



Bancroft Banner

A Newsletter for the Bancroft Neighborhood

Bancroft Neighborhood
Association

Annual Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 11, 6:30 p.m.
Bethel Lutheran Church
4120 17th Avenue South

The BNA Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 11 at 6:30 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church. This is a change from years past, when the Annual Meeting was held in November. This year's Annual Meeting theme is "Pies, Not Pie Charts" and the BNA board members and staff will be making pies! So come join us for a slice; hear updates from the board, neighborhood committees, and Councilmember Glidden; bid on our silent auction items; and meet your neighbors. Childcare is available; please call to let us know how many young people you'll be bringing.

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 invite you to consider running for, and attending to vote on, the Board of Directors representing you.

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 the 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 Board.

For more information about the annual meeting or to volunteer your time please call or email the BNA office.



Is Radon a Problem in Your Home?

from Minnesota Department of Health

Radon is a colorless, odorless radioactive gas that seeps up from the earth. It is produced from the natural decay of uranium that is found in nearly all soils. Uranium breaks down to radium and as the radium disintegrates, it turns into the radioactive gas radon.

High radon exists in every state in the U.S. In Minnesota, two in five homes have radon levels that pose a significant health risk, and nearly 80% of Minnesota counties are rated as high radon zones. There is no known, safe level of radon; however, your greatest exposure is where the gas can concentrate indoors, in a space you spend the most time—your home.

Radon is a health concern because studies have shown that over time breathing in radon gas can increase your risk of lung cancer. This is because the radioactive particles from radon gas when breathed in can damage the cells that line the lung. Long-term exposure to radon can lead to lung cancer and is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. The risk of lung cancer increases for those who smoke.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends taking action to reduce radon in homes that have a radon level at or above 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/L). Without a test, it is very difficult to tell if a particular home will have a high radon level. There are many factors to consider, including how homes are built and operate. Homes that are next door

Welcome Jardín!

by Katie Cook, Special Programs Coordinator

Jardín was founded to be a welcoming space where little ones grow into healthy, happy, bilingual kids with cultural competency and blooming confidence. Our early learning centers are licensed by the Department of Human Services to provide care to infants as young as six weeks of age through the first day of kindergarten. Our strong commitment to early education in a healthy and clean environment ensures that each child receives only the best while in our care. Early academic achievement remains a top priority at Jardín as we prepare the youngest scholars for kindergarten readiness and beyond! Our unique early immersion curriculum is designed to promote the comprehension and use of Spanish from an early age. Our bilingual teachers foster an ideal learning environment for each age group we serve, taking care to address both academic and social-emotional skills that prepare lifelong learners. Children are exposed to a variety of concepts including literacy, pre-writing and early math and science concepts; and are encouraged to develop creativity and character through play-based learning. Enrichment activities including field trips, dance, music, art, and more reinforce just how fun learning can be. With beginning math and reading built into each day, we are proud to say that our graduates typically score in top levels of kindergarten entrance tests!

We are proud that our employees truly enjoy children and have careers that reflect their passion. The majority of our teachers are native Spanish speakers, and all work as a team to help instill a love for their language and culture in the children they care for. Countless studies show that early immersion offers both cognitive, social, and emotional benefits, not to mention the professional benefits that children reap later in life from their bilingual and bi-cultural outlook. The pride we take in our work with your children is also demonstrated through

our clean and welcoming centers. When you step into our bright and colorful buildings, you can rest assured that our playful toys are disinfected daily and surfaces are cleaned throughout the day. In accordance with our continued commitment to environmental stewardship, we provide cloth diapers for infants and toddlers while in our care to reduce waste, and teach through art and play about the importance of recycling and reusing. Through outdoor play and pre-school field trips we give children hands-on experience in nature and by serving organic food we vote against harmful pesticides. Our on-site commercial kitchens

freshly prepare natural and organic meals daily for your young ones. A range of well-balanced meals provides a varied diet and encourages children to expand their pallet beyond chicken nuggets and corn dogs—we help children enjoy quinoa, avocados, beets, and more.

We are excited to be joining the neighborhood and look forward to serving families in the Bancroft Neighborhood. For more information on our programming, priorities, and care offered, visit jardinmn.com or call for a tour at any of our three early learning centers.

History of Bancroft Elementary



Bancroft School soon after its construction in 1912.

Like many neighborhoods, the Bancroft neighborhood is named after our school, Bancroft Elementary. Here are a few interesting facts about our neighborhood school:

- Old Bancroft School was a small, wooden building built in the 1870s at 38th & Minnehaha (in what was then Minneapolis Township).
- The current Bancroft School was built in 1912 by E. S. Stebbins (updated in 1920 and 1966).
- Bancroft School is one of the oldest school buildings in the District still in operation.
- Its design was settled upon through an architectural competition.
- It was named for George Bancroft, a US statesman and author, considered the father of American history.
- Bancroft was the first Minneapolis school to fully incorporate open-air classrooms to supply fresh air to students with tubercular tendencies (thus the large banks of windows).
- It became an International Baccalaureate (IB) school in 2013.

Organics Recycling Update

As of December 14, 2015, 34,015 households have signed up for organics recycling, or just about 32 percent of the city's solid waste and recycling customers. In the Bancroft neighborhood, 518 households have already signed up. That's 39.97 percent of neighborhood households, which is above the city average.

Over 12,000 households in the Phase 1 roll-out area have already received their green organics recycling carts. All Solid Waste & Recycling customers who sign up to participate in the organics recycling program by February 1, 2016 will receive their organics carts beginning in April.

City crews already have over 20,000 organics carts to deliver in the Phase 2 areas of the City. To prepare, the delivery lists have to be printed and reviewed beginning in February. If you sign up after the February 1, 2016 deadline, you'll still get your cart in 2016; it just might not be until July or August.

Whether you currently participate or are planning to, there are certain materials no longer accepted in your organics cart. These items include:

Dryer lint: The compost facilities have found that dryer lint often contains high levels of synthetic material. Please place dryer lint and dryer sheets in the garbage.

Plastic-lined paper products that are not certified compostable: These items leave micro-plastics in the soil that is then transported and used all around the state, potentially having a harmful impact on our ecosystem if gone unchecked.

Chinese food containers

Ice cream tubs

Hot beverage paper cups (coffee cups)

To-go containers

Colored paper plates or paper plates with designs on them

Fast food wrappers

Butcher paper/wrap

Paper boats, often used at ball games, food trucks and fairs.

All paper cups, plates, boats, and to-go containers with a lining must be BPI or Cedar Grove certified compostable to be accepted in the organics. You can verify if an item is certified compostable by seeing if the item is listed in BPI's Certified Compostable Product Catalog at bpiworld.org.

If you haven't signed up for your organics cart yet, sign up now by contacting Solid Waste and Recycling at (612) 673-2917 from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, or email SWRcustomer@minneapolismn.gov. For more information visit minneapolismn.gov/organics

results are greater than 8 pCi/L, the MDH recommends conducting one more short-term test. If your short-term test results are between 2 to 8 pCi/L, MDH recommends conducting a long-term test. If the second test result, for either of those tests, is above 4.0 pCi/L then you should take action to reduce your household radon levels. More information on radon mitigation can be found on the MDH website.

If you've not conducted a radon test in your home, now is a perfect time to do so. BNA has free short-term radon tests available for neighborhood residents. Contact the BNA office for more information.

Radon from page 1

to each other can have different indoor radon levels, making a neighbor's test result a poor predictor of radon risk. So, it's a good idea to test your home for radon.

Testing is the only way to know if your home has elevated radon levels. There are generally two tests that are used to detect radon—a short-term test and a long-term test. Because radon levels can vary from day to day and month to month, a long-term test is a better indicator of average radon level. However, the MDH recommends conducting a short-term test first, which can be completed in just 3-7 days. If your short-term test

BNA CALENDAR

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

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

January

(National Blood Donor Month)

- 1 New Year's Day
- 7 Outreach Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 14 BNA Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Green Initiatives Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- 28 Housing & Commercial Development Committee, 6:00 p.m.

February

(Black History Month)

- 2 Groundhog Day
- 4 Outreach Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 11 BNA Annual Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 15 Green Initiatives Committee, 6:00 p.m.
- 25 Housing & Commercial Development Committee, 6:00 p.m.
- 29 Leap Day

March

(Women's History Month)

- 3 Outreach Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 10 BNA Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 21 Green Initiatives Committee, 6:00 p.m.
- 24 Housing & Commercial Development Committee, 6:00 p.m.
- 27 Easter

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**

BNA/TCF Home Improvement Loan Program Ending

Since 1995, BNA has provided a home improvement loan program using NRP funds in partnership with TCF Bank. Over the 20-year period, there have been more than 160 home improvement loans processed totaling over \$1.4 million in investments to neighborhood housing stock. The program has been a success; however, with changes occurring in the lending field, including cheaper loan options, the program needs to be reassessed.

At this time, BNA will no longer be offering home improvement loan programs through TCF. For those residents who already have loans that are in repayment, nothing will change—continue to make payments as you have been. Over the next few months, the Housing and Commercial Development Committee will be gathering data from you—our residents—

around your home improvement needs. This information will be used to determine if a new home improvement loan program is needed and, if so, what that program should look like.

Questions should be directed to Luke at the BNA office. Additionally, you can contact the office with any feedback you'd like to give regarding a BNA home improvement loan.

Sledding Events

Now that we have snow on the ground, watch your inbox for details about Bancroft's Sledding Parties at Bancroft Meadows. The Meadows is a fun—yet gentle—sledding hill already frequented by many Bancroft neighbors. We will send alerts when the weather is right for a weekend sledding party, complete with a mobile Hot Chocolate station. Send an email to info@bancroftneighborhood.org with SLEDDING in the subject line to be added to this email list. See you at the Meadows this winter!

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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.

Newsletter Staff

Luke Stultz, *editor*
Holle Brian, *production*

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e-mail info@bancroftneighborhood.org

www.bancroftneighborhood.org

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Meridian Garden Food Forest

The Meridian Garden Food Forest (located at E. 38th St. & 12th Ave. S.) is now on its third growing season. Over the past two years, there have been wonderful volunteers working to improve the property. The planning team met in March and came up with the following goals for 2016:

- Purchase and erect a shed where we can store tools. Purchase tools.
- Add signage to the garden which will explain its purpose, use, and how to get involved.
- Use the Step-Up program to get up to five youth for two months to weed, water and tend the orchard.
- Support Caitlin Cook-Isaacson in her continued plan to harvest rainwater from adjacent residential rooftop.
- Focus on the east, north and west edges of the garden to present a more well-tended look to the neighborhood.
- Encourage events and further use, development, and education by the community.



Volunteers planted fruit trees last year at the Meridian Garden.

If you'd like to get involved, or have ideas that could help the Green Initiatives Committee reach our goals for the garden, please let us know. Additionally, we have scheduled two work days each month (one week night and one weekend day) for volunteers to come out, learn about the garden, and help out. Check the calendar for specific dates and times.

Laura Elias's blog has some great information, updates, and photos of the Meridian Garden at: <http://meridiangardenorchard.wordpress.com>. Hope to see you in the garden!

Annual Meeting Recap

The BNA Annual Meeting in February was one of the best yet. The theme was "Pies, Not Pie Charts" and BNA board members made pie for the community. The board got a lot of great feedback from residents and will use that as they move forward with planning out the rest of the year.

There were also a few new community members who were elected to the board. Welcome to the new 2016 BNA Community Council: Joe Hatch, President; Nicole Falk, Vice President; Neal Baxter, Secretary; Dan Gilcrest, Treasurer; and board members Julie Zamora, Matt Toburen, Josh Casey, Banio Carpenter, Hector Fernandez, Geneva Finn, Matthew Ayres, Kate Roarty, Catherine Mandle, and Keith Twist.

A big thank you to the local businesses that donated delicious food for the Annual Meeting: **Jakeeno's, Marla's Caribbean Cuisine, Smoke in the Pit, Tiny Diner, Mei Inn, and Cup Foods.** Next time you're in one of these businesses, be sure to thank them for supporting the neighborhood and BNA.

South Minneapolis Housing Fair April 16

The 22nd annual South Minneapolis Housing Fair will be held April 16 from 10 a.m to 3 p.m. at the Minneapolis Sports Center-Midtown YWCA, 2121 E. Lake St. The Fair is free to the public and provides home improvement and community resource information. The theme for this year's fair is "smart houses", and the focus will be on tech options, efficiency and eco-friendly/green living.

In addition to local building, remodeling and landscaping contractors, there are booths with experts on gar-

dening from the University of Minnesota, and from the city of Minneapolis who can answer questions on building codes, solid waste and graffiti removal.

The Fair will again have Tech Dump, where you can bring your small electronic devices for recycling; Elpis Enterprises where kids can build a bird feeder; fair attendees can make their own non-toxic chemical at the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization booth; and the Tiny Solar House sponsored by The Minnesota Renewable Energy Society.

"How-to" sessions are being offered on a home improvement topics including: the dos and don'ts of green remodeling, adding green elements to your remodeling project, and information on installing solar.

The South Minneapolis Housing Fair is an independent non-profit 501(c)3 that produces the fair to improve Minneapolis Neighborhoods and their housing stock.

For more information, go to housingfair.org.

People & Pets Together

The mission of People & Pets Together is to keep families together. We do this by providing pet food to food shelves, hosting vaccination clinics, offering grants for veterinary care, serving as a general resource for people with pets who are struggling and, most recently, by opening Minnesota's first pet food shelf. Our website also offers resources to help people find pet-friendly housing.

For myriad reasons, it's best to keep a pet in a loving home whenever possible. On the human side of this equation, every person should experience the love of a pet. That kind of companionship can improve both physical and mental health. For pets, we would argue that any pet should stay with the people to whom they are bonded. By supporting these existing relationships, we hope to decrease the number of pets in shelters, improve the health of our communities and let everyone feel the love and support that a relationship with a pet can bring.

People & Pets Together was started in 2009 and was originally known as The Pet Project. Inspired by the economic recession and the love we feel for our own pets, we felt that something should be done to help people keep their pets when crisis strikes. We were built by volunteers and, until recently, were 100% volunteer-run. Since our inception, we have worked with metro area food shelves to provide pet



People & Pets Together recently opened the doors of Minnesota's first pet food shelf at 3755 Bloomington Avenue South.

food to people in need. The scope of that need was beyond our imagining. Once we realized that our community really needed our help, we started expanding our programs beyond food support. We began hosting subsidized vaccination clinics with community partners such as The Aliveness Project and Hallie Q. Brown. Since vaccinations are just a piece of the wellness puzzle, we established a veterinary grant program in 2011. With our rapid expansion and success, we were able to fulfill our dream of opening our own headquarters in South Minneapolis.

We recently opened the doors of Minnesota's first pet food shelf at 3755 Bloomington Avenue South in Minneapolis, serving the greater Powderhorn and Phillips neighborhoods. Residents of Powderhorn or Phillips who are on government assistance and/or

income qualify may stop in and apply for our program to receive free monthly pet food and supplies.

People & Pets Together
3755 Bloomington Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55407
(612) 722-9998

peopleandpetstogether.org

Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. and Saturdays 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

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:

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Zero Waste Buying Co-Op!

For the past few years, BNA has been focused on holding zero-waste events. While we do our best to find compostable plates, cups, and cutlery, it hasn't always been easy... until now.

Eureka Recycling's Zero Waste Buying Co-op allows individuals, businesses, and organizations in the Twin Cities area to purchase recycled paper and compostable products at a reduced cost. By combining smaller orders, we get a bulk discount from the supplier and pass the savings on to you. Buying through our co-op is the easiest and most affordable way for you to purchase environmentally friendly paper or compostable products for yourself or your office. Place your order from March 21-April 7.

As more and more people in the Twin Cities area have access to commercial-scale composting through collection or drop offs, we are seeing many products on the shelves making claims to be compostable, bio-degradable, "green", etc. Unfortunately, there is not much oversight to these claims, and not all are truly compostable. Purchasing through Eureka's Co-op ensures that the plates, utensils, and cups that you are putting in your compost are truly turning back into

dirt. Of course, reusable is always best, but if that's not an option and you are planning to compost at your upcoming graduation parties, family picnics and small summer events, these products are good alternative and at a budget-friendly price. This spring, we are excited to add napkins and catering pans, thanks to suggestions from last season.

Another addition is Zero Waste Party kits, providing small sets of compostable products conveniently packaged together for your next event. These are made up of BPI certified compostable plates, napkins, cutlery and more! See product descriptions for each of our three kit options. The kits work perfectly for board meetings or birthday parties. These come in sets for 15 and 30.

Visit eurekarecycling.org to find more information and to view our online store. The order deadline is Thursday April 7 with pickup or delivery in mid-May. If you don't need these products now, but would like to stay informed about future product availability and order deadlines, just call (612) NO-WASTE (669-2783) or email us at buyrecycled@eurekarecycling.org and we'll keep you in the loop!

Organics Recycling Training

Get your organics recycling questions answered with hands-on learning, demonstrations, and tips that make organics recycling easy at this presentation on Saturday, April 9.

- Learn about the City's new Recycling Block Leader program and how you can sign up to be the leader on your block.
- Hear brief presentations from Minneapolis Recycling Staff, SET, our local commercial composting facility, and Hennepin County Department of Environment and Energy
- Get a free kitchen organics collection container

- Pick up a free yard sign promoting organics recycling
- Enjoy refreshments with your neighbors

To RSVP or for more information, contact Kellie Kish at 612-673-3536 or email kellie.kish@minneapolismn.gov.

Organics Recycling Training
Saturday, April 9, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Memorial Park
4055 Nicollet Ave S.
RSVP: Encouraged but not required
www.minneapolismn.gov/organics

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April

(National Poetry Month, Stress Awareness Month)

- 4 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 6 **Meridian Garden Work Day**, 6-8:00 p.m.
- 7 **Outreach Committee**, 7:30 p.m.
- 11 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 14 **Board Meeting**, 7:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran
- 15 **Tax Day**
- 16 **Meridian Garden Work Day**, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
- 18 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 22 **Earth Day**
- 25 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 29 **Arbor Day**

May

(National Bike Month, National Physical Fitness Month)

- 2 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 4 **Meridian Garden Work Day**, 6-8:00 p.m.
- 5 **Outreach Committee**, 7:30 p.m.
- 8 **Mothers Day**
- 9 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 12 **Board Meeting**, 7:00 p.m.
- 16 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 21 **Meridian Garden Work Day**, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
- 23 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 30 **Memorial Day**

June

(Men's Health Month)

- 1 **Meridian Garden Work Day**, 6-8:00 p.m.
- 2 **Outreach Committee**, 7:30 p.m.
- 6 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 9 **Board Meeting**, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 14 **Flag Day**
- 18 **Meridian Garden Work Day**, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
- 19 **Father's Day**
- 20 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 27 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.

BANCROFT IN BRIEF

Garden Plots

BNA oversees the community garden located at Bethel Lutheran Church on 16th Avenue and 40th Street. There are 18 garden plots that are 10 feet x 20 feet, and currently seven are available to rent for this growing season. There is a \$30 annual fee for each plot which includes water and access to seeds and various plant donations throughout the summer. There is a limit of one garden plot per household and preference is given to residents of Bancroft neighborhood. Applications have been sent out to previous gardeners; if you haven't had a plot before and would like to, contact the BNA office for an application.

Open Gym / Yoga

BNA will continue to offer open gym from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Mondays and yoga 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 to find out about changes or cancellations.

Preschool Playgroup

Bethel Lutheran has opened up their gymnasium on Wednesdays from 9-10:30 a.m. for parents to come and play with their preschoolers. There's no need to RSVP. Just show up and play with other neighborhood children, have a cup of coffee, and chat with other parents. Some toys are provided, but you can bring your own if you'd like.



Save the date — Ice Cream Social

This year, BNA will hold the annual Ice Cream Social on Thursday, July 14 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The event will take place on the south lawn at Bethel Lutheran Church. Follow us on Facebook for updates as the date draws near: facebook.com/bancroftneighborhood

- Meridian Garden Food Forest
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- People & Pets Together
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- Organics Recycling Training
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ICE CREAM SOCIAL

JULY 14, 6-8:00 P.M.



The annual Bancroft Ice Cream Social will be held on Thursday, July 14, from 6:00–8:00 p.m. on the south lawn of Bethel Lutheran Church. This year, we will have a petting zoo complete with pony rides for the kids, free ice cream, art activities, live music, and a bouncy house. There'll be food for purchase from a local food truck, as well. Follow us on Facebook for more information as the date draws near:

[facebook.com/bancroftneighborhood](https://www.facebook.com/bancroftneighborhood)

Security Rebate Program

The BNA board has created a Security Rebate Program to help Bancroft residents make security-related improvements to their properties. The program will reimburse up to \$50 per household for improvements such as exterior motion lights, replacing deadbolts on exterior doors, replacing window locks, and even offsetting the cost of installing a security system (however, funds cannot cover monthly fees). The program information can be found on our website and Facebook pages. While there is a list of eligible and ineligible improvements, the list is not exhaustive. If you are unsure if your improvement will be covered, contact the BNA office.

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Miele Concrete + Design

Miele Concrete + Design is on its fourth year in business and currently getting set up at 4206 Cedar Ave. The space is under construction and is coming along nicely. I spoke with Mel, the owner, who has 10 years experience as a designer and concrete artist, about what she envisions in the space. There are some interesting spaces that are being maximized for use, such as a wine cellar and conference space for designers. Other spaces will include a kitchen showroom (where classes will be offered), painting space, and a photography space. Another unique artist that will be working with Miele Concrete + Design is a goldsmith, who will work with precious metals to make art and other designs for home and commercial spaces.

Being involved in the local community is important to Mel, and she hopes to connect with local organi-



Commercial counter top design by Miele Concrete + Design.

zations. The plan is to have the space ready in September and hold a grand opening event for the public in October. The exact date is yet to be set, but I suggest stopping in and seeing the

space when it's complete. Learn more and check out some of the great work they've done on their website: mieleconcreteanddesign.com

2016 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 10 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Be sure to take advantage of the promotion and marketing BNA 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 BNA office. You can also sign up online on the BNA website: bancroftneighborhood.org (under Neighborhood News).

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

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please return this form to the BNA office no later than Sept. 2 to have your location included on the map.

Phone: 612-724-5313 • Fax: 612-724-3694 • Email: info@bancroftneighborhood.org

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



The STEP-UP interns working hard in the Meridian Garden.

STEP-UP interns

This summer, there are five STEP-UP interns working with BNA in the Meridian Garden—Emily, Jorge, Kowsar, Gabrielle, and Maymuna. The interns, ages 14-15, will learn about gardening, permaculture, and the importance of sustainability each week through August 19. In addition, BNA staff works one-on-one with each intern to reach specific goals they want to achieve through the program. STEP-UP is a competitive program and it's important the youth get the most out of the experience. If you're out and about, stop by the Meridian Garden during the day and check out our progress.

Mayor R.T. Rybak introduced the STEP-UP program in 2004, launching a successful pairing of the private and public sectors uniting behind training and preparing the future workforce. Since 2004, the City of Minneapolis STEP-UP program has created near-

ly 20,000 meaningful internships for youth, helping young people to gain 21st century skills, build professional connections, explore career interests, and begin the path to educational and career success. With more than 230 employers participating in STEP-UP each year, STEP-UP has become a national model for youth employment programs with strong private sector investment.

In the last 10 years, STEP-UP placed 19,009 Minneapolis youth in internships where they learned new skills, made connections with business and community leaders, explored a wide variety of industries, or deepened their knowledge in a specific field.

In those 10 years, STEP-UP interns earned a total of \$20.7 million dollars in wages. Of that, \$12.4 million was in wages paid by the private sector, and \$8.3 million was funded with government sources.

Focus on Seniors

Nokomis Healthy Seniors (NHS) is a Living at Home/Block Nurse Program serving the greater Nokomis area of Minneapolis since 1994. NHS helps neighborhood older adults to continue living safely and independently in their homes by offering many activities, from exercise classes and foot care to educational seminars and social events. Unless otherwise noted, all activities are held at NHS, located in Bethel Lutheran Church, 4120-17th Avenue South. Please call 612-729-5499 for more information, or visit nokomishealthyseniors.org.

Here are two upcoming special events:

Health and Enrichment Program: "We Honor Vets" Party and Recognition. Wednesday, July 13, 1:30 pm. at Nokomis Square Cooperative. Call 612-729-5499 to register and if you want to be recognized for your service. All are welcome! Free.

Lunch and a Movie: Bridge of Spies. Thursday, July 21. Lunch starts at 11:15 am; movie to follow. Free. At NHS, located in Bethel Lutheran Church, 4120-17th Avenue South.

BNA CALENDAR

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

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

July

(National Parks Month, National Picnics Month)

- 11 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.
 - 13 **Meridian Garden Work Day**, 6-8:00 p.m.
 - 14 **Ice Cream Social**
 - 18 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.
 - 23 **Meridian Garden Work Day**, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
 - 25 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.
- *no board meeting in July

August

(Immunization Awareness Month)

- 1 **National Night Out**
- 4 **Outreach Committee**, 7:30 p.m.
- 8 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 11 **Board Meeting**, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 20 **Meridian Garden Work Day**, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
- 22 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 29 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.

September

(National Preparedness Month)

- 1 **Outreach Committee**, 7:30 p.m.
- 5 **Labor Day**
- 8 **Board Meeting**, 7:00 p.m.
- 10 **Neighborhood-wide Garage Sale**
- 12 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 17 **Meridian Garden Work Day**, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
- 19 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 26 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.

BANCROFT IN BRIEF

Farmers markets open

Two great farmers markets are open near Bancroft—Tiny Diner Market and Midtown Farmers Market. The Tiny Diner Farmers Market takes place in the Tiny Diner's parking lot on Thursdays from 5-8:00 p.m. You can grab a snack or a drink before picking up some fresh fruits and vegetables.

Don't let the construction confuse you. The Midtown Farmers Market is just 300 feet east of their previous location. Through October, stop by the market (at Lake St. E & 22nd Ave S) on Tuesdays from 3:00-7:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Business networking events

Do you have a home-based business? Are you interested in attending a free networking event to connect with other home-based and local businesses? If

so, contact the BNA office. BNA works along side two business associations and would like to help home-based businesses grow their reach. Dates and times of networking events will depend on who participates and will be set at a later date.

Radon tests available

Radon is a colorless, odorless radioactive gas that seeps up from the earth. When inhaled, it gives off radioactive particles that can damage the cells that line the lung.

Long term exposure to radon can lead to lung cancer. In fact, over 21,000 lung cancer deaths in the US each year are from radon, making it a serious health concern for all Minnesotans. According to state records, more than 40% of Minnesota home radon tests conducted in the past 13 years show unsafe levels of the radioactive gas.

Have you tested your house for radon? If not, or if you'd like to re-test,

BNA has radon tests available for free to Bancroft residents. Contact the office for more information.

Community Initiated Grants

Do you have a project or idea that would benefit the neighborhood, but you're unsure how to make it happen? BNA has just the program to help—the Community Initiated Grant Program. This grant provides one-time funding to an individual or organization to implement a project that would improve the livability of the neighborhood. Prior projects have included bike racks and community gardens.

The funds cannot be used for food/beverages, wages to implement the project, or for an ongoing project's support. For more information and to apply, look on the BNA website under Resources and Forms or contact the BNA office.

- BNA Calendar
- Garage Sale registration
- Neighborhood-wide Grants
- Community Initiated
- Farmers Markets Open
- Seniors events
- Nokomis Healthy
- STEP-UP Interns
- Miele Concrete + Design
- Security Rebate Program
- Ice Cream Social July 14

Inside:

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Bancroft Banner

Get ready for winter with a Home Energy Squad visit

Here in Minnesota, winter weather usually hits a little too soon and lasts a little too long. Now is the time to get ahead of the game and get your home ready before this year's snow fall. Sometimes the hardest part is knowing where to start. The Home Energy Squad is a great resource. At a Home Energy Squad visit, two energy experts assess your home and help you prioritize energy saving opportunities to help you stay warm in your home without breaking the bank.

The Bancroft Neighborhood Association is partnering with Home Energy Squad Enhanced to buy down the visit cost over 50%, meaning all

Bancroft residents can schedule a visit for only \$30 (usually \$70). This includes a blower door test with an infrared camera inspection to identify air leaks and insulation voids, a safety check of your home's heating system and water heater, and the installation of energy saving materials. Materials may include door weather stripping, a programmable thermostat, CFLs, faucet aerators, shower heads, and a water heater blanket.

At the end of the visit you will receive a customized Energy Fitness Plan with prioritized recommendations for energy upgrades, rebate information and financing options to help you take the next steps. If insu-



lation or air sealing is recommended, you will also receive a quote for the work to be done.

For a limited time the City of Minneapolis is offering free income qualified visits and 0% financing for insulation and air sealing upgrades! Call 612-335-5874 to check your eligibility and schedule your visit. To learn more visit mncee.org/hes-mpls

What's happening at 1115 E. 40th Street?



The vacant house at 1115 E. 40th Street has long been an eyesore for the neighborhood. For the past year, with the help of Elizabeth Glidden's office and the City of Lakes Commu-

nity Land Trust (CLCLT), the BNA has been focused on this property. We're happy to report that things are coming together. During the year we've been working on it, there were three proposals to purchase the property. On Oct. 7, the City Council approved the sale of this property to the CLCLT.

Their plan is to tear down the existing structure, which has been updated numerous times throughout the life of the house, and is no longer code compliant. In fact, fixing it up and saving the existing structure would be cost prohibitive. The new house will be smaller than what is there now, and will better fit into the look of the neighborhood. Additionally, the new structure will be part of the land trust,

which means the home will always remain affordable for income-qualified buyers. You can find out more about the land trust at clclt.org.

TO THE MAX
give DAY 

**Support the BNA on
Give To The Max Day,
November 17!**

See article and form on page 2.

Programs and events at Bethel

There some fun events happening at Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church, 4120 17th Ave. S., over the next few months. You can find more information on their websites at bethel-mpls.org.

Pre-School Playgroup

Drop in and PLAY! This group is held every Wednesday morning from 9–10:30 a.m. for children 5 and under (who are not in kindergarten) to attend with a parent or caregiver. The goal of the group is to get parents and kids together in a fun environment. We will have balls, trikes, legos and more available so children can play and get some energy out. All are welcome without exception.

Solar Open House

The Bethel Community Solar Garden was recently finished and is now running at peak capacity. Stop by and enjoy a beverage and snack while you learn about the solar garden on

Wednesday, Oct. 26 from 5:30–7:30 p.m. The event is co-hosted by Novel Energy Solutions, who will have information about other solar garden projects on hand for those interested.

Yoga and Open Gym

BNA and Bethel have partnered to bring free yoga classes and open gym time to Bancroft residents throughout the winter. Monday nights, starting on Nov. 7, open gym will run from 6-8:00 p.m. and yoga will run from 7-8:00 p.m. No need to RSVP, just show up. Follow us on Facebook for up-to-date information, schedule changes, etc.

The Fruit Club

With a focus on eating healthy, Bethel is now a pick up point for The Fruit Club. Anyone can order fresh fruit—with different features monthly—and pick up right in the neighborhood. You can find out more about The Fruit Club by going to thefruitclub.net.

Support the BNA on Give To The Max Day

This year Give to the Max Day (through GiveMN) is Thursday, Nov. 17. GiveMN launched in 2009 as a collaborative venture led by Minnesota Community Foundation and many other organizations. To generate excitement, GiveMN organized something called Give to the Max Day.

Since then, 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 Bancroft Neighborhood Association with your charitable giving. Send in the donation form below with “Give to the Max” written on it between Nov. 1 and Nov. 17 and your donation will be counted for Give to the Max Day, which gives BNA a chance to win extra funds through hourly drawings. You can also donate online at givemn.org/organization/Bancroft-Neighborhood-Association

Help support the BNA with a tax-deductible donation during “Give To The Max”, Nov. 1-17

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

BANCROFT HISTORY

William B. Woodward, 7th Ward Alderman

by Neal Baxter

With the politics of the day being what they are, I was reminded of William B. Woodward, 7th Ward Alderman, who lived at 3812 10th Ave. S. According to the Minnesota Elections Trends website, Woodward was the first and only politician/neighbor who has ever been indicted for a crime. His story is below.

William B. Woodward enjoyed relaxed ethical standards. Among his misdeeds, let two suffice. On Oct. 31, 1896, Woodward bribed a church officer. He proposed to the treasurer of Oliver Presbyterian Church, at 27th & Bloomington, that a city assessment against church property could be annulled if Woody were re-elected. In conversation, he produced a check to help the church meet its other obligations. When a church member heard of this transaction, he told the church

leaders, and the Trustees ordered the Treasurer to return the check to Woodward.

His last crooked deed while alderman? His shady pals on the Council appointed Woodward treasurer of their group. They arranged that candidates for alderman should agree to join the "combine" after election, or be told they'd never get the nomination. The "combine" brought in \$3,500, and after the election, Woodward ran off with the kitty. He was reported to be out East, shopping for carriages with which to open a carriage dealership. On Jan. 30, 1897, the papers reported that Woodward was in Veracruz, Mexico, relaxing at the coffee plantation of ex-Alderman George Flanders.

You can read more about the history of the Bancroft neighborhood, including politics, schools, parks, churches, and more on the BNA website.

Save the Date!

The BNA Annual Get Together will be held on Thursday, Feb. 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars to come meet your neighbors, have some great food, learn about neighborhood happenings, and vote for board members. If you're interested in running for a seat on the board, contact the BNA office for more information.

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*

Holle Brian, *production*

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

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Bancroft Neighborhood Association
4120 17th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55407

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

e-mail info@bancroftneighborhood.org

www.bancroftneighborhood.org

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BNA CALENDAR

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October

(Domestic Violence Awareness month)

- 3 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 5 **Outreach Committee**, 7:30 p.m.
- 10 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 13 **Board Meeting**, 7:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran
- 17 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 24 **Yoga**, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 31 **Halloween** - no yoga

November

(National Adoption month)

- 2 **Outreach Committee**, 7:30 p.m.
- 6 **Daylight Savings Time Ends**
- 7 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 10 **Board Meeting**, 7:00 p.m.
- 14 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 21 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 24 **Thanksgiving Day**
- 28 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.

December

(Universal Human Rights month)

- 5 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 7 **Outreach Committee**, 7:30 p.m.
- 8 **Board Meeting**, 7:00 p.m.
- 12 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 19 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 25 **Christmas Day**
- 26 **Open Gym**, 6-8:00 p.m.
Yoga, 7-8:00 p.m.
- 31 **New Year's Eve**

BANCROFT IN BRIEF

Backyard Chickens

Interested in raising backyard chickens, but not sure where to start? Or have you already started and are interested in best practices? If so, the University of Minnesota Extension program has you covered. On Thursday, Nov. 3, an Extension educator will be holding a free information session at Gandhi Mahal (3009 27th Ave. S). Some topics to be covered are breeds, rearing chicks, feeds and feeding, housing, disease prevention, and managing manure in a small space. A representative from Minneapolis Animal Care and Control will be on hand for a Q&A session, as well. Registration starts at 5:30 p.m. and the program goes from 6–8:00 p.m. If you have questions or would like to RSVP, please contact Wayne Martin at 612-625-6224 or marti067@umn.edu.

Note: this session qualifies as an approved training program for a City of Minneapolis fowl permit.

BNA offers Security Rebate Program

The BNA board has created a Security Rebate Program to help Bancroft residents make security-related improvements to their properties. The program will reimburse up to \$50 per household for improvements such as exterior motion lights, replacing deadbolts on exterior doors, replacing window locks, and even offsetting the cost of installing a security system (however, funds cannot cover monthly fees). The program information can be found on our website and Facebook pages. While there is a list of eligible and ineligible improvements, the list is not exhaustive. If you are unsure if your improvement will be covered, contact the BNA office.

HOME Program for Seniors

For a limited time, Senior Community Services (SCS) is offering a FREE Home Health & Safety Assessment, which includes a written report with any recommendations laid out. SCS focuses on enhancing the quality of life of older adults and their caregivers. They have a wide range of programs available, including their HOME program. HOME stands for Household & Outside Maintenance for Elderly, and there are handymen available through the program to help with a variety of senior homemaking services—from changing furnace filters and light bulbs to installing grab bars and repairing faucets. If you'd like more information, or to schedule your health and safety assessment, call 952-746-4046.

- BNA Calendar
- HOME Senior Program
- Backyard Chickens
- Bethel Church
- Programs and Events at
- Security Rebate Program
- William B. Woodward
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- November 17
- Give To The Max Day
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- Home Energy Audit

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