



# Bancroft Banner

A Newsletter for the Bancroft Neighborhood

## Welcome to the 2014 BNA Community Council

**W**elcome to the 2014 BNA Community Council: **Sara Luoma, President; Andy Hestness, Vice President; Kyle Gaffaney, Treasurer; Neal Baxter, Secretary; and board members Mark Sauter, Julie Zamora, Matt Toburen, Josh Casey, Keith Twist, Lisa Lindstrom, and Jess Rosenfeld.**

There are still four seats open on the Community Council. If you're

interested in serving a one-year term on the council, please contact the BNA office for more information.

Thank you to the local businesses that donated food to the 2013 Annual Meeting: **Jakeeno's, Marla's Caribbean Cuisine, Fat Lorenzo's, and Smoke in the Pit.** Next time you're in one of their businesses, be sure to thank them for supporting the neighborhood.

## A low-salt diet for our lakes and streams

**A** little salt goes a long way for managing snow and ice. But too much salt — which may be less than you think — can cause irreversible damage to nearby lakes and streams.

The danger of ice and snow on roads and sidewalks is a fact of life in Minnesota, and salt and sand can help reduce ice and add traction. When that snow inevitably melts, however, most of that salt and sand wash directly into nearby waters.

Currently, salt use is not regulated, but it poses a real threat to clean water. The chloride contained in one teaspoon of road salt can permanently pollute five gallons of water. Chloride upsets aquatic environments and can kill birds and some plants.

Many people use more salt than they need. But using more salt does not melt more ice, or melt it faster. In reality, salt only works when there is enough snow or ice for it to react with and excess crystals will eventually become a pollutant. It's best to use less than four pounds of salt per 1,000 square feet. One pound of salt fills up



*Storm drains in the Bancroft neighborhood pour water into Minnehaha Creek, which flows into the Mississippi River.*

a 12-ounce coffee mug.

Want to protect your local lake or stream from chloride pollution? Here are some easy ways you can help:

- Apply salt or other de-icers before snow storms, so you will need less later.
- Shovel regularly (a great form of winter exercise) to minimize ice buildup.
- Break up ice with an ice scraper before deciding if sand or a de-icer is

**Salt to page 2**

## Proposed changes to the Fourth of July at Powderhorn Park

**F**or 122 years, Powderhorn Park in South Minneapolis has been home to Fourth of July Fireworks and a day-long community celebration. This annual summer tradition attracts a crowd of more than 20,000 for a day of family fun, live music and a unique fireworks display over Powderhorn Lake.

For the past several years, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) and the Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association (PPNA) have co-hosted the event. For almost a decade, PPNA has been responsible for fundraising to cover the cost of the fireworks and entertainment. The MPRB provides space, park staff, security and event cleanup.

In late 2013, the MPRB notified PPNA that it is no longer feasible for the MPRB to support two events on the Fourth of July:

“Safety at events is a primary concern to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. Independence Day celebrations across the city, including the city-wide celebration along the Mississippi Riverfront and the neighborhood celebration at Powderhorn Park, have stretched Park Police (and public safety partners) beyond capacity. The reality now is that MPRB Park Police cannot safely manage both the Mississippi Riverfront and Powderhorn Park events at the same time.

“It is our opinion, because of the nature and size of the events, that we move the Powderhorn Park celebration to another day allowing for greater public safety resources at each event.”

**Fourth of July to page 3**

# Art happenings at Bancroft Elementary

by Rochelle McGinness

**A**t Bancroft we are always looking for ways to infuse art into our units of inquiry. That is why we are particularly glad to welcome Ms. Teresa Hichens-Olson to our school community. Teresa is a Fellow in Education from The Bush Foundation. In that capacity she will focus on bringing more art experiences and art-infused programming to the Program of Inquiry over the next two years.

Ms. Hichens-Olson has been the Director of Urban Arts for the last 8 years and has worked for the city of Minneapolis, developing programs

like Girls in Power and Art-I-Can. She is excited to begin this new chapter working with a school that she loves, located just six blocks from her house.

Here is a synopsis of the many exciting art experiences we are already having. This is in addition to the fantastic work that happens every day in art class and in Art Buddies after school.

Kindergarten has seen *The Magic Dreidel* at the Minnesota Jewish theater.

First graders are working on shadow puppets with a local artist and have been to see the play *Junie B. Jones*.

Second grade went to see *Charlotte's Web* and is now working on Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) with a docent from MIA.

Third and fourth grades have welcomed artists-in-residence through Arts for Academic Achievement to help them learn the art of Tableau.

As the year progresses, you will hear about more art-infused programming at every grade level. To find out more about the arts experiences here at Bancroft, I encourage you to ask your child about what they are working on in their classes.

## Help bridge the digital divide by completing a survey

**T**he City of Minneapolis is once again surveying residents for perspectives about how they use computers, mobile devices and the Internet to better their daily lives. About 12,400 households will receive the survey in the mail from National Research Center, Inc., an independent research firm that will conduct the survey. Households contacted to complete the survey will be selected randomly throughout the entire city, with the goal of reaching a diverse cross-section of Minneapolis residents.

The survey will be used to see how the state of the digital divide in Minneapolis has changed each year since 2012 when the City conducted the first survey. The digital divide is the gap between individuals and groups in their access to information and communication technologies, and their use and knowledge of these technologies. This year the survey will also include questions about Minneapolis City government television programming. Results from the 2013 survey showed that overall 84 percent of City households have computers with Internet access, yet differences in access at home and comfort level varied, sometimes considerably, across the city's 11 communities and

different sociodemographic characteristics. The survey also showed that while ownership of Internet-enabled computers varied greatly across the City, ownership of Internet-enabled mobile phones was higher in 2013 than 2012 - even among those households least likely to own a computer.

Residents who wish to complete their survey in Spanish, Somali or Hmong will see an instruction in their language on the postcard and cover letter letting them know how to request a survey in their language. People can request the survey in additional languages by calling 311 or 612-673-3000.

More information about the City's efforts to close the digital divide, along with the reports from the 2012 and 2013 surveys are at [www.minneapolismn.gov/it/inclusion](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/it/inclusion). Folks are also able to use an interactive map to compare neighborhood data to city-wide data.



**Salt** from page 1

necessary for traction — you may find that it's not.

- Use sand instead of salt in temperatures below 15 degrees.
- Sweep up any salt that's visible on dry pavement and use it elsewhere or save it for the next snowstorm.

By using salt wisely, you can save money, time and the environment without sacrificing safety. Learn more at [www.minnehahacreek.org/salt](http://www.minnehahacreek.org/salt).

## 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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[www.bancroftneighborhood.org](http://www.bancroftneighborhood.org)

*Printed on recycled paper*

PPNA and the MPRB will be co-hosting a community meeting on January 23, 2014, for our neighbors to learn more and brainstorm on all options. This is an opportunity to facilitate a broader community conversation around the Fourth of July at Powderhorn Park and its future. The Community Discussion will be a facilitated working session for the MPRB to explain the capacity constraints, and to gather ideas, concerns and suggestions from our neighborhood.

As we start this conversation, here are some questions to keep in mind:

- What do community members think about the proposed changes to the Fourth of July Celebration? How does this impact our neighborhood?
- Have all options been explored?
- Should an event be held if not on the Fourth of July?
- How can the event continue to be a family-friendly event and reduce the number of safety-related issues?
- How do we increase fundraising support for the event to host a top-notch fireworks display? Are there alternatives to fireworks?
- How do individuals want to get involved in community discussions, event planning, fundraising and volunteering at the event?

The next PPNA Monthly Community Café Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 23, at 6:00 p.m. at the Powderhorn Park Recreation Center, 3400 15th Ave. S.

Questions can be directed to Nicholas Williams, MPRB Assistant Superintendent, at (612) 230-6421 or [jnwilliams@minneapolisparcs.org](mailto:jnwilliams@minneapolisparcs.org)

### The BNA has low-interest home improvement loans!

Start planning now for your summer home improvement projects. Check out our website, [www.bancroftneighborhood.org](http://www.bancroftneighborhood.org), or contact the office for more information — 612-724-5313

## BANCROFT IN BRIEF

### City of Minneapolis "Did You Know..." videos

You can learn about City services and programs in English, Hmong, Spanish, and Somali in a series of short videos called "Did You Know..." The videos are available on YouTube at [youtube.com/cityofminneapolis](http://youtube.com/cityofminneapolis) and on City cable channels 14 and 79. They are also posted on the City's website at [minneapolismn.gov/tv/14](http://minneapolismn.gov/tv/14). Topics covered include snow plowing, shoveling, 3-1-1, one-sort recycling, MPD, and much more.

### Open Gym / Yoga

BNA and Bethel have teamed up to provide open gym on Monday nights from 6:00-8:00 p.m. from January 6th-March 24th. We will also have Yoga from 7:00-8:00 p.m. on the same night. There is no charge for open gym or yoga, so bring the family and get your exercise on! Follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/bancroftneighborhood](http://facebook.com/bancroftneighborhood) to find out about weather-related cancellations.

## 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.

### January

(National Blood Donor Month, National Mentoring Month)

- 1 New Year's Day
- 6 Open Gym and Yoga, 6-8:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church
- 11 BNA Board Meeting, 1:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church, 4120 17th Ave S
- 13 Open Gym and Yoga, 6-8:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church
- 20 Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.
- 27 Open Gym and Yoga, 6-8:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church

### February

(Black History Month, Parent Leadership Month)

- 2 Groundhog Day
- 3 Open Gym and Yoga, 6-8:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church
- 5 BNA Commercial Development Committee meeting, 6:15 p.m.
- 6 BNA Executive Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 10 Open Gym and Yoga, 6-8:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church
- 13 BNA Green Initiatives Committee meeting, 6:00 p.m.  
BNA Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 17 Washington's Birthday (a.k.a. President's Day)  
Open Gym and Yoga, 6-8:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church
- 24 Open Gym and Yoga, 6-8:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church

### March

(National Nutrition Month, Women's History Month)

- 3 Open Gym and Yoga, 6-8:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church
- 5 BNA Commercial Development Committee meeting, 6:15 p.m.
- 6 BNA Executive Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 9 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 10 Open Gym and Yoga, 6-8:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church
- 13 BNA Green Initiatives Committee meeting, 6:00 p.m.  
BNA Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 24 Open Gym and Yoga, 6-8:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church

Si le gustaría recibir esta información en español, manda un email a [info@bancroftneighborhood.com](mailto:info@bancroftneighborhood.com) o llama la oficina al 612-724-5313.

# Help support the Bancroft Neighborhood Association with a tax-deductible donation!

*We warmly appreciate any amount you wish to give.*

**Yes, I want to support my neighborhood.  
Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift.**

(Check one)

\$500    \$250    \$100    \$50    \$35    \$\_\_\_\_\_ other

My employer will match my contribution.

Please sign me up to receive the *Bancroft Banner* Newsletter  
(we will never give away your address).

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

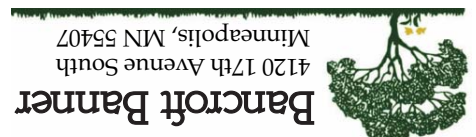
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to BNA and return to:  
Bancroft Neighborhood Association  
4120 17th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55407

- BNA Calendar
- Digital media survey
- Elementary School
- Arts at Bancroft
- 4th of July events
- Powderhorn Park
- Proposed changes to
- walk salt pollution
- from road and side-
- Protect our waters
- Community Council
- Welcome new BNA

**Inside:**



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## South Minneapolis Housing Fair



Walk through the MRES Tiny Solar Home to see amazing energy efficiency and clean energy technologies. The Tiny Solar Home will be in the parking lot at 22nd Ave and E. Lake Street in conjunction with the South Minneapolis Housing Fair.

It's time to get those home improvement projects started! The 20th annual South Minneapolis Housing Fair is being held April 5th from 10:00-3:00 p.m. at the Minneapolis Sports Center, Midtown YWCA at 2121 East Lake Street. The Fair is produced to provide home improvement information to Minneapolis residents and support local community resources.

The Fair is free to the public and this year features The Minnesota Renewable Energy Society Tiny Solar Home, local contractors, the University of Minnesota Master Gardener, and experts from the City of Minneapolis who will answer your questions on everything from building codes, solid waste and graffiti removal.

The Fair-goers also make their own non-toxic chemical at the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization booth and build a bird-house with Elpis Enterprises.

'How-to' sessions are being offered every half hour on a variety of home improvement topics including: landscaping, solar energy rebates and tax credits, growing a monarch garden, tile design, air conditioning for homes with radiators, working with contractors, how to work with a designer, preventing ice dams, and loan options from Neighborhood Housing Service of Minneapolis.

Pick up a resource directory that includes information on quality contractors, helpful articles about working with contractors, plus a list of evening workshops offered in collaboration with South High Community Ed. Directories are available at your local South Minneapolis library and Neighborhood Organization.

Visit [housingfair.org](http://housingfair.org) for more information on exhibitors, sessions, or to volunteer.

## Tiny Diner and Farm to open in May

by Anne Saxton

The Tiny Diner and Farm is a small place with big ideas. We believe it's the little things that count, so we're creating menus with as many local foods as we can, including the stuff we grow ourselves. Every month we pay tribute to diner towns across the USA, exploring different ways to use our midwestern bounty. We're producing energy with our patio roof/solar array, increasing urban soil fertility, and creating a natural habitat for pollinators and urban wildlife in what's basically our own backyard.

We're partnering with the Permaculture Institute-Cold Climate to present skill shares and permaculture design classes, and working a plot on Garden Farm in Anoka, Minnesota's first organic farm. We'd like to you come join us! We're planning to open this May and you can find an employment application on [tinydiner.com](http://tinydiner.com).

The Tiny Diner will be showcasing biointensive urban farming methods and efficient water use strategies through its edible gardens and rain water catchments systems. In partnership with the Permaculture Research Institute Cold Climate and Master Water Stewards of the Freshwater Society and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, visitors can see and read about small-scale installations like an edible perennial garden and rain water catchment techniques. From its hardscape to its landscape, this Diner was designed to provide a renovated example of whole system design—low impact, educational, and tangibly tasty.

# What's Selling in Bancroft?



Presenting 915 East 41st Street! This Bancroft gem is 3 bedrooms, 1 bath and has been freshly renovated. The home is seated on a large corner lot, and has a HUGE yard—perfect for gardening, or having summer BBQs! While on the subject of BBQs, it's important to note that there's also a nice patio directly off of the kitchen, which has been tastefully updated and includes granite counter-tops, stainless steel appliances, a gas range, ceramic subway tile back-splash and butcher-block bar area.

Local Market Update – February 2014			MINNEAPOLIS AREA Association of REALTORS®			
<b>Bancroft</b>			<b>+ 33.3%</b>	<b>+ 100.0%</b>	<b>+ 0.8%</b>	
			Change in New Listings	Change in Closed Sales	Change in Median Sales Price	
			February		Year to Date	
	2013	2014	+ / -	2013	2014	+ / -
New Listings	6	8	+ 33.3%	12	15	+ 25.0%
Closed Sales	2	4	+ 100.0%	6	7	+ 16.7%
Median Sales Price*	\$136,450	\$137,500	+ 0.8%	\$125,000	\$115,000	- 8.0%
Average Sales Price*	\$136,450	\$152,975	+ 12.1%	\$128,483	\$142,882	+ 11.2%
Price Per Square Foot*	\$90	\$98	+ 8.8%	\$99	\$99	+ 0.2%
Percent of Original List Price Received*	95.8%	87.3%	- 8.9%	105.8%	83.7%	- 20.9%
Days on Market Until Sale	73	118	+ 61.6%	53	140	+ 164.2%
Inventory of Homes for Sale	17	14	- 17.6%	--	--	--
Months Supply of Inventory	3.0	2.2	- 26.7%	--	--	--

\* Does not account for seller concessions. | Activity for one month can sometimes look extreme due to small sample size.

This home has an open layout, gets fabulous natural light, and is great for entertaining. With solid updated mechanicals including central AC, newer roof, windows and siding, this home will be low maintenance for years to come, allowing you to focus on all the other wonderful things life has to offer! \$159,900 - MLS #4453849 - offered by Robin Voreis of Keller Williams Integrity Realty

## Green Initiative Committee Update

The Green Initiatives met and set some priorities for the year. The first one is the renovation of the Meridian Garden on 38th and 12th. We have hired a landscaper and are moving forward with a new design and implementation of this spot for our neighborhood. The plan of the board and committee is to have a nice neighborhood garden and something simple to maintain.

The second priority is the Community Garden, located at the Bethel Lutheran Church on 16th and 40th. We have 18 garden plots that are 10 feet by 20 feet, and charge a \$30 annual fee for each plot (which includes water). There is a limit of one garden plot per household and preference is given to residents of Bancroft neighborhood. After March 31st, it will be on a first come, first serve basis. Applications have been sent out to previous gardeners and if you haven't had a plot before and would like to, contact our neighborhood office for an application. We are looking at securing a grant application for some fencing around the plots this year.

The third goal is to put permanent recycling bins in the Bancroft Meadows. The fourth goal is to recruit new members for the Green Initiatives Committee. The committee meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church.

### Help support the Bancroft Neighborhood Association with a tax-deductible donation!

*We warmly appreciate any amount you wish to give.*

**Yes, I want to support my neighborhood.  
Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift.**

(Check one)

\$500    \$250    \$100    \$50    \$35    \$\_\_\_\_\_ other

My employer will match my contribution.

Please sign me up to receive the *Bancroft Banner* Newsletter (we will never give away your address).

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to BNA and send to:  
Bancroft Neighborhood Association  
4120 17th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55407

## Local Food Resource Hubs program supports growing healthy local food

The Local Food Resource Hubs are neighborhood networks of gardeners. The Hubs program is intended to provide home gardeners and community gardeners the support they need to grow, preserve, cook and compost their own fresh food by offering supplies, educational opportunities, and community connections in their neighborhood. The Local Food Resource Hubs program benefits neighborhoods by building community and increasing access to healthy food.

Residents of Minneapolis and St. Paul can join the Local Food Resource Hubs and select a small, medium, or large garden package — prices vary by size and partial scholarships are available. It's basically a bulk buying club; packages of seeds and plants are available at a fraction of their retail price. Members pick up their seeds and plants at distribution events held across Minneapolis and St. Paul, which are run by Gardening Matters, Hub members, and countless neighborhood partners and volunteers.

This is the fourth year of the Local Food Resource Hubs program. Last year in 2013 there were 900 members in the network, and the Hubs distributed more than 18,000 packets of seeds and 25,000 seedlings, 2,500 strawberry plants, 400 raspberry plants, and 30,000 pounds of compost.

Residents should contact Gardening Matters at 612-821-2358 or visit [gardeningmatters.org/hubs](http://gardeningmatters.org/hubs) for more information about the program, including a map of the Hub areas and the sign up form.

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### Tiny Diner from page 1

The Tiny Diner will be hosting a Farmers' Market this 2014 season. We would like to invite local farmers/gardeners and artists to the Market to sell their produce and crafts at the market.

Farmers' Markets will be held in the parking lot of the Tiny Diner at 1024 E. 38th St. every Thursday from 4:00-7:30 p.m.

## 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.

### April

*(Stress Awareness Month, National Poetry Month)*

- 1 **Programs & Outreach Committee**, 7:00 p.m.
- 3 **Executive Committee**, 6:00 p.m.
- 7 **Yoga in the Yard**, 7:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran
- 10 **BNA Board Meeting**, 7:00 p.m.
- 14 **Yoga in the Yard**, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 **Green Initiatives Committee**, 6:00 p.m.  
**Yoga in the Yard**, 7:00 p.m.
- 23 **Administrative Professional's Day**
- 24 **Housing & Commercial Development Committee**, 6:00 p.m.
- 28 **Yoga in the Yard**, 7:00 p.m.

### May

*(National Bike Month, National Physical Fitness Month)*

- 1 **Executive Committee**, 6:00 p.m.
- 5 **Yoga in the Yard**, 7:00 p.m.
- 6 **Programs & Outreach Committee**, 7:00 p.m.
- 8 **BNA Board Meeting**, 7:00 p.m.
- 11 **Mother's Day**
- 12 **Yoga in the Yard**, 7:00 p.m.
- 17 **Armed Forces Day**
- 19 **Green Initiatives Committee**, 6:00 p.m.  
**Yoga in the Yard**, 7:00 p.m.
- 22 **Housing & Commercial Development Committee**, 6:00 p.m.
- 26 **Memorial Day**

### June

*(National Safety Month, Men's Health Month)*

- 2 **Yoga in the Yard**, 7:00 p.m.
- 3 **Programs & Outreach Committee**, 7:00 p.m.
- 5 **Executive Committee**, 6:00 p.m.
- 9 **Yoga in the Yard**, 7:00 p.m.
- 12 **BNA Board Meeting**, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 **Father's Day**
- 16 **Yoga in the Yard**, 7:00 p.m.
- 16 **Green Initiatives Committee**, 6:00 p.m.
- 23 **Yoga in the Yard**, 7:00 p.m.
- 26 **Housing & Commercial Development Committee**, 6:00 p.m.

*Si le gustaría recibir esta información en español, manda un email a [info@bancroftneighborhood.com](mailto:info@bancroftneighborhood.com) o llama la oficina al 612-724-5313.*

**Save the date!**

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

**July 17, 2014**

If you're interested in helping with planning the event, please contact the BNA office.

## BANCROFT IN BRIEF

### Open Gym / Yoga

BNA will continue to offer yoga on Monday nights from 7:00-8:00 p.m. through May. There is no charge, so bring the family and get your exercise on! Follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/bancroftneighborhood](https://www.facebook.com/bancroftneighborhood) to find out about changes or cancellations

### HOME Line Expanding Services to Minneapolis

Beginning April 1, 2014, if you are a tenant in Minneapolis and are interested in your renter rights, you can receive free legal advice by emailing our attorneys at [homelinemn.org/e-mail-an-attorney](mailto:homelinemn.org/e-mail-an-attorney) or by calling our free Tenant Hotline at (612) 728-5767.

HOME Line provides free legal, organizing, educational and advocacy services so tenants throughout Minnesota can solve their own rental housing problems. For 22 years, HOME Line has provided

Minnesota renters with legal information regarding their rights. Staffed by lawyers, law students, and community volunteers, the tenant hotline has prevented over 11,700 evictions and saved renters over 21 million dollars in returned damage deposits and rent abatements. All calls are free and all information is kept confidential.

Now, we are expanding our services to Minneapolis. To learn more about HOME Line and about volunteering opportunities on our hotline, please go to [homelinemn.org](http://homelinemn.org).

### The BNA has low-interest home improvement loans!

Start planning now for your summer home improvement projects. Check out our website, [www.bancroftneighborhood.org](http://www.bancroftneighborhood.org), or contact the office for more information — 612-724-5313

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- BNA Calendar
- Hubs Program
- Local Food Resource
- HOME Line
- Local Market Update
- Bancroft
- What's Selling in
- Tiny Diner and Farm
- Housing Fair
- South Minneapolis

**Inside:**



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## Discounted Home Energy Squad Enhanced Visits



Andy, a Bancroft resident, in front of his house after completing the Home Energy Audit.

**B**NA is discounting over half the cost of 50 Home Energy Squad Enhanced visits for Bancroft residents. The visit involves two energy consultants—an energy technician and energy counselor who visit your home for two hours. The energy technician conducts diagnostic tests, while the energy counselor accompanies you around your home to point out energy saving tips and install energy saving materials.

At the end of your visit, the energy consultants go over the diagnostic tests and provide you with a Home Energy Fitness Plan. To help accomplish recommended home improvement projects, the

visit qualifies participants for 2.99% energy financing from the Center for Energy and Environment’s Lending Center, which can be used in conjunction with BNA’s Home Improvement Loan Program. Participants also receive an approved contractor list when insulation work is recommended.

Here is what two Bancroft neighbors have to say about the visit:

“Just do it. If nothing else you’ll know that you’re efficient or you’ll know some areas of improvement...it was definitely helpful for us.” – *Bryan B., Bancroft resident*

“The Home Energy Squad was an invaluable resource for me as a first-time home buyer. After moving in, I realized that I had a 30+ year old air conditioner and a furnace with a cracked heat exchanger. Luckily, I scheduled a home visit that qualified me for a low interest loan, that made getting new efficient units possible on a limited budget. Plus I was informed by their staff of simple ways I could save energy around my house that I didn't know existed, like turning down my water heater.” – *Andy L., Bancroft resident*

If you want to take your neighbors’ advice please call Beth at (612) 335-5874 to schedule a \$30 visit (normally \$70 in Mpls). Discounted visits are available on a first-come, first-served basis to Bancroft residents. For more information: [www.mncee.org/hes-mpls](http://www.mncee.org/hes-mpls). Visits are provided by CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy in partnership with the Center for Energy and Environment.

# ICE CREAM SOCIAL

**Join us on July 17 from 6:00–8:00 p.m. in the Bancroft Meadows** for the annual Ice Cream Social. This year, we’ll have ice cream from **Grand Ole Creamery**. There will be a bouncy castle, petting zoo, and pony rides for the kids, along with activities provided by Urban Arts Academy and Bethel Lutheran Church.

**Taco Taxi** will be selling tacos, burritos, and quesadillas, with a portion of the proceeds going back to BNA. So come for some good fun, great food, and support BNA. Follow us on Facebook for more information on live music and other event additions.

## Update on work by Southside United Neighborhoods

# Organizing Tenants to Improve Apartments

The SUN Project is a coalition of seven neighborhood organizations (Bryant Neighborhood Organization, Bancroft Neighborhood Association, Central Neighborhood Development Organization, Corcoran Neighborhood Organization, Longfellow Community Council, Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association, and Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association) representing eleven neighborhoods in South Minneapolis. Representatives from those neighborhoods began meeting in 2010 to explore ways we could work together to support each other's work and make all of our neighborhoods stronger.

The focus of our work is to explore strategic partnership opportunities that will ensure the long-term sustainability of our neighborhood work. We also strive to improve our capacity to engage and build grassroots leadership and affect policy change.

After several months of study, with input from the board members of all SUN partners, we have developed a policy agenda to guide our work through the immediate future. We identified three primary areas that impact all of our neighborhoods: (1) the condition of multi-family housing; (2) Minneapolis Park and Recreation programming; and (3) concerns about inconsistencies and confusion with the City of Minneapolis property inspections policies.

Starting with multi-family housing, we learned that apartment buildings in Corcoran, especially in the Lake Street corridor, are in rough shape. Tenants who request repairs and basic maintenance in their building are being ignored by bad landlords, many of whom prey on vulnerable tenants as a way of doing business. The City of Minneapolis has the authority to inspect and order repairs in response to tenants' complaints, but too often

City inspection policies and practices only serve to empower a bad landlord while leaving tenants frustrated and living in substandard housing.

Corcoran staff has been organizing tenants in some of the most distressed apartments in that neighborhood. Tenants are speaking up, taking action, and getting repairs and improvements made. At the same time, we've built awareness and action by neighborhood partners in the Powderhorn Park and Central neighborhoods along Lake Street, who share many of these same tenant concerns and bad landlords. In January, SUN leaders met directly with our 4 City Council members to present findings from our recent tenant organizing work and our concerns about City inspections policy and practices.

The council members, including 8th Ward representative Elizabeth Glidden, listened and responded to our concerns and asked Nuria Rivera-

## 2014 Bancroft Neighborhood-wide Garage Sale Registration

Need an excuse to clean out your basement, closets, or garage? Well, here it is—the neighborhood-wide garage sale! This year, we'll hold the garage sale on Saturday, September 13 from 8:00–3:00 p.m. Be sure to take advantage of the promotion and marketing the Bancroft Neighborhood Association will do through various media outlets. Handy guides and maps will be available at neighborhood businesses and at each garage sale location.

If you're interested in participating in this event by holding a garage sale, please fill out the information below and return it to the Bancroft Neighborhood Association's office. You can also access the electronic version on our website [bancroftneighborhood.org](http://bancroftneighborhood.org) (under Neighborhood News).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

What types of items will you have at your garage sale? (i.e. baby clothes, furniture, tools, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Please return this form to the Bancroft Neighborhood Association office no later than August 29, 2014.**

Phone: 612-724-5313 Fax: 612-724-3694

Email: [info@bancroftneighborhood.org](mailto:info@bancroftneighborhood.org)

Mail: Bancroft Neighborhood Association  
4120 17th Ave S  
Minneapolis, MN 55407

## Organizing Tenants *from page 2*

Vandermyde, the City's new Director of Regulatory Services, to begin meeting directly with SUN leaders to work on changes to inspections policy and practices. SUN had a productive initial meeting with Rivera-Vandermyde and her staff in February, and we're already changing the way the City does business in order to place a high priority on the concerns and needs of our most vulnerable tenants. Rivera-Vandermyde has expressed interest in meeting directly with concerned tenants in their apartments to see firsthand some of the maintenance issues and hear how they've been impacted

Do you have a concern about your apartment or your landlord? Please contact Luke at [info@bancroftneighborhood.org](mailto:info@bancroftneighborhood.org) or 612-724-5313. You can also call the Free Tenant Hotline (612-728-5767) run by nonprofit HOME Line, another key partner in our work.

## 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.

### Newsletter Staff

Luke Stultz, *editor*

David Evans, *copy editor*

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

### Bancroft Banner

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Minneapolis, MN 55407  
phone 612-724-5313 / fax 612-724-3694  
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[www.bancroftneighborhood.org](http://www.bancroftneighborhood.org)

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## Meridian Garden, An Urban Food Forest

Last year, through outreach efforts, it was decided that the Meridian Garden would be a priority for BNA this year. The BNA worked with Dan Halsey, of Southwoods Permaculture Design, to turn the Meridian Garden into the first urban food forest in Minneapolis.

Volunteers from all over the Twin Cities to help with the project. It was great to see so many people excited to make this space into a legacy

garden for generations of people to enjoy. The food that the garden produces is for anyone and everyone. There are pears, apples, plums, black and red currants, blueberries, two types of cherries, rhubarb, and more!

Thanks to an Art Blocks grant from Pillsbury House + Theatre, the adjacent block club will be completing three arts projects in the Meridian Garden – insect habitats, a retaining wall mural, and trash can mosaics. Look for these and other happenings throughout the summer and fall at the Meridian Garden. If you'd like to be involved, contact the BNA office.

## 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.

### July

*(National Picnic Month, UIV Safety Month)*

3 Executive Committee, 6:00 p.m.

4 Independence Day

7 Yoga in the Yard at Bethel Lutheran

14 Yoga in the Yard

17 Ice Cream Social (Bancroft Meadows)

21 Green Initiatives Committee, 6:00 p.m.

Yoga in the Yard

24 Housing & Commercial Development Committee, 6:00 p.m.

28 Yoga in the Yard

### August

*(National Immunization Awareness Month)*

3 International Friendship Day

4 Yoga in the Yard

7 Executive Committee, 6:00 p.m.

11 Yoga in the Yard

14 BNA Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

18 Green Initiatives Committee, 6:00 p.m.

Yoga in the Yard

25 Yoga in the Yard

28 Housing & Commercial Development Committee, 6:00 p.m.

### September

*(National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month)*

1 Labor Day

4 Executive Committee, 6:00 p.m.

8 Yoga in the Yard

11 BNA Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

13 BNA Community-wide Garage Sale

15 Green Initiatives Committee, 6:00 p.m.

Yoga in the Yard

22 Yoga in the Yard

25 Housing & Commercial Development Committee, 6:00 p.m.

29 Yoga in the Yard

*Si le gustaría recibir esta información en español, manda un email a [info@bancroftneighborhood.com](mailto:info@bancroftneighborhood.com) o llama la oficina al 612-724-5313.*

## Bethel's Community Solar Garden

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church has announced that it will be the first community of faith in Minnesota to host a community solar garden. The Church has partnered with solar developer Minnesota Community Solar to host the project atop the education wing on Bethel's South Minneapolis property. The Church will be the array's anchor subscriber, consuming a significant portion of the electricity produced.

Community solar gardens allow Xcel electricity customers to subscribe to solar energy from large arrays at locations away from their own homes and businesses. Community solar dramatically expands the number of Minnesotans with access to clean, locally-produced solar electricity.

Describing the partnership, Pastor Brenda Froisland said, "We are very excited to be partnering with

Minnesota Community Solar; they've made this process easy. Our congregation has long had a spiritual commitment to environmental stewardship. Working with our community to create a solar garden is a concrete step toward better nourishing God's Creation."

What does this mean for Bancroft residents? Well, through July 3, subscriptions are open to residents of Bancroft. For more information, visit [mncommunitysolar.com/bethel](http://mncommunitysolar.com/bethel) or contact the BNA office. After July 3, the subscriptions will open up to anyone interested. Take action now to secure a piece of the solar array and save money on energy bills!

## City Appraisers Reviewing Properties

Appraisers from the City of Minneapolis Assessor's Office are currently conducting an official review of residential properties in the East

Harriet, Tangletown, Bancroft and Standish neighborhoods.

State law requires that appraisers from the City of Minneapolis physically review all properties in the city once every five years. This ensures that the Assessor's Office has the most current and accurate information to properly value your property and all properties throughout the city. Appraisers carry a City identification card and are required to show it if asked.

Appraisers will be viewing the exterior of the resident's property and will knock on their door to verify property information (if resident is home). Appraisers may also ask for permission to view the interior of the home (at the time of the review or at a later time via appointment) depending on if there are data discrepancies, such as changes in condition.

If residents have any questions about property reviews, please contact the Assessor's Office at 612-673-2483.

- 2014 Ice Cream Social
- Energy Squad Visits
- Organizing Tenants
- Bancroft Neighborhood-Wide Garage Sale
- Meridian Garden Food Forest
- Solar Garden
- City Appraisers Reviewing Properties

### Inside:



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# Bancroft Banner

A Newsletter for the Bancroft Neighborhood

You are invited to the  
Bancroft Neighborhood Association's

## ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, November 13 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Bethel Lutheran Church, 4120 17th Avenue South

**Mark your calendar! It's the BNA's Annual Meeting** with food, entertainment, and information about the Bancroft Neighborhood. This is a great opportunity to learn about the area, meet others in the community and get involved. There are plenty of ways to help this neighborhood grow. 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, and a silent auction fundraiser with gift certificates, local services, and more!

**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 members become involved in projects that interest them. We invite you to consider running for, and attending to vote on the Board of Directors representing you.

If you're interested in running for a seat on the board of directors, here is some more information: The BNA board meets on the second Thursday of every month; there is no meeting in July. The meetings begin promptly at 7 p.m. and wrap up no later than 8:30 p.m. Board members are expected to attend all board meetings.

Board members are also required to serve on at least one committee, attend the annual half-day board training retreat (in Bancroft neighborhood), and help with neighborhood events to ensure they are all successful. Please contact Luke at the BNA office if you're interested in serving on the BNA Board.

**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 Bancroft residents can enjoy the night as well. For more information about the event or to volunteer your time please call or email the BNA office.

# Organics recycling now available at the South Transfer Station

**M**inneapolis residents are now able to drop-off their organic materials at the South Transfer Station located at 2850 20th Ave S. By participating in an organics recycling program, residents may be able to reduce the size of their garbage cart and save \$3 per month on their solid waste and recycling services.

Residential organics include all food waste, food-soiled and non-recyclable paper (paper towel and plates, napkins, etc.), and other compostable materials such as coffee grounds, filters, cotton swabs, dryer lint, and wood popsicle sticks. Yard waste will not be accepted. Residents must drop off their organic materials in a compostable bag (either paper or certified compostable plastic). Larger items such as pizza boxes and wax coated boxes do not need to be bagged.

The drop-off will be open to all Minneapolis residents at no cost. Residents will not need to use a voucher to drop-off organics, however, a State issued I.D., showing a Minneapolis address, will be required. Organics drop-off customers must wait in line and check in and out with the scale house attendant. The Residential Organics Drop-Off will be open at the following days and times:

**Tuesdays from 2:00-7:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday-Friday from 12:30-7:30 p.m.**

**Saturday from 8:00-3:30 p.m.**

For more information on the Residential Organics Drop-Off Program, visit [www.minneapolismn.gov/organics](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/organics) or call 612-673-2917.



*Kellie Kish recycles her organics at the South Transfer Station at 2850 20th Ave. S.*



*Pastor Brenda and members of Bethel at the community labyrinth dedication.*

## New Community Labyrinth dedicated, open to neighborhood

**O**n September 7, a new labyrinth open for the use of all community members was dedicated at Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church. The labyrinth is built into the landscape on the southeast corner of the same property where Bancroft Neighborhood Association has its offices, at 4120 17th Ave. S.

The labyrinth is an ancient symbol that relates to wholeness. It combines the imagery of the circle into a meandering but purposeful path. Labyrinths represent a journey of centering and

have long been used as meditation and prayer tools. The labyrinth at Bethel has a single path that leads to the center, and then back out again.

All neighbors are invited to use the labyrinth, and there is no right way to use it! Some may use it joyfully, some somberly; some for play, some for meditation. However you utilize the labyrinth, the Bethel community invites you to come often! Sit and read for a bit. Relax and smell the flowers. Listen to the nature that surrounds us, or the joyful hubbub of our community.

## PRG making improvements at 4149 10th Ave. S.

**P**RG is a HUD-approved provider of free counseling for homeowners worried about foreclosure; high-quality homebuyer education workshops; free, individualized counseling for first-time homebuyers; and bricks-and-mortar housing development to serve families and communities.

The home on 10th Avenue is one of 15 vacant houses PRG is renovating and selling affordably in 2014. Other recent projects near Bancroft include Spirit on Lake, the region's first housing geared to GLBT seniors (completed in 2013 at 13th and Lake) and Greenway Heights, 42 affordable apartments sized to fit large families.

PRG was started in 1976 by a group of neighbors in the Powderhorn Park area (their original name was Powderhorn Residents Group). For more information, visit [prginc.org](http://prginc.org) or call (612) 721-7556. You can find out more about 4149 10th Avenue on BNA's website under "Neighborhood News."

# Staying warm and saving energy

As the weather turns a little chilly and we begin to think about covering our plants before the first frost, it may also be the first time that some of us are turning on our heating systems for the season. This is a great time to get yourself set for comfort and savings this fall and winter with a Home Energy Squad Enhanced visit.

Here are a few tips to get you started:

- Have your heating system cleaned and tuned by a certified HVAC contractor.
- Program your thermostat to help you save energy while gone from the house and sleeping.
- Close the damper on your fireplace to stop a super highway for heat. If you're having trouble getting the damper shut look into an affordable chimney balloon or pillow.
- Insulate your drafty windows with shrink wrap. Window insulation kits are inexpensive and easy to install, and will make a great difference in your comfort this winter.
- Schedule a Home Energy Squad Enhanced visit to learn more about how your home is using energy and get some

great energy saving products installed.

The Bancroft Neighborhood Association is covering over half of the cost of the first 50 Home Energy Squad Enhanced visits this year. This means visits are only \$30 for Bancroft residents!

Here's what one neighbor had to say about the Home Energy Squad visits:

"My experience with the Home Energy Squad was fantastic. The technicians were knowledgeable, polite, and their work was top-notch. It was an incredible value, and I have already seen the effects take place on my energy usage and bills. I have recommended taking advantage of this service to many – especially those in older, less efficient homes!" – Mark W., Bancroft resident

Learn more at [mncee.org/hes-mpls](http://mncee.org/hes-mpls) or call Beth at 612-335-5874 to schedule your visit.

# Open Gym and Yoga

Open Gym is back this winter! This is a good opportunity to get out with the whole family – open gym for the kids and yoga for the adults. Both start Monday, October 6, and continue every Monday night through winter at Bethel Lutheran. Open gym is from 6:00-8:00 p.m. and yoga is 7:00-8:00 p.m. Follow BNA on Facebook for information on schedule changes or cancellations.

## Stay in touch!

Become a fan of Bancroft on Facebook, visit us online at [www.bancroftneighborhood.org](http://www.bancroftneighborhood.org), and send the office your email address to receive Bancroft E-News.

## BNA CALENDAR

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### October

(Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Domestic Violence Awareness Month)

- 1 Programs and Outreach Committee, 12:00 p.m.
- 2 Executive Committee, 6:00 p.m.
- 9 BNA Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 6 Yoga in the Yard (may be inside if weather necessitates)
- 13 Indigenous People's/Columbus Day
- 20 Green Initiatives Committee, 6:00 p.m.
- Yoga
- 23 Housing & Commercial Development Committee, 6:00 p.m.
- 27 Yoga
- 31 Halloween

- 6 Executive Committee, 6:00 p.m.
- 10 Yoga and Open Gym
- 13 BNA Annual Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
Give to the Max Day
- 17 Green Initiatives Committee, 6:00 p.m.  
Yoga and Open Gym
- 20 Housing & Commercial Development Committee, 6:00 p.m.
- 24 Yoga and Open Gym
- 27 Thanksgiving Day

### December

(Universal Human Rights Month)

### November

(American Diabetes Month, Native American Heritage Month)

- 2 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 3 Yoga (moved into Bethel Church)
- 4 Election Day
- 5 Programs and Outreach Committee, 12:00 p.m.

- 1 Yoga and Open Gym
- 3 Programs and Outreach Committee, 12:00 p.m.
- 4 Executive Committee, 6:00 p.m.
- 8 Yoga and Open Gym
- 11 BNA Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Green Initiatives Committee, 6:00 p.m.  
Yoga and Open Gym
- 18 Housing & Commercial Development Committee, 6:00 p.m.
- 25 Christmas
- 31 New Year's Eve

## Bancroft Banner

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phone 612-724-5313 / fax 612-724-3694

e-mail [info@bancroftneighborhood.org](mailto:info@bancroftneighborhood.org)

[www.bancroftneighborhood.org](http://www.bancroftneighborhood.org)

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## Give to the Max

This year's "Give to the Max Day" is Thursday, Nov. 13. GiveMN was launched in 2009 as a collaborative venture led by Minnesota Community Foundation and others committed to helping make our state a better place. To generate excitement, GiveMN organized "Give to the Max Day," touching off a blast of online giving: \$14 million in 24 hours.

Since that trial run in 2009, "Give to the Max Day" has become an annual tradition. Every year thousands of organizations raise money to improve the quality of life in Minnesota and communities around the world. This year, we ask that you help support the BNA with your charitable giving. Send in the donation card at right between Nov. 1 and Nov. 13 with "Give to the Max" written on it, and your donation will be counted for "Give to the Max Day" (allowing BNA a chance to win extra funds from GiveMN). You can also donate online at <https://givemn.org/organization/Bancroft-Neighborhood-Association>

## Help support the BNA with a tax-deductible donation during "Give To The Max"

*We warmly appreciate any amount you wish to give.*

**Yes, I want to support my neighborhood.  
Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift.**

(Check one)

\$500    \$250    \$100    \$50    \$35    \$\_\_\_\_\_ other

Please sign me up to receive the *Bancroft Banner* Newsletter  
(we will never give away your address).

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

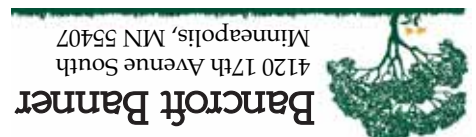
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to BNA and send to:

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

- BNA Annual Meeting Nov. 13
- Organics Recycling Community
- Labyrinth at Bethel Church
- Saving Energy and Staying Warm
- Give To The Max Day Nov. 13
- PRG Projects

**Inside:**



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