



11th Ward News
by Council Member
John Quincy



Dear HPDL Neighbors – Thank you for this opportunity to provide news on city issues in Minneapolis. I am privileged to have been elected to represent the 11th Ward on the Minneapolis City Council. I want to help make Minneapolis a great place to live, work and raise families – *today and tomorrow*. I am excited about the opportunity to represent our community.

These are challenging economic times – but facing tough budget decisions is our shared reality. The City Council has approved the 2010 city budget that maintains the City’s commitment to economic recovery and public safety, while reducing spending by more than \$100 million. For details, please visit the City’s Web site, in the Finance Department pages, located at: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/finance.

As this is winter in Minneapolis, residents are reminded of the need to keep their sidewalks clear. Minneapolis ordinance requires that property owners clear sidewalks after a snowfall within 24 hours for houses and duplexes and four daytime hours for apartment and commercial buildings. For your own benefit and to help your neighbors who are walking, pushing strollers and using wheelchairs please do your part. Folks should also be mindful to clear a path three feet wide from their garbage cart

and recycling bin to the alley or street and make sure that the cart and bin can be moved freely.

For more information, call 673-3004. If you notice any sidewalks in your area that are in need of attention please report them to 311 or my office.

I am always available to answer your questions at 612-673-2211 and would enjoy meeting with you. If you would like to receive the 11th Ward Monthly E-News, please send me an e-mail at John.Quincy@ci.minneapolis.mn.us. Beginning in February, I will also hold weekly and monthly community events.

- Community Hours: *Wednesday Mornings in the Ward* – This is a great time for me to meet with residents and businesses in a locale that is convenient for them. Call the office to set up an appointment.
- More Community Hours: *Second Saturdays* – I will join Rep. Jean Wagenius at her Second Saturday event from 9-11 AM at Mayflower Church (106 E. Diamond Lake Rd.). Come and meet with both your City and State Representatives.
- Happy Hours: *Last Call* – Join me from 5:30-6:30 PM on the last Friday of each month as I sample brews at either First Course (5607 Chicago Ave) on even months or Kings (4555 Grand Ave) on odd months. Conversation is free; drinks are on you.
- Coffee Hours: *Community Coffee Hours* – I’ll be rotating coffee shops throughout the Ward on the third Wednesday of each month from 8-9 AM. See our newsletter or call the office (612-673-2211) for the schedule.

Hope to see you soon! —John

... in the news

Hale, Page & Diamond Lake Community Association

Vol. 19, Issue 2

Spring 2010



PIRC Receives Twins Grant

The Minnesota Twins Community Fund awarded a \$5,000 *Fields For Kids* matching grant to the Pearl Improvement and Recreation Council (PIRC) last summer for the installation of an in-ground irrigation system on Pearl Baseball Diamond #1. The system was installed upon completion of the 2009 baseball season but its full benefits won’t be visible until summer 2010.

The addition of in-ground irrigation will promote the formation of more healthy turf, preventing the growth of dandelions, plantains and other weeds which frequently take over non-irrigated fields. More importantly it will provide a safer and more enjoyable playing experience for youth, no longer having to fall on a concrete-like surface.

Last summer over 450 neighborhood boys and girls on 37 teams participated in youth baseball and softball programs at Pearl Park, cosponsored by PIRC. Younger children play in the in-house leagues, while older players compete against other parks in the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board leagues.

PIRC is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to providing recreational activities for the youth of the Pearl Park area and to improving the facilities at Pearl Park. In addition to the continuous upgrading of baseball and softball fields, PIRC also funded a two-year project to irrigate all four soccer fields at the north end of Pearl.

Look for very green Pearl fields this coming summer, courtesy of PIRC and the Minnesota Twins!

Spring Clean-a-thon Is Just Around the Corner

Although Winter is just beginning to tighten its icy grip on the state, it's not too early to start thinking about warmer days ahead—and, in particular, Nokomis Healthy Seniors' 2010 Spring Clean-a-thon! This year's Clean-a-thon, the program's eighth, will be held on Saturday, April 24, 2010.

For those who are new to the area or are otherwise unfamiliar with the concept, the annual Clean-a-thon is one of Nokomis Healthy Seniors' two main fund-raising events. The Clean-a-thon is truly a community event. Teams have been made up of NHS board members, staff, and volunteers, their friends and family members, church youth groups, and even local politicians. Local businesses support the event through monetary sponsorships and by donating cleaning supplies, food for hungry team members and other items.

Each Spring "clean teams" made up of three to five volunteers spend a Saturday morning cleaning the home of a senior in the community who has requested cleaning assistance. Team members raise money for NHS by collecting pledges from sponsors. Seniors benefit by receiving a thorough cleaning of hard-to-reach places in their homes. In addition, some seniors have team members do yard work or other household chores that would be difficult for them to do.

Since its inception in 2003, when two teams, the "Dust Bunnies" and "Clean Sweep," cleaned two homes, the Clean-a-thon has grown every year, both in the number of volunteer cleaners and in the number of seniors assisted. In 2008, for example, 14 teams cleaned 12 houses and raised more than \$2,500.00 for Nokomis Healthy Seniors. Each year, teams engage in a friendly competition for various trophies that might be awarded, including the Bronze Broom, the Silver Dust Pan, and the coveted Golden Plunger, an ordinary toilet bowl plunger that has been transformed with the help of gold spray paint into a trophy worthy of the Oscars!

In addition to breakfast treats before the event and pizza afterwards, team members enjoy the camaraderie of working together, the satisfaction of helping others, and the privilege of getting to know some of our neighborhood's seniors, many of whom share stories (or even delicious home-baked goodies!) with the teams.

If you are a senior who would like assistance with a cleaning project this Spring, please contact the Nokomis Healthy Seniors office at (612) 729-5499. Prior to the Clean-a-thon, someone from NHS will meet with homeowners who are interested in participating in the event to explain the process and discuss particular tasks that might be done. Also, please contact the NHS office if you are interested in volunteering on a clean team.

Friends Of Diamond Lake Annual Meeting

Friends of Diamond Lake invites all residents of the community to our annual meeting. We will be highlighting our Go Blue Community Make-over Diamond Lake initiative in cooperation with Hedberg Landscaping. Learn more about our efforts to decrease storm water runoff by supporting installation of rain barrels, rain gardens and pervious pavers. Join us Wednesday, April 28 at Pearl Park from 7-8:30 PM.



Pearl Park Spring Sports Registration
Thursday, March 11 and
Tuesday, March 16
6:30 – 8:00 PM
Register for baseball, softball and track. Birth date verification is required.
More detailed information will be at the park in late February.



Earth Day 2010

Tired of the cold weather? Gray skies got you down? Spring is closer than you think—and that means the annual City-

wide Earth Day clean up and celebration events! Remember to mark your calendars for the 2010 Earth Day activities! This year's event will take place on Saturday, April 17. Green-minded helpers of all ages are encouraged to attend! Those interested in volunteering should plan to arrive at Pearl Park beginning at 9:30 AM for registration, coffee and treats.

Participants will help pick up debris and trash at a variety of neighborhood locations in the morning, and then return to Pearl Park for refreshments at noon. Activities will be available for children, and presenters will be on-site with information about area organizations and Earth Day partners. Please note that the event is weather-permitting, and that there is no make-up date. For more information or to find out how you can get involved please call the Hale Page Diamond Lake Community Association offices at (612) 824-7707 or check out the City's website at www.minneapolisearthday.com

From the Chair:

There have been many happenings since the New Year. We all have watched and some have experienced the earthquake catastrophe in Haiti of unprecedented proportions. Thousands of lives were lost and many still are at risk. Some of our local residents have been instrumental in helping in the cause. Our hearts and prayers go out to those who have endured personal injuries, loss of loved ones, and material hardships. Closer to home, there have been more cheerful activities taking place. We had another great Frost Fest and the board has been working diligently to backfill our Community Coordinator position. Lastly, Ward 11 has a new City Council representative (John Quincy) that the board will continue to work with and look to for information and direction from the city. If you are looking for an activity to volunteer your time, or share your personal stories of your involvement in Haiti, I would encourage you to contact us at hpdl@bitstream.net. We would love to hear from you. Happy Spring!

Nokomis Healthy Seniors is looking for a little help around the office. Perhaps you or someone you know would like to get involved. Any help would be appreciated, opportunities include:

- Marketing
- Website design
- Database design and updating
- Managing social networking sites such as Facebook or Twitter
- Writing press releases
- Advertising
- Writing articles or suggesting interesting article topics.

We are looking for people to volunteer even just a couple of hours a month. Please call the office or swing by to chat.

A Recipe for Cleaner Water in Diamond Lake

Partner together in late 2009:

- One community (Diamond Lake Watershed) with land owners seeking to do what they can on their properties to reduce storm water run-off ... *seeking skills and expertise*;
- One private company (Hedberg Landscape & Masonry supplies) with skills and expertise on state-of-the-art water best management practices ... *seeking a community*;
- A major Watershed District (MCWD) and Park Board staff (MPRB) with expertise ... *seeking engaged citizens in the watershed*;
- An established neighborhood group (HPDL), a non-profit citizens group (Friends of Diamond Lake), a church with long ties to the lake (Diamond Lake Lutheran), and several other groups ... *all supporting clean water*.

Mix well over the fall and winter.

By late spring 2010 you've got: **Go Blue Community Makeover Diamond Lake!**

A potential topping to this recipe is a grant from Minnesota's new Clean Water Land & Legacy funds. We'll hear in March whether we were awarded a grant to help support this project.

Over 50 households in the Diamond Lake Watershed have submitted interest forms so far for some combination of a rain barrel, rain garden, permeable paver driveway or walk, plantings, and/or a rain water capture & reuse system.

Every drop of rain we let filter through properties and then through the natural systems, which remove impurities, is one less drop with pollutants going into the storm water that goes directly into Diamond Lake.

To learn more about this exciting project go to friendsofdiamondlake.org ... Go Blue!



Low cost rain garden workshops offered

Register now for a workshop to learn how to design, plant and maintain a rain garden, a beautiful low-maintenance garden with native plants that will capture rainwater on your property to improve water quality in our lakes, rivers and streams. The workshops are offered by Metro Blooms, a nonprofit volunteer organization that promotes and celebrates gardening that protects and restores our water resources.

There are two separate workshops and participants pay \$10 per household (up to two members) for each of the workshops. Workshop attendees are also eligible for on-site consultation and rain-garden design opportunities with a landscape design assistant for \$50 each. Information about the two workshops, on-site consultation and on-site design opportunities, workshop dates and locations are available at metroblooms.org.

Space is limited. Register with a credit card at metroblooms.org, or send a \$10 check payable to Metro Blooms, PO Box 17099, Minneapolis, MN 55417. You may also call (651) 699-2426 to register over the phone.

Metro Blooms has offered rain garden workshops in Minneapolis since 2005 and is partnering with the City of Minneapolis and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District to offer low-cost rain garden workshops and design assistance once again in Minneapolis in 2010.



Here are some easy-to-access phone and on-line sources of police/crime information

Phone:

- In case of emergency--ALWAYS CALL 911
- Information at 3rd Precinct Office--612-673-5703
- Our HPDL Crime Prevention Specialist--Sue Roethele—612-673-2839

Internet:

For crime stats and maps:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-statistics/codefor/

For your first contact regarding crime issues in your area:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/outreach/docs/safe-staff-map.pdf

For a broad assortment of crime prevention tips:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crime-prevention/

To subscribe to Crime Alerts from the MPD:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crimealert/signup.asp

To find weekly MPD Highlights by bookmarking:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crimealert/highlights.asp

To know any "Chronic Offenders" in your area, Link to "CLEAN List/Court Watch info:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/3rd-precinct.asp

To leave on-line Officer Feedback:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/forms/mpd-citizen-report/

To contact our HPDL Crime Prevention Specialist Sue Roethele:

sue.roethele@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

You Make The Call

- Bus Ride Info..... 373-3333
- Humane Society.... (763)-522-4325
- Animal Control..... 311
- CCP/SAFE
- Spec. Sue Roethele.....673-2839
- Burned Out Streetlights311
- Airport Noise726-9411
- Graffiti311
- Pearl Park370-4906
- City Council Member:
- John Quincy ⁽¹¹⁾673-2211
- County Commissioners:
- Gail Dorfman ⁽³⁾348-7883
- Peter McLaughlin ⁽⁴⁾348-7884
- State Senator:
- Patricia Torres Ray ⁽⁶²⁾
.....(651) 296-4274
- State Representative:
- Jean Wagenius ^(62b) (651) 296-4200
- Minnesota Public Lobby .378-0285
- HPDL Office824-7707
-office@hpd.org
-www.hpd.org

HPDL Board:

- Deanna Boss
- Melanie Countryman
- Margaret Craig
- Josh Gravholt
- Molly McLain (Secretary)
- Michael Morris (Treasurer)
- Jason Pederson (Vice Chair)
- Lisa Robinson (Chair)
- Angie Timmons

HPDL Staff:

Judy Cooper Lyle

HPDL publishes this newsletter quarterly and distributes it to the Hale, Page and Diamond Lake Neighborhoods. If you have questions, or comments, would like to contribute, or join the Newsletter Committee, please call the HPDL office at 824-7707.

Newsletter Committee:

- Melanie Countryman
- Doug Frevert
- Laurie Frevert
- Nick Skapyak
- Scott Traczyk

Newsletter Staff:

Judy Cooper Lyle

HPDL was founded in 1991. It is bound by 35W, 62nd Street, Cedar Avenue, and Minnehaha Creek. HPDL serves as a forum/clearinghouse for ideas; provides a meeting place to air grievances, define concerns and develop solutions; provide opportunities to work with other organizations across the city; serves as a conduit between residents and government; and helps us to celebrate our neighborhoods and their own special uniqueness within our diverse city.

Phone: 824-7707 Fax: 824-6824
email: office@hpd.org
5144 13th ave. SO. MPLS, MN 55417

HPDL Community Calendar

March 6 Saturday	South MPLS Housing Fair www.housingfair.org 10 AM - 3 PM	South High School 3131 19th Ave S.
March 15 Monday	HPDL Crime Prevention Community Meeting 7 - 8:30 PM	Pearl Park 414 E. Diamond Lk. Rd.
March 22 Monday	HPDL Board Meeting 7 PM	HPDL Office
April 17 Saturday	Citywide Earth Day Cleanup 9:30 AM	Pearl Park 414 E. Diamond Lk. Rd.
April 28 Wednesday	Friends Of Diamond Lake Annual Meeting 7-8:30 PM	Pearl Park 414 E. Diamond Lk. Rd.