

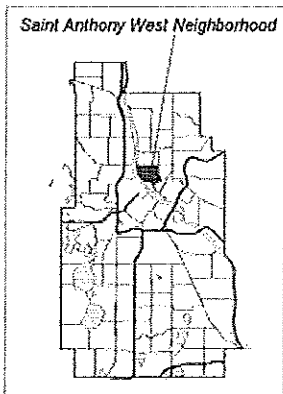
THE RIVER BEACON

Our goal with the River Beacon is to communicate local news and activities, and invite you and your neighbors to participate in its publication.

Inside this issue:

- Northeast Farmers Market 1
By Chris Linde
- Board Meeting 1
By Pete Gamades
- Third Ward Updates 2
By Diane Hofstede
- Decreased Funding for 3
Neighborhood Empowerment
- Eastside Services 3
By Jenna Anderson
- Second Precinct 4
By Nick Juarez
- Spring Lawn Care Tips 4
By Joyce Vincent

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



Northeast Farmers Market Update

By Chris Linde

The weather has turned, and we at the Northeast Farmers Market are getting excited for our 12th big season in the neighborhood. Things get going with our annual Community Meeting on May 7 in the basement of St. Boniface Church. The meeting is a great way to meet our sponsors, learn more about our vendors, and share your thoughts about the market with us. This year we also plan on having a speaker discuss the Homegrown Minneapolis Initiative and Urban Agriculture Policy Plan. Be on the look-out for more details coming soon. The date we're all looking forward to with great anticipation is June 4 and the Opening Day Pancake

Notes from the February Neighborhood Board Meeting

By Pete Gamades

New Board Elected!

Thank you to everyone that attended the STAWNO Annual Meeting on Thursday, March 3. The Annual Meeting highlighted the successes and continued areas of improvement in the St. Anthony West Neighborhood and elected a new Board. If you are interested in reading the Annual report, please visit www.stawno.org and click on Minutes and Annual Report or call the STAWNO office at 612.378.8886 to request a paper copy.

Please welcome all new and returning Board Members: Dan Brady, Jerry Evans, Pete Gamades *chair*, Brian Gorecki, Sally Grans-Korsh, Beth Greffin *secretary*, Kristina Gronquist *treasurer*, Tony Hofstede *vice chair*, Lydia Jarmulowicz, Christopher Linde, and Kevin Rush; alternates: Michael Rainville Sr., Bob Margl, Patrick Greffin, Joyce Vincent, and Jean Borgerding. A special thanks to all outgoing Board members. Your time and talent was

greatly appreciated. Mark your calendars for our upcoming Board Meetings: April 14, May 12 and June 9 starting at 6:30 PM at the Main Street Lodge, Lower Level (909 Main St NE). All are welcome to attend!

Breakfast. Last year's event was a great way to open the market season and was a huge success. We hope to see all of you there again this year.

Don't forget we continue our collaboration with the Eastside Food Co-op with our Winter Farmers Market on April 9. This will also coincide with a CSA fair being held at Co-op. Check us out in the Granite Studio.

Spring is here! 2011 Vendor Applications are now available. We offer full season and single date options at surprisingly reasonable rates. Visit our website at nemplsfarmers-market.com to download an application. Know a charitable organization that would like to take advantage of our guest non-profit booth? Drop us a line at nefarmersmarket@gmail.com.

See www.stawno.org or call 612.378.8886 for upcoming events and meeting schedules. Please email (neighbors@stawno.org) or call with questions/suggestions.

Events

- STAWNO Monthly Meeting—909 Main Street Lodge, Thursday, April 14th @ 6:30PM., Thursday, May 12th @ 6:30PM.
- Third Ward C.A.R.E. Meeting—Center For Families, 3333 4th Street N., Wednesday, April 21st @ 7:00PM, Wednesday, May 19th @ 7:00PM.
- Land Use and Planning Committee Meeting - 909 Main Street Lodge, Thursday, April 14th @ 6:00PM, Thursday, May 12th @ 6:00 PM.
- Outreach Committee Meeting—Erte, 323 13th Ave NE, Monday April 11th @ 6:00 PM, Monday, May 9th @ 6:00 PM



Third Ward Updates from Council Member Diane Hofstede

Third Ward Neighborhoodfest

Please join us for our Third Ward **9th Annual Neighborhoodfest** which will be held on **Wednesday, September 28th** from 6-9 PM at the Historic Nicollet Island Pavilion on Historic Nicollet Island, in our Mississippi National Park.

This year's theme is, "A Festival of Neighborhoods: Connecting Neighborhoods, Connecting People". The focus will be the celebration of our diverse community, and connections between individuals, neighborhoods, businesses, and organizations in our unique Third Ward!

Minneapolis Riverfront Design Competition Names Winner

The Minneapolis Park Board and the Riverfront Design Competition crowned the winning design team, a collaboration between **Tom Leader Studio** and **Kennedy & Violich Architecture** called RIVERFIRST.

The RIVERFIRST project will be establishing the vision for the Upper Riverfront, working in partnerships and maintaining the momentum created by the competition. The TLS/KVA team is proposing a six-month process to develop a longer-term framework and short-term projects. The current plan provides for five phases of work: project definition, educational, refinement, draft framework, and final framework. The educational phase will be focused on educating the Park Board committees and the community on the concept plan presented by the TLS/KVA team. TLS/KVA will in turn listen to the feedback from the committees and the community on the plan. The educational and community input process held in April will provide TLS/KVA with information to begin the process of further refining the

framework and identifying site specific projects. The team will then return to Minneapolis to share their refinements with the committees and community and gather further information later in the spring.

A draft framework and a site and systems approach will be presented to the committees and community during the summer months. Input gathered at these meetings will further the efforts in developing a final framework, final phasing plan, and final site and systems approach to be presented to the Park Board in late August or early September 2011.

The community meetings with TLS/KVA will provide an unprecedented opportunity for you to shape the future of the riverfront!

City Council Approves Façade Improvement for Great Streets Business Districts Program

Two 3rd Ward organizations were the recipients of Great Streets funding this month! The Great Streets Business Districts Program is an effort to help businesses develop and succeed along commercial corridors and at commercial nodes throughout the city.

The Sheridan Neighborhood Organization received \$20,000 for branding and event production of their commercial node at University Avenue and 13th Avenue. The West Broadway Business & Area Coalition received \$38,300 for coordinating street cleaning, community clean-up events, Adopt-A-Block, and Winter Carnival. Congratulations to our Sheridan and the West Broadway businesses for their success in receiving the grants!

City Introduces New Tiered Rental Housing Inspections

In April, the City of Minneapolis will roll out a new approach to rental license inspections. The tiered approach is in-

tended to conserve City resources by focusing efforts on properties with excessive nuisance conditions, excessive housing code violations, history of non-compliance and excessive police calls.

More information is available at: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/2011-meetings/20110310/Docs/Tiered-Inspections-PPT.pdf>

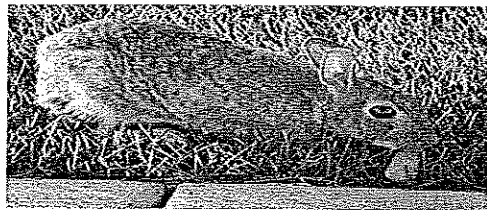
Our community thrives when you are involved!

Please join us, and be a part of our community forum at our next CARE (Community And Resource Exchange) meeting,

Wednesday, **April 20th**, 7:00 PM at the Center for Families, 3333 4th Street North, Minneapolis.

April's meeting will focus on mortgage foreclosures in our ward, along with reports from our partners.

Thanks to every one for being such a vital part of our community!



Phone Numbers and Websites

S.A.F.E. Crime Prevention Specialist
2nd Precinct—Nick Juarez, 612-673-2797

City of Minneapolis Information Number—311

Third Ward Council Member Diane Hofstede: 612-673-2203,
diane.hofstede@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

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

Block Club Training and Information—612-673-3204



Decreased Funding For Neighborhood Empowerment

On December 13, 2010, the Minneapolis City Council, with the support and at the urging of Mayor R.T. Rybak, adopted staff directions for the 2011 Budget that reduced neighborhood access to their Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan allocations from the 100 percent adopted by the Council on June 18, 2010 to 50 percent. Although more than one-third of the residents who spoke at the final public hearing on the budget opposed this action, only Council Members Gordon, Hofstede, Lilligren and Reich voted against restriction. As a result, 39 of the 72 neighborhood organizations receiving NRP funds no longer have access to any of their Phase II NRP dollars to improve their neighborhoods and the remaining neighborhoods will only be able to access 50 percent of their Phase II allocations. It was repeatedly pointed out by testifiers at the City Council hearing, and acknowledged by Ways and Means Committee Chair Betsy Hodges, that the actions relating to NRP had no impact on the 2011 property tax levy. The

arguments had no impact.

The action taken by the Council was taken without any prior consultation or discussion with neighborhood organizations, the NRP Policy Board or NRP staff, or elected officials from the City's legislative delegation. The process used by the City to take this action violates every one of the seven Core Principles of Community.

Engagement that the City Council and Mayor adopted with much fanfare in December 2007.

The NRP Policy Board did not agree with the action taken by the City and directed its staff to develop a legislative proposal that would clarify the NRP statute and ensure that funds allocated for the improvement of neighborhoods could be used for those purposes. The City appears to believe that it has the authority, under current law, to freeze the NRP funding allocations to neighborhoods and reduce the amounts previously committed to residents and

taxpayers.

Some neighborhood leaders, meanwhile, began assessing the possibility of suing the City to remove its contracting freeze. A number of neighborhood leaders have already expressed support for such a suit with resolutions and contributions of private (non-NRP, non-city) dollars for the legal costs that will occur if a suit is pursued. At this time, the neighborhoods appear to favor pursuing the legislative option first, with a suit as a backup action. The support and fundraising activity will probably continue to ensure that a suit can be pursued quickly if the legislative option is unsuccessful.

The NRP Policy Board is continuing its efforts to ensure that investments in neighborhood improvement occur and that the taxpayers of the city benefit from the creation of stable neighborhoods and increased tax base. This is a quickly changing environment so stay tuned to the news, the media and legislative websites, as the legislature is asked to act and the drama at City Hall continues.



March is Foodshare month! East Side Neighborhood Services is ac-

cepting food or cash donations at our three food shelf locations; ESNS 612.781.6011; Glendale, 612.342.1954; and the Senior Food Shelf, 612.788.9521. Call for more information about how you can donate during Foodshare Month!

ESNS provides free Individualized Computer & Internet training for adults 55+, Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m.-noon. Call 612.781.6011 for more information.

ESNS is hosting free blood pressure checks, provided by Neighborhood Health Source free for the community on the fourth Tuesday of each month,

from 11-noon. No appointment needed!

ESNS Youth Work Readiness Program provides youth with job guidance. Call 612.787.4043 for more information.

It's time for Summer Camp! Call 612.787.4030 for more information about Camp Bovey, ESNS' Residential Youth Summer Camp.

Jenna Anderson—Public Relations Specialist

April Network – Thursday, April 14 -

Northeast Neighborhoods in the Next Phase: Engaging, Planning, and Funding the Future

May Network – Thursday, May 12 – **Water Quality**

More information located to the right.

Join us for the
Northeast Network

This monthly breakfast meeting features conversation between Northeast Minneapolis organizations, businesses, educators, elected officials, police, art collectives, and various groups in the faith community.
 Sponsored by the Eastside Food Co-op.

Held Every 2nd Thursday of the month
7:30a.m. to 8:45a.m.

Learn what others in Northeast are up to, and have a chance to share what's on your mind!

Eastside Food Co-op Meeting Room,
 2551 Central Ave. NE
 (Enter through the southwest door)

Continental breakfast courtesy of the Eastside Food Co-op
 R.S.V.P. to board@eastsidefoodcoop

EASTSIDE FOOD CO-OP



Second Precinct

By Nick Juarez

St. Anthony West has started 2011 with some good news and some bad news. First, the good news: Overall, Part 1 crimes are down .79%; now the bad news: a month to month comparison has shown that St. Anthony West

has had an increase in Part 1 crimes by +4 in January and February. Theft from motor vehicle has driven these numbers over the last couple of months. As a reminder, remove all valuables from your vehicles; take down your GPS as well as the mounting bracket; remove bags, laptops, recent purchases and lock your doors.

Call 911 when you witness suspicious people or activity. Continue to build on the communication network and encourage residents to communicate with each other and share information. More eyes and communication in the neighborhood will help reduce the opportunity for crime.

Spring Plant Sale!

Eastside Food Co-op

2551 Central Avenue NE

Minneapolis, MN 55418

Saturday, May 7 through Friday

June 3

Weekend Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Weekday Hours: (self-service)

10 a.m.-7 p.m.

A Wide Selection of Plants will be available in our new Greenhouse!

Early plants: cold-hardy berries, vegetables, herbs, annuals, perennials and baskets.

Potting Soil, Organic Compost, Straw Bales!

Featuring:

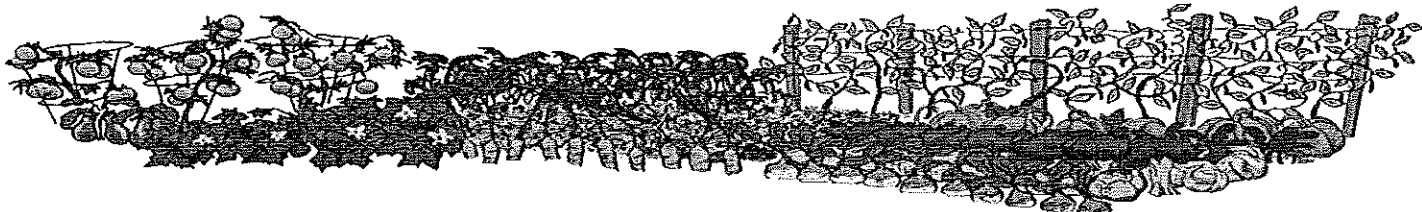
• Beets • Blueberries • Borage • Broccoli and Cauliflower Romanesco • Epazote (Mexican tea) • Herbs — Basil, Cilantro, Dill, Oregano, Parsley and Rosemary • Heirloom Tomatoes • Hybrid Tomatoes • Kiwi Vines •

Lemon Grass • Rhubarb • Roma Tomatoes • Strawberries • Sweet Red Peppers • Thai peppers

Native Plants, including

• Indian Paint Brush • Merrybells/ Large-flowered Bellwort • Pennsylvania Sedge • Side-Oats Grama • Partridge Pea • Prairie Clovers • Milkweeds • Pasque flower • Prairie smoke • Pussytoes • Trillium • Woodland Sunflower • Yarrow • Yellow-Vine Honeysuckle

For more information on the plant sale, check out the EFC website: www.eastsidefood.coop.



Tips for Spring Lawn Care

By Joyce Vincent

Even if the weather is still a bit chilly, it's time to start thinking about giving your lawn a little TLC.

"Spring lawns require extra care following chilly winter temperatures and dormant growth," said John Buechner, horticulture expert. "Fertilization, weed and pest control combined with proper mowing will stop problems before they start and keep your lawn looking its best."

If you'd rather take a more organic approach to lawn care, here are some tips to keep in mind:

Fertilization: Spring is a crucial time to

fertilize because it replenishes the food reserves your yard draws from while dormant in the winter and fuels the rapid-growth phase of grass. If you haven't been composting, there are lots of packaged organic fertilizers on the market, but please read the label.

Weed control: Apply a pre-emergent weed-killer on lawns to prevent grassy weeds from germinating. Spring broad-leaf weeds like dandelions, clovers and plantains, are best prevented by maintaining a proper mowing height and fertilization. Never use chemical weed killers! Check out natural and effective options like Burn Out (made from clove oil, vinegar and lemon juice) instead.

Pest control/Disease repair: Properly

timed fertilizer application and mowing at the recommended height for your grass type are two items that will aid in the recovery of your lawn.

Mowing: Contrary to popular belief, setting your mower at a very low height can actually increase weeds by exposing the soil surface to sunlight and removing stored nutrients in leaf blades. Cool weather grasses, such as bluegrass, ryegrass and fescues, should maintain a height of 2.5 to 3.5 inches. Warm-season grasses, like Bermuda, zoysia, St. Augustine and centipede, should be kept at 1.5 to 2.5 inches tall. Also, think about skipping the loud, carbon-intensive, gas-powered mower for an electric or human-powered alternative.



Improvements at Boom Island and B.F. Nelson Park

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board approved a contract in March that will spur changes, many of them within the next few months.

The 2 million dollars in improvements comes as the park district eyes long-term redevelopment along the Mississippi River and seeks to alleviate growing recreational pressure on popular parks elsewhere in the city.

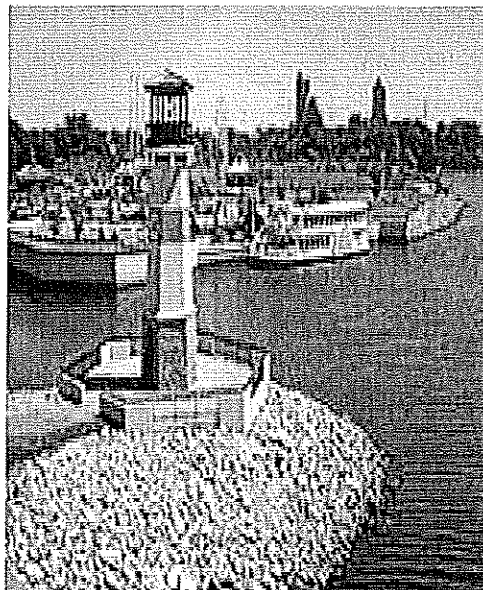
About \$1 million of the rehab funds will come from the Legacy Act, sales tax money approved by voters in 2008 that's dedicated, in part, to parks and trails. The rest of the money comes from the Metropolitan Council, which helps to fund regional park acquisition and development.

Boom Island/B.F. Nelson, which the park system acquired in the mid-1980s, includes picnic shelters, trails, children's playground, boat launch, promenade near the river and an excursion dock used by a commercial paddlewheel company.

However, the park is flat and open,

and its trees have not thrived in the poor soil along the river. Its restrooms don't meet federal standards for people with disabilities, and the boat launch needs to be dredged.

Rehabilitation and landscaping will fix many of those problems, said Liz Wielinski, park board commissioner who represents the area.



Independent of that effort, which has been in the works for three years, the park board hired a design firm to work on development along the larger stretch of riverfront between the Stone Arch Bridge and the city's northern boundary. Wielinski said that group may propose additional Boom Island changes in the future.

Improvements planned include two paved entrances to the park -- one for cars and one for bikes and pedestrians -- and a small parking lot. Funds also will be spent to light the trails and develop a plaza, bike rack and drinking fountain around the Pioneers Monument, which overlooks the river.

Jayne Miller, newly appointed superintendent of the Minneapolis park system, calls Boom Island/ B.F. Nelson Park an incredible investment and opportunity to add the St. Anthony's West Neighborhoods riverfront as an attractive complement to our city's currently renowned Chain of Lakes landmark.

Article condensed from a recent Tim Meersman Star Tribune column.

STAWNO Home Improvement Programs Administration Moves to New Location

The Housing Resource Center -- Northeast has consolidated with the Housing Resource Center -- North, located at 2140 44th Avenue North (corner of Penn). The phone number

is (612) 588 - 3033. Feel free to stop in at this new location or to call for information about the STAWNO Home Improvement Program.

Former Northeast staff, Samantha Larson, Program Representative and Bob Schmotter, Construction Manager, have transferred to the North office. They, and any of the Housing Resource Center staff, will be happy to help you. A complete staff roster follows:

Jenny Camacho
Program Administrator

Samantha Larson
Program Representative

Jodi Stuck
Program Representative

Bob Schmotter
Construction Manager

Janet Lauseng
Construction Manager

Denise Eloundou, the former Northeast Program Administrator, now holds this position at the Housing Resource Center -- South, located on Cedar Avenue.

St. Anthony's West Neighborhood Organization experienced a very successful 2010, involving residents in more than \$100,000 in New Revolving Loans, while continuing to make NRP funding available to all qualified STAWNO home owners.

