



Earth Day 2016: photo collage by Margie O'Loughlin

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Chard Your Yard grows again in Longfellow

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Cap's Grille lobbies for brewpub expansion

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Longfellow  
Nokomis

# Messenger



Your community newspaper since 1982

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## A Line marks step forward in bus service

Ride for free opening weekend; special events planned on Sat., June 11

By TESSA M. CHRISTENSEN

Take a ride on the new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) A Line on opening day, Sat., June 11. The line officially opens at 10am.

Bus service on the A Line and Route 84 will be free June 11 to 13.

The A Line is a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line that will run from the Rosedale shopping mall to the 46th Street Station of the Blue Line in Minneapolis via Snelling Ave. and Ford Pkwy. The line will cut the length of time it takes to travel between 46th Street Station to Rosedale by 25%.

"There are so many things that are exciting about the A Line, including a better rider experience, connectivity to the Green Line and St. Paul, and making it easier for people to travel to and from our neighborhoods," remarked Ward 12 Council Member Andrew Johnson.

### Opening Day Events

Events planned from 10am to 2pm on June 11 include:

- 46th Street Station: A Line bus on display and Metro Transit personnel available to answer questions.

- Highland Park: The event will take place at Hillcrest Park, located at Ford Pkwy. and Ken-



The A Line will offer a new kind of bus service that will cut the journey from 46th Street Station to Rosedale Mall from 48 minutes to 35 minutes. "It's good for the community when we have more transit options," observed Ward 12 City Council Member Andrew Johnson. "It's going to be this great connector between the Blue Line and the Green Line." (Photo submitted)

neth, an A Line stop. Community groups, local businesses, and the park board are coming together

to host an event celebrating the launch of the A Line route. There will be a climbing wall and children's craft activity.

- Snelling and University: Official ribbon cutting ceremony begins at 9:30am with the ribbon cutting at 9:50. There will be live music and food trucks. Community groups and businesses will have tables set up.

- Har Mar Mall: The first bus will bring the mayor of Roseville to Har Mar at about 10:10am, where there will be a short ceremony and music by the Roseville City Band and other groups.

### What makes this ride different?

Bus Rapid Transit makes riding a bus a bit more like riding a light rail train.

- Boarding is faster because fares are purchased in advance and passengers can board and exit the bus using two doors.

- A Line stations are placed approximately every half mile instead of at 1/8 mile intervals, speeding up transit time by cutting down on stops.

- Signal prioritization and expedited boarding allow BRT vehicles to move faster than conven-

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The 40-foot Gillig model buses look significantly different than regular-route buses. Passengers will be able to get on and off faster, thanks to low-floor buses and raised curbs at stations, plus wider bus doors and boarding from the front and back. (Photos submitted)



Article and photos by JILL BOOGREN

Roosevelt High School brought musical theater back with a splash in April, with its production of the Broadway hit, "Urinetown, the Musical." Starring a cast of 20 students in grades 9-12, the show was a hilarious send-up of corporate greed, political corruption, abuse of power and ecological calamity.

Everything, including its own self-referenced "awful" title, is satirized in this story of a society struck by a water shortage wherein people are forced to pay for the "privilege to pee." Fed up, they rebel against the powers that be in a revolutionary uprising—think "Les Mis" when ya gotta whiz.

If it seemed a bold choice of a musical for a high school coming off of a 15-year theater hiatus, this was by design.

"We wanted to be edgy, avant-garde, to push the envelope," said Principal Michael Bradley. In fact, the school's commitment to doing things other



high schools weren't was the reason Director and Theater Teacher Kristi Johnson chose to come to Roosevelt.

"['Urinetown'] gave us the ability to look at issues of equity, capitalism, class, also racism," she said. "It felt like something

Roosevelt was meant to do." The subject matter fit the school's aim to encourage students to think deeply and widely

The Poor rebel against powerful interests in "Urinetown, the Musical." On floor, from left: Yuma Hassan, Kate Anderson, Sam Dibble, Medewe Pessang, Aris Schrempp-Iwaszko, Sophie Stout, Sebastian Mercedes Gonzales, Lily Myers. On platform: Jacob Maxwell, Carrine Saint Aubin. At top, from left: Km Boogren, Sam Albright, Jade Vick, Katherine Quakenbush, Ella Spurbeck, Sophia Mack.

about their place in the world, suggested Arts Coordinator Candida Gonzales. And its themes resonated with students.

Marcus Riley, a senior who played "Old Man" Strong, who was brutally hauled away for doing his private business in public, said the play seemed silly at first. But he appreciated it after listening to the deeper message, especially of our water consumption. "If we don't deal with it now, we'll deal with it later," he said.

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## Roosevelt theater

Continued from page 1

Sophomore Kate Anderson, who played Little Sally, said the messages of saving the water and classism are really important. "[The musical] was a lot more serious than what people thought it would be."

Nokomis resident Jeff Huset thought it was an excellent choice for high school. He said it dealt with current as well as age-old issues. And as an actor of 20 years himself, he likes how this musical pays tribute to other musicals—"My Fair Lady," "Cabaret," "The Threepenny Opera," and "Les Miserables."

"It has a neat little sampling of different musical theater sub-genres, and to introduce high school kids to all of those in one show is great," Huset said.

As director, Johnson appreciated that the show didn't rely on one or two people with huge roles, as is often the case, instead allowing more performers to share the wealth. "I want to have as much equity in stage time as possible," she said.

Whether leading the revolution (Jacob Maxwell as Bobby Strong), the latrine (Carinne Saint Aubin as Ms. Pennywise) or the corporation (Jade Vick as Caldwell B. Cladwell), the cast—including UGC Executives, officers, the senator and The Poor—played their roles with equal parts wit and grit, with Cladwell's starry-eyed daughter Hope (Erika



Marcus Riley stands with Kate Anderson, left, as she thanks Roosevelt Theater Director Kristi Johnson for helping her build confidence through theater.

Atson-Tsevi) caught squarely in the middle. Intense moments were quickly uplifted, often by the comedic narration of the story by Officer Lockstock (Sam Albright) to Little Sally (Kate Anderson).

The multi-layered "Urine-town" was a departure from the

school's very silly and brightly-colored inaugural play, "The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet," put on in January. A clever mashup of Dr. Seuss and Shakespeare's tragic love story, it elicited laughs from the moment

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Hope Cladwell (Erika Atson-Tsevi) is welcomed to Urine Good Company. Executive McQueen (Katherine Quakenbush) is behind the desk.

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It's time to clean out the garage, the basement, and the house, and make a little money at the same time. The annual NENA garage sale brings buyers and sellers together for a neighborhood-wide event.

This year the sale will take place on Sat., June 18. Plan your garage sale and we'll help bring you the shoppers. Last year over 100 households participated. It is a way to get rid of unused clutter, connect with neighbors, and make a little money. If you plan to have a sale, be sure to register at <http://nokomiseast.org/garagesale> by June 5 to be included on the NENA map. Printed maps will be available the week of the sale at the NENA office, on the NENA website and at local businesses.

### We've moved

Visit us at our new location at 4313 54th St. E., in the Morris Park neighborhood. Activity and growth fueled our move to a new location with more room for community activities and NENA events. Stop in and see the new office; we'll have more details to come about an

# NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

4313 54th St. E.

## Annual Garage Sale Day set for June 18; 100+ sales sites expected

open house event in August.

### Summer park program registration now open

If you are looking for some great summer activities for the whole family, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has you covered. There will be plenty of choices available at your local park this summer to get moving, challenge minds and express creativity all summer long!

Only a few weeks remain until the start classes and fun. For more information stop in or call your local recreation center.

- Lake Nokomis Community Center, 612-370-4923
- Keewaydin Recreation Center, 612-370-4956
- Morris Park Recreation Center, 612-370-4934

### Block Leaders needed

Minneapolis Police provide training for volunteers who work with neighbors to deter crime and improve the quality of life on their block or in an apartment building. Volunteers encourage neighbors to know one another, watch out for each other, and report suspicious activity. They also work with neighbors in building a stronger and safer community. Annually, they promote National Night Out, an annual event encouraging neighbors to gather, meet one another, and socialize.

Block clubs are usually made up of neighbors who live in an apartment building or across the street or alley from each other, usually on one block, who work together to be alert and watch out for each other. They also call 911 when they see suspicious activity or crimes in progress. And, they work to solve problems and deal with issues.

There are many benefits to forming a block club. Working as a team, neighbors can deter crime and improve the quality of life on their block or in their building. Leaders also receive "Action Alert" emails summarizing significant crime incidents on or near their block.

As part of the police block/apartment club network, you will hear about other successes and ideas which can help your lock club.

How can you get a block or apartment club started? Contact Crime Prevention Specialist Shun Tillman at 612-673-2846, or email [crimeprevention@minneapolis.gov](mailto:crimeprevention@minneapolis.gov). Include your name, address, phone and email address.

### Changes coming to Bossen Field

The new Bossen Field concept



offers six softball fields, updates to the baseball field, the existing structures, and parking. The plan also adds new flexible play fields for community use and will offer a new playground, gardens and picnic areas in the park.

To see updates on the project, or to sign up for notifications, visit the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board website. Construction should start in July. Construction will impact all areas of the park used by the public.

### Upcoming NENA events

- **Thur., May 26**, NENA Board of Directors Meeting, 7-9pm, Keewaydin Recreation Center, 3030 E. 53rd St.
- **Wed., June 1**, NENA Housing, Commercial and Streetscape Committee, 6:30-8:30pm, Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, 4313 E. 54th St.
- **Every Tuesday**, Nokomis Naturescape Garden - Group Gardening, 6-8pm, Nokomis

Naturescape on Lake Nokomis at 50th St. and Nokomis Pkwy. All are welcome!

• **Every Thursday**, Nokomis Naturescape Garden - Group Gardening, 1-4pm, Nokomis Naturescape on Lake Nokomis at 50th St. and Nokomis Pkwy. All are welcome!

• **Sat., June 18**, NENA Garage Sale Day, 8am-4pm.

• **Thur., June 23**, NENA Board of Directors Meeting, 7-9pm, Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, 4313 E. 54th St.

### Pollinator garden volunteers needed

The Nokomis Naturescape Garden volunteers meet twice monthly. They meet at the Nokomis Naturescape on Lake Nokomis at 50th St. and Nokomis Pkwy. and at the Nokomis Gateway Gardens at the corner of E. 50th St. and Hwy 55. No experience is necessary, and you can help on an occasional basis or all summer long. Through your work, you will be helping maintain an important stop for pollinators in the neighborhood and the environment of the entire region. For more information about volunteering or about the gardens contact the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association or [monarch@nokomiseast.org](mailto:monarch@nokomiseast.org).

# Letter to the Editor

## Council Member Johnson responds to letter

To the Editor,

I read the recent letter to the editor (April *Messenger*) that took issue with how I handled parking challenges by Minnehaha Falls. Part of being a Council Member and representing over 30,000 residents is not taking things personally when blamed for what is outside my control. In 2014, I heard from a number of residents living across from Minnehaha Falls Park about their frustration with park visitors and Sea Salt Eatery customers parking on their street. I met with residents on several occasions, including organizing a community meeting with Longfellow Community Council, Park Commissioner Musich and City staff to discuss concerns and explore options. To address the number of

various issues: I had additional no parking signage installed in the cul-de-sac; had parking enforcement stepped up; business inspections address litter issues with DQ; expedited handicap loading zone installation for qualified residents; and even had the Fire Chief dispatch a truck down their street to ensure adequate space for emergency vehicles. A number of residents also wanted to establish a Critical Parking Area (also known as permit parking). City staff undertook a study and determined that this area did not meet the legal requirements to establish permit parking, as there is adequate off-street parking for residents (driveways and garages). I understand that this resident and several others may not be happy with the decision from Public Works and choose to blame me, but I want to make sure that residents know my door is always open, and I take their concerns seriously. I am easily reachable at my office 612-673-2212, by email at [andrew.johnson@minneapolis.gov](mailto:andrew.johnson@minneapolis.gov), or at my weekly open office hours (listed on my City website). I encourage you to contact me if you have any issues or concerns I can help with.

Andrew Johnson  
Council Member - Ward 12  
Office #: 612-673-2212  
[minneapolis.gov/ward12](mailto:minneapolis.gov/ward12)

(EDITOR'S NOTE: We apologize to Council Member Johnson that his letter landed in the wrong email box and unfortunately missed inclusion in last month's issue of the Messenger despite the fact that he had submitted it before the issue deadline. It should have appeared last month!)

The following events are planned during the month of June at the East Lake Library, 2727 E. Lake St.

Childcare Group Storytime will meet Wed., June 1, 10:15am. Talk, sing, read, write and play together in a format appropriate for the children in your care. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

The Biography Adult Book Club meets Wed., June 1, 10:30-11:30am to discuss "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian" by Sherman Alexie. Join the discussion of new and interesting biographies. Bring along recommendations for future meetings. Lending copies may be picked up at the information desk before the meeting.

Teen Fandom Club meets Thur., June 2, 6-8pm. This event is for teens. Are you an anime and manga fan? A cosplayer? A fan of Doctor Who, Sherlock, Homestuck or Supernatural? If yes to any of these, Teen Geekery Club is for you! Watch anime, share your artwork and discuss your favorite fandoms.

The Adult Nonfiction Book Club will meet Tue., June 7, 6:30-7:30pm to discuss "The Price of Thirst: Global Water Inequality and the Coming Chaos" by Karen Piper. Lending copies may be picked up at the information desk before meeting.

Adult Book Club meets Fri., June 10, 10:30-11:30am to discuss "All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr. Join the discussion of new and interesting

## Check It Out - News from East Lake Library

### Spring into summer with exciting events at the library

titles. Bring along your recommendations for future meetings. Lending copies may be picked up at the information desk before meeting.

The East Lake Library Writers' Workshop gathers Sat., June 11, 1-2:30pm. Share your stories, exchange advice, and support others in the creative process with the guidance and support of more experienced writers.

The East Lake Library will host Doug Hoverson for an Author Talk on Tue., June 14, 6:30-8pm. Hoverson will present the history of brewing in Minnesota through his book "Land of Amber Waters." Join in as we explore the intriguing backstory to the brewery boom we see in the Twin Cities today. Books will be available for purchase and signing. This event is sponsored by The Friends of the East Lake Library.

LEGO® Lab is planned for Thur., June 16, 3-5pm. LEGO Lab is for Families. Calling all future engineers and architects! We've got the bricks, but we need you to bring your imagination. No experience necessary.

"Work of Art+: Artists Collaborating With Communi-

ty" will be held Sat., June 18, 9:30am-12pm. This program is for adults. Use your creative skills to address community interests! Learn strategies to approach community organizations and local businesses, and techniques to ensure successful outcomes for you and your collaborators. Presented in collaboration with Springboard for the Arts. Funded by Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

"Live Show: S.T.E.M With Horse Power!" will be held on Sat., June 18, 1-2pm. Learn how the cowboys cared for so many horses by engineering things to make their lives easier. Meet a live miniature horse and learn how science helps in its care. Sponsored by MELSA (Metropolitan Library Service Agency).

The Quick Reads Adult Book Club meets Mon., June 20, 6:30-7:30pm to discuss "Our Souls at Night" by Kent Haruf. Join our discussion of new under-200-page titles. Bring along your recommendations for future meetings. Lending copies may be picked up at the information desk before meeting.

"Curious Community: Du Nord Craft Spirits" is planned for Tue., June 21, 6:30-8pm.

Learn the science and craft of distilling from local expert Chris Montana of Du Nord Craft Spirits. First of a three-part series encouraging participants to get curious about the places, faces, and spaces of their community.

"Stories Together: Pride" will be held on Fri., June 24, 10:15-10:45am. Celebrate family and self-expression during Pride month through books, stories, rhymes, music, and movement. This event is sponsored by The Friends of the Hopkins Library.

Sew Social is planned for Wed., June 25, 10am-12pm. Bring your sewing machine and your current project to share creative time with others. All genders and ability levels are welcome. Additional sewing machines will not be provided.

Ongoing programs: Conversation Circles, Sundays, 3-5pm. Non-native English speakers can practice English and make new friends in an informal, volunteer-led setting, and learn about the library, too.

Family Storytimes are planned for Fridays at 10:15am. These events are for children of all ages and their parent or caregiver. Talk, sing, read, write and

play together in a format appropriate for young children. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

Baby Storytimes are scheduled for Fridays, 11:15am. For children from birth to 24 months and their parent or caregiver. Talk, sing, read, write and play together in a format designed especially for babies. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

"Súper Kínder: Listos Para el Kínder" will be held on Wednesdays, June 22, 29, and July 6, 13, 20, 2-4pm (Miércoles, Junio 22, 29, Julio 6, 13, 20). Children ages 4-5 and their parents/caregivers will meet at East Lake Library for five weeks to learn activities and skills that build early literacy and ensure school success. This program is for families who speak Spanish as their first language. Register directly at East Lake Library or call 612-543-8510. This series is sponsored by The Friends of the Hennepin County Library.

La Biblioteca East Lake ofrecerá una clase gratis en español para los niños que van a entrar al kínder en septiembre y sus padres o quien los cuida. Le enseñaremos como preparar a su niño para entrar a la escuela con actividades divertidas que podrán hacer en casa. Este programa es gratis y está diseñado especialmente para familias que hablan español como primer idioma. Inscribáse directamente en la Biblioteca East Lake o llame al 612-543-8510 en español.

## Five teachers to retire from Hiawatha/Howe schools

By KELLEY MCMURCH and TANI LANGREE

This spring, Hiawatha/Howe schools are losing five teachers to retirement. The five veteran teachers have over 150 years of experience between them.

Banlang Phommasouvanh worked for seven years at Hiawatha/Howe as an English as a Second Language teacher. She's been teaching in Minneapolis for 29 years. One of the things which makes Phommasouvanh unique is she also has years of experience teaching in France and Laos, as well as in Iowa and Indiana. Phommasouvanh remembers coming to America and experiencing culture shock getting lunch in the cafeteria: when offered a hotdog, her reactions was, "I don't eat dog meat!"

Becky Schultz has been at Hiawatha/Howe for 32 of her 37 years of teaching; most of that time she's been teaching third grade. She has even taught the children of former students! Becky has always enjoyed a hands-on teaching relationship with her students, including playing tag with them at recess. One time she was scrambling up a slide to keep from being tagged "it," when she slipped and broke her wrist. The principal wanted her to stay at school and be a real-life example at a safety assembly of "Why We Don't Go UP the Slide!" Schultz declined and went instead to the emergency room.

Many of our students will miss Penny Paulson when she leaves. Penny has been teaching Physical Education and Developmental Adapted Physical Education at Hiawatha for 16 of her 25 years as a teacher. She loves her work helping students develop physical strength, agility, and skill. Each day has brought smiles, giggles, and hugs

from her students.

Sandy Davis has been a teacher for over 23 years, the last seven at Hiawatha/Howe. While there she taught English as a Second Language as well as working as a Title One teacher helping students with reading and math. Her patience, kindness, and positive attitude will be missed!

Besides a long career in publishing, television production, and advertising, Janis Pettit has been a teacher for 20+ years. She's been at Hiawatha/Howe as a Special Education Resource Teacher for the last six years. Many struggling students have blossomed

under the loving tutelage of Janis.

When talking about what they want to do post-retirement, the five women expressed some similar goals. They want to spend time with grandchildren, to travel in the USA as well as to more exotic locales, and gardens figure big in some of their plans. Most of all, they plan on slowing down and enjoying life—in all ways!

Asked for words of advice Paulson said, "Remember, one kind word can change someone's entire day." Davis' advice mirrors Paulson: "Show kindness in all that you do." Phommasouvanh and Pettit feel that in teaching



(L to R) Becky Schultz, Janis Pettit, Sandy Davis are retiring from Howe School. (Photo submitted)



(L to R) Penny Paulson, Banlang Phommasouvanh are retiring from Hiawatha School. (Photo submitted)



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# Elections, events, and programs highlight LCC annual meeting

By JAN WILLMS

"There are some really interesting projects in the works this year," said Executive Director Melanie Majors regarding the Longfellow Community Council (LCC). The organization held its annual "No Pie Charts—Only Pies" meeting Apr. 26, one of two membership meetings held per year.

The other membership meeting (held in October) provides a buffet of dishes from local businesses and celebrates the work of LCC and highlights what is so special about the community.

The April 26 meeting featured a "potluck of pies" provided by attendees.

Majors explained that LCC raised \$30,000 from the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County to fund a Rain Garden project. "This will feature 35 residents and five businesses that will receive site consultations, plants, and a crew to do the plantings, with a small contribution on the part of the residents and businesses," Majors said. "The plantings will occur the week of June 20."

She said that LCC also started a Business Support Network (BSN), in which the group's communication resources will be used to better connect residents to local businesses.

"We will promote local businesses through stories about the owners and their work in the community," she noted. She said LCC will showcase events and openings and share information with busi-

nesses on grant opportunities and community events, where businesses can table and promote their goods and services.

Majors added that LCC also sponsors semi-monthly Happy Hours at local bars and restaurants where residents can meet their neighbors and LCC staff to find out more about the work of the organization.

Events planned for the year include the annual Garage Sale (June 10-11); the annual Summer Celebration (June 28); Share the Gorge Ice Cream Social (July 27); Chili Cook-off (Nov. 13) and a Winter Warming Party (date to be determined).

At the Apr. 26 meeting, the LCC Board of Directors was also elected. The board is made up of 15 seats representing neighborhoods, communities, at-large, and a business seat.

Scott Angus and Anna Sheppard were elected to represent the Cooper neighborhood; David Skarjune and Pat Smith for Longfellow; Patrick Santelli and Trevor Russell for Howe and Jesse Powell and Cathy Coon, representing Hiawatha.

Community representatives elected were Kevin Venerus, Melissa Erjavec, and Lisa Boyd.

Jeff Fisher was elected to represent the business seat.

At-large board members elected were Natalie Brown, DeWayne Townsend, and Alex Vitrella.

Although long-running legislative meetings did not provide



Longfellow Community Council (LCC) held its annual "No Pie Charts—Only Pies" meeting Apr. 26, one of two membership meetings held per year. (Photo courtesy of Longfellow Community Council)

an opportunity for elected officials Patricia Torres Ray and Peter McLaughlin to speak, Ward 12 Council member Andrew Johnson and Ward 2 Council member Cam Gordon filled in for them. State Rep. Jim Davney also stopped by.

During the Resource Fair, designed to introduce the public to various businesses and organizations, Johnson held office hours.

Majors said the current LCC Board had spent a significant amount of time in 2015 working on visioning and strategic planning. "Through that process, the Board decided that the original Mission Statement of LCC was very wordy and difficult for people to remember and recite," she said. The new Mission Statement adopted is: "To improve the well-being of our diverse community through engagement, involvement, and empowerment."

"This refined statement is more concise and does not include the names of each neighborhood because we consider ourselves to be one community," Majors stated.

Majors described several LCC committees that are currently active. The River Gorge Committee is designed to protect and promote the River Gorge through activities, programs, and events that engage community residents. The Environment Committee promotes the greening of the neighborhood and reviews and funds environmentally focused program/project requests. The Community Connections



LCC has spent a significant amount of time in 2015 working on visioning and strategic planning. The new Mission Statement adopted is: "To improve the well-being of our diverse community through engagement, involvement, and empowerment." (Photo courtesy of Longfellow Community Council)

Committee was formed to build strong intergenerational, multicultural, safe neighborhoods through community owners. "This committee also reviews and funds programs/projects that engage community residents," Majors said.

Majors said the Neighborhood Development and Transportation Committee works to advance and guide economic development and redevelopment in the greater Longfellow community. It also monitors and provides input for street and bike route projects.

Also reviewed at the Apr. 26 meeting was the Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Project, a partnership that has been a part of LCC for years because of the valu-

able work done in the community, according to Majors. "There is no other organization that works with young offenders to help them connect to the community and address the impact of their offenses," she noted.

Majors described another partnership between East Lake Library and an organization called Learning Dreams that is a part of LCC. "Volunteers are used to connect with kids and their families outside of the classroom, and their goal is to help children and their families to realize their dreams through alternative learning resources," Majors said. Anna Sheppard, the librarian from East Lake, was in attendance to provide information on the activities being planned for the 2016 Open Streets Event.

"LCC's annual membership meetings are one of the many ways that we engage the community," Majors explained. "At each meeting we are seeing new faces, hearing updates from elected officials, sharing food and fun, showcasing local organizations and businesses through the Resource Fairs and touting our accomplishments as a community."

"Our greatest challenges are also our greatest opportunities," she continued. "There are approximately 16 development projects in progress or in the planning process. Our business community is booming, and Minnehaha Ave. is in the last stage of reconstruction."

Majors said LCC wants to ensure that community members can be a part of sustaining and growing "this incredibly vibrant community."



There are approximately 16 development projects in progress or in the planning process. Our business community is booming, and Minnehaha Ave. is in the last stage of reconstruction. (Photo courtesy of Longfellow Community Council)



"LCC's annual membership meetings are one of the many ways that we engage the community," explained Executive Director Melanie Majors. (Photo courtesy of Longfellow Community Council)

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# NENA acknowledges end of 'transitional year' with new plan

Six new members elected to board at annual meeting; residents briefed on NENA's new strategic plan and goals

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

Nearly half of the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association Board members are new this year.

At the annual meeting on Thur., Apr. 28, residents elected Marcelina Torres Ramos and Jenna Carter for Wenonah; Carrie Andersen and Mike Ferrin for Minnehaha; Sahr Brima for Keewaydin; and Anne Johnson for Morris Park.

Re-elected were Mike Guild (Keewaydin) and Mark Preston, who had been appointed to fill the vacant Morris Park seat in January 2016.

These changes cap a year and a half of major alterations within the organization.

"2015 was a transitional year for Nokomis East Neighborhood Association," remarked NENA Executive Director Becky Timm.

"Your input and your support helped stabilize our organization, and put NENA back on track to be a sector-leading organization."

In October 2014, the board terminated its executive and associate directors. That was followed by the resignation of five board members and appointment of eight new members a couple of months later. Another four new board members joined in April 2015.

Amy Arcand served as Interim Executive Director until Becky Timm took over on July 27, 2015. Five months later Dave Collings was hired as NENA's Program and Communications Manager.

NENA is currently in the process of hiring a new Community Organizer, who will be fluent in English and Spanish to replace Maria Alcaraz, who resigned earlier this year.

## NENA office moves

In addition to having a new roster of staff and board members, the location of NENA is changing.



Las Familias Latinas de Wenonah was honored with the 2015 NENA Volunteer Award. Led by board member Maribel Osorio, the group of Latino women has worked to create a safer neighborhood. When someone tells Osorio that they don't feel welcome in the community, she responds that they need to participate. Last year, the group of women organized the first Day of the Child celebration that was attended by 150 children and families. About 300 attended the Day of the Mother's event. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

In May, NENA vacated its office at 3000 E. 50th St., because the building was sold by its owner. NENA had been located there for 21 years.

The new location is 54th and 53rd in the Morris Park area. NENA is renovating the former Hiawatha Bike Shop building. It will offer a larger space for meetings.

An open house is planned for August.

Collings is also working with a design class at the University of Minnesota to freshen up the NENA logo. See it soon on new Nokomis area bike racks.

"Thank you for being patient with us over the year as we transitioned back to permanent staff," said Timm. "I want you to take a new look at NENA and see yourself here."

## Strategic plan provides direction

"Since we last came together a

year ago, NENA has been doing some great things," observed outgoing Board President Vanessa Haight. She pointed to the hiring of two full-time staff members and the creation of a strategic plan.

"With that strategic plan in place, we're starting to look outward," Haight said.

The strategic plan for 2016-2018 is expected to give NENA direction, a renewed sense of purpose, and an understanding of what the community expects of its neighborhood organization.

More than 500 community members and the board members were involved in sharing ideas and feedback on the new plan.

In the strategic vision, NENA will be a sector-leading organization and the area's first-stop resource hub that helps build an energetic and engaged neighborhood. They will be recognized by their welcoming physical space, enthu-



The NENA Technology Committee was honored with the 2015 NENA Volunteer Award. Group members (left to right) Brigid Jordan, Chris Becker, and Helena Pikus-Li, along with Jim Cummins and Kyle Matteson (not pictured) launched a new website, worked to create a social media presence, sent out regular e-newsletters, and updated the office computers. "Functional IT makes a big difference in the life of a non-profit," remarked board member Katie Sheetz. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

siastic volunteers and professional staff, and a willingness to lead courageous conversations and launch innovative programming. NENA will be an avenue to addressing important neighborhood issues, a catalyst for building strong neighborhood partnerships, and a leading voice for strategic community and commercial development.

"That's a lofty goal, but I think together we will make inroads on it," stated Timm.

NENA will seek to build operational excellence by improving governance and function, as well as building a better board. During the year, board members went door-knocking in September, had monthly training at board meetings, and were directly involved in board committees and projects.

This fall, the board will begin updating its bylaws, which were last reviewed in 2007.

According to the vision, NENA will demonstrate organizational responsibility through accountability and transparency, working to rebuild lost trust from the community. Examples of this include the 2015 NENA annual report; a redesigned NENA website increasing timely access to governing documents, organizational reports, and meeting agendas and minutes; improved monthly board financial reports and financial training; and monthly organizational and staff reports at board meetings.

Board meetings are held on the fourth Thursdays of the month from 7-9pm.

"We want to have a two-way conversation with our community," said Timm.

NENA is also working to increase outside review and accreditation, as well as to diversify its funding stream.

NENA's 2015 annual budget was \$227,969. Eighty-one percent of NENA resources are allocated to mission-based program work. The majority of funds come from the city of

Minneapolis through its Community Participation Program and the Neighborhood Revitalization Program. Community members and businesses contributed \$5,000 through cash and in-kind donations.

Another major area of the strategic plan is to build capacity for community engagement through partnerships with local organizations, as well as by getting the word out about activities through a variety of ways. "We want to build our volunteer base," stated Timm.

Finally, NENA is seeking to engage the community through its various events and pop-up kiosks.

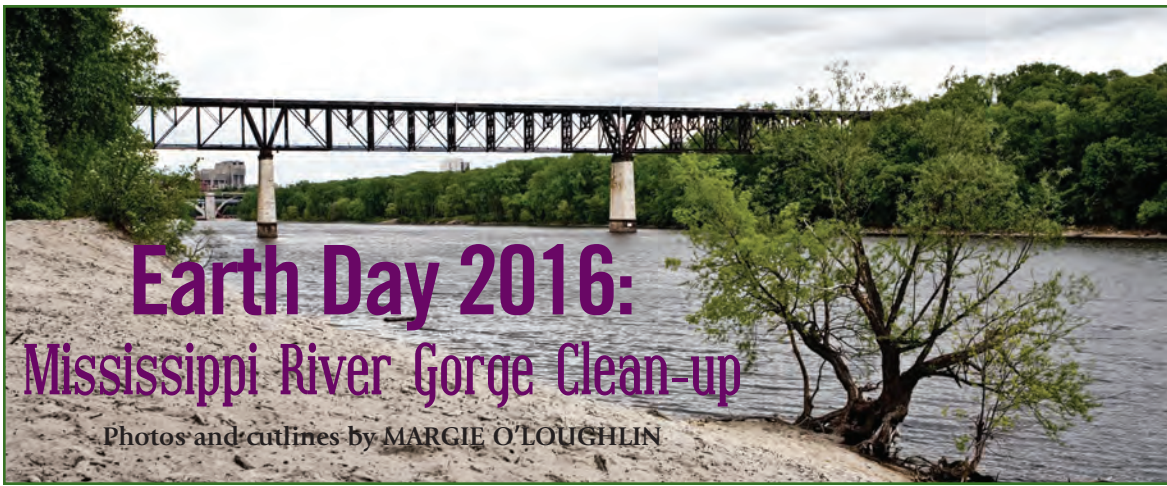
"This is your neighborhood. This is your time to get involved," encouraged Timm. "There's an opportunity for everyone with every time commitment."



"Great things happen when people show up and do things," stated Ward 11 Council Member John Quincy on Apr. 28. He was excited to share the news that the city had reached an agreement with the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board on a \$30 million plan to fund parks and street improvements over the next 20 years. The impact on property tax payers is less than 1%, said Quincy. "At the end of it will be a great system with no long-term debt." Ward 12 council member Andrew Johnson and Parks Commissioner Steffanie Musich also shared updates at the NENA annual meeting. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)



At the annual meeting on Thur., Apr. 28, residents elected (front, left to right) Marcelina Torres Ramos, Carrie Andersen, Mike Guild, (second row) Mike Ferrin, Mark Preston, Sahr Brima, Anne Johnson, and Jenna Carter. Outgoing NENA Board members include chair Vanessa Haight, Joe Henry, Matt Musich, John Lambrecht and longtime board members George Jelatis and Kent Knopp-Schwyn. Remaining on the board are Larry Ouellette, Katie Sheetz, Marian Streitz, Maribel Osorio, Steve Larmon, Mark Keeler and Helena Pikus-Li. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)



Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR) recently screened their film "Rebirth: The Mississippi's National Park" at the Guthrie and Riverview theaters and on Twin Cities Public Television. The film tells the story of Tom Kelley and his quest to designate a 72-mile stretch of the river from Dayton to Hastings as a national park. The story begins in the 1970's when Kelley first fell in love with the river from the deck of his houseboat. He understood that somehow the decades of neglect had to be reversed. The Mississippi National River and Recreational Area was established in 1988.



"People are very enthusiastic about this clean-up event," said Alex Roth, said Alex Roth, FMR ecologist. "Our posted start time is always 9:30 and again this year, we had people start lining up an hour ahead of that. It's a great way to protect the river, to beautify the neighborhood and build community spirit. We had more than 400 participants this year, who collected upwards of 200 bags of trash."



FMR partnered with Minneapolis Parks and Recreation again this year to sponsor an annual River Gorge Clean-up. The two designated sites were at the Prairie Oak Savannah (36th St. and W. River Pkwy.) and the Maple-Basswood Forest (44th St. and W. River Pkwy.).



Go to [www.tpt.org/rebirth-the-mississippi-national-park](http://www.tpt.org/rebirth-the-mississippi-national-park) to view "Rebirth: The Mississippi's National Park" online. Contact Friends of the Mississippi communications manager Sue Rich at [srich@fmr.org](mailto:srich@fmr.org) to request a copy of the DVD for community screenings.



Friends of the Mississippi's executive director Whitney Clark said, "The designation of the park was a tipping point for the health and vitality of the Mississippi as it runs through the Twin Cities. From that moment on, public decisions about the river have leaned toward improving public access and ecological health. Our water quality has improved, bald eagles are now prospering, fish are more abundant, parks and trail systems are expanding, riverside development is part of the economic engine that's driving community revitalization. A river running through a major metropolitan area can either be a dumping ground for waste or the key to its vitality. In the case of the Mississippi, it's been both."

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# Chard Your Yard

Story and  
by MARGIE C

Chard Your Yard, a gardening initiative of the neighborhood May 14. A well-bundled group of volunteers turned up for breakfast with Aggie Hoeger, with temperatures hovering around freezing.



According to Leslie Mackenzie, one of Transition Longfellow's core group organizers, "There are about 135 officially recognized Transition neighborhood groups across the country, and many more unofficial ones." She continued, "The philosophy of TL is to offer practical ways for people to make lifestyle changes. We're not a non-profit or an official entity. We're a group of neighbors trying to move in a positive direction." For more information, visit [www.transitionlongfellow.org](http://www.transitionlongfellow.org).



Mackenzie said, "If people are excited to be part of the local food culture—if they want to try growing their own food, then Chard Your Yard is a great way to get started. TL asks, 'How can we help make this as easy as possible for you?'" Each volunteer team delivered and assembled six beds in six different locations. For their efforts, volunteers were served breakfast and lunch—and had a chance to work and talk with other pro-active neighbors.

Transition Longfellow was able to offer a Skills Share Program last year, where members could share their skills with others at no cost. Mackenzie recapped some of the practical suggestions from the session she taught on how to grow better tomatoes:

- If space allows, rotate tomato plants in the garden each year. The blight which tomatoes often develop can overwinter in the soil.
- Put a mulch of fresh straw under each plant. This prevents water from splashing onto the undersides of lower leaves, which is another way disease spreads.
- Prune the lower branches of each plant. If plants are growing a lot of leaves and not much fruit, consider lowering the amount of nitrogen in your soil or fertilizer.



The beds were delivered partially assembled. The sides were connected on-site, and the finished beds put in place by volunteers. Homeowners met with a TL organizer the week before to determine the best location for their garden bed. This site visit is included in the cost of the garden bed and is a chance for homeowners to ask questions about gardening. Anyone in zip code 55406 is eligible to apply.

## Get your group on

Leslie Mackenzie and Theresa Rooney, both experienced Master Gardeners, offer a plant discussion group that meets the first Saturday of every month all year long at the Riverview Wine Bar, 3747 42nd Ave. S. June's topic of discussion will be plant diseases and insects, and what to do about them. These events are open to anyone, not just residents of the Longfellow neighborhood.



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# rows in Longfellow

and photos  
D'LOUGHLIN

Group Transition Longfellow (TL), took place this year on Sat.,  
breakfast at the home of Chard Your Yard creators Bruce Gregg and



Gardeners can receive support in many ways both before and after the soil has settled. A series of free classes called Veggie Basics was offered every Saturday in April this year at Gandhi Mahal Restaurant. TL hopes to sponsor the series again next year, but Mackenzie said, "Everything we do is completely dependent on our volunteers. We have an annual operating budget of less than \$1,000. If you like what you see, come and join us."



Bruce Gregg has the distinction of having named the Chard Your Yard event. This garden initiative is one of the many ways TL is at work in the Longfellow neighborhood. The broad issues addressed by the group are climate change, dependence on fossil fuel, and navigating the economic changes ahead in the transition to renewable energy.



Chard Your Yard is one of the gardening initiatives that does just that. Twenty-four raised beds were installed in yards across Longfellow this year. All installations were done in a single day with 18-20 volunteers. Jobs included shoveling a soil/compost mix, which came either from The Mulch Store. Each household received one 3' x 5' treated pine raised garden bed, and all the dirt needed to fill it. The sign-up period begins each year in early April and continues until full. Scholarships (courtesy of the LCC) are available for low-income gardeners or those living with disabilities. This was the fourth year of Chard Your Yard.



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# Cap's Grille spends spring lobbying for two-story brewpub expansion

Owners asking for liquor license due to unique location, despite 'political bickering' bill passes through legislature

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

Cap's Grille owner Brett Mattson recognizes that his business is situated at the doorway to Minneapolis.

It's one of the first places people see when they enter the city from the airport, and one thousands of visitors pass by on their way to enjoy Minnehaha Park.

"We want to do something special in the neighborhood," Mattson remarked.

He and his father, Don, are planning to add a brewpub and second story while holding onto the award-winning barbecue that's kept customers coming back for 23 years.

But before he can expand, the Mattsons have a few hurdles to jump over.

In order to brew beer, Cap's Grille (5000 Hiawatha Ave.) needs a liquor license. To get a liquor license in Minneapolis, the city charter requires a business to be part of seven contiguous acres of commercial or industrial zoning. Cap's is in a unique geographic position, bumped up against the light rail, the highway and Minnehaha Park, with their back to a multi-unit building.

They're on an island of zoning. The city's requirement keeps hard liquor bars out of the middle of residential neighborhoods and instead forces them into commercial areas. However, there are exceptional circumstances that have required the city to go to the legislature and ask for a special exemption for dozens of locations, and that's the route Cap's Grille is pursuing.

To help Mattson proceed, Ward 12 Council Member An-



Brett Mattson (shown) and his father, Don, are planning to add a brewpub and second story while holding onto the award-winning barbecue that's kept customers coming back to Cap's Grille for 23 years. But to do that, they need a law passed taking into account the unique geographic position they're in, bumped up against the light rail, the highway and Minnehaha Park, with their back to a multi-unit building. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

drew Johnson and his staff drafted bill language, and subsequently worked with Representative Jean Wagenius and Senator Patricia Torres Ray, to get it on a legislative bill. Also on the bill is the special liquor license for the proposed Major League Soccer stadium in St. Paul.

There it hit a snag. It was part of the larger liquor omnibus bill, and some were trying to also make Sunday liquor sales legal.

"Unfortunately, this is being held up by political bickering,"

said Mattson. "We're not asking for any financial help. We just want to move forward on this project."

However, on May 12, the Sunday off-sale amendment was removed, and the bill passed through the House. On the final day of the legislative session the bill passed and was sent on to Governor Dayton for signature.

### Positives for the neighborhood

"It's not fun to be a small business owner and go through this," admitted Mattson.

The issues he is facing just to begin construction are

frustrating, in part, because Mattson knows the plans for a brewpub will meet everything politicians champion. It will include renewable energy strategies while creating jobs in the neighborhood that pay above minimum wage.

At Cap's Grille, they've been paying employees livable wages for over a decade. It shows. Eighty percent of the employees have been there more than 12 years, and 60% have been there for 18 or more. There's one woman who has been there since the restaurant opened, and a man who worked his way up from dish-

washer at 15 to manager.

Longfellow resident Mary Thomas is one of many who waited for months for a position to open up on the staff because she knew it was a good place to work. She's been there 13 years.

"The family is really good to work for," said Thomas. "No one quits."

She thinks the proposed brewpub will be great for the neighborhood and also bring people into the area. "It's a beautiful site," Thomas observed.

### Just one law stands in the way

"There's no one standing in the way of this project. There's just that one law," pointed out Mattson.

Customers and neighbors have been excited to hear about the project. "The neighborhood is 100% supportive," said Mattson.

On Dec. 12, Council Member Johnson and NENA co-hosted a Community Input Session for the neighborhood to learn more about the initial project plans from Cap's Grille.

"From public comments at the December session and on Facebook, most comments were in favor of the initial project concepts," observed NENA Executive Director Becky Timm. "NENA conducted a general community survey in September, and residents indicated strong support for our local businesses and restaurants. Some specifically indicated interest in brewpubs in our neighborhood."

"We first engaged neighbors to find out what they thought of Cap's plans, and overall the response was quite positive," stated council member Johnson.

Continued on page 13



Mary Thomas, Brett Mattson and Wes Sweigard ready the restaurant for a new day of serving customers. All are looking forward to the day when Cap's Grille rebuilds and expands. At 13 years, Thomas is one of the newer employees at Cap's while Sweigard has been there for 20 years. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

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# In Our Community

## Messenger

Send us your news! When you submit your press release it will be considered for both the newspaper as well as the Messenger Facebook page (Facebook.com/LongfellowNokomisMessenger). You can also go to our website, LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com and enter the information in the online Event Calendar.

### Summer Fest planned June 26

Norway Day and Svenskarnas Dag will again collaborate to make an even bigger and better ethnic celebration for the Norwegians, Swedes, and Scandinavian community at the 2nd Annual Scandinavian Summer Fest June 26 at Minnehaha Falls Park.

This year's fest will begin with a scenic Midsommer Loppet 5k Family Fun Run at 9:30am followed by a church service in Swedish and Norwegian at 11am, children's parade, dancing around the Midsommer pole at 12 noon, Swedish and Norwegian musical entertainment and dance, Scandinavian vendors, exhibitors, and food. The day will end with the crowning of the 2017 Miss Svenskarnas Dag. There will be activities and fun for all ages at this free event.

For more information go to [www.exploreminnesota.com](http://www.exploreminnesota.com) (search Scandinavian). To register for the Midsommer Loppet go to <https://midsommerloppet.eventbrite.com>.

### St. Albert schedules rummage sale

St. Albert the Great Church, E. 29th St. at 32nd Ave. S., will hold their Rummage Sale on Thur.-Fri., June 9-10 from 9am to 7pm. Saturday is Bag Day from 9am to noon. Everything indoors this year, with furniture and larger items in the school gym. Accessible entry behind the statue of St. Albert.

### Morris dancers to visit Merlin's Rest

With jingling bells, traditional music, and good luck for the growing season, the Midwest Morris Ale returns to the Twin Cities Memorial Day weekend: May 27-30. The Midwest Morris Ale is an annual gathering of Morris dancers, held in locations from Michigan to Colorado every year since 1981.

Among their many Twin Cities locations, on Sat., May 28 small teams will perform at Merlin's Rest, 3601 E. Lake St., from 1:20-2:35pm, 3-4:10pm and 4:20-5:35pm. On Sun., May 29, all the teams will converge at Merlin's Rest, from 3:30-5:30pm.

For more information and a detailed schedule, visit [midwest-morrisale.org](http://midwest-morrisale.org).

### Vince Wyckoff to hold book readings

Join Vince Wyckoff for readings and book signings of "Black Otter Bay," his new mystery thriller set on the North Shore. Both events

## Sounds of music fill Minnehaha Park in June

Music in the Parks released its 2016 schedule. Locally, there are concerts planned every Wed. through Fri. at 7pm at Minnehaha Regional Park, 4801 S. Minnehaha Dr. June's schedule includes:

- June 1, 7pm: South High Community Band (concert band & big band repertoire)
- June 2, 7pm: Compost Sleeping Bag (folk, bluegrass, rock, singer, songwriter)
- June 3, 7pm: Cristine Hoberg (avant garde vocal synth pop)
- June 8, 7pm: Seward Community Band (concert band)
- June 9, 7pm: Sweet Rhubarb (eclectic folk, vocal harmonies)
- June 10, 7pm: Urban Star (classic jazz blues bossa nova)
- June 15, 7pm: Star of the North Concert Band (adult community band)
- June 16, 7pm: Half the Nation (traditional roots folk rock country)
- June 17, 7pm: 3 Minutes to Midnight (funk, soul, indie rock)
- June 22, 7pm: Wilkinson James (Americana, folk, country, honky-tonk)
- June 23, 7pm: Plymouth Rockers (show tunes, folksongs, oldies and spirituals)
- June 24, 7pm: Six Still Standing (classic to current rock)
- June 29, 7pm: Handsome Midnight (90's-style alt rock)
- June 30, 7pm: Westwind Big Band (jazz, swing, big band style feat. improvised solos)
- July 1, 7pm: The Homestead Act (original folk rock)

are open to the public with books available for purchase.

- Thur., June 2, 7pm at Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church, 5011 31st Ave. S.
- Sat., June 11, 2pm at Moon Palace Books, 2820 E. 33rd St.

### Visitors and drivers needed for seniors

Help seniors stay in their homes and keep socially connected! If you have a heart for seniors, you'll love these volunteer positions! Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors is looking for "friendly visitors" to visit isolated seniors in the greater Longfellow and Seward neighborhoods. They're also looking for volunteer drivers to transport seniors to local medical appointments and shopping. Call at 612-729-5799 for more information.

### Peppers and Fries named award winner

The Longfellow Business Association awarded First Place in the 2016 Diane Radtke Community Improvement prize to Peppers and Fries, 3900 E. Lake St., for their innovative renovation of a SuperAmerica store that had been closed for over six years. Second place was awarded to RNW Properties who built out the popular destination vintage shops at Time Bomb, 4008 Minnehaha Ave. S.

The Diane Radtke Community Improvement Award recognizes a business that has significantly improved the exterior of their building and surrounding grounds. The award is named in honor of Diane Radtke, the for-

mer owner of the Lake St. Garage, who led by example in the beautification of Longfellow. In addition to being a charter member of the Longfellow Business Association (LBA) and the owner of a family restaurant, Radtke was a tireless advocate for clean streets in greater Longfellow.

### Keewaydin teacher is state award winner

Jennifer Monroe of Lake Nokomis Community School (LNCS), Keewaydin, was awarded the Junior Division Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award for Minnesota. As a winner of this award, Monroe is nominated for the national award. The National Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award is awarded to one junior division (grades 6-8) and one senior division (grades 9-12) teacher who has shown outstanding creativity, commitment, and inspiration in developing student interest in history education.

The affiliate and national awards are sponsored by Patricia Behring in recognition of the pivotal role teachers play in the lives of students and to encourage creative and inspiring instruction in classrooms around the world. The two national winners will be announced at an awards ceremony on June 16.

### Adoption support group meets June 7

The Adoption Support Network holds monthly support groups at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church (4101 37th Ave. S.), for parents and teens who have been adopted. Meeting will be June 7 at 6:30pm. Adoptive

parents are provided with a confidential, nonjudgmental environment where they can support each other and share resources. Teens are invited to meet other teens who understand what it's like to be adopted. The teen group is not a drop-off group - parent(s) must attend the parent support group. For more info and to RSVP, contact Ginny Blade at 651-646-5082 or [ginnyblade@nacac.org](mailto:ginnyblade@nacac.org) (parents); or Christina Romo at 651-644-3036, ext. 17, or [christinaromo@nacac.org](mailto:christinaromo@nacac.org) (teens).

### Neighbors aim for monarch corridor

As part of the monarch activity in Nokomis East, Vicki Bonk and Linda Wogstad, through NENA, are trying to get neighbors who live and own businesses along 50th St. to plant a tiny bit of their boulevards in monarch habitat. Everyone was flyer'd and invited to attend the Monarch Workshop that was held in mid-May. Everyone is being encouraged to become Pollinator Planters along the 50th St. Mini-Monarch Corridor. Anyone interested in the program can contact Wogstad via email at [linda.wogstad@yahoo.com](mailto:linda.wogstad@yahoo.com).

### Register now for LoLa Art Crawl

The 8th annual LoLa Art Crawl will be held Sept. 17-18, and all artists who live/work within the greater Longfellow neighborhoods (east of Hiawatha to the River, south of the Greenway to Minnehaha Parkway) are encouraged to register. Deadline to register is July 1. More information can be found here at <http://lolaartcrawl.com/forartists/registration>.

### Sanford students enter Regatta

Sanford Middle School was one of the participants in the 24th Annual Minnesota Renewable Energy Society Solar Boat Regatta on May 2 at Riley Lake in Eden Prairie. Sanford Middle School students entered a solar boat named "Hydrophobia," under teacher Chadly Koppenhaver.

### Healthy Seniors upcoming events

The Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors will present "The Future of Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid" at their Thur., June 16 Senior Social/Health Talk, 10:30am at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. Learn key facts and solutions to protect and improve these economic security programs.

A monthly Diabetes Support Group for adults of all ages will

be held June 8 from 6:30-8pm at Hiawatha School Park Recreation Center, 4305 E. 42nd St.

There will be no yoga classes or Low-Vision Support Group during the summer.

For more information on programs and services for seniors, call Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799.

### VBS at Morris Park

All children preschool through 5th grade are invited to "Cave Quest," a day camp where children learn about God's love. This neighborhood Vacation Bible School will be held at Morris Park, Mon.-Fri., June 13-17, from 9:30am to noon. To register visit [www.trinityfalls.org/kids](http://www.trinityfalls.org/kids) or call Trinity's office at 612-724-3691 for more information. On Sat., June 18, they will wrap up the week with a "Family Fun Day" on Trinity's circle drive, 5212 41st Ave. S., 10am to 1pm with inflatables, games, food and fun, all free!

### Healthy Seniors upcoming events

"Care of Houseplants" will be the Senior Social/Health Talk presentation on Tues., May 17, 10:30pm, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. Learn the basic principles of houseplant care including watering, soil and light and learn about suitable plants for various conditions such as low-light or high-humidity.

Gentle Yoga classes for seniors are held on Mondays and Fridays at 10am and also meet at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Yoga classes are \$4/each. The last yoga class will be May 20—there will be no classes in the summer.

A monthly Diabetes Support Group for adults of all ages meets on Wed., May 11, 6-8pm, at Hiawatha School Park Recreation Center, 4305 E. 42nd St. They also sponsor a Low-Vision support group.

Call Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for information on any of their events or services.

### LCC schedules June activities

The Longfellow Community Council (LCC) has posted several activities for June:

- Fri.-Sat., June 10-11: Longfellow Neighborhood Garage Sale 2016. More than 100 residents will be hosting yard sales and garage sales from 9am to 3pm both days.
- Tue., June 7, 6-7:30pm: Community Connections Committee meeting at Lake Coffee House, 3223 E. Lake St.
- Tue., June 7, 7:30-9pm: Neighborhood Development Committee meeting at Lake Coffee House,

*Continued on page 12*

## In Our Community

Continued from page 11

3223 E. Lake St.

• Wed., June 8, 6-7:30pm: River Gorge Committee meeting at Hiawatha School Park, 4305 E. 42nd St.

• Wed., June 8, 7:30-9pm: Environment Committee meeting at Hiawatha School Park, 4305 E. 42nd St.

• LCC has been gearing up for its annual Raingarden Project, and they will be hosting installation days from June 20-23.

• LCC is hosting its annual Summer Celebration at Longfellow Grill, 2990 W. River Pkwy., Tue., June 28, 5:30-8pm.

For details on any of the committee meetings or the Raingarden Project, email [joe@longfellow.org](mailto:joe@longfellow.org).

## AA and NA meets

Every Monday night there is an AA meeting at 7pm at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church (4101 37th Ave. S.), and every Tuesday and Wednesday night there is an AA meeting at 7:30pm. On Thursday night, there is an NA meeting at 7:30pm. All are welcome to attend.

## Gamblers Anonymous meets Wednesdays

A Gamblers Anonymous group meets Wednesday evenings at 6pm at Living Table Church, 3805 E. 40th St., in the Hope Room. Anyone with a desire to stop gambling is welcome.

## Summer day camp scheduled in June

Westminster Presbyterian Church is holding a summer all day camp for children in kindergarten through 5th grade at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church, 1620 E. 46th St., the week of June 20-24.

Mornings will include activities like music, arts and crafts, nature exploration and stories, led by artists, staff and members of Westminster.

After a hot lunch and rest time, children, accompanied by their counselors and staff will have 'field trips' to metro area parks for swimming, games and adventures around the city.

Cost is \$185/week per camper; sibling discounts, and scholarships available. For information or registration call Mary Alette Davis 612-332-3421, x213.

## Challenge choir to sing at Faith

MN Adult and Teen Challenge Choir will be at Faith Ev. Lutheran Church, 3430 East 51st St., during the 9am worship on Sun., June 12. A free-will offering will be collected, and a potluck will follow the service. All are invited to come and hear the choir and the testimonials presented.

## Munchkins story time

Come together for singing, story time and coloring at the new Minnehaha Munchkins Community Story Time. Offered on the fourth Thursday of each

month, 11:30-noon, at the Minnehaha Academy Lower School library, families with youngsters (up to age five) are encouraged to come in to enjoy and share in this free event with their kids or grandkids. Upcoming events are June 23, and July 28. The library is located at 4200 W. River Pkwy. Call 612-728-7763 to RSVP; drop-ins are also welcome.

## Refectory wins rehabilitation award

The Minnehaha Refectory Rehabilitation project was honored recently with a 2016 Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Award. In 2015, the 111-year-old building at Minnehaha Falls Park completed a round of upgrades that improved its roof, interior and restrooms and made the entire site more accessible and easier to navigate while preserving its stunning historic character. Sea Salt Eatery is located in the building.

The Minneapolis Preservation Awards highlight the year's best achievements for transforming a historic property, building, or landscape and reinventing it to incorporate both new and old elements in a way that is respectful to the past. Projects are judged on attention to the quality of design, architecture, workmanship, and materials as well as the positive impact on the surrounding neighborhood and community. A jury comprised of three Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commissioners, two members of the American Institute of Architects Minneapolis Chapter, and two board members from Preserve Minneapolis reviewed the nominations.

Check out the rehabilitated refectory and surrounding site improvements near the main entrance to Minnehaha Regional Park, by Minnehaha Falls.

## Greenway Glow planned June 18

The Midtown Greenway Coalition will once again be organizing the largest annual event on the Greenway—the Greenway Glow! Join them on the evening of Sat., June 18 for a community arts festival from 7pm-1am. There will also be a Family Glow for children and families from 7-9pm at the CEPRO green space by the Midtown Freewheel Bike Center. The Glow features more than two-dozen local artists and performers. You can also join in the 10-mile bike ride or the new 5k fun run. Riders and runners get two free beers at the After-Glow Party from East Lake Craft Brewery (must be 21), tacos and chips from Taco Cat, a glow-in-the-dark event shirt, and much more! For more information or to register, go to [greenwayglow.kintera.org](http://greenwayglow.kintera.org).

## Park Board finalist for national award

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) has been named a finalist for the 2016 National Gold Medal Awards for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management.

Founded in 1965, the Gold Medal Awards program honors communities in the U.S.



Base Camp operates out of the former Cavalry Drill Hall near Historic Fort Snelling and is a thriving program center used by over 150,000 youth since its opening in 2010. (Photo submitted)

## Base Camp is located in our backyard

Driving down Highway 55 between Fort Snelling and the airport, it was always intriguing to see giant climbing walls with a Boy Scout symbol on them. Is it a secret training facility for government agents? Or, some rarely used activity center? Neither.

Base Camp is a unique urban program center of the Northern Star Council, Boy Scouts of America. Base Camp operates out of the former Cavalry Drill Hall near Historic Fort Snelling and is a thriving program center used by over 150,000 youth since its opening in 2010. Base Camp is an experiential learning facility that focuses on pairing adventurous activities with team building and leadership pro-

gramming.

Anyone can participate in what Base Camp has to offer. In fact, 85% of its users are non-scouts. Some of the opportunities available include individual summer programs for the urban adventurer, 3 to 5-hour field trips, full facility rentals, one-hour rock climbing adventures, birthday parties, and overnight lock-ins. Base Camp isn't only for Scouts.

Beyond the common activity center, Base Camp boasts experienced staff who take charge of the education and safety to ensure each user gets the most out of their trip.

One example of a summer activity is Northern Star Summer Adventure, going on this

year for the first time. For boys and girls ages 5 to 11, this day camp is the most convenient camping experience in the Twin Cities. For more information about this event, call 612-767-0055

Neighboring Historic Fort Snelling, Base Camp's new summer event will include visits to the recently announced national treasure. Rich in history, Base Camp is located inside what was once the Fort Snelling Cavalry Drill Hall. This repurposed complex is a shining example of how to maintain the integrity of a historic building and keep it relevant to society.

For all of Base Camp options, check out their website at [www.explorebasecamp.org](http://www.explorebasecamp.org).

that demonstrate excellence in parks and recreation through long-range planning, resource management, volunteerism, environmental stewardship, program development, professional development and agency recognition.

MPRB is a finalist in the Class 1 category (population of more than 250,000). The Park Board's application stressed MPRB's long tradition of preserving land and a strong emphasis on connecting people to the land and each other. The MPRB was a finalist in 1988

and previously awarded the National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in 1989.

## Trylon Premieres to cease after June

After six years of bringing new independent features to the Twin Cities, Kathie Smith is moving on from programming Trylon Premieres, which means that, after the June series, Premieres will be coming to a close. Smith worked

hard to bring the best of new independent films to the Trylon microcinema, 2820 E 33rd St. These were films that would never have played in the Twin Cities were it not for her efforts. She programmed Palme d'or winners, obscure and classic foreign films, vanguards of horror and comedy, and amazing documentaries. Smith continues to project for the Trylon and is one of the programmers of the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Film Festival.

## Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

**Bethany Lutheran**  
3901 36th Ave. S. • 612-729-9376  
[www.bethanyon36th.com](http://www.bethanyon36th.com)

Sundays:  
9:15 am Education for Adults  
10:30 am Worship  
Beginning Sunday, May 29:  
9:30 a.m. Worship  
10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

**Bethlehem Covenant Church**  
3141 43rd Ave. S. • 612-721-5768  
[www.bethlehemcov.org](http://www.bethlehemcov.org)

Rev. Matthew Kennedy  
Children especially welcome  
Handicapped Accessible  
**Sunday Schedule:**  
Contemporary Worship – 9:00 am  
Traditional Worship - 10:30 am  
Español – 1:30 pm  
Day Camp – July 18 – 22/\$15 per day  
Free VBS – August 8 – 12  
To register for Day Camp and/or VBS:  
[www.bethlehemcov.org](http://www.bethlehemcov.org)

**Epworth United Methodist**  
3207 37th Ave. • 612-722-0232  
[www.epworthumcpls.org](http://www.epworthumcpls.org)

Rev. Pam Armstrong  
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am  
(Childcare Provided)  
(Wheelchair Accessible)

**Minnehaha Communion Lutheran**  
4101 37th Ave. S. • 612-722-9527  
[www.minnehahacomunion.com](http://www.minnehahacomunion.com)

Pastors Dan and Sally Ankerfelt  
Sunday Worship – 9:45 am  
Sunday School – 9:45 am  
(Wheelchair Accessible)

**St. Albert the Great Catholic**  
E. 29th St. at 32nd Ave. S. •  
612-724-3643

[www.saintalbertthegreat.org](http://www.saintalbertthegreat.org)  
Fr. Joe Gillespie, O.P.  
Sunday Mass: 9:30 am (Childcare available)  
Saturday Mass: 5 pm  
M,T, Th, F. Rosary at 8 am, Daily Mass 8:15 am  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament,  
First Fridays from 9 am to noon  
(Handicapped accessible)

**St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran**  
4600 E. 42nd St. • 612-722-8000  
[www.stpeders.net](http://www.stpeders.net)

Julie A. Ebbesen, Pastor  
Worship: 9 and 10:30 am,  
Summer: 9 am only  
Education for all: 9 am  
(Childcare; Wheelchair Acc., Braille)  
Coffee 10 am

**Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls**  
5212 41st Ave. S. • 612-724-3691  
[www.trinityfalls.org](http://www.trinityfalls.org)

Pastors Derek Johnson & Matt Oxendale  
Sunday Worship 10:00 am (through 9/4)  
AA Meetings Tuesdays/Sundays 7:00 pm  
VBS at Morris Park - June 13-17, 9:30-noon

### Projects of the Neighborhood Churches Include:

**Minnehaha Food Shelf,**  
Serving People Tuesday,  
10:30 am - 3 pm

Call us at 612-721-6231  
**Minnehaha United Methodist •**  
3701 E. 50th St.

## Cap's Grille

Continued from page 10

"Like many projects along the LRT line, the top concern was lack of on-street parking due to commuters who leave their cars during the workday (along with travelers going to the airport)," he added. "This lack of parking also affects Cap's, and I am happy to work with interested neighbors to explore signage that can improve the situation."

Johnson testified at the Capitol and lobbied to get the bill passed.

"It's wonderful that this staple of Nokomis East wants to double-down on their investment in our community, create dozens of jobs, and build an iconic space that will serve residents for a generation to come," stated Johnson.

### Want to stay in Nokomis

Mattson was born and bred in the Nokomis neighborhood and is now raising his children in the house across the street.

Cap's Grille originally started in Hudson, Wis. in 1988. They had a small place in town and served food off a houseboat on the weekends. Hudson was pretty small back then, and they decided to shut down in 1992, and instead focus on a place closer to home.

"It was a good idea, but bad timing," pointed out Mattson, who had graduated from Minnehaha Academy in 1988.

In 1993, they bought a run-down gas station at the corner of 50th and Hiawatha. Mattson, along with two pals, constructed the building.

Despite that, Mattson said he's ready to tear it down and build new. "It's like living in the same house," he explained. "I can't wait for the upgrade."



Rebuilding and adding a brewpub is "Plan A to Z" for Cap's Grille and the Mattson family, who intend to stay in the neighborhood. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Hiawatha Ave. originally ran through what is now part of their parking lot. The lot used to have space for just seven cars, but they gained space when the highway was expanded.

They nearly went out of business when the light rail line was built, but hung on.

With the new project, they envision something that the neighborhood will be proud of.

A prior board member of the Minnesota Renewable Energy Society, Mattson plans to implement renewable energy in the new building. Mattson is excited to see all the ideas he's had come to fruition in this project.

At this point, the project has been three years in the making, and Mattson doesn't know when ground will break. He's waiting to release more details—such as building sketches—until he receives state permission on the liquor license.

He plans to wait things out and doesn't intend to leave the area.

"This is plan A-Z for us," said Mattson.

## A Line bus service

Continued from page 1

tional local bus service.

- By extending the curbs at stations, buses can merge more easily into traffic after serving a station. The buses won't pull over to board passengers, but will instead remain in the right driving lane. Each A Line station is comprised of a northbound and southbound platform. All sta-

tion platforms will have a customer waiting shelter with interior light and heater, as well as a pylon marker with a real-time NexTrip display. There are also security cameras and emergency telephones.

- Transferring between the A Line and light rail is easy. No matter where you purchase your ticket, it will be valid for 20 hours of unlimited rides.

- Additionally, A Line tickets are valid for regular-route buses; present your ticket to the driver

but don't insert it into the fare box so that you can keep using it.

- The 40-foot Gillig model buses look significantly different than regular-route buses.

- The line cost \$27 million to construct.

- Plans call for 20 rapid transitways by the year 2040—16 to 17 of those would be BRT lines. This system will allow another 500,000 people to be a 30-minute commute from their workplace.



The A Line will operate every 10 minutes along the 9.7-mile-long route during rush hours, midday, evenings, and weekends, with less frequent service in the early morning and late at night. (Photo submitted)

## Transition Longfellow

By LESLIE MACKENZIE

### Transition Longfellow hosts June activities

By LESLIE MACKENZIE

Transition Longfellow hosts sustainability activities for the greater Longfellow neighborhood and beyond. Anyone can participate; everyone is welcome. For more info, visit [www.transition-longfellow.org](http://www.transition-longfellow.org).

On the first Saturday of every month, you can get answers to your veggie garden questions from a Hennepin County master gardener. On June 4, 10:30am-noon the free program is "Who's Eating My Veggies? Bugs and Disease." Enter through the coffee shop at the Riverview Wine Bar,

3747 2nd Ave. S. This summer, the meeting focus will be on insects and diseases affecting vegetables, berries and fruits grown on urban lots.

Learn to Knit, June 7, 6:30pm at Lake Coffee House (33rd and Lake St.). New and experienced knitters gather on the 1st Tuesday of the month to learn and practice knitting. Led by experienced knitter Susan Aguirre. Bring needles and yarn for this free gathering.

Transition Movie Night and Potluck is held the third Thursday of the month (June 17) with

a 6:30pm potluck, and a 7:15pm movie at Bethany Lutheran, 3901 36th Ave. S. This month the movie is "Mad City Chickens"—a whimsical look at people who keep chickens in urban areas. If you've got chickens, if you'd love to have chickens, come for a meal and conversation. A free-will donation is taken.

There will be a Transition Social, potluck picnic, and group photo at Minnehaha Falls, June 24, 12:30pm. Meet on the grass by the statue of Minnehaha and Hiawatha.

## Roosevelt theater

Continued from page 2

members of the two feuding families entered the stage wearing red union suits and blue wigs, a la Thing One and Thing Two.

This, too, was strategic. According to Johnson, it was important in establishing the program not to chew off too much. The "Seussification" script was less complex, "flat by definition," said Bradley. With "Urinetown" they were ready to take it up a notch, tackling a more complex script and all the additional needs of a musical: vocal direction, music, and choreography.

### Program equity

With a master's degree in playwriting and dramaturgy from the University of Iowa, Bradley has kept theater close to his heart and mind. When he came to Roosevelt five years ago, art offerings were limited, something he regarded as a matter of equity.

"Why should a school that serves kids of poverty and color look like a school of depravity?" Bradley asked. He's built the program by recruiting a talented pool of teachers to lead the school's art, dance, and music programs. This included hiring Gonzales as arts coordinator to keep pushing the arts forward and, ultimately, Johnson to teach theater.

"Theater is the crown jewel, the art form through which all others can integrate," said Bradley.

It was important to do it right, in a way that truly supported the students. Through community partnerships, they enlisted Tom Burgess, theater technical director at Normandale Community College, who used his year on sabbatical along with students from his program to construct a professional set that can be adapted for future productions.

The set made an immediate impression on Huset, who recognized upon entering the auditorium that performers would be using different levels and moving up and down and back and forth across the stage. "I could see right away, 'Wow, someone's really thinking about three-dimensional theater,'" he said.

Vocal direction and piano accompaniment were expertly provided by Jay Albright, with choreography by Darrius Strong. They also had the benefit of a newly minted auditorium and upgraded sound and lighting equipment. Gonzales pointed out that sound and lighting positions are often dominated by white males, but at Roosevelt they drew females of color as well. Students also helped with costumes and backstage.

According to Bradley, all of this was necessary scaffolding on which to build a top quality program. "It wasn't just a musical or performance," he said. "It was a statement."

Pulling all these components together meant finding more resources. Gonzales cred-



Cast after Roosevelt's inaugural theater performance of "The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet" in January.

its parent volunteers with Advocates of Roosevelt Theater Arts (AoRTA) who have given their time—sewing, painting, cooking—and helped with fundraising (the group hosted a Growler Gala at the Parkway Theater in February). "We would not be here without them," she said. The Roosevelt Foundation also supported the musical.

The payoff for students is multifold. The positive correlation between participation in the arts and academic achievement has long been understood. Theater helps students in other ways as well. For Anderson, it's a haven, a place she can go and stop thinking for a while. "Theater is really im-

portant to me. [You're] putting yourself out there," she said. It's also a way to connect with other people at school, which doesn't come naturally to everyone. "I've felt confident both on stage and off stage."

Riley said this cast, many of whom were in both plays, put the whole concept of family into theater. "It's not just a show; we're like a big family. It's not all serious, just rehearsals. We have fun times, and we loosen up," he said. "It honestly makes a show better than being serious all the time. [You put] more emotion into the characters." Riley plans to audition for plays at Mankato State University, which he'll

be attending in fall and wants to come home to watch Roosevelt's productions.

Call it chemistry or rapport; Huset will tell you when performers have a good time it makes all the difference. "If they look like they're phoning it in, or embarrassed, or they just aren't having a good time, the audience notices," he said. "These kids looked like they were having a blast."

"I'm just really glad that we have this. I think it's really important for our school community," said Anderson. "We're back."

For more info, see Advocates of Roosevelt Theater Arts on Facebook.

# Classifieds

## Messenger

Want ads must be received by the Messenger by June 20 for the June 30 issue. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at [www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com](http://www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com)

Messenger Want Ads are \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to *Messenger Classifieds*, 125 1st Ave. NW, PO Box 168, Minneapolis, MN 55369. Want ads must be mailed to the *Messenger* before **June 20 for the June 30 issue**. Ad copy can be e-mailed to [denis@deruyter-nelson.com](mailto:denis@deruyter-nelson.com). Call 651-917-4183 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the *Messenger's* website at [www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com](http://www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com)

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### RENTAL

MPLS Storage located in the Longfellow neighborhood has units for rent at low rates. Locally owned and family operated. 1/2 block from Lake and Hiawatha. 612-333-7525. B-16

Office or therapy space for rent: On bus route. Easy access to light rail. Located at Minnehaha Ave S. and 42nd St. Open to build out.

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2nd floor office space available. Call Jim between 8 a.m. 2 p.m. 612-729-2316 or email: [KRZ@NELSONELECTRICINC.COM](mailto:KRZ@NELSONELECTRICINC.COM). B-1

### ROOM RENTAL

SWF 60 yrs. teacher wants to rent room July or Aug. Likes kids. Kim: 651-367-4121. 6-16

### SALE

Sale at Howe School. June 10 & 11, 9-3. Huge multi-family sale plus a vintage shop! All proceeds support our school. Thanks for shopping! 3733 43rd Avenue, in the school gym. 6-16

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# Good bugs face off bad bugs in Minneapolis to slow EAB advance

*Bio-agents introduced in an attempt to slow emerald ash borer invasion*

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

The fight against the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been lost in Minneapolis' landscaped areas. The city's Forest Management Plan calls for removing 5,000 ash trees from parks, streets and boulevards this year. Ten thousand new trees will be planted to replace those that are removed, introducing 4-5 species per block into the urban canopy. Gone are the days of mono-cultural plantings, with one species per block or blocks.

In all, 40,000 landscape ash trees will be taken out over the next eight years, representing more than 20% of Minneapolis' urban forest.

Jonathan Osthus is the EAB Biocontrol Coordinator for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. He explained that "in the city's natural and forest settings, another management plan is being tried besides removal. We're introducing biocontrol measures to help bring EAB numbers down to a manageable level, but it will take time."

The EAB is a beautiful insect

to look at. A green Jewel Beetle, it lives harmlessly in its native range of eastern Asia where it feeds only on stressed or diseased ash trees. Outside its native range, it is highly invasive and, as Osthus said, "The EAB has proven to be more destructive and faster moving than Dutch Elm Disease."

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture's website states that bio-control is the only management option in the natural and forest areas. They're introducing two parasitoid wasp species throughout the state, including along the Mississippi River gorge area. Parasitoid means insects whose larvae live as parasites that eventually kill their hosts (typically other insects). The hope is that these two species of wasps will manage to kill significant numbers of EAB larvae and eggs.

Both species of wasps are as small as gnats and won't sting or otherwise harm humans. The US Department of Agriculture and the Forest Service have done extensive testing to make sure the wasps won't parasitize other insect



*The Emerald Ash Borer, an iridescent green Jewel Beetle accidentally introduced to North America, is slightly more than half an inch long when mature. (Photo by Dr. Jeff Hahn, U of M Department of Entomology)*



*Jonathan Osthus, Emerald Ash Borer Biocontrol Coordinator the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, attached an ash bolt to a tree in the Mississippi River Gorge Area. More than 100 of these are appearing along both sides of the river from just north of the Franklin Bridge to Minnehaha Falls. They should not be touched or tampered with. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)*

species or negatively impact the environment.

The EAB is believed to have been introduced to North America as early as the mid-1990's. The insect likely arrived in the Great Lakes port region via ash shipping crates from China. Teams of researchers were sent to Northern China to research the EAB in its native habitat, and to study possible bio-control strategies. The two parasitoid wasp species being released here appeared to be the best choices.

By late May, Osthus has tied 100+ ash segments (called bolts) to trees along the river corridor from just north of the Franklin Bridge to Minnehaha Falls. These bolts will contain the larval form of the first parasitoid wasp, and will be restocked every two weeks throughout the summer.

Next to the ash bolt, Osthus will attach another device the size and shape of a pill bottle. These will contain the second bio-agent, a type of wasp that searches bark crevices to find EAB eggs. Each adult female will insert one of her eggs into an EAB egg. The wasps develop inside the EAB egg, emerge as adults and kill the EAB

offspring in the process. It's not a pretty scene but with parasitism rates as high as 60% (by Minnesota Department of Agriculture estimates), it's considered effective.

The goal of biocontrol is to use natural enemies to bring the EAB population into balance and reduce damage to ash trees. In their native range of Northern China, the EAB presents no problems because it has naturally occurring predators. Since the EAB was introduced to North America, its predators have to be introduced too.

The EAB invasion has been devastating for Minnesota, which has the highest volume of ash trees of any state in the US. The environmental and economic costs of dealing with this loss are difficult to calculate.

According to Osthus, "The Twin Cities metropolitan area has been aggressive in its management plan. Slowing the spread of the EAB also means slowing the rate at which the city has to pay for removal of dead or dying trees. That makes it easier on the city's budget, as well as on its taxpayers."

What can be done to slow the EAB invasion at the citizen level? Don't transport firewood unless certified by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, which means it's been kiln dried. Be vigilant in caring for ash trees on personal property. Diseased trees dry out very quickly because their food and water transport are cut off, and need to be removed.

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