

THE RIVER BEACON

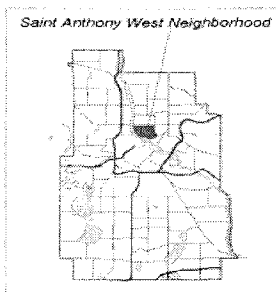
Welcome

Our goal with the River Beacon is to communicate local news and activities while inviting you and your neighbors to participate in its publications.

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Please submit articles/comments to neighbors@stawno.org or call Bob Margl, 612-378-0798 or bmargl@falkpaper.com



Recap from the St. Anthony West January Board Meeting By Pete Gamades

There were three focus areas at our last board meeting. It started with a discussion of a proposed bike lane along 8th Ave. NE, and how removal of on-street parking may have a negative impact on local businesses. Subsequently, the NRP Committee recommended allocation of NRP Phase II priorities to the standing committees. Now these committees can begin working on them. More to come on how to get involved! Revised by-laws were also formally presented to the Board. These will be reviewed by the Board, and they will determine whether to recommend approval to the full membership at the St. Anthony West Annual Meeting on March 18. Make sure to mark your calendars for this special meeting. This meeting will include highlights of the last year, presentation of awards, vote on by-law changes and most importantly election of Board Members for the upcoming year. Any eligible member of the St. Anthony West Neighborhood may be nominated and included on the ballot. Please submit your nominations to the www.stawno.org or just come to the Annual Meeting.

February Gardening Tips By Joyce Vincent

- Order perennial plants and bulbs now for cut flowers this summer. Particularly good choices are phlox, daisies, coreopsis, asters and lilies.
- Send off seed orders in February to take advantage of seasonal discounts. Some companies offer bonus seeds of new varieties to early buyers.
- This year plan to grow at least one new vegetable that you've never grown before; it may be better than what you are already growing. The new dwarf varieties on the market which use less space while producing more food per square foot may be just what you're looking for.
- Check stored bulbs, tubers and corms. Discard any that are soft or diseased.
- Check any vegetables you have in storage. Dispose of any that show signs of shriveling or rotting.
- Late winter is the time to prune many deciduous trees. Look over your trees now and remove dead, dying, or unsightly parts of the tree, sprouts growing at or near the base of the tree trunk, and crossed branches.
- Prune fruit trees and grapes in late February or early March, after the worst of the winter cold is passed but before spring growth begins.
- Fertilize fruit trees as soon as possible after the ground thaws but before blossom time.
- Don't remove mulch from perennials too early. A warm day may make you think spring is almost here but there may be more cold weather yet to come.
- Don't start your vegetable plants indoors too early. Six weeks ahead of the expected planting date is early enough for the fast-growth species such as cabbage. Eight weeks allows enough time for the slower-growing types such as peppers.
- Branches of forsythia, pussy willow, quince, spirea, and dogwood can be forced for indoor bloom. Make long, slanted cuts when collecting the branches and place the stems in a vase of water. Change the water every four days. They should bloom in about 3 weeks.



Third Ward Accomplishments By Diane Hofstede

Happy New Year!

My staff and I would like to wish you a safe and enjoyable new year! Community is not simply a given, but is something created and supported by members like you. As we conclude another year, the Third Ward celebrates significant achievements, and I would like to thank all of those who helped make these changes possible. It is my goal that the Third Ward accomplishments are not an endpoint, but one of many stages that will continue to make the Third Ward a great place to live, work, & play

Public Safety

A top priority of the Third Ward has always been public safety.

We have not only **registered, inspected, and corrected over 800 plus problem properties** but we have collaborated with city departments to **shut down the long term problem properties and businesses** that have been havens for illegal activity.

Once again there has been double-digit crime reduction in the Third Ward and in our city. In the **2nd Precinct** there has been a total of an 11% crime reduction in 2009. This Precinct led the City in Part I Violent Crime reduction over a two year period. For the **4th Precinct** crimes were down 12% in 2009 in comparison to the year before. Additionally 355 guns were taken off the street on the Northside in the past year. This represents 55% of the citywide total.

Thank you to all the members of the community and the 2nd and 4th Precinct Officers for making our Third Ward a

safer place!

Community Engagement

The Third Ward prides itself in its dedication to community engagement.

We invite you to come and participate in monthly C.A.R.E. meetings.

C.A.R.E. stands for Community And Resource Exchange. Our dedicated community is working together to solve and address problem properties, foreclosures, crime, and livability issues that negatively impact our neighborhoods.

This is your opportunity to meet with staff from Minneapolis Regulatory Services, Problem Property Unit, the 4th and 2nd Police Precincts; the University of Minnesota Police Department, Minneapolis City Attorney; Hennepin County Probation Office, and CPED

The **University District Alliance** is a new historic partnership that consists of the University of Minnesota and its students, University neighborhoods including Marcy-Holmes, area business associations, the City of Minneapolis, and elected officials. Council Member Hofstede, a member of the Alliance Steering Committee, is dedicated to working towards making this part of our city a great place to live, learn and work.

Created as a result of the new Gopher stadium being built, the Alliance works to preserve, maintain, and increase homeownership in the district, reverse the growing trend to convert owner-occupied housing to rental property, promote the district as a premier place to live, work, do business, learn, and show how these and other livability goals can be accomplished by working cooperatively as an Alliance.

Transportation/Traffic/Bikes

Another priority of the ward is to improve and maintain good transportation.

The **Lowry Ave. Bridge** has been demolished. The new bridge will be completed in 2011. Stay tuned for more information on the development of this project!

The **18th Avenue Bike Path** in Northeast Minneapolis is now fully funded. Groundbreaking and construction will begin in spring/summer 2010. Keep an eye out for more information!

The **26th Avenue North Bikeway & Greenway** is an ongoing project that has the goal of linking Theodore Wirth Parkway with the Mississippi River via a 26th Ave. North Bikeway and Greenway in Minneapolis. Additionally completion of this bike path will allow for a potential way to connect to the 18th Ave. bike path on the other side of the river. Funding for this project is currently being secured. More information on this project to come soon!

5th St. and 22nd Ave. Bikeway and Fillmore St. NE/6th Ave. SE Bicycle Boulevard are in the early stages of the planning process. These bikeways/boulevards are an outcome from a \$325,000 grant received for funding more bike paths and bicycle boulevards





Farmers Market Report by Daniel Brady

It is winter and unless you are embracing everything it has to offer like skating with your best friend, snowboarding with a nephew or niece, tobogganing with your entire block at midnight, you are probably counting the days till the NE Minneapolis Farmer's Market at the St. Boniface Catholic Church parking lot will open with their annual Pancake Breakfast. This event will take place in the basement of the church. To get ready for that event, the Market's Board of Directors met this past December and elected 3 new members, Tony Anastasia, Thea Neal, and Jason Bari, to serve 2 year-terms, along with our new president, Robin Russell, treasurer, Sarah Beggs, secretary, Teresa Schweitzer, co-coordinator, Rod Stevens, Beth Grefin, and Dan Brady. Additionally, the board kept Martin Brown as our

market outreach/co-coordinator who voluntarily contributes hours along with the board. The new board decided that the most important issue to address this winter is finish our application for non-profit status. In review, starting this past March, the NMFM filed articles of incorporation with the Minnesota Secretary of State, solidified the board, drafted bylaws and completed the application for recognition of exemption under the IRS section 501(c) 4 – a social organization. The application, along with \$800,000, will be mailed this February to IRS and then be reviewed by them. A determination letter will then be issued to confirm our status as a not-for-profit entity. The reason this is important is that it allows tax deductibility for our sponsors. Also, the market has formed several

committees, Outreach, Finance, Personnel, Sponsorship/Marketing, Special Events. Participation in any committee is open to the community. If you are interested in serving on any committee, please e-mail Robin at r3russell@hotmail.com. Kudos goes out to the St. Anthony West Neighborhood Organization for being first in sponsoring the Market for 2010. Jump-starting sponsorship contributions will give us confidence to develop specific programming for kids and have more food/recipe demonstrations that would be allowed by our new enhanced license from the city. All those involved with the market from vendors to customers will benefit from an exciting atmosphere that will be coming this season. See you this June.

From The Editor by Joe Biernat

Neighbors, in our last edition we printed an article about a homeless St. Anthony West resident, Chuck Hacker. As a result of the feature, many people contributed money and clothing to help. Thank you, neighbors! You continue to make our neighborhood a special one. Chuck, a very humble and quiet man, was deeply touched with so much generosity and wrote the following as an expression of his heartfelt gratitude.

An old Monarch wood range. Fire in an old pot heater in the living room. Winter in the country where every thing is still.

The crops are in and the cows need milking. So peaceful out there that I wish I were back to the place I call

home. A place where people worked and cared. What you had was what you shared. The wide open spaces. The moon and the stars, on a Sunday the bells of a church. In a way, I am at home. The Northeast side is just like home. I want to thank you for all you have done. Bless you all for being nice. My thanks in poetry. I love to write, and I can because I have lived it. Most of you may see me on Boom Island. Water, boats, the rail trains. I'd never be happy if they weren't there along with my bicycle and county roads. Once again, a million thanks to everyone. Bless you all!

Chuck Hacker

Joe Biernat

Phone Numbers and Websites

Safe Crime Prevention Specialist 2nd Precinct—Carol Oosterhuis 612-673-2874

City of Minneapolis Information Number—311

Third Ward Council Member Diane Hofstede: 612-673-2203, diane.hofstede@ci.minneapolis.mn.us (Phone numbers cont'd page 3)

St. Anthony West Neighborhood Organization, 612-378-8886, www.stawno.org

Block Club Training and Information—612-673-3204



Twin Cities Snowshoe Shuffle Race/Walk Saturday, February 6

by Sheila Biernat

Want to do something exhilarating this winter? Then join the fun by snowshoeing through the woods of Long Lake Regional Park in nearby New Brighton. You'll feel miles away from the city as you and others "shush" along, a menagerie of winter enthusiasts~~some racers, some walkers and some just enjoying the fresh air and beauty of a Saturday morning romp through the snow.

Included in the registration fee is the race/walk, a long-sleeved t-shirt, a delicious chili dinner following the race, a silent auction, and awards for those placing first, second

or third in their age groups. And the icing on this winter adventure is that the proceeds will enable city kids to become campers for a week this summer!

In addition to the Snowshoe event, there is a pre-race Spaghetti dinner Friday, February 5 from 5-8 p.m. at East Side Neighborhood Services (ESNS) at 1700 2nd Street NE for only \$5 per person. All are welcome to come and feast on tasty pasta! Race participants will also enjoy advance check-in, shoe rental confirmation, a goodie bag and lively banter about the snowshoe shuffle.

On Saturday, February 6, check-in begins at 8 a.m. and the race/walk begins at 10 a.m. The registration fee is \$35 before January 23rd and \$40 after this date, and is discounted for high school students at \$20. Snowshoe Rental is \$5 per pair and both adult and child sizes are available; advance reservation is advised.

Wait no more...come join the fun...and help a good cause at the same time! Register online at www.esns.org or www.active.com or stop by ESNS in person to register. Questions? Call 612-787-4000.



"We Our Presidents" Walk on Saturday, February 13 from 10 to Noon

Northeast is celebrating Presidents' Day in an exciting way! Northeast has always had a special connection to Presidents Day because of our many streets named after presidents. Join your neighbors for the two-mile "We Love Our Presidents" Walk on Saturday, February 13 from 10 a.m. to Noon. Watch *The Northeaster* for the White House coloring contest and further information regarding this event.

Crime In The Community

by Nick Juarez

In 2009, the St Anthony West Neighborhood saw an overall reduction in Part I crimes of -7%. Reductions came in burglaries which were down -31% (2008 = 26 and 2009 = 18) and motor vehicle thefts were down -69% (2008 = 16 and 2009 = 5).

However, the neighborhood did see increases in thefts +12% (2008 = 59 and 2009 = 66) and robberies (2008 = 2 and 2009 = 8).

The 2nd Precinct looks forward to working with the neighborhood in 2010 to continue to reduce the opportunities for crimes. The 2010 Neighborhood Community Policing Plan that was adopted by the neighborhood is a good start to improve communication with neighbors, encourage youth involvement in the neighborhood and continue to strengthen the relationship with the 2nd Precinct and St. Anthony

West Neighborhood. All of these goals will strengthen the neighborhood and reduce the opportunities for crime.

Events

February 5—Twin City Snowshoe Shuffle Pre Race Spaghetti Dinner, 5:00 pm till 7:00 PM, Eastside Neighborhood Service, 1700 2nd St NE

February 11— Senior Appreciation Valentine Dinner, 11:30 AM, Eastside Neighborhood Services, 1700 2nd St NE

Events Cont'd

February 11 & March 11 — STAWNO Board of Directors/ General Neighborhood Meeting, 7:30 PM, St. Maron's Church, 600 University Ave. NE.

February 13—Presidents Walk, Saturday 10:00 AM till 12:00PM (2 miles) Eastside Neighborhood Services, 1700 2nd St NE.

February 24—Third Ward C.A.R.E. Meeting, 7:00PM till 9PM, Center For Families, 3333 4th St N.

March 18— STAWNO Annual Meeting and Board of Directors Elections, Thursday, St Maron's Church, 600 University Ave NE. 7:00 PM