



Bancroft Banner

A Newsletter for the Bancroft Neighborhood

BNA adopts Zero Waste policy

At the March 2011 Board Meeting, the BNA Board voted unanimously to approve a motion by the Green Initiatives Committee to affirm their commitment to being a Zero Waste Board.

Being a Zero Waste Board means that:

- All materials used for meetings and other Bancroft events will be recyclable, reusable or compostable whenever possible
- The BNA Board will use due diligence to ensure that all events of the Bancroft Neighborhood are Zero Waste, utilizing permanent or compostable plates, utensils, etc
- The BNA Board will work with our existing partners at events to

ensure the materials and packaging they bring to Bancroft Neighborhood events are recyclable, compostable or reusable

- All BNA events will have recycling capability for all materials used whenever possible.

The BNA Board is committed to providing additional information as requested regarding zero waste events through the Green Initiatives Committee.

Commercial composting will be outsourced as needed for Bancroft events. If you would like additional information about Zero Waste events and the commitment of the BNA Board to be a Zero Waste organization, please contact Sara Luoma at sarakphelps@gmail.com.

Become a Block Club Leader

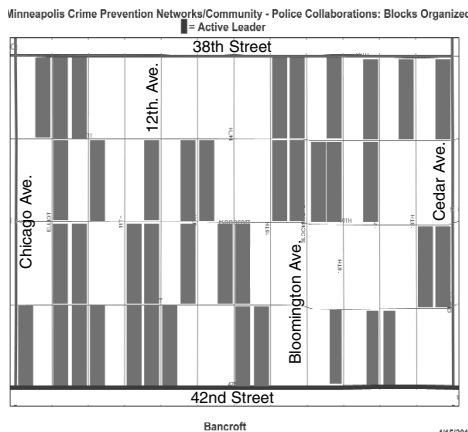
Block clubs are groups of people who live on any block in the city and have organized to improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods. People who form block clubs are concerned and care about their communities. They share information, identify concerns and act collectively to address those concerns.

What can one block club do? A block club can help ensure that our seniors have the services they need to lead fulfilling lives, and help our children travel safely to and from school. A block club can improve the environment by planting and maintaining new green spaces, and provide a strong deterrent to crime.

Bancroft has a strong commitment from numerous Block Club leaders throughout the neighborhood but not every street is covered. The neighborhood could use a few more good

neighbors! Being a Block Club leader is easy and done with others on your block. The BNA can support initiatives, meeting scheduling, outreach and possible funding for projects.

Check out this map to see if your block has a block club.



Block Club Leaders to page 3

River Lake Greenway Opening



On Saturday, June 11, the River-Lake Greenway will officially open. An afternoon of fun events is

being planned to mark the occasion. Festivities will be from 1PM-5PM, and every neighborhood along the route, from Lake Harriet to the Mississippi River, will have something to offer. BNA and the Urban Arts Academy are planning a bike parade that will start in the parking lot of Calvary Lutheran Church on the corner of 39th and Elliot, and proceed along 40th Street. All children in the neighborhood are invited to decorate their bicycles and ride with us! Watch for more news about a range of events as June 11 approaches.

Low-Interest Home Improvement Loan Program expanded

Since 1995, the BNA has used Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) dollars to provide low-interest home improvement loans to Bancroft homeowners through TCF Bank. In 2010, BNA put \$50,000 additional NRP housing funds towards home improvement loans designed to support low or moderate income residents who do not qualify for our primary loans. The new loans will be administered by the Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation (GMHC). This is the perfect time of year to apply for a loan and plan for summer improvements! For more information or to obtain an application, check out the Resources section of www.bancroftneighborhood.org, or call or email the office.



GREEN CORNER

Bancroft Elementary School plant sale

Spring has sprung! Celebrate with beautiful new plants from the Bancroft Elementary Plant Sale. The sale will feature flowers, baskets, veggies and herbs. Proceeds will benefit the Bancroft Parent Teacher Organization.

Sale will be held Friday, May 13 from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday, May 14 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Bancroft School, 1315 East 38th Street. Enter through door 14.

Bancroft Community Garden to expand

There is big news from the Bancroft Community Garden: Bethel Lutheran Church has approved a garden expansion of six additional plots! We have had a waiting list for garden plots for many years. This spring, through the work of the BNA's amazing Green Initiatives Committee and an impressive coming together of neighborhood gardeners, we have received the church's approval for the expansion and approval from the BNA Board for a Community Initiated Grant to pay for costs of the expansion. Big thanks to everyone who has worked so hard to make this expansion possible!

Also new this year, the Bancroft Community Garden will be part of the Southside Local Food Resource Hub's inaugural season. Supported by

Gardening Matters and the City of Minneapolis, the Hub is an exciting coming together of community members and organizations intended to support residents who would like to grow their own fresh produce, helping to ensure greater food security and healthy food access. With our membership in the Hub, the Bancroft Community Garden will get a selection of seeds and seedlings that will be available on the day of our expansion building! There are lots of ways for individual gardeners, families, and organizations to get involved, so if you garden or are interested in supporting local food efforts, make sure to check out www.gardeningmatters.org/hubs.

Gardening season to begin at Bancroft-Meridian Garden

Bancroft-Meridian Garden, at the corner of 38th Street and 12th Avenue South in the Bancroft Neighborhood, is a cherished green space maintained by volunteers from our neighborhood. Beginning in May, we will have neighborhood gardening days on the third Saturday of each month. Volunteers will gather between 9 and 11 a.m. to tend to the garden. Everyone is invited to attend. This is a great opportunity to meet neighbors while getting some sun and exercise. You may even pick up some gardening tips from some savvy gardeners!

Also, last year volunteers installed six 6' x 9' garden plots for individual or family vegetable gardens, which will be leased for a modest cost of \$20 for the growing season and a commitment to volunteer on the community gardening days. All plot gardeners are asked to sign a short agreement to abide by the simple and sustainable rules of Bancroft-Meridian Garden. The plots are ready for planting. It is our belief that these garden plots will contribute to the health and vitality of our community, while increasing interest and participation in the community garden.

Persons interested in leasing plots should contact Jacque Passow: jpassow@gmail.com.

2011 Bancroft-Meridian Garden Community Gardening Days

- May 21
- June 18
- July 16
- August 20
- September 17
- October 15

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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Bancroft Banner

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info@bancroftneighborhood.org

www.bancroftneighborhood.org

Printed on recycled paper

Check out our new and improved website!

www.bancroftneighborhood.org

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

South of Lake Farmers' Market returns to Calvary Lutheran Church

While some Minneapolis neighborhoods enjoy a bountiful supply of healthy foods, others do not. The Mini Farmers' Market project is helping address this reality by bringing fresh fruits and vegetables to Minneapolis neighborhoods that lack healthy food options.

The mini-market project, lead and supported by the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy working with the City of Minneapolis, has helped launch a set of small farmers' markets. Each market is hosted and managed by a neighborhood-based organization. Many mini-markets are also linked with food shelves, to which participating farmers donate fresh produce.

To support the mini-market concept, IATP helped secure passage of a 2007 City of Minneapolis policy that greatly reduced the time and expense of starting a small market. A 2006 study showed that vegetable consumption increased by 20 percent among market patrons during the farmers market season.

2011 will be the second summer that there is a mini-market in Bancroft. Managed by Crossroads Community Organization, the South of Lake Farmers Market is in the parking lot at Calvary Lutheran Church, 3901 Chicago Ave. The market accepts FMNP & WIC, and provides a delicious, fresh, and affordable array of locally grown fruits and vegetables.

The market is held Thursdays, 4-7 p.m., from June 30-September 29. Check out the South of Lake Farmers' Market's growing website for events, food ordering, and farmer info: www.localdirt.com/sol

For more information or to get involved with the market, contact Marie at mre07@yahoo.com.

Block Club Leaders from page 1

You can participate in Block Club Leader training on Monday, May 16 or Thursday, June 16, 6:30 p.m. at MPD 3rd Precinct, 3000 Minnehaha Ave. Topics covered at the training include: introduction to community crime prevention; how to organize a block/apartment club; services of community crime prevention; responsibilities of

crime prevention block leaders; how and when to use 911; and how to solve problems effectively. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP by calling 612-673-348. To get in touch with your block club leader, or to find out more about becoming one, contact Karen Notsch, Crime Prevention Specialist, MPD, 3rd Precinct at 612-673-2856, or email karen.notsch@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Planning begins for Mid-Summer Festival

If spring is here, then summer is right around the corner. The BNA has begun organizing for the Mid-Summer festival and we need your help! Help bring together arts, food, entertainment, edu-

cation and community from all across the neighborhood and beyond. This is a great way to have a big impact with a onetime commitment. Please contact the BNA office to get involved!

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.

May

- 4 38th and Chicago Business Association Meeting, 12 noon, CUP Foods
BNA Commercial Development Committee, 1 p.m., CUP Foods
BNA Outreach Committee, 7 p.m.
- 5 BNA Executive Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 7 Midtown Farmers' Market Opening Day (Lake St. & 22nd Ave S.)
- 11 West of the Rails Business Association, 12:15 p.m., Standish Ericson, 1830 E. 42nd St.
- 12 BNA Green Initiatives Committee, 6:15 p.m.
BNA Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 13-14 Bancroft Elementary School Plant Sale, Bancroft Elementary, 1315 E. 38th St.
- 16 Block Leader Training, 6:30-8:30 p.m., 3000 Minnehaha Ave.

June

- 1 38th and Chicago Business Association Meeting, 12 noon, CUP Foods
BNA Commercial Development Committee, 1 p.m., CUP Foods
BNA Outreach Committee, 7 p.m.
- 2 BNA Executive Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 4-11 Twin Cities Bike Walk Week
- 8 West of the Rails Business Association, 12:15 p.m., Standish Ericson, 1830 E. 42nd St.
- 9 BNA Green Initiatives Committee, 6:15 p.m.
BNA Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 11 River Lake Greenway Opening, 1-5 p.m.
- 16 Block Leader Training, 6:30-8:30 p.m., 3000 Minnehaha Ave.
- 30 South of Lake Farmers' Market Opening Day, 4-7 p.m., 3901 Chicago Ave.

July

- 6 38th and Chicago Business Association Meeting, 12 noon, CUP Foods
BNA Commercial Development Committee, 1 p.m., CUP Foods
BNA Outreach Committee, 7 p.m.
- 13 West of the Rails Business Association, 12:15 p.m., Standish Ericson, 1830 E. 42nd St.
- 14 BNA Green Initiatives Committee, 6:15 p.m.
- 27 Bancroft Mid-Summer Ice Cream Social, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Bancroft Meadows



SOL
SOUTH OF LAKE FARMERS MARKET
COUPON

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OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE. VALID 06/30/11

Open June 30th - Sept. 29th, 2011
THURSDAYS 4pm-7pm
3901 CHICAGO AVE S
WIC FVVs and FMNP Vouchers are Accepted

Urban Arts Academy 2011 Summer Camp

At Urban Arts Academy, we believe strongly that every child is born an artist and that creative, engaging classrooms should be available to all. With an incredible range of activities in art, music, science, and all forms of creative expression, there is something for everyone. Register your child(ren) in Urban Arts' 2011 Summer Camps by the half-day for morning and/or afternoon sessions.

2011 Session Dates/Times

Summer camps begin June 6 for children ages 3-6 and June 13 for children ages 6-12. Each camp runs for one week, Monday through Thursday. Morning sessions are from 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and afternoon sessions are from 1:00-4:30 p.m.

Program Cost

Half-day camps are \$90 per week and full-day camps are \$180 per week. Scholarships are available for children eligible for their school's Free & Reduced Lunch Program. If this pertains to your child, please contact Urban Arts Academy at 612-827-1641.

Register NOW

Register at Urban Arts Academy, 3901 Chicago Ave. S. For more information call 612-827-1641 or visit www.urbanartsacademy.org

Positions for Minnesota Reading Corps at Bancroft School available for next year

Serve, learn, leave your mark. With Minnesota Reading Corps, you can leave a lasting mark in many students' lives as well as your career.

In just eleven months of service, you will not only tutor students who need your academic support; you will also make a meaningful connection with the school and your community. As a member of Reading Corps — one of the largest AmericCorps State programs in the country — you will connect with educators in your own community and experts in early literacy who will help you guide your students towards becoming successful readers by the end of third grade.

All members receive extensive training, expand your skills, learn proven literacy instruction methods and gain valuable experience. In appreciation for your service you will receive a stipend of \$500 biweekly, an education award of up to \$5,550 and other benefits if eligible. All necessary training is provided and no licensure is necessary.

Employment starts August, 2011 and ends June 30, 2012. To read more about the program, including full position descriptions, and to apply, visit www.MinnesotaReadingCorps.org. For more information contact recruitment@mnedc.org or call 866-859-2825

El Colegio Charter School

Keep a lookout for exciting outdoor efforts at El Colegio Charter School in the coming season. Through Hennepin County's Environmental Response Fund, the school has been awarded a grant for soil cleanup for the school's proposed El Patio Healthy Youth Recreation Area. Plans include soccer fields, a garden, an outdoor classroom, and using funds to create the infrastructure (drainage, etc.) Congratulations to El Colegio for this exciting project!

Juventude Conectada Summer Program

Academic support, enrichment and leadership activities

Middle and High School welcome!

Program starts June 21st

Time: 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

El Colegio

4137 Bloomington Avenue

612-728-5728

Application available in May!

- BNA Calendar
- Green Corner
- Area Schools
- News from Bancroft
- Leader
- Become a Block Club

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