



Bancroft Banner

A Newsletter for the Bancroft Neighborhood

Bancroft Neighborhood Association

ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, November 10, 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.

November 10th is BNA's Annual Meeting with **food, entertainment and information** about the Bancroft Neighborhood. This is a great opportunity to learn about the area, meet your neighbors, and get involved! The meeting will include an update on BNA's accomplishments and goals by BNA's Board President, an 8th Ward overview by Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden, Crime and Prevention news from Karen Notsch, updates about what's happening at 38th & Chicago, upcoming plans for the Southern Bike Connection, and a presentation about developments at El Colegio Charter School.

We'll also be **electing new board members!** Being on the board is a fun and interactive way to get to know the neighborhood. We have a lot of laughter at our meetings and people are involved in the projects they want. We invite you to consider running for, and attending to vote on the board of directors representing you.

This is our biggest opportunity all year to share our work with you and hear from you about your vision for the neighborhood. **Childcare is available;** please call to let us know how many young people you'll be bringing so our youngest Bancroftonians can enjoy the night as well. For more information about the event or to volunteer your time please call or email the BNA office.

Volunteer in YOUR Community!

Join the BNA's Community Council Board of Directors!

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! All are invited to run for the 2011 board elections in November. Board members attend 1-2 meetings a month, staying active on a BNA committee and are committed to communicating and engaging with the Bancroft community — your neighborhood! We work on lots of exciting

projects and partner with great groups across the city. This is your chance to work with your neighbors on improving the community you call home. If you are not able to become a board member but want to stay involved consider joining a committee, or volunteering to organize an event. There's a place for everyone to volunteer at the BNA. If you have questions, please call the office.

Mike Simons, 18 years on the Bancroft Board

"I saw power in what people could do together, and the good they could do. No single person could do that much good or have that much power if they weren't in a group."

Mike Simons has lived in Bancroft for 33 years. Mike joined the BNA board in 1992, one year after BNA formed, and has taken one year off. When Mike finishes his term this November, he will have been the BNA's longest serving board member at 18 years. Mike is deeply valued for his commitment, knowledge of the neighborhood and memory of BNA's history, and will be greatly missed by all who work with the BNA.

Mike was a major force in BNA's housing efforts, helping to craft the low-interest home improvement loans, and organizing a Habitat for Humanity build in Bancroft. He remembers when many houses in Bancroft were in desperate need of repair, a few dozen boarded up at any time. The dedication for the Habitat for Humanity house, Mike says, "was pretty awe inspiring. That was very satisfying, that was something I could never do on my own." From his house, Mike can see garages he helped paint during a Bancroft paint-a-thon that addressed housing needs and youth unemployment, hiring young people to paint 30 garages in one day.

Mike would like to see Bancroft continue to be a neighborhood where families can live and learn in and enjoy. He thinks an organization like the BNA helps to make that possible, and would encourage everyone in the neighborhood to serve a term on the board. "Just about everybody has a

Welcome to El Colegio



by *Hector Gomez,*
El Colegio student,
class of 2012

Many people drive by the building on the corner of 42nd and Bloomington, see the murals and artwork, and have no idea what's inside. I used to wonder the same thing until I took the time to check it out. I'm glad I did because I found a world of opportunity inside the four walls.

El Colegio has been traditionally known for its arts but it is also a high school that helps many students to stay in school until graduation and beyond. Something that sets El Colegio apart from traditional public schools is the value we place on a bilingual and bicultural education. El Colegio is Spanish for "the school" — but the importance of the Spanish language goes far beyond our name. Both languages are not only heard in the hallway, but also in the classroom so that all students have access to learning. And even though our name is Spanish, students from all backgrounds and cultures feel welcome at our school and contribute to our diverse student body.

Arts continue to be a huge part of our school. Students have many opportunities to partake in different types of art, from airbrushing to ceramics to mosaics. Art lets us express what it is on our mind and is essential to our identity and cultural understanding. As part of our bicultural focus, we often celebrate Hispanic holidays like the upcoming "Dia de los Muertos" (Day of the Dead). My classmates make ofrendas to honor their loved ones who have passed away and we host a celebration at the school that is open to the public.

We will be hosting an open house luncheon for all of the community on October 18. We welcome all neighbors to come see what our school is about. Our school is a place full of expression and ideas, and we hope that the Bancroft neighborhood can be part of that as well. This way we can grow and develop together as a community.

Muchas personas manejan por el edificio de la 42 y la Bloomington, ven los murales y trabajos de arte, pero no tienen idea de lo que hay adentro. Yo me preguntaba lo mismo hasta que me di la oportunidad de explorarlo. Estoy feliz de que lo hice por que hallé un mundo de oportunidades adentro de esas paredes.

El Colegio ha sido tradicionalmente conocido por su artes pero también es una escuela que ayuda a muchos estudiantes a quedarse dentro de la escuela hasta graduarse y mas allá. Algo que aparta al Colegio de otras escuelas tradicionales es el valor que le ponemos al aprendizaje bilingüe y bicultural. Nuestro lenguaje de español e inglés no sólo se escucha en los pasillos sino por igual en las clases para que todos tengan acceso al aprendizaje. Aunque nuestro nombre esté en español, hay estudiantes de todas razas y culturas que son bienvenidos a nuestra escuela y todo lo que ofrece.

Las artes continúan siendo una gran parte de nuestra escuela. Los estudiantes tienen una gran oportunidad para participar en diferentes clases de arte, desde airbrushing a cerámica, y hasta mosaicos. La arte nos deja espresar lo que hay en nuestra mente y lo esencial que hay en nuestra identidad y entendimiento cultural. Como parte de nuestro enfoque bicultural, la escuela celebra días festivos hispanos como el próximo que es "Dia De Los Muertos". Mis compañeros hacen ofrendas para traer honor a sus amados que ya han muerto. Hacemos una celebración y las puertas están abiertas para todos.

Nosotros seremos anfitriones de una casa abierta, en el cual habrá un almuerzo gratuito para la comunidad, el 18 de Octubre. Les damos la bienvenida a todos los vecinos que quieren convivir con nosotros en este evento. Nuestra escuela es un lugar lleno de expresión e ideas, esperamos que la comunidad de Bancroft pueda ser parte de esto. Así podemos crecer y desarrollar juntos.

Spring will bring construction of El Colegio Fields

by *Reed Aubin, Spanish Teacher,*
El Colegio

The southeast corner of 41st and Bloomington will get a long-awaited face lift once this winter's snows have come and gone. El Colegio High School announces the construction of "El Patio," a community space featuring a play field, basketball court, an outdoor classroom and school gardens. Funded by Hennepin County's Environmental Response Fund and Youth Sports Program, the sports facilities will be open to the public when not in use for school programs.

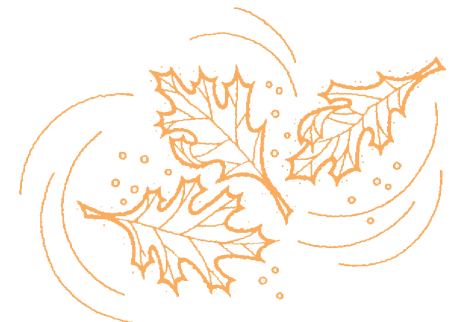
In addition to visible improvements above ground, the project includes innovative storm water management and removal of contaminated soils. Approximately 1,100 cubic yards of contaminated soil will be replaced with clean fill, and a large 300 cubic yard underground storage tank will help ensure that storm water is dealt with on site and in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Additional funding from Minnehaha Creek Watershed District has helped the school come within sight of the funding goal. El Colegio is accepting donations to help create this space for neighborhood youth.

For more information or to donate, please contact Reed Aubin at El Colegio: (612) 728-5728 x226.

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desire that they'd like to see accomplished for the neighborhood. And coming on the board might just get that accomplished. You can really make a difference."



Phelps Falcons — Phelps Activities Council

The Phelps Activities Council sponsored four baseball teams and one softball team who played in the MPRB early this summer, engaging about 75 kids in summer activity. The Phelps Activities Council (PAC) is made up of all volunteers. Congratulations to Coach John Maze, Coach Troy Holiday and the 15U Junior RBI Boys baseball team who won the city championship. On August 13, they held their baseball banquet for all levels at Phelps Park and each participant received a trophy. The Falcons also had five players chosen as all stars to represent the Minnesota Twins on the Jr. RBI All Star team in an all-expenses-paid national tournament in Kansas City.

PAC was able to secure scholarships to bring about 15 kids to three different football camps: the Gophers



head football Coach Jerry Kill's camp at TCF Bank Stadium, the Vikings head football Coach Leslie Fraziers camp at Winter Park, and Arizona Cardinals Pro Bowl wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald's camp at Holy Angels. The kids learned skills at each camp and were able to meet the coaches and Larry Fitzgerald, who talked about leadership and making

good choices. PAC also hosted its annual football clinic with over 150 kids in attendance. Currently PAC is supporting five levels of football and two levels of cheerleading. Basketball registration will begin in late November. For more info, contact James Halbur at phelpsactivitiescouncil@gmail.com.

Stay in touch!

Become a fan of Bancroft on Facebook and send the office your email address to stay up-to-date.

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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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For information, or to receive your copy of the *Banner*, write:

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Printed on recycled paper

Check out our new and improved website!

www.bancroftneighborhood.org

BNA CALENDAR

All meetings and events are held at Bethel Lutheran Church, 4120 17th Avenue South at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Childcare is available with advance notice. Call 724-5313.

October

- 5 **38th and Chicago Ave. Business Association Meeting**, 12 noon, Blue Ox Coffee
BNA Commercial Development Committee, 1 p.m., Blue Ox Coffee
BNA Outreach Committee, 7 p.m.
- 6 **BNA Executive Meeting**, 7 p.m.
- 12 **West of the Rails Business Association**, 12:15 p.m., Standish Ericson, 1830 E. 42nd Street
- 13 **BNA Green Initiatives Committee**, 6:15 p.m.
BNA Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 20 **Block Leader Training**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., 3000 Minnehaha Ave.

November

- 2 **38th and Chicago Ave. Business Association Meeting**, 12 noon, Blue Ox Coffee
BNA Commercial Development Committee, 1 p.m., Blue Ox Coffee
BNA Outreach Committee, 7 p.m.
- 3 **BNA Executive Meeting**, 7 p.m.
- 4 **Powderhorn Empty Bowls**, Powderhorn Park Building
- 9 **West of the Rails Business Association**, 12:15 p.m., Standish Ericson, 1830 E. 42nd Street
- 10 **Bancroft Annual Meeting**, 6:15 p.m.
- 17 **Block Leader Training**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., 3000 Minnehaha Ave.

December

- 1 **BNA Executive Meeting**, 7 p.m.
- 7 **38th and Chicago Ave. Business Association Meeting**, 12 noon, Blue Ox Coffee
BNA Commercial Development Committee, 1 p.m., Blue Ox Coffee
BNA Outreach Committee, 7 p.m.
- 8 **BNA Green Initiatives Committee**, 6:15 p.m.
BNA Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 14 **West of the Rails Business Association**, 12:15 p.m., Standish Ericson, 1830 E. 42nd Street

New at 38th & Chicago: The Third Place, Wing Young Huie Gallery

Photographer Wing Young Huie has realized a concept that he had been thinking of for many years—to have a gallery space that would feel like an extension of his many public art projects that create communal spaces. He chose the name, The Third Place, for his new gallery on 38th & Chicago, which is a sociological term that refers to contemporary meeting places.

Wing chose this corner location not only because much of his work is focused on the urban core, but also because he has lived in the Central neighborhood for 12 years at the Purity Bakery Building on 36th Avenue South and Fifth Street.

Besides exhibiting his photographs that reflect the everyday realities of our cultural landscape from projects that spans 35 years, he also hosts salon-style events regularly, inviting artists from different genres and mediums to perform or present their work, followed by an open discussion of the creative process with the audience. Afterwards ping pong, karaoke, and general frivolity ensues.

More gatherings are being added to The Third Place, such as the open discussion on September 8 concerning the recent stabbing death on 38th & Chicago, which drew 80 people, many from the surrounding neighborhoods.

A host of emotional viewpoints were aired, as those there struggled to conjoin their disparate experiences with those around them. Much was released that night and the ripples of that dialogue continue.

“The third place” is a term used in the concept of community building to refer to social surroundings separate from the two usual social environments of home and the workplace. Third places are “anchors” of community life and facilitate and foster broader, more creative interaction. All societies already have informal meeting places; what is new in modern times is the intentionality of seeking them out as vital to current societal needs. Ray Oldenburg (The Great Good Place, 1989) suggests these hallmarks of a true “third place”: it should be free or inexpensive; food and drink, while not essential, are important; the location should be highly accessible and within walking distance for many; there should be involved regulars — those who habitually congregate there; it should be welcoming and comfortable; and both new friends and old should be found there.

The Third Place is at 3730 Chicago Ave. S., Studio B. For more info: 612-817-2771, info@wingyounghuie.com, www.wingyounghuie.com

Bancroft Neighborhood Mom’s Group

by Heidi Rivers Marshall

Started by a few neighbors on 18th Avenue, the Bancroft Neighborhood Mom’s group has developed into an ever-growing network of women who get together now and again for play dates, brunches, and the occasional night out without the kids! In the past year, we have met for wine at Pepitos and Psycho Suzi’s, had a backyard campfire, a potluck brunch, and more. We are always looking for new activities and new members, and recently started a Facebook page where share ideas for fun things to do with the kids, barter babysitting, and post updates about life in south Minneapolis. Check it out and join our group at www.facebook.com/groups/183554085034390/

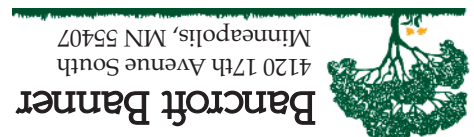
*Help support the BNA
with a tax-deductible
contribution!*

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

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

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