



Minneapolis has its own bicycle bread man

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The City embraces the spirit of the Monarch Festival

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Habitat for Humanity ReStore opens in Longfellow

Story and photos by MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Habitat for Humanity opened their second ReStore in the Twin Cities on Sept. 15 with three days of events and celebration. Located at 2700 Minnehaha Ave., the store has easy access from the adjacent Greenway Bike Trail or, for those who drive, parking is available in the off-street lot in front of the store.

The concept behind ReStore is simple: to be a non-profit home improvement outlet selling new and used building materials, home furnishings, and lighting at deep discounts. All revenue from ReStore goes to support Habitat's work of building, repairing, and rehabbing homes for local families.

The 23,000 square foot space for the Longfellow ReStore is being leased from its neighbor, Zimmer Biomet. According to ReStore operations manager Pete O'Keefe, the budget for the project was about \$400,000. "That might sound like a lot of money," O'Keefe said, "but we could never have done this build-out without the significant in-kind contributions and donations we received."



Habitat for Humanity president and CEO Susan Haigh said, "More than 2,600 families have come knocking on our doors since Apr. 1. The need for affordable housing in the Twin Cities is very real."



The first shoppers gathered outside the new Habitat ReStore on Sept. 15.

Lots of contributions

Contributors included Ryan Construction, who provided construction supervision, access to their list of sub-contractors, and countless hours of labor and materials; RSP Architects, who did all of the design work for the project pro bono; the Butler Family Foundation, who made a

gift of \$100,000; the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation, who made a gift of \$200,000; and Target Properties, who donated a full-scale property analysis before construction began.

Last, but far from least, was Valspar Paints. According to John Hagerman, Habitat communications specialist, "Valspar has

contributed \$35 million to our projects across the country since 1979. They donated 1,800 gallons of paint for the opening of this ReStore alone. It's all part of their commitment to the community."

It's a game changer

Habitat president and CEO

Susan Haigh was on hand to deliver welcoming remarks to the first shoppers. "When you buy something at our ReStore," she said, "every dollar that doesn't get used paying salaries or store overhead goes to help families in need of housing. Our first ReStore, located in New Brighton,

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Hiawatha Community School celebrates 100th anniversary

Story and photos by JAN WILLMS

A school in Minneapolis marking its 100th anniversary is no small thing and Hiawatha Community School at 4201 42nd Ave. S. is celebrating big-time. On Oct. 15 at 11am, the school will have a program, carnival and block party to honor the occasion.

"The students are very busy learning songs through the decades," said Deb Regnier, Hiawatha principal. "They've been learning songs from the 1920s, 30s, 40s, 50s and 60s. There will be dancing as well."

"The fifth graders have been working in pairs or small groups, writing and reciting about what school was like in the 1920s."

Regnier said that a lot of former staff, parents and students have been invited. There will be a carnival and block party, with food

A mosaic at the school reflects Hiawatha Community School's commitment to students and the community.



Hiawatha Community School Principal Deb Regnier.



The school currently is home to 290 students in K-2. The school population is 60 percent white, 20 percent African American, 20 percent Latino and a few Native American and Asian.

trucks on hand.

"We'll have a bouncy house and carnival games, just a fun day to celebrate," she added. There will be 100-year t-shirts and buttons, with a design created by one of the parents.

Regnier said that Hiawatha and Howe Community Schools have been validated as Minnesota Schools of Excellence by the Min-

nesota Elementary School Principals' Association (MESPA). This prestigious honor was awarded to Hiawatha and Howe Community Schools for their commitment to 21st-century teaching and learning. She said the Oct. 15 celebration hopes to also acknowledge this award.

Regnier said that information about the early formation of

Hiawatha School in 1916 is scarce. She found that it had been built in a residential area surrounded by family dwellings. There were 16 classrooms. An addition was built in 1923.

"The room we now use as an ESL classroom was used as a library and had an outside door," Regnier

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Neighbors gather for food/fun at 7th annual Nokomis block party

Photos by JILL BOOGREN

The parking lots at Oxendale's Market and McDonald's Liquor and Wine and the 3400 block of 51st St. were bustling on Sept. 11 as neighbors stopped by to visit local vendors, grab a snack, check out vintage cars, and try their hand at the dunk tank. The annual event is hosted by Nokomis East Neighborhood Assn., Oxendale's Market, McDonald's Liquor and Wine, and Faith Lutheran Church.



Jeanne Gilmer (behind table) of the Food Building in northeast Minneapolis, and Cooper Laikind (right), a miller at Baker's Field Flour & Bread, serve up samples from Red Table Meats, The Lone Grazer Creamery, and Baker's Field.



A lot of people wait to have a go at the dunk tank while one careful aim gets close to the mark.



Travis Riopel shakes off the water after being dunked by Josie Murphy (not pictured). Riopel, a tenth grader on the Roosevelt High School wrestling team, got in the tank for fun.



Wendy Brown, of Wendy's Doghouse grooming service, introduces people to some of her best customers: Bear Bear (front left), a Pomeranian, and Clara, an Afghan Hound.



From left: Chris Ulberg, Carolyn Struve, and Denise Pelinen scoop up root beer floats being given away by Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls.



From left: Bryan, Ava, Khloe and Jamie Albertson check out a '65 Ford Mustang at the classic car show held in the McDonald's Liquors parking lot.



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Habitat for Humanity ReStore

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was so successful in 2015 that they were able to build homes for six families with their proceeds."

Haigh explained, "We believe that home ownership is a game changer. When we've surveyed our homeowners about what's changed since they've gotten into stable housing, almost all of them say that it's been great for their kids, but it's also been great for them. More than 90% of the parents say they've either gone back to school or are planning to. One way or another, nearly all are actively working on improving their lives."

ReStore welcomes donations of doors, light fixtures, appliances, furniture, hardware, tiles, tools, plumbing, flooring, cabinets and more. Hours of operation are Tuesday-Friday, 10am-6pm, with donations accepted until 5pm. ReStore is



Celebrity Do-It-Yourself TV host Amy Matthews (second from left) revved up her chop saw for the opening "board-cutting" ceremony. Matthews is a licensed general contractor who has been involved with Habitat since she was 14 years old. She offered DIY workshops throughout the three-day grand opening of ReStore and encouraged people to learn new skills.

open on Saturday from 10am-4pm, with donations accepted until 3pm. ReStore is closed on Sunday. All donations are tax deductible.

Mayor Betsy Hodges and the Minneapolis City Council approved a resolution in 2014 declaring Minnehaha Ave. from Lake St. to Minnehaha Falls as the "Minnehaha Mile." This section of the street contains more antique, vintage, retro,

second hand and re-use stores than any other commercial corridor in the state. With the addition of the Habitat for Humanity ReStore and the Better Futures Warehouse at 2620 Minnehaha Ave., that mile just got a few blocks longer.

For more information about volunteering, donating or shopping at ReStore, go to www.tchabitat.org or call 612.588.3820.

"Habitat for Humanity's mission is to eliminate poverty housing in the Twin Cities and to make safe, decent, affordable shelter for all people a matter of conscience. We are committed to building the quality of life, health, and economic prosperity to the region by producing, preserving and advocating for affordable home ownership--because homes and families are the foundation of successful communities."



Valspar is the national paint sponsor for Habitat for Humanity and has donated more than \$35 million in cash and in-kind contributions.



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Hiawatha Community School

Continued from page 1

said. "People could come in that door and check out books, so it was used as a community resource at the time."

Functioning as a community resource has been part of Hiawatha's long tradition. The school currently is home to 290 students in K-2. Included are some High Five students--youngsters who had not yet reached the age of 5 by September.

In 2013, Hiawatha was filled and more space was needed. Howe School, which was closed in 2005, was reopened to accommodate grades 3-5 from Hiawatha. Howe, 3733 43rd Ave. S., has 190 students enrolled.

Regnier, who said this is her 33rd year in Minneapolis schools, started off at Anderson and was a teacher there for 22 years. She was assistant principal at Nelly Stone Johnson and has been principal at Hiawatha for seven years.

"This is a strong community," she said. She noted how much people like Hiawatha as a neighborhood school. "Many parents have said they remain in the community so their kids can go to school here, even if the houses here are small. That says a lot."

She said the school population is 60 percent white, 20 percent African American, 20 percent Latino and a few Native American and Asian. "It's a nice mix, like a com-



Hiawatha Community School today.

munity," said Regnier.

She said Hiawatha offers a fabulous playground, built with funds raised by the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). "We have a brand new kitchen, with food cooked on-site," she added.

Regnier said there is a lot of technology in use at Hiawatha, with every grade level having an iPad cart and laptop cart to share, and a computer lab. There is a sound announcement system in every class.

Hiawatha/Howe has a GEMS/GISE program to promote engineering, math, and science for girls and science and engineering for boys. There is a Legos club for kindergarten students.

"There are a lot of family nights," Regnier said. "Right now, the PTO is holding a garage sale to raise funds for students to attend a camp."

On Fridays, students earn pencils and are awarded for being "Bucket Fillers." Regnier said these are acts that students perform to fill someone else's bucket. "Maybe Jesse noticed someone was sad and helped him or her, or Oliver shared a toy with friends. We also recognize a staff person every week. We do a lot of positive reinforcement."

Regnier said they are hoping lots of former staff, students and parents, as well as those currently connected to the school, will be able to attend the 100-year celebration.

"They can take a walk down memory lane," Regnier noted.

Letters to the Editor

Bicyclists are speeding on trails

To the Editor,

This letter is in response to the Letter to the Editor in the last Longfellow Nokomis Messenger about pedestrians and the cyclists. All the answers to or about pedestrians and bicycle traffic on

the pathways can be found in the Minnesota Drivers Manual (pages 38-41).

The speed of bicycles (10mph) is painted on the pavement. This applies to Lake Nokomis and the East and West River Rd. and parkway paths. I have biked in all these areas and more in Minneapolis. If you are biking over 10mph, please use the street.

I would like to see this information made available at all the bike shops and at the Open Streets for 2017. I talked to the Park Police and they told me they don't have time to enforce these rules.

Sincerely yours,
John Roban

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Are you interested in beefing up your home energy knowledge before the winter? Here's your chance!

NENA is hosting a Home Energy 101 workshop on Wed., Oct. 19, 6-7:30pm at the Morris Park Recreation Center, 5531 39th Ave. S.

NENA has partnered with the Center for Energy and Environment to bring this workshop where you'll learn energy-saving tips to make your home more comfortable this winter.

At the workshop, you will hear about Home Energy Squad Enhanced--a home energy visit program provided by CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy in partnership with the City of Minneapolis. During the visit, a team of two energy consultants will come to your home to install energy saving materials and evaluate your home's energy use with a blower door test and an infrared scan. They then provide you with a customized Energy Fitness Plan that includes a quote for any recommended insulation and air sealing improvements. This unique opportunity is the result of the nation leading Clean Energy Partnership formed to help Minneapolis reach its clean energy goals. Thanks to this partnership, these customized energy visits are available to new homeowners at a reduced rate of \$70.

Don't wait until winter to get started making your home more comfortable. Join your neighbors at the Home Energy 101 workshop and learn how you can benefit from improved comfort and lower energy bills.

To RSVP for the workshop, contact Dave at 612-724-5652 or dave.colling@nokomiseast.org. To schedule a Home Energy Squad Enhanced visit call 612-335-5874.

For more information on the program visit www.mncee.org/hes-mpls.

Thank you

Thanks to everyone that came out to support the 2016 Monarch Festival. Monarchs, art, and education came together at Lake Nokomis to create a wonderful festival. Our partners--Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, U of M Monarch Lab, US Forestry Department and the Mexican Consulate--all did incredible work to make this event once again the biggest and best festival of its kind in the United States.

A special thank you to everyone who worked so hard on the Monarch Magic! workshops, as they were a great addition to this year's event.

And thanks to everyone who came out to share the day, including our exhibitors and food trucks.

Join a NENA committee

NENA is currently looking for residents to join our new Green Initiatives Committee and our long-standing Housing, Commercial & Streetscape Committee. Joining means you attend committee meetings, design projects and implement strategies to make our community an even better place to live!

Goals of the NENA Housing, Commercial & Streetscape Committee:

- to maintain and improve the housing stock in the neighbor-

NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

4313 E. 54th St.

Night Out With NENA – Is Your Home Ready for Winter?



NENA Board members working at the Minneapolis Monarch Festival - Festival de la Monarca.

hood;

- to coordinate and seek solutions to issues related to housing and commercial building development;
- to advocate for housing and

commercial development programs;

- to provide input on zoning changes or building applications; and
- to advise city and developers

on preferred land use as it relates to future development.

Goals of the Green Initiatives Committee:

- to improve awareness concerning issues that may impact the environmental quality of NENA's neighborhoods;
- to advocate for programs that address improvement of the environment; and
- to advise city and developers on environment issues.

Please call 612-724-5652 or email nenan@nokomiseast.org if you would like more information.

Artist Call

NENA invites artists to participate in exhibit opportunities at the Nokomis East Neighbor-

hood Association office. The new NENA office offers a great potential for us to display artwork by local artists and have it seen by the community. Displays will rotate on a regular basis to provide as much opportunity as possible. All 2-dimensional hanging work and 3-dimensional work within our criteria, guidelines and exhibit size limitations will be considered.

For more details and guidelines please contact Dave Colling at dave.colling@nokomiseast.org.

Sign up for NENA News

Your Guide to News, Events and Resources! Get your neighborhood news delivered to your inbox every other Wednesday. Sign up today at www.nokomiseast.org. Once you sign up, you'll receive updates on news and happenings for your neighborhood.

NENA Home Improvement Loan Program

Whether by choice or necessity, start planning your next home project now with the help of a home improvement loan from NENA. Owners of one to four unit residences can apply for up to \$15,000 to make improvements to their properties. Owner occupants and investors may apply. Interest rates are either 2% or 3%, depend on income, and there no income restrictions.

NENA also has available a limited amount of funds for our emergency repair loan program. Only owner-occupied households are eligible, and income restrictions do apply. There is a maximum loan amount of \$7,500 at 0% interest. The loan is due in full upon sale of the property or title transfer.

For more information or to request an application for the NENA loan program, call our partner, the Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation's Housing Resource Center 612-722-7141, or visit www.gmhchousing.org. Loan applications are processed on a first-come, first served basis.

Upcoming events in the Nokomis East neighborhood

- Sat., Oct. 1, 1-4pm, First Saturday Book Collection @ Nokomis Library, 5100 S. 34th Ave.
- Tues., Oct. 4, 5-7pm, Group gardening - all welcome; Nokomis Naturescape on Lake Nokomis at 50th St. and Nokomis Pkwy.
- Wed., Oct. 5, 6:30-8:30pm, NENA Housing, Commercial and Streetscape Committee; NENA office, 4313 E. 54th St.
- Tues., Oct. 11, 5-7pm, Group gardening - all welcome; Nokomis Naturescape on Lake Nokomis at 50th St. and Nokomis Pkwy.
- Tues., Oct. 11, 6:30-7:30pm, NEBA Board Meeting; McDonald's Liquor Store, 5010 S. 34th Ave.
- Thur., Oct. 13, 7-8pm, NENA Executive Committee Meeting; Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, 3000 E. 50th St.
- Tues., Oct. 18, 5-7pm, Group gardening - all are welcome; Nokomis Naturescape on Lake Nokomis at 50th St. and Nokomis Pkwy.
- Wed., Oct. 19, 6-7:30pm, Night Out With NENA - Home Energy 101 Workshop; Morris Park Recreation Center, 5531 39th Ave. S.
- Thur., Oct. 20, 1-4pm, Group gardening - all welcome; Nokomis Naturescape on Lake Nokomis at 50th St. and Nokomis Pkwy.
- Thur., Oct. 20, 6:30-7:30pm, Inside the Criminal Mind; Nokomis Library, 5100 S. 34th Ave.
- Sat. Oct. 22, 1-5pm, Fresh Hop Fest; Town Hall Lanes, 5019 S. 34th Ave.
- Tues., Oct. 25, 5-7pm, Group gardening - all welcome; Nokomis Naturescape on Lake Nokomis at 50th St. and Nokomis Pkwy.
- Thur., Oct. 27, 7-9pm, NENA Board of Directors Meeting; NENA Office - 4313 E. 54th St.



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South Minneapolis has its own bicycle bread man

Laune Bread features sourdough and whole grains delivered via bicycle

By TESSA M. CHRISTENSEN

Christopher MacLeod is known as The Bread Man to local residents.

On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, the Bancroft resident crisscrosses South Minneapolis delivering freshly baked bread on his bicycle.

His trailer promises beards, breads, and good vibes, the English translation of his name "Laune."

Laune Breads are naturally leavened, crafted with ten digits and friendly ingredients, and locally sourced.

When he began the business last October, MacLeod was the only local bakery using organic grains. He's one of two delivering bread by bicycle in the Twin Cities.

"I view this business as a project for myself," said MacLeod.

After living on the West Coast, MacLeod wanted to experience someplace new, so he moved to Minnesota about two years ago. He envisioned an abundance of wheat in the Midwest, MacLeod recalled, and thought he'd learn a lot about the process of growing it and transforming it into flour. When he got here, he discovered that there weren't any local bakers using local wheat. And they weren't making German-style breads either, but instead, the majority of them were baking white breads and yeasty breads.

He's worked to identify local growers who use organic and sustainable methods, including Bakers Field in Northeast and Whole Grain Milling, and buys his flour from them.

Connections

Currently, MacLeod bakes two days a week in the kitchen at Sun Street Breads, 4600 Nicolet Ave. S. The owner there began by bak-

ing in someone else's kitchen, and she's paying it forward, MacLeod explained.

He doesn't want a storefront. "I prefer to spend my time worrying about bread and sourcing better products," said MacLeod.

He explained that instead of putting money towards a building, he wants to support small farms and mills, in part to reduce the total food miles involved. Although Minnesota is a large grower of wheat, it is often shipped to Colorado to be milled and then shipped back to Minnesota to be used or exported overseas. In fact, 50% of the wheat grown in Minnesota is exported to places such as Korea, Japan, and Europe, MacLeod pointed out.

He also wants to provide a connection between his subscribers and farmers. His weekly newsletters include information about bread and grains.

'Bread I make is the bread I want to eat'

MacLeod compared his subscription service to that of a CSA (community supported agriculture).

While most bakers work in the early morning hours when no one else is awake, MacLeod bakes in the early evening and delivers the next morning by bicycle. With that model, he can interact with his customers. "I get a lot of feedback," MacLeod pointed out.

Most bakeries are pretty wasteful, and much of what they make gets thrown in the trash at the end of the day. With a subscription service, MacLeod bakes to order and has very little waste.

All of his breads are sourdough, which makes them easier to digest and healthier. While many bakers add sourdough for flavor, they still use yeast. MacLeod relies on naturally leaven-

ing only. When he eats other's breads, his stomach tells him right away whether it is a true sourdough or not.

"The bread I make is the bread I want to eat," said MacLeod.

He lets the flavors in the crust and interior meld during a longer rising period and then bakes them at a high temperature. "I think it adds more sweetness and nuttiness," MacLeod remarked.

For much of history, people lived off of whole grain bread, getting the nutrients they needed. Yet, the peasants always wanted to have white bread, like the nobility. Today, he pointed out, the shift is away from Wonderbread and back toward whole grains.

'Bread time' in Germany

MacLeod's love for bread can be traced to the college year he spent studying in Munich, Germany. The bread he ate there was a far cry from the sliced white bread he'd eaten in America. Rather than eat a typical meal with a plate of food following an appetizer, in Germany he was introduced to brotzeit, or "bread time."

"It seemed more like a personal meal," MacLeod observed.

Continued on page 15



Christopher MacLeod of Laune Bread checks bread and pretzels as they rise. While most bakers work in the early morning hours when no one else is awake, MacLeod bakes in the early evening and delivers the next morning by bicycle. With that model, he can interact with his customers. "I get a lot of feedback," MacLeod pointed out. (Photo by Tessa M. Christensen)

Transition Longfellow

By LESLIE MACKENZIE

Transition Longfellow plans October activities

On Fri., Oct., 21, Transition Longfellow will show the movie, "A Simpler Way; Crisis as Opportunity." People in developed nations across the world understand that our current way of life has resulted in overlapping environmental, cultural and economic crises. Something has to change, but how do we begin?

"We are the generation in between stories," the film's narrator says, "desperately clinging to yesterday but uncertain of tomorrow. But perhaps the new story is already with us. Perhaps we just need to live it into existence."

This 2016 documentary, made in association with the Simplicity Institute, follows a group of Australians who agreed to participate in a year-long experiment in living, called "The Simpler Way Project." While building tiny houses and planting gardens, the participants learned vital lessons about how to live in a community. Although this experimental eco-village was located in a rural area, what lessons might we learn in simple living and community building that we can apply here in an urban area?

The film will be shown at Bethany Lutheran, 3901 36th Ave. S. There is a potluck dinner at 6:30 (vegetarian options always available), and the movie begins at 7pm, with discussion to follow. Free will donation.

Meditative Movements

Meditative Movement is a practice of simple breath, body and mind exercises to improve and support mental and physical health. Deb Davis has been certified in this practice and will be leading free workshops before 3rd Friday movie nights, from 5:30-6:30pm (on Oct. 21). You do not need to stay for the movie to do this activity.

A Day of Food

A Day of Food Skillshares is being planned for Sat., Oct. 29, 9am-3pm (location to be determined). Details for this event are not yet finalized, but the day will include a variety of food-related classes and hands-on workshops covering topics such as fermentation, canning, making bread and flavored vinegar. Eureka Recycling will lead a workshop on reducing food waste. Special guest Debra Ramage will provide information on the environmental impacts of specific food choices so people can choose a diet that best fits their values.

First Saturday

Garlic and Spring Bulbs (1st Sat.) will be the focus on Oct. 1, 10:30am-noon, at Riverview Wine Bar, 3747 42nd Ave. S. (enter through the coffee shop). Join master gardeners Leslie MacKenzie and/or Theresa Rooney every first Saturday for garden tips and Q&A on your garden questions. October is

a good time to plant bulbs for spring flowering. They will be talking about flowering bulbs as well as growing garlic in your home garden. Free.

Cold Frame

Make a Cold Frame, Sat., Oct. 8, 10am-noon, 4324 40th Ave. S.

Thanks to a donation of old windows, Transition members will be building low-cost cold frames that protect plants so they can be put outside earlier in the spring. This is a family-friendly group building activity. The materials will be prepared in advance, and the cold frames will be assembled on Saturday. No building skills needed; if you have a power drill, please bring it. RSVP at the group's website, www.transitionlongfellow.org, to reserve your spot. There will be a fee for materials, but it has not yet been determined. Watch the website for details.

Knitting Group

CANCELLED - the group's 1st Tuesday knitting group has been canceled until further notice due to an illness of the instructor. If you know how to knit and would like to share your skills with others, your help would be welcome. Contact Leslie at leslie.mackenzie@gmail.com

Visit the group's website for more information: www.transitionlongfellow.org. For more info, call (612) 724-4265.



**Nokomis East
Neighborhood Association**



**Is Your Home Ready for Winter?
Home Energy 101 Workshop**
Wednesday, October 19th at 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Morris Park Recreation Center, 5531 39th Ave S

Interested in beefing up your home energy knowledge before the winter?
Here's your chance! NENA is hosting a Home Energy 101 workshop.
NENA has partnered with the Center for Energy and Environment to bring this workshop to the Nokomis East neighborhood. At the workshop you'll learn energy-saving tips to make your home more comfortable this winter

To RSVP for the workshop contact Dave at 612-724-5652 or dave.colling@nokomiseast.org

612-724-5652
www.nokomiseast.org



NokomisEast



NokomisEast

One-man show hopes to illuminate the life of Whitman

Patrick Scully takes his decade-long embrace of Walt Whitman back to the stage with a new performance



By JAN WILLMS

Bringing the life of American poet, essayist, and journalist Walt Whitman to the stage is something that Patrick Scully has been working on and nurturing for more than a decade. The founder of Patrick's Cabaret will bring his latest one-man show on "Whitman, Leaves of Grass Illuminated," to the Hook and Ladder Theater, 3010 Minnehaha Ave., Oct. 13-15, and Oct. 20-22. All shows are at 8pm except for a 4pm matinee Oct. 15.

Scully explained that his life as a performer has been about performing his own work on stage, most of it autobiographical. "I have dealt a lot with being a gay man in a world that wasn't quite ready for gay people to be as out and as open as I was eager to be," he said.

"With 'Whitman,' I continue to work with these very similar themes, but just on someone from a different historical period—someone whose life has mirrored my own in some ways, but someone whose challenges have been different." Scully considered it an opportunity to work with someone whose name was well recognized but whose sensuality is often not known. He called the one-man play a way to out Walt Whitman in a manner that Whitman would have liked.

"Whitman had a utopian vision of what men's relationships could be, and how that could transform not just locally but the world," Scully said. "He saw it as a balm for the crass materialism that he saw in his time."

"You think about Whitman as a gardener," Scully continued. "He was not only someone who tended his garden but expanded it as life went on. So although 'Leaves of Grass' was his life's work, when he first published it in 1855, it was a very thin volume. When he published the deathbed version in 1892, it was a pretty fat volume. He didn't just add to it. Like a gardener, he pruned and trimmed."

"When I got the idea to work with Whitman's material a little

over a decade ago, the first thing I did was create a dance piece," Scully recalled. "There was a segment of a poem he wrote that is a litany of body parts and works its way from the head to the toes. So my first grappling with Whitman was using that poem and dancing to it."

As Scully explored the material, he realized there was a lot more that he wanted to do than just one dance piece, so his project just grew from there. "I fully believe there are more than a thousand shows on Whitman, and this is just Patrick Scully's show."

The first presentation of his Whitman work was offered in July 2014 at Illusion Theater. It featured Scully and another actor, as well as 18 male dancers and was a mega production. It was titled "Leaves of Grass Uncut." Scully explained that uncut was a play on words, but it shone a light on the way culture has censored Whitman to make him ac-

ceptable. Scully took that show to New York and gave several performances there. This summer he did a version called "Leaves of Grass Unplugged," doing the show in friends' backyards. The show at Hook and Ladder will be a premiere of a leaner show, with just Scully live on stage, and the dancers present via video projection onto elements in the set.

"That was my intent in doing the big cast version two and a half years ago," Scully said. "I hired a dance videographer who would come in and shoot the dancers in rehearsal and performance. In that way, I would have rich footage to draw on when I did this show. The excerpts of those dancers create a kind of layering in the process that I had to go through to get to where I'll be in October."

Although most of Scully's performance art has been as a choreographer, he does not dance in this Whitman piece. But he thinks his presentation would

have been different if he had not had his roots in the world of dance.

Scully considers his work with choreographer Remy Charlip to be foundational. He first danced with Charlip in 1984 in New York, and he said he found the experience to be something so heartfelt and so healing that he wanted an opportunity to pay that forward. "I wanted to have a chance to share with the men in this piece some of the delights I had dancing with Remy," Scully said.

In this Whitman presentation, Scully said that the theatrical trick is that everybody has to believe that he, as Whitman, has been allowed to cross back over from the other side. He has about 75 minutes to spend with the audience to talk about how things were.

In order to do that, his text is about 50 percent of words that come directly from Whitman in poetry, letters he wrote, or memories of conversations he participated in; another portion of the text comes from things that other people, such as Emerson or Thoreau, said; and a third of the monologue is language that Scully had to invent to sew it all together.

Over the past few years, Scully has read 55 books by and about Whitman. "The intention was to have a broad enough understanding of him so that if I were doing a show for Whitman scholars, I could morph this show to make it more specifically interesting for them. Or if I'm doing it in Germany, I could make it more relevant to German literature and German writers."

Scully has applied for a grant to present the show to 23 towns in Minnesota, and he will know in November if he receives it. For Whitman's 200th birthday on May 31, 2017, he is hoping to do a large cast version of the show at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in New York City.

"I hope to take this show all over the world," Scully said. He also believes it is a show that he

Above: In "Whitman, Leaves of Grass Illuminated," Patrick Scully said that the theatrical trick is that everybody has to believe that he, as Whitman, has been allowed to cross back over from the other side. (Photo by Sara Rubinstein)

can continue to perform for a long time. "Many think of Whitman as an old man in a wheelchair. Even if I become infirm, I can still do Whitman. I think of Hal Holbrook, who started his one-man shows of Mark Twain when he was only 29, and he has kept doing them all his life. He is now in his nineties."

Scully said he hopes that people who may have seen the Whitman performance with a large cast, or who may have seen the backyard unplugged version, will also come to this show. "I call this version 'Leaves of Grass Illuminated' because of the clear reference to shining a light on something, but also illuminated manuscripts with added beauty on the page. And I use the video projectors to illuminate parts of the set."

"I would like to see what viewers think are the advantages of the different versions," he added.

As Scully continues to work and refine his show, he said he might tweak something he wrote. But if the words were from Whitman, he might edit them but not rearrange the word structure. "I try to stick as faithfully to it as I can," he said.

Scully, who got his master's in 2008 in teaching English as a second language, is currently teaching part-time at the University of Minnesota. But most of his artistic focus is on the Whitman shows. "Right now in my creative life, this pretty much takes up all the space and energy I have," he said. "Recently I have been thinking about other things I might do. There's nothing concrete yet, but little wisps of thought come drifting through my head and then evaporate and drift away."



"Whitman had a utopian vision of what men's relationships could be, and how that could transform not just locally but the world," Patrick Scully said. "He saw it as a balm for the crass materialism that he saw in his time." (Photo by Chris Cameron)

Coldwater Spring – a place to learn about the past and present

Story and photos
by MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Coldwater Spring, between Minnehaha Park and Fort Snelling (5601 Minnehaha Dr. S.), is public land on which to hike, run, dog walk, bird watch, reflect on the twists and turns of history, and enjoy nature.

Only two years after Coldwater Spring was added to our national park system in 2010, 12 buildings were removed, as were thousands of significant (and lamented) trees. Thirteen of its 29 acres were replanted with trees, shrubs, grasses and wildflowers. Now part of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, the goal of the National Park Service (NPS) was, and is, to restore the area to a prairie oak savanna—a community of scattered oak trees above a layer of prairie grasses and wildflowers. The restoration is ongoing, and will take many years to complete.

Susu Jeffrey, activist and

preservationist, wrote in the Coldwater Journal that, "Coldwater became the birthplace of Minnesota when Army troops camped there from 1820-1823. They mined the nearby limestone bluffs to build Fort Snelling. Coldwater Spring furnished water to the fort for 100 years. The water there still flows at a rate of about 80,000 gallons per day."

"For thousands of years before the arrival of the soldiers and settlers," Jeffrey continued, "Coldwater Spring had been used by Native people as a traditional gathering place. Called Mni Owe Sni in the Dakota language, tribes that are known to have gathered at Coldwater Spring included the Dakota, Anishinabe, Ho Chuck, Iowa, Sauk and Fox people."

While the repurposing of Coldwater Spring has both its fans and its opponents, the land remains an outdoor classroom where visitors can experience lessons of natural history and ecology specific to the Upper Mississippi River site.

Friends of Coldwater has been offering full moon hikes there every month for 16 years. In September, they held their annual Harvest Moon Hike and sing-along. (To see their October schedule, visit friendsofcoldwater.org.) They hike in every kind of weather; no registration is required, and the walks are free and open to the public.

The non-profit organization Mississippi Park Connection provides opportunities for people to connect with the river and have a national park experience. In addition to ongoing programs for members, Mississippi Park Connections offers public programming on the second Saturday of each month, June-Oct., at Coldwater Spring.



The original stone spring house still stands. The rate of Coldwater Spring's flow diminished greatly with the reconstruction of Hiawatha Ave., but remains at an output of about 80,000 gallons per day.



Native plants like Goldenrod and Purple Aster cover the area in late fall.

October's Second Saturday is about discovering the ancient side of Coldwater through fossil hunting and identification.

Coldwater Spring is what is known as a fossiliferous park (rich with fossils) due to Minnesota having been covered by an ocean some 400 million years ago. Join NPS rangers to see what ancient history can be found in the park, and earn a special-edition Paleontologist Junior Ranger badge. This program is free and open to the public on Oct. 8, 9am-noon.

On Oct. 5, local birding celeb Sharon Stiteler (aka the Bird Chick) will be leading an event she calls The Big Sit at Coldwater Spring from 7:30am-6:30pm. Birders of all levels are encouraged to come by for any amount of time. "This is a great place to learn about

bird identification," Stiteler said, "maybe a few tips and tricks, meet local birders and have fun. We will have binoculars, spotting scopes and digiscopes on hand to try." Stiteler works as a park ranger, bird tour guide, photographer, and author. For more information, contact her directly at www.birdchick.com.

To visit Coldwater Spring, from Hwy 55/Hiawatha, turn east (toward the Mississippi) at 54th St., take an immediate right, and drive south on the frontage road for one-half mile past the parking meters. Keep going through the cul-de-sac, past the Coldwater Spring entrance sign and into the free parking lot. Park hours are from 6am-10pm. Dogs are welcome, but must be leashed at all times.

Visit www.parkconnection.org to learn more about membership and programming.



A mature Burr Oak provides an over-story for the seeded prairie below. This is the basis of a prairie-oak savanna, once one of the most common ecosystems in the Midwest. Intact prairie oak savannas are now quite rare.

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Lake Nokomis hosts super

Photos by JILL BOOGREN

Thousands of people came to the Monarch Festival in September to celebrate the mighty monarchs beginning their winter. Festivities included music, dancing, art, poetry, cycle and migration of these magnificent little creatures.



Maya (left) and Kai Riedner pose for photos.



Maisie and her person Cora Freeman sport their wings while in line for La Loma tamales.



From left: Festival volunteers Sheila Heskin, Steve Plachinsky, and Monica Romero explain the value of composting organics for monarchs: Composting returns nutrients to the soil, which in turn grows milkweed and other plants the butterflies need to survive. "Healthy plants equals healthy monarchs," said Romero. To sign up for free curbside organics pickup, residents can contact Solid Waste and Recycling at 612-673-2917.

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Preschool presentation at 6pm
with open house to follow

K-8 presentation at 6:30pm with tours to follow

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Learn about new burial options at this historic cemetery:

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- See a wide selection of crypts and niches now available at the Garden Mausoleum

Where: St. Mary's Cemetery:
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When: Thurs. Oct. 6, 1pm-4pm
Fri. Oct. 7, 10am-2pm
Sat. Oct. 8, 10am-2pm

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er send-off for monarchs

l-Festival de la Monarca at Lake Nokomis in Septem-
2,300-mile journey from Minnesota to Mexico for the
games and other opportunities to learn about the life
s.



Erica Pizarro (left) and Anayli Remarche volunteer as hosts of Monarch Jeopardy. Question: How many monarchs do scientists believe migrate south in winter? Answer: 50 million



A poem by Sofia hangs at Poetry Mobile.



Tara Fahey (left) and Nicole Amaris of Chicks on Sticks bring butterfly love to new heights.

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LONGFELLOW

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Join LCC at the Best Meeting Ever on October 18!

LCC is hosting its Best Meeting Ever General Membership Meeting from 5:30-8:15pm Tuesday, October 18 at Minnehaha Academy North, 3100 West River Parkway. This popular neighborhood event will include a buffet featuring delicious dishes from restaurants in Greater Longfellow, an update on LCC and committees, a vote on future spending, raffle prizes from local businesses, a Resource Fair, and the opportunity to meet your neighbors. It really is the best meeting ever! For details, go to <http://www.longfellow.org/the-best-meeting-ever/>.

LCC's Best. Meeting. Ever.



5:30-8:15pm Tuesday, October 18 at Minnehaha Academy North

Longfellow Chili Cook Off Set for Sunday, November 13



LONGFELLOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF

PLACE: Gandhi Mahal, 3009 27th Ave S
DATE: Sunday, November 13th TIME: 5-7pm
To buy early discount tickets or to enter your chili recipe, go to www.longfellow.org/chili

The Longfellow Community Council's Annual Chili Cook Off and Fundraiser is set for 5-7pm Sunday, November 13 at Gandhi Mahal Restaurant, 3009 27 Ave S. The deadline to enter a chili is Wednesday, November 9. Chili categories will be 'Spicy,' 'Meat,' and 'Vegetarian,' and there will be a Best Overall Winner who will go home with the coveted Longfellow Chili Cook Off Cup, a traveling trophy. Businesses will compete under a separate category. Advanced tickets will be on sale at Gandhi Mahal, as well as online at www.squareup.com/market/longfellow-community-council/chili-cook-off.

Registration Open for Best Meeting Ever Resource Fair

Registration is open through Friday, October 14 for LCC's Best Meeting Ever Resource Fair, held from 5:30-6:30pm Tuesday, October 18 at Minnehaha Academy North, 3100 West River Parkway. Tables and chairs will be provided for all participants and organizations. The cost to participate in the Resource Fair is \$25 for companies/organizations and \$20 for non-profit organizations. Registration fees can be paid by check (made out to the Longfellow Community Council) or online. LCC is also offering sponsorship levels at this year's event! If your business or organization donates \$50 or more to LCC, your logo will

be included on all the promotional materials generated for the meeting, including the program. To register, go to www.longfellow.org/the-best-meeting-ever/resourcefairregistration/.

Support LCC on November 17 through Give to the Max 2016!

Give to the Max is set for Thursday, November 17, and we hope you'll support LCC! As you know, LCC is Greater Longfellow's neighborhood organization, and we're dedicated to making Longfellow the best neighborhood it can be. We're the neighborhood's "go-to" source for questions about development, safety, livability, and building communi-

ty. LCC listens to your feedback about what's important to you in Longfellow—everything from cleaning up the Mississippi River to facilitating discussions between residents and local government. We fund and organize programs, projects, events and activities to work with our neighbors, policy makers and government officials to improve and sustain our neighborhood. To support LCC on Give to the Max, go to www.givemn.org/organization/Longfellow.

Give the Gift of Longfellow this Holiday Season!

The holidays are just around the corner, and LCC has everything you need to celebrate Longfellow. This year's design features the Brackett Rocket. Options include sweatshirts

for \$25, shirts for \$15, and onesies and children's shirts for \$12. There are also copies of this year's "Longfellow365" available. Merchandise is available at the LCC office, 2727 26th Ave S, or online at www.longfellow.org/store.

LCC Hires New Program Manager

Ashleigh Walter is LCC's new Program Manager and joins the organization in October 2016. Proud to call herself a Bennie, Ashleigh left her hometown of Billings, Montana to complete a B.A. in Environmental Studies at the College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph. After landing previous experience in various non-profit roles, Ashleigh finished a 15-month internship in the municipal government sector with the City of Delano, where she

worked intensively with community members and elected officials to successfully advance numerous community development and sustainability initiatives. Ashleigh is passionate about sustainability, community building, and also coffee, traveling, and finding new places to eat curry.



NOTICE

LCC Proposes NRP Plan Modification—Review and Vote Held at October 18th General Membership Meeting

LCC is proposing a plan modification that will contract 346,932.42 of Phase I Housing Program Income funding (Phase I Major Remodeling Program) into Phase II Administrative and program funding. Program Income is funding that has been returned to the organization from low-interest housing loan repayments.

The Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) and Neighborhood and Community Relations Department (NCRD) require that Plan Modifications greater than \$25,000 require community notification and a community vote for approval. The LCC Board of Directors approved this proposed plan modification at the September 15th Board meeting and is recommending it to the community for approval. Notice of this meeting is also being advertised in the LCC Insider and Weekly Round-up newsletters and will

be sent to LCC's email lists.

The funding will be used for the following activities:

- \$150,000 to pay for staff and administrative overhead to support the LCC operations in 2017, 2018 and 2019;
- \$100,000 to create a program to assist residents and property owners to make property repairs based on citations from the City of Minneapolis Inspections, and
- \$96,932.42 to provide marketing and communications support to local businesses through a Business Support Network (BSN)

Total Funding: \$346,932.42

For additional information, please contact LCC's Executive Director Melanie Majors at melanie@longfellow.org or via phone at (612) 722-4529 ext. 14.

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SENA searches for sense of direction as it fashions new plan

Residents encouraged to share what they value in the neighborhood and how to help neighbors make better connections

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

What do you want your neighborhood to look like?

Share your opinions in the Standish-Ericsson neighborhood online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6SBHZB6>.

"We've had a great response to the survey, with more than 300 responses, which is at least 100 more responses than the last SENA survey eight years ago," noted Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA) Board President Molly McCartney.

The survey is the first step in fashioning a new strategic plan for SENA.

This new plan will guide SENA for the next three to five years.

"SENA has been dealing with a changing financial future and neighborhood demographics for the last few years," remarked McCartney. "With the sunseting of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), the 'retirement' of a long-term volunteer base, and many new neighbors in Standish-Ericsson, it became a good time to reevaluate how SENA can best support our community and its needs."

Helping the neighborhood

SENA was formed at the beginning of the NRP (Neighborhood Revitalization Program) to access the funds allocated for neighborhoods.

SENA Neighborhood Coordinator Shirley Yeoman has worked at SENA since 1996 and will retire at the end of this year. "The NRP plans developed by residents through an extensive community engagement process guided our work for many years," explained Yeoman, who lives a few blocks out of SENA in the Hiawatha neighborhood. "We did such a good job of utilizing those funds for projects in the neighborhood that our allocations have been spent (mostly—except for some small remaining pots.)"

Minneapolis chose not to renew the NRP Program but created a new funding source for neighborhood groups called the Citizen Participation Program

"With the sunseting of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), the 'retirement' of a long-term volunteer base, and many new neighbors in Standish-Ericsson, it became a good time to reevaluate how SENA can best support our community and its needs."

—SENA Board President Molly McCartney



SENA staff members Bob Kambertz and Shirley Yeoman serve as "a conduit to collect the energy and talent of neighborhood folks and help funnel that back into the neighborhood in a way that produces positive programs and benefits for everyone," according to Yeoman. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

(CPP). These funds provide basic administration and some communication and community event dollars, but nothing for programming, Yeoman noted. "So, SENA needs to develop a new 'plan' to help guide our work in the neighborhood," she said.

What does SENA do?

SENA's most important role in the neighborhood, according to Yeoman, "is to serve as a conduit to collect the energy and talent of neighborhood folks and help funnel that back into the neighborhood in a way that produces positive programs and benefits for everyone."

"The conduit can also work the opposite direction in that we can be the 'collecting place' for information about resources available and information that impacts people who live here and then get that information out to our residents."

Recently SENA has been working on a water quality project funded by Hennepin County to raise awareness of how everyday actions can help keep Lake Hiawatha, Minnehaha Creek and the Mississippi River clean and healthy.

It is sponsoring the mural being painted on the Dokken Building at the 28th Ave S. and 42nd St. E. intersection.

The organization is also working to develop a Skill-Share program where neighbors teach and learn skills from one another. In April, the focus was on bike maintenance, and in May it was on growing native plants.

SENA has just completed the distribution of a \$30,000 Great Streets Facade Improvement Program grant that helps businesses make exterior improvements, and SENA hopes to receive additional grants in the future.

It may renew its Welcome Committee program shortly.

"There are many accomplishments since the inception of SENA," stated Yeoman. "We brought nearly \$4 million in improvements and programs to the neighborhood with NRP

funds. Those include home improvement loans and grants, a new playground and upgraded building at Lake Hiawatha Park, commercial improvement grants, bicycle racks, home safety programs and grants, a wonderful neighborhood newsletter, and more."

SENA was instrumental in helping to form the West of the Rail Business Association, and still continues to provide essential support to this group to help support neighborhood businesses.

Last year, SENA partnered with Folwell Performing Arts School and artist Greta McLain to apply for and receive a Minnesota State Arts Board grant to do the large Connections mural on the south side of Folwell's building. "It's quite impressive and was a true 'community' project," said Yeoman.

"SENA is a great resource for the neighborhood to learn more about what is happening around us and a way to become involved in making our neighborhoods a great place to live, work, and play," said McCartney, who has lived in Standish for over 12 years. "The value of SENA can be seen every day—from the beautiful public art we have organized at locals schools, business, and utility boxes, to the connections that board members, staff, and volunteers make with policy makers, other community organizations, and our neighbors."

She wouldn't trade her

neighborhood for anywhere else.

In search of direction

The online survey will be open through the fall. Consultants have also been conducting one-on-one interviews with neighborhood stakeholders.

The SENA board will convene retreat events this fall and winter, and the plan will be presented to the public at the annual meeting in February or March.

"My hopes for this process is to learn what our residents value about our community and how SENA can help neighbors make better connections with each other," remarked McCartney. "I also hope for a practical work plan that can guide the organization in the next 3-5 years."

"I am very hopeful that this process will help SENA find a strong sense of direction and help us set some very specific goals. Those two things will help guide decisions about staffing and purpose," said Yeoman.

"I am also very hopeful that many more people will get involved in the work required to achieve the goals we set."



The new mural being painted on the Dokken Building at the 28th Ave S. and 42nd St. E. intersection is sponsored by the Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA). In August, community members gathered to help paint. It is being finished by Roosevelt High School students. (Photo submitted)



SENA has just completed distribution of a \$30,000 Great Streets Facade Improvement Program grant that helps businesses make exterior improvements, and hopes to receive additional grants in the future. Among those that benefitted from the program was Everetts Foods at Cedar and 38th. (Photos submitted)



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.

Annual rummage sale scheduled Oct. 1

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church (4101 37th Ave. S.) will hold their annual rummage sale on Sat., Oct. 1. The sale runs from 9am-1pm with bag time starting at noon. Lunch is served with the best sloppy joes and homemade bars available for purchase. Stop by and check out what they have!

Get your tickets now for "The Rivals"

Corcoran Park Players will present "The Rivals" by Richard Brinsley Sheridan for three performances at Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church.

The production plays Fri.-Sat., Nov. 13-14, at 7:30pm, and Sun., Nov. 15 at 2pm. Performances will take place at Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church, 5011 31st Ave. S. Admission is free with donations to the Food Shelf.

Phone 612-274-4539 for ticket reservations.

Centennial Singers concert scheduled

The Augsburg Centennial Singers will present a concert on Sat., Oct. 22, at 7pm at Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls, 5212 41st Ave. S. The community is invited to enjoy this vibrant men's chorus under the direction of Paul Christensen. No tickets are needed; a free-will offering will be taken. For more information, call 612-724-3691.

Faith Book Club scheduled Oct. 8

The Faith Evangelical Church Book Club meets Sat., Oct. 8, at 12:30am at the Church, 3430 E. 51st St. Come for a discussion of the book "The Round House" by Louise Erdrich, and for fellowship. (Please note change of day and time for this month.)

Open House Wellness Fair planned Oct. 1

An Open House and Wellness Fair will be held on Sat., Oct. 1 from 12:30-5pm at Big River Yoga, 3336 E. 25th St. From 1-3pm there will be free mini sessions with local holistic wellness providers such as Thai massage, Health Coaching, Acupuncture, and Ayurveda as well as local artists. Free Yoga Class (mixed levels) is at 3:30pm. Everyone is welcome to stop in, say hello, enjoy their sampling of services and eat some treats!

Correction



Editor's Note: We apologize to Jean Shannon for the mistake we made in the last issue of the Longfellow Nokomis Messenger. In the LoLa Art Crawl photo collage we ran her image "Cat," but with the wrong information under it. The information should have been:

Jean Shannon is one of the original organizers of LoLa. Shannon is a printmaker—woodblock prints, monoprints, stencil and screen prints using imagery drawn from years of living in Japan and her interest in folk art. "I like printmaking because it is a democratic art, available to all. Whether the image is a folk toy or a deity, I hope that it awakens an interest in cross-cultural meanings and gives visual delight.

N.A. group meets every Friday

A Narcotics Anonymous group meets every Friday evening at 7pm at Faith Evangelical Lutheran, 3430 E. 51st St. All are welcome to attend.

AA and NA meets

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

Benefit planned for Restorative Justice

A benefit concert for Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Partnership (SLRJP) will be held Sat., Oct. 8, 6:30-8:30pm at the Longfellow Community Center, 3435 36th Ave. S. The event will feature "The Biscuit Boys" and a dessert bar provided by local restaurants/bakeries.

In keeping with its Hope, Healing, and Wholeness Initia-

tive, and its commitment to the community, Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church is sponsoring the evening to raise funds in support SLRJP. The Restorative Justice Partnership was selected because it seeks to rebuild relationships between people when an offense has taken place. The project, "[promotes] reconciliation and healing with our youth and within our community.... Its mission is to build community by providing the opportunity to repair harm by involving the victim, offender, and community in solutions that promote healing, accountability, and reconciliation."

A free-will donation will be taken at the door. All funds raised will go directly to The Restorative Justice Partnership. People can come anytime between 6:30-8:30pm to enjoy some bluegrass music (www.thebiscuitboyband.com) and a special treat!

Baked Potato Dinner planned Oct. 31

The Annual Baked Potato Dinner will be held at Faith Ev. Lutheran Church, 3430 E. 51st St., on Reformation Sun., Oct. 31, beginning at 11:30am. The menu includes a large baked potato, a variety of toppings, salad bar, beverage, and pie. Cost is \$9 for adults, \$5 for children five years to 12 years, under five, free, or a family ticket for \$25. Proceeds go to Faith's Education Fund.

Longfellow Garden Club meets Oct. 1

Stop weeding and have supper at El Norteno on Wed., Oct. 12, with the Longfellow gardening folks to celebrate the 2016 growing season and to ask "How Did Your Gardens Grow?"

A fabulous fall, tomatoes galore, some still ripening in the window sill — what more could a gardener ask? Compare notes and find out.

Insects may have had their way with your cukes and the beetles with your roses, but some of us have bee and butterfly-friendly ways of limiting their damage. Bring your tips for smart and healthy gardening and your questions. We'll use them to brainstorm activities and topics for next year's programs.

Supper starts when you can arrive, beginning at 5:30pm, and discussion will wind down about 8pm.

El Norteno is located at the NE corner of E. Lake St. and 40th Ave.

Dinner and a Movie planned Oct. 26

Dinner and a Movie will present "Selma: Bridge to the Ballot"

on Wed., Oct. 26, 5:30-8pm at Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S. Dinner starts at 5:30, and the movie at 6:30. After the movie, there will be a discussion about the movie and what we can do today. This event is open to everyone. Childcare is provided.

Storytelling and singing planned

Join singer/songwriter Tim Houlihan as he leads a round-robin of artists telling stories and playing songs based around a different theme each Saturday from 7-9pm. Seating is limited at the DEMO Center For Music, 3520 E. 28th St., so plan to arrive early! Refreshments are available or BYOB.

Programs will feature:
—Oct. 1: Annie Fitzgerald, Brian Larson, and Brett Johnson;
—Oct. 8: Nici Peper and Simon Husbands; and
—Oct. 15, Carey Keavey and J.J. Benson

2016 Lake St. Bash scheduled Nov. 10

The 2016 Lake St. Bash will be held Thur., Nov. 10, 5:30-8:30pm at El Nuevo Rodeo 3rd Floor Ballroom, 3003 27th Ave. Celebrate the corridor's nooks and crannies at the Lake St. Council's annual fundraiser. There will be delectable Mexican cuisine from El Nuevo Rodeo, live music, beer and wine samples, plus silent auction items from hundreds of Lake St. businesses. Parking is available at U.S. Bank (2800 E. Lake St.), and tickets are \$30 pre-sale and \$40 at the door.

Want to donate a silent auction item? Contact ZoeAna Martinez at 612-822-1912 or zmartinez@lakestreetcouncil.org.

Lunch and a Movie planned Oct. 27

Join friends for lunch and a movie ("The Trouble with Harry") Oct. 27, 11:30am-2pm at Bethel Lutheran Church, 4120 17th Ave. S.. RSVP for this event to 612-729-5499.

Local teacher given Presidential Award

South High math teacher Morgan Fierst has been named a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

According to the PAEMST website, the awards "are the nation's highest honors for teachers of mathematics and science (including computer science). Awardees serve as models for their colleagues, inspiration to their communities, and leaders

in the improvement of mathematics and science education."

MPS Superintendent Ed Graff also congratulated Fierst, saying she is an "outstanding role model who provides passionate, student-focused education."

"Fierst is a devoted educator for her students, an inspiration to her colleagues and a committed partner with families and the South community. By creating authentic relationships with her students and approaching her work with a social justice lens, she helps students see the real-world applications and implications of their education," Gaff said.

Healthy Seniors plan programs

Nokomis Healthy Seniors will hold "Health and Enrichment Program: Physical Therapy" on Wed., Oct. 12, 1:30-2:30pm at Nokomis Square Cooperative, 5015-335th Ave. S.

On Thur., Nov. 3, 11:15am-noon, the Health and Enrichment Program will be at Bethel Lutheran Church, 4120 17th Ave. S. The topic will be "Keeping Your Brain Healthy,"

Both programs are free, and no reservations are necessary.

Health Fair scheduled Oct. 17

There will be a Health Fair on Mon., Oct. 17, 11:45am-1:30pm, at Bethel Lutheran Church, 4120 17th Ave. S. The fair will include a soup lunch, flu shots, blood pressure checks, and resources, followed by a speaker on "Advanced Care Planning" from Fairview Health Services. The fair is jointly presented by Nokomis Healthy Seniors, Longfellow-Seward Healthy Seniors, TRUST, and CoAm. Please call ahead to 612-729-5499 if you want flu shot at the Fair.

Danish Center plans monthly breakfasts

Danish American Center, 3030 W. River Pkwy., has scheduled their yearly Aebleskiver Breakfasts. Mark your calendars with the breakfast dates for Oct. 16, Nov. 20 (with the Art Fair), Jan. 15, Feb. 12 (Valentine's Day Brunch), Mar. 19, Apr. 23, and May 14 (Mother's Day Brunch).

The cost for regular "all you can eat and drink" breakfasts is \$9 per adult and \$5 for children ages 5-12. Younger children are free. The menu includes aebleskiver (Danish pancake balls), scrambled eggs, sausage, juice, and coffee. (Brunches have a different cost and menu). Every breakfast runs from 9:30am-12:30pm and no reservation is required.

Continued on page 13

In Our Community

Continued from page 12

Volunteers needed in the river gorge

Just off the main path along the Minneapolis riverfront lies a surprisingly beautiful and rare oak savanna and woodlands tended by River Gorge Stewards volunteers. Volunteers are needed to join Friends of the Mississippi River Sat., Oct. 1, 9-11am, to spend the morning removing invasive species, hauling brush and other important restoration tasks in the oak savanna and woodland along the Longfellow neighborhood. This area includes the highest quality plant communities remaining in the River Gorge, including a mesic prairie and a remnant oak brushland/woodland undergoing restoration to oak savanna. Capacity is limited, and registration is required. Learn more at <http://fmr.org/events/2016/10/01/workday-oak-savanna>.

Rally for Rakhma scheduled Oct. 1

On Sat., Oct. 1, the Third Annual Rally for Rakhma will take place at the Lake Nokomis main beach from 9:30-11:30am. This event is a fun run, walk or bike ride around Lake Nokomis to support those with memory loss at Rakhma Homes.

Rakhma is a local nonprofit that provides a safe, loving home to those with Alzheimer's disease or dementia. Everyone is invited to set a \$100 minimum fundraising goal and encourage their family and friends to join you or support you in making a difference for those with memory loss. Awards will be awarded for the participants who raise the largest funds.

All proceeds raised will go to the addition of our fourth home in Golden Valley.

Arts, Crafts & Bake Sale planned Oct. 15

St. Peder's Lutheran Church, 4600 E. 42nd St., will hold their Arts, Crafts and Bake Sale on Sat., Oct. 15, noon-3pm. The sale will feature locally made fiber arts, Nordic crafts, artisan jewelry and more. Lefse and krumkake will be made fresh all afternoon, and pie and fair trade coffee will be served.

Events planned at E. Lake Library

Every Sunday - English Conversation Circles 3-5pm

Every Friday - Family Storytime 10:15 Baby Storytime 11:15am

Every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - K to 12th Grade Homework Help 3:30-7:30pm

Thur., Oct. 6, 6-8pm, Teen Fandom Club

Tues., Oct. 4, 7-8pm, Non-fiction Book Club: When to Rob a Bank

Wed., Oct. 5, 10:30-11:20am, Biography Book Club: Red Notice

Wed., Oct. 5, 10:15am, Childcare Group Story Time

Tues., Oct. 10, 6:30-7:30pm, Genealogy Research: Finding Your Latin American Ancestors

Fri., Oct. 14, 10:30-11:30am, Adult Book Club: Minneapolis Underworld

Sat., Oct. 15, 1-2:30pm, East Lake Library Writers' Workshop

Mon., Oct. 17, 6:30-7:30pm, Quick Reads Book Club: Sula

Tues., Oct. 18, 6:30-7:30pm, East Lake Cultural Series: Japanese American Society

Thur., Oct. 20, 3-5pm, Lego Lab for Kids

Talk on personal safety set Oct. 6

Nokomis Healthy Seniors will hold a Health and Enrichment Program on Personal Safety on Thur., Oct. 6, 11:15am-noon, at Bethel Lutheran Church,

4120 17th Ave. S. Karen Notsch, Crime Prevention Specialist, Minneapolis Police Department, will speak about personal safety. The event is free, and no RSVP is needed.

Adoption support group meets Oct. 4

The Adoption Support Network holds monthly support groups at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church (4101 37th Ave. S.), for parents and teens who have been adopted. Next meeting will be held on Tues., Oct. 4 at 6:30pm.

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

Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors October Events

"Medicare Enrollment: What You Need to Know" will be the topic at the Tues., Oct. 18 Senior Social/Health Talk, which starts at 10:30 am and meets at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St.

Two fall Yoga for Seniors classes will be held on Mondays and meet at Bethlehem Covenant Church, 3141 43rd Ave. S. Gentle Yoga for Seniors is from 10-11am, and Yoga for Structural Integrity is from 11:15am-12:15pm. Yoga classes from Oct. 3 - Dec. 5 are offered as a 10-week package for \$50.

There are still spaces open for the "Tier 2 - Exploring Wa-

tercolor: Colors Galore" classes on Thursdays, Oct. 13 and Nov. 17 from 1:30-3pm at St. Peder's Lutheran Church, 4600 E. 42nd St. These classes are designed for those who took the first watercolor series this spring, or for experienced watercolor artists. Classes are \$5/each. Oct. 13 will be a guided ocean sunset, and Nov. 17 will be watercolor on bookmarks. Registration is due one week before each class.

A monthly Diabetes Support Group for adults of all ages will be held Oct. 12 from 6:30-8pm at Hiawatha School Park Recreation Center, 4305 E. 42nd St.

A Low Vision Support Group will be held on Oct. 11 at 1:30pm at Trinity Apartments, 2800 E. 31st St.

Also, we're looking for volunteer drivers and "friendly visitors" for seniors. Call Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for more information on activities, services or volunteer opportunities.

Art of baton twirling makes a return

Dance-Twirl Minnesota is opening a new location in the neighborhood at 1611 E. 46th St.

Baton twirling was once a thriving sport in Minnesota but as instructors pursued other avenues, the sport that attracted thousands of twirlers to the St. Paul Winter Carnival soon disappeared. Jacinda Miller, owner of Dance-Twirl Minnesota, wants to change that by offering classes right in the heart of the metro so more kids can enjoy the sport.

"Twirling is great activity for both boys and girls," Miller said. "With our proven teaching strategies kids can feel a sense of accomplishment from their very first day and their confidence soars as they continue with their class. Kids also benefit from improving their hand-eye coordination, physical fitness and meeting new friends."

Dance-Twirl Minnesota started in 2010 with a studio located in Eagan but Miller and Dance Director, Jennie Becker, both have resided in South Minneapolis and feel that this area could benefit from a new variety of performing arts. Both Miller and Becker have coached new to national championship athletes.

"Parenting for Peace in the Home" planned Oct. 3

Minnehaha Academy and MAPT (Minnehaha Academy Parents Together) will present "8 Pillars of Parenting for Peace at Home" as part of the 2016-2017 lineup for "The Scoop Speaker Series."

The Scoop Speaker Series are parent education events are free and open to the public.

Starting off the series is Samantha Moe, M.A. SLP, and a Certified Parent Coach, who will provide caregivers with a step-by-step approach to dramatically reduce defiance and disrespect, and re-establish confidence and authority in the home. As founder of the holistic and innovative Mad2Glad Blueprint, her passion is teaching practical ways to decrease stress.

If you are feeling stressed out and exhausted, or tired of your child's poor listening skills,

lack of self-control and defiant behavior, this event is for you. Discover why your child pushes limits, tries to control everything, and how you can transform your home into an enjoyable space rather than a war zone. In this interactive presentation, you will receive solutions from the Mad2Glad Blueprint that are key to having a calmer, more cooperative child and restoring your sanity.

The presentation will take place Mon., Oct. 3, 6:45-8:15pm at the Minnehaha Academy Lower & Middle School Chapel, 4200 W. River Pkwy.

Please RSVP for this free event at <http://info.minnehahaacademy.net/speaker-series-2016>.

Early voting is open to all eligible voters in Minneapolis

Voting for the November election has already begun, and voters can vote early by mail or in person at one of four locations around Minneapolis.

Eligible voters that plan ahead can save themselves from standing in long lines on Election Day. Absentee voting is easy, and any voter may vote early.

Early voting (absentee voting) began Sept. 23. Standard hours throughout the absentee voting period are 8am-4:30pm, Mon.-Fri. During the final two weeks before the election, hours will be extended and include weekend times. All early voting hours are posted on the website at vote.minneapolismn.gov.

Early in-person voting is convenient. It especially helps voters who need special accommodations, such as language support, that the extra time, attention and on-site resources of early in-person voting afford more readily than the polls might on Election Day.

In-person locations (you can choose any of the locations) are:

—South Early Vote Center, 1860 E. 28th St., in the former Roof Depot building;

—Downtown Early Vote Center, 217 S. Third St.;

—North Early Vote Center, 2100 Plymouth Ave. N., in the Minneapolis Urban League building; and

—Northeast Early Vote Center, 2516 Central Ave. NE in the Water Bar building.

All of these locations meet accessibility standards. The new sites allow more privacy and easier access for voters than the City Hall Rotunda used to.

Early voters can save time by taking these three steps

1. Making sure you're registered to vote, or preregistering. Voters can register or check the status of their registrations at vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters/register. The last day to preregister for the general election in Minneapolis is Oct. 18.

2. Downloading and completing the absentee ballot application form in advance and bringing it when voting. Find the request form at vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters/absentee.

3. Looking at a sample ballot ahead of time and even bringing it to refer to when voting. Sample ballots are available at vote.minneapolismn.gov/voters/ballot.

Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

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

Pastor Susan Masters
Sundays:
9:15 am - Adult Education
10:30 am - Worship
October 31 - 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Trunk & Treat in Parking Lot

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

Rev. Matthew Kennedy
Children especially welcome
Sunday Schedule:
Contemporary Worship - 8:45 am
Sunday School for All - 10:00 am
Traditional Worship - 11:00 am
Español - 1:30 pm
Wonderful Wednesday Meal - 5:45 pm

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

Pastor Steven Reiser
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
(Childcare Provided)
(Wheelchair Accessible)

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran
4101 37th Ave. S. • 612-722-9527
www.minnehahacomunion.com

Pastors Dan and Sally Ankerfelt
Sunday Worship - 9:45 am
Sunday School - 9:45 am
Child Care Available
(Wheelchair Accessible)

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

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

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

Julie A. Ebbesen, Pastor
Sundays: 9 am Worship (childcare available)
9 am Children/Youth Faith Formation
10 am Coffee & Fellowship
10:20 am Adult Faith Formation
(Handicap acc., Braille)

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

Pastors Derek Johnson & Matt Oxendale
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:30 am
Sunday School 9:20 a.m.
AA Meetings Tuesdays/Sundays 7:00 pm

Projects of the Neighborhood Churches Include:

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

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

Dancing into a new life in the U.S.; discovering a passion to dance

Dance is great way to meet people, which can be especially important when you're new to a community and a country. That's what Prachi Sansare Matkari, discovered when she moved here from India to Minnesota.

"Three years ago, I came to an unknown land with a completely different culture. I had no family other than my husband, and no friends. I found a college friend in Minneapolis and then I got introduced to Bollywood Dance Scene."

Bollywood Dance Scene (BDS) is a non-profit organization that makes its home at

Tapestry Folkdance Center. BDS brings together Indian and non-Indian dancers in a community dedicated to teaching Indian dance, celebrating cultural diversity and promoting social harmony. It offers drop-in Bollywood-style dance classes for students of all ages and abilities, as well as opportunities to perform.

Divya Maiya, a founding member and artistic director for BDS said that "Bollywood is inspired by many dance forms: classical and folk Indian dance, street dance, hip-hop, belly dance and jazz. It does not conform to a strict format. It is over

the top ridiculous; sometimes you need that to forget all the serious happenings in your life."

BDS was just what Prachi needed. "My career was in a kind of reverse mode at that time. I was juggling new responsibilities and a new relationship. BDS provided a way to unwind and enjoy life with a group of new friends. I found my second family!"

She also found a new calling. Prachi became part of the choreography team for BDS's Fringe show, "Spicy Masala Chai." She now teaches Bollywood dance at Tapestry.

She's not the only one who

found that dance can change lives. "Dancing has helped me to grow as a person," said Aravinth Vijayakandhan. "I used to be reclusive and shy. Dancing helped me socialize with others."

Unlike Prachi, who always knew she loved to dance, Aravinth was a behind-the-scenes kind of guy who worked on the video production team of BDS. One day he had to join an impromptu dance as part of a Fringe show. After that, he started attending the classes and discovered he was "totally into dancing." He eventually became a dance teacher with the group.

"BDS is growing and becoming more than just a dance class. We provide opportunities for people to take leadership roles," says Divya. "Since 2014, we have mentored and encouraged dancers to teach Thursday classes. Last year we offered a teaching workshop training dancers on how to lead and teach. Today we have close to 10 Bollywood choreographers and teachers."

You'll find budding talent at the Thursday evening dance classes, 7 to 8:30pm at Tapestry Folkdance Center, 3748 Minnehaha Ave. S. Go and check them out.

Classifieds

Messenger

Want ads must be received by the Messenger by Oct. 17 for the Oct. 27 issue. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

Messenger Want Ads are \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to Messenger Classifieds, 125 1st Ave. NW, PO Box 168, Minneapolis, MN 55369. Want ads must be mailed to the Messenger before Oct. 17 for the Oct. 27 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to denis@deruyternelson.com. Call 651-917-4183 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

CHURCH SALE

Arts, Crafts & Bake Sale, Sat., Oct. 15, 12 - 3 pm. Lefse and krumkake made during sale. Pie and coffee served. St. Peder's Lutheran, 4200 W. 42nd St. Mpls. 10-16

FOR SALE

200+ vintage radio tubes, tube tester and manual. \$100 cash 612-724-3068. 10-16

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faucet to a new addition. I can save you money on electrical and plumbing. Call John at 651-231-5652. B-16

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Professionally educated, licensed, and insured male massage therapist in the heart of Longfellow. Specializing in orthopedic massage from the common to the complex. Bring this ad and receive \$30 off your first investigative session. For more information go to: www.TonySchwartzBodywork.com. B-16

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block from Lake and Hiawatha. 612-333-7525. B-16

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Bicycle bread man

Continued from page 5



Plus he was friends with a local whose parents owned a bakery and lived upstairs. The smells wafting up from their bakery enticed him.

Back in Portland, OR, Mac-

Photo left: Christopher MacLeod of Laune Bread likes his bread with a moist interior and a chewy exterior, and uses at least 50% of whole grains in his breads. The sourdough is for more than taste, and there is no yeast added, making the bread easier to digest. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Leod completed his degree in communications and German in 2011, only to discover that marketing firms weren't hiring. So, he started working at a German bakery there in Portland and learned the basics of mixing and shaping, getting his foundation in bread making. A year later, he was hired by a wood-fired bakery in northern California. It was there that he developed his ideas of bread.

It's important to MacLeod to use ingredients from the region or state. Because of that, he doesn't make olive bread in Minnesota. In-

stead, he incorporates items such as cranberries, apples, and roasted leeks. He builds upon the German style of using a lot of seeds and some dried fruits. The German bread is denser, although he works to make it lighter by using a lot of water. He likes his bread with a moist interior and a chewy exterior, which helps the shelf life. MacLeod uses at least 50% of whole grains in his breads.

"The bread I make is the bread I want to eat."

—Christopher MacLeod

Bread delivered

Each week, MacLeod sells a half wheat, half white sourdough made with whole wheat flour, wheat flour, rye flour, salt, and malted barley flour for \$7 a loaf. He also offers the Bäckers Whim—a rotating cast of breads that has included Cardamom Raisin Oatmeal, Caramelized Onion, Spelt Sesame, and Roasted Leek and Black Pepper for \$8 a loaf.

Other items for sale and delivery include six sourdough wheaty pretzel knots for \$10 and seedy granola (454 grams) featuring Skinny Jake's Fat Honey, an urban Minneapolis apiary, for \$7.50.

A monthly bread subscription is \$28-30. Or, customers can opt for a bi-weekly service for \$14-16.

Delivery to about 70 subscribers occurs each Tuesday and

Wednesday morning when the bread is ready to be cut into and eaten. Deliveries via bicycle are made between Interstate 35W on the west, Minnehaha Ave. on the east, 28th St. to the north and Minnehaha Pkwy. on the south.

Or, subscriptions can be picked up at several drop-off points including: On Wednesdays—Conexion at Open Book, Anelace Coffee, The Baker's Front Porch (41st S. Elliot); on Thursdays—Canteen, Dogwood East Lake and The Baker's Front Porch (41st S./Elliot).

During the summer, bread was sold at the Nokomis and Tiny Diner Farmers Markets, as well.

For more information, browse launebread.com.

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On Wednesday and Thursday mornings, rain or shine, Christopher MacLeod of Laune Bread can be found delivering bread via bicycle in South Minneapolis. The delivery area boundaries are between Interstate 35W east to Minnehaha Ave., and 28th St. south to Minnehaha Pkwy. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

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Firehouse Performing Arts Center settles into Station 21

By JAN WILLMS

From its inception in 1894 up until 1958, Hook and Ladder Station 21 was housed at 3010 Minnehaha Ave. Today, the former fire station is again home to Hook and Ladder, but this time, it's a theater and lounge.

The Firehouse Performing Arts Center (FPAC) has taken over the building, which was Patrick's Cabaret's location for the past 17 years. Chris Mozena, executive director of FPAC, said the organization is iconic to the building and its historic nature. "We kind of wanted to honor that history," he noted, "and the predominant footprint of this nonprofit is the Hook and Ladder Theater that we operate."

At first, planning to operate under the FPAC name as a performing arts center, the feedback was that if the group was going to have a bona fide theater in the building, it should have its own name. "That seemed to resonate with the board of directors and with myself, so hence, Hook and Ladder was born," Mozena explained.

"FPAC also has a couple of other studios in the back of the building. Upstairs houses a dance company office and our offices, a kitchenette, restrooms with showers and one non-arts affiliated organization," Mozena continued.

He said the original fire station had horse-drawn wagons, so the property that abuts the alley had stables for horses. When those were torn down, two additional studios were built. Today they are occupied by the Zorongo Flamenco Dance Theater & School and Jawaahir Dance Company. Those organiza-



Minnesota Music legend James Samuel "Cornbread" Harris Sr. performs at the Hook and Ladder. (Photo submitted)

tions, along with Hook and Ladder, are independent, but all exist in FPAC, according to Mozena.

Opening in September, the theater has already hosted musical acts and will have its premier theater performance Oct. 13 when Patrick Scully, the founder of Patrick's Cabaret, presents his one-man show on Walt Whitman, called "Leaves of Grass Illuminated."

"This is a really special performance that has taken over a decade in the process of research and development," Mozena said. "Patrick just got back from a run in New York City, where he got rave reviews. This is a premiere of the final finished product and will be our first theatrical."

In the last few weeks, Hook and Ladder held an open house for artists in the neighborhood and hosted five visual artists for the LoLa Art Crawl. They also held a First Responders Chili Cookoff as a LoLa after-party.

"We rent the theater space out

to instructors for dance classes for performance theater rehearsals," Mozena said. "A couple of days a week are dedicated to community groups, outside organizations and business associations, whoever has a need to use this space. And there's room in that mix for instructors to have classes."

Mozena said that FPAC will be following the tradition of Patrick's Cabaret in the sense that both organizations were about utilizing space and transforming it. "The new organization has a slightly more ambitious programming schedule in mind," he added.

Mozena has had his foot in both worlds, as he was the music director at Patrick's for the past six years before stepping into his role as executive director of FPAC. "I have over a decade of nonprofit service that has an entertainment bend to it," he said. He has been an independent record promoter and national radio programming conference coordinator, record label

owner, club GM and art curator.

"When I was promoting records, when there was still a record industry, our office was also the office that hosted an annual conclave of radio station programmers," Mozena said. "These were the people with the key to airways who decided who got played and how frequently, and they still do. They descend on Minneapolis every mid-July."

Mozena explained that working with that group was his first introduction to the nonprofit arts world. "That prepared me for Patrick's," he claimed. "But there I was limited in the scope of stuff that I was allowed to curate. I always had the desire to cross over, and now I have the opportunity."

The Hook and Ladder Theater has a new sound system and stage, as well as additional licensing for beer and wine that will be effective in mid-October.

"This is a really old building," Mozena said, "and we had to bring it up to code. The easy part was painting the walls."

"The most challenging part, hands down, was the licensing," he stated. "My understanding is they are updating the protocols and systems Oct. 3 to be more streamlined, but that doesn't help us. We had a great licensing inspector who helped us along the way, but this turned out to be a larger project that took money we hadn't necessarily budgeted." He said the building owner had made investments in a new sprinkler system and hand-capped renovations.

"At this early juncture, the most rewarding thing is the posi-

tive feedback we hear from guests and artists, many who are visiting the venue for the first time," Mozena said. He noted that the center is planning to get a marquee with some assistance from a Lake St. Council grant. "They used to fly a big flag on the roof," he said.

Although the FPAC is currently run by volunteers, with a couple of independent contractors, there is a very active board of directors, according to Mozena. He said a couple of things distinguish Hook and Ladder Theater and Lounge.

"We are carrying on the tradition of hosting the Roots, Rock & Deep Blues Festival. That was my baby, and it has been fun to see it evolve. That work prepared me for this too. It is an intense day with five stages, five or six restaurants participating and 30 plus acts, held in mid-July."

"And I do believe we are probably the only solar-powered theater in the area. Our goal with future updates is to eventually have a zero carbon impact."

Mozena said some of the fingerprints of Patrick's Cabaret, which celebrated its 30th anniversary before leaving this space, can still be felt in the new theater. "We still want to be a home for local artists, from emerging to established ones," he said. "We figure with this reconfiguration and new state of the art sound system, we're going to be a little more flexible and multi-use in nature."

"We're starting out with baby steps," he continued, "but we are excited about the future here, bringing quality entertainment to the community."

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