

# Bancroft Banner

*A Newsletter for the Bancroft Neighborhood*

## Bancroft Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting

Thursday, November 12, 6:15–8:15 p.m.

Bethel Lutheran Church, 4120 17th Avenue South

Buffet Dinner (with entertainment!) 6:15 p.m. · Annual Meeting 7:00 p.m.

BNA's Annual Meeting will be a fun event this year so be sure to mark the date on your calendar! We'll have a **free buffet dinner, complements of our neighborhood businesses; dinner entertainment** will be provided by local Bancroft organizations and residents.

The meeting will include an update on BNA's accomplishments and goals by BNA's Board President, as well as updates on Bancroft Community Builders, 38th & Chicago improvements, NRP Phase II and neighborhood social events. The 8th Ward office will provide updates and take questions. Last but not least, we'll be electing people for our 2009-2010 BNA Board Members. Please **call to reserve childcare during the meeting.** For more information, please call or email the BNA office.

612-724-5353 [info@bancroftneighborhood.org](mailto:info@bancroftneighborhood.org)

## Bancroft Business Millenium Connect – looking good!

The Façade Improvement Grant, a reimbursement program that makes money available to improve the exterior of commercial buildings in designated areas, is picking up the pace. Many of these improvement grants are coming to 38th and Chicago; five businesses have been approved for funding. You can see changes already at Millenium Connect at 3805 Chicago. Partnering with the Minneapolis Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD), the Bancroft Neighborhood and Millenium Connect were able to work out a financing plan that made the façade improvement project feasible. Says Joe



**Joe Bailey and Rodak Construction up on the scaffolding.**

Bailey, owner of Millenium Connect, "This was a really community collaboration. It felt really good to be working alongside other members of the com-

munity committed to the success of small businesses." This is the first time the BNA and MCCD have partnered in this way, and we are all excited to continue offering such opportunities to other small business owners. Iric Nathanson, the Financial Resources Coordinator of MCCD, says, "We're excited to work with the community of 38th and Chicago, and are incredibly pleased with the what's happening in that commercial district."

Other projects will be starting within the next couple months — hopefully before the snow flies! CUP

**Millenium Connect** to page 2

# Beautifying Bancroft School

What do you get with 150 volunteers, a hot summer day, and our neighborhood elementary school? You get a lot of work done! Staff from the Target Corporation teamed up with Hands On Twin Cities to spread their energy and a lot of paint in many different directions on August 24. Volunteers cut down weed trees, planted flowers, painted playground equipment, cleaned windows, helped teachers get their classrooms ready for the school year, and painted murals that have been hung up throughout the building. They even painted a world map on the playground — come check it out! Many thanks to Target and Hands On Twin Cities for serving our school and our community in this way!



## How to vote on November 3

Minneapolis elections are getting an upgrade this year. Voters adopted Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) in 2006 and will be using it for the first time November 3.

RCV allows voters to rank candidates on the ballot in order of preference — 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice — combining the primary and general elections so that voters have to make only one trip to the polls. Under RCV, the votes cast for a candidate who lacks the support to win can still count toward another candidate with a better chance of winning. Or, in multi-seat elections, if a candidate has more than enough votes to win, part of each vote will go to help elect additional candidates. Every vote counts, very few votes are “wasted” and voters are more accurately represented.

If no candidate gets a majority of first choices, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated; the votes cast for this candidate are reallocated to the remaining candidates according to the second choice on those voters’ ballots, and the ballots are counted again. This process is repeated until one candidate receives a majority (50% +1) of votes. In the multiple seat elections (for Park Board at large and Board of Estimate & Taxation), a similar process of eliminating and electing

candidates and redistributing votes occurs until all the seats are filled.

A few things to remember when you complete your ballot:

- You may rank up to three preferences.
- Do not mark the same candidate more than once; this will not help that candidate.
- Your 2nd and 3rd choice cannot harm your first choice. Your 1st choice will continue to be counted until that candidate is eliminated or elected.

Learn more before Election Day at [www.voteminneapolis.org](http://www.voteminneapolis.org) and [www.fairvotemn.org](http://www.fairvotemn.org).

**The BNA thanks  
Steve Mooney for his  
dedicated hard work in  
the Façade  
Improvement Grant  
Approval Committee.**

**Steven J Mooney Architecture**

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3812 15th Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55407  
612-827-8988 office  
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## Urban Arts Academy

Urban Arts Academy’s Afterschool Program is looking for reading and homework mentors to work with K-8 students. These volunteers will help strengthen skills in literacy and math, and also work with students on group projects in which they can apply their learning. Past examples include helping to write short plays, track plant growth in classroom Grow-Boxes, keep reading/writing logs, write and draw comic books, etc.

Applicant must be available Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday 2:30-5:00 p.m. or 4:00-6:00 p.m. Volunteers should enjoy working with children in a creative environment and pass a background check.

To start volunteering or for more information on other volunteer opportunities call or email Rita Van Allen, volunteer coordinator: [vista@urbanartsacademy.org](mailto:vista@urbanartsacademy.org), 612-827-1641.

### Millenium Connect *from page 1*

Foods, the Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center and Mike Stebnitz (new owner of the old Dollar Store building next to Super America) are all submitting paperwork, calling contractors and getting their ducks in a row for some vast improvements. Expect lots of windows, outdoor lighting, and hopefully a community bulletin board. We’re all very excited! Keep your eyes open and see what you notice...

## The Bancroft Banner

Published by the Bancroft Neighborhood Association and distributed in the Bancroft neighborhood, which is bordered by Chicago Avenue on the west, 38th Street on the north, Cedar Avenue on the east, and 42nd Street on the south.

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# Meet two of our board members!



## Emmett Bryant

Emmett and his wife, Barbara (pictured at left), have been homeowners on 38th and Chicago in the Bancroft neighborhood for 10 years. They have improved their area by adding a flower garden, being friendly neighbors and encouraging positive collaborations. Emmett uses his passion for photography to highlight the beauty of Bancroft by documenting the differences and the similarities of the people of the community. He is a home business owner ("Always Your Tech") and is on the executive board of the 38th and Chicago Business Association.

Emmett has been an active member of the Bancroft Board since November 2007, and has served on youth, arts and Façade Improvement Grant subcommittees; he is seeking to remain on the board so that he can continue to use his influence to serve. He knows that the best way to improve a community is to volunteer skills, talent and, importantly, time. Emmett believes that unity in diversity

allows us to overcome obstacles by utilizing all of our strengths.



## Neal Baxter

Founder and originator of the Election Trends Project, Neal Baxter's Minnesota roots go back to the mid-1850s. He was inspired to begin collecting material on the politics of Minneapolis while researching his great-grandfather, John G. Robb, who was an alderman.

Neal enjoys collecting information on topics that interest him, a skill that he uses while serving on the BNA Board. Since 2008, Neal has helped clean up the mailing list, attends city budget and administrative meetings on NRP funding, and frequently flyers the neighborhood for BNA events. He is excited about continuing his relationship with the BNA Board — utilizing his good memory for data, compulsive list-keeping habits and Luddite sensibility for walking. You have probably seen him on his neighborhood walks.



## Football season begins at Phelps Park

The Phelps Activity Council started their football season on August 22, 2009 with teams ranging from 9U, 11U to 13U. Games are typically on the weekends and the Phelps Activity Council is always looking for volunteers to help, including selling concessions for home games, giving rides to players to and from the games, and helping set up events. Contact Jenny at [jjtr@q.com](mailto:jjtr@q.com) or Jim at [phelpsactivitiescouncil@gmail.com](mailto:phelpsactivitiescouncil@gmail.com) for more information or to get involved.

### Join our email mailing list and Facebook page!

We are compiling a list of emails to continue building our mailing list — so please email us at [info@bancroftneighborhood.org](mailto:info@bancroftneighborhood.org) to join.

## BNA Calendar

*BNA meetings and events are open to the public—in fact, they depend on community involvement. All meetings and events are held at Bethel Lutheran Church, 4120 17th Avenue South at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Childcare available with advance notice. Call 724-5313.*

### BNA Committees

**BNA Community Council** — 2nd Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.

**Executive** — 1st Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.

**Transportation** — 2nd Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m.

**Commercial Development** — 3rd Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.

**NRP/Housing** — 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.

**Outreach** — Contact BNA for time and location  
**Meridian Garden** — 3rd Saturday of the month, 9–11 a.m., 38th Street and 12th Ave.

### October

12 Nokomis Healthy Seniors Fall Frolic, Dinner & Dance, 4-7 p.m.

12 Parent Teacher Organization Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Bancroft School, 1315 E. 38th St.

14 National Community Planning Open House, 11:30-1:30 p.m. City Hall Rotunda, 350 S. Fifth St.

19 38th and Chicago Small Area Plan Implementation Committee, 6:30 p.m., 3501 Chicago Ave. S.

21 Senior Expo, 10-2 p.m., 3131 Minnehaha Ave. S.

22 Block Leader Training, 6:30-8:30 p.m., MPD 3rd Precinct Community Room, 3000 Minnehaha Ave.

26 Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group, 3 p.m.

27 Neighborhood Community Engagement Commission, 5-7 p.m., Central Library, Doty Room, 300 Nicollet Ave.

29 Nokomis Healthy Seniors Caregivers Support Group, 1 p.m.

### November

1 Day of the Dead Celebration, El Colegio Charter School, 5-9 p.m.

3 Election Day!

4 38th and Chicago Business Association, 12 p.m., CUP Foods, 3759 Chicago Ave. S.

9 Parent Teacher Organization Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Bancroft School, 1315 E. 38th St.

12 BNA Annual Meeting, 6:15 p.m.

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# Be a BNA Board Member in 2010!

## Volunteer in your community!



We are a vibrant neighborhood full of diverse programs, people and sources of power. We need you to help keep these things alive in Bancroft! People

of all walks of life are invited to run for the 2010 board elections this November 12. Being on the board means attending 1–2 meetings a month, staying active on a BNA committee and being committed to communicating and engaging with the Bancroft community — your neighborhood! We work on lots of exciting projects including the Riverlake Greenway, Façade Improvements on 38th and Chicago, organizing Community Builders/Block Club Leaders, creating housing and social programming with NRP funding, greening the community with plot gar-

dens and environmental initiatives and more. We work with great groups across South Minneapolis including the 8th Ward Office, Bancroft School, Diva/Suave Project, 38th and Chicago Business Association, the Urban Arts Academy, El Colegio High School, Phelps Activity Council and others. This is your chance to meet and work with your neighbors on improving the community you call home. Being an active member on the board is rewarding — and we have fun, imagine that!

If you are not able to become a board member but want to stay involved, consider joining a BNA committee. Come and hear about committees and the work that they do at the annual meeting. No matter what your ability may be, there's a place for you to volunteer in the Bancroft Neighborhood Association. If you have questions, please call the BNA office. See you there if not before!

# Input needed for 2010 Policing Plan

Each year the Minneapolis Police Department circulates a survey that helps write a plan addressing the top three community concerns about the neighborhood, and how the police and community can work together to respond to these concerns. A neighborhood-wide meeting was held on September 24; however, many of you could not attend and/or may not have known about it. We strongly encourage you to participate by filling out a survey, due November 1! At the small gathering that did occur, suggestions were made on increasing the number of bike cops, encouraging patrol cars to cruise the entire neighborhood, watching specific intersections where stop signs are not observed, and the initiation of a restorative justice and/or re-entry program for offenders. Your input is needed! Please contact Crime Prevention Specialist Karen Notch at 612-673-2856 or [karen.notch@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:karen.notch@ci.minneapolis.mn.us) or call/email the BNA office for a copy of the survey.



## Help support the BNA with a tax-deductible donation!

We warmly appreciate any amount you wish to give. Please make checks payable to BNA and send to:

**Bancroft Neighborhood Association**  
4120 17th Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55407

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