



Minneapolis Connects



Minneapolis Neighborhood & Community Relations

Call 311 or visit www.minneapolismn.gov

If you need this material translated or in an alternative format, please call 673-2162.

November 2013

Upcoming Events

- **11/1:** Powderhorn Empty Bowls
- **11/2:** Baile de la Calaveras - Day of the Dead Concert
- **11/3:** Longfellow Chili Cook Off
- **11/5:** Election Day
- **11/6 – 11/7, 11/14:** Central Mississippi Riverfront Regional Park Master Plan charrettes and open house
- **11/9:** A Night on 48th Street
- **11/9:** CityCamp MN
- **11/11:** Sheridan Veterans Memorial Dedication Ceremony
- **11/13:** Access to Employment: Connecting Refugees to the Labour Market – free webinar
- **11/14:** City and Neighborhood Film Festival
- **11/15:** African Community Appreciation & Awards Dinner
- **11/25:** 8th annual Harvest Gathering

Additional events and details can be found online:

www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/calendar

Minneapolis residents complete the 2013 City Academy

Finishing its second year, the Minneapolis City Academy had over 30 residents participate in the program. This is nearly double from the start of the program in 2012. The City Academy was held weekly from September 18th through October 16th at locations throughout Minneapolis. Each session focused on one aspect of City government such as public safety, public works, planning and development and fire services.



One of the highlights of the Academy was the visit to the Water Treatment Facility. Participants got to tour the facility and see how Minneapolis' tap water is treated.

Next year's City Academy will be held in the fall. Applications will be accepted starting mid-July. For further questions regarding the City Academy, please contact Howard Blin, Howard.Blin@minneapolismn.gov or 612-673-3163.

Over 80 visitors stopped by the NCR Open House on October 24th



Neighborhood leaders, community leaders and organizations, residents and City staff joined the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department on Thursday, October 24th for the Department's open house.

After three years in the Tri Tech Center and six month in temporary quarters in the Public Service Center,

NCR moved to our permanent location at the Crown Roller Mill on June 17. This new location allows us to be closer to our CPED partners. We also hope that the location will offer neighborhood and community organizations easier access to NCR resources.

Attendees were able to chat with NCR employees, visit interactive displays and hear presentations from guest speakers covering the Holland Green Campus, Lyndale neighborhood's Latino and Somali Leadership Program and the Native American Somali Friendship Committee.

To view photos from the event, please visit: <http://tinyurl.com/NCROpenHouse>.

Community Spotlight: Ka joog



The Ka joog Organization was created in 2008 by a group of young Somali Leaders in Minneapolis. Ka Joog's mission is to offer meaningful activities for Somali youth in Minnesota aimed at preparing them for their future and higher education. Ka Joog offers a wide range of programs that target the youngest of the Somali Community. The programs range from workshops, field trips, tutoring and mentoring, to a program called "Invisible Art" that fosters discussions through prose, art, poetry and song, nurturing creativity and effective communication.

On Friday, October 25th, Kajoog received an award from Keith Ellison, U.S. Representative for Minnesota's 5th congressional district for its contributions to the Somali community of Minnesota through art, education, and civic engagement.

To learn more about the work of Ka Joog, visit: www.kajoog.org.

Follow the City's 2014 budget process, have your voice heard

As part of the City Council's process of considering Mayor R.T. Rybak's recommended 2014 budget for the City of Minneapolis, Council Members will hold two public meetings before the final budget is approved:

Public hearing on tax levy and 2014 City budget

Nov. 19 at 6:05 p.m.

Room 317 of City Hall
350 South 5th Street

Dec. 11 at 6:05 p.m.

Room 317 of City Hall
350 South 5th Street

Watch rebroadcasts of budget hearings

The City Council held a series of budget hearings to discuss the proposed 2014 budget. You can watch back-to-back rebroadcasts of all those budget hearings on Minneapolis 79 every weekend until a few days before the budget is approved on Dec. 11. This gives folks 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. You can also watch any of the budget hearings online at www.minneapolismn.gov/tv/79.

More information on the 2014 budget process is available on the City's website:

- For the Mayor's recommended budget, go to www.minneapolismn.gov/finance and click on "2014 Mayor Recommended Budget."
- For the complete budget process, go to www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/budget

Neighborhood Stories: Increasing Accessibility for Disabled Residents through Art and Nature

In 2012, the Lind Bohannon Neighborhood Association (LBNA) received its second grant of \$10,000 from CURA at the University of MN for Empowering the Underrepresented. LBNA is also using an additional \$10,000 NRP funds and some funds to help continue this important work. This second grant was designed to increase access for this disabled residents and seniors to nature and the river through the arts.

In total and to date, this dedicated local community transportation system has transported 1014 residents on 106 trips including 75 shopping trips, 16 special outings, 7 community outings and 37 art classes. This project led to two new ADA curb cuts in 2012 and improvements at the river to help with accessibility.



Excerpted from the Lind-Bohanon Neighborhood Association's 2012 Community Participation Program Annual Report.

What Minneapolis Voters should expect on and after November 5th



On November 5th, Minneapolis voters will head to the polls for the 2013 municipal election. Because city elections in Minneapolis use ranked-choice voting, it's important for voters to know what to expect on Election Day and in the following days. This election is the second time Minneapolis has used ranked-choice voting—the first was in the 2009 municipal election.

Casting a ballot

When voters show up to the polls Nov. 5, they'll see the same setup they're used to finding at the polls, but ranked-choice voting means this year's ballot will have three columns. Just like any other election year, voters will vote by filling in ovals on a paper ballot. But instead of marking one candidate in each race, voters will be able to rank up to three candidates, using those three columns.

This year, voters will be able to rank their choices for mayor, City Council members, Board of Estimate & Taxation members, and Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board commissioners. The ballot also includes two city questions, which are proposed amendments to the City charter.

Instructions on how to cast a ranked-choice voting ballot will be given to each voter upon arrival at the polling place, and election judges will explain ranked-choice voting to voters as they pick up their ballots. Signage in the polling place will also help make sure voters understand how to mark a ballot.

Getting election results

New voting equipment will make the tabulation of election results much faster than in the 2009 municipal election. However, because ranked-choice voting requires a special tabulation process, not all final results will be known on election night. In races where there is no winner in the first round of counting, those results will be tabulated in the days following the election.

As each round of counting in each race is completed, those results will be posted in several places:

- On the City's elections website at vote.minneapolismn.gov
- Minneapolis Elections and Voter Services Facebook: www.facebook.com/votempls
- Minneapolis Elections and Voter Services Twitter: www.twitter.com/votempls
- In the City Hall Rotunda at 350 S. Fifth St.

Although it is not possible to know exactly how long the tabulation will take for the races that do not have winners on election night, elections officials plan to complete tabulation and declare a winner in the mayor's race on Wednesday, Nov. 6. Tabulation for all races is planned to be complete by Friday, Nov. 8. Here is the order in which the tabulation will be done, starting Nov. 6:

- Mayor
- City Council (wards in this order: 8, 11, 3, 13, 9, 5, 7, 6, 10, 12, 2, 4, 1)
- Board of Estimate and Taxation
- Park and Recreation Board at-large
- Park and Recreation Board (districts in this order: 2, 4, 5, 1, 3, 6)

Note that the two ballot questions (in which voters vote yes or no) does not use ranked-choice voting and will not need to be tabulated in this way. For all election related questions call 311 or visit vote.minneapolismn.gov.

Finish your yard cleanup soon: last yard waste pickup of season is week of Nov. 18

Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling customers can set out yard waste in compostable bags, reusable containers or bundles tied with string through garbage day in the week of Nov. 18. For pickup, place prepared yard waste at your collection point next to the garbage cart by 6 a.m. Yard waste is prohibited from all City-provided containers.

Questions about leaf and brush pickup? Call 612-673-2917 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or visit www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/yardwaste.

Minneapolis' Homeowner Navigation Program sees successful first months

This past June, the Neighborhood and Community Relations and Regulatory Services Departments teamed up to help homeowners who are elderly, disabled, or low-income to address housing violations on their properties and bring these properties up to code.

This program was created to develop ways the City enforcement system can better address the complex issues that come up when property owners are not able to resolve their housing violations on their own. They will also assist property owners who need help addressing code violations, so those folks can remain living in their homes. The goal is that code enforcement will not be a hardship, but a solution for resolving the problems with their property.

In just a few short months the program has already seen successes. Program statistics from June 17th to October 21st include:

- **Total Cases = 32 (24 Open & 8 Resolved):**
 - June—2, July—16, August—8, September—5, October—1
- **Homeowners = 33**
 - Seniors (65 years or older)—14, Disabled (Physically or Mentally)—15, Low Income—14
- **Types of Violations**
 - Multiple Major Exterior—19, Clutter Houses—5, Painting—7, Life Safety—3
- **Resource Agencies & Departments Who Have Assisted Homeowners**
 - Caring Souls, Metro Paint-A-Thon, Neighborhood Involvement Program (NIP), Chore Girl Services, Code Construction Services, Minneapolis Fire Department

If residents need help in their home regarding repairs or chore services they should call 311 and they'll be connected to local groups and nonprofits that provide support.

Did you know? Hajj:

Hajj is an Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, it is the largest gathering of the Muslim people in the world and is one of the greatest achievements that could be accomplished in the Muslim culture. Hajj occurs on the 12th month of the Islamic calendar, which is a lunar calendar and 11 days shorter than the calendar used in the western world, the date changes from year to year. This year Hajj was held in October.

City establishes new youth cabinet

The Minneapolis City Council approved a resolution establishing a new youth cabinet that will help identify and incorporate the needs of youth and families into the work of all City departments.

The Youth Cabinet will include representatives from many City departments and will work to incorporate youth and children in departments' goals, business planning and work while also identifying and fostering opportunities for engaging neighborhood and community partners in supporting youth and families.

Membership of the Cabinet will include at least one representative each from the City Coordinator's Office, Health Department, Police Department, Civil Rights Department, Public Works Department, Neighborhood and Community Relations Department, Community Planning and Economic Development Department, as well as one City Council Member appointed by the Council President and one member from the Mayor's office appointed by the Mayor.

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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.