



**bottineau**  
neighborhood association

# BOTTINEAU GAZETTE

A Publication of the Bottineau Neighborhood Association  
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## In This Issue

Problem Properties ..... 1  
 The Cost of Food ..... 1  
 Phone Numbers ..... 2  
 Buy Local: Northeast Farmers' Market ..... 2  
 Foreclosures NE ..... 2  
 Minneapolis Citizens Academy ..... 2  
 No July Newsletter ..... 2  
 Bottineau Park News.... 3  
 Bicycle Improvements . 3  
 Websites ..... 3

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Please Recycle

June/July 2007

## Problem Properties

First, thank you to both Tom Deegan and Greg Simbeck (Problem Properties Unit and Regulatory Services) for attending the June BNA meeting and talking about how and when a property becomes a 'problem' and what happens after that. Those attending also generated a list of about a dozen neighborhood properties that were of some concern for various reasons (un-mowed lawn, loud parties, suspicious activity, torn screens, and other similar issues). Some of the identified properties are single family homes, some duplexes and one is an apartment building. Some of these properties have no active violations; one has six. They range from tall grass to water damage to unlicensed work. Five of them have been recently foreclosed.

Tom Deegan and Greg Simbeck both indicated that the City is being overwhelmed by the increasing number of vacant, foreclosed, boarded, and/or problem properties (see Foreclosures NE on page 2.). There are not enough staff and financial resources to keep up. This were neighborhoods can enter the picture. There are numerous things neighborhoods can do to help reduce the number of problem properties. In fact, neighborhoods are generally more effective at many of these than the City could ever hope to be because neighborhoods work at a grass-roots level and are more easily able to take proactive actions and not simply respond to complaints. Please join us at the July neighborhood meeting to make some decisions on actions the Bottineau neighborhood should take to help address this issue.

## NOTICE

**Neighborhood Meeting**  
**June 28<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM**  
Eastside Neighborhood Services  
(1700 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NE)

Problem Properties: What shall we do?

Help decide what to do and join the effort to reduce the number of problematic properties in the neighborhood.

Light refreshments provided

## The Cost of Food

What should we have for dinner? So begins the introduction to the Omnivore's Dilemma (Michael Pollan, Penguin Press, 2006). Before even finishing this book you realize that is not as simple a question as it would appear. Pollan discusses the prevalence of corn in our diets and the relationship to the obesity epidemic in this country. Corn and corn derived products make up 13 of the 38 ingredients in a McDonalds Chicken McNugget. We are also the only country with both obesity and malnourishment issues. Think organic is any better? Not necessarily. That organic broccoli from Chili you bought the other day may have added as much as four pounds of carbon into the atmosphere as a result of all the shipping. One of the solutions he offers is to buy local. Here in Northeast we have that option every Saturday.

**Buy Local** on next page >

## Phone

Police, Fire and Medical  
Emergency  
911

Minneapolis City Info:  
311

Bottineau Neighborhood  
Association  
782-2145

3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Councilwoman  
Hofstede  
673-2203

Hennepin County  
Commissioner Stenglein  
348-7882

Parks Commissioner  
Dziedzic  
230-6443

Bottineau Park  
370-4958

Family Violence,  
Domestic Abuse, Child  
Abuse  
673-3072

Housing Inspections  
673-5858

NE Home Ownership  
Center  
378-7985

Community Crime  
Prevention  
673-2797

Pierre Bottineau Library  
630-6890

Minneapolis Park Board  
230-6400

Minneapolis Solid Waste  
and Recycling  
673-2917

Traffic Enforcement  
673-3443

## Buy Local

The Northeast Farmer's Market is open for business! The market will continue to be located in the parking lot of St. Boniface Catholic Church, at the intersection of University and 7th Avenue NE, across from Emily's Lebanese Deli.



The market season began the season on Saturday, June 2nd and will run through October. Hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Emphasis is on locally-grown produce, flowers and plants and other locally-produced items. Special events such as a corn feed, bake sale, and fall festival are held during the Farmers Market season.

The market is handicapped accessible and WIC approved.

## Foreclosures NE

There has been much in the news about the increasing number of foreclosures not only in Minneapolis but all across the Country. Everyone agrees it is going to get worse before it gets better. To help illustrate the problem, the Bottineau Neighborhood Association has posted maps of NE Minneapolis foreclosure data on its website. The maps show the location of foreclosures in 2005, 2006 and the first five months of 2007. See:

[www.bottineauneighborhood.org/information.html](http://www.bottineauneighborhood.org/information.html)

## Minneapolis Citizens Academy

The Citizens Academy is an opportunity for citizens who live or work in Minneapolis to learn about the Minneapolis Police Department and to meet officers. Many participants are involved in their neighborhoods and in their block clubs. Also individuals from the media, who work closely with the police, and who work with human rights organizations have participated in the program. Everyone completing the survey stated that they would recommend the program to a friend, adding "and have done so!", "Absolutely" and "yes!" One person summarized the success well when they said "Thank you to all the officers who came to speak to our class. It was extremely eye-opening, informative and fun. Keep this program alive, it is vital for police-community relations."

A fall class of the Citizens Academy is being offered. It will be Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> through November 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The majority of classes will be held at 41<sup>st</sup> and Dupont Avenue N. The program is filling quickly, so even though there is a deadline of August 22<sup>nd</sup> for the class; it is recommended that you apply early as there are limited openings. For an application and additional information, go to:

[www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/citizens-academy.asp](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/citizens-academy.asp)

## No July Newsletter

Just a reminder that to help cut costs, the Bottineau Neighborhood Association will not be publishing a July *Gazette*. Please visit our website for any breaking news or other information. We are also always available by email or phone.



**Summer on 2nd Street**

This program, run in conjunction with East Side Neighborhood Services, gives kids a chance to participate in fun creative and educational activities in a safe environment over the summer. Each week of the summer we'll have a special theme like creative arts, music or adventure. There will also be activities like keeping up a neighborhood garden, science projects, cultural diversity and sports. Every week we will go on two field trips, one to a water park and the other that fits the weekly theme. All registration takes place at eastside Neighborhood Services at (612) 787-4034.

Time: 12:30PM-04:30PM  
Date: Mo Tu We Th 6/25/07-8/9/07  
Ages: Ages 7-13  
Mpls Resident Cost: Fee \$50, Supply Fee \$0 \*



**Skateboard Checkout Program**

Come enjoy our new skate park, even if you have no equipment! We will have a limited amount of skateboards and safety equipment available for checkout from the park. Thanks to the H.Y.P.E. council of Minneapolis Public Schools Community Education Department for making this possible for kids in the neighborhood.

Time: 1:00PM-7:00PM  
Date: Mo - Fr 6/18/07-8/24/07  
Ages: Ages 8-17

Call Bottineau Park at 612-370-4958 for more information.

The City recently announced \$250,000 in bicycle improvements for NE Minneapolis. Here is some information on what can be expected (from [www.tlcmnnesota.org](http://www.tlcmnnesota.org)).

**Central Avenue NE Planning Study.**

This study will examine options for improving conditions for bicyclists along Central Avenue NE from the Mississippi River to 37th Avenue NE.

**5th Street NE.** This 1.97 mile project will connect Northeast Minneapolis to the University of Minnesota and Southeast Minneapolis. It will add a "bicycle boulevard" treatment (a street that gives priority to bicyclists) and bicycle lanes. The project also includes signage, striping, sealcoating, bicycle racks, curb cuts, and non-permanent traffic diverters.

**Plymouth Avenue N/8th Avenue NE**

This is a 1.08 mile project connecting Northeast Minneapolis to existing bike lanes in North Minneapolis (2<sup>nd</sup> Street N). The project includes adding bike lanes to the Plymouth Ave N./8th Ave NE corridor by reducing some four-lane portions of the corridor to three or two lanes, and innovative signage for a three-block area.

**22nd Avenue NE.** This is a 2.21 mile bicycle boulevard project on 22nd Avenue NE. The boulevard will have 25 mph speed limits, "no passing cyclists" signage, special pavement markings, non-permanent traffic diverters, fewer stops, speed bumps, and improved crossings at busy streets.

The Bottineau Neighborhood Association (and very likely other impacted neighborhoods) has not heard anything about when these projects might begin. We will post updates when we get them.



Bottineau Neighborhood Association  
[bottineauneighborhood.org](http://bottineauneighborhood.org)

Minneapolis  
[ci.minneapolis.mn.us](http://ci.minneapolis.mn.us)

3<sup>rd</sup> Ward  
[ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward3](http://ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward3)

Inspections  
[ci.minneapolis.mn.us/inspections](http://ci.minneapolis.mn.us/inspections)

Hennepin County  
[co.hennepin.mn.us](http://co.hennepin.mn.us)

Park Board  
[minneapolisparcs.org](http://minneapolisparcs.org)

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
[pca.state.mn.us](http://pca.state.mn.us)

Environmental Protection Agency  
[epa.gov](http://epa.gov)

Friends of the Mississippi  
[fmr.org](http://fmr.org)

Mississippi Corridor Neighborhood Coalition  
[mcnc-mpls.org](http://mcnc-mpls.org)

NE Minneapolis Arts Association  
[art-a-whirl.org](http://art-a-whirl.org)

Neighborhood Revitalization Program  
[nrp.org](http://nrp.org)

MN State Legislature  
[leg.state.mn](http://leg.state.mn)

Minneapolis Crime Alerts  
[ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crimealert](http://ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crimealert)

Eureka Recycling  
[twincitiesfreemarket.org](http://twincitiesfreemarket.org)

Federal Trade Commission  
[www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)

## Mark Your Calendars



- 6/12 BNA Board Meeting  
6:00 PM  
BNA Office (2205 California St)
  
- 6/28 Neighborhood Meeting  
Problem properties Follow Up  
7:00 PM  
Eastside Neighborhood Services
  
- 7/4 4<sup>th</sup> of July
  
- 7/10 BNA Board Meeting  
6:00 PM  
BNA Office (2205 California St)



**NOTE:** The public is welcome at all BNA meetings. All meetings are accessible and requests for special accommodations at BNA meetings may be made by contacting us no less than one week prior to the event. This publication can be made available in an alternative format. Please contact BNA with specific requests.

For more information or for deadlines,  
please call 782-2145.