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Attend Keewaydin School groundbreaking June 4

Pool, part of playground to remain where they are now

By TESHAM. CHRISTENSEN

The community is invited to celebrate the groundbreaking of the Keewaydin School expansion on Monday, June 4, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

With this \$16 million addition, Keewaydin, the upper campus of Lake Nokomis Community School, will double its space.

The program will last about an hour. Following several speakers, Keewaydin and Weenonah students will present their time capsule project, and the seventh and eighth graders will unveil their legacy program.

POOL AND PART OF PLAYGROUND TO REMAIN

The addition will be placed to the south of the existing building, but it will not go as far south as it was initially presented in January. This means that the K-5 playground structure on the west side and the wading pool will remain in place for the foreseeable future.

Given the remaining 20-year lifespan of the pool and the \$500,000 tab of replacing it, the steering committee worked hard to reduce the foot plan of the building in order to save it, said Doug Walter, who represented the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) on the construction steering committee.

However, it is not yet known whether the pool can be used during the construction project this summer. The pool's location is about 30 feet from the south edge of the new addition, and will be very close to the construction staging area, stated Walter. A six-to-



The design of Keewaydin School has evolved since the first concepts were presented in January. Here is the most recent version. It is not likely to change much now before construction.

eight-foot-high fence would need to be erected around it during construction, and to provide a pathway to the pool. Because of its close proximity to the construction area, the pool will need frequent cleaning. The cost to do this work is not yet known, but estimates range from \$40,000 to \$230,000 to save the pool.

"It is the district's intent to enable the playground and pool to remain open during construction," said MPS Capital Planning and Project Development Manager David Richards.

"This will likely be relatively easy with the playground, as it is closer to the street and probably less affected by adjacent construction activities," Richards added. "A

greater tolerance for uncertainty may be necessary regarding keeping the pool open, as Park Board staff will need to evaluate the cumulative effect of construction activities on pool ambiance, pool use, pool maintenance and other operational factors."

The swings, tot lot and basketball court will be removed, but leaving the K-5 playground equipment and wading pool in place will give the park department time to obtain funds for moving the pool and playground to its own property on the east side of the school.

The parks department has been working with the community to create a new master plan for Keewaydin Park. Following public comment in March, the plan was modified. This updated plan will be presented to the public sometime in July, and then go to the Park Board for approval.

"Prior to school being out for the summer, we will also be conducting a parking capacity analysis to address concerns raised by a few residents about how the change in the park may impact parking in the neighborhood," said Minneapolis Park

Board Planner Jennifer Ringold.

Park staff also plan to solicit input prior to the larger community meeting regarding the types of playground equipment community members would like to see at the park.

One of the ballfields will likely serve as a staging area during the construction project. It will need to be rebuilt afterwards.

DETAILS ON NEW BUILDING

With the 42,000-square-foot addition and changes to the existing school structure, there will be eight new classrooms, a music room, two computer labs, lunch room, kitchen, media center and a full-size gymnasium with 100 seats, pointed out Keewaydin Principal Jane Ellis. The new auditorium will seat over 300 adults in tiered seats.

The entire project is on schedule, noted Ellis.

Bids on the foundation package were due May 31, and will be reviewed by the school board on June 12. Construction will begin 10 days later.

"It is the district's intent to enable the playground and pool to remain open during construction."

- MPS Capital Planning and Project Development Manager David Richards

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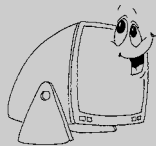
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Sabo Bridge to reopen June 4

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

Minneapolis hopes to reopen the Martin Olav Sabo Bridge on June 4, 2012, three months after a pair of cables fell onto the bridge deck forcing its closure.

A permanent fix has not yet been identified for the five-year-old bridge, but city officials and engineers believe that with some additional shoring the bridge will be safe for pedestrians and bicyclists.

"It's really great news," said Midtown Greenway Executive Director Soren Jensen.

The bridge should be reopened in time for the Greenway Glow, Northern Spark Festival and Urban Assault Ride during the weekend of June 9 to 10. "It's wonderful timing," said Jensen.

Jensen commutes via bicycle from his Longfellow home to the Midtown Greenway office each day. Bike traffic has been picking up, he noted, and the more bicyclists there are at the Hiawatha and 28th Street crossing the more dangerous it becomes. "It's a challenge as a driver," he noted. "You have to really crane your neck to look back for bikers [when making a turn]."

"The sooner we can get traffic back up on the Sabo Bridge the safer it will be for everyone."

According to Minneapolis Public Works deputy director Heidi Hamilton, there are several



Before the Sabo Bridge is reopened, additional supports will be added. City officials hope to reopen the bridge on June 4. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

items that need to be done before the bridge can be reopened. First, the temporary shoring now in place needs to be adjusted. Then the tension on the cables attached to the pylon off the backside need to be adjusted. The cables that fell are still lying on the bridge and will need to be removed and secured. Part of this work will be done by city staff and part by contractors.

The measuring devices in-

stalled in mid-April to track wind speed, duration of wind and temperature during wind events, as well as stress range movement, amplitude and frequency of cable vibrations experienced by the bridge during wind events have been removed. The city has not yet received either the results of these tests or the metallurgical analysis of the broken plates being done by Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. The information

from these two studies will become the basis for the permanent repair plan, which may force a closure of the bridge again in the future.

The city of Minneapolis has spent \$420,000 to deal with the bridge failure. Of that, \$110,000 has been paid to outside vendors for items such as steel, fencing and shoring; \$60,000 to engineering consultants; and \$250,000 for internal staff and equipment costs. On top of that, the city and Hennepin County are splitting the \$150,000 fee charged by Chicago-based firm Wiss, Janney and Elstner (WJE), which is investigating why the anchor plates holding the cables fractured.

Hamilton pointed out that the city's attorneys are reviewing what sort of recourse Minneapolis can take, if any, to recoup the costs of dealing with the bridge failure.

Upcoming bicycle events planned for Bike Walk Week

The Sabo Bridge will reopen just in time for the major events of Bike Walk Week, June 2 to 10, 2012. For more, see bikewalk-week.org. Weekend highlights include:

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New Longfellow gardening program aims to give ownership to 'invisible' residents

By JAN WILLMS

Invisible. That is the feeling one man described when he was asked how he liked living in Longfellow.

He is one of 63 residents who currently live at the Volunteers of America Residential Reentry Center (VOARRC) on Lake Street.

The facility provides services for men who are allowed to complete part of their prison sentences in the community. But transitioning back into the community is no easy task. Cut off from family and friends, it is easy to forget the social skills needed to function smoothly in day-to-day life. It is hard to forge new relationships. It is easy to become invisible.

A grant that will provide an opportunity for VOARRC residents to learn about gardening and growing and cooking food may change those feelings of not belonging.

And Mark, one of the residents, thinks it will all lead to better things. (For this article, only first names are used and no photos of the residents are published, to protect their identities.)

"I get the sense people will engage those of us here in VOARRC who would like to reintegrate into the community," he said. Mark said that when he was young, he did some gardening at his grandparents' farm and later in life, he and his wife had a home garden.

"I'm looking forward to learning more about it," he said. "Food is so expensive, and maybe down the road I can have a garden. It's also good exercise, and I find it therapeutic."

Mark said he is looking forward to helping with the community dinners at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, and he hopes the skills he learns could help him get a job in a nursery or garden center.

"Most of all, I'm excited about the interaction we will have with some of the people, and I'm excited about the chance to give something back to the community," Mark added.

The seeds of an idea to help the men rejoin society were planted when Joanna Solotaroff heard at a meeting from one of the residents that he felt like he was unseen in the Longfellow area. A light bulb went off in her head. She decided something had to be done to make the VOARRC residents feel more a part of their neighborhood.

Solotaroff, a community organizer at the Longfellow Community Council, had become friends with Amy Moore, social services coordinator for VOARRC.

"We started talking about how we could work together," Moore recalled. "Our agency has a community relations board that meets four times a year, and we invite our neighbors, agencies in the community and anyone with an interest in what we are



A grant that will provide an opportunity for Volunteers of America Residential Reentry Center residents to learn about gardening and growing and cooking food may change feelings of not belonging in the Longfellow community.

doing to come to these meetings. Joanna came, and when she heard this resident's response, she wanted to start right away figuring out how to get these guys involved in the community.

"Community engagement is one of my tasks," Moore explained. "We hear from offenders about a lack of job skills and training."

Moore said that statistics have shown that when people are released in the community but eventually end up going back to prison, 90 per cent of those revoked don't have a job.

The Bureau of Justice has shown that unemployment and lack of job skills is the biggest barrier to successful reentry into the community.

Moore and Solotaroff started brainstorming to see what they could do to make the offenders a part of Longfellow.

"We talked to Ruhel Islam, the owner of Gandhi Mahal. We sat down with him and said we would like to work with him on a project," Moore related. She said Islam is active in the Longfellow area and concerned both about the business community and his fellow citizens.

He suggested gardening, since people always need food and need to know how to grow food.

"We looked to him, because he is the one who talks about sustainable food sources, and he knows what he is doing," Moore said. He also said he could provide cooking lessons in his kitchen. They kept pursuing ideas.

"Joanna was the mastermind, and she did all the legwork. She happened on this great opportunity," Moore said. The opportunity came in the form of a grant through the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) from the University of Minnesota.

"We started kicking around ideas," Moore related. "We researched different kinds of gardens. Urban farming is really important now, on the cutting edge. People will need skilled helpers."

She said the Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church regularly holds dinners, and they decided that the residents could help cook those dinners. They also enlisted Harvest Moon Backyard Farmers, an organization that installs gardens and provides garden coaching, to assist with teaching gardening skills.

The final result of all the ideas culminated in a \$10,000 grant from CURA that will allow up to 12 incarcerated individuals living in Longfellow to participate in an eight-month gardening or computer training program which will allow them to gain job skills and become involved in the Longfellow community and experience a supportive learning environment.

Partners in the grant are VOARRC, Longfellow Community Council, Free Geek Twin Cities, Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, Harvest Moon Backyard Farmers, Gandhi Mahal Restaurant and Minnehaha Avenue Community Garden.

Continued on page 5





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Viewpoints

Mary Bode suggests Christ Lutheran Church as a good place to take visitors. She writes: "Did you know Christ Lutheran is a National Historic Landmark, one of only 24 with this designation."

Bode was one the readers I've heard from recently in the continuing quest to compile a list of places to take visitors. Many readers probably know about this church, designed by Eero Saarinen, and located at 3244 34th Avenue S. But few probably know that there are guided tours of the church each month. The tours are offered on the second Sunday of each month at 11 a.m.

Desneige Emmons recommends Lock and Dam No. 1. "You can enjoy great close-up views of the locks and the river, learn from the many interpretive signs posted there, and sometimes get to see the locks in action." Located near 46th Street, this lock and dam gets you up close to the river. "It's also a good place for bird watching (peregrine falcons nest there)," notes our reader.

Betty Parker has a number of suggestions for places to take visitors including the new library on Lake Street and the corner of 42nd Street and 38th Avenue with the Riverview Theater and the Riverview Cafe. A ride on the light rail line is another of her ideas. There are many more possibilities. She concludes, because there are "so many other nice things around us."

Have another idea? There's still room for additional suggestions about places to take visitors around Longfel-



Hiawatha Notebook

By TOM GILSEMAN

More ideas for summer visitors

low and Nokomis. You can write to me at the email address which appears at the end of this column or write to me in care of the Messenger.



Like to know more about the history of our neighborhoods? Two walking tours in June offer you a chance to do that. The first of the tours is Saturday, June 2 and will highlight the role Lake Street played as a center for new immigrants, especially in the early 20th century. The second tour is Sunday, June 24 and will focus on the area around Minnehaha and Lake.

These tours are intended as a preview of the "Museum of the Streets" project which will be unveiled later in the summer. The "museum" will consist of plaques installed all along Lake Street highlighting local history.

The first tour, "Midtown: A place to call home," will look at the small businesses and cultural organizations established on and near the mid-section of Lake Street. Joyce Wisdom and Shari Albers are the tour guides for this walk, which will begin at the corner of Lake Street

and Elliot Avenue. Cost is \$5. You can pre-register at the Preserve Minneapolis website: www.preserveminneapolis.org.

The second tour, "27th and Lake: Industry and transportation," will look at the commercial and retail center which grew up around this intersection. Included: Minneapolis-Moline, Toro and Freeman's Department Store. Eric Hart and Cara Letofsky are the

guides for this tour. Again, cost is \$5 and you can pre-register at Preserve Minneapolis website.

The organization behind the Lake Street history project is the Lake Street Council, the longtime advocate or businesses, institutions and residents along the street (www.lakestreetcouncil.org). The council is using the model developed by a company called Museum in the Streets. Based in Maine, the firm partners with communities and community groups. You can find out more at: www.museuminthestreets.com.

There are 56 sites along the "Museum in the Streets: Lake Street" tour. They stretch from Lake Calhoun to the Mississippi River. If all goes according to plan, the plaques marking each site will be in place by August. You're invited to a big party when the work is done.



(Tom Gilseman has been writing a column for the Messenger since 1997. Contact him via email at tomgilseman@gmail.com. You can also write to him via the Messenger. Or give him a call at (612) 723-0259.)

Nokomis East Garage Sale, June 23

The deadline to register for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Yard and Garage Sale is Monday, June 11. This will be NENA's third annual sale, which had over 80 sales last year. It's a great way to get rid of your "extra stuff" and make a bit of money in the process.

NENA will do the advertising for the event, and put all registered sales on a map and address list with highlighted sale items. The map will be available online and at select neighborhood businesses a few days before the sale. To be on the map, you must be located south of Minnehaha Parkway and East of Cedar Avenue. Being listed and on the map is free.

All you need to do is register, and then organize your own sale. You can download the registration form from our website: www.nokomiseast.org and return it to the NENA office at 3000 East 50th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55417. Or, you can call the NENA office at (612) 724-5652, and we'll send you a form.

This will be a rain or shine event, advertised from 8 AM until 4 PM. You can set your own hours and extra days beyond the advertised time.

NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

By Rita Ulrich and Doug Walter

Neighborhood Garage Sale and National Night Out

For the best results, ask your neighbors to participate in the sale – the more addresses listed on a block, the more shoppers it will draw.

Start Planning for National Night Out

The 29th annual National Night Out is coming, Tuesday, August 7th. Last year, there were 1175 events in Minneapolis, with 60,500 people participating on 2500 blocks. That kind of participation placed Minneapolis first in the nation for cities with 300,000 or more residents.

Whether it's your first time planning an event or you're continuing a tradition on your block, bookmark and visit www.minneapolismn.gov/nno. From there you can download flyers and register your event. You

can also call 311 to register your NNO party.

If you want to block your street for a party, you can do so for free through July 24. Note that not all streets can be blocked. From July 25 through August 2, there is a \$100 fee. After August 2nd no applications for blocking off a street

will be accepted by the City.

Keewaydin School Expansion Update

At the May 9 Construction Steering Committee meeting, members working with MPS Facilities and the architects finalized a set of "alternate add-ons" or upgrades to the "base" building bid package.

When the building bid is awarded to a general contractor in July, the final cost numbers will determine if any of these alts will be added to the project. If the contractor comes in below budget, as is expected, alternate features will be added in order of priority until the money is spent.

This was the final scheduled meeting of the Steering Committee after five months of planning and negotiating. RSP Architects is now focused on getting the final building design details ready for the bid package. Construction on the foundations will start around June 13.



At the May 9 Construction Steering Committee meeting for the Keewaydin School expansion, members working with MPS Facilities and the architects finalized a set of "alternate add-ons" or upgrades to the "base" building bid package.

Upcoming NENA Meetings and Events

Livability Working Group: 6:30 PM, Monday, June 11, at NENA, 3000 East 50th St.

Nokomis East Neighborhood Garage Sale 8 AM – 4 PM. Register by June 11 by calling 724-5652 or download the form online at: www.nokomiseast.org

NENA Board: 7 PM, Thursday, June 28 at NENA.

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

If you would like to join us as a volunteer, contact the NENA Office at (612) 724-5652 or email nenan@nokomiseast.org.

Met Council grants awarded to Hiawatha, Central Corridor light rail for growth

By JANE MCCLURE

Projects along the Hiawatha and Central Corridor light rail line are among those that shared \$15.4 million in Metropolitan Council grant funding April 25. Seventeen grants were awarded, for projects in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Anoka, Apple Valley, Eden Prairie, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Richfield and St. Louis Park. The funds are for projects along transit lines. Grants range from \$2.7 million to \$40,000.

The projects were chosen from 28 applicants. Projects chosen are along current and future transit corridors, including Northstar commuter rail line, Hiawatha light rail transit

(LRT), proposed Southwest Corridor LRT, and bus rapid transit corridors eyed for West Seventh Street, Cedar Avenue and Interstate 35W. The grants are a new Metropolitan Council Transit Oriented Development (TOD) fund program. The grants made April 25 are the first round of awards, from a total funding pool of \$32 million. A second round of awards will be made later this year.

"Investing in development and job growth along corridors is a council priority as we work toward our goal of a 21st Century transit system," said Metropolitan Council Chair Susan Haigh. "As we continue to build out the region's transit system,

we need to ensure that transit and development investments go hand-in-hand. That will help to not only ensure the success of transit investments, but also to improve connections between home, work and school so people can get where they need to go."

Metropolitan Council indicated that the \$15.4 million will help create about 1,000 construction jobs and another 1,000 full-and part-time jobs, 1,246 housing units, and leverage nearly \$272 million more in other public and private investment. The investment could also increase the market value of properties by nearly \$400 million.

"This is really an exciting time," said Haigh. "We have transit corridors in planning and under construction, and now we're working on the land use piece that will help to ensure the success of those investments, as well as the future of our region and economy."

In Minneapolis one project that will receive \$318,000 is Spirit on Lake, at 13th Avenue South and East Lake Street. It is a four-story 46-unit affordable housing development. It is planned by Everwood development LLC and Powderhorn Residents Group. It will also include about 4,000 square feet of commercial space. It has an estimated market value of \$.5 mil-

lion and will be marketed to the aging gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. It is near the Hiawatha light rail line in Phillips neighborhood.

The lone Central Corridor project funded in Minneapolis is in Prospect Park, where \$2.7 million was awarded to the City of Minneapolis and Cornerstone Group. A former sheet metal fabrication plant will be purchased, torn down and redeveloped for mixed-use, near the Prospect Park/29th Avenue LRT station. This project would include 250 units of rental housing. The grant would be used to gain site control and clean up the property.

Gardening program

Continued from page 3

The residents began their gardening experience May 25. Each received a water bottle and a gardening book. Krista Leraas of Harvest Farms is teaching the selected residents on Mondays and Thursdays. They have a workbook to follow, "How to Grow More Vegetables: And Fruits, Nuts, Berries, Grains and Other Crops Than You Ever Thought Possible on Less Land Than You Can Imagine," describing in detail some of the gardening processes they will be using.

"Krista is the best!" Moore exclaimed. Leraas has a master's degree in culture, ecology and sustainable community. She not only plans on teaching the residents how to garden, but will explain the reasons for the gardening steps she recommends.

"Krista will spend 90 minutes with them twice a week," Moore said. "About an hour will be hands-on gardening and the rest of the time will be spent explaining the process, such as why we turn the soil, for example."

She added that the book provided tells about the use of compost, nutrients, how to water and use fertilizer.

The garden spots have been leased from Minnehaha Avenue Community Gardens.

"By the end of the 22-week growing season, the participants will have read the entire book and completed at least 10-12 weeks of hands-on gardening," Moore said. "They will have worked on at least one community dinner and taken one cooking class."

The residents can also volunteer a couple days a week at Free Geek Twin Cities, a non-profit in the Seward neighborhood that provides volunteers the guidance and training they need to use, build and understand computers.

"They take about 10 recycled computers, take eight apart and use for parts and put together two good computers with the others," Moore said. "At the end of the project, each resident will receive a computer."

Graduates of the program offered through the grant will receive a certificate stating they are trained in sustainable food, plant and herb growing, weather and soil management.

"They can substitute the work they have done for recent job history, we hope," Moore said. There is a small stipend and transportation funds

through the grant, although participants are able to walk to the Minnehaha Gardens and Free Geek Twin Cities.

"They will be supervised at Free Geek Twin Cities, and Krista or I will supervise them at the gardens," Moore said. "Accountability is the key."

So what all started with a comment about feeling invisible

in the community has mushroomed into a project that is offering individuals in transition a chance to join the community.

"I believe the benefits of a program such as this are immeasurable," Moore said. "It gives the residents job skills, something to bring back to their parents or kids when they are released and community involve-

ment. I hope this is a mold for future partnerships, and I think this grant may spark something other communities can look to."

Looking ahead to harvest time, Moore said it would be wonderful if some vegetables are derived out of the garden.

"But it's a great thing, even if we just get one tomato," she added.

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Towards a more sustainable future

Transition Longfellow members focus on their own habits and homes. From there, they hope change spreads through the community

By **TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN**

Longfellow resident Annette Rondano knows that it is easy to get overwhelmed by big environmental issues such as the rising cost of fuel and oil depletion.

But that's why she and the other members of Transition Longfellow are focusing on changes they can make at home and in their community, rather than on big policy changes.

"What's important is for people not to get overwhelmed

by sustainability options, to take them one step at a time, and to ask for help," Rondano said. "Between local businesses helping with sustainability goals like solar installations, gardens, rain water capture, and composting, and the expertise of your neighbors, there is ample opportunity to start somewhere and to get help.

"Drop by drop the bucket fills even in a rainstorm."

MEETINGS, MOVIES, CHALLENGES

Transition Longfellow meets on the first Saturday of each month, 10:30 a.m. to noon at Riverview Wine Bar. During these monthly meetings, attendees share tips and help for urban gardening and household chores, among other things.

Continued on page 9



Bruce Stahlberg points out the various types of solar cookers available during a class sponsored by Transition Longfellow on Saturday, May 19, 2012. The solar cooker in the front is made by the Solar Oven Society, which is owned by Mike and Martha Port of the Longfellow neighborhood. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

ABOUT TRANSITION LONGFELLOW

- The group formed after the November 2010 Transition Town conference at South High School, which featured guest speaker Richard Heinberg of the Post Carbon Institute talking about the challenge of peak oil, climate change and economic instability.
- Transition Longfellow is interested in steps "we can take as individuals and as a community to smooth the inevitable transition from fossil fuels, which will effect how we work, travel, heat our homes and grow our food," according to its Facebook page.

Goals of the group:

- Educate people about the challenges of global warming and the end of cheap fossil fuels.

- Facilitate the creation of a positive vision of the future, one that values and protects our natural resources as well as all people in our community, regardless of age, ability or income.
- Support individual, business and community change efforts through teaching and learning, sharing and role modeling, support and encouragement.
- Promote available resources to help individuals and businesses reduce their carbon footprint while meeting their needs for food, heat, energy, transportation, etc.
- Gather additional resources to share with the community in order to increase resilience.

Activities:

- Helping Jacob's Well church with its hard-to-recycle plastics collection effort in the summer when the church was not in session.

- Touring Minnesota's first green cemetery
- Touring neighborhood fruit and vegetable gardens
- Conducting a presentation at Bethany Lutheran Church about the transition movement. Group members are available to do more of these presentations for churches and other groups.
- Staffing a table at neighborhood events and at the Seward Sustainability Fair
- Holding classes on solar cookers
- Co-facilitating a discussion on transition towns at the Alliance for Sustainability Community Conference
- Petitioning the Minneapolis City Council to develop an energy descent action plan. An energy descent action plan looks at how city services will be impacted by rising fossil fuel prices and then plans for how those services can be delivered in a way that minimizes use of fossil fuel.



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Keewaydin school

Continued from page 1

Instead of drilling 90 feet into the ground, the school district has decided to use a Geopier foundation system, according to MSP employee Donald Bielinski. Geopier is a ground improvement method using soil replacement technology to strengthen soft soil with stiff rock columns constructed by heavy equipment crowd and vertical impact rams that prestrains and prepresses the soil.

The second bid phase will include the rest of the building. Those bids will be approved by the school board in late July/early August.

Richards believes this is a desirable time to solicit bids for a construction project because the construction market has been depressed for so long. "We're hoping that will enhance competition and interest," he said.

One of the exciting things about this new addition is that it will not only be great for students, but the community will be able to use it, as well, pointed out Walter. The auditorium, gym,

and kitchenette can be accessed by the public from the south side of the building. While there is a community building at Keewaydin Park, it has only a multi-use space and not the full-size gym the addition will include.

At its final meeting in May, the Keewaydin steering committee discussed whether to widen the lobby area between the old and the new sections of the building by two feet in order to create a larger gathering space, noted Walter. In the current plan 18 feet is allocated for the lobby. The desire to widen it has been discussed since the school plan was first unveiled. However, because bids have already been solicited for the foundation part of the construction project, the group decided to leave things as they are, said Walter.

Members also considered whether to erect a motorized partition in the gymnasium now or later. Because the school currently has only one gym teacher, the group decided to hold off spending money on the folding partition now.

The committee also prioritized items it would like to add back onto the plan if bids come in favorably later this summer. Among the items on the list are display cases, signs, benches and

floor materials.

"The original goals we started with were the goals we ended with," Keewaydin Principal Jane Ellis said, adding that the steering committee was a cohesive group throughout the entire planning process.

"It's been a pleasure to be part of such an amazing group of dedicated parents, MPS staff, and community members," said steering committee member Jean Hutchinson Legler. "RSP was great to work with. Kudos also to NENA for their support. As a parent and community member, it is awesome to see MPS invest in Lake Nokomis Community School - Keewaydin Campus."

Walter pointed out that with this project, Minneapolis Public Schools is investing in the first new facility in south Minneapolis in decades. When the project is complete next year, "This area will have one of the nicest middle schools anywhere in south Minneapolis," said Walter.

The effort of staff and community members was recognized by NENA during its annual meeting in May. It presented the Best of Nokomis Award to Lake Nokomis parents and staff.

"It was very nice to have our parents and staff recognized," said Ellis.

Simple Gifts Piano Recital



Seventeen boys, girls, adults and teachers, ages 6-60, performed songs from the Simply Music repertoire, including contemporary, classical, gospel, blues, accompaniments, sing-a-longs and original compositions at Nokomis Square Cooperative on May 4. Some sing-a-long selections included the "Star Spangled Banner," "Auld Lang Syne," "Amazing Grace," and "She'll Be Comin' 'Round the Mountain." Simple Gifts Piano is owned by Certified Simply Music piano teacher, Shanta Hejma-di. Her students have studied from a few months to three years.

Sabo Bridge

Continued from page 2

GREENWAY GLOW

- Saturday, June 9, 9 p.m. to midnight, Midtown Greenway, Minneapolis
- Registration: \$25 before May 25/\$30 after; raise \$75 or more in pledges

This illuminated biking extravaganza will take participants on a brief tour of Northern Spark art installations in the corridor, including a rest stop at the Vine Arts Center and a post-ride party at Intermedia Arts. Glow riders will enjoy free food from Bryant Lake Bowl, and complimentary New Belgium beer. This money will help support the projects and programs of the Midtown Greenway Coalition, which include the Trail Watch safety patrol, Greenspace and Artspace committees, outreach to communities surrounding the Greenway, and working with developers to encourage Greenway-friendly buildings. The ride starts from the area in front of the Midtown Free-wheel Bike Center. For more information and to sign up, visit <http://www.midtown-greenway.org/Greenway-Glow2012.html>

NORTHERN SPARK FESTIVAL

- Dusk on Saturday, June 9 until dawn on Sunday, June 10
 - Free to the public
- The Northern Spark festival brings artists of all genres together for an entire-night celebration. Masters of interactive media, film, music, perform-

ance, comedy, public sculpture, light, DIY technology and more will display their work and engage visitors throughout the city of Minneapolis. See more at <http://2012.northernspark.org/>

URBAN ASSAULT RIDE

- June 10, 9 a.m., meet at Peace Coffee, 2801 21st Ave. South, Minneapolis
- Register: \$30 -60/person; on-line registration closes June 8 at 4pm

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What's New...

By COLETTE MULLENMASTER

The Waters of Minnehaha celebrates one year in Nokomis!

1. What do you find most attractive about being located in South Minneapolis?

This community enjoys a residential feel in an urban setting. The Waters of Minnehaha appreciates that it is close to Lake Nokomis, Minnehaha Falls, local shopping and dining, and the light rail as our residents are typically from this area.

2. As you look around Nokomis and Longfellow, who is it that would be most interested in what The Waters has to offer?

Many people want to stay in the area they grew up in or stay close to existing family. It's been great for the area since it lacked a senior community for so long. In one sense, The Waters of Minnehaha is a continuation of our community, too. The Waters is actually the newest senior living community in South Minneapolis that offers a full spectrum of assisted living to fit various lifestyles and needs. Our neighbor and affiliate, Providence Place, offers skilled nursing, short term rehabilitation and memory care. Between the two, Providence Place and The Waters of Minnehaha, South Minneapolis residents have more options than ever to keep them in the neighborhood they love so dearly.

3. Going forward, how do you see your business growing/changing in this community?

The Waters of Minnehaha wants to provide gracious living and genuine caring to those we serve. We are coming up on our one year anniversary and have already begun to foster many relationships with surrounding businesses and organizations in this community. We feel that these relationships can continue to expand and grow as we move forward.



Emily Rinaldi and Niki Dwyer, Staff

The Waters of Minnehaha offers a variety of services available to residents. Activities may include but are not limited to yoga, wisdom circles, church service, massage, support groups, arts and crafts, walking club, card groups, and many more.

Enjoy the following relaxation techniques which are a part of the yoga series practiced at The Waters of Minnehaha.

Palming the Eyes

Place hands in front of you

Close eyes

Rub your hands together as fast as you can for at least 30 seconds creating friction

Remember to breath in and out through the nose while doing this Place hands over your closed eyes

When your hands begin to return to room temperature place your hands in your lap, and slowly open your eyes.

Interlaced fingers palms forward stretch

Interlace fingers

Calmly rotate palms forward

Push hands forward as though you are pushing into a wall

*Remember to keep your shoulders and jaw relaxed

Release hands to your sides

Seated Spinal Twist

Sit in a comfortable seated position, sitting tall, legs together

Begin place your left hand on your right knee, with your right hand on the arm of the chair slowly twist your body to the right.

Keep your feet grounded and hips pointing forward

Inhale and Exhale deeply through the nose 3-5 times.

Remember to keep your shoulders, arms, and jaw relaxed

Slowly return to center.

Repeat with the other side.

Go to www.longfellowmessenger.com for the link to The Waters of Minnehaha.

The Waters of Minnehaha • 3733 23rd Avenue South • Minneapolis, MN • 612-208-8986

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Give a year of full-time service to grow our communities and your own career. Apply today to become a tutor! Go to www.MinnesotaMathCorps.org. Also, contact Libby O'Connell (Elizabeth.oconnell@mpls.k12.mn.us) at Sanford Middle School with questions or if you plan on applying.

Next deadline:

June 18

Next issue:

June 28

For more information

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79th Svenskarnas Dag – Sunday, June 24 at Minnehaha Falls Park



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Recently, I attended a book reading by Lorna Landvik, local best selling author. I like her because she's warm and friendly, and very funny. The event was held at the Nokomis Lutheran Church, and I sat with a bunch of Lutheran ladies in the basement of the church. They welcomed me to the table and a lady named Sherry introduced me to the other ladies, some of whom read this column. It's always great to meet readers and hear what they have to say. Evidently there are a lot of wives who struggle to get projects done.

When I left there, I had an appointment lined up to buy a car. Of course, Mr. M. was going to come along and make sure I was getting a good car at a good price. All I had to do was jump in the car and drive five minutes to our old white house. I lost the car! You know how every block looks the same when you can't



The Old White House

By SHERRI MOORE

Meeting readers, losing cars and switching linens

find the car? I called Mr. M. to tell him I would be late, and be ready to go when I got there.

After ten minutes of wondering aimlessly, like a lost soul, I decided to backtrack to the church and try again. I kept repeating to myself, "How in @#& could you lose Mr. M.'s car?"

I wondered if he'd divorce me for over it. This was as bad as dumping an entire case of his favorite imported beer down the drain. This was as bad as making an appointment with a marriage counselor during the Stanley Cup game. I wondered if he'd kill me

and make it look like an accident.

On my second try of retracing my steps, I finally found it, right where it was supposed to be.

I called him right away, so I could spare myself his angst when I got home. He was grateful I called with good news. He sounded extremely relieved.

As I had become unglued, and questioned my sanity, it was necessary for me to take a cup of tea with me in the car. We bought the car and returned home. As there was no way I could calm down to an evening

of television, I started switching out the bed linens in our bedroom. Every spring, the dark rich red is replaced with light and airy white, light blue, and pink. Yes, pink.

I wash everything before I pack it away, and I wash everything before I put it out. That way, I cut down on the ironing. Every six months, I am reminded of how lucky I am to experience another dramatic change of seasons. Always, it's nice to think of the season ahead; writing on the front porch, finishing the basement, and going to the cabin my

brother and his family rent every year. There's also a couple of graduations and a wedding this summer. As I vacuum the ceiling and walls, I think of luxurious, long nights sleeping with the window wide open, breezes flowing in.

This system of two sets of bed linens was started in California, so I could keep track of time. There is no change of seasons there. It works well for me here too. I don't tire of the look of red, which looks out of place in the summer, and save money from not buying new linens. Mr. M. could care less, just as long as he has his car and his beer. He's an uncomplicated man.

(Sherri Moore is a freelance writer and resident of the Nokomis neighborhood. She and Mr. M. are in their nineteenth year of renovating their old white house. Sherri welcomes your comments and can be reached at sherrimoore92@msn.com.)

Transition Longfellow

Continued from page 6

"We really are simply making an offer of community in an otherwise do-it-yourself kind of world," said Rondano.

They also challenge each other. In April, the challenge focus was on food/seed. Some people worked on getting their gardens ready. Others researched CSAs (community support agriculture). Some learned about the Monsanto stranglehold on seeds. When the group gathered back together, members shared what they did, problems they encountered and resources they found.

"We don't tell people what they should do," said Leslie MacKenzie, one of the group's co-organizers. "Everyone has different resources, abilities, income and in-

terest. We try to create a time and space where people can think about what they can do in their own lives around a particular issue."

The group also hosts movie nights on the third Friday of each month at Bethany Lutheran Church. The event starts with a potluck at 6:30 p.m. and the movie begins at 7:15 p.m. A speaker concludes the evening.

June's movie will be the last for the spring. On June 15 view "Blue Gold: World Water Wars," an award-winning documentary that examines environmental and political implications of the planet's dwindling water supply, and posits that wars in the future will be fought over water. The film also highlights some success stories of water activists around the world and makes a strong case for community action.

On July 20 at 6:30 p.m., the group is hosting a Little Free Li-

brary Building and Design event. This event aims to establish a dozen or more Little Free Libraries throughout Longfellow. Little Free Libraries are blooming all around the United States as a way for neighbors to interact and get to know one another. A community potluck and campfire will happen throughout the evening, and pre-reservations are encouraged. Find out more about Little Free Libraries at

A Community Picnic is set for Aug. 17, 6:30 p.m., in Longfellow Park. Relax, meet your neighbors, and find out more about Transition Longfellow at the picnic.

"Every time I come to a movie night, I learn a host of things that were not on my radar before," observed Rondano, a woman who has been environmentally and politically active for her entire adult life. "I think everyone is in a different place about sustainability. I learn some-

thing new about it every day."

What has drawn her to the Transition movement is its focus on local control.

"Creating a resilient community, the focus of the Transition Movement internationally, looks so much more doable to me than trying to affect change on the national, or even state, level," Rondano stated.

"It turns out that the groundswell of people joining in on the Transition Movement has already alerted local units of government to focus more of our tax dollars on resiliency issues like food, energy, and alternative transportation."

Transition Longfellow is looking towards the future.

"Our group is concerned about the impact that climate change and peak oil will have on our economy, our community, and our households," said MacKenzie. "Climate change and peak oil will

affect every area of life: food production and distribution, transportation, heating and cooling, the water supply (droughts as well as flooding), and transportation. Although political will is lacking at many levels of government, we are not hopeless to address these issues and to create a more sustainable, resilient future.

"And we do not have to do it alone."

LEARN MORE

Learn more about Transition Longfellow by joining the Facebook group (Longfellow Sustainability/Transition Group), or signing up for the newsletter.

Feel free to speak with steering committee members, including: Annette Rondano (612-221-0131), Rebecca Cramer, Aggie Hoeger, Bruce Gregg, Elizabeth Blair, Brooke Dirkhiesing, Leslie MacKenzie and Peter Foster.

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Town hall forum recaps highs and lows of legislative session

Relief expressed at conclusion of stadium debate

By JAN WILLMS

The town hall forum held May 21 at Keewaydin Park Recreation Center was more like a neighborly conversation, based on its size. But the issues of this year's legislative session, presented by Representatives Jim Davnie and Jean Wagenius and Senator Patricia Torres Ray, led to discussion that lasted slightly longer than the allotted hour and a half.

The legislators expressed concern that little was done this year on educational and environmental issues. They seemed relieved that the stadium issue, although not the deal they may have wanted, has at last reached some sort of completion. And they are concerned about the constitutional amendments that have been proposed.

"There will be two constitutional amendments on the ballot," said Wagenius, "voter ID and marriage. The voter ID is not as straightforward as the marriage amendment, and we don't know what the ramifications will be.

She said a meeting for the public to hear more about these amendments is scheduled from noon to 2 on June 23 at the Parkway Theater in Minneapolis.

"It's critical for Minnesotans to understand what the voter ID amendment will mean for absentee voting," she stressed. "We ask the folks proposing this amendment about it, and we get no answer."

A resident in attendance voiced his concern that the amendment will eliminate same-day registration. "College students

or someone who just moved won't be able to vote," he said.

"It sets up a whole new process of provisional ballots," Davnie said. "It allows me to vote, but then I have to go to City Hall after the election to prove I am eligible." He emphasized that many people don't follow up on that process, and many provisional ballots end up not being counted.

Wagenius cited concern for groups of people who tend not to have photo ID: those over 80 and people of color. She mentioned how the amendment will affect military families and Foreign Service families whose children have been born overseas.

"My own children were born on military bases, one in Spain and one in Africa. We thought they had birth certificates, but it



The issues of this year's legislative session, presented by Senator Patricia Torres Ray, Representative Jim Davnie, and Representative Jean Wagenius at the town hall forum held May 21 at Keewaydin Park Recreation Center, led to discussion that lasted slightly longer than the allotted hour and a half. (Photo by Jan Willms)

turned out the forms they had were hospital certificates," she said.

Wagenius said the question on the vote is simple: Do you want a photo ID? "The words going into the constitution are much more complicated. An ID that is substantially equivalent—what does that mean?"

Torres Ray said the amendment does not correct a problem. We don't have a problem," she stated. She also said that issuing government IDs will cost a lot of money, and funds have not been allocated for it. She added that no state in the nation has gone as far as Minnesota in its wording. "We tried to exempt certain groups, as has happened in other states," she

the public school district and charters are working together. He also told the audience about a plan that has been brought forth to have the mayors appoint their own school boards, rather than have them elected by the public.

He said the chief authors of a plan that would take away the rights of Minneapolis residents to vote for their school board members were from Edina and Red Wing.

He cited one citizen who said business voices, rather than parents, are needed on the school board. They don't want to run for office, but rather be appointed.

"The one per cent wants to run your schools without taking the time to talk to you," he noted.

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"It's critical for Minnesotans to understand what the voter ID amendment will mean for absentee voting."

- State Representative Jean Wagenius

said. "But Minnesota didn't."

A neighborhood resident said that several lawsuits are pending nationally on this amendment. "Most laws haven't passed because of the restrictive order," he said. "Eventually, I think the court will knock them down."

Torres Ray noted that this session was very hard on education, with the deficit taking money away from kids. "What was accomplished was very little," she lamented. "Clearly the Republicans and Democrats did not agree. In the Senate, there were a couple members who wanted to delete every right for teachers."

"Busting the unions and privatizing, that's all they are doing," spoke up one citizen. "I hope you get new people to work with."

Torres Ray did cite a positive step that has been taken by Minneapolis: the public school district working with charter schools in a different way. "We need to be able to work in partnerships and do a better job of educating our kids."

Davnie said charters were first created as competitors with public schools, with animosity on both sides. "That doesn't help the kids," he noted. He said he is glad

Although the proposal for this idea has not been accepted, Davnie said there is interest in it.

Torres Ray raised the point of the achievement gap in Minneapolis schools, with the low percentage of minority kids graduating. "That's a tragedy," she said. "We have been talking about it for as long as I've lived in this city, and that's a problem."

Regarding the environment, Wagenius said people in the environmental community say this has been the worst year in the legislature. She said there are issues with air pollution and water pollution, and the rules are not restrictive enough.

Torres Ray said that although the stadium deal is not necessarily the best one that could have been made, without it she would have had to come back in 2013 with a tax proposal.

"This deal does put the stadium to bed for a generation," Davnie added.

Wagenius said that an amendment to be efficient got shot down in the house, but Sen. Scott Dibble got one through the Senate, and the new stadium will be energy-efficient, which will lower the operating costs.



Longfellow Community Council

Serving Longfellow, Hiawatha, Cooper, and Howe neighborhoods



Community Energy Services develops Online Option!

Community Energy Services (CES) has created an online presentation especially for homeowners who would like to participate in a home energy efficiency program.

Participating online is easy and can be completed in 15 minutes! After you view the presentation, you are qualified to schedule your discounted home energy visit for only \$40. When you have a CES Home Energy Visit, you will receive up to \$400 in energy-saving services and materials like a programmable thermostat, high-efficiency water fixtures, and specialty compact fluorescent light bulbs. Our energy technicians will also run diagnostic tests and set up a personalized Home Energy Snapshot.

Presentation Website Address: www.mnces.org/mpls

Contact: Ashley Robertson
612-335-5869
arobertson@mncee.org

2011-2012 Outgoing Board Members – Thank You for Your Service!

On behalf of the LCC staff and Board of Directors, we would like to sincerely thank the outgoing board members of 2011-2012.

Sarah Dietrich – a long-time volunteer in the neighborhood participated in many committees and recently chaired Community Connections. Sarah has been a dedicated and resourceful board member, a block club leader and remains a true supporter of the Greater Longfellow neighborhood.

Jim Hagen – brought skills and expertise in the area of land use and in-depth review of policies

Pathways to a Peaceful Neighborhood

LCC invites you to a 3-part series of panel discussions on positive, community-based approaches crime and conflict. As a follow up to our first panel discussion on Restorative Justice, please join us for the last two discussions in our series:

Conflict Mediation
Tuesday, June 5, 6:30 pm – 8:30pm
Becketwood, Kensington Room (4300 West River Pkwy)

Court Watch
Thursday, June 28, 6:30 – 8:30pm
Holy Trinity Church (2730 East 31st St)

Contact joanna@longfellow.org with questions or for more information.

and procedures. He was able to advance the work of the Neighborhood Development Caucus through his leadership as committee chair.

Mike Mann – a devoted member of the faith community in Greater Longfellow was a calming presence and thoughtful reviewer of LCC's work and mission-driven activities.

Bernadette Ammons – helped to bring years-long resident concerns about safety and security at Howe school to resolution and participated as a member of the Neighborhood Development Caucus.

DeWayne Townsend – has served LCC and the Greater Longfellow community for decades. DeWayne participated in most of LCC's committees, volunteered in every capacity and helped to bring structure and civility to LCC processes and procedures. DeWayne has been one of the most incredible boosters of LCC and has fought hard to preserve, protect and grow the assets of the neighborhood. DeWayne truly epitomizes what volunteerism is all about and has been a reliable pillar of stability that has held LCC together for more than 20 years.

Thank you outgoing board members for sacrificing your free time and energy to make Greater Longfellow a better place to live, work and play.

Senior Companion Program

The Senior Companion Program is a Program that engages senior volunteers who have an interest in becoming more involved in

the community by serving fellow seniors and helping them to remain living independently in their homes. There is a need for senior volunteers, who will receive a tax-free stipend for their service, to serve in the Longfellow area – currently there are 10 people in the area waiting for service. For more information contact Kate at 651-310-9447.

Meet the new LCC 2012-2013 Board of Directors

LCC elected its new Board of Directors at the April No Pies! Only Pie Charts! General Membership meeting. Twelve of the 15 available seats have been filled and there is a good mix of new and returning members. New members Eric Day, Karen Boberg, Sasha Jensen and Vicki Farden are enthusiastic community participants who bring a diverse wealth of knowledge and capacity to the LCC Board.

Returning members Christine Marlo, Alex Tsatsoulis, Mike Linzbach, Lisa Vecoli, Andrew Johnson, Marisa Helms, John Sulzbach and Melissa Erjavec are well versed in the programs, projects and activities of LCC and worked hard in 2011 to complete LCC's 2-year Strategic Plan. The 2012-2013 LCC Board of Directors is a great representation of the talent and dedication of greater Longfellow's community members. For more information about the board, dates, times and locations of board meetings and the work of LCC please visit www.longfellow.org.

Celebrate Longfellow with FREE Food and Raffle!

Join your friends and neighbors as we come together to celebrate everything that makes our neighborhood great! The Longfellow Community Council (LCC) is happy to announce the return of our Community Warming party; bringing together the whole neighborhood for food and fun! We'll be kicking off the Take a Look at Longfellow campaign - showcasing some of our neighborhood's great places and history. There will also be a raffle featuring donations from local artists and businesses with all proceeds benefiting LCC.



Stop by and join the neighborhood for some food or a drink! The event is FREE and open to all!

Longfellow Community Warming
Thursday, June 7th: 5-7 pm
Longfellow Grill Patio
2990 West River Parkway

Calendar of Meetings and Events

June 2012

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

Advancement Committee

Wednesday, June 6
7:00 - 8:00 pm
Fireroast Café
3800 37th Avenue S
FFI: joanna@longfellow.org

Neighborhood Development Caucus

Monday, June 11
6:30 - 8:00 pm
LCC Office, 2727 26th Ave S.
FFI: spencer@longfellow.org

River Gorge

Monday, June 11
7:00 - 9:00 pm
Hiawatha School Park, 4305 42nd St. E
FFI: joanna@longfellow.org

Community Connections

Tuesday, June 12
6:30 - 8:30 pm
LCC Office, 2727 26th Ave S
FFI: joanna@longfellow.org

Board of Directors

Thursday, June 21
6:30 - 8:45 pm
Brackett Park, 2728 39th Avenue S
FFI: melanie@longfellow.org

Environment and Transportation Committee

Tuesday, June 26
6:30 - 8:00 pm
Hiawatha School Park 4305 42nd St. E
FFI: spencer@longfellow.org

Save Our Shade

Hundreds of millions of ash trees are being killed as Emerald Ash Borer sweeps through the mid-west, Minnesota will be hit especially hard by this invasive species. Due to a high level of ash trees as an urban landscape tree and a huge volume of ash in our forests, Minnesotans stand to lose generations of beneficial resources. Longfellow Community Council and Rainbow Treecare have partnered to make a difference,



joining forces LCC and Rainbow will be hosting a Save Our Shade program, where residents get together and tie ribbons around ash trees to create

awareness about the impact emerald ash borer will have locally. LCC is looking for volunteers to help facilitate this program, Rainbow will be hosting an ash ID and environmental impact training class before the ribboning starts. The program will take place at Longfellow Park and volunteers will walk through the neighborhood tying ribbons as they go, this is a family event that will take place on Thursday evening 6:00 – 8:00 pm June 14th. FFI spencer@longfellow.org.

Longfellow Community Council

2727 26th Avenue So., Minneapolis, MN 55406
Phone: 612-722-4529 • Fax: 612-724-1024

www.longfellow.org

Melanie Majors Executive Director melanie@longfellow.org
Ruth Romano Office Staff ruth@longfellow.org
Joanna Solotaroff Community Organizer joanna@longfellow.org
Spencer Agnew Housing and Environment Coordinator spencer@longfellow.org



In Our Community

St. Albert's Rummage Sale

Huge Rummage Sale at St. Albert the Great Church, E. 29th Street at 32nd Ave. S. begins with Preview Sale from 5 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, May 31. \$5 entry fee to shop while selection is best. Friday & Saturday, June 1 & 2, hours are 9 am to 6:30 pm. \$3 hot dog Meal Deal available with other refreshments. Sunday Bag Sale from 9 am to noon, \$2 to stuff a grocery bag, \$5 to fill a plastic trash sack. Accessible entry behind statue. 612-724-3643 or www.saintalbertthegreat.org.

LBA holds 7th legislative update

Longfellow Business Association invites you to join us for our 7th Annual Legislative Update with State Senator Patricia Torres Ray, State Representative Jim Davnie, and Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin on Wednesday, June 20, 11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. in the Gandhi Mahal community room, 3009 27th Avenue So. Co-hosted with West of the Rail Business Association, Seward Civic & Commerce Association, and moderated by Jim Welna. Lunch buffet \$10. RSVP to Ruth by end of day Monday, June 18. FFI ruth@longfellow.org or 612-722-4529 ext 1

Summer Youth Camps grades 3-12

Registrations are now being accepted for weeklong camps for students grades 3-12 at Camp Patmos in Hackensack, MN. Each camp week, sponsored by Trinity Lutheran of Minnehaha Falls, includes fun activities and inspiring programming in a beautiful setting on the shore of Stony Lake. In addition to swimming, canoeing, group games and campfires, the campers will dive into God's Word together. Bus transportation is provided to the camp. For more information, contact 612-724-3691.

Transition Longfellow presentation June 15

Transition Longfellow presents: Blue Gold, World Water Wars, which examines how major corporations and financial institutions are buying up territories where large water supplies can be found, the fight to protect the Great Lakes, and what ordinary citizens can do to keep the water supply free and shared fairly by all. A discussion will follow about our local water supply.

Friday, June 15th, 6:30 p.m., Community potluck (optional), 7:15 Movie @ Bethany Lutheran Church, 3901 36th Ave. S., 55406. Contact: 612-221-0131 for more information

Stevens House events planned

John H. Stevens Day was just celebrated this past week in Minneapolis and fortunately the Stevens House will continue celebrating the occasion with activities throughout the coming month. Historic John H. Stevens House Museum, birthplace of Minneapolis, now located in Minnehaha Falls Park at 4901 Minnehaha Avenue.

Sunday, June 10, "Gerda Pulls Harder Than the Horses." Story teller Larry Johnson recounts "Gerda Pulls Harder Than the Horses," a semi-fictionalized account of the 1896 event, when 7000 Minneapolis school children pulled Stevens House to Minnehaha Falls Park in the first act of historic preservation in the State of Minnesota. Children learn how to calculate their own horsepower as they learn how kids contributed to saving our history!

Saturday, June 16, The Forgotten War of 1812 - Duke Addicks) The War of 1812 began on June 18, 1812 when the Americans declared war on the British. During this war the British burned the nation's capital, Washington DC, and our National Anthem was composed. It was our Second War of the Revolution.

Sunday, June 24, The stories of two American Indian Women of Power: Singing Bird, The Woman Behind the Blackhawk War, and Conch Girl and the Mammoth Hunters, as told by Duke Addicks.

Where: Historic John H. Stevens House Museum, Birthplace of Minneapolis, now located in Minnehaha Falls Park at 4901 Minnehaha Avenue

Admission to all outdoor events is FREE. Donation for House tour is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children; except for Memorial Day, when it is free. For more information, call 612-827-0138.

Volunteer visitors needed for seniors

Help seniors stay in their homes and keep socially connected. If you like seniors, you'll love this volunteer position! We're looking for "Friendly Visitors" to visit isolated seniors in the greater Longfellow and Seward neighborhoods. Call Mary at Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for more information.

Experts Speak Out about 9/11 Investigation

Minnesota 9/11 Truth and Architects and Engineers for 9/11 Truth present the premier show-



The event is designed for people of all ages to enjoy, with a focus on children. Headlining the day are musicians from The Bazillions (www.thebazillions.com) who play fun, engaging music for kids.

Event for accessible playground June 23

A free, community-wide event will be held from June 23, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Minnehaha Falls Regional Park in the Pergola area across from the Minnehaha Depot.

The event is to raise awareness of the new universally accessible playground that will be built in 2013 in the Wabun Picnic area of Minnehaha Falls Regional Park. The playground, which is the first of its kind in the Minneapolis Parks system, is a project of the community-based group Falls4All (www.falls4all.com).

The event is designed for people of all ages to enjoy, with a focus on children. Headlining the day are musicians from The Bazillions (www.thebazillions.com) who play fun, engaging music for kids.

Martha Herbert will be present with exotic educational animals and will give a presentation using the animals at 11:15 a.m.

Following Herbert's presentation, a number of birds will be released to celebrate the new playground project. The birds have been raised in the Avian Nursery at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota (www.wrcmn.org). Tami Vogel, communications director at WRC, will speak about the birds' rehabilitation and then do the release. (note: birds cannot be released in inclement weather)

Food trucks will be present and a portion of the funds will go to the Falls4All project.

For more information on the event, visit the Falls4All site: www.falls4all.com.

ing of "9/11 Explosive Evidence: Experts Speak Out." A short trailer of this movie can be seen at www.911expertsspeakout.org.

This film highlights dozens of highly experienced building professionals and scientists who have examined the evidence from the World Trade Center buildings, especially the third WTC building to collapse that day, and are calling for a new investigation based on the evidence clearly laid out in this powerful groundbreaking and graphically rich documentary. There are almost 1,700 Architects & Engineers for 9/11 Truth who have signed a petition stating the official investigation did not follow standard investigation protocol which resulted in a conclusion that is highly improbable. Put emotion and politics aside and come hear why they would put their professional reputation on the line in a topic that has all

been ignored by the mainstream media.

The event will take place at the Parkway Theater, 4814 Chicago Ave So, Minneapolis, MN. The film will start at 7 p.m. with doors open by 6.30 p.m. There is a \$10 admission as a suggested donation. No one turned away and all are encouraged to attend, especially architects, engineers and those unfamiliar with this issue. There will be a Q & A to follow with director present.

Advance care directive: "Honoring Choices"

Join Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Community education for a presentation about a new advance care directive on Tuesday, June 19 at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st

Street. "Honoring Choices" is being used by Minnesota hospitals and clinics to help patients make decisions about what they want for their care and treatment. Similar to "Five Wishes," this document creates legal authority for someone to become your health care agent if you can't speak for yourself and it becomes part of your medical record. Contact Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for more information.

Southside Adult Education offers classes

Southside Adult Education Center is a hub of adult learning opportunities. As part of Minneapolis Community Education, Southside offers free classes to the community in various skill areas ranging from English language, college prep to career training. Southside has served just under 2,000 students so far this school year. In addition to free classes, we are also home to the only GED testing center in Minneapolis. Each year, over 600 people test and obtain their GED or High School Diploma by means of the Southside Adult Education Center.

Southside offers classes in the morning from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; in the afternoon from 12:30-3:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday; in the evening from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday. It is located at 2225 East Lake St, at the corner of Hiawatha and Lake St. For more information or to register for classes call 612-668-3800 or visit our website at <http://abe.mpls.k12.mn.us>.

The GED test is changing! Are you ready? If you or someone you know wants to get their GED, now is the time to do it. The new test will no longer be paper and pencil; instead, it will all be on the computer. It is very important to finish up any tests that you have not passed because once the changes are in place, any partial passes or scores are no longer valid. Please come in and finish up the process! Be sure to register before you come to test. Please call 612-668-3800 with questions or for more information or check out our website at <http://abe.mpls.k12.mn.us/>.

Roosevelt seeking band instruments

Roosevelt High School band program is looking for instrument donations. And, 5 members of the high school are running the Twin Cities marathon to raise money to help support the band program. Please contact Thomas Wells, band director for information on how to help. 612-692-0900.

Patrick's Cabaret hosts 2nd Annual Twin Cities Roots, Rock and Deep-Blues Festival July 14

It's with great excitement that Patrick's Cabaret announces its 2nd Annual Twin Cities' Roots, Rock and Deep-Blues Festival which will be taking place on Saturday, July 14th, 2012. The event will be hosted by Patrick's Cabaret, non-profit theater and arts organization located at 3010 Minnehaha Avenue South (Lake and Minnehaha) in the Longfellow neighborhood of south Minneapolis, with gates at 12 p.m and music running from 1 p.m.-9 p.m.

The inaugural Music Festival in 2011 was part of the Cabaret's 25th Anniversary year-long celebration and featured outstanding local artists, such as Spider John Koerner, Pert Near Sandstone, and The Book of Right On. Now 2012 sees the Cabaret partnering with neighbors, Mosaic Cafe and

Harriet Brewing Company (who will be brewing a specialty craft beer just for this festival), and expanding to three outdoor stages.

The 2012 Festival will feature some of the best local and regional musical acts in a mix of genres, including: BloodnStuff, The Goondas, Poverty Hash, The Japhies, Grant Hart, Kent Burnside & The New Generation, Davina & The Vagabonds, The Huckleberries, Brass Kings, The Cactus Blossoms, Mississippi Gabe Carter, Javier & The Innocents, Black Audience, Jeff Raay & Hurricane Harold, The Dynamite Dirt Boys, The DitchLilies, Charlie Parr, Sans Souci Quartet, Pistol Whipping Party Penguins, Nick 'The Feelin' Mrozinski, The Ragged Blade Band, Bootstraps Family Band, Dead Pigeons, and

Bigtree Bonsai.

This one-day music marathon event is for serious music fans and is being limited to 1,500 tickets, available in advance for a discounted price of just \$10 online at <http://patrickscabaret.org/visitors/festivalticket.shtml> or by visiting the Harriet Brewing Company tasting room (3036 Minnehaha Avenue South).

*Following the festival, Palmers Bar will host an after-party on the West Bank with additional live entertainment. More information TBA.

For more information on this event and festival sponsorship opportunities, please contact Patrick's Cabaret music coordinator, Chris Mozena, at ierorrapparent@gmail.com or 612-306-3059.



The 2nd Annual Twin Cities' Roots, Rock and Deep-Blues Festival will be taking place on Saturday, July 14th. The event will be hosted by Patrick's Cabaret, non-profit theater and arts organization located at 3010 Minnehaha Avenue South (Lake and Minnehaha) in the Longfellow neighborhood of south Minneapolis, with gates at 12 p.m and music running from 1 p.m. - 9 p.m. Pictured above is Joe Roberto, lead singer of the band Poverty Hash, who will be appearing at the festival.

Highland Village considers new sign regulations

By JANE MCCLURE

One of St. Paul's first sign district regulation plans is getting a makeover. Proposed new sign regulations for Highland Village and the former Ford Motor Company plant site won unanimous votes of support May 10 from Highland Business Association

(HBA) and from the Highland District Council (HDC) Community Development Committee May 15. Next stop for the proposal is Highland District Council (HDC) for a June 7 vote. If the changes win full district council support, they go on to the St. Paul Planning Commission and

City Council. With City Council approval in August or September, the new regulations could be in place this fall.

The votes are key steps in a process that began in February 2011 when the district council and business association asked the Planning Commission and Department of Planning and Economic Development (PED) for a plan update. The commission initiated the study in August

2011. A task force of HDC and HBA representatives has worked on the plan since then. One goal for the task force was to keep signage at a pedestrian scale, so that businesses could be clearly identified without overpowering the community with excessive signage.

The current Highland Village Special Sign District Plan was adopted by the City Council in 1985, said City Planner Kate Reil-

ly. It is one of 17 special sign districts in St. Paul. Most were set up almost a decade ago to control billboards. Highland Village, Grand and Smith avenues developed their districts in the 1980s to reduce sign clutter and make the retail areas more attractive.

But the Highland Village plan is badly outdated when current business sign technology

Continued on page 16

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Nokomis East Neighborhood-Wide Yard & Garage Sale
Saturday, June 23

Sell your treasures, or buy theirs.

Be a part of the fun! **Sellers**, pre-register with NENA for free advertising and a spot on the handout map. **Buyers**, pick up your map in advance then cruise the sales. For more information or to register your sale, please contact NENA (below) or visit us at: www.nokomiseast.org

3000 East 50th St., Mpls, MN 55417
612-724-5652
nenan@nokomiseast.org
www.nokomiseast.org

Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

<p>Bethlehem Covenant 3141 43rd Ave. S. • 612-721-5768 www.bethlehemcov.org Children especially welcome (Handicapped accessible) Worship at 10:00 am Pastor Ryan Eikenbary-Barber</p>	<p>Holy Trinity Lutheran (ELCA) 2730 E. 31st St. • 612-729-8358 www.htlcmpls.org Sunday Worship 8:45 & 11:00 am Education opportunities for all ages 9:45 am Childcare available Pastor: Jay Carlson Traditional Worship - Contemporary Message - A Call to Social Justice All are welcome - No exceptions</p>	<p>St. Albert the Great Catholic E. 29th St. at 32nd Ave. S. • 612-724-3643 Sunday Mass 9:30 am (Childcare available) Saturday Mass 5:00 pm Daily Mass 8:15 am M,T, Th, F (Handicapped accessible) Fr. Joe Gillespie, O.P. www.saintalbertthegreat.org</p>
<p>Christ Church Lutheran 3244 34th Ave. • 612-721-6611 Sunday Worship at 9:30 am Childcare Provided Education Hour at 11:00 am Pastor: Kristine Carlson A welcoming congregation www.christchurchluth.org</p>	<p>Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church 5011 31st Ave. S. • 612-729-2323 www.lakenokomis.org Summer Worship at 9:30 am Sunday Worship at 8:00 am & 10:30 am (nursery; fully accessible)</p>	<p>St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran 4600 E. 42nd St. • 612-722-8000 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 Julie A. Ebbesen, Pastor www.stpeders.net</p>
<p>Epworth United Methodist 3207 37th Ave. • 612-722-0232 Sunday Worship 10:30 am (Childcare Provided) (Wheelchair Accessible) Rev. Pam Armstrong</p>	<p>Minnehaha United Methodist 3701 E. 50th St. • 612-721-6231 www.minnehaha.org Traditional Service 9:00 am Contemporary Worship 11:15 am (Sept.-May) 10:30 am (June-Aug.) Education for all ages 10:15 (Sept.-May) (Childcare; fully accessible)</p>	<p>Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls 5212 41st Ave. S. • 612-724-3691 www.trinityfalls.org Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am Summer Worship (beg. 7/1) 10:00 am VBS June 18-21, 9:00 am - Noon AA Meeting Tuesdays/Sundays 7:00 pm</p>

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.

CLASSIFIEDS

Classifieds

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 June 18 for the June 28 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to denisw@aplacotoremember.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

ACCOUNTING & TAXES

Individual and corporate tax returns prepared for small and medium sized companies. Accounting and payroll services performed in addition. Vern Teichroew Accounting. 612-726-1544 or vteichroew@comcast.net. 9-12

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Temple of Aaron Arts and Crafts Show sponsored by the Sisterhood Sunday, June 24, 10 am-5 pm, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd., St. Paul. 50 vendors including painting, pottery, photography, cloth art, glass, and more! Food Available. Questions: call Margie at 651 698-4358. 6-12

BATHROOMS

Bathroom/kitchen!! Basement finishing. Bad water pressure? Sinks, toilets and tub/surrounds, etc. Ceramic tile. Basement bathrooms installed. Call 612-275-9815. 7-12

COMPUTER REPAIR/SERVICE

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EMPLOYMENT

The Longfellow/Nokomis Messenger is looking for local reporters to write news and feature stories on a free-lance 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.

Office Administrator/Bookkeeper - (PT). Manage church office, including bulletins and newsletter preparation, filing, answering phones, and bookkeeping. Computer skills are a must. Mon. - Fri., 9:00-3:00. Competitive salary, paid holidays and vacation. www.trinity-lc.org . 612-333-2561, mail@trinity-lc.org, 2001 Riverside Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55454. 6-12

FOR SALE

For Sale: Vintage 1900-1949 lights, house hardware, doors, tubs, radiators, etc. Also furniture hardware. 651-644-9270. 20% off with ad. 10-12

HALL FOR RENT

Spacious, clean and refurbished hall for rent. Parties, Birthdays, Weddings, Anniversaries, etc. call the Post @ 612-724-9909 or Gary @ 612-987-8857. B-12

HANDYMAN

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Dr. House does it all: From a leaky faucet to a new addition. I can save you money on electrical and plumbing. Call John at 651-231-5652. B-12

HAULING

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HOST A STUDENT

Open your home--Open your heart. Share your world with an international student attending a local private high school. Committed, supportive families needed for academic year 2012-13. Monthly stipend paid to hosting families. Contact Becky for more information - 763-222-4819. 6-12

KITCHENS, DESIGN

www.KitchenComfort.net 1399 St. Clair, St. Paul. 651-698-4949. 12-12

LANDSCAPING

Dragonfly Design and Landscape LLC. Quality landscaping at affordable prices. All areas of landscaping. 612-529-5957. Credit cards accepted. 6-12

LAWN CARE

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PAINTING

Interior/exterior painting, wallpaper removal, small wall repair, average garage \$250, average 3 rooms \$250. Jim 651-698-0840. 6-12

Interior/exterior painting, enameling, plaster patching, free estimates. Bob. 651-633-5565. 12-12

Interior, exterior painting, wallpaper removal, small wall repair, average garage \$250, average 3 rooms \$250. Jim 651-698-0840. 6-12

PET SITTING

Wagners Pet Sitting. Walking, Day and Overnight Care. 651-771-0421. B-12

PIANO TUNING

Registered Piano Technician, charlesfruhstuck@mac.com, 651-489-3181. B-12

Quality piano tuning and repair. Reasonable rates. Call Robert Clough @ 612-722-7586 or e-mail: robtclough@aol.com. 12-12

REAL ESTATE

Flourish Realty LLC. Full Service Real Estate/Property Management Services. Local Realtor(R), Ecobroker(R), & Resident, Daniel Schultz: 612-408-0233, dan@flourishrealty.net 7-12

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@NELSONELECTRIC.COM. 6-12

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2700 E 28th Street
Mpls., MN 55406
Or E-Mail to: tim@metroproduce.com

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2700 East 28th Street
Mpls., MN 55406

Full time employment opportunity for our food processing department.

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Please send correspondence to:
Metro Produce
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2700 E 28th Street
Mpls., MN 55406
Or E-Mail to: dan@metroproduce.com

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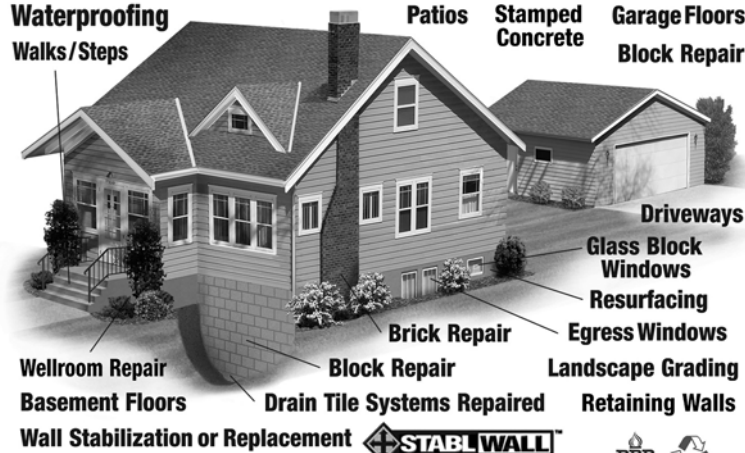
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Keewaydin receives 'Best of Nokomis Award'



Keewaydin staff and parents receive the "Best of Nokomis Award" during the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association's 2012 annual meeting and dinner on May 15, 2012 at Crosstown Covenant Church. This year's category was "Against All Odds." Left to right: George Jelatis, NENA board member and Construction Steering Committee member; April Rothgeb, parent and PTA member; Jay Larson, parent and Construction Steering Committee member; Jean Hutchinson-Legler, parent and Construction Steering Committee member; Keewaydin Principal Jane Ellis; and Doug Walter, NENA staff member and Construction Steering Committee member. (Photo submitted by NENA)

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Sign regulations

Continued from page 13

and city regulations are considered. The last major update of a commercial area special sign district was in 2009, when the St. Paul City Council adopted changes in the Grand Avenue special sign

The impetus for an update came when a Village business installed a flashing, dynamic sign that many neighborhood residents and adjacent business owners considered to be unattractive. "We really saw a need to update our regulations and keep up with the times," said HDC Member Greg Campbell. "Some of these signs look like Moses' burning bush."

Complaints about other signs have also been a factor, said HDC Executive Director Kathy Carruth. Temporary signs, including a large inflated green figure community members described as "Gumby," also prompted calls for change.

Another issue that spurred plan changes along is the pending redevelopment of the Ford property, said Shawn Bartsh. She represents the business association on the district council and was a member of the task force that worked on new sign regulations.

Ford closed its Twin Cities Assembly Plant in December 2011. Ford is currently cleaning the property and getting it ready for sale.

"We did expand the boundaries of the original plan quite a bit," Bartsh said. The intent of including the former Ford site is so prospective developers know what could be expected in terms of new signs.

The boundaries now include the entire Ford site, as well as businesses on Cleveland south of the Village and east of the Ford Little League fields. The expanded boundaries also cover the entire length of Ford Parkway, from Mississippi River Boulevard to Snelling Avenue. The district currently ends at Howell Avenue.

The north boundary of Cleveland Avenue was extended

from Bayard to Randolph Avenue.

Although HDC has had a number of complaints about new Snelling Avenue signs, the Community Development Committee agreed that signs there should be studied separately. Snelling north of Ford Parkway could be added to the district in the future. The committee also discussed a future study of Randolph Avenue signs, in conjunction with the neighboring Macalester-Groveland Community Council (MGCC).

Reilly said the proposed changes for the Highland Village sign plan update the plan for compliance with current city regulations. Some provision, such as design guidelines and a ban on dynamic display and flashing signs, are similar to the Grand Avenue plan.

The proposed plan doesn't affect existing signs. Those are considered to be grandfathered in. But it would affect new signs and would include a notice provision for the district council when a sign permit is requested.

Other key points of the proposed plan include:

*Sets the maximum sign area as one times the lineal front footage of a business or 75 square feet, whichever is greater. That limit is currently set by whether a property is zoned commercially or for traditional neighborhoods use and would represent a reduction in allowable signage in either case.

*A ban on signs advertising a business name and a product together, such as "Joe's Bar" and a brand of beer.

*Projecting signs, which were banned in the original plan, would be allowed if they meet conditions on size, separation and height. One of the village's projecting signs, which predates the 1985 plan, is for Chatterbox café. It was originally a sign for Lee's Village Inn.

*Permanent window signs would be limited to 10 percent of a window's area; temporary signs would be limited to 20 percent of the area. This is unchanged from the original plan and is more restrictive than the city code, which allows up to 30 percent of a window to have signs in it.

Classifieds

Continued from page 14

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