



— LOGAN LEDGER —

March 2021 Issue

LPNA General Meeting March 17th, 2021 7pm

Zoom link: us02web.zoom.us/j/83765747531
Dial in 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 837 6574 7531 Passcode: 951727

Agenda:

- **Prepare + Prosper Tax Services**
- **Minneapolis Climate Action**

NOTE: The public is welcome at all LPNA meetings. All meetings are accessible and requests for special accommodations at LPNA meetings may be made by contacting us no less than one week prior to the event.

Prepare + Prosper Tax Services

70% of households in the U.S. are constrained by income, have limited savings, and/or are challenged by debt (according to Pew). What's more, about 1 in 4 households in the U.S. are excluded from the financial mainstream. This amounts to more than 194,432 households in the Twin Cities and when you break it down by race, the disparities are stark—1 in 7 white households compared to 1 in 2 black and Latino households (according to the FDIC).

What does this mean? Many people have unpredictable income and are unprepared to weather a financial shock. Many have no checking or savings accounts, are paying high fees for tax preparation, and have no access to affordable credit or loans.

That translates into exorbitant fees and interest rates—hundreds of dollars for a simple tax return, 24% APR on a retail credit card, and 273% APR on a payday loan.

Prepare + Prosper, a nonprofit organization, works to build financial health and provide access to quality tax and financial services, and so much more. They strive to work with people, communities, and systems to break down barriers and develop solutions to real financial opportunity and success.

Prepare + Prosper provides free tax and financial services, financial coaching, and access to financial products.

Visit them online at prepareandprosper.org.



FILE YOUR OWN TAXES FOR FREE!

Sign up for our webinar and learn how to use our Self-Prep Tax Guide to file your own taxes for free.

PREPARE + PROSPER

Logan Park Neighborhood Association

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www.loganparkneighborhood.org

twitter.com/Logan_Park

[instagram.com/Loganparkmpls](https://www.instagram.com/Loganparkmpls)

Find us on Facebook

612-516-5762 (516-LPNA)

admin@loganparkneighborhood.org

Board of Directors

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Pat Vogel

Steve Liston

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Alex Bliss

Jacquelyn Kramer

Teresa Leno

Robert Bell

Becky Wifstrand

Anna Stahlmann

Alex Stahlmann

Living Well with Chronic Conditions

Mondays | March 1-April 5 | 1:00-3:00 PM

Living Well with Chronic Conditions helps you discover healthier nutrition options and exercise choices; learn how to improve communication with your family and healthcare professionals concerning your health and well-being; find practical ways to deal with pain and fatigue; and develop skills to get the support you need. This class meets two hours a week for six weeks.

This is a "virtual" six-week class via Zoom video conferencing. Registered participants will be asked to attend an orientation prior to the class where you will practice using Zoom and receive support for any technical challenges.

To register, call 612-787-4086 or visit VitalLiving@esns.org

Donations accepted based on a cost share.

Low Income Energy Assistance Program (EAP) Information

If you are having troubles paying your energy bills, apply for Minnesota's Energy Assistance Program that offers eligible residents help to pay their energy bills so they do not have to choose between life's necessities.

The Energy Assistance Program:

- Serves both renters and homeowners.
- Provides benefits to pay for home heating ranging from \$200 to \$1,400, with an average benefit of about \$500.
- Benefit amounts are based on the household's heating costs, household size, and income.
- Provides help with energy disconnections, no/low fuel in the tank, and homeowners' furnace repairs.
- Eligibility is based on the household's past 3 months of income and assets are not counted.

Visit mn.gov/commerce/eap.jsp or call 1-800-657-3710 to connect with your local service provider.

Northeast Emergency Food Growers Network

The Audubon Neighborhood Association has initiated the Northeast Emergency Food Growers Network to immediately begin preparing, growing, then harvesting, collecting and finally distributing produce that is grown by residents in the Northeast community. Gardeners select two or three varieties of produce, agree to set aside a small section of their gardens specifically dedicated for the Northeast Emergency Food Growers Network. They also agree to use organic methods for growing.

When produce is ready for harvest, a staging area will be set up for easy collection and distribution. Distribution will be handled in one of three ways: 1) through a weekly pay-what-you-can market, 2) directly to the Eastside Senior Food Shelf and other local non-profit food shelves and kitchens, and 3) through Second Harvest Heartland.

If interested in learning more, please contact Audubon Neighborhood Association administrator, Deborah Brister at deborah@audubonneighborhood.org.



Saving energy can make your home more comfortable

It takes a lot of energy to keep our homes comfortable during Minneapolis's famously chilly winters. However, homes that look similar may need very different amounts of energy to maintain this comfort. That difference is measurable — it represents the energy efficiency of a home.

For almost a year, the City has been assessing the energy use of houses on the market and has compiled thousands of home efficiency scores. Because many Minneapolis homes are older, the average city score is 70 out of 100. (You can view the publicly available map of scores at mncee.org/tish/yourscore.)

Curious about how you can stay more comfortable by saving energy? Contact an Energy Advisor from the local nonprofit Center for Energy and Environment. Energy Advisors are a free, no-pressure service to help answer home energy questions, identify available rebates and financing, and provide connections to quality contractors.

Improving a home's energy efficiency has multiple benefits:

- improved year-round comfort;
- better indoor air quality;
- lower energy bills; and
- reduced environmental impact.



Call 651-328-6225 to speak with an Energy Advisor or visit mncee.org/tish for more information.

Energy Advisors are a service from the local nonprofit Center for Energy and Environment in partnership with CenterPoint Energy and the City of Minneapolis.

Emerge Second Chance Community Solar Garden: Subscribers Wanted!

Did you know you have an opportunity right in Ward 1 to use renewable solar energy, save on your electric bill, reduce pollution and promote local green jobs? The Second Chance Community Solar Garden is installed on the Emerge Second Chance Recycling facility at 1179 15th Ave SE in Minneapolis and they are signing up subscribers now for a projected early summer launch!

Community solar gardens (CSG) are solar arrays on a larger roof (in this case, Emerge) whose electricity is shared by more than one property. CSGs are an opportunity for Minneapolis neighbors to participate in the solar energy revolution, regardless of income, credit score or whether you rent or own, and get a credit on their electric bill. And there are options to participate with no upfront money. The only requirement is that you pay your own Xcel electric bill and not a landlord or third party.

BENEFITS of Community Solar Gardens:

- Enables renters or those with roofs unsuitable for solar to use renewable energy and get a credit on your electric bill.
- Enables participation regardless of income or credit score, with a Pay-As-You-Go option that does not require upfront money.
- Energy bill credits move with you, even if you move homes.
- Make your money back (& then some...) with an estimated 8 year Return on Investment (ROI) with the Pay Up Front Option.
- Subscriptions can cover up to 120% of your annual electricity usage.



Electricity rates are locked in for 25 years. Quality assurances, turn-key maintenance and energy guarantees.

More information can be found at mplsclimate.org or by emailing info@mplsclimate.org.

Covid-19 Vaccine Connector

The Minnesota Department of Health has launched a Vaccine Connector survey for all unvaccinated Minnesotans. You can fill out with employment, health, and demographic details so that they can contact you directly when you'll be eligible to sign up for a vaccine.

This is NOT signing up for a vaccine – after you fill out this survey, when you do become eligible you'll be contacted with further resources about how to sign up for an appointment. Visit <https://mn.gov/covid19/vaccine/connector/index.jsp> to learn more.

If you or someone you know doesn't have access to the internet, they can call the Community Vaccination Program Hotline at 833-431-2053 to fill out the same survey!



Logan Park Neighborhood Updates



Logan Park Walking Club

Meets on Mondays Starting March 1st, 2021
Logan Park Recreation Center
690 13th Ave NE
5pm

Please wear a mask

Questions? Email admin@loganparkneighborhood.org



Logan Park Walking Club

Ready to get outside and meet your neighbors safely? Join the Logan Park Walking Club! Every Monday starting March 1st, meet at the Logan Park Recreation Center front door (13th Ave) at 5pm. Those who attend will help decide the route each week. Logan Park masks are available for the first 20 participants.

Weather cancellations will be posted on our Facebook page.



Upcoming LPNA Virtual Meetings

LPNA Priorities Committee Meeting

Thursday March 4th | 7pm
us02web.zoom.us/j/81000132841 Passcode: 410247
Dial in 312 626 6799 Meeting ID 810 0013 2841

LPNA March Board Meeting

Wednesday March 10th, 2021 | 7pm
us02web.zoom.us/j/83757557286 Passcode 889343
Dial in 312 626 6799 Meeting ID 837 5755

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Email admin@loganparkneighborhood.org with questions.

Los Campeones Gym 1324 Quincy Street

Los Campeones Gym applied for a variance to operate outdoors, using the patio space under the solar array. Per the recommendation of City Staff, the Zoning Board of Adjustment denied the variance request. The owner of the gym plans to distribute flyers to nearby neighbors. Questions about the project can be directed to the City of Minneapolis Senior Planner-Andrew.Liska@minneapolismn.gov.

Logan Park Shelter Initiative

Thanks to those who have already applied. We expect to contact our applicants in early March.

Check the LPNA website for information and updates or to apply if you were interested - there may still be time!