



Ward One News

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Message from Council Member Kevin Reich

I am very pleased to announce that on April 29 the Community Development & Regulatory Services Committee approved the sale of the Hollywood Theater property to Andrew Volna. This is one of the last steps in a very long process to preserve this Northeast Minneapolis historic treasure.

To provide background, the Hollywood Theater began operation as a movie theater in 1935. It has been vacant since it closed its doors in 1987. In 1990 it was designated a local historic landmark. The City acquired the property in 1993 and pursued multiple development schemes. Recent strategies included interactive events and marketing to raise the building's profile. This process included opening the theater to professional stage productions by Theatre Pro Rata ("Waiting for Godot") and Savage Umbrella ("The Ravagers") in 2011. The Hollywood was also the site of several fashion and photography shoots and was featured in the short film "Golden Hour" and an episode of MN Original on Mason Jennings. Free media "hits" and press coverage, as well as public buzz creation from visitors, enhanced the traditional real estate marketing.

In 2012 local developer Andrew Volna was granted exclusive development rights to explore a development plan. Working with Preservation Design Works, Volna secured the listing of the property on the National Register of Historic Places, engaged with the community, and refined a development plan. He and his team intend to seek an anchor commercial tenant after completing \$500,000 worth of exterior renovations to restore the façade, marquee, outer lobby and ticket booth and make other improvements that will respect the historic features of the building.

Volna has a solid track record of creatively renovating older commercial buildings on the Eastside. He also founded Noiseland Industries, a boutique LP and CD manufacturer located in Northeast Minneapolis. He has done an admirable job of engaging with the community on his plans and aspirations for the Hollywood and the Audubon Neighborhood Association is in support of the project. He brings to this project a real plan that is not just based on desire, but also ability. This development is a positive step forward in preserving a significant aspect of Eastside history.

First Ward

Neighborhood Associations

[Audubon Neighborhood Association \(ANA\)](#)

[Columbia Park Neighborhood Association \(CPNA\)](#)

[Holland Neighborhood Improvement Association \(HNIA\)](#)

[Logan Park Neighborhood Association \(LPNA\)](#)

[Concerned Citizens of Marshall Terrace \(CCMT\)](#)

[Mid-City Industrial Neighborhood Association](#)

[Northeast Park Neighborhood Association \(NEPNA\)](#)

[Southeast Como Improvement Association \(SECIA\)](#)

[Waite Park Community Council \(WPCC\)](#)

[Windom Park Citizens in Action \(WPCiA\)](#)

Central Avenue Closure Information

On Monday, May 19, Central Avenue between 14th and 18th Avenues NE will be closed to through traffic and pedestrians for the replacement of the Hwy 65 Railroad Bridge. This stretch will remain closed until this fall. Access to businesses along Central Avenue will be maintained throughout construction. The City of Minneapolis' Traffic Department is currently working with MN DOT and representatives of the Central Avenue Closure Committee on appropriate signage that will make it clear that local businesses are open and accessible.

19th Annual Art-A-Whirl May 16 - 18

The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District's signature event is coming the third week in May. This is the largest open studio tour in the country and this year it will feature more than 500 artists working in over 20 different mediums at more than 60 locations. It's large enough that you really need a map – which you can find, along with lots of other helpful information, at <http://nema.org/art-a-whirl>.

The hours for this year's Art-A-Whirl:

Friday, May 16, 5 – 10 p.m.

Saturday, May 17, noon – 8 p.m.

Sunday, May 18, noon – 5 p.m.

Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association (NEMAA) has a partnership with Metro Transit to offer free transit passes to Art-A-Whirl. Once you arrive, a trolley can transport you from studio to studio.

Minneapolis Bike Week - May 4 - 11

Minneapolis Bike Week is a weeklong series of events and activities from May 4 through May 11 promoting all types of biking, with a focus on encouraging those who do not normally ride to give it a try. There will be group rides, classes, commuter pit stops, free breakfasts, celebrations and more. Check out www.mpls bikeweek.org for more information.

One highlight of Bike Week will be the **Bike to Local Businesses Day Block Party** being sponsored by **Recovery Bike Shop on Saturday, May 10, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.** at the intersection of Lowry and Central.

Bike to Work with your Council Members - May 8

As part of the Bike to Work Day celebration, join **1st Ward Council Member Kevin Reich** and **3rd Ward Council Member Jacob Frey** for a bike ride through Northeast and Southeast neighborhoods to downtown Minneapolis. Riders will meet at the Nice Ride station at Central Avenue and 22nd Avenue NE at 7 a.m. on Thursday, May 8, and then proceed via 22nd Ave and 5th Street to Webster School. From there, the ride will continue on 5th Street, cross into Southeast and then wend its way across the Stone Arch Bridge. The final destination will be the North Plaza of the Hennepin County Government Center, where those who wish may participate in a celebration that includes food, music, free bike repair and a bicycle resource fair. Even if you don't stay for the festivities, all are welcome to join the Council Members on the ride.



Many 311 services are now available online or through mobile apps. Click [HERE](#) to find out how to report.

School Spotlight: Pillsbury Pedal Power

Pillsbury School staff and students came down to City Hall in April to receive a “Local Hero” award for their innovative activity program: Pillsbury Pedal Power. They were also commended by the Minneapolis School Board earlier that month. Click [HERE](#) to read more details about this program in the First Ward April Newsletter.



School Spotlight: Edison Scholarship Winner

Edison senior Lisa Dhanesri (pictured with CM Reich at Hotdish Revolution) is the recipient of three college scholarships, the City of Minneapolis St. Thomas scholarship, as well as two Wallin scholarships, and is a finalist for the Gates scholarship. In addition to her outstanding academic record in her four years at Edison, Lisa has been involved in Junior Achievement, the Edison Voyager program, College Possible, the National Honor Society and 2014 Leadership. She has done internships through Step Up and the



Photo: Shannon McDonough

Minnesota Department of Human Services (MDHS).

She plans to major in English at St. Thomas and then attend law school. Her long-term goal is to focus on child advocacy law. “In this area of law, I would get to interact with young children and youths in order to help them,” she explained. “I want to run and operate a big chain of law firms and I want to tutor young kids who want to be lawyers when they grow up.”

Edison Junior Achievement Places 1st at JA Regionals

Four Edison Junior Achievement officers – Ramon Angeles, Lisa Dhanesri, Precious Drew and Pa Lor – came in first place in the Junior Achievement of the Upper Midwest Company of the Year program. For their project, they designed Edison scarves and created a marketing strategy to raise money for three non-profit organizations. This project aligns with the business curriculum in Edison’s Business classes, Entrepreneurship class and Voyager Leadership program, offering real-world experience. The Junior Achievement team will now be submitting their business plan and video for the National competition held in Washington, DC in June.

Edison’s Junior Achievement program students took 4th place in the nation in 2010 and in 2012 they were 1st place regional winners and in the top 15 at the national competition. Edison Business teacher and Career Experience Coordinator Shirley Poelstra also received the 2010 Junior Achievement Teacher of the Year Award. Edison’s business program is considered an elite program and is exclusively recognized as a partner to the Twin Cities Chamber of Commerce and its member businesses.

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 612-673-2201.

CenterPoint Energy Construction Alerts

Curious about a CenterPoint Energy pipeline project in your neighborhood or near your business? Not only does CenterPoint now have a comprehensive website overview, they have also added email and text message construction alerts. Simply visit www.centerpointenergy.com/construction to see the latest updates on a variety of projects and also to sign up for email and/or text alerts on any projects that may be of interest to you or your community.

Save the Date Calendar:

Audubon Park Spring WingDing

Saturday, May 3, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., Audubon Park, 29th Ave and Buchanan St NE. Enjoy games, exhibits, food and entertainment. Bring your own water bottle and receive a free food or game ticket.

NE Network

Thursday, May 8, 7:30 a.m., Eastside Food Co-op, 2551 Central Ave NE. Diane Lucas from Catholic Eldercare and Christina Kendrick, City of Minneapolis Senior Community Specialist, will give presentations on this month's topic, "Aging in Place".

NE Library Art Celebration

Saturday, May 10, 1 p.m., 2200 Central Ave NE. A 40X4 foot digitally printed photographic frieze that displays the artwork of many artists of the NE Arts District has been installed at the library. This event will celebrate that installation and allow the public to meet the artists and create individual mini friezes.

2nd Precinct Open House

Monday, May 12, 4 – 7 p.m., 1911 Central Avenue NE. Come visit with Officers and see displays from the 2nd Precinct, K-9, Mounted Patrol, Bomb Unit, Minneapolis Emergency Communications Center (Dispatch), SWAT, Crime Prevention Specialists and Animal Control. This family-friendly event will include a drawing for 6 kids' bikes.

St. Anthony Parkway Bridge Open House

Thursday, May 22, 6 – 8 p.m., RiverVillage East, 2919 Randolph St. NE. This will be the final public open house prior to the start of construction. For further information about this project, please visit <http://stapbridge.com/>.

Lowry Avenue Northeast Public Workshop

Wednesday, June 11, 6 p.m., MWMO, 2522 Marshall St. NE. The second in a series of three public workshops, this session will focus on ideas for circulation improvements and redevelopment scenarios that could enhance the six study intersections areas.