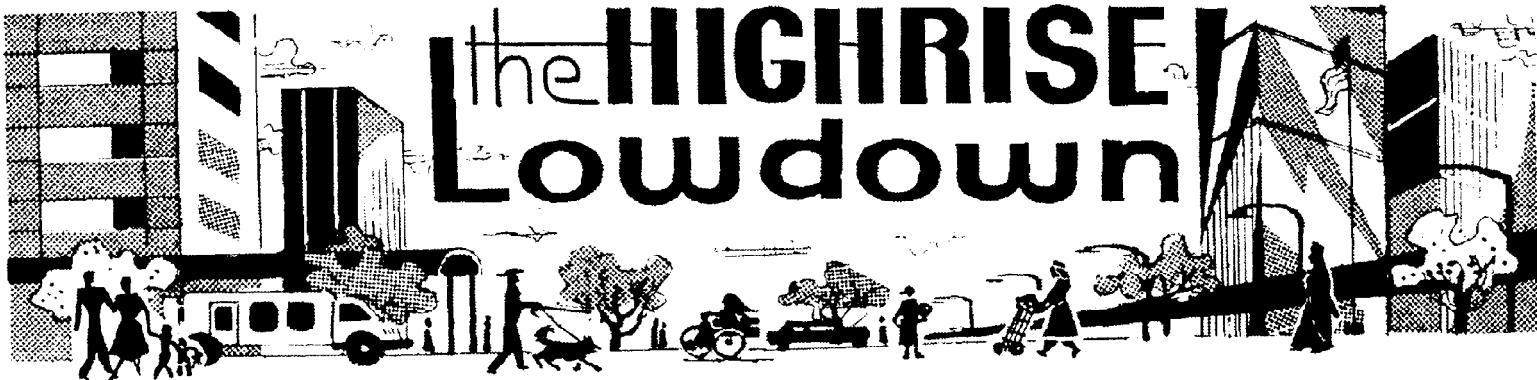


# the HIGHRISE Lowdown



November, 2012 Published Monthly by the Minneapolis Highrise Representative Council Vol. 22, No. 11

## Voice of the Five Thousand—Special Election Edition!

# Vote November 6!



MHRC Executive Director Barb Harris and MHRC President Matt Gerard (photo left) field questions about the November 6 General Election and voting at the October 11 SE/SW Area Meeting held at 2419/33 5th Ave. S.



**Four, three, two, one...  
The countdown is over and now  
it's your turn to be counted!**

That's right! The General Election is November 6 and the simple act of individuals voting will dramatically impact the course of this nation, here at home and in the world.

At the SE/SW Area meeting in October, MHRC President Matt Gerard (right) spoke on the importance of residents making their voices heard through voting. He said "If we as public housing residents expect to be heard, we have to vote!" It's true. Elected officials decide many things that affect your life as a resident of public

housing, for example: how much rent you pay; how much money is available to fix up your building; if new public housing units will be built; and how much you have to pay for medical services.

### **Are you registered to vote?**

Even if you have not yet registered to vote for the November 6 General Election, you can still register at your polling place on Election Day! This is all you need to do:

- ◆ Go to your polling location with a valid Minnesota Driver's License, MN ID card, or photo tribal ID with your current address; or

**Voting to next page**

## **Voting continued...**

- ◆ Go with a photo ID plus a utility bill in your name and with your current address (phone, cable TV, internet, current student fee statement); or
- ◆ Bring someone to vouch for you—someone registered to vote in your precinct who can swear that you live there.

## **Haven't turned in your absentee ballot yet?**

If you can't make it to the polls to vote on November 6 and have obtained an absentee ballot, you must turn it in to the City of Minneapolis Elections Office (350 S. 5th St., Rm 1B) by 5:00 p.m. on November 5. If someone is delivering your ballot to the Elections Office for you, the deadline is 3:00 p.m. on November 6.

## **Did you know...**

- ◆ If you need assistance with a disability or a language other than English, you can bring someone with you to the polls to help.
- ◆ If you have been convicted of a felony, your right to vote is automatically restored when you finish your sentence; if you are off paper, you may register to vote.
- ◆ You have the right to be absent from work to vote in the morning on Election Day.
- ◆ You may take a sample ballot into the voting booth with you.

## **Need a ride to your voting location?**

The MHRC is working to identify volunteers to drive residents to and from their polling locations between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. If you are in need of a ride please call the MHRC office at 612-342-1330 no later than 4:30 p.m. Friday, November 2. Please leave your name, address and phone number and let us know if you prefer morning or afternoon to go and vote. Someone will call you back by November 5 to try to match you up with a volunteer and to schedule a pick-up time.

## **Don't know where to vote?**

Polling locations should be posted in all buildings. There will also be large posters listing polling locations at the main entrances on Election Day. Or, you may call the MHRC office at 342-1330.



## **Still have questions about the voting process or about voting rights?**

Call the Voter Protection Hot Line toll free 1-866-687-8683 if you have questions about voting or voting rights or need assistance before or on Election Day. Dial 711 for relay.

## **What else can I do to help get out the vote?**

- ◆ Talk to neighbors, family and friends. Tell them the importance of voting. Help them find out where to vote and tell them how to register at the polls. Offer to go with them to the polls and help them vote.
- ◆ If you have a vehicle, offer to drive people to polling locations.
- ◆ Help with highrise election day activities to encourage others to vote and to celebrate your vote. Many highrises are serving refreshments in their community rooms on election day.

## **Afarta (6) Noovember.**

Waxaa nasoo food saaray maalin taariikhda gali doonta dalkaan Maraykanka. Labada musharaxba kii soo baxaa waxaa uu noqon donna mid mariachi ah. Nautili uGu heresy eel Niota Maddaxwayne kuxigeen iyo ninkii ugu horeeyay ee ah dadka madoowga Maraykanka ee loo doorto maddaxwayne.

Malagu Diiwaangaliyay si aad u coddeys? Hadii aadan horey isu diiwaan gelin waxaad samaynkartaa in aad isdiiwaan gelisid isla maalintaas. Markaad tagtid meesha laga coddeeyo tusi ID Minnesota ama laysanka baabuurta kii aad haysatidba. Waxaa kaloo lagaa doonaya inaad tustid wax biil ah oo uu magacaagu kuqoran yahay oo ah cinwaanka aad sheeganaysid. Sida teloofoonka, korontada, kaybalka,iwm. Waxaa kaloo intaas dheer oo la, aqbalayaa markhaati qof isagu ka diiwaan geshan kana codeeya xaafadaada inuu kuu dhaarto inaad degan tahay xaafada. Hadii aad istiraahdid luqada iskuma fiicnidiin Ingiriiska.

Waad soo wadan kartaa qof luqada yaqaan oo ku caawiya. Sidoo kale hadaad ku socotid kursiga curyaanka waa laguu fududaynayaa markaad timaadid rugta laga coddeeyo. Xaq baad u leedahay in lagaa fasaxo shaqada maalintaas marka aad doonayso inaad soo coddeysa saacado kamid ah. Haddii horey xabsi laguugu xukumay ee



# MHRC Board urges residents to vote NO!

**The MHRC Board of Directors, at its July board meeting, voted to go on record opposing the proposed amendments to the Minnesota State Constitution because they go against the values of inclusivity, equality and respect as defined in MHRC's Commitment to Diversity Statement. The following are two commentaries by MHRC board members urging residents to vote NO on the proposed amendments.**

## Vote NO on the "Marriage Amendment"

*By Patricia Mohrbacker, 1314 44th Ave. N.*

I am opposed to this amendment being placed in our constitution for many reasons. We started this country's Constitution saying that black men were only 60% of a human being and that women of all race's didn't count at all. As we grew in wisdom, we added the Bill of Rights to give freedom and equality to all of our citizens and add to the rights we all should have. Even as recently as forty years ago, people of different races were not allowed to marry in many states. Many people helped to change this because we believe God made each one of us equal. Some are different colors and different religions. God made some of us straight and some of us gay, but all equal.

To take away rights from some people for any reason is the opposite of democracy. We all deserve the rights presently given to only some of us. When people love each other they deserve the right to marry who they want to. Stopping this amendment will not give that freedom but it will prevent the taking away of more of our basic human rights. If you take away anybody's rights, your rights may be next to be taken away; it's a start.

I believe we all have friends and family and neighbors who are gay. If we reach out with love and understanding instead of hatred, imagine the things we can achieve. We don't want to turn back to a country where slavery was accepted and blacks and women could not vote, period. Please

vote NO on this amendment before we all have no rights at all. Democracy, love and willingness to reach out to each other has made great changes in our country. Minnesota can show the world we believe in the love of God for all of us and that we embrace our differences. Open your hearts and minds to destroying all prejudice. We're all in this newest civil rights battle together, and together we can turn hatred and discrimination into love and acceptance of each other.

## Vote NO on the "Photo ID Amendment"

*By Matt Gerard, 1920 4th Ave. S.*

As president of the Minneapolis Highrise Representative Council, I urge all highrise residents to vote NO on the photo ID amendment. This amendment does more to restrict our vote than it does to protect it.

Senior citizens who are physically disabled and home bound, or in nursing homes without picture IDs would no longer be able to cast an absentee ballot. Military personnel overseas, fighting to protect our freedom, could have similar difficulties.

It would cost Minnesota tax payers millions of dollars to provide "free" IDs and set up a new and complicated system of provisional voting for voters who do not have IDs.

Election Day registration as we know it would end. You could no longer vouch for your neighbor who may not have a photo ID. These voters would have to cast provisional ballots which would only be counted if they could provide a picture ID within just a few days of the election.

This amendment will discourage people from voting and we could end up losing the folks in government who will best represent us. I urge you to vote NO!



Minnesotans United For All Families hosted a recent event at Heritage Park Senior Center urging seniors to Vote NO on the "marriage amendment." Speakers included (left to right): Jim Klobuchar, Joan Grawe, Wheelock Whitney and Richard Carlbom.

# Event celebrates grandparents!



Highrise seniors were treated to a special time at the recent Near Northside Seniors' Collaborative Autumn Tea held at Heritage Park Senior Services Center. The event, designed to recognize and celebrate grandparents, included a welcome by MPHA Executive Director Cora McCorvey, special music by Idalia Smith, a keynote address by Rev. Dr. Wayne

Stumme about the importance and honor of parenting and "grandparenting." The event also featured the presentation of a quilt, created by residents of Heritage Commons at Pond's Edge, to the Augustana Open Circle Adult Day Program housed in the senior center. The Collaborative, under the direction of Dorothy Robinson, 1710 Plymouth Ave. N (top, right) has been sponsoring these events for several years.

→ aad soo dhamaysatay xaq baad u leedahay inaad dhiibato codkaaga. Hayada u shaqaysa dadwaynaha degan guryaha ee MHRC waxaay ka shaqaynaysaa in ay idiih hasho darawalo idin geeya rugta aad ka codayn laheed inta u dhaxeesa 9:30 am iyo 4:00. Hadaad u bahantahay gaadiid fadlan soo wac xafiska MHRC 612-342-1330 wixii ka horaya 4:00 galabnimo malinta jimcaha naveber 2.

Fadlan katag magacaaga talefoon kaaga iyo wakhtiga aad rabtid inaad codaysid subax am galab. Qof baa ku soo wici doono noveber 5 kuu shaygi doono wakhtiguu kuu imaan karo.

Wac 1-866-OUR-VOTE ama hadii aad tahay qof curyaan ah ama aad dooneysid in lagaaga waramo xaqa coddeynta soo wac 1-866-687-8683. Waxaa intaa dheer lahadal dariskaaga, qaraabadaada iyo saaxiibadaaba in aysan kuwooda nasiibka u yeeshay inay kaeqeyb qaataan doorashadaan taariikhiga ah inay maalintaas soo coddeeyaa.

Hadaba waxaanu doonayna dhamaan qofkii ku sadaqeynaya waqtii ama gaadiidkiisa inuu dadk ku qaado maalintaas ama waxii kale oo maalintaas loo

baahan yahay inuu sameeyo.

Gabagabadii, hadaad leedahay sharciga dalka maalintaas yaanay ku dhaafin inaad coddeyso. Haddi aadan wali noqon muwaadin hadaba ku deeq waqtigaaga oo caawi dadka muwaadinka ah oo aan lahayn gaadiidka ama uga baahan luqada caawinada.

Mahadsanidiin.



## This Month's Events

**Thursday, November 1, 9:30 a.m.: MHRC Executive Committee meets at 1015 4th Ave. N.**

**Tuesday, November 6: ELECTION DAY—VOTE!**

**Tuesday, November 13, 1:30 p.m.: MHRC Laundry Project Committee meets at 1015 4TH Ave. N.**

**Thursday, November 15, 9:30 a.m.: MHRC Board meets at 1015 4th Ave. N.**

**Tuesday, November 20, 1:30 p.m.: Maintenance, Modernization and Management Committee meets at 1015 4th Ave. N.**

**Wednesday, November 28, 1:30 p.m.: MPHA Board of Commissioners meet at 1001 Washington Ave. N.**

**Friday, November 30, 9:30 a.m.: Security Advisory Committee meets at 1015 4th Ave. N.**