# Longfellow Nokomis

Your community newspaper since 1982

21,000 Circulation

August 2019 • Vol. 37 No. 6

www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

# BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH SAILING

**By JILL BOOGREN** 

On a picture perfect summer evening at Lake Nokomis, the water was calm and the west side dock was brimming with activity. A group of five kids and a couple of adults climbed into a sailboat and, after a momentary untangling of the rigging and a gentle push, they were off. Just then the wind picked up.

"It's magic," said the man who helped them launch.

Meet Longfellow resident Tim Brandon - sailor, boat caretaker, mentor - or "The Mayor," as he is known by the regulars of this 50-boat marina.

Brandon is there most summer evenings (Nokomis is on his way home from his job at MSP Airport), offering assistance and encouragement to youth and adults alike.

Minnehaha resident Len Schmid, whose boat Tag You're It is bouyed here (and who said he *might* have been responsible for Brandon's nickname), called Brandon a regular "person about the lake." Ask anyone who knows him and they'll tell you what a tremendous resource and great guy he is. Over the course of the five years he's had a buoy here, Brandon has helped bail, patch, rig and rescue scores of boats, from on shore and out on the water.

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Tim Brandon smiles after the last group of Youth Sailing Resources (YSR) sailors launches for the evening. His t-shirt reads: "Never underestimate an old man with a sailboat." Brandon keeps his boat, Doribelle, at the Lake Nokomis marina, where he's known as "The Mayor" by other regulars, who appreciates how he lends a hand to anyone who needs it. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

# Multiple sinkholes and utility line breaks frustrate residents

Some homeowners south of Lake Nokomis By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN are leaving the neighborhood, and others worried about paying high project bills



## \$18,500.

That's how much Andrea and Dave Vogeo are paying to repair their water line.

The Vogeos have been living in their home on 16th Ave. S. between Edgewater and E. 57th St. since 1976, and are both retired. They are in their 70s, and live off Andrea's Social Security check. On June 24, 2019, they began dealing with a water break, having trouble washing dishes,

saw chunks of asphalt inside, pieces that should have been removed with the repair to their neighbor's break the year before. They suspect that the rubble left in the hole contributed to their line break, and they think that the city or prior repair company should be covering the cost of this fix.

The Vogeos are just the latest in a long line of issues that have occurred along this stretch of street since 2015.

at the north end of the street. They started to sink within a few hours, recalled Joan Soholt, who lives along the street. A manhole and two utility laterals to homes were damaged, and it took about six weeks to repair them.

Soholt recalls getting a letter from the city that the utility lines had been checked before the street work, and they were all found to be in good working order.

Since then, eight homes ilt around 1940 have dealt with utility line breaks. The area in the middle of the block has been the worst, with four houses dealing with the hassle of sewer and water line breaks - and the associated bills that are getting higher and higher with each project as fewer companies bid on them.

Joan Soholt stands near an area of her street that has been dug up numerous times since 2015 for utility line breaks and sinkholes. She's advocating for different water management practices in the area. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

doing laundry, taking showers, and more. The break wasn't fixed for a month.

"It's frustrating," Vogeo said. They have also been dealing with a tree limb that came down in a storm.

'It was a bad week," she stat-

When the Vogeo's line broke, they peered into the hole and

In all, there have been nine sewer line breaks, one water line break, and too many sinkholes to count.

### A domino effect

The issues on 16th between Edgewater and 57th St. Started in 2015 with a resurfacing project. When they ended for the day, workers left the machines parked

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Metro Work Center collaborates to make art together

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ed.

Eat & Art on Lake: a community meal celebrating businessses

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Over the years in Longfellow and Nokomis neighborhoods

**PAGE 10** 

"Kids think they can do something. The wind shifts, and they've got to adjust. A good life lesson." ~ Tim Brandon

AT RIGHT Sailor Jen Wood gently navigates Beulah through the field of buoyed boats.

FAR RIGHT Sailors Vithue Chumara (front left) and Andreas Kocher return Rebel to the dock. (Photos by Jill Boogren)





# BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH SAILING



Jim McKie, president of Youth Sailing Resources, steers Avalon, a boat lent to him by another Lake Nokomis sailor. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

#### Continued from front page

"He's here every day. He helps everyone," said Schmid. "We're lucky to have him here."

Sailor Siri Anderson said Brandon was very supportive when she didn't have anyone to sail with, and Melanie Benoy said he helped her get her whole boat rigged.

Lending a hand comes naturally to Brandon.

"I'm very familiar with launching [a] boat and getting super frustrated," he said.

Brandon began sailing as a

kid on Clear Lake, California's largest natural lake, then became a recreation director at Konocti Harbor Resort. He later joined Cal Sailing Club in Berkeley, where he met his wife, Dori. He eventually became a senior skipper in San Francisco.

Lured to Minnesota by a fulltime job at Northwest Airlines (now Delta), he settled near Lake Nokomis, bought a boat and named her Doribelle, after the nickname Dori's mom gave her as a child. Five years ago, he got a buoy on Nokomis, and he's been a mainstay at the marina ever since. He chuckles at the "mayor" moniker and describes himself as more of an unofficial harbor master

#### Youth Sailing Resources offers opportunities for kids

On this glorious summer evening, it was all about getting kids on the water. Brandon serveson the board of Youth Sailing Resources (YSR), which brings volunteer skippers and

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Tim Brandon takes Melanie Benoy out for a spin on his Hobie catamaran. (Photo by Jill Boogren)



Last month, Bode LeRoach (left) went sailing for the first time at Lake Nokomis with Ryan Bohara (center), a Sea Scout and racer. K.D. Bohara (right) chairs the Sea Scout Ship Mendota #248 committee and makes the weekly trek from Victoria, Minn., so Ryan can sail through Youth Sailing Resources. (Photo by Jill Boogren)







# BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH SAILING

youth sailors together weekly to sail. YSR cofounders Patrick O'Leary and Jim McKie were here tonight, too.

According to O'Leary, YSR started as a nonprofit to support the Sea Scouts (a co-ed youth sailing group for ages 14-21) and to open up sailing to people who may not otherwise have the opportunity. They don't offer classes or formal instruction. Rather, they give sailors the experience of being out on the water. All must wear a lifejacket and follow basic safety precautions, and all are shown proper care of the vessel. Sailing tips from experienced sailors, of course, flow freely.

'We wanted to make it a version of a community-based thing," said O'Leary.

#### What's the catch?

For it to work, they rely on volunteer skippers and depend on the generosity of the broader sailing community to lend their boats, as well as donate boats no longer in use. It's a model Brandon already knew worked, from his experience at Cal Sailing.

On the low cost to participate in YSR people often ask, "What's the catch"? There isn't one. But maybe if people use the resources, they'll buy into it. Maybe volunteer. Maybe one day lend a boat.

McKie cruised away from the dock on one such boat, the Avalon, on loan from a Nokomis sailor

"If there's two boats out, it's a race," said McKie, grinning. "Whether the other boat knows it or not." He attempted to catch up to Brandon, who was now sailing with Benoy on a catamaran, but caught them at the wrong angle.

McKie explained how to gauge wind speed by the surface of the water: Silver water is calm; darker water is windier; white again (as in whitecaps), might be a good 10-15 knots. A huge part of sailing is reading signs and getting a feel for how the wind reacts.

"Kids think they can do something. The wind shifts, and they've got to adjust," said McKie. "A good life lesson."

YSR has served various youth groups over the years, including Young Life, TreeHouse, and Cub Scouts. With Lake Street-based Urban Ventures, they created an annual sailing event, which last year brought 110 kids to Lake Nokomis to sail for an afternoon - up substantially from the 20 or so participants when it first launched six years ago.

The overall goal? To have a good time on the water.

"They need to have some fun," said McKie. "There's a lot of boredom. If I can find a way for them to have fun, give them some excitement" - That's what it's about. With that, they build some responsibility for the machines they operate, and they build community, which is "so important in this day and age," McKie said.

#### Sailing is many things

Sailing means different things to different people. For Brandon it can be very meditative, following the wind.

For Jen Wood, another Nokomis sailor, it's "an exercise in humility"; early in the season she prefers sailing her boat, Beulah, in gentler winds.

On the previous night, Sea Scouts Gina Sutherland and Ryan Bohara sailed with YSR. Each has risen through the ranks in the Scouts - Sutherland the seniormost, as a boatswain (bos'n), and Bohara a bos'n's mate - and it's clear sailing is part of their lifestyle.

Sutherland likes that Nokomis is "a very active lake," with places to swim and people fishing.

Bohara loves racing. An active member of Sea Scout Ship Mendota #248, he and his mom, K.D. Bohara, make the trek from their home in Victoria, Minn,, to Nokomis weekly. He's thrilled Wayzata will be hosting one of the nation's qualifying regattas in August for next year's William I. Koch International Sea Scout Cup (which will be held in Galveston, Texas). Two other Mendota 248 Scouts were selected (among 10) to sail for a week with the U.S. Coast Guard aboard the tall ship *Barque Eagle*.

K.D. Bohara, who chairs the Mendota 248 committee, especially loves being at the lake and seeing everyone's setup. She shared pictures of a couple of memorable boats launched from trailers at Nokomis, one in the shape of a disk and another fashioned by placing a platform across two canoes and adding umbrellas, chairs and coolers instant pontoon.

On this night, she brought her nephew Bode LeRoach for his first time sailing. "It was fun," he said.

#### 'Calm down, take your time, be thorough'

As this evening drew to a close, Brandon gave a few pointers to Andreas Kocher and Vithue Chumara of St. Paul on storing the sail and closing up the Rebel they had just sailed. "Not a lot of people know how to sail," said Chumara. "[Learning this] use of the wind, it's a really good technical skill.'

Kocher said he's struggled with ADHD, and that sailing has taught him how to "calm down, take your time, be thorough.

He added, "A lot of kids should learn how to sail. It's a great time. It's a great way to spend the summer."

Lake Nokomis seems to be the perfect place to do it.

#### 'Switchy twitchy'

The wind can be what Schmid described on the group's Facebook page as "switchy twitchy." It's the same on all three Minneapolis lakes, he said: Bowls surrounded by trees, where the wind pushes downward and in. ' 'You can sail two minutes and have it switch directions," he observed.

Nokomis can also get what

### Continued from page 2

Brandon calls "big air" and even on this little lake - swiftly become dangerous. It requires people to be on top of their game. Short of a storm, Brandon will go out in the big gusts, suggesting the Doribelle can handle maneuvering to and from the dock better than most boats.

McKie enjoys the challenge and said he and O'Leary will go out even when it's "blowin' like snot." Having sailed in different parts of the world, McKie maintains, "If you can sail on an inland lake in Minnesota, you can sail anywhere in the world."

More than for the wind and water, though, sailing Lake Nokomis is about the people there.

"It's an amazing community," said Siri Anderson, who said Nokomis is very unpretentious. "This community has become more important to me than my church."

#### 'Everything I do started on a summer day on this lake'

Brandon, as administrator for the Lake Nokomis Sailing Facebook page, often posts videos of the conditions on the lake. He welcomes new sailors and boats and posts any mishaps. Recently, he alerted the community to a boat that was sinking due to a leak, which he managed to safely maneuver to shore. He said there have been times he's posted that he could use a hand, only to arrive at the boat launch to have three cars with volunteers waiting. That's really what its all about for him, being there for each other and creating lasting memories.

"At some point [new sailors] will say, 'Everything I do started on this summer day on Lake Nokomis."

To get involved n Youth Sailing Resources, call Jim McKie or Patrick O'Leary (contacts available on their Google site). The Sea Scouts hold their annual weekend regatta on Lake Phalen Aug. 10 and 11.



(Photo courtesy of Tim Brandon)

## FLOTATION, FLOTATION, FLOTATION

## by JILL BOOGREN

If Tim Brandon has a mantra for sailors, it might be this: "Have you secured your masthead flotation?" He recently posted on the Lake Nokomis Sailing Facebook page a photo of a Hobie catamaran that had capsized due to, in his opinion, the skipper "hot doggin' it."

Pictured above is the boat, floating sideways, its mast across the surface of the water. Clearly visible on the end of it is an empty gallon jug, which is all it takes to keep the mast from submerging – and taking the boat with it.

"The masthead flotation made all the difference," Brandon said.

Brandon said the lake is only 14 feet deep on average, much shallower than the length of most masts, which are 20+ feet on up. That means capsized boats without the flotation run the risk of driving their masts into the mud. YSR youth who want to can practice capsizing and righting the boat with a skilled skipper.





# The Motley Conversation Messenger Join the conversation, and let us know your diverse and varied thoughts 🖌 on the issues that affect your neighborhood. Send letters and guest commentaries to news@LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com or call 612-345-9998.

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Why does a small neighborhood newspaper still exist in the days of Facebook and instant online news? What sets the *Messenger* apart from these other news sources?

#### We're Relevant.

The simple answer is we're vour local news source. There's not another publication that covers the Longfellow and Nokomis neighborhoods like we do.

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We write about local businesses opening and closing, about what's being torn down and what's being developed, about who is agitating for change and who has paved the way for others to follow.

We tell you about the neighbor who has turned into an entrepreneur, the college student who is giving back to the world, and the Boomer who is following a more sustainable lifestyle.

These are the people in your community. And the Messenger is your community news source.

## Too Much Coffee

## By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN, Tesha@LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

Messenger launches Voluntary Pay program

We're about connecting people through the pages in our newspaper. We print "News for You."

#### We're Reliable.

The Messenger has been delivering news to your doorsteps since 1982. And we're here to tell you: Print Is Not Dead.

#### We're Delivered Responsibly.

The folks who work for this newspaper are connected to the area. We're not dropping in, writing an article that will tear the area apart, and then flying out. We're committed to this neighborhood, and the people who live and work in it.

This does mean we approach things differently. We have to. We don't do #fakenews.

Will you help cover the costs of the monthly Messenger?

In the upcoming months, I plan to introduce you to the various people and companies that play a role in getting this newspaper to your front steps and local bulk drop business sites each month. What questions do you have? Send them my way.

We are inviting you and our other readers to help us by voluntarily paying the cost of printing and delivering your paper.

The Messenger doesn't charge for subscriptions to our monthly newspapers. Like most others, we rely on advertising revenue to pay for the costs of putting the newspaper out - paying the printer, the delivery staff, one

full-time and one part-time sales representatives, bookkeeper, and others. We pay for our web site, Adobe and Quickbooks software, phones, and post office box. Because we run a virtual office, we contract with a provider for cloud services and a remote desktop, along with email and other IT services.

We want to make sure that our content is fresh and engaging, and so we pay writers and photographers to cover meetings and conduct feature interviews.

As owner, I'm a jack-of-alltrades, doing the newspaper layout, writing articles, paying the bills, selling some ads - and making the coffee.

I'm committed to quality journalism at the Messenger and its sister newspaper, the Midway Como Monitor.

To do that, we're asking for your help. Would you consider donating \$12 - or \$1 a paper? How about \$24 - or \$2 a paper? Maybe you love us so much that you want to send more and pay it forward - we'd love that! One lucky donor will get a four-pack of tickets to the Ren Fest; drawing on Aug. 19.

See page 6 in this issue for our Voluntary Payment donation form or go to our website.

I'd also like to start running photos of readers on our Social Media channels and within our printed pages. So, snap a photo of you with the latest, hot-offthe-press newspaper. Tag us online or email it my way. Let us know what you appreciate about the paper. Let us know what we're missing. Share story ideas. Send in your letters to the editor and guest commentaries.

We're relevant, informative, reliable and responsible - because of you.

## Letters to the Editor

## Sidewalk safety needs to be a year-round issue

#### Dear Editor:

More than two years ago, I wrote a letter to Access Press describing my accident. I'm a longtime disability community activitist and have worked on issues including adult protection laws.

My accident happened at 3:40 p.m. Monday, Jan. 9, 2017. I was coming home on the bus from physical therapy. My bus stopped at 38th and Chicago, and I was getting off the bus to make a transfer. Because of the timing of the buses, I didn't have a lot of time to make a transfer.

The bus stop is near a concern convenience store. The store's parking lot and gas pumps were cleared of snow, but much of te snow was piled on the sidewalk.

I use a walker. The bus driver used a hydraulic ramp so that I could get off the bus. The ground was covered with snow, the sidewak wasn't cleared properly, and the ramp wasn't on the sidewak. I stepped out, lifting my walker's

front wheels. The back wheels got caught. I pulled and pulled. Suddenly the wheel came free over the top, and I fell backwards and landed on Chicago Avenue.

The injury caused me to lose consciousness. I sustained a brain bleed, and had an ischemic stroke. The stroke affected my speech. I was very fortunate that my speech and my cognitive abilities came back.

I spent 17 days in the hospital, and had to undergo rehabilitation. They wanted me to stay another week, but I didn't have the money for that.

Despite help from the Minnesota Brain Injury Alliance and Hennepin County Bar Association, I recently cost my case in conciliation court. This experience has wiped me out financially. We lost \$20,000 and even though conciliatio court would have paid only \$15,000 it would have helped greatly.

I am now in need ot a hearing aid, which vocational rehabilitation will only pay half, and dentures.

The injuries are on top of other medical issues I have had in

the past. I've had three knee surgeries, one hip replacement, and a shoulder injury. I live with back pain, need a back brace, and have retina problems.

My goals are now two-fold. As a person with disabilities, I'd like to do public speaking about my experience.

I'd also like to see some permanant safety manuels and procedures to keep people with disabilities from getting hurt when they use buses and travel public sidewalks. Winter is a time that can be treacherous, but uneven sidewalks can cause problems all year round. Cracks and heaved sidewalks can catch a walker or wheelchair wheel. Construction can also create barriers.

My tips are:

 Never exit a bus backward, on a curb, if you use a walker or wheelchair.

• Signal the driver ahead of time if there is a lot of snow or another hazard when you are trying to board the bus.

• Help passengers with walkers if they cannot get across ice and ice ruts, or construction.

• Say thanks to those who offer help, even if yiou may not need it.

• Ask for a transfer if your bus is late.

•Ask the bus driver to sound the horn if your connecting bus is nearby.

• Report unshoveled, icy or damaged sidewalks to city officials. Report bus stops that are blocked by construction to Metro Transit.

• In rainy or icy conditions, wait back from the bus stop because buses or cars can slide when it is slippery.

What happened to me shouldn't happen to anyone else. Many of us relay on buses for transportation but if we cannot get to and from our bus stops safely, it's a problem.

Joy Rindels Hagden

## **Email plastic packagers** ID'd by art project to take care of our earth

#### **Dear Editor:**

I was encouraged to read about Sean Connaughty's cleanup effort of Lake Hiawatha (Art Show Highlights Top Four Companies Identified in Lake Hiawatha Trash). Even better was his effort to create public sculptures out of the trash.

I wish the media would have gone one step further, including email addresses of each corporate

violator (plastic packagers), so our community can build on Sean's effort through consumer pressure to the source of plastic waste.

Twin Cities' residents are good at recycling. But only 9% of the plastic actually gets recycled. Plastic not only is in our lakes, but also our food and even our water https://www.cbsnews.com/video/ drowning-in-plastic-waste/. Since information is power, and we are a consumer economy, please consider emailing the list of plastic packagers identified by Sean's efforts asking them to take care of our earth by changing to compostable packaging.

I have included the top 4 from Sean's art project and neighborhood action effort:

• https://contact.pepsico.com/ pepsico/contact-us

• https://www.mcdonalds. com/us/en-us/contact-us/general-inquiry-form.html

 https://www.coca-colacompany.com/forms/product#ath

• https://www.mars.com/contact-us

And start talking to the retail store managers on your future shopping trips. Ask Costco, Walmart, Target managers to please be a leader in reducing plastic packaging.

Terese Reiling-Holden

## Got an opinion?

### Write to us about it! We want your letters to the editor and guest columns. News@LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com | 5139 34th Ave. S. #17097, Mpls MN 55417

# Vlessenger

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News for you!

The Longfellow Nokomis Messenger is a monthly community publication in the Longfellow and Nokomis areas of Minneapolis, owned and operated by TMC Publications, CO. All correspondence should be sent to the Messenger. 5139 34th Ave. S. #17097, Minneapolis, MN 55417. To contact the editor. call Tesha at 612-345-9998. To reach the advertising department, call Denis at 651-917-4183. If you have a problem with delivery, call 612-345-9998.

#### It's easy to submit items.

It's easier than ever to keep in touch with the Messenger, Letters to the editor and news

releases for publication can be sent via e-mail at news@longfellownokomismessenger.com. Be sure to send copy in the body of the e-mail, and please mark whether the copy is a letter, a news release for publication, or perhaps just your thoughts on the last issue.

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#### **Delivery provided by:**

Fresh Heir

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to help ensure that we not only continue to deliver the best local news and information, but to also continuously improve upon the service we offer our readers and business partners.

Fill out the form below and mail a donation to 5139 34th Ave. S. #17097, Minneapolis MN 55417.

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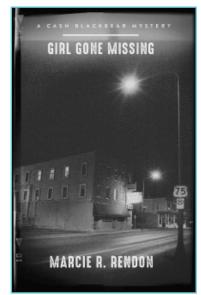


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## Summer reading: new novels by local authors

#### By JILL BOOGREN



### **Girl Gone Missing** Marcie R. Rendon

Cash Blackbear is back in Marcie R. Rendon's second crime novel, "Girl Gone Missing.

Still driving trucks and running pool tables for money, Cash is now navigating campus life at Moorhead State University. She's feeling a little like a fish out of water when reports of missing girls, one of whom she recognizes as a classmate, start cropping up. Seeing them in her dreams, Cash cannot ignore their pleas for help.

Ever sharp and knowing her way around the Red River Valley, Cash pokes around until signs point to Minneapolis - brand new terrain for her. Here, she is hurled into danger where she has to rely on her gut, fast-thinking and ingenuity to reach safety.

As an Anishinabe woman coming of age in the 1970s, the fictional Cash carries the very real shared experience of Native children who were pulled away from their families and moved into boarding schools and foster care (Rendon, herself an enrolled member of the White Earth Anishinabe Nation, includes an Author's Note in the novel's end pages that speaks to this legacy and resultant historical trauma).

In Cash, Rendon gives us a multi-dimensional character who is guarded and private but who is intuitive, compassionate and resourceful – all of which draw the reader in and pull us close.

"Girl Gone Missing" is a sat-

isfying read that leaves us wanting to know what Cash will do next - which is great, because Rendon is already working on the third installment in the series

Rendon lives in the Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood. Her first novel, "Murder on the Red River," won the Pinckley Prize for Debut Crime Fiction.

#### Chronicles of a Radical Hag (with Recipes) Lorna Landvik

Nokomis resident Lorna Landvik's latest novel, "Chronicles of a Radical Hag (with Recipes)" is a sweet elixir, a healthy antidote to busy lives and angry news cycles. In this story, Haze Evans, beloved longtime columnist with the Granite Creek Gazette, suffers a stroke, and the small-town newspaper's editor decides to run her columns dating back to the 1960s, sometimes with corresponding Letters to the Editor.

Through Evans' keen observations and recollections we are given a glimpse of her worldview, from her giddy back-to-school

shopping days to her (only slightly) unhinged response to a reader's unfavorable take on her column about disgraced former President Nixon's pardon by President Ford.

Evans shares her encounters with everyday people and celebrities, along with stories of babies born and lives lived (and lost), as decade-defining events and crises unfold. As readers take this preamble through the ages, we also jump in and out of the present day as new fictional readers, including the editor's teenaged son, experience Evans' columns and related letters and cheer on her recovery in the hospital.

There is love and longing, sorrow and loss, family, community and above all, humanity.

If life is made up of a lot of little moments, this "Radical Hag" captures them very well. In one such moment it's all hands on deck to care for newborn quadruplets. Who but Landvik - this time through the penned words of Evans - can turn what could easily ring out as a cacophony of a crying quartet into a sweet symphony, its own magical moment when life becomes a small party? With "Chronicles of a Radi-

vik's novels, "Oh My Stars," was screened at Riverview Theater on June 15. The goal is to show the film at festivals and ultimately

get it made into a full-length feature. More about the project can be found at Oh My Stars Movie on Facebook or its GiveMN page.

# Multiple sinkholes and utility line breaks frustrate residents

#### Continued from front page

When Soholt's line broke in 2015, she had a \$4,500 bill.

The city received only one bid for the Vogeo project. At \$18,500 it's three times higher than what the Swansons paid last year.

"No one would take the bid because no one wants to work in our area," observed Soholt. "They know the headache of this street.

She added, "The contractors said that no other company wants to bid on the Nokomis area because it is not easy with the groundwater and higher water table, and they have plenty of other opportunities for jobs in easier locations citywide. They have to put extra workers on the job and bring in extra equipment which escalates the price even if the job does not require pumping.

Plus, these bills are coming on the heels of the resurfacing assessments each homeowner paid in 2015 that ranged from \$2,000-\$2,400.

### Why isn't the city dealing with water issues?

Erik and Monica Swansons moved from Michigan to South Minneapolis six years ago, and have loved the area. They thought they'd found their longterm house when they bought their bungalow along 16th. After dealing with the utility line breaks and sinkholes and almost constant street work in the center of the block, they decided they've had enough. They put their house up for sale, and are moving out - leaving behind a sewer line in good condition for the new owners. They're not the only ones leaving. So are the residents across the street who are dealing with their second utility line



Andrea Vogoe (left) and Erik Swanson stand near the section of 16th between Edgewater and 57th St. that has been dug up numerous times because of utility line breaks and sinkholes they think are connected to larger groundwater issues in the area south of Lake Nokomis. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

break in the past few years, observed Soholt.

What makes this worse is the city's incompetence," E. Swanson said.

Their sewer line detached in March 2018, but it took three months for them to receive a letter from the city about the project because of misinformation on the address from the city which prolonged the repairs. At one point Erik called, and was told that his line was fine. He eventually got a letter with information on the three companies that had bid on his project. The lowest bid by InnerCity was \$5,200 - a bill the Swansons were responsible for

made, pointed out Soholt.

'Most cities will pay for the line up to the meter in the house," observed Swanson. Additionally, in Minneapolis, residents are officially required to maintain the line from the middle of the street into their homes.

'How do you maintain something that is nine feet under the ground?" Swanson asked. "I don't get it. If it is in the house, vou can maintain it. We can't monitor what's underground." Swanson pointed out that every utility bill he receives from the city lists a maintenance fee, and he questions what that is for. Homeowners can opt to pay the entire cost at the end of the project, or put it on their property tax bill and pay a 5% interest fee each year on the balance. Some residents can qualify for deferments, but interest continues to accumulate on the total amount and must be paid when a property is sold. The city bids the project out. Homeowners can solicit bids themselves, but then they can't attach it to their tax bill and have to pay it off themselves right away.

The Swansons had just bought a cabin, and paying for that and a utility repair bill stretched their budget too far. Six months after the first repair, the line required additional work. Luckily that was warrantied by the repair company who fixed it at no charge.

Swanson said he'd be less angry about this if he didn't pay so much in taxes, a bill that last year was about \$6,000. "I don't mind paying taxes, but I want something out of it," he said. Vogeo agrees. She's frustrated that the city is using millions of taxpayer money to create bike paths but not repairing its streets and utility lines.

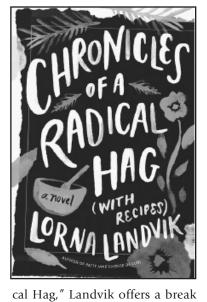
"Edgewater is like the Grand Canyon," Swanson observed. A football field length of pavement has been repeatedly repaired due to sinkholes west of 16th.

One day, emergency vehicles were called because a sinkhole developed and caused a break to a gas line on park land south of the lake.

Soholt's search for answers has led her to question why the water table in the area is rising. She learned about homes near Solomon Park just south of her where residents have lost half of their backyards to standing water and dealt with sewer back-ups in their basements. She's spoken with people at Hope Lutheran Church (5728 Cedar Ave.) who are dealing with an elevator that has rusted because of standing water.

She questions the volume of water coming down Minnehaha Creek, and how the weir is used at Lake Nokomis. She noticed that when the culvert under Highway 62 from Mother Lake was closed last year for repair, the lake level dropped. It rose again right after the culvert draining water from Richfield into South Minneapolis was re-opened.

Together with other concerned citizens, she formed the Nokomis/Hiawatha Water Sustainability group, which is track ing water issues in the area and advocating for comprehensive water studies.



from the noisier parts of our lives

and instead serves up a bit of

warmth, love and community. As

for the recipes, there are plenty of

options that will surely dress up

short for an earlier of Land-

In other news: The movie

any summer picnic. Enjoy!

#### paying.

In Minneapolis, homeowners are responsible for paying for water and sewer line repairs from the connection in the middle of the street and for the wye connection to the sewer main, according to an ordinance change in February 1992. There is nothing that holds the city accountable to make sure the main is in good condition before repairs are

### What's with the sinkholes?

The issues on her street spurred Soholt to take action, and she began asking questions trying to figure out what was happening. Her street isn't the only one on the southwest side of Lake Nokomis that is dealing with sinkholes and utility line breaks

"We're the epicenter," said Soholt.

"We are aware that increased precipitation is the cause of the problems. What we are questioning are current water management practices in light of the forecasted changes. How can communities upstream equitably manage their own water runoff locally without sending it all downstream where it is adversely affecting other communities?" ~ tesha@

long fellow no kom is messenger.com

Page 6

Open Streets Minneapolis invites people to be curious about their city as they use active transportation, view live performances, create art, and make new connections with their neighbors. The Watson Family brought son Miles in his red Radio Flyer wagon, complete with bubble blower. Since 2011, Open Streets Minneapolis has turned more than 20 streets into car-free, community-filled fun for a weekend afternoon. More than 90,000 people participated in seven Open Streets Minneapolis events in 2018. The 2019 Open Streets Minneapolis season continued on Sunday, July 21 with Open Streets Lake + Minnehaha. The event was back on this route for the third year.



Photos by Margie O'Loughlin

Jessica Squires, owner of the new boutique His & Hers on Minnehaha Avenue. Her signature line is called "Bossette," which recognizes the strength and resiliency of women





Open Streets Minneapolis is an annual free event series that opens city streets to folks biking, walking, and rolling. At each event local businesses, artists, and community groups come out into the street to play.







ABOVE MIDDLE – Face painter Jamil Robinson created a personalized design for local musician/ songwriter TJ Houston.

ABOVE RIGHT – Artist Molly Fleming-Wolfe (pictured right) launched her brand of children's clothing under the label Pickle Buns at Open Streets. Our Streets Minneapolis leads grassroots advocacy for better streets and programs to encourage more people to bike and walk for transportation.







# Metro Work Center collaborates with local businesses

Cast metal during Make-and-Take event at Moon Palace Books Aug. 6

### By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

For the sixth year, metal artists Jess Bergman Tank and Sara Hanson have been awarded a Community Arts Grant through the Metropolitan Regional Arts Program. They've spent the last two months working with participants of the Metro Work Center, a day program for adults with developmental disabilities that operates out of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

The Metro Work Center is in its 50th year of serving differently-abled adults in that location, but many people don't realize that their program exists.

Bergman Tank said, "One of the goals of this project is to bring our artists into relationship with others, as part of a shared community. We're making art together, but we're also helping to build a climate of mutual understanding."

Each year, business partners in the community are identified as places that will support the Metro Work Center art-making process and provide an eventual place to exhibit finished sculptures. For example, past business partners East Lake Library and the Third Precinct Police Station both have sculptures on display. This year's business partners include the Riverview Theatre, the Riverview Café, and Mother Earth Gardens. There is no cost for business partners to commission a work of art.

No one knows what a sculpture will look like when the collaborative process begins. Several visits are made to each of the business partner sites, and the Metro Work Center artists have an opportunity to talk with people working there. They've brainstormed questions beforehand such as, "What do you like about your job? What are people doing around the neighborhood? What kind of food do you serve?"

Hanson said, "The metal sculptures we make reflect the



Team members collected textures from the walls of the Riverview Café to use in making their sculpture. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

## Make-and-Take Event at Moon Palace Books Tuesdau, Aug. 6, noon-2 p.m. with artists Sara Hanson and Jessica Bergman Tank

"Come to the plaza to experience a live metal pour, and the chance to create and take home your own small cast metal art object at no *cost."* ~ Sarah Hanson

conversations our artists have had with staff. They learn a lot about what people do in their jobs through these conversations. We have several participants at Metro Work Center who aren't mobile enough to come on the site visits, so we take pictures and bring back to show them. Our artists are also very aware of textures, surfaces, and objects in the different workplaces. During this grant cycle, you may see us making clay impressions of coffee mugs at the Riverview Café, or of an Art Deco lamp at the Riverview Theater. All of these things can eventually be incorporated into our metal sculptures to tell a story."

To celebrate the completion of this project, there will be a Make-and-Take event at the Moon Palace Books Plaza on Tuesday, Aug. 6 from 12-2 p.m.

Artist Sara Hanson said, "We're excited to extend our collaboration to the greater community. Both Jess and I will have our portable foundries on site. Between us, we have many years of experience casting metal in diverse locations. The metal will be HOT, but the event will also be very safe - it's appropriate for all ages. Come to the plaza to experience a live metal pour, and the chance to create and take home your own small, cast metal art object at no cost."



The team of metal artists from the Metro Work Center working at the Riverview *Café.* (*Photo by Margie O'Loughlin*)

The event is also an opportunity to learn more about the Metro Work Center. Participants Rickeem and Clyde (pictured above, second from left and second from right) will be program ambassadors that day. They both currently work at former business partner sites, doing cleaning and yard maintenance at Alexander's Import Auto Repair and the Longfellow Dental Clinic.

Jessica Bergman Tank is available for community art making with her portable metal

foundry, which she transports with a front loading cargo bike. Her business is called Pedal to the Metal: Traveling Foundry. She can be reached at pedaltothemetalfoundry@gmail.com. Sara Hanson recently bought a retired MTC bus, and is in the process of converting it to a mobile classroom and foundry. The name of her business is WOW Mobile Metal Lab, and she can be reached at sarahansonwow@ gmail.com.



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## Event at Moon Palace Books celebrates immigrant and refugee-owned restaurants Eat & Art on Lake: a community meal

#### By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

The patio at Moon Palace Books is turning out to be the hot spot in Downtown Longfellow this summer. On Saturday, Aug. 10 from 6-9 p.m, yet another great event is taking place.

Eat & Art on Lake: a community meal, will be held there in celebration of Lake Street's diverse immigrant and refugee-owned restaurants.

The celebration is the culmination of local illustrator Cori Lyn's year-long project called, "What We Feed Ourselves," and a launch for her new book by the same name.

In her project, Lin (who is a neighborhood organizer as well as an artist) explored the nature of food and culture.

She said, "I was interested in learning how immigrant communities feel their ethnic foods are being represented here in Minnesota. I spent time talking with the owners of five restaurants whose food will be served at the community meal: the restaurants are Moroccan Flavors, International Cuisine Bar and Grill, Willo Somali Bakery, Taqueria las Cuatro Milpas, and Gandhi Mahal.

"Through our conversations," Lin continued, "I learned what the chefs of these restaurants cook and eat at home with their families. I tasted the foods they love, and made watercolor illustrations of several of those dishes. The interviews and watercolors make up my book project, along with personal essays written about food and home by local writers Anniessa Antar, Isela Gomez, Maryan Abdinur, Christian Alberto Ledesma, and Aarohi Narain."

The event is being hosted by the Lake Street Council and Visit



Cori Lin with one of the framed illustrations featured in her new book, "What We Feed Ourselves." The book is edited by her sister, Jami Nakamura Lin. As part of the Eat and Art on Lake Street Project, each of the five featured restaurants will receive framed illustrations of their signatures dishes. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

Lake Street. Lake Street Council Executive Drector Allison Sharkey said, "Lake Street has historically been a welcoming place for people new to the Twin Cities to open businesses. We estimate that, over its six mile stretch, more than 65% of Lake Street's 2,000+ businesses are immigrant-owned.

This event is a an opportunity to learn about how immigrants and refugees in Minneapolis pass on their food traditions to the next generation, while adapting those food traditions to make a living as restaurant owners serving the broader community.

Eat and Art on Lake is funded by Minnesota State Arts Board, Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, the City of Minneapolis, Twin Cities LISC, and State Farm Insurance. Moon Palace Books is located at 3032 Minnehaha Ave. There will be a program from 7-7:30 p.m. with comments from the Lake Street Council, artist Cori Lyn, and three short readings from writers featured in the book. Tickets are available for \$10 at https:// eatartlakestreet.eventbrite.com.

Follow Cori Lin's work at corilin.co or @cori.lin.art on Instagram.



"It is critical in these times

to get out of our homes and get to know our neighbors.

We need to be having con-

versations with each other

about what drives people

to leave their homes thou-

sands of miles away, and

come to Minnesota. Now is

also the time to speak out

and celebrate the economic

contributions of immigrants

and refugees throughout

our state, and especially in

our own neighborhood."

Allison Sharkey, executive

director of Lake Street Council

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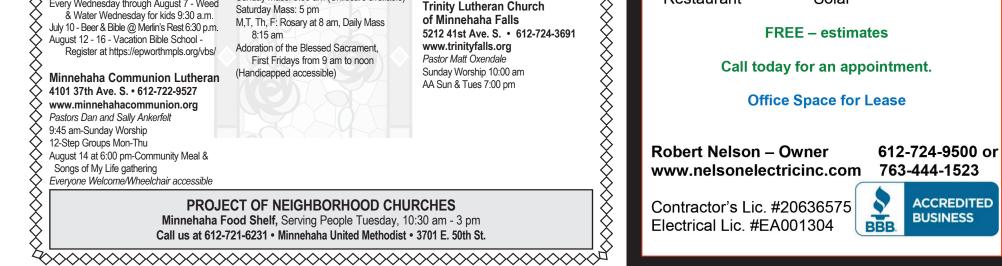
## This is why we buy local.

\* Be sure to tell these businesses your support them and are glad to have them in the neighborhood. Advertise your business here, too, next month!



the broader community. gram. The event is being hosted by the broader community. gram. The broader community. gram. **Description** (Childcare Provided) Wave, bethelhemcov.org Rev. Matthew Kennedy (Handicapped Accessible) Contemporary Worship – 9:00 am Traditional Worship – 10:30 am Espanol – 1:30pm Gathering Sunday Block Party – Sept. 8 **Epworth United Methodist** 3207 37th Ave. • 612-722-0322 www.epworthmpls.org Pastor Steven Reiser Sunday Worship: 10:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) (Wheelchair Accessible) Upcoming Events: Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provided) (Wheelchair Accesside) Every Wednesday for kids 9:30 am (Childcare Provide

Solar



# Over the years in Longfellow & Nokomis neighborhoods

By IRIC NATHANSON

During its nearly 40-year history, the Messenger has chronicled the major events in Longfellow and Nokomis. Here are some of the highlights during those years.



## January 1983

## A newspaper for Longfellow

A newspaper is being developed to serve the people, institutions and business enterprises of the Longfellow neighborhood. This introduces the Longfellow Messenger.



## April 1984 Police station plan unveiled

Longfellow community resident and the Third Precinct police force will soon have a new precinct building...to be located on Lake St. between Minnehaha and Snelling Avenues.



## May 1986 Longfellow Messenger to be sold

The Messenger's creators, Bill and Maureen Milbrath, are selling the paper to DeRuyter Nelson Publications, publisher of the Midway/Como Monitor in St. Paul.

### February 1988 Nokomis residents organize neighborhood organization

On Jan. 7, about 50 people from four Nokomis neighborhoods-Keewaydin, Minnehaha, Morris Park and Wenonah met at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church to organize the Nokomis Neighborhood Awareness Council.



## June 1990 New Lake St. bridge collapses

The uncompleted east arch for the new Lake Street bridge collapsed at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 24. Robert Moser, the 45-year-old construction foreman, was killed when the arch fell into the Mississippi River.

## January 1992 Funds earmarked to speed completion of Hiawatha Ave.

When completed sometime after 1996, the Hiawatha project will provide a rebuilt roadway for Highway 55 between downtown Minneapolis and the Crosstown Highway 62.

## August 1994

## Longfellow House finds new home in Minnehaha Park

The historic Longfellow House was moved to a new site in Minnehaha Park about one block southwest of its original location. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board owns the vacant building and plans to renovate it.



Longfellow residents ratify NRP plan at community meeting



The Longfellow / Nokomis

The \$9.3 million Neighborhood Revitalization Plan establishes an ambitious five-year improvement program for the Longfellow, Cooper, Howe and Hiawatha neighborhoods.

## July 1996

### Vocal opposition to Hiawatha Avenue rerouting organizes to stop plans

The Park and River Alliance, is protesting the construction of a new roadway for Hiawatha Ave. south of 52nd St. adjacent to Minnehaha Park.

## December 1998

## Governor-elect Ventura carries inspirational message to **Roosevelt students**

Roosevelt alum Jesse Ventura got a hero's welcome when he returned to his old high school on Nov. 11 to deliver a rousing pep talk to an enthusiastic group of Roosevelt students.

## December 1999

### Highway 55's 700-foot tunnel through Minnehaha Park finally taking shape

When the Highway 55 tunnel is completed in the summer of 2001, southbound motorists will enter the tunnel at a point near the south end of the Minnehaha Mall and exit about 200 feet north of Minnehaha Creek.

## ONGFELLOW NOKOMIS MESSENGER

## July 2003 Fire ravages West River **Commons construction**

Fire engulfed the new West River Commons project under construction at the corner of Lake and West River Parkway in the early morning hours of June 24. The blaze became a three-alarm fire and continued to smolder through the morning hours.

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## Over the years

Continued from page 10

## June 2004 Hiawatha Light Rail ready to roll June 26 despite delay

After a delay of nearly three months, the Hiawatha Light Rail line will finally open for business

on June 26. The Hiawatha line will include four stations in the Longfellow-Nokomis neighborhoods.



Longfellow community seeks answers in the wake of Lake

About 200 people gathered on April 18 to pay their respects the six victims of the fire at 3000 East Lake

May 2010

Street fire

St.

## October 2007 **Dramatic New Greenway Bridge Nears Completion**

The Greenway bridge, named for former Congressman Martin Sabo, will eliminate the need for pedestrians and cyclists to cross the difficult intersection at 28th and Hiawatha.

# Longfellow/Nokomis

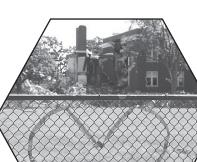
### March 2012 **Development underway along** Hiawatha corridor

Station 38 is the latest in a growing list of transit-oriented developments at stations along the 12-mile Hiawatha LRT line

## January 2014 Minnehaha Ave. reconstruction

get green light The Minneapolis City Council voted in December to give its consent for Hennepin Coun-

ty's proposed reconstruction of Minnehaha Ave.



#### September 2017 An explosion destroyed a section of Minnehaha Academv and killed two

A devastating gas explosion at the Minnehaha Academy Upper School on August 2 killed two staff members and destroyed the oldest section of the school facility built in 1913.

## May 2019 Messenger, Monitor papers transition to new ownership

Calvin deRuyter and Tim Nelson of deRuyter Nelson Publications have sold their two

neighborhood newspapers to Tesha M. Christensen, who has written for the two papers for the last eight years.



**BASEMENT WINDOW GUY** 

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# Classifieds & Service Directory

Lonafellow

Nokomis

Want ads must be received by the Messenger by Aug. 19 for the Aug. 29 issue. Call 651-917-4183 for more information.

Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

## Messenger

Messenger Want Ads are \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to Messenger Classifieds, 5139 34th Ave. S. #17097, Minneapolis, MN 55417; e-mail denis@longfellownokomismessenger.com; or call 651-917-4183

## **APARTMENT WANTED**

Seeking Longfellow apartment. Non-smoking, no pets, good references. Lynn - 651-489-9053 OR lynns@bitstream.net

## CRISIS HOTLINE

Call the Minnesota Day One Crisis Hotline at 1-866-223-1111 if you or someone you know is seeking shelter due to a dangerous relationship or needs to create a safety plan. B-19

## EMPLOYMENT

Fresh Heir Delivery looking for newspaper delivery carrier for 2-4 routes a week in Minneapolis/St. Paul. \$13-\$15 an hour per route. Email FreshHeirDelivery@gmail. com or call/text 612-669-5520. Serious inquiries only. B-19

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## SELF DEFENSE

Five Fingers of Self-Defence and Empowerment for women and girls (age 13+), Monday, Nov. 18, 6-8pm, \$50. Student, senior rates, scholarships available. Five Element Martial Arts studio, Cedar and 38th. 612-729-7233, www.femamartialarts.org. B-19

## SERVICES

Concrete work: Steps, sidewalks, patios, driveways. Licensed, bonded, insured. Call Tom Seemon, 612-721-2530. 11-19

## STORAGE

MPLS Storage located in the Longfellow neighborhood has units for rent at low rates. Locally owned and family operated. 1/2block from Lake and Hiawatha. 612-333-7525. В-19

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August 2019

## Minnehaha Parkway project paused, CAC takes medians at Lyndale and Nicollet off table

During the Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Master Plan Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting on Tuesday, July 9, 2019, the CAC recommended several next steps for the project based on extensive community feedback on the preferred concepts. Most notably, the project conversation about the parkway road will pause while more traffic data is collected.

Here are the five next steps endorsed by the CAC:

1) Eliminate the proposal to add medians at the parkway intersections with Lyndale Ave. and Nicollet Ave., which will allow for largely continuous vehicular travel along Minnehaha Creek.

signs for the Parkway + Portland and Lynnhurst Focus Areas in terms of pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle safety and comfort.

3) Work to implement immediate improvements at the Parkway + Portland Focus Area to the extent possible.

4) Initiate additional traffic data collection and explore piloting solutions at the Parkway + Portland and Lynnhurst Focus Areas.

5) Pause the master plan process to allow time for additional exploration, then reconvene the CAC in September/October.

This means there will be no

2) Continue to evaluate de- additional CAC meetings sched- hood park properties in Southuled in the immediate future. The MPRB will work with its consulting staff and agency partners to prepare further study this summer

In any case, however, the proposed Nicollet and Lyndale medians are considered off the table. All other project ideas will continue to be discussed.

The CAC also unanimously recommended the Lynnhurst Area concept brought forward by the Lynnhurst Subcommittee. This concept will also be considered by the CAC for the Southwest Parks Plan, which is in the process of creating a cohesive master plan for 40+ neighborwest Minneapolis. Follow the link below to view the recommended Lynnhurst Area concept.

Discussion of Segments 1, 2 and 3 of the Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Master Plan, including several revised concepts based on community and CAC feedback, was on the agenda for CAC Meeting #8 on July 9. Those discussions did not take place. MPRB staff will consider reconvening the CAC during the summer to discuss those areas. (The CAC previously reached consensus for Segment 4). The revised concepts (including those for the parkway road) will be uploaded to the project website soon.

The online survey will remain open for the public to provide ongoing feedback on the preferred concepts and new revisions. "Please especially let us know what you think of the modifications to Segments 1 and 2 and the Nicollet Hollow Focus Area," urge park board staff. "If you have already taken the online survey, you may do so again, even from the same computer."

Once more detail is known, MPRB staff will communicate with the community about the ongoing project studies this summer, immediate improvements and possible pilot projects.

STRANGE

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This Directory is the only one of its kind that lists Longfellow businesses by category, including name, address, phone and web site information. Connect with your community shoppers who want to support local businesses. The 2020 Longfellow Business Directory will be published in late 2019. Prime advertising spots are sold on a first come, first served basis.



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The LBA Directory is published by TMC Publications, CO. (dba Longfellow Nokomis Messenger), in conjunction with the Longfellow Business Association (LBA).

# Local students perform in 'TWISTED' Don't hold that phone in the car

Local students are performing in in Circus Juventas' dazzling summer show, TWISTED, July 26 through Aug. 11.

This year's jaw-dropping performance is a celebratory spectacle for Circus Juventas' 25th anniversary season. The summer show will emphasize the artistic beauty of cirque nouveau in an eye-catching blend of circus, dance and theater.

There are nearly 1,000 students at Circus Juventas, and over 80 skilled performers are showcasing their skills at this year's summer show. TWISTED will feature talented teens and youth from the Twin Cities area ranging in age from 9 to 22.

Among them are Gage Anderson, a student at Great River School. He is 17 years old and has been studying circus arts at Circus Juventas since 2011.

Magdelena Eggen Lim, a student at Yinghua Academy, is also performing, Eggen Lim is 14 years old.

Two students from Minnehaha Academy will also be in the show, including 16-yearold Juliette Kline, and 16-yearold Kate Hennings.

Since 1995, the Circus Juventas summer show has been a Twin Cities favorite. The show features the most advanced, highly-committed young artists, trained by elite coaches from around the world, who themselves have performed with Cirque du Soleil, the Great Moscow Circus, Mongolian State Circus, Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey, to name a few.

Ticket prices range from \$18.50 for children 10 and under and seniors 65 and older, to \$45 for VIP seating. All shows are held at the Circus Juventas big top, 1270 Montreal Ave., Saint Paul

Celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, Circus Juventas' audiences have compared them to Cirque du Soleil, and they have widely been credited with



Gage Anderson



Magdalena Eggen Lim

revolutionizing the circus arts. In summer 2017, the Smithsonian Folklife Festival invited Circus Juventas to be the featured performers for their 50th anniversary celebration. On the heels of performing on the national mall, Circopedia honored the Saint Paul youth circus with the International Circopedia Award, the first American circus to be named to the international list. Their brand of cirque nouveau features full-blown theatrical productions which spotlight the athleticism of aerial, acrobatic and balancing acts, combined with elaborate sets, lavish costumes, music, and story narration.

Circus Juventas is a 501(c)3 nonprofit and the largest youth



Juliette Kline



Kate Hennings

performing arts circus school in North America. Over the past 25 vears, co-founders Dan and Betty Butler have seen their dream grow into a year-round program that serves more than 2,500 children and youth through age 22 with a diverse array of circus arts training and performance opportunities in a noncompetitive setting. Circus Juventas' mission is to inspire artistry and self-confidence through a multicultural circus arts experience that encourages leadership and life skills, teamwork, athleticism, artistry, pursuit of excellence and community service. For more information, visit https://circusjuventas.org.

## ing can wait. Period." Minnesota's new hands-free

law goes into effect on Thursday, Aug. 1.

Under the new law, drivers are allowed to use their cell phones to make calls, text, listen to audio and/or get directions only by voice commands or single-touch activation without holding the phone.

While driving, phones may NOT be held in the driver's hand.

Watching videos, video calling, Snapchat, gaming and similar activities on a cell phone are prohibited at all times while driving.

"Distracted driving is extremely dangerous and has caused far too many traffic accidents, some very serious and even fatal," said Hennepin County Sheriff David P. Hutchinson. We urge everyone to obey this new law to help protect themselves, their families, and everyone else on the road. The text that you got while you were driv-

Critical information on Minnesota's hands-free law:

The penalty for the first hands-free violation is \$50 plus court fees. Additional tickets are \$275 plus court fees.

Hand-held phone use is allowed to obtain emergency assistance when there is an immediate threat to life or safety.

Tucking a cell phone into a headscarf or head wrap does not violate the hands-free law. However, removing the phone and holding it does violate the law.

Smart watches, tablets, e-readers and similar devices are subject to the same restrictions as cell phones.

In 12 states that have instituted hands-free laws, traffic fatalities have decreased by an average of 15 percent.

More information on Minnesota's new hands-free law can be found at the Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety.

## Carp being removed at Nokomis

In July, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) contractors began the process of removing carp from Lake Nokomis, using box nets that were tested at the site last fall.

This work is part of MPRB's Lake Nokomis Carp Management Research project, whose goal is to develop a long-term plan to manage invasive carp at Lake Nokomis.

Netting and removal of the carp occured during late-night and early-morning hours, due to the feeding schedule of carp. Corn bait was used, as it is eaten by very few fish other than carp; any sport fish or radio-tagged carp caught in the nets were returned to the lake.

During the removal, people might have seen an electro-fishing boat on the lake, or lights from flashlights and headlamps used on the boat and along the shore. Floats on the water marked box-net locations and ropes were used to tie off nets to shore. The carp removal continued through Thursday, July 25.

Carp removal is part of a

three-year project to improve Lake Nokomis' water quality by reducing the lake's population of this invasive species. Research conducted during the project will also guide the development of an Integrated Pest Management plan for the carp.

As a bottom-feeding fish, carp root through lake-bottom sediments for food, decreasing water clarity and releasing excess phosphorus into the water. This increase in nutrients diminishes water quality by stimulating algal blooms. Carp also eat and uproot vegetation, which can destroy a lake's aquatic plant community. Lakes with an overgrowth of carp typically have high phosphorus concentrations, low water clarity, and little to no aquatic plant growth.

The MPRB was awarded funding for a carp management research project in 2016. At that time, staff observations and preliminary estimates of the carp mass in Lake Nokomis, determined by electrofishing, indicated that the carp population had become excessive.

#### 2nd Annual Neighborhood Jam

Saturday, Sept. 28, 4-7:00 p.m., Wold Chamberlain American Legion Post 99, 5600 S 34th Ave.

Good news, the Neighborhood Jam is back for another year! Enjoy bands, beer, and shop for a bargain at our silent auction table. The silent auction features gift cards and other offerings from local businesses and gifts made by local artists.

(Nokomis East Neighborhood Association) 4313 E. 54th St., www.nokomiseast.org, 612-724-5652

We want to hear from you! Submit your press releases to:

News@LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

5139 34th Ave. S. #17097, Mpls MN 55417

neighbors.

Submit photos with one of the following themes:

- Celebrating the rich culture and diversity of our community.

them to submit the photo. If the people in the photo are in large crowds or off in the distance you do not need their permission.

5. Photographs must be in digital format. All digital files must be 25 megabytes or smaller and must be in one of the following formats (.jpg, .tiff, .png, .eps)

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) on the Minnehaha Park Area Regional Sewer Improvements Project. Hear when this project, which began on July 15, will start in the Nokomis East area. HCS will also host a speaker from The Family Housing Fund to give a brief primer on Accessory Dwelling Units and how residents can get one of their own. The HCS Committee will also discuss project

### ETS Neighborhood Promise Day

Saturday, Aug. 3, 2019, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., 4303 E. 54th St.

Nokomis East veterans nonprofit ETS is moving to a new home! Help them prepare with a community volunteer day, including a community clean-up and clothing drive. Bring gently used adult clothes to the ETS storefront or volunteer to help out at bit.ly/ETSDay. There will also be a dumpster provided by Republic Services for residents to dispose of unwanted items that cannot be reused or recycled.

Munch on hors d'oeuvres while you take in My Cousin Dallas and other acts, or dance the night away.

## Utility Box Wrap Photo Contest

Get your photo on a Nokomis Éast utility box! Submit up to 5 photo entries by Friday, July 26 to lauren.hazenson@ nokomiseast.org.

NENA is looking for great photos of people, places, and things in the Nokomis East area that will be used to decorate utility boxes throughout our neighborhood. A total of seven photos will be chosen by a panel of your

Our relationship to nature and the environment.

- Getting together with friends, family, and neighbors. Getting outside and play-

#### ing! **Contest rules:**

1. All photos are welcome whether they are from an experienced photographer or taken by a novice.

2. Photos must be of places in the Nokomis East area.

3. Entries must be original work.

4. If individuals or small groups of people are featured prominently in the photo you must have permission from

6. Photos must be at least 3000 pixels wide (if a horizontal image). Photos in landscape orientation work best.

Questions? Send them to Program and Communication Manager Lauren Hazenson at lauren.hazenson@nokomiseast. org.

#### Housing, Commercial, and Streetscape Committee

The August HCS Committee will feature an update from ideas for the coming year. The next meeting is on Wednesday, Aug. 7 from 6:30-8 p.m. in the NENA office (4313 E. 54th St.).

#### **Green Initiatives Committee**

In August, the Green Initiatives Committee will cover the Organic Recycling Outreach project, Adopt A Drain outreach, the Litter Be Gone community cleanup, and planning for an educational series. Stop by to check us out! The next meeting is on Wednesday, Aug. 14 from 6:30-8 p.m. in the NENA office (4313 E. 54th St.).

## Upcoming Meetings and Events:

08/06/19: National Night Out, Neighborhood-wide

08/07/19: NENA Housing, Commercial and Streetscape Committee, NENA Office, 6:30 p.m.

08/14/19: NENA Green Initiatives Committee, NENA Office, 6:30 p.m.

08/22/19: NENA Board Meeting, NENA Office, 7 p.m.

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Messenger 

August 2019

# 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 for the online Event Calendar.

# Longfellow Garden potluck supper

The Longfellow Garden Club invites all to a potluck supper on Wednesday Aug. 14 at 6:30 pm. for a late summer evening outdoors talking - and eating - all things garden. Share pictures and stories of pesky garden invaders, sluggish tomatoes or bumper crops. The event will be held in a member's garden near 3207 37th Ave. S. Minneapolis. Look for details posted at that location. Bring a folding chair (if convenient) and something to share such as a dish using your own or locally grown produce. Ice water and tea will be provided. Feel free to bring a plate/utensils. The goal is to have a zero waste event.

# Elder voices meets fourth Fridays

Elder Voices (Telling Our Stories) now meets the fourth Friday of each month which is July 26 and Aug. 23, 10-11:30 a.m. Elder Voices meets at Turtle Bread Company, 4205 34th St. at the corner of 42nd Ave. and 34th St. There will be time for people to tell or update their Elder Stories. There is childhood, there is adulthood and now is there elderhood? There will be a chance to weigh in on this topic.

## Audition for 'Ghost Play'

Classics Lost N Found Theater will hold auditions for "Ghosts of The Emerald Isle," a script of original ghost stories written by Noreen K. Brandt, to be directed by Lisa M.W. Phelps(both Nokomis residents). Auditions will be 7 to 9 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 13 and Wednesday, Aug. 14 at Faith Mennonite Church, 2720 E. 22nd St. in south Minneapolis. The show will be performed in October at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church, and needs 12 to 15 men/women various ages. Call (612)724-4539 for further information.

## Annual Community Family Fest Aug. 10

On Aug. 10, 2019, noon-5 p.m., attend a free, family-friendly event full of fun, entertainment, food and games for all ages at Thee House Uv Bethel, 4016 East 32nd St. in Minneapolis. This year's event will feature a Parade complete with drum lines/ bands, a Resource fair, Food Trucks and an Ice Cream truck, and many forms of art an entertainment such as, team dancing, live music, face painting, break dancing, bouncy houses, basketball games and much more. The Parade will begin promptly at noon and participates should be on Lake St. and 41st Ave. at 11 a.m.

## **Epworth kids events**

Epworth UMC (3207 37th Ave. S., Minneapolis) will host Weed & Water every Wednesday through Aug. 7, 9:30 - 11 a.m. for kids 0 to 8 and their caring adult. Each free session will include a story, craft, games and a snack. Vacation Bible School is set for Aug. 12-16, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., for children ages 5-11. Don't miss this action-packed week, where kids will explore the entire faith story, from the Garden of Eden to the New Jerusalem. Learn more about God's creation through stories, crafts, games, science and music. Each day will also include lunch. Information at https:// epworthmpls.org/vbs./

## ASL, beer and Bible

Epworth UMC hosts Beer & Bible on Wednesday, Aug. 14, 6:30-8 p.m. at Merlin's Rest for thosenew to the Bible, new to beer, or well-versed in both. Enjoy great discussion and fellowship —beer is optional. Free American Sign Language classes are offered every Sunday through Aug. 18, 12-2 p.m., Epworth UMC (3207 37th Ave S, Minneapolis.) taught by Epworth member Shirley. Email epworthechoes@gmail.com.

## NNO at Minnehaha Senior Living

Minnehaha Senior Living, an assisted living facility, along with Providence Place Care Center will host a community event for National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 6, 4-7 p.m. at 3733 23rd Ave. S. Enjoy free games, music, free frozen treats, and drawings for Twins Prizes.

## Dispose of household hazardous waste

Hennepin County organizes collection events throughout the year to give residents more convenient local disposal options for their household hazardous wastes. There's a neighborhood drop-offsite at South High School for Household Hazardous Waste on Aug. 9 and 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at South High School (enter off 21st Ave. S.), 3131 19th Ave. S. Minneapolis. Visit the website below to learn what can and can't be dropped off: https:// www.hennepin.us/residents/ recycling-hazardous-waste/collection-events.

## Share the River Gorge July 25

Share the River Gorge - a community event with free ice cream, free canoe rides, free rowing, live music by the Arborators (who perform in trees!), walking tours of the oak savanna restoration and more - will be held at 35th and W. River Parkway on Thursday, July 25, 6-8 p.m.Canoe rides provided by Wilde rness Inquiry and the National Park Service, and rowing with the Minneapolis Rowing Club will be staged from the sand flats below the stone steps at 34th and W. River Parkway. The event is sponsored by the Longfellow Community Council (LCC) Environment and River Gorge Committee. Ice cream will be provided by East Lake Dairy Queen. Expect to see lots of friends and neighbors celebrating the river and enjoying the national park in our neighborhood! For further information, contact Justin at LCC at 612-722-4529 or justin@longfellow.org.

# Entrepreneurship information session

WomenVenture offers a variety of different services to those planning to start or expand a for-profit business. Come learn about the programs WomenVenture offers at a free information session at the Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association office (4557 34th Ave S) on Tuesday, Aug. 20, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., or Monday, Sept. 23, 6-7 p.m. More at womenventure.org.

## Free class: finance your hustle

If you are a business owner looking for financing or have a side hustle that you want to grow, this conversation is for you. During this 3-hour session hosted by Women Venture, dive into your business goals and the hurdles you've run into, learn about aspects of a healthy business, and talk about attitudes toward taking on debt as a strategy for business growth. A session will be held on July 25, 5-8 p.m., Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (2001 Plymouth Avenue North). More at womenventure.org.

## **Rotary Club meets**

The South Minneapolis meets each Tuesdays at 7:15 a.m., Urban Ventures Center for Families, 3023 4th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55407. Learn more by emailing MplsSouthRotary@ gmail.com. The club was chartered in 1996 as a special project by the Minneapolis City of Lakes Rotary Club with the support of the Edina Rotary Club. It's the

Continued on page 15

New Contact Dutility Box Wrap Photo Contest See your photo turned into



## lasting neighborhood art

## Submit photos by July 26

Contest rules and entry form at nokomiseast.org/box-wrap-art-contest/

Street. Enjoy 5 different food vendors, art, a beer garden, music and more!



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## In Our Community

Continued from page 14

first Rotary club in the nation to be established in an inner city neighborhood. Located in the Central neighborhood, the club celebrates the cultural diversity of the area. The unique position as an urban club provides other Rotarians the opportunity to share in their vitality, diversity and growth.

## **Hook & Ladder shows**

Greg Koch & Rick Vito featuring The Koch-Marshall Trio will peform on Saturday, July 27 at The Hook & Ladder in Minneapolis. Mascot/Players Club recording artists, The Koch Marshall Trio — fronted by internationally revered, genre-melding, guitar fiend, Greg Koch — weave their powerful, organ fueled, super-electrifying sound with sharpened, artistic eloquence comparable to the likes of: Fleetwood Mac, John Mayall and Bonnie Raitt.

Also that night, The Belfast Cowboys will lean-in to the quieter, acoustic Van tunes for a beautifully intimate night in the Mission Room. With almost 100 Van Morrison songs in their repertoire and the full nine-piece band rocking to an upbeat, raucous crowd nearly every performance, many of the slower tempo, tender songs go unplayed. The night will feature tunes like, 'Sweet Thing', 'Bulbs', 'In the Garden', 'Beside You', and many more.

The Hook & Ladder is excited to announce the return of Wild Age on Friday, July 26, a Twin City psych-pop band, for the exclusive public showing their brand new music video and three new singles! With them, St. Paul singer-songwriter, A.P. Simpson and local 6-piece indie rock/dream pop/shoe-gaze band, Michael. Minneapolis psychpop outfit Wild Age specialize in breezy, hook-driven tunes that are as concise as they are catchy. Ever prolific, the band presents three brand-new singles: On Tv, The Mine, and Toe Tag three vignettes find primary songwriter McCoy Seitz parsing his thoughts on a range of topics from celebrity to gun violence to a soundtrack of familiar-but-fresh nostalgia rock provided by bandmates Blair Ransom, Matt Ahart, August Ogren, and Leng Moua.

Catch Trent Romens Presents: Calico Tango (album release) with special guests Trucker Funk featuring Toby Lee Marshall and Andy Boterman on Saturday, Aug. 10. A young artist on the rise with an electrifying stage presence and a deeply personal guitar-playing style, Trent Romens leads, Calico Tango, The group is backed by a collection of all-star Minneapolis musicians including, John Wright (Galactic Cowboy Orchestra), Toby Lee Marshall (Koch Marshall Trio), Alec Tackmann (Galactic Cowboy Orchestra), Brian Highhill

(Pavielle, Sonny Knight) & Matty Harris (Baker London) – a group destined to move the crowd.

Cosmic folk rock group, Rich Mattson & The Northstars, lead by singer-songwriter and record producer, Rich Mattson (The Glenrustles, Ol' Yeller, Tisdales, Bitter Spills, Sparta Sound) with Germaine Gemberling's hauntingly emotive, classic folk-county vocals will perform on Saturday, Aug. 17. Also taking the stage, midwestern emo-pop-rockers from Manhattan, Kansas, the Headlight Rivals.

## Submit your news

If you are an organization located in the *Longfellow Nokomis Messenger* delivery area, you can submit your event, special program, or noteworthy news to us for consideration. Submit your item by email to news@longfellownokomismessenger.com. The deadline for the next issue is Monday, Aug. 19 for the Aug. 29 issue.

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# Rebuild Repair Repair Recycle Messence

How wildlife-friendly is your yard?

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Hiawatha resident Daniel Schultz is a hard working real estate broker by day, helping people buy and sell their homes through the company he founded: Flourish Realty. After hours, he is a dedicated gardener and Master Naturalist with a passion for enhancing urban wildlife in Minneapolis – starting in his own back yard.

Schultz and his family began gardening seriously years ago, and got their yard certified as a wildlife habitat through the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) in 2010. He said, "I knew I wanted to be part of a community project after that happened. It made sense to be part of an urban wildlife corridor, and not just a stand-alone property."

Now the coordinator of the Longfellow Community Wildlife Habitat Project, Schultz is encouraging others to do the same. He said, "So far, we have 56 home gardens certified through the NWF, and we need 150 to be designated a Certified Community Wildlife Habitat. We have three schools certified (four are required), and three businesses (four are required.) We're making progress."

Why are Schultz and others working so hard to make this happen? Because whether pollinator gardens are large or small, they provide habitat for threatened wildlife – and the greater Longfellow neighborhood is in a central migration corridor for monarchs and birds.

There are only four elements required for a garden to be certified by the NWF. The garden must provide food in the form of seeds and nectar. Clean water must be available. There must be plants to provide cover, and a place to raise young. Schultz said, "We're trying

Schultz said, "We're trying to demonstrate how easy it is to adopt more wildlife friendly



Daniel Schultz, coordinator of the Longfellow Community Wildlife Habitat Project, said, "This program saves me, because it tells a hopeful story." The project is an effort to certify the neighborhood of Greater Longfellow as a wildlife habitat under the National Wildlife Federation's Garden for Wildlife program. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin) Cup Plant is a native species that can reach 12' tall. Its leaves connect at the stem to form a cup shape, which holds water for birds and insects. Having Cup Plant in a home garden meets the requirement for providing water for wildlife, necessary for NWF certification. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

practices. Head over to Mother Earth Gardens and buy a few native plants to get started. Consider choosing plants that have a diversity of bloom times, and see what kinds of birds, insects, and animals your yard can attract. Put up a bird bath or a nesting box. It doesn't take much to make a positive difference."

With more than half the world's land mass now used for farming or grazing, the potential for pollinator diversity in urban areas is steadily growing.

Schultz said, "One example is the Minnesota state bee, called the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee. According to U of M entomologists, it used to be widespread across the state – but now is making its last stand in the backyards of Minneapolis and St. Paul where native and other friendly pollinator plants offer what it needs to survive."

To learn more about the Longfellow Community Wildlife

Habitat Project, visit www.longfellowwildlife.blogspot.com. The cost for certification is a \$20 donation to the National Wildlife Federation. Schultz and members of his team are available to help with backyard consultations or mentorships for new gardeners. Call or text Daniel Schultz at 612-408-0233 or send an email to dschultz6@comcast.net.

## **4 COMPONENTS**

of a Certified Wildlife Habitat:

1) Food – a habitat needs three of the following types of plants or supplemental feeders: seeds from a plant, berries, nectar, foliage/twigs, nuts, fruits, or sap.

2) Water – provide clean water for wildlife to drink and bathe from a birdbath, lake, stream, seasonal pool, water garden/ pond, river, butterfly puddling area, rain garden, or spring.

3) Cover – provide at least two places to find shelter from the weather and predators: wooded area, bramble patch, ground cover, rock pile or wall, rosting box, dense shrubs or thicket, evergreens, brush or log pile, burrow, meadow or prairie, water garden or pond.

4) A Place to Raise Young – provide at least two places for wildlife to engage in courtship behavior, mate, and then bear and raise their young: mature trees, meadow or prairie, nesting box, wetland, host plants for caterpillars, dead trees or snags, dense shrubs or a thicket, water garden or pond, or burrow.



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