact Minneapolis residents and the City include cutting millions from the Minneapolis Health Department, cuts to summer youth jobs programs, and dramatic cuts to transit funding that will impact Metro Transit bus routes and fares that are critical to residents. Other targets include assistance to renters, medical programs, and much more. The 2011 Legislative Session is scheduled to end in May.

Tune it up, it's Bicycle Time



BICYCLE

The warm weather biking season is just around the corner. Here are some exciting updates on area bicycle projects and events:

- **RiverLake Greenway:** www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/riverlake.

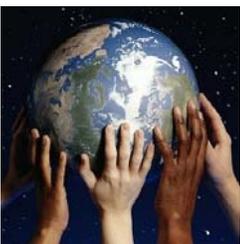
This Bicycle Boulevard, which travels along 40th Street in Bancroft and Bryant neighborhoods, was partly constructed in Fall 2010. Final touches, including road striping, will occur this Spring. Neighbors are planning a Grand Opening event for the RiverLake Greenway, so look for more details.

- **Blaisdell/1st Ave Bicycle Lanes:** www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/bicycles/1stBlaisdell.asp. This project will be constructed in 2011, resulting in bicycle lanes from 40th Street to 15th Street on Blaisdell-LaSalle and 1st Avenue.

Other news to get you "in gear":

- It started on April 1st, but it's not too late to participate in **30daysofBiking.com**. Pledge to bike every day for 30 days, and then share your adventures online.
- www.NiceRideMN.org bikes are coming back and year-long subscriptions are on sale for \$40 (\$30 for students).

Celebrate Earth Day: April 16th



Minneapolis celebrates Earth Day on **Saturday, April 16th**. Earth Day events are a collaborative effort between the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) and City of Minneapolis Solid Waste and Recycling. The Minneapolis

Earth Day Watershed Clean Up was initiated in 1995 to draw attention to the water quality improvement needs of Minneapolis' lakes and the effects that individual actions have on urban water quality.

The goal of Earth Day is to provide a volunteer experience and environmental education to Minneapolis residents and park users.

- **When?** 9:30 am – noon.
- **Where?** A Minneapolis Park near you (McRae, Powderhorn, Martin Luther King, Phelps, and more). Many parks will have additional celebration events, showcasing art, gardening, entertainment, and other Spring fun!
- **What do I need?** Nothing - Bags and gloves for clean-up are provided.

In addition to Park events, many neighbors use Earth Day to clean up on their blocks and in their neighborhoods. No matter what you decide to do on Earth Day, enjoy the day.

Hosmer Concert Series



Did you know ... Saturday concerts are FREE at Hosmer Library, 347 E 36th Street? Here are some of the offerings for April

- Saturday, April 9th, 2:00 pm: Roe Family Singers
- Saturday, April 16th: Earthtones – Women's choir singing world music
- Saturday, April 21st: Kaivama – Traditional and original Finnish songs and music

Minneapolis Prepares for Possible Flooding



The City of Minneapolis, along with other Minnesota communities, is making preparations for potential flooding. A wet fall, a snowy winter

and the possibility of a rainy spring have significantly increased the potential of flooding in Minneapolis. A small number of homes and businesses in Minneapolis need to take precautions. The City is notifying owners of those homes and businesses that are most at risk. You

can help by sharing this information with friends and neighbors and/or lending a hand to those who will be sandbagging.

As well, City officials have been evaluating the flooding risk to its own properties, and making necessary preparations. Minneapolis' Fridley Water Treatment facility is at the most significant risk of flooding. Officials there have put in place a number of flood mitigation tools to ensure that the facility is protected from possible flooding on the Mississippi River and will be able to maintain its ability to produce clean, safe drinking water to all customers.

You can help! Clearing debris and remaining ice from storm water grates on corners and alleys is one way you can help ensure water flows through city stormwater drains. For more information, visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/flood.

Minneapolis' Hiawatha Public Works Facility is LEED Platinum



The City of Minneapolis' Hiawatha Public Works Facility has received the highest certification awarded by Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design: LEED Platinum. This certification

means the building is officially one of the greenest in the nation.

The costs associated with the building's energy-saving features will pay for themselves in four to six years, and they did not cost more than simply building to code. The energy costs for the Hiawatha Facility are estimated to be **60 percent lower** than a facility simply built to code.

Some of the feature of the building include: 100% of demolition rubble reused, ensuring all stormwater stays on site rather than going into the sewer system, 90% of inside space is lit by daylight, and the building's heating and cooling uses geothermal energy.

Sustainable Communities Conference Saturday April 9

This Saturday, April 9, you are invited to participate in the 6th Annual Sustainable Communities Conference: Linking Citizens and Cities for Sustainable Communities.

The conference features Keynote speakers Rob Hopkins, co-founder of the Transition Town Movement and Krista Leraas, co-founder of Harvest Mood Backyard Farmers. You will get to participate in hands-on project workshops and skill building sessions about local food, composting and recycling, environmental advocacy, and much more.

- **What:** FREE Sustainable Communities Conference
- **When:** Saturday, April 9, 8:30 – 4:30
- **Where:** Central Lutheran, 333 12th St S
- **Registration & Questions:** www.afors.org

Report a Pothole: Call 311



As the daytime temperatures climb above freezing, city crews are patching potholes every day to keep streets in Minneapolis as drivable as possible. For all of us in Minneapolis, we know our streets are in serious need of repair.

The extraordinary weather and near-record snowfall we experienced this winter led to significant pothole problems all around the metro area. Also critical, Minneapolis and cities across the state are doing street maintenance with fewer resources because of ongoing and significant State budget cuts passed on to cities.

As of last week, Minneapolis appropriated \$1 million in additional funding to accelerate pothole repair. Public Works crews are working their way systematically through the city, filling potholes on routes to ensure that work is done as efficiently and quickly as possible.

To report a pothole, please call 311. Reports can also be made at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/311.

Public Works crews use 311 reports, as well as their observations in the field, to prioritize work and address street issues.

Spring street sweeping is about to begin



Weather permitting; an annual rite of spring in Minneapolis begins Tuesday, April 12. That's when crews are set to begin a comprehensive sweeping of all city streets.

If you park on the street, **watch for temporary "no parking" signs to avoid a ticket and tow.**

Temporary "no parking" signs will be posted at least 24 hours before a sweeping. On the day of the sweeping, parking will be prohibited on the street from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Vehicles parked on streets designated for sweeping may be ticketed and towed to the City's impound lot.

About a week before the sweeping begins, you can find out the week your street will be swept by visiting the City's Web site. Go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/streetsweep and click on "schedule lookup." The weekend before your street's scheduled sweeping, revisit the site to find out the exact day sweepers will come to your street.

Street sweeping is one way we work to protect our environment. Sweeping keeps leaves and debris from clogging our storm drains and polluting our lakes and rivers. You can help too: please don't push leaves, grass clippings, or other debris in the street. Picking up this material before it washes down storm drains helps keep our lakes and waterways in great shape. It also helps keep our neighborhoods clean and livable.

Nominate public art for Minneapolis Art Commission Awards



Minneapolis is home to a thriving local arts culture that creates theater productions, dance performances, sculptures,

murals and so much more. Help recognize those who have generated public art in our community by nominating them and their creations in the upcoming Minneapolis Arts Commission Awards.

Nominations may be submitted by artists and arts organizations for their own work, or by a third party. The deadline for nomination is April 15, 2011. Awards will be recognized at the Minneapolis MOSAIC celebration on June 4.

Download the application from the Minneapolis Art Commission webpage at:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/dca/arts_home.asp.

Road Repair Coming to Ward 8



During the 2011 construction season, public works crews will perform critical upgrades to several Ward 8 Streets with resurfacing projects.

Resurfacing projects use a mill and overlay process, removing a portion of the existing asphalt pavement surface and placing a new surface over the entire street. Resurfacing will extend the life of a roadway by approximately 10 years. Resurfacing is a very fast process: property owners will typically see work in front of their homes for about two days.

Properties will be assessed for a portion of the road improvement costs, under the city's standard procedures. Individual notices will be mailed to property owners with their assessment amount, and dates for a community meeting and public hearing in late May/early June.

Resurfacing projects planned for 2011:

- **Chicago Avenue** – from 38th Street E to 46th Street
- **2nd Avenue** – from the I-35W Exit Ramp (north of 32nd St) to 34th St E, and from 37th St E and 42nd St E
- **Stevens Avenue** – from the I-35W Exit Ramp (north of 32nd St) to 34th Street E, and from 37th Street E to 40th Street E

Nicollet Avenue Reconstruction on the Way for 2012 and 2013

A major project in planning stages now is Nicollet Avenue Reconstruction. The proposed project is approximately 1 mile in length and is along Nicollet Avenue from 31st Street to 40th Street. Nicollet originally constructed in 1954 and an asphalt overlay was done in 1977. The proposed roadway will consist of two traffic lanes (one each way) and parking on both sides.

Nicollet Avenue reconstruction will include removal and replacement of the pavement, curb and gutter, driveways, sidewalks, and storm drain inlets. Kingfield and Lyndale neighborhoods and the business associations representing affected properties have been leading the planning process with City of Minneapolis staff. Look for more updates to come on this critical project.

Sabathani Community Meeting

Sabathani is hosting a community meeting to **seek resident input on expanding Hennepin County Human Services to Sabathani Community Center.**

- **When: Tuesday, April 26, 6-8 pm**
- **Where: Sabathani, 310 E 38th Street, 3rd Floor Rooms D1&2**

Hennepin County is proposing to locate access to the following services at Sabathani: MFIP; Medical Assistance; Food Support; General Assistance; Emergency Financial Assistance; Child Care Assistance; Emergency Shelter; Intake and Assessment; Child and Adult Protection services; Behavioral Health, Disabilities and Long-term case management; Child Support; and Veteran's services

Come to the meeting to get information on this proposal and give your feedback. Questions? 612-821-2316

Eat Local and Shop Local!



Exciting new businesses – now open or soon coming – provide more opportunity for residents to shop local and support our community! What's new?

- 43rd and Nicollet: **The Lowbrow**, at 4244 Nicollet, provides “scratch-made comfort food” with locally farmed ingredients. Stay to shop at old and new area businesses.
- 48th and Chicago: **Town Hall Tap**, 4810 Chicago: This restaurant, which opened in late 2010, is always packed and adds to the great variety of shops and restaurants at 48th and Chicago!
- 32nd and Chicago: **The Modern Times**, serving breakfast and lunch, will soon open at 3200 Chicago! Owner Dylan Alverson is the former cook at Cedar Riverside's Hard Times Café. Opening is scheduled for early April, so stay tuned.
- 38th and Chicago: **Fox Egg Gallery** (photography studio) and **Blue Ox Coffee** will soon open at storefronts on the NW corner of 38th and Chicago! Look for more news soon about additional 38th & Chicago businesses