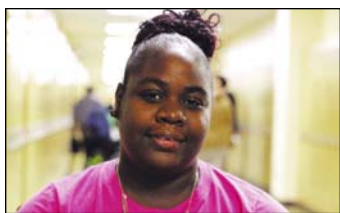




Minnehaha Ave. gets green light ahead

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South goalie shows skill in the net

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Energy project planned for Lake Nokomis

Page 5

Longfellow
Nokomis

Messenger



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Under the hood for 50 years...

Anderson family business keeps cars running in South Minneapolis

By IRIC NATHANSON

On a bone-chilling morning in December, Steve Anderson and his dad, Len, look out at the cars parked in front of Steve's auto repair shop.

"In those earlier days, we would have had a fleet of tow trucks running all over town starting cars on a day like this," Len says. "With fuel injection engines and better batteries, we don't need to do that as much now," Steve adds.

Between them, the Andersons have been selling gas and repairing cars in South Minneapolis for more than 50 years. Today, Steve owns and operates Electra Tune at 45th and East

Lake, just down the street from where Len, who is now retired, ran his own auto repair and service station. Len's station was at Lake and River Parkway, now the site of the West River Commons apartment development.

The Parkway station is gone, but the family business now extends across the Lake Street Bridge into St. Paul, where Steve also operates Marshall Cretin Amoco.

While the Andersons can point to a half-century history for their family business, their family roots in South Minneapolis go back even deeper. Len's grandfather, Otto Anderson, arrived in America in 1884, as a

16-year-old Swedish immigrant, who spoke no English. Otto's first years in Minnesota were spent on a farm where he picked potatoes and rutabagas. Like many other Scandinavian immigrants, Otto quickly adapted to his new homeland, married a young Swedish immigrant, and began to moving into the American mainstream. After spending several years on the farm, Otto relocated his family to Minneapolis's Seward neighborhood. He worked for a time as a reporter for a Swedish language newspaper and later became a local postmaster.

Continued on page 12



Between them, Len and Steve Anderson have been repairing cars in South Minneapolis for 50 years. ElectraTune technician Dan Morrison is at work under the hood behind Steve. (Photo by Eric Nathanson)

Eye of the Tigers on Minneapolis City hoops title

By MATTHEW DAVIS

Minneapolis South has high hopes for hoops success this season.

"Our team expects to win the conference championship," Tigers coach Joe Hyser said.

"That's a goal of ours. We don't really talk about it, but it's a goal."

They have been finishing second or third lately as Washburn claimed Minneapolis City Conference titles in recent years. Before

that, Henry and North had their hold on top of the conference.

Although the Tigers went to the state conference in 1992, their last sole conference title came in 1989.

Last season, that momentum shifted as Tigers tied Washburn for the title. Now, the Tigers expect to win it, as they return all but two players from last year's team.

"We have a good mix of senior leadership, experience and speed," Hyser said.

Senior point guard and team captain Kenley Farrow, who is committed to play college basketball at Saint Olaf College next year, averaged 14.4 points per game through the first five games of the season. He and three other players average double figures for the Tigers, which spreads around the scoring on a fast-paced team.

Payton Bowdry, a sophomore forward, returns after a stellar freshman season where he won conference player of the year. He averaged 13.4 points per game through the first five games this season. Bowdry could certainly have more, but this team spreads the ball around well.

"He's fine with that, which makes him so good," Hyser said.

Kyle Lumbar also averages double figures with 10.8 points per game. The Tigers also have a 6'6" senior center in Romeo Barber, who averages 10.7 points per game.

Oscar Campbell a senior team captain, is among six Tigers that average 5-9 points per game, giving the team plenty of depth. Hyser typically plays nine players, which helps the Tigers to keep running the whole game.

"The faster the tempo is, the more it favors us," Hyser said. "A lot of teams are not used to playing like that anymore."

That may be the one factor that gives them a shot in an ever-

tough Section 6. That section has tough western suburb teams such as Minnetonka, Edina, Eden Prairie and Robbinsdale Armstrong. However, the real kicker is to get past perennial power Hopkins, currently ranked No. 1 in the state.

"I told them right now, we're not good enough to deal with Hopkins, but that doesn't mean that's how I'm going to feel at the end," Hyser said. "We don't have

the experience that they have."

However, they will work on building toward being competitive with the Royals. Hyser said it will take mental toughness and solid practices to get there.

"If we play them 10 times, maybe we can get three or four," Hyser said. "If that three or four comes up that night, there's our chance."

Continued on page 5



Minneapolis South has high hopes for hoops success this season. They have been finishing second or third lately as Washburn claimed Minneapolis City Conference titles in recent years. Before that, Henry and North had their hold on top of the conference.

Debate team takes 2nd at Championships



The Minnehaha Academy Debate Team finished 2nd in this year's Minnesota Classic Debate Championships. Pictured Bottom L to R: Payton Kinkead (11), Hugh Mayo (12), Elie Laddusaw (9), Taylor Bye (11), Alex Wilson (10), Lucas Jones (12). Middle L to R: Meena Morar (9), Caroline Pellegrin (11), Fan Jia (12), Kent Reese (12), Cole Dennis (11), Max Thompson (12). Top L to R: Shannon Kovach (12), Scott Stewart (11), Michael Everett (12), Will Anema (10), Alex Fedje-Johnson (10), Kat Knutson (12)

Messenger

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Home burglaries spike in neighborhood

Residents taking steps to protect their property by installing lights and better securing windows and doors

By **TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN**

A spike in home burglaries is causing Third Precinct citizens to take extra precautions.

In November 2013, there were 163 reported residential burglaries (including garages), compared to 93 the year before.

Home burglaries typically increase near the holiday season, according to Minneapolis Police Department Crime Prevention Specialist Don Greeley. "People's homes are filled with lots of good things to steal," observed Greeley.

Another factor contributing to the burglary rate is "related to which burglars are in jail or just got out," Greeley said.

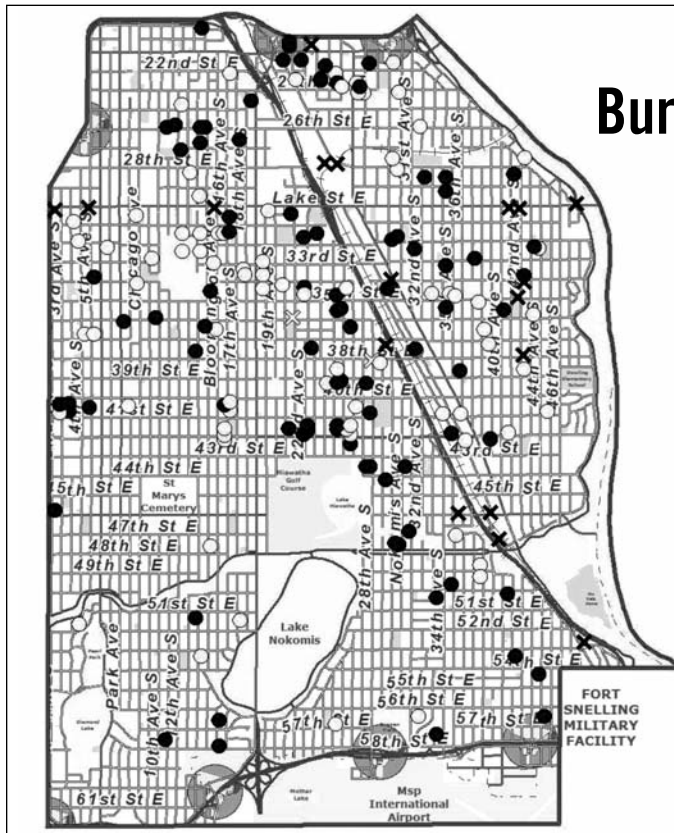
The police department has stepped up patrols in the neighborhood.

TAKING STEPS TO PROTECT HER HOME

Longfellow resident Jaxi Schulz is concerned about the spike in burglaries. "I know several of my neighbors on the same and surrounding blocks have had their homes broken into," said Schulz. "I have taken some steps to protect my home and I think the fact that we very obviously have dogs helps."

Schulz added spot lights to the back and side of the house, a light to the front of the house and a light on the garage. The lights are on dusk-to-dawn timers.

Since she moved into her house six years ago, the window on the front of her house on the



**Burglaries 3rd Precinct
Nov. 2013**

**163 residential
burglaries**

**93 for
same period
in 2012**

In November 2013, there were 163 reported residential burglaries (including garages), compared to 93 the year before. Residents are being urged to take precautions to protect their property and make it less enticing to burglars.

porch has made her nervous as she knows it provides an easy and hidden point for a break-in. So, she decided to put metal bars on the window, and then also placed a shelf on the porch in front of it so that the window can't be seen.

"I never leave the windows open or unlocked when we are not home. I never leave the windows open or unlocked at night

when we are sleeping. It means more time with heat or AC, but I feel safer," said Schulz.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

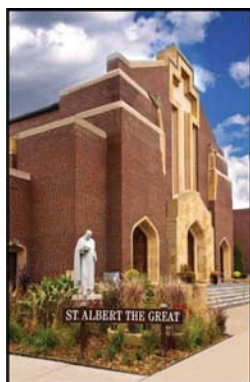
The steps Schulz has taken are inexpensive and easy, the very sort of thing Greeley focuses on when he gives presentations about how to protect their homes and garages

from burglars.

Greeley tells residents to focus on these things:

- securing doors and windows
- adding lighting
- securing garages
- starting an active neighborhood watch (block club)

Continued on page 5



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Minnehaha Avenue reconstruction gets green light

By JILL BOOGREN

The Minneapolis City Council voted in December to give its consent for Hennepin County's proposed layout for reconstructing Minnehaha Ave., clearing the way for the county to begin the next phase of planning for the roadway.

The process hit a small bump in November when Council Member Colvin Roy requested more time to review options for constructing the road to accommodate protected bike lanes (also called "cycle tracks") in the future.

"My goal was to really give a chance... to the suggestion that came forward from our Bicycle Advisory Committee [BAC], the goal of which was to make it easier and less expensive to move to a full [protected] bike lane situation in the future without waiting for a major reconstruction of the street," she explained at the Transportation and Public Works (TPW) committee meeting leading to the full council vote.

What type of bikeway to include has been a major topic of discussion over many months. The city's own advisory committee favored using protected bike lanes, which are physically separated from driving lanes by a curb, parked cars or other barrier, over "buffered" on-street bike lanes, which are delineated by a coat of paint or tape.

Members of The Hub Bicycle Co-op also supported the cycle track concept. Development Coordinator Benjamin Tsai said they felt it would be an "innovative project to allow entry-level cyclists to ride in this area." Examples around the country have shown these to increase ridership and are in keeping with the city's Climate Action Plan goal to install 30 miles of protected bikeways by 2020.

Because fully protected lanes might involve curb work, it's more efficient to incorporate them into an already-existing reconstruction project. Public Works Director Steve Kotke said they evaluated proposed changes, but due to issues with turning movements and sight lines, they were recommending their initial layout which includes buffered on-street lanes.

Council members received a letter prior to the TPW meeting from representatives of the Bicycle Advisory Committee, Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition and Sierra Club effectively giving the city their blessing.

"With the longer-term city-wide goals in mind and the County's plan to build as good an on-street bike lane as possible, we want to let you know that we support the Council providing municipal consent for the Minnehaha project so we can move forward with other important efforts," the letter said.

This didn't mean an endorsement of the layout, however. Among other things cited was a disconnect between public engagement in the Minnehaha-Hiawatha Community Works project and the engineering design of Minnehaha.

"Our principal concern is the lack of *impact* [his emphasis] the community input process made on designing Minnehaha Avenue to be the best street it can be," wrote Joshua Houdek, Sierra Club's land use and transportation program manager, in a follow-up email. "This is a lost opportunity,



A view of what the reconstructed Minnehaha Ave. will look like. The roadway will include "buffered" on-street bike lanes (shown above) over fully "protected" bike lanes, which are separated from traffic by a curb, parked cars, or other physical barrier. (Image prepared by LHB and SRF on behalf of Hennepin County)

but it's time to move on - to designing better, safer streets with protected bike lanes for everyone throughout our neighborhood and the City."

At the TPW meeting Council Member Gary Schiff pointed out that the project was about bike, pedestrian and vehicle safety, and

that the buffered bike lane "is much better than any of the bike lanes we've seen before in south Minneapolis."

Council Member Cam Gordon, at the full council meeting, was not sold, however. His was the only "no" vote for the project.

"I think what we have here is

a big missed opportunity," he said.

Gordon felt that if the project came before the city one or two years from now, or even if it came from the city or park board rather than the county, it would include a curb-separated bikeway. "There'd be no question about it."

He didn't want to look back in five or ten years at a successful protected bikeway implemented elsewhere and say "Aw, why didn't we do that here"?

Colvin Roy said she doubted engineers would be any more likely in a couple years to approve a cycle track for this location.

Other aspects of the project have had people at odds, too. Namely, over if and where to include rounded curb extensions, or "bumpouts," at intersections along the route, and how plowing will be handled.

In addition to the bumpouts and on-street bike lanes, the project will include turn lanes. It will replace the road surface, gutter and curbs, narrow driving and parking lanes, and realign intersections from E. Lake St. to 46th St.

The council approved work for the city-owned stretch of Minnehaha from 46th St. to Nawadaha Blvd., which will follow the county's layout and timeframe. Construction is slated to take place from 2015-16.

See us online at: www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

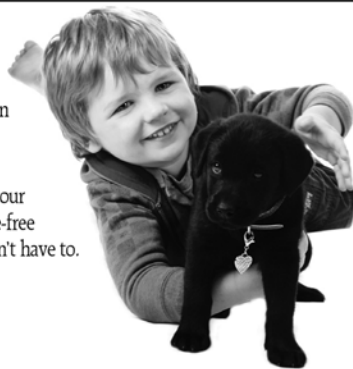
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Monday, Dec 30, 5-8 PM
Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.

Bring the whole family to NENA's 14th-annual early celebration of the New Year. Hop on a hayride, roast marshmallows over the bonfire, enjoy music, food, a photo booth, games, art, and much more! Sponsored by NENA and the Nokomis Community Center.

As always, **admission is free**, but donations are very much appreciated. Everyone is welcome!

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Viewpoints

Messenger

For more information on submitting letters or news announcements to the Messenger call Denis Woulfe at 651-645-7045.

"My dad sent me," said the young woman as she struggled to close the coffee shop door. "He said maybe you could do something. Are you Tom?"

"Come in," I said, making a mental note that the door needed repair. "Yes, I'm Tom. Help you with what?"

"I'm Angie," she said. She went on. "I'm tired, so tired of this whole holiday thing. It seems to have turned out to be nothing but shop, shop, shop."

"Where's the love? Where's the peace?"

"I mean, I can't even get along with my dad. We got into an argument. Something silly; I don't even remember how it got started."

"He didn't yell at me or anything. He just said: 'Go to that coffee shop; talk to Tom.'"

By now, Angie was in tears. "I walked around for an hour," she said. "Then I came here."

"Oh my," I said. "I'm sorry. I wish there was something I could do that would make you feel better. You know, like in a movie."

"But I can't. Because you're right. The spirit of Christmas does seem to have been overrun by shopping. And too many Grinches. Plus, the world is in a mess— too much hunger, too many wars."

"Well, you're a big help!" Angie said. "I didn't come down here to get more depressed."

"Sorry, Angie. Believe me, if I had some magic holiday fairy dust, I'd have it out by now," I responded. "But I don't."

We were both quiet for a few minutes. Angie played with a wind-up toy on the table; I picked at a hole in the tablecloth.

She spoke first. "When I was little, Christmas seemed so magical. The tree, the lights, the music, everything. And my family was together. All that's gone now. All that's left is..." her voice trailed off.

"I know, I remember that, too," I said.

"You do? But you're so..." Angie replied.



Hiawatha Notebook

By TOM GILSEAN

Christmas spirit is in each of us

"Old is the word I believe you are looking for," I said. "Yes, but it seemed impolite to say it," she said. "Anyway, you remember that, too?"

"Of course I do. And it was magical."

"Well, then what do we do now?" Angie asked. "All that magic is gone."

"I'm not sure it's gone," I said. "After all we still remember the magic. I think that's a sign it's still inside us."

"That may be a very, very small thing. But it's a place to start."

"Never thought of it that way," Angie said.

"Have you ever seen the 'Sound of Music'?" I asked.

"A zillion times," Angie answered. "We watched it every Christmas. I dreamed of growing up and being Liesl, you know the one, 'I am 16 going on 17.'"

"I do know," I said. "I have seen that movie many times. When it first came out, I was in high school. It was at a downtown Minneapolis theater for over a year. A good friend and I saw it five times."

"I love that scene where Liesl and Rolf sing in the gazebo," Angie said.

"Yes, it's beautiful," I replied. "It had quite an impact on me, in part because I was 16 when I first saw the film."

"Angie, do you remember later in the film when Maria and Liesl sing the 'Sixteen' song?"

"Oh sure," Angie said.

"Well," I said, "in the stage play there is an introduction to that scene which is not in the movie. It goes something like this: 'A bell is no bell 'til you ring it, A song is no song 'til you sing it, And love in your heart, wasn't put there to stay. Love isn't love, 'til you give it away.'"

"Perhaps Christmas is like that. It's there inside us, in

our hearts. But it needs to be activated, like new software."

"Often we get confused and think that things like shopping will activate the 'Christmas thing' inside us."

"Of course, that's not true," Angie said.

"Right, but there are certainly a lot of voices around us saying that."

"Then what do we do?" Angie asked.

"I believe the Christmas spirit is like love in that song — Christmas isn't Christmas until you give it away. To activate the Christmas spirit in ourselves, we have to find ways to give it to others."

"Oh," Angie said. "So you mean like volunteering at the homeless shelter? Or the free medical clinic?"

"Yes, that stuff's important," I said. "But I think there's more."

"When we were little, it seemed every grown-up tried to give us a little Christmas magic. We felt good — and they did, too."

"You're right," said Angie. "But that doesn't happen anymore."

"Exactly. But it should. We still need the holiday spirit. And, as the song says, we can only get it by giving it away."

"Hmm," Angie said again. She glanced up at the clock, then jumped up. "Gotta go. But I want to talk more about this. And I just might bring my dad along, too. Will you be here tomorrow?"

"Yes," I said. "And your dad is welcome."

By now Angie was at the door. "Good night," she said and walked out the door.

But before the door closed, she stuck her head back in. "I'm back," Angie said. "Thanks. I'm not ready to say Merry Christmas just yet. But here's a 'ho, ho, ho' for you."

(Tom Gilsean has been writing a column for the Messenger since 1997. This is his final column. You can find him on Facebook or reach him via email at tomgilsean@gmail.com.)

The Night Before New Year's Eve Party offers free family fun

This annual party, at Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy, is always on Dec. 30, 5-8pm, and is full of fun activities. Listen to a jazz ensemble from Southwest High School (5-6 pm), have your fortune told, grab a beef dog with our famous chilidog chili or all the standard fixings. Head outside for a hayride (5:30-7:30) at some point. Back inside, hit the gym so your kids can play the basketball shoot, Shut the Box, stacking cups, golf and bowling.

You may start tapping your feet as you listen to the tunes spun by KidsDance DJs. Watch the dance contests, visit the face painter, and then go to the photo booth to preserve the memory. Be sure to stop at the fishpond, which continues to produce critters that can make anyone smile. Keep your ener-



Keep your energy up with 1919 root beer or hot chocolate, and grab a noisemaker for the countdown to the New Year at 7:55 pm. This Night Before New Year's Eve Party offers fun for all.

NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

BY RITA ULRICH AND DOUG WALTER, NENA STAFF

Ring in the New Year Early and Share Hot Apple Pie With Your New City Reps

gy up with 1919 root beer or hot chocolate, and grab a noisemaker for the countdown to the New Year at 7:55pm. It's always high decibel fun—no matter what your age!

Everyone is welcome, and the event is free, including the food! We do appreciate your donations, which help offset the cost. So bundle up the kids, and head over to the community center on Dec. 30.

To ease parking congestion, Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls will be running a shuttle throughout the evening. It will run down 34th Ave., stopping at 51st St., head east on 58th St. and right on 33rd Ave. where it will stop at the top of the "horseshoe" and back to 58th St. with a stop at the end of Sander Dr. It will proceed north on 31st Ave., stopping at 57th St. and then head west on 56th St. to stop at 29th Ave. It will go north on 29th Ave., stop at 50th St. and head over to the community center. The route is posted on our website (www.nokomiseast.org) or you can call the NENA office (612-724-5652) for information.

The Night Before New Year's Eve Party is sponsored by NENA and the Nokomis Community Center/Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

Volunteer a couple hours

We need about 50 volunteers to make this a great event. You can help with set up and decorations the day before (Sun., Dec. 29, 1-4 pm, and on Mon., noon-4pm), or work the second shift at the event helping with games, food preparation and serving, or filling in to give people breaks. Your help makes a difference and keeps the event running smoothly and happily for everyone. Call Rita Ulrich at (612) 724-5652 or email rulrich@nokomiseast.org.

Meet your newly elected City Reps and enjoy hot apple pie

NENA will host a Town Meeting on Mon., Jan. 27, 7pm, at Crosstown Covenant Church (E. 56th St. and 29th Ave. S.) for residents to meet the new Council Member for Ward 12, Andrew Johnson, and the new Park Board

Commissioner for District 5, Steffanie Musich. Ward 11 Council Member John Quincy will also be there.

They would like to hear your wishes, issues, concerns, and priorities for Nokomis East. NENA also wants to hear them, since we are in the process of determining how to invest our remaining NRP funds. Your comments matter — think of it as the wisdom of the crowd.

This will be a "don't-miss-guaranteed-to-be-interesting" meeting, even without the pie. With pie (ala mode, of course), how much better can a Town Meeting get?

Happy New Year from all of us at NENA!

Upcoming NENA Meetings and Events

Night Before New Year's Eve: 5-8pm, Mon., Dec. 30, at the Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.

NENA Board: 7pm, Thurs., Jan. 23, at NENA.

Town Meeting: 7pm, Mon., Jan. 27 at Crosstown Covenant Church (56th St. and 29th Ave.). Meet and discuss issues and priorities with your new representatives Ward 12 Council Member Andrew Johnson and Park Board Commissioner Steffanie Musich, along with Ward 11 Council Member John Quincy.

Please note, the NENA office will be closed the first week of January. If you need to get a hold of us, we will be checking phone messages for urgent issues.

Last-minute schedule changes are posted on our Calendar page at www.nokomiseast.org or you may call (612) 724-5652.

Minneapolis South's Moore makes goalie transition in State tournament run

By **MATTHEW DAVIS**

Becky Moore, a junior at Minneapolis South High School, led the Tigers adapted soccer team to the state tournament in her first season of goalkeeping for the sport.

"She showed great skill right off the bat," Tigers adapted soccer coach Jackie Pennaz said.

She had prior experience playing goal for the adapted floor hockey team as a freshman and sophomore, but she never played

adapted soccer before.

"This year, she decided she was going to try soccer," Pennaz said. "That was partially because of her playing soccer in her gym class."

Moore's experience of playing soccer in gym motivated her to give it a try. Not only did she go from stopping pucks to soccer balls, she also switched from using her wheelchair to not using it in adapted soccer.

Instead, she would kneel in the crease without her prosthetic legs. Moore's legs end just below her knees from amputations earlier in life.

"She would get around basically knee-walking around the goal area," Pennaz said.

Moore has worked tirelessly at developing her mobility with or without the prosthetic legs, and it has paid off.

Moore gave goalie a shot at the team's first practice, and she fit in at goal right away. Improvement simply came quickly for her.

"She's developed her agility and her speed from one side of the crease to the other," Pennaz

said. "She's also been able to keep on to the ball and not just throw it away."

Moore worked to keep her team's spirits up in an 11-2 loss to eventual six-time champion Robbinsdale-Hopkins-Mound Westonka. She had 17 saves in that quarterfinal game at Stillwater High School.

The medical conditions of the players on the adapted soccer team vary significantly. One has muscular dystrophy.

Moore led the Tigers through the consolation bracket, and they claimed the consolation title after beating Mounds View-Roseville

12-5 and Park Center 5-2. Moore stopped 12 shots combined with Sadala Douglas' efforts in net. Moore had 11 saves in the title game against Park Center.

Tyler Spratt gave her plenty off support offensively with three goals in each game. The Tigers went 4-6 during the regular season, and they didn't have a winning streak until the state tournament.

Moore spent most of the time in goal this season as the Tigers only had nine players total on the team.

Moore also plays adapted softball for the Tigers.



Becky Moore, a junior at Minneapolis South High School, led the Tigers adapted soccer team to the state tournament in her first season of goalkeeping for the sport.

South Tigers

Continued from page 1

The Tigers won their first four games of the season, but they fell in a close game at North on Dec. 13. That slate of games included a win over Saint Paul Highland Park at the Target Center on Dec. 7. The teams got to stay and watch LeBron James

and Miami Heat take on Kevin Love and the Timberwolves.

"That was pretty cool," Campbell said. "Too bad the Wolves lost."

The Tigers will play the heart of their conference schedule over the next couple months. They will also face section opponents Armstrong, Edina and No. 5-ranked Eden Prairie in non-conference play during that stretch.

Burglaries

Continued from page 2

Typically about 50% or more of home burglaries are "unforced"; that is, thieves enter through unlocked windows and doors.

What are some ways to secure windows? Use a nail to pin a window to prevent it from being opened at all. Use a window bar to prevent a window from being opened more than 6 inches, the amount needed for someone to crawl through. Keyed slide bolts are useful both for windows and sliding glass doors.

Lighting an area is also important for deterring crime. Motion-detector lights are an inexpensive deterrent for areas where constant lighting is unnecessary but beneficial when there is activity there. Be sure to hang the lights high enough that they can't easily be broken.

Make it appear as though your home is occupied even when you aren't there. Install timers for lights, keep the shades pulled, keep a radio or television on, and have your mail picked up when you are on vacation. Barking dogs also discourage entry.

Tips to prevent snowblower theft:

- 1) Record the make, model and serial number.
- 2) Paint some part of the snowblower a distinguishing color to make identification faster and easier.
- 3) Use a padlock in the garage door track as an additional lock to keep burglars from opening the door if they get inside.
- 4) Secure the service door with a medium or heavy-duty deadbolt lock and maximum-security strike plate.
- 5) Block in the snowblower with a vehicle.

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BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

Powered by the sun

By JILL BOOGREN

Soaking up a few rays of sunshine at the beach probably sounds like a pretty good deal right now. But it's not just a way to escape the winter blahs.

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) has been selected by Xcel Energy to receive funding for solar energy projects at seven different parks, including Lake Nokomis. The main installation in the grant is for a 150-kilowatt (kW) roof-mounted solar array on the Parade Ice Garden, with small demonstration projects at the other locations for a total of at least 200 kW.

"We are thrilled that these solar projects will lower our carbon emissions and reduce our costs," said MPRB President John Erwin in a press statement. This "will give our staff opportunities to direct funds towards additional programs and activities for families in the parks."

Lake Nokomis, one of the demo projects, will see a shade canopy at the big beach built from a solar array that will plug into the meter at the beach house.

"It'll be linked into the power grid," said Bruce Chamberlain, assistant superintendent for planning at MPRB. "It'll... serve any power needs we have at

the main beach area," which includes Sandcastle. The canopy may shade a piece of playground, beach or picnic area, design details for which will be worked out with the community later this year.

The site was chosen because it is both very exposed to the sun and visible to the public. The latter was a key factor in MPRB being selected for the grant.

"The Park Board has such high visitorship, opportunities for demonstration of different approaches to solar," said Chamberlain. "We have so many people who visit, we can educate them on how solar can be used and what it can accomplish."

If the shade canopy at the beach is a small pond, Parade's installation in terms of energy production and use is a huge frozen lake.

"That facility consumes major amounts of energy," said Chamberlain. Considering the need for 24-hour refrigeration to keep its three ice rinks open, on top of lighting and other needs, it's a high use facility. "From an energy efficiency standpoint, it's a great project."

The solar installation at Parade will coincide with efficiency upgrades already scheduled for 2014 as part of the Park Board's

sustainability initiatives. According to Chamberlain, the additional solar may impact 5-10% of its energy consumption.

Each project has the opportunity to earn credit on their off seasons, when more solar energy is produced than is used. So at the big beach in winter and at Parade in summer, it's conceivable MPRB will be sending energy back to the grid.

Other demonstration projects will be at the Jim Lupient Water Park, Webber Park, East Phillips Park, Lake Calhoun refectory area, and Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park.

All told, savings will be approximately \$28,000 a year, a conservative calculation, explained Chamberlain, based on today's energy prices. Combined, the solar installations will produce roughly 280,000 kilowatt hours and offset 400,000 pounds of carbon.

MPRB was one of 20 projects out of 67 applications chosen to receive funding. The grant, part of Xcel Energy's Renewable Development Fund, is for \$969,000, and will be matched by \$150,000 from MPRB.

The grant requires approval by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), which was expected to review it in mid-December. Work on Parade Ice stadium is anticipated to be done in 2014, the other demonstration projects in 2015.

Growing solar gardens

In other solar news, Longfellow-based Minnesota Community Solar is accepting reservations for subscriptions to community solar gardens, the first of which will be housed atop Northern



Ken Bradley of Longfellow-based Minnesota Community Solar, which is accepting reservations for subscriptions to the solar community garden to be housed atop Northern Sun. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

Sun (2916 E. Lake St.). Subscriptions enable people to get some — or if they choose, all — of their energy from solar even if they can't install it at their own residence.

According to CEO Ken Bradley, people see that something needs to be done to reduce our carbon footprint and move toward energy independence, but they often wonder how they can help solve these big problems.

"It's an opportunity for people to do something," said Bradley. "You do it because of

your values. You do it because you want clean energy, and you believe in it." People want to be able to say "I've invested in clean energy. I'm part of the solution," he said.

The PUC is currently evaluating how to operate community solar gardens, which were written into law in 2013. MN Community Solar, along with many industry partners and nonprofits, is advocating for the best possible rate for their customers.

Continued on page 12



An example of a shade canopy using a solar array that could be used to power some of the electricity used at the main beach of Lake Nokomis. (Photo courtesy of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board)



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Hennepin County to transform Hiawatha Ave. from bleak to appealing

County working on landscape plan that will feature a taller and fuller tree canopy, more plants

By **TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN**

Hiawatha Ave. will soon be a bit prettier as well as more pedestrian friendly.

Hennepin County is working on a plan to improve the landscape along the corridor between 32nd and 46th Streets.

"Hiawatha Ave. is the gateway to Minneapolis for people coming into the city from the airport," said Robb Luckow of Hennepin County Housing, Community Works, & Transit. "The corridor should welcome people to Minneapolis and to our neighborhoods."

AMUR MAPLES TO BE REPLACED WITH MORE AND BIGGER TREES

Right now, there are about 400 amur maples located in the boulevards of the road. "The current trees are mature, and at a maximum height of 20 feet, do not fit the grand scale of the corridor," said Luckow.

"According to our assessment, more than a quarter of the trees are in poor or very poor condition, and many of the rest are reaching their natural life span. There are also significant gaps where trees have been removed and not replaced. In addition, the medians contain some shrubs, but little else."

This restoration plan seeks to create a more fully developed tree canopy that will provide shade for people on the multi-use trail and people walking to the LRT stations. The number and diversity of trees will be increased. "Trees can help reduce air pollution and improve air quality along Hiawatha Ave.," pointed out Luckow.

While trees are the main focus of this plan, designers are also looking at opportunities for



Existing shrubs and plants will be removed and replanted over the next few years, with the specimens in the worst condition removed first and trees in good condition left. Perennials, trees and shrubs will then fill in over several years, and there won't be a time when the area looks even bleaker because a clear-cut was done.

ground level plantings in key areas. "The project proposed groups of plantings (in 100-300 foot long sections) along the corridor, targeting areas that currently lack tree cover and areas of high visibility," said Luckow.

Planners are also looking at how stormwater management can be improved in the area, and rain gardens are being considered for 35th, 38th and 42nd.

What types of plants will be used? A mix of native, cultivars of natives, and non-native plantings that can withstand a harsh urban environment have been proposed. Options include large trees such as bur oaks, red maples, honeylocust and hybrid elms; as well as small trees such as crabapples, serviceberry, and Japanese tree lilac. Possible shrubs include autumn fire sedum, daylilies, prairie dropseed and chokeberry. All plants used must be able to tolerate the harsh

conditions of the corridor, fit the scale and aesthetics of the area, and require minimal maintenance. Existing trees in good condition will remain.

The project area includes the median, the boulevards on the

east and west side of Hiawatha, and the area between the sidewalk/trail and the LRT fence. The project does not include the berm/area west of the LRT line.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING IMPROVEMENTS ALSO PLANNED FOR 2014 BY COUNTY

Consultants hired by Hennepin County have completed the final design for intersection improvements along Hiawatha Avenue, and the project is expected to go out for bid this winter.

The initial project will include 32nd, 38th, 42nd, and 46th streets; 35th and 28th streets could be added depending on the final bids.

The work is intended to make pedestrian crossing a safer/better

experience, and will include bump-outs to shorten the amount of distance that a pedestrian is exposed to traffic, increasing crosswalk visibility, and other improvements.

The schematics for each intersection can be found at www.minnehaha-hiawatha.com/crossings.

— Information from Bob Kambeitz of the Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association

COUNTY CONSIDERS COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

A maintenance strategy for the corridor is part of the plan. Following comments at two public meetings on the landscape plan held in December 2013, planners are investigating partnerships with other community groups and volunteer organizations.

Currently, trees are maintained by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board forestry department. Grass mowing is done by the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

'PEOPLE ARE EXCITED'

"The plans look great!" said Standish resident Minke Sundseth.

"The plan was well presented and everyone agrees that we are happy to have some attention paid to this gateway to our neighborhood," said Hiawatha resident Deb Reiersen.

"People are excited that this project would make the corridor a more attractive, appealing, and hospitable place for people --versus the bleakness of the current corridor," said Luckow.

Funding for the project has not yet been designated. Pending funding and approvals, planting could begin in spring 2014, coinciding with other improvements to pedestrian crossings at 32nd, 38th, 42nd, and 46th streets. The project is being designed as a "restoration" so that plantings can be phased in over several years as the existing trees deteriorate, according to Luckow. "This will give the perennials, trees and shrubs time to adjust and grow to fill in without doing a clear cut and waiting several years for it to look good," added Reiersen.

For more information, go to: www.minnehaha-hiawatha.com



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Longfellow Faith Forum Backpack Drive

Faith communities are collecting school supplies for homeless and highly mobile students in our school system. Donations are being collected at Bethany Lutheran Church (3901 36th Ave between 9am-1pm M-F). Items being accepted include (but are not limited to):

- Adult-sized hats, mittens, and men's gloves
- 70-page wire-bound notebooks
- 2" 3-ring binders with file folders
- pens, pencils, and cases
- snacks (granola bars, nuts, fruit snacks)

FFI JoAnna at LCC (joannalund@longfellow.org).

LCC Announces Leadership Changes

On November 21st, the Longfellow Community Council (LCC) elected a new President and Vice President to its Board of Directors. Former LCC President Andrew Johnson won the Ward 12 City Council election leaving a vacancy. Vice President Eric Day was unanimously elected by the LCC Board to serve as the new President. Board member Christine Marlo, was elected to fill the open Vice President position.

Eric Day joined the LCC Board in April of 2012. He has been a Longfellow resident since 2009 and runs a law office on E. Lake Street specializing in immigration, small business and family law. Eric has been actively involved with LCC committees, including the River Gorge and Executive Committees, for the past two years and he is a dedicated and active community volunteer who has strengthened the Board's ability to review and amend organizational policy.

Christine Marlo joined the LCC Board in April of 2010. She has previously served as the LCC Board Vice President and is the longest serving member of LCC's Advancement Committee. She is a dedicated volunteer who has focused her attention on increasing LCC's ability to raise funds to assure our sustainability.

Both Eric and Christine provide LCC with the resolute commitment and continuity that has been key to our success.

Hello - Goodbye

Hello Joe!

Joe Sturm has been hired as Housing and Environment Coordinator to replace Spencer Agnew who left in November. Joe grew up in Madison Lake, a small farming town of about 700 people in southern Minnesota. He graduated from Minnesota State University Mankato with a double major in Urban and Regional Studies and Communication Studies. During his senior year Joe worked for Mayor R.T. Rybak as a public policy intern; an experience that sparked Joe's love for the city of Minneapolis and his desire to work in the public sector. Joe loves foreign films, noisy garage rock, and rooting for the Twins and the Timberwolves.



Joe Sturm

Goodbye Sasha

Sasha Jensen resigned from the LCC Board in November. Sasha is expecting twins, which prompted Sasha and her husband to start looking for a new house. Sasha was such an extraordinary addi-

tion to the LCC Board. She participated on the Advancement and Neighborhood Development Committees and the East Lake Street workgroup, and volunteered at every LCC sponsored community event. Sasha will be missed as a Board member, volunteer and resident but also as a true friend to the community. Good luck Sasha, Soren, Sadie and the yet unnamed twins expected May 2014.

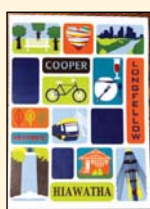
Open Board seats

Join the LCC Board of Directors

The Longfellow Community Council (LCC) has two open board seats. We are currently recruiting residents who live anywhere within Greater Longfellow to fill a Community Representative seat and a business owner or designated employee from a neighborhood business to fill a Business seat. Both terms end in April 2014.

Joining the LCC Board of Directors is an excellent opportunity to actively participate in the decision-making and leadership of the community. Board members meet monthly to review funding requests, respond to emerging needs of the community and plan for future events, activities and programs. Board members of LCC have a long history of providing exemplary leadership and have ensured that Greater Longfellow remains a great place to live, work and play. All levels of experience are welcome. Anyone interested in more information about the LCC board should contact Melanie Majors either by phone at (612) 722-4529 or via email at melanie@longfellow.org

Longfellow Community Council T-shirts, Totes Stickers, and Window Clings for sale!



Sticker

Stop by the LCC office or Fireroast Cafe to show your Greater Longfellow pride! The tote bags and stickers show the full LCC logo on them, naming the four neighborhoods that make up the Longfellow Community! Tote bags are \$5.00 each; stickers and window clings are \$2.00 each. T-shirts are still for sale as well!



Tote bag

LCC's Annual Winter Warming Party & Art Show!

Tuesday January 21st • 5-7pm

Please join the Longfellow Community Council at the LCC office (2727 26th Ave. S.) for an evening of relaxed fun. Meet the staff and board members and find out what they do to make Longfellow the best neighborhood in the Twin Cities. Art from neighborhood artists will be displayed.

Light appetizers and drinks will be served.

Calendar of Meetings and Events

JANUARY 2014

Meetings are free and open to the public, and are accessible. Check the calendar on our website www.longfellow.org

ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 8
7:00 - 8:00 pm
Fireroast Café
3800 37th Ave
FFI: jessica@longfellow.org

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Monday, January 13
6:30 - 8:00 pm
check website for location
FFI: joe@longfellow.org

RIVER GORGE

Monday, January 13
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Hiawatha School Park
4305 42nd St. E
FFI: joannalund@longfellow.org

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Tuesday, January 14
6:30 - 8:00 pm
check website for location
FFI: joe@longfellow.org

LONGFELLOW FAITH FORUM

Tuesday, January 14
Gandhi Mahal
12:00 - 1:30 pm
FFI: joannalund@longfellow.org

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Tuesday, January 14
6:30 - 8:00 pm
LCC Office, 2727 26th Ave S
FFI: joannalund@longfellow.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, January 16
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Brackett Park
2728 39th Ave S
FFI: melanie@longfellow.org

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HIAWATHA

Longfellow Community Council

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Melanie Majors, Executive Director
Ruth Romano, Office Staff
JoAnna Lund, Community Engagement Coordinator
Jessica Buchberger, Communication & Event Manager
Joe Sturm, Housing & Environment Coordinator

melanie@longfellow.org
ruth@longfellow.org
joannalund@longfellow.org
jessica@longfellow.org
joe@longfellow.org

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.

Starting seeds focus of Garden Club

The Longfellow Garden Club will meet on Wed., Jan. 8, 7pm, at Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S. to discuss "Starting from Seeds Made Easy!" The meeting is free and open to all.

If you think starting seeds is too difficult, or too expensive, or you have done it in the past and need a refresher, come see Martha Duckert demonstrate her efficient, time-tested process. Duckert (you saw her garden on last July's Tour) typically grows 150 plants each spring, perennials as well as annuals, and uses regular shop lights and inexpensive planting medium. Part of Duckert's successful process is planning out what you really need or want to have in the garden this summer; this way you make best use of the plants you grow and don't fall into the trap of over-planting.

You can get more information at www.facebook.com/LongfellowGardenClub.

LBA meets about MN Made Solar

Join Kim Havey AICP, LEED AP from the Minnesota Department of Commerce to talk about the new solar incentives available to businesses Thurs., Jan. 9 at 1:30pm at the next Longfellow Business Association meeting. Legislation in 2013 passed the state's strongest Solar Energy laws and provided businesses with extra incentives to go solar. Businesses can take advantage of tax credits, equipment depreciation, power production credits, rebates and host site lease payments. The meeting will held be at A.E.I., 4000 Minnehaha Ave. S. For more information contact Ruth 612.722.4529 x10.

Events set at East Lake Library

East Lake Library, 2727 E. Lake St., has numerous scheduled events during January. Among them:

- "Game On", Join up to learn the basics - or some new tips and tricks - to the popular "Magic: The Gathering" trading card game. For teens. Use our free cards and decks, or bring your own! Sat., Jan 4, 18, Feb. 1 and 22, from 2-4pm.

- Conversation Circles will meet Jan. 5, 12, and Feb. 2, from 1-3pm. Non-native English speakers: practice your English and make new friends in an informal, volunteer-led setting, and

learn about the library, too. Call 612-543-5669 for more information in English or, in Hmong, 612-543-8845; in Somali, 612-543-8756; in Spanish, 612-543-8510.

- Job Search Assistance is planned for every Tues., Jan. 7-Feb. 25, from 3-5pm. Are you seeking new employment or re-entering the workforce? Do you need help looking for a job, filling out applications or writing your résumé? Stop in for free one-to-one assistance with a job search representative.

- K-12 Homework Help is scheduled on Mon., Tues. and Thurs., 3:30-7:30pm; starting Jan. 13 and through Feb. 27. Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students. No advance sign-up needed.

- Childcare Group Storytime, Wed., Jan. 8, 10:30am. Talk, sing, read, write and play together in a format appropriate for the children in your care. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

- Teen Anime Club (for teens) meets Thurs., Jan. 9, 6-7:30pm. Watch anime, discuss manga and share artwork. Something different every time!

- The Adult Book Club will meet Fri., Jan. 10, 10:30-11:30am when they will be discussing "The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency," by Alexander McCall Smith.

- eBook Basics on Thurs., Jan. 16, 6-8pm. Registration required, begins Dec. 19. Register online or call 612-543-8425. Learn how to search for, select, download and use eBooks from the HCL website on your personal eReader device or computer.

Garden Club plans chat and supper

The Longfellow Garden Club's Chat and Supper will be held Tue., Jan. 28, 6:30pm, at El Norteno, 4000 E. Lake St. The club reports that folks had such a great time last year talking gardens and eating wonderful food that they wanted repeat the idea again this year. The "agenda" for this non-meeting will be set by those who come!

Academy designated a MN Celebration school

Hiawatha Leadership Academy, 3810 E. 56th St., has been designated as a Celebration school by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).

"I want to congratulate these schools for this incredible accomplishment," said Education Commissioner Brenda Cassellius. "Minnesotans should be proud

of the work going on in our schools. I look forward to continue learning about their successful efforts to ensure all students succeed and share that work with other schools across the state."

The Celebration school designation is part of Minnesota's federal accountability system that replaces No Child Left Behind. Under Minnesota's program, schools are assigned a Multiple Measurement Rating (MMR) based on students' proficiency and growth, as well as a school's progress towards reducing achievement gaps and increasing graduation rates. The state's Title I schools—those serving racially and ethnically diverse student populations with high levels of poverty—qualify for designations if they are top performers.

Events slated at Roosevelt Library

Roosevelt Library, 4026 28th Ave. S., will sponsor a number of events in January:

- On Tues., Jan. 7, 6:30pm join the Adult Book Club as they discuss new and interesting titles. Bring along your recommendations for future meetings. Lending copies may be picked up at the information desk prior to meeting.

- On Sat., Jan. 18, head on down to the LEGO Lab, from 2-4pm. For families. Calling all future engineers and architects! We've got the bricks, but we need

you to bring your imagination. No experience necessary.

- The Mystery/Thriller Adult Book Club meets on Sat., Jan. 4, 1pm.

- Baby Storytime meets at the library on Saturdays, Jan. 11-Feb. 22 at 9:30am. This program is 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.

- The Fearless and Friendly Knitting Group will meet Tues., Jan. 14, 28 and Feb. 11 and 25, 2-4pm. This group is for men and women at all skill levels. Drop in, or stay the whole time. Learn how to knit or practice new techniques. Bring your own needles and yarn, please. Other needle-crafts welcome!

- K-12 Homework Help is scheduled on Tuesdays, 3-6pm; starting Jan. 14 and through Feb. 25. Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students. No advance sign-up needed.

- Family Game Day is planned for Sat., Jan. 25, 10:30am-noon. This is for families, a time to drop in for board games, card games and more.

Medicare and the Affordable Care Act

Join Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Com-

munity Education for a presentation about Medicare changes on Tue., Jan. 21 at 10:30 am at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. Do you wonder what is going on with your health care? Come to this presentation and learn about the changes to Medicare premiums and services resulting from the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare). The program will be presented by Michael Aquirre with the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging. Call Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for more information.

Diabetes Support Group meets every month

The Longfellow Diabetes Support Group meets monthly for adults of all ages, Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes. The group is facilitated by a Certified Diabetes Educator and meets on the second Wednesday from 6:30-8pm at Hiawatha School Park Recreation Center, 4305 E. 42nd St. The meetings include education, support, discussion and occasional guest speakers. Upcoming dates include Jan. 8, Feb. 12 and Mar. 12. For more information contact Carol Engelhart, R.N., CDE at 612-437-8003 or Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799.

Continued on page 10

Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

Bethany Lutheran
3901 36th Ave S • 612-729-9376
www.bethanyon36th.com

Pastor Jo Bauman
January Schedule:
Sundays Worship 10:30 am
Education for all ages 9:15 am
Wednesdays - Study Group 10 am
Saturday Jan 11 - Creativity & Conversation 10 am

Bethlehem Covenant
3141 43rd Ave. S. • 612-721-5768
www.bethlehemcov.org

Pastor Ryan Eikenbary-Barber
(Handicapped accessible)
Children especially welcome
Contemporary Worship Sun. Jan. 19 & 26, 8:30 am
Sunday School for all ages Jan. 19, 9:30 am
Worship Jan. 5, 10:30 am
Worship Jan. 12, 10:30 am-Minnehaha Academy No.
Traditional Worship Sun. Jan 19 & 26, 11 am,
Wednesday meal and activities for the family at 5:45 pm

Christ Church Lutheran
3244 34th Ave. • 612-721-6611
www.christchurchluth.org

Pastor Kristine Carlson
(Children welcome, Childcare available)
Sunday Worship at 9:30 am
11:15 am Education
Pastor: Kristine Carlson
The Friends of CCL offers free tours of our National Historic Landmark building 2nd Sunday of each month, 11 am.

Epworth United Methodist
3207 37th Ave. • 612-722-0232

Rev. Pam Armstrong
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Education: Adults at 9:45 am;
Children and Youth, 10:45 am
Christmas Eve Worship: 7:00 pm
(Childcare Provided)
(Wheelchair Accessible)

Minnehaha United Methodist
3701 E. 50th St. • 612-721-6231
www.minnehaha.org

Traditional Service 9:00 am
Contemporary Worship 11:00 am
(Sept.-May) 10:30 am (June-Aug.)
Education for all ages 10:15 (Sept.-May)
(Childcare; fully accessible)

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

www.saintalbertthegreat.org
Fr. Joe Gillespie, O.P.
Sunday Mass 9:30 am (Childcare available)
Saturday Mass 5:00 pm
M, T, Th, F: Rosary at 8 am, Daily Mass 8:15 am
Christmas Eve: Family Mass 5:00 pm
Candlelight Mass 10:00 pm
Christmas Day Mass: 10:00 am
New Year's Day Mass: 10:00 am
(Handicapped accessible)

St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran
4600 E. 42nd St. • 612-722-8000

www.stpeders.net
Julie A. Ebbesen, Pastor
Worship 9:00 and 10:30 am,
Summer - 9:00 only
Education for all at 9:00 am
(Childcare; Wheelchair Acc., Braille)
Coffee 10 am

Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls
5212 41st Ave. S. • 612-724-3691
www.trinityfalls.org

Pastor Derek Johnson
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10 am
Children's Church at 10 am Service
Dec. 24: 4 pm & 11 pm Services
Dec. 29: One Service at 10 am
AA Meetings Tuesdays/Sundays 7 pm

Projects of the Neighborhood Churches Include:

Minnehaha Food Shelf,
Serving People Tuesday
10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Call us at 612-721-6231

Minnehaha United Methodist,
3701 E. 50th St.

Next Deadline: January 20

In Our Community

Continued from page 9

Events planned at Nokomis Library

Nokomis Library, 5100 S 34th Ave., has the following events planned in January:

- The Graphic Novel Adult Book Club will meet Thurs., Jan. 16, 6:30pm to discuss "Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic", by Alison Bechdel.

- "An Evening at the Night Vale Public Library" will be sponsored Thurs., Jan. 16, 6-8pm. For teens. Spend an evening devoted to the popular podcast, "Welcome to Night Vale." Enjoy Night Vale crafts and activities, participate in a costume or art show, and of course, "All Hail the Glow Cloud!" Librarian repellent will be provided.

- K-12 Homework Help is scheduled on every Mon. and Thurs., 3:30-7:30pm beginning Jan. 13 through Feb. 27. Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students. No advance sign-up needed.

- The Mystery/Thriller Adult Book Club meets on Mon., Jan. 13, 6:30pm, this month to discuss "Robbers Wine" by Ellen Hart.

- The 55+ Book Club meets Wed., Jan. 8 at 3pm to discuss new and interesting titles. Bring along your recommendations for future meetings. This month they are discussing "Across the Nightingale Floor," by Lian Hearn.

- The Nokomis Library Writing Group meets Mon., Jan. 6, at 6:30pm. Join fellow writers for encouragement, feedback, and to help each other take writing to the next level. Bring works in progress, paper and pen. You will explore different ways to think about writing.

- The Sci-Fi Adult Book Club meets Thurs., Jan. 5 at 6:30pm, this month to discuss "Dune" by Frank Herbert.

- The First Friday Diabetes Support Group meets Fri., Jan. 3, 1pm. Share experiences with others living with diabetes and get tips and advice from a health care professional on blood sugar management, diet and exercise. Please call Nokomis Healthy Seniors, 612-729-5499, to make arrangements for free transportation to the program.

- Family Storytime for children of all ages and their parents, meets every Friday, Jan. 10-Feb. 14, at 10:30am and every Saturday, Jan. 11-Feb. 15 at 11am. 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 Storytime, for children from birth to 24 months (and their parent or caregiver) meets every Tuesday, Jan. 7 to Feb. 11, at 9:30am and every Saturday, Jan. 11-Feb. 15 at 9:30am.

- The Fearless and Friendly Knitting Group will meet Wed., Jan. 8 and Jan. 22 from 10am-noon. Men and women at all skill levels. Bring your own needles and yarn, please.

- LEGO Lab meets Sat., Dec. 28 and Jan. 4, from 3-5pm. For families. Calling all future engineers and architects! We've got the bricks, but we need you to bring your imagination. No experience necessary. We'll have LEGOS and DUPLOS®, so all ages are welcome.

Birkeland named Academic All-State



Dane Birkeland

Minnehaha Academy senior Dane Birkeland has been awarded Academic All-State designation by the Minnesota Football Coaches Association for his performance on the field and in the classroom. Dane is Minnehaha's all-time leader in receptions and receiving yards while also maintaining a 3.98 GPA. Earlier this month the Minnehaha Academy Redhawk Football Team was selected to receive the Gold Academic All-State Team Award for a combined team GPA of 3.25.

Forum slates program at Hope on Jan. 6

The next installment of the Hope for Parents forum will be on Mon., Jan. 6, and features Alec Fisher, a sophomore at the University of Minnesota. When he was 17, Alec created a documentary about bullying in Minnesota public schools called "Minnesota Nice?". To date, the film has been shown in schools internationally and at education conferences across the country.

They will be screening Alec's documentary "Minnesota Nice?" and then follow up with a panel discussion with local school leaders about bullying in our schools and community.

The forum, held at Hope Lutheran Church, 5728 Cedar Ave., begins at 7pm and is free of charge. If you have questions, call 612-827-2655 or go to www.hopempls.org. Free - CEU certificates available.

Register for Legacy Series "Work of Art"

East Lake Library, in collaboration with Springboard for the Arts, will be presenting a series of workshops for artists and creatives in January and February under the heading "Work of Art". Each session is at the E. Lake Library branch, 2727 E. Lake St., from 10:30am-1pm and include:

- Wed., Jan. 8, Career Planning
- Sat., Jan. 11, Time Management for Creatives

- Wed., Jan. 15, Your Promotional Toolkit

- Wed., Jan. 22, Marketing for Artists

- Sat., Jan. 25, Legal Considerations

- Wed., Jan 29, Recordkeeping and Financial Management for Artists

- Sat., Feb. 1, Simple Business Plans

- Wed., Feb. 5, Pricing Your Work

- Sat., Feb. 8, Funding Your Work

- Wed., Feb. 12, Social Media For Artists

This project is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Each session requires registration (dates registration starts differs depending on program), and reservations can be made by calling 612-543-8425. More details on the programs can be found at <http://www.hclib.org/pub/events/AllEventsAction.cfm>.

Midtown Greenery Call for Proposals

The Midtown Greenway Coalition announces a call for proposals for Northern Spark 2014. The event will be held June 14 in locations throughout Minneapolis, including the Greenway.

You are invited to apply as a Greenway artist! The event will coincide with the third annual Greenway Glow ride along the Midtown Greenway. This year's deadline for proposals is Fri., Feb. 7 at 12pm. For a downloadable application, please visit <http://midtowngreenway.org/projects-and-programs/public-art>.

Northern Spark, organized by Northern Lights.mn, is a unique, free, annual, multidisciplinary, multi-venue, multiple partner, dusk-to-dawn, public arts festival. A one-night event, it serves as a platform for artists to dream of and plan projects that use the city as a stage and screen.

Farmers Market receives Food Council award

The Midtown Farmers Market was honored to be presented with a Homegrown Heroes Award by the Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council in November at the Walker Art Center. The award recognizes "the accomplishments of community partners who help expand the community's ability to grow, process, distribute, eat and compost more healthy, sustainable, locally grown foods."

The council specifically noted the market's focus on affordable, locally produced food, as pioneers for the acceptance and continued success of SNAP/EBT at farmers markets in Minnesota and the introduction of a composting program at the Market this past season. Mayor R.T. Rybak presented the award to Market Manager Miguel Goebel.

The Farmers Market wants to thank everyone who has been involved and contributed to the success of the Midtown Farmers Market over the past 11 seasons.

Next deadline: January 20



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Classifieds

Messenger

Want ads must be in the Messenger before January 20 for the January 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

Messenger Want Ads are \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to Messenger Classifieds, 1885 University Avenue, Ste. #110, St. Paul, MN 55104. Want ads must be mailed to the Messenger before January 20 for the January 30 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to denis@deruyternelson.com. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

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EMPLOYMENT

The Longfellow/Nokomis Messenger is looking for local reporters to write news and feature stories on a freelance basis. Pay is based on small stipend per story. Journalism students or graduates are preferred, but not required. Prior newspaper experience a must. Send resume, cover letter and clips to: Longfellow/Nokomis Messenger, 1885 University Av. S., St. Paul, MN 55104.

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Drennen's Hardwood Floors - Sanding, install, repair. 25 years experience. Call David 612-877-2019. 1-14

FOR SALE

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HANDYMAN

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Just Call, We Haul, for free estimates for garage, attic, and basement clean-ups. Call 612-724-9733. 1-14

PAINTING

Painter Jim. 25 years experience. Small jobs wanted. 651-698-0840. 3-14

REAL ESTATE

Flourish Realty LLC. Full Service Real Estate/Property Management Services. Local Realtor®, Ecobroker®, & Resident, Daniel Schultz: 612-408-0233, dan@flourishrealty.net 7-14

RENTALS

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. 2nd floor office space available. Call Jim between 8 a.m. 2 p.m. 612-729-2316 or email: KRZ@NELSON-ELECTRICINC.COM. B-1

SUPPORT GROUP

Holistic Diabetes Support Group at Dancing Dragon Acupuncture & Wellness, www.holisticdiabetessupport.com, 612-437-0707. 6-14

WANTED

WANTED - Old Stereo, HiFi Equipment, HAM, and Cameras. Andy 651-329-0515. 4-14

WANTED TO BUY

Paying the most cash for your furniture, dishes, glassware, knick-knacks, costume jewelry, antiques, pictures, lamps, household items, etc. I make house calls. Mary. 612-729-3110. 2-14

WINDOWS

Basement Window Guy.com. Replacement windows, glass block windows. Free estimates. 651-208-8210. Lic.# BC 646746. B-14

Spaghetti Dinner slated January 15

The Minnehaha Food Shelf Annual Spaghetti Fundraising Dinner will be held Wed., Jan. 15 from 5-7pm at Minnehaha United Methodist Church, 3710 E. 50th St. The spaghetti dinner is catered by community restaurateur Fat Lorenzo's and is all-you-can-eat. There will also be live music and numerous door prizes attendees

can win and or bet on donated by many local businesses. Cost of the dinner is \$8 for adults, \$5 for ages 13-17, and under 12 free.

Minnehaha Food Shelf serves over 800 people in the neighborhood monthly. Volunteers staff the food shelf from three area churches and the Vets home and apartments on a weekly basis.

Pancake Breakfast for Transition Longfellow

Transition Longfellow will hold their Pancake Breakfast on Sat., Jan. 11, from 9-11am at Bethany Lutheran Church, 3901 36th Ave. S. The cost is only \$5 per person

and features organic pancakes and other food goodies! Fabulous silent auction with many homemade goods and original art will also be part of the festivities! A chance to sign up for activities for 2014. The pancake breakfast is their biggest event of the year and the only time they fundraiser for Transition Longfellow activities.

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LAWN CARE

Andersons

Continued from page 1

Len Anderson was born in Seward and grew up there, where he attended Madison Elementary School, Seward Jr. High and South High School. After studying business administration at the University of Minnesota, Len got a job working as a service coordinator for a local Oldsmobile dealership on Lake Street. That job introduced him to the auto repair business.

"I could have stayed with Oldsmobile, but I wanted to be my own boss. I guess I had a real independent streak. I didn't like taking orders from someone else," Len recalled. "I had some money saved up, and when the opportunity was there in 1961 to buy the station at Riverside and Franklin, I decided that was something I wanted to do.

"Soon after I took over the Riverside station, I remember pulling over to the side of the road one day and wondering what I had gotten myself into. Here I was, managing a group of 12 employees and dealing with hundreds of customers all day. At the same time, I had to deal with the landlord—Standard Oil of Indiana. I owned the business but the oil company owned the real estate and they put a lot of demands on their operators. Not all the oil companies got along with the people who ran their stations, but I did. I always paid my rent on time, so I was a good tenant."

Len took over the Riverside station at a time when Seward was undergoing a lot of changes. Construction of I 94 was underway and the Seward East Urban Renewal project was about to start. "I had grown up in Seward, and I thought the project was good for the neighborhood. I took a stand in support of it. Not everyone agreed with me. I lost a few customers, but I think I did the right thing."

The Interstate I 94 construction caused some short-term problems for Len's business, but, in the long run, it helped boost business for the Riverside station. "We were one of the few stations right on a freeway exit, so that brought us a lot of customers."

Len also got a new base of customers when the apartments were built along Franklin Avenue. "The people who lived there all kept their cars outside, and so they always needed help keeping

their cars running," he said.

"We faced a lot of competition in the early days. There was just about a station on every corner, dating back to the World War II. We decided that our competitive edge would be our auto repair service. Many of the other stations did little more than repair brakes and change oil. We offered full repair service and that brought us a lot of loyal customers who came back year after year."

Later, Len purchased the Lake Street station and eventually sold the Riverside station to a new operator. "The Lake Street station was struggling when we got it, and it continued to struggle but we made it work," Len said.

Steve started working in the family business when he was 11. "In the beginning, I just followed Len around at the shop and learned on the job. I liked tinkering with machines, so the business was a good fit for me."

Later, in his teens, Steve became a regular employee of Len's business. "At home he was Dad, but on the job, he was the boss," Steve added. "He was busy overseeing several locations that include a Goodyear Tire Store back then, so there were managers at each of the shops. I reported to the managers."

When Len retired, Steve took over management of the family business at a time when the service station industry was in transition. "Many stations were really becoming convenience stores that sold gas," Steve said. "That was the new model. The margins on selling gas were so thin that many operators needed to make their money when the customers come inside to buy pop and candy bars. But we are still in the service business. That model still works for us."

Today, Steve only repairs cars at ElectraTune. He doesn't sell gas there. His customers have to drive across the bridge to Marshall Cretin Amoco if they need to find a gas pump.

Now, there is a new generation of Andersons that may find their own way into the family business. Steve has two sons, Jake, 9, and Colin, 6. "The older boy follows his dad around the shop, just like Steve used to follow Len," notes Len's wife, Diane.

"If the boys want to work with me in the business, that is something they will have to decide for themselves when the time is right," Steve adds.

Sun power

Continued from page 6

"We're definitely hopeful that we're going to get a rate that's going to help grow solar in Minnesota," said David Wakely, director of communications for MN Community Solar. "We want to make sure Minnesota rate payers have the chance to buy as much community solar as they want."

The PUC's determination will come in late February at the earliest.

Meantime, about 65% of the Northern Sun array is already reserved, and other gardens are on the horizon. According to Wakely, MN Community Solar has talked to just over 10 megawatts worth of host sites (Northern Sun will be 40 kilowatts).

People can reserve one leaf for about \$950, or elect to buy a percentage of their home energy use. They then receive credit back on their energy bill for the life of the subscription (20 or 25 years, depending on the PUC).

"That's the beauty part of the business model," said Wakely. "People who want to go all in and power their whole house on solar, they can do that. But people who just want to have a certain chunk to make a statement, reduce their carbon footprint, to support local green business, they can do that."

The State of Minnesota passed legislation in 2013 establishing a new solar electricity standard, which calls for 1.5 percent of electric sales from investor-owned utilities like Xcel to come from solar electricity by 2020.

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This activity is funded, in part, by appropriations from the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the State's general fund, and its arts and cultural heritage fund that was created by a vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.