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Longfellow Nokomis

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Minnehaha Townhomes expected to be occupied within a month

Families begin moving into the first new public housing in Minneapolis since 2010

The Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA) has opened the city's first new public housing since 2010 to 16 area families experiencing homelessness.

The Minnehaha Townhomes are owned and managed by MPHA and families come as referrals from the Hennepin County shelter system. Families began moving in at the beginning of March and MPHA anticipates full occupancy by the end of the month.

The four buildings revitalize a long-vacant site in the East Nokomis neighborhood, donated by the City of Minneapolis. The townhomes include four two-bedroom and 12 three-bedroom units reserved for families below 30 percent of area median income.

At the cost of approximately \$5 million, the Minnehaha Townhomes represent the financial contributions of MPHA, Minnesota Housing, the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, the Met Council, Federal Home Loan Bank, and Otto Bremer Trust.

"These 16 new units are opening as we embark on our long-term plan to preserve and expand MPHA's housing across the city," said MPHA Executive Director Greg Russ. "They also show the level of quality, sustainability, and household amenities we can provide to families when we construct modern public housing."



Sixteen new townhomes are housed in the four new buildings. The total cost of the project was approximately \$5 million. (Illustration provided)



The 16 new townhomes represent the first new public housing in eight years opened by the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority. (Photo provided)

Hennepin County's Coordinated Entry process is designed to ensure that individuals and families with the highest vulnerability, service needs, and length of homelessness receive top priority in housing placement. The townhomes are helping to fill a gap in the process, as 70 percent of families that are eligible for Coordinated Entry are waiting for permanent supportive housing—sometimes spending up to a year in the shelter system.

"This is really a dream project for us as far as needs go," said Hennepin County Housing Referral Coordinator Sarah Hunt. "For

the families that we have been able to refer, it directly correlates with a population that we were unable to send to other housing. The unique nature of these affordable units paired with services is exactly what has been identified as an ongoing need."

The families who live at the Minnehaha Townhomes receive services from the county and several rapid rehousing providers, offering intensive case management up-front to help families get oriented to the area, assistance with basic housing needs, referrals for ongoing needs, and more.

"The families who have been identified have not had any other options, and for them it's a big boost," said Hennepin County Shelter Team Supervisor Pat Hartnagel. "It's amazing to see the things they've worked through and accomplished, purely because of the hope to have this housing."

The broader impact of this housing is being felt for the Hennepin County team already. "It's one thing to have 16 units open up and allow stability for families to have a place to call home, but it's also directly opening up spaces in emergency shelters for

other families in crisis," said Hunt. The site on Riverview Rd. includes a playground, ample green space, and community patio. The townhomes are located on the Green Line light rail between two major job centers—Downtown Minneapolis and Bloomington/MOA/MSP. They are walking distance to the VA Medical Center and Minnehaha Regional Park.

The Minneapolis Public Housing Authority manages 6,000 units of public housing and 5,000 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers, serving more than 26,000 people in Minneapolis.

New tattoo shop owner hopes to thrive in East Nokomis

By STEPHANIE FOX

The increasingly trendy East Nokomis commercial neighborhood at 34th Ave. and 50th St. is now the home of Nokomis Tattoo, a new higher-end tattoo studio run by Mike Welsh, tattoo name, 'Metal Mike.'

"In tattooing," Mike explained, "there is a long and rich history of not using your given name." But, his given name is on the required paperwork from the Department of Health, his incorporation papers and the purchase agreement for the building now housing the newly established tattoo parlor.

Nokomis Tattoo, 4933 S. 34th Ave., opened Mar. 1, one day after passing the health department inspection. Mike said he was expecting a slow start. "I didn't think we'd get a walk-in, but in the first hour, a lady who works at a local coffee shop came in for a tattoo." Other clients soon followed, having seen the



sign on the front of the soon-to-be-opened shop.

Mike, who now lives in the East Nokomis neighborhood,

had grown up in the Twin Cities, leaving in 1998 to start his voca-

Tattoo artist Allison Pegoraro and tattoo studio owner "Metal Mike" Welsh wait for clients at the entrance of Nokomis Tattoo. (Photo by Stephanie Fox)

tion as a graffiti artist, working as a line cook, and moving from city to city to see the country and practice his craft.

He relocated every year or two, from Louisville to Erie to Columbus, Atlanta to Jacksonville, to mostly economically distressed rust belt and southern cities. His art got him arrested several times. Spray painting property that's not your own is a felony, and he spent time in jail for it, including 60 days in Detroit. But, after a year, he'd proven himself to the system, and his record was expunged.

Then, when a friend, a tattoo shop owner name Jay Fish offered

Continued on page 4

“Write to the River” project seeks spring submissions

By MARGIE O’LOUGHLIN

If you’ve ever wanted to submit a piece of writing for publication but have felt intimidated, now is your chance. The online journal “Write to the River” (WTTR) just opened its spring submission period for poetry and prose inspired by the Mississippi River.

WTTR is coordinated by writer Leslie Thomas and is offered in partnership with Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR). FMR is a local non-profit that engages more than 5,000 people annually as river advocates and protectors.

This is how WTTR works. Each season, one photograph is chosen by a team of writers and river enthusiasts. The image is selected from photos provided by FMR volunteer photographer Tom Reiter. His photos capture different scenes, elements, and activities along the Upper Mississippi River basin throughout the year. The chosen image is offered as a starting point to inspire creative writing, and to showcase the river’s beauty in every season.

A brief caption is given to the image, and the location where it was shot is shared. There are accompanying questions such as what feelings does the image evoke? Does it remind you of a past experience? Can you imagine walking here? What sounds, smells and tastes does the image bring to mind?

The upcoming spring issue will be the 9th quarterly issue of WTTR. “I couldn’t have gotten this off the ground without the help of sue rich, FMR’s director of communications,” Thomas said. “I initially contacted her with a different version of this idea; I imagined a full watershed poetry contest complete with judges.”

Thomas continued, “To provide more options for creative expression, sue suggested we include prose as well as poetry. We discussed a seasonal publication, rather than a one-time contest. Tom Reiter’s splendid photographs of the river and its wild surroundings were added for their power to inspire. I’ve received submissions from people who consider themselves writers—but also from many who don’t. The writing comes from people of all ages and backgrounds. There have been stories from a retired tugboat captain, an essay written by a nurse who lives on a houseboat, poetry and memoir reflecting the many ways that people treasure the Mississippi River.”

Following the snowiest February ever recorded in Minnesota, what does the approach of spring mean to you? With the gorge of the Mighty Mississippi running right through Longfellow, it’s easy to connect with nature in this urban wilderness.

To submit an original piece of prose or poetry, view Tom Reiter’s spring photo prompt at www.fmr.org/writetotheriver/spring2019, or have a look at the river somewhere as it winds its way through the neighborhood. The deadline for Spring 2019 submissions is May 15.



The spring photo prompt was taken at the Pine Bends Scientific and Natural Scenic Area by photographer Tom Reiter.

TAKING TIME

By Jim Larson (Wabasha, MN)

The sun has done its best all day
to turn the ice back to water
but the River won’t have it.
The River knows to rest this time of year;
no tugs, no barges, no kayaks.
The empty trees all have the same idea.
Even the buildings
have their eyes closed.

Time to put this day back with all the others.
Time to gather up a few friends
at a quiet table. Get some talk flowing about
what keeps you warm below the surface.

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Next Deadline: April 15 • Next Issue: April 25



GENERATIONAL CHANGES IN HOME OWNERSHIP WORKSHOPS

When you’re looking at probably the biggest asset in your life (a home), how do you get your financial “house” in order to purchase, maintain or prepare to sell? In this workshop series we’ll tackle key questions at common stages of the process: first time buying, buying and selling, and downsizing + aging in place.

APRIL 9, 6PM: FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS
APRIL 11, 6PM: BUYING AND SELLING
APRIL 17, 5PM: DOWNSIZING

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Letters to the Editor

Neighbors lobby for alternative transportation

Dear Editor:

It's no secret that when more of us walk, bike, and take the train or bus, our lives are better, communities are stronger, and our state is healthier, happier and environmentally and economically stronger. As Nokomis, Corcoran, Longfellow, and Standish-Ericsson neighbors, we recently participated in the 2019 Minnesota Bike Summit and met with our state legislator, Representative Jim Davnie, to discuss funding biking, walking, and transit, and the badly needed hands-free cell phone legislation.

We want to thank Rep. Davnie for meeting with us to discuss these issues that are important for our community. We think that making walking, bicycling, and transit convenient, safe (and fun!) in Minneapolis and in communities throughout Minnesota will help ensure that we have places that people want to live, businesses want to locate, and families can prosper. We need to keep working to make this a reality by fully funding transportation options this legislative session.

Sincerely,
Megan Dawson, Hokan, Joshua Houdek, Emily Marti, Natalia Mendez, Paul Peterson, and Will Wlizlo

Methodist Church will be the real loser

Dear Editor,

I was raised as a Methodist at a church in southwest Minneapolis and converted to Unitarian-

ism about a decade and half ago. I know the mainline Protestant churches have struggled with GLBT issues recently (or GLOW which I like more. Gay/lesbian/ or whatever label which is even more open to others). I think this is due more to the fact that the age demographics of the churches is not reflective of the US as a whole rather than anything else. But the Methodist church's decision recently to not accept GLOW issues floored me.

I remember when the Lutherans fought that battle a decade ago and won by a single vote right here in Minnesota. I had a lesbian Lutheran minister friend who I think was really moved by the experience. Actually, at the Pride Parade and festival the past few years, I did feel like the Methodists were more visible and active than the Lutherans. For Ash Wednesday (Unitarians don't celebrate this) I often end up at a Lutheran Church rather than a Methodist church and made a point of doing this again this year after the Methodist news.

The real victim to suffer will be the long-range reputation of the Methodist church. I highly suspect that in the coming years or decades they will reverse their decision. The local churches are in absolute damage control mode now. They are the ones trying to pick up the pieces. It will probably take a massive PR/marketing/advertising campaign just to minimize and contain the damage.

But the Methodist decision recently reinforced for me that I very much made the correct decision to convert to a religion that is more open, adopting, accepting and accompanying of others. I am a proud Unitarian today because of issues like this.

Mike Luke

Respect for immigrants grows through Open Door

Dear Editor,

It was anger that brought me, two years ago, to work with Somalis on citizenship. I wanted to spite those who believe, as our current president announced on the campaign trail, that our newcomers are "problems." By helping them become citizens, I would show the fear mongers what I believe: Immigrants and refugees bring hard work, vibrancy and fresh perspective to our country.

Little did I know that tutoring citizenship was going to turn into new-found respect for our institutions.

To become a U.S. citizen, applicants must be able to answer (by reading and writing) an odd collection of questions on civics, history, and geography. Many Americans would be challenged by the questions: How many amendments do we have? (27) Who was the president during World War I? (Woodrow Wilson) When was the Constitution written? (1787).

My students at Open Door Learning Center, 2700 E. Lake St., are fun-loving and eager learners. They also are exhausted and distracted. Their days consist of working low-paying jobs, negotiating a confusing new culture, and caring for large families. They find English baffling. ("A, E, I, O, U all sound the same!" one student recently announced).

We start simple. "I am a Somali-American," I have them write. That particular sentence will not be on the citizenship test, but I am claiming these newcomers as Americans. As they read the sentence

over and over again, I can see them begin linking their old identity with their new.

Then I move on to teach about our system based—as Robert Reich writes in his book "The Common Good"—not on birth or ethnicity but respect for democratic institutions, belief in equal opportunity and toleration of our differences. Our miserable failures to live up to this system bubble up in my mind as I ask:

Why did the colonists come to America? To be free.

What does the "rule of law" mean? No one is above the law.

What are the rights guaranteed by the first amendment? Freedom of speech and religion.

And yet over the past two years, as our political and social fabric has frayed beyond anything I would have imagined, an optimism has bubbled up in me as well. Sitting at the learning center on East Lake, I look into the beautiful dark eyes in front of me, and I buy—hook, line, and sinker—into the promise of the United States of America. I believe, as Thomas Mechem writes in "The Soul of America," "the experiment begun so long ago, carried out so imperfectly, is worth the fight."

I ask: The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words? Our new Americans answer: We the people....

Teresa Opheim

2019 Try It! Program for Entrepreneurs

Are you a small business owner looking to get into vending at farmers markets? The "Try It! Program" seeks to give small businesses an opportunity to try a farmer's market experience at the Midtown Farmers Market with limited financial investment.

The goal of the program is to help emerging entrepreneurs explore whether or not becoming a vendor at the Midtown Farmers Market is a good fit for them and their product. Midtown prioritizes Twin Cities residents who identify as having low-income, are black, indigenous and/or people of color, identify as women, trans, femme, or gender non-binary.

Since 2003, the Midtown Farmers Market has built a reputation for incubating small businesses, and they strive to ensure that the opportunity to innovate and grow is accessible and beneficial to all community members.

Corcoran Neighborhood Organization (CNO) will pay for vendor fees, a tent, table, and program signage for 1-2 market days. Staff and volunteers offer assistance in completing the Farmer's Market application and provide guidance for obtaining insurance and the appropriate permits. A volunteer will also greet TryIt! participants and help with market day setup if needed.

TryIt! orientation will be held in conjunction with the Spring Vendor Meeting on Sat., Apr. 6.

In return, TryIt! participants will be responsible for providing equipment needed on site beyond the materials provided by CNO as well as acquiring any required insurance or permits.

Eligible products include:

- Arts and crafts
- Clothing
- Food products qualifying under the MN Cottage Food Law
- Fresh Produce
- Annual and perennial plants, rootstock, shrubs, and trees
- Other farm products (honey, eggs, meat, flowers, and other goods that would qualify under the Minneapolis Farmers Licensing Exemption)
- Immediately consumable foods
- Other prepared foods

All vendor-applicants seeking to participate in the Try It! Program must produce their own goods.

Other requirements, other application and the eligibility requirements can be found online at www.corcoranneighborhood.org/try_it.

Applications will be processed in rounds, with round deadlines on Mar. 29, Apr. 26 and May 24. It is possible that spaces may fill up before the final deadlines so interested applicants should apply early for the best chance to participate.

Midtown Farmer's Market will be opening on May 4.

SOUTH HIGH FOUNDATION

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Franklin D. Roosevelt
"Inside FDR"

President Roosevelt is portrayed by Gary Stamm. Proceeds from Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors 21st Annual Italian Dinner fund services to seniors.

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www.tapestryfolkdance.org

NENA members will elect Board of Directors members at its Annual Election and Community Meal on Thur., April 25, at Crosstown Covenant Church (5540 30th Ave. S.). Dinner will be served at 5:30pm, and the event will formally begin at 6pm. Each year neighbors from all over East Nokomis gather at this annual event, coming together to make their neighborhoods a better, stronger and healthier place to live.

Nokomis East's 2019 Annual Meeting will provide updates on what the organization has been working on and the plans for the future. It's an opportunity for members of our community to get involved and connect with each other. Activities will be provided for families attending with children.

In 2019, NENA has eight Board seats up for election—one seat from each of the four neighborhoods, three at-large seats and a replacement seat. Residents (homeowners and renters), property owners and businesses (owners and employees) from Nokomis East are encouraged to run for a board member seat. Members serving on the NENA Board will have the opportunity to shape the future of our community.

NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

4313 E. 54th St.

Annual Meeting and NENA Board elections scheduled April 25

Upcoming meetings and events:

4/2/19, 6:30pm: 34th Ave. Preconstruction Meeting, Morris Park Recreation Center, 5531 39th Ave. S.
 4/3/19, 6:30pm: NENA Housing, Commercial, and Streetscape Committee, NENA Office, 4313 E. 54th St.
 4/10/19, 6:30pm: NENA Green Initiatives Committee, NENA Office
 4/11/19, 7:30pm: NENA Board Information Session, NENA Office
 4/25/19, 5:30pm: NENA Annual Meeting, Crosstown Covenant Church, 5540 30th Ave. S.

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portunity to shape the future of our community.

The NENA Board meets once a month for most of the year.

NENA Board Information Session

Neighborhood Board positions are ideal for community members looking to get engaged in community leadership and foster neighborhood connections. No previous Board experience is needed. Interested individuals

are encouraged to the Board Information Session on April 11, 7:30pm, in the NENA Office. Learn more about serving on the board and hear from current NENA Board Members about their experience. Those interested in learning more about the Board can also schedule a time to meet with Becky Timm, NENA's Executive Director. Visit NENA's website (nokomiseast.org) for more information, dates for upcoming meetings and the nomination form.

South Minneapolis Green Fair

The South Minneapolis Green Fair is an ideal place for those looking to make changes that add up to a significant benefit for the environment. Organizations and businesses who are experts in sustainability are on hand to help with a switch to an electric vehicle, reducing kitchen waste, lowering water usage, and a wide variety of other topics.

In addition to dozens of exhibitors, this event offers expert presenters who offer a jump start on these changes, from downsizing sustainably during a move and handling inherited items to planning a climate change resilient yard.

hibitors, this event offers expert presenters who offer a jump start on these changes, from downsizing sustainably during a move and handling inherited items to planning a climate change resilient yard.

The South Minneapolis Green Fair is on Sat., Apr. 13 from 12-4pm at Roosevelt High School (4029 28th Ave. S.). View the list of exhibitors and presenters, along with other details, at bit.ly/SMGreenFair.

34th Ave. preconstruction meeting scheduled Apr. 2

The final preconstruction community meeting for the 34th Ave. project will be held Tues., Apr. 2, from 6:30-7:30pm at Morris Park Recreation Center (5531 39th Ave. S.). The contracted road construction company and staff from the City of Minneapolis Public Works will present an updated timeline for construction and will be available to answer questions. Construction is expected to begin in mid-April. Visit the NENA 34th Ave. reconstruction project page at nokomiseast.org for notes from previous meetings and further project plan information.

Nokomis Tattoo

Continued from page 1

him a chance for a tattoo apprenticeship in Erie, he took it, seeing it as a way to use his talent and make a good living as well. He stayed at Fish's tattoo parlor, Ink Assassins, for five years.

In 2010, he ended up back in the Twin Cities. "I didn't think I would stick around long," he said. But he found that coming home was a chance to continue to turn his life around.

Getting a tattoo license in Minnesota is not easy. It means jumping through a lot of hoops through the Minnesota Department of Health. These include classes in dealing with bloodborne pathogens like Hep C, HIV, and MERSA, (methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus) and 200 hours of supervised tattooing. Forms for body art establishments include passing a 46-item checklist.

But eight years ago, armed with a Minnesota license, Mike and a business partner, Kyle Skyer, opened up Tiger Rose, a tattoo shop in Northeast Minneapolis, where Mike is still half-owner. Then, last year, he saw an opportunity to open his own shop in East Nokomis where he lives with his schoolteacher wife and two rescue dogs, Oliver, the boxer and Cricket, a pit bull.

A building that had once housed a rather sketchy massage parlor came up for sale, and he took the chance, buying the 1928 building, closing on Jan. 16. He immediately started working on remodeling it. "It needed a lot of work," he said.

Rather than dank and dark, the new place is clean, bright and airy, with a large front-facing window, elaborate hardwood floors, up-cycled doors and other materials that had been hidden by a previous remodel.

The shop specializes in traditional tattoo styles including lettering, elaborate Japanese and other Asian style art, black and gray designs and, being Minnesota, hockey and sports tattoos. The shop's artists also do reworks of bad tattoo art.

They welcome walk-ins and Mike expects that half their clientele will come in unannounced. He is booking appointments as well, a

month or two ahead.

Other artists are signing on, including Allison Pegoraro and Rachael Rose. "I have a friend coming up from Iowa in the next few months and a friend I like working with who will probably work one day a week," said Mike.

Pegoraro grew up in a family of artists. Her father, she said, bought both her and her sister tattoo kits. She practiced on friends and then decided to go legit and started looking for an apprenticeship.

Pegoraro already had an art and design background, having studied at the Perpich Center for Arts Education and at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. She'd worked at Dean Gallery and created the interactive bison at the Minnesota History Center. She also worked at two other local tattoo studios creating body art.

Pegoraro originally applied to work at Tiger Rose but didn't get the job. She contacted Mike to see if she could apply at Nokomis Tattoo. "We talked on the phone, and I told her to come and work for two weeks as a try-out. After two days, I knew I'd hire her," said Mike.

She'd gotten her first tattoo, she admitted, before she was of legal age, stealing her sister's passport to 'prove' that she was 18 years old. It was a doodled a cartoon skull, she said. Five years later she covered it up with an abstract pond and lily pads design. To pay for the repair, she traded cleaning the artist's house, including an eight-hour freezer defrost. "It had smelt embedded in ice," she remembered.

Mike's first tattoo was a pin-up girl. "I thought it was funny," he said. "But, about half my tattoos have a deep meaning for me, a lot of Japanese art." He still has some room left for future tattoos, he said, on his back and legs.

If someone comes in with an unusual request, Mike says, like a face tattoo, "I'll do it after a discussion. I won't tattoo an 18-year old kid who wants their whole neck done. And, I won't tattoo genitals."

"And," he said, "I won't do racist tattoos. It's not worth it. Once you start to cater to that type of clientele, more of them will

show up. If you don't do those kinds of tattoos, that type of people won't come around."

Mike said plans to install a sign in his shop, hung alongside framed examples of brightly colored tattoo designs, stating his philosophy about how all people who come in will be treated fairly and with respect. "I'm just waiting to come up with the exact right words."

Mike is also actively investing in the East Nokomis neigh-

borhood. He is a member of the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association and planning to run for a seat on the Board of Directors this spring. And, he says, he wants to give back to the community in other ways as well.

"I come from a rough upbringing," he said. "So, we're giving five percent of our profits to different local charities." Proceeds from March will go to Bags of Love, a non-profit giving kids in foster home backpacks

filled with things they might need, like clothing, toiletries, and toys.

And, on May 29, the shop has invited Memorial Blood Center to park their bloodmobile outside his shop so neighbors and clients can donate. (To donate blood, health rules require a wait of a week after getting a tattoo. Donate first.)

For more information or to make an appointment at Nokomis Tattoo, call 952-999-2181.

Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

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

Rev. Matthew Kennedy
Contemporary Worship – 8:45 am
Sunday school – 10:00 am
Traditional Worship – 11:00 am
Espanol – 1:30 pm
April 18 – Maundy Thursday
Dinner at 5:45 pm & Communion at 6:15 pm
April 19 – Good Friday Tenebrae service at 7:00 pm
April 21 – Easter services at 8:45 am & 11:00 am
Easter Brunch served at 9:45 am

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April 6 - 32nd Annual Live Auction, 11:30 a.m. Preview, 12 p.m. Auction
April 10 - Beer & Bible @ Merlin's Rest 6:30 p.m.
April 14 - 2- 4:30 p.m. - Brunch Bunch @ Epworth
April 21 - Free Easter Breakfast at Epworth, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
April 21 - Easter Service, 10:30 a.m.
April 27 - Spring Rummage Sale at Epworth, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran
4101 37th Ave. S. • 612-722-9527
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Worship: 10:30 AM Sundays
The Hook & Ladder Theater & Lounge
3010 Minnehaha Ave. • 612-827-1074
www.spiritgarage.org

Maundy Thursday Dinner church @ Squirrel Haus Arts, 6 PM
Good Friday Creative Worship experience @Squirrel Haus Arts, 7 PM
Easter Sunday worship at 10:30; Easter egg hunt following
Theology Pub, book discussions, writing workshops
Pastor: Holly Johnson
Music: John Kerns and bands

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.org

Julie A. Ebbesen, Pastor
9 am Worship/Youth Faith Formation
10 am Coffee & Fellowship
10:30 am Adult Faith Formation
Wednesday, April 3rd and 10th: 5:30 Soup Supper, 6:45 Lenten Reflection
Saturday, April 13, All Ages Game Night, 6:00-8:00 pm
Thursday, April 18, Maundy Thursday, Worship at 7:00 pm
Friday, April 19, Good Friday, Worship at 7:00 pm
Sunday, April 21, Easter Sunday, Worship at 9:00 and 10:45 am
Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month. (Handicap acc., Braille, Large Print)
Tuesday and Thursdays, Aerobics Class, 10:00 am, \$5
April 6 and 20, Fiber Arts, 2 pm, bring a project to work on.

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

Pastor Matt Oxendale
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Egg Hunt, Sat. 4/13 10am
Holy Thurs. & Good Fri. 7 pm
Easter Sunday 7am & 10am
AA Sun & Tues 7:00 pm

For the past several years, Transition Longfellow (a community-led group focused on building sustainable communities to address climate change) has partnered with the Longfellow Community Council and Hennepin County Master Gardeners to offer two exciting programs.

Veggie Basics

Led by Hennepin County Master Gardeners, a 4-session Veggie Basics class provides all the information you need to know to start (or fine-tune) your vegetable garden. Topics include Starting Your Garden, Planting Your Garden, Designing Your Garden, and Maintaining Your Garden. Classes are on Saturdays, Apr. 13-May 4, from 10-11:30am at Gandhi Mahal Restaurant community room, 3009 27th Ave. S. The cost for each class is \$10, and registration is required. Please visit www.transitionlongfellow.org/veggie-growing-basics to sign up.

Transition Longfellow

By LESLIE MACKENZIE

Chard Your Yard and Veggie Basics classes herald spring

sics-class to sign up.

Chard Your Yard

Transition Longfellow has helped build and install over 200 raised bed vegetable gardens in the yards of neighbors. This year the group will install another 24 raised bed gardens (with priority is given to those in 55406 but others may apply). Renters can also apply but must have a written note from the landlord. The 3'x5'x12" treated pine frame with soil, delivered and installed, costs \$74. A master gardener will visit your site to help you find the perfect spot.

The Longfellow Communi-

ty Council has generously underwritten the cost of a limited number of garden beds for low-income persons and senior citizens (\$37), and double-high beds for persons with disabilities (\$74) for residents of Longfellow, Cooper, Howe, and Hiawatha neighborhoods.

This program is entirely volunteer-based, and we need your help! This is a great way to meet neighbors and learn more about Transition Longfellow. We will be building

Volunteers are needed to make the Chard Your Yard program a success. (Archive photo provided)



and installing the beds Wed., May 1 between 5-9pm and filling them Sat., May 4 from 8am-4pm (attendance for entire shifts not required). Please visit www.transitionlongfellow.org/chard-your-yard for further information and to sign up to receive a bed or volunteer.

People's Center Dental Clinic offers comprehensive care

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

The People's Center Dental Clinic, 3152 Minnehaha Ave., provides affordable dental care to in-

dividuals and families. The clinic accepts all major insurance plans and has a sliding fee scale for patients without insurance.

Dental office manager Noel Switzer said, "Our 15-person staff includes three dentists and three registered dental hygienists. We have staff fluent in Spanish, Oromo, Amharic, Somalian, and even Italian. We have a diverse patient population, and many of our patients are new to this country. It's quite possible that a new patient may not have been to the dentist before, but we also have many patients who have lived in the community for years."

The People's Center Dental Clinic is a non-profit organization funded by grants and the federal government.

"We don't turn patients away due to inability to pay," Switzer said, "and we always welcome new patients to our clinic. We provide a comprehensive range of services, and draw patients from across the metro area and as far away as St. Cloud."

Hassan Moallim is one of the clinic's three registered dental hygienists and its only Italian speaker. He grew up in Florence, Italy, where his Somalian-born parents met. "I visited Minnesota several times with my family. My aunt and uncle lived here, and I eventually studied English at MCTC for two years. Their support was crucial to my success. In Somalian culture, we believe that the community is collective and that family comes first. My uncle is an internist and my mother is a retired pharmacist. I felt drawn to a career in the



Dental office manager Noel Switzer (left) and registered dental hygienist Hassan Moallim (right) of the People's Center Dental Clinic. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

health sciences, and decided to become a dental hygienist."

While studying at Normandale Community College, Moallim developed a clear sense that he wanted to work in a community dental clinic. "I enjoy the wide range of patients we get here: a lot of artists and people from many different ethnic backgrounds," he said. "Being a dental hygienist means that you have to be skilled with instruments and tools, but you also have to be very good at working up close with people. We encourage preventive dentistry here, and I think the most important part of pre-

ventive dentistry is education. If we do a good job at that, patients will have good results."

A common factor shared by many people coming to the dentist is anxiety. "We don't want to scare anybody!" Moallim said. "I'm the official DJ on the lower level of the clinic, and I think hearing beautiful music helps patients to relax. In Italy, music was very prevalent and part of everyday life. This is one way that I can share what I love with my patients."

You can contact the People's Center Dental Clinic at 612-332-4973. Clinic hours are Monday-Friday, from 8:30am-4:30pm.

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Nokomis East Neighborhood Association

2019 NENA Annual Elections & Community Meal

*****Fun fact: If you live, work, own property or a business in Nokomis East, you can vote in NENA Board elections*****

Thursday, April 25 2019
5:30 - 8:00 pm
Crosstown Covenant Church
5540 30th Ave S

Zorongo FLAMENCO DANCE THEATRE

What the Moon Sees

Directed by Susana di Palma - This mesmerizing collage of premiere choreographies explores female creative power contrasted by heartfelt stories of women without homes. CASITA, inspired by these stories, features live original flamenco/blues/jazz music as it wends its way through four works by international female flamenco choreographers.

APRIL 11-12 @ 8 PM
APRIL 13 @ 2 PM & 8 PM
APRIL 14 @ 2 PM & 8 PM

Post performance discussion led by the Director of St. Stephen's Human Services, following the Sunday 2 pm matinee.

TICKETS \$20 - \$40
Purchase online: www.thelabtheater.org

THE LAB THEATER 700 North 1st Street
Minneapolis, MN 55401 (612) 333-7977

Annual Italian Dinner scheduled Apr. 23

Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors will hold their 21st Annual Italian Dinner and Silent Auction on Tues., Apr. 23 at St. Albert the Great Church, corner of E. 29th St. and 32nd Ave. S. Reception starts at 5:30pm with dinner and program from 6-8:30pm.

The program for the evening is Franklin D. Roosevelt "Inside FDR." President Roosevelt will be portrayed by Gary Stamm.

Tickets are \$35 and are available by phone at 612-729-5799 or emailing info@LShelthyseniors.org. Funds raised help provide services to area seniors.

Launch Party thrown for youth-designed coloring book

A launch party for “Color Me Courageous,” a coloring book that highlights some of the most beloved Twin Cities landmarks and locations, was held Mar. 9. The book was created by Minneapolis youth in support of courageous heARTS (2235 E. 38th St.)—a youth-led nonprofit art studio fueled by the transformative power of art.

Guests had the opportunity to connect with contributing artists,

some of whom sold their work. There also were coloring books for sale, collaborative coloring activities, and a raffle to benefit courageous heARTS programs.

The coloring book, which they hope to be an annual project, promotes the unique talents and perspectives of their teen artists. All artwork for the book was hand-drawn, and they even included a special spot for you to create your own masterpiece.

This year’s edition highlights some of everyone’s favorite Twin Cities locations, including Riverview Theater, Bde Maka Ska, Guthrie Theater, Como Zoo Conservatory, Foshay Tower, First Avenue, and more.

Sales of the coloring book benefit the contributing youth artists and help provide stipends for courageous heARTS’ Creative Community Apprentices, youth ages 16-24 who staff the studio.

During this nine-month apprenticeship, teens learn about heARTS’ four core approaches: expressive arts, restorative practices, people-centered approaches, and trauma-informed care.

You can purchase a copy of “Color Me Courageous” at their studio, 2235 E. 38th St. (When you buy directly from us at the studio or an event 100% of proceeds go toward our Creative Community Apprenticeship program.) Other

locations to purchase the book include Doodle Bird (2803 E. 42nd St.), Acanthus Floral (3932 Cedar Ave.), Homespun Decor and Gifts (5006 S. 34th Ave.), and the Minneapolis Institute of Art Gift Shop. Online you can order through MissionMade.com, and they’ll ship it to your doorstep!

Additional information about the coloring book can be found here: courageous-hearts.org/color-me.



Youth artists displayed their work in the Show and Sell Spot. (Photo by Katie Korpe)



Photo right: Another guest adding her mark to the Spoonbridge and Cherry design featured in Color Me Courageous by artist Annika Clift, age 11. (Photo by Katie Korpe)



A group of teens enjoys coloring on one of three collaborative art pieces at the event, this one featuring art by 8th grader, Mia Lambert. (Photo by Katie Korpe)



A stack of coloring books is ready to go in Creative Care Kits for children at Ronald McDonald House. When courageous heARTS receives a \$20 donation, we donate a coloring book to one of three selected organizations: Ronald McDonald House, Perspectives Family Center, and Cornerstone. (Photo by Katie Korpe)

Photo below: Larry Whiten and Laurel Clift deep in conversation in front of the Witch’s Hat Water Tower, drawn by Lia Thibault (age 16) for the Color Me Courageous coloring book. (Photo by Katie Korpe)



Mississippi River Gorge neighborhood cleanup scheduled Apr. 20

Join your neighbors to celebrate Earth Day and clean up our local stretch of the Mississippi River Gorge, Sat., Apr. 20, 9:30am to noon.

Friends of the Mississippi River will be hosting clean-ups at two sites in Longfellow, one at E. 36th St. and one at E. 44th St. along West River Pkwy.

"One of my favorite times to be at the river is Earth Day," says Bea Schneider, longtime cleanup volunteer and River Gorge Steward with Friends of the Mississippi River. "There is always an amazing group of volunteers to help clean the area and keep the



A group of young volunteers at Earth Day cleanup. (Photo provided)

der puts it, "The age range of the volunteers is broad, but we all share a delight in the beauty and secrets the river and hills have to share."

To join, just show up between 9:30am and noon at 36th or 44th St. and West River Pkwy and sign in with FMR staff who will provide bags and gloves. However, if you have your own gloves, FMR's volunteer coordinator, Amy Kilgore, recommends bringing them as they'll probably fit better. She also suggests sturdy shoes and dressing in layers. She also requested that groups who plan to attend let her know if they can ahead of time.

This event is supported by the local neighborhood group, the Longfellow Community

Council, and Longfellow area residents are especially encouraged to attend. It's also part of the River Gorge Stewards program that actively engages citizens throughout the Twin Cities in the stewardship of the national treasure that is our local Mississippi River Gorge.

Kilgore says all participants who provide an email address (optional) will be notified of upcoming Gorge Stewards events in this area. There are typically 5-10 public events a year, ranging from the big cleanups to smaller outings to learn about and help protect the rare oak savanna near 36th St., the maple-basswood forest, and the sand flats.

If you can't make it, you can also email FMR Volunteer Coordinator Amy Kilgore at akilgore@fmr.org to join the River Gorge Stewards list.

river clean as it makes its long journey south. I have enjoyed their many wonderful stories about why they're here to help and at the end what they found or saw as they walked the trails." All are welcome at this family-friendly event. As Schnei-

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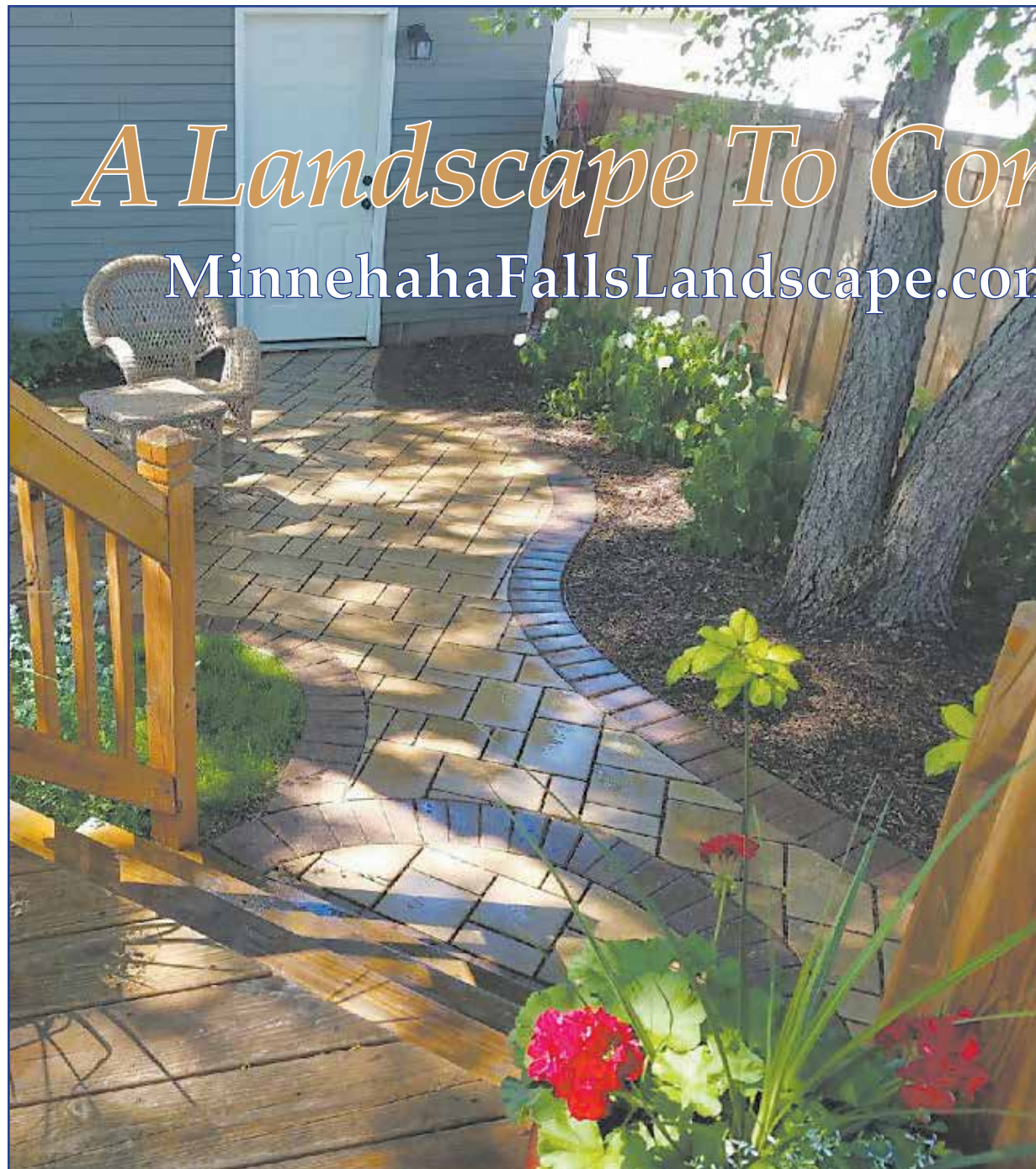
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Bea Schneider, left, a longtime River Gorge Stewards volunteer, loves meeting new people (including these Girl Scouts, who are educating neighbors about invasive plant species) at the cleanup every year. (Photo provided)



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Neighbors review three options for Hiawatha Golf Course

Possible components include a 9-hole golf course, aqua range, golf learning center, BMX/pump track, aerial adventure course, disc golf, pickleball court, expanded clubhouse, viewing tower, amphitheater and more

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

The community is considering the pros and cons of three designs for the Hiawatha Golf Course.

Designers expect to take components of the three options that were presented at a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting on March 7 and fashion them into a preferred draft by late April/early May.

"Nothing here today is set in stone and cannot be changed moving forward," Andy Mitton of Berger Partnership told the 75 people present at Powderhorn Park Recreation Center.

About the three options

Mitton explained that they first looked at the water footprint and elevation of the site, and then fashioned various uses around that information.

Option 1, titled "Expanding Opportunities," would remove the existing berm next to Lake Hiawatha and allow the water to equalize. This plan includes many other options but only four practice holes, golf skills development area, and aqua range.

By doing that, designers made space for a BMX/pump track, aerial adventure course, disc golf, and pickleball court, as well as a new trailhead restroom/concession building, trails, discovery nodes, boardwalks, and bridges. There would also be space for hammocks (requested via an online comment) and possible adventure play such as hillside slides.

At the Native American focus group session held in November, designers were encouraged to incorporate native tree species such as cedar, cottonwood, ash, and white pine.

Option 2, titled "Experience Lake Hiawatha," includes a nine-hole golf course par 36 that ranges from easy to challenging and offers several beautiful vista points throughout the course. The water and golf footprint intermingle together, explained Mitton, and is done in a way that helps flood waters recede quicker than in the past.

This plan includes a water access area with boat storage and rentals, along with a play area and viewing tower. Option 2 also includes an amphitheater where movies could be shown on an inflatable screen and an ethnobotanical garden.

An expanded clubhouse could include a golf learning center with new technology.

Option 3, titled "Back to Nature," also has a nine-hole course and expanded clubhouse, this time with a pro-shop, learning center with new technology and food service. It shifts the putting green around and includes a three-tiered driving range.

An ice climbing wall could be placed on one side of the two-story high clubhouse set into the hill.

In the southeast side of the land would be a parking lot and learning center with catering kitchen, the sort where canning classes could be held, observed Mitton.

The working vision statement for the committee is: "A



CAC Chair David Kaplan stands up to ask attendees to hold their comments until the comment period at the end of the meeting after some started yelling because they were unhappy the first option presented did not include at least nine holes of golf. "I'm trying to move us forward. Yelling at me and your neighbors is not very helpful," stated Kaplan during the March 7 meeting at Powderhorn Park. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)



unique destination providing a welcoming and equitable park experience for both the surrounding community and regional park users that is eco-

Photo left: Bobby Warfield speaks during the March 7 Hiawatha Golf Course Community Advisory Committee meeting at Powderhorn Park. Three options for the golf course were presented at the meeting, and residents were encouraged to share their input with the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

logically-responsible, addresses water management needs, and respectful of the site's natural and cultural history. Park development will have a long-term focus for year-round passive and active recreation, where golf and other recreation will interface with ecology and art to provide for a flood-resilient design that is accessible, connected, and celebrates the spirit of Minneapolis."

What's the same

All three options reduce groundwater pumping at the site by 70%, as directed by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board of Commissioners. They also mitigate trash at the site by diverting the northwest storm sewer pipe. Two of them involve re-meandering Minnehaha Creek.

Mitton stressed that all three options include some type of groundwater pumping to protect area houses.

However, more drainage would be achieved via gravity pipes instead of through pumping.

Designers hope to use pumped water as a resource by using it to irrigate the course (15-20 million gallons per year), make snow for a cross country ski loop (3.5-5 MGY), and heating and cooling an expanded clubhouse (4-8 MGY cooling, 4-19 MGY heating).

None of the options change the overall floodplain storage at the site, assured designers.

Knowing that the site may flood again simply due to its elevation, designers purposefully placed critical golf features on higher ground above the average water level of Lake Hiawatha so

Continued on page 9

Family Dentistry



Joan Jakubas, D.D.S.
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The three options for the Hiawatha Golf Course property were discussed at a March 7 Community Advisory Committee meeting. The fine details about each of the plans can be found online at www.minneapolisparcs.org and search for "Hiawatha Golf Course." (Illustrations from the three concept plans provided)

that they aren't wrecked as they have been in the past.

How much will it cost?

MPRB Project Manager Tyler Pederson explained that the park would be funded as others are, through a combination of state and regional funds. Parks aren't expected to generate all of their own revenue, although money could be earned at this site through concession sales, facility rentals, boat rentals, and golfing. The estimated revenue that could be generated at an updated golf course range from \$700,000 to \$1.3 million, depending on what is included in the plan.

The cost of construction

ranges from \$28.2 to \$62 million, or \$4-9 a square foot.

The annual maintenance cost is estimated to range from \$1.1 to \$1.5 million.

What people think

Some committee members, including Teresa Engstrom and Kathryn Kelly, were upset that none of the options included an 18-hole golf course.

Others stated their concern about putting too much in the southeast corner and interfering with the natural area there used by wildlife.

CAC member Tim Clemens supported planting indigenous species in the park that



About 75 people attended the March 7 meeting to hear about, and offer input, on three possible options for the Hiawatha Golf Course property. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

would complement art by indigenous artists.

Understanding how the water flows in the larger area around Lakes Hiawatha and Nokomis and Minnehaha Creek remains a priority for CAC member Joan Sohlt, who garnered a round of applause after her call for a detailed study of the entire area. Senator Patricia Torres-Ray

informed attendees of her intent to have a Senate hearing on surface water in this area.

"The reality is that we're here because there are a number of things that are inviting us to look at change," stated CAC member Roxanne Stuhr. "I think it's tremendous that we've got this point, and I also think there is a lot of work to be done."

She added, "We need to partner with nature."

District 5 MPRB Commissioner Steffanie Musich thanked people for attending the meeting. Afterward she commented, "The world we are living in now is not

the world our kids will be living in. We as a society need to find a way to adapt our landscapes to the changing reality—or nature will do it for us."

Additional focus sessions were held on March 18 and 19 to gather input on golf, African American golfers, environmental factors, neighbors, and Indigenous and Dakota, mirroring a similar set of focus groups in November 2018.

The committee is expected to finalize a design by June, and hold a public hearing in September.

Continued on page 15

Epworth United Methodist Church
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LONGFELLOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

TUES • APR 23 • 2019

Please bring a pie to share!
Free Family-Friendly Event!

NO PIE CHARTS



Resource Fair 5:30-6:30pm
Meeting 6:15-8:30pm

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church • 2730 E 31st St



General membership Meeting & Pie Potluck

- Resource Fair of local businesses & organizations
- Board of Directors annual elections & voting on bylaws/funding
- Receive updates from elected officials
- Enjoy delicious pie and socialize with friends & neighbors
- Activity bags for kids

longfellow.org/2019/03/15/resource-fair-registration-2019/

For organizations wanting to take part in our Resource Fair

Sign-Up is April 1-18.

Space is Limited.

Tables and chairs will be provided.

Registration fees:

\$15/nonprofits OR \$25/for-profits

www.longfellow.org

Longfellow Community Council (LCC) seeks approval of bylaw amendments and a plan modification to reallocate unfrozen Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) funds at the April 23, 2019 General Membership Meeting

Bylaws (additions are noted in bold)

Article VI. Board of Directors, F. OFFICERS,

- d). Only members of the new Board will have a vote in the election of officers. The election for President will be held first. **Only members who have served for at least one year of a term will be eligible to serve as President. In the event that no member interested in the position meets the eligibility requirement the full board will be responsible for resolving the issue. This may be done by appointing an interim President, waiving the eligibility requirement or an alternative remedy.**

Reallocation of unfrozen NRP funds

In January 2019 the LCC Board of Directors approved the following: **Motion to approve the reallocation of a total of \$345,971.64 (\$172,985.82 in 2019 and \$172,985.82 in 2020) to Phase II Administrative Support (Implementation and Administration 1.B.1.) from the following strategies:**

1. Home Improvement Program (Housing 7.A.1.) - \$106,805.47 (\$71,805.47 of Action Plan Funds

2. Incentives for Sustainable Technologies (Housing 7.A.2.) - \$70,000
3. Housing Development Incentives (Housing 8.A.1.) - \$79,667.35
4. Commercial Revitalization Staff Support (Commercial Revitalization 10.A.1.) - \$39,998.82
5. Improve Bicycle and Pedestrian Conditions (Commercial Revitalization 10.C.1.) - \$18,500
6. New and Existing Business Staff Support (Commercial Revitalization 11.A.1.) - \$31,000

Background: In February 2017, the Minneapolis City Council voted to restore \$9,141,951.05 of frozen Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) funds to Minneapolis neighborhood organizations. Funds were required to be allocated in two-year cycles through the end of 2020. In 2017, the LCC Board of Directors and the General Membership approved an allocation of \$345,971.64 to be used to fund NRP program/project strategies in 2017 and 2018.

The LCC general membership will vote to ratify the motion of the LCC Board of Directors. The Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) and Neighborhood and Community Relations Department (NCRD) require that Plan Modifications/financial actions greater than \$25,000 require community notification and a community vote for approval.

Join the 2019-2020 LCC Board of Directors!

Residents and businesses of Greater Longfellow are invited to run for a seat on the LCC Board of Directors. There are 11 open seats including one seat for a local business representative. Joining the LCC Board is a great opportunity to volunteer in the community, join LCC committees and work with community members to develop projects, programs and activities to improve the community. No experience

is necessary to run for the board. You must be at least 16 and willing to commit to up to 8 hours per month to participate in board and committee meetings and events. Board meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of the month. In order to run for a board seat all you need to do is attend the April 23rd General Membership meeting (see advertisement on this page) and have someone nominate your or nominate

yourself. We encourage people from all walks of life to run for a Board seat. We value a diversity of opinion, background, economic status, culture, homeowners and renters. For more information you can find the Board member job description at (<https://wordpress.com/page/longfellow.org/251>) or you can call or email LCC's Executive Director Melanie Majors at 612-722-4529 ext. 14 or melanie@longfellow.org

Grants Available: Up to \$5,000 for residents with open citations on their property

The Longfellow Community Council is offering grants up to \$5,000 for residents of Longfellow, Cooper, Howe and Hiawatha neighborhoods of Greater Longfellow who have received citations from the City of Minneapolis after a property inspection. The grants are offered to residents who are at or below 80% AMI (area median income). To find out if you qualify, contact the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) at 612-335-5858 or go to the grant page on their website at <https://www.mncee.org/services/financing/longfellow/>. After you access this page, click on the words "START APPLICATION PROCESS" to the far right of the page and fill out the requested information to see if you qualify. This program is funded by

the Longfellow Community Council and will be open until grant funds are expended.

The Neighborhood by the Falls book is AVAILABLE!

Click on the link: <https://squareup.com/market/longfellow-community-council/> and scroll down to the "Merchandise" and click on the image of the book (feel free to donate or buy any other awesome merch while you're at it!) and choose how many you want. Then pick up at the LCC office. **We do not have shipping capabilities, sorry.**

Upcoming Events:

April 13: South Minneapolis Green Fair • Noon-4pm, Roosevelt High School, 4029 28th Ave S.

April 23: No Pie Charts, Only Pies General Membership Meeting • 5:30-8:30pm, Holy Trinity Lutheran

Church, 2730 E 31st St.

June 7 & 8: Greater Longfellow Neighborhood Garage Sale (Registration opens mid-May)

June 24: Summer Celebration • 6-8:30pm, Fireroast Café & Wine Bar, 3800 37th Ave S

July 25: Share the Gorge (Details TBD)

Business Support Network

Now Accepting Applications for Business Support Network Grants

Business Support Network (BSN) grants are intended to help local businesses succeed through connecting with and building community. Eligible businesses within the Greater Longfellow boundaries may apply for up to \$3,000 in grant funds.

Eligible Projects for Grant Funding

- Logo and branding
- Website development
- Promotional materials and mailing expenses

- Business improvements that will serve the community
- Bike racks

Ineligible Project Expenses

- Salary or other payroll expenses for business staff members
- Uniforms
- Food and beverage expenses
- Entertainer and other entertainment expenses
- Advertising placement costs

Interested? Guidelines and more information can be found here: <https://longfellow.org/business-support-network/>

If you have questions about the program, please contact:

Justin Gaarder
LCC Program Manager
justin@longfellow.org
612-722-4529 ext. 13



Longfellow Community Council

2727 26th Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55406

612.722.4529 • www.longfellow.org

Melanie Majors, Executive Director

Justin Gaarder, Program Manager

Carly Swenson, Communications & Events Manager

melanie@longfellow.org

justin@longfellow.org

carly@longfellow.org

In Our Community

Messenger

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

Spring rummage sale scheduled Apr. 27

Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S., will hold its spring rummage sale on Sat., Apr. 27 from 9am-3pm. Come and see what treasures you might find. Bars and coffee will be available for purchase.

Healing Hub to screen documentary

A documentary screening of "My Story, My Truth" will be held Sat., Apr. 6, 1-4pm at the Community Healing Hub inside Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37th Ave. S.

Everyone has a story to tell, and when you create opportunities for those stories to be told and listened to, something amazing starts to happen.

In early January of 2018, men and women of color sat down at CIV Studios in Roseville to speak about a time when they have been personally discriminated against and how that has shaped their lives. Moderated by Nyia Harris, these narratives have been turned into a documentary film.

Join your neighbors for this powerful film which is presented by Do Good Roseville and the Community Healing Hub.

Attendees will watch the documentary and then have respectful conversations led by meaningful questions to debrief.

The documentary contains strong language and descriptions of violent events.

Community Egg Hunt scheduled Apr. 21

Celebrate spring at Lake Nokomis Park, 4955 W. Lake Nokomis Pkwy., on Sun., April 21, 10am-noon. Enjoy a morning of treats, activities, face painting, get your picture taken with Peter Rabbit, and join the allergy free egg hunt! The event is outside, so please dress for the weather.

'Off The Cuff' scheduled Apr. 27

You're invited to "Off The Cuff: A Dream Series," the first of four events presented by Oxheart. Planned for Sat., Apr. 27, 6-10pm, at Squirrel Haus Arts, 3450 Snelling Ave. S., this is the first collaborative, spontaneous performance featuring interactive soft sculpture art by New York artist, Luiza Kurzyrna, a collective of Twin-Cities dance improvisers, and a gifted Twin-Cities musical ensemble.

Dance Movement performed by Patricia McManus, Robert Borman, Lindsay Forsythe, Angie Clifford, and Alan Tse. Musical performers include Mike Krenner (guitar), Mark

Miller (guitar), Dan Gahres (bass), Jon Schmig (keyboards), and Greg Flanagan (drums).

Doors open and refreshments start at 6pm, with the performance at 7pm and post-performance reception and more refreshments at 8pm. The cost is \$10, or pay what you can. Please enter via front door on Snelling Ave., with parking available in the Squirrel Haus back lot on Dight Ave. or on Snelling.

For more information visit www.oxheart.net.

Lost N Found plans performance in May

Classics Lost N Found Theater, will perform the Oscar Wilde comedy "A Woman of No Importance" on May 10, 11, 17, and 18, at 7pm. Performances will be held at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church, 1620 E. 46th St. S. The play is directed by Greg Bastien, a Nokomis resident, and also features performances by several Nokomis-east and south Minneapolis residents. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors.

'Working' takes the stage Apr. 25-27

Roosevelt Theater presents "Working" Apr. 25-27, at the Roosevelt High School Auditorium, 4029 28th Ave. S.

Experience a day in the life of working people—a waitress, corporate executive, millworker, truck driver, and many more—who make the world go around, in Roosevelt Theater's spring musical, "Working." The musical is based on Studs Terkel's 1974 book, "Working: People Talk About What They Do All Day and How They Feel About What They Do," which interviewed people from different regions and occupations.

The production is directed by Ryan Underbakke. Music direction is by Jay Albright with the students of Roosevelt performing the entire accompaniment.

Requested donation \$5, but all are welcome. Shows are Thur., Apr. 25, 7pm; Fri., Apr. 26, 7pm; and Sat., Apr. 27, 2pm and 7pm.

NA group meets twice weekly

A Narcotics Anonymous group meets every Wednesday at 7:30pm, and every Friday evening at 7pm at Faith Evangelical Lutheran, 3430 E. 51st St. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Two local projects garner awards

AIA Minneapolis, Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission and Preserve Minneapolis recog-

nized nine local architecture and design firms in receiving the 2019 Minneapolis Preservation Awards.

This year's award categories included accomplishments in preservation, new construction in historic districts, advocacy, education, and individual career achievement.

"We are thrilled by the number and quality of entries we received this year and extend our congratulations to all of our winners," said Katie Haun Schuring, president of the Preserve Minneapolis Board of Directors. "These projects show the dedication and creativity of our local architecture community in their pursuit of excellence in preservation."

One of the projects was Millworks Lofts, 4041 Hiawatha Ave. S., who was given the award in the Historic Restoration, Rehabilitation or Adaptive Reuse category. The project team included BKV Architects,

Dominium, Weis Builders, Loucks Associates, Braun Intertec, MacRostie Historic Advisors, Associated Mechanical Contractors, Medina Electric, Inc., and Wiss Janney Elstner.

Christ Church Lutheran Courtyard was given a Preservation Gem award, a new award in 2019 which recognized a single, masterfully-completed small project or detail. Christ Church is located at 3244 34th Ave S. The project team included Christ Church Lutheran, Friends of Christ Church Lutheran, MacDonald and Mack Architects, Watson-Forsberg, Mattson Macdonald Young, and Anderson Engineering.

Free Community Soup Supper offered

Everyone is invited to enjoy a bowl of soup, bread, and cookies at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3430 E. 51st St., 5:30-7pm on Thur., Apr. 18. You are also welcome to attend the 7pm Maundy Thursday service following the supper. For more information call 612-729-5463.

City-wide cleanup scheduled Apr. 20

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) and the City of Minneapolis announce the 2019 Earth Day Clean-Up event, to be held Sat., Apr. 20, from 9:30am-noon.

The Earth Day Clean-Up has become the largest community service project in Minneapolis and takes place at more than 35 clean-up sites throughout the city. Since 2008, more than 20,000 residents have removed more than 160,000 pounds of garbage.

It's free to participate, and residents are encouraged to volunteer to help pick up trash in parks, neighborhoods, and watersheds. No registration needed, just choose a site and show up. To find a detailed list of clean-up sites and more information, please visit

Longfellow resident named Bush Fellow

Longfellow resident Heather Cusick has been named a 2019 Bush Fellow, one of the 24 visionary leaders who is thinking big about how to invest in their leadership to creatively solve problems in their communities. The Bush Foundation's Fellows hail from communities in Minnesota, N. Dakota, S. Dakota and the 23 Native nations located within those states.

The Bush Fellowship provides Fellows with up to \$100,000 over 12 to 24 months to pursue learning experiences that help them develop leadership skills and attributes. The Fellowship is distinctive in its flexibility, allowing Fellows to articulate what they need to become more effective and agile leaders. Fellows can use the funding to pursue advanced education, networking opportunities, and leadership resources, workshops, and training.

Cusick learned first-hand the stabilizing force of nature when her struggling family moved to a 100-acre farm in rural Kansas. There, she found that the land had the power to heal. This childhood informed her lifelong commitment to environmental protection, especially to communities that are most deeply impacted by climate-disrupting pollution.

A senior leader of the Sierra Club's effective approach to carbon reduction in the electric sector, Cusick now wants to expand her focus to agriculture and climate advocacy. With the understanding that this work will take new knowledge and compelling leadership, she will study agricultural models around the world, build equity and racial justice competency, and seek coaching to build a stronger public voice.

A total of 684 people applied for the 2019 Bush Fellowship. The 24 Fellows were selected through a multi-stage process involving Bush Fellowship alumni, Bush Foundation staff and established regional leaders.



Heather Cusick

www.minneapolisearthday.com or call 612-230-6479.

Sunday School Planting Day slated

Epworth UMC (3207 37th Ave. S.) will kick off their summer garden program with a Sunday School Planting Day! Little ones can join during Sunday School to help plant the initial seeds that will be transferred to the garden later in the year. This is in preparation for Weed and Water Wednesdays, when school-aged kids are invited to join in watering and weeding the gardens, as well as a story, craft, games, and a snack!

St. Helena schedules High Tea for Apr. 7

St. Helena Church, 3204 E. 43rd St., will hold a High Tea on Sun., Apr. 7, 2-4pm in Rowan Hall. The cost is \$12 per person. The event will feature sweet and savory elegant finger foods plus musical entertainment, and is sponsored by St. Helena Council of Catholic Women. All women and girls over age 6 are invited to attend. Call Lucy at 729-9445 to make a reservation.

Upcoming events at LS Healthy Seniors

Living history performer, Gary

Stamm, will portray President Franklin D. Roosevelt in "Inside FDR" at Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors' 21st Annual Italian Dinner fundraiser on Tues., Apr. 23, 5:30-8:30pm. Proceeds from the event help about 600 community seniors live independently. The annual event includes an Italian menu (gluten-free/vegetarian options are available), FDR portrayal, and a silent auction, and will be held at St. Albert the Great Church, corner of E. 29th St. and 32nd Ave. S. The reception and silent auction starts at 5:30pm and the dinner, followed by FDR portrayal, is from 6-8:30pm. Reservations are \$35/person and should be made by Fri., Apr. 19 by contacting Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 or info@LShealthyseniors.org.

Join Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Community Education for a monthly Senior Social/Health Talk on Tues., Apr. 16 at 10:30am (doors open at 10am) at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. The presentation is on "Living Live with Chronic Pain." Chronic pain can make it hard to engage with others and enjoy life. Medication can help, but it might not be enough. Tim Thorpe, Director of Pathways

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In Our Community

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Minneapolis, will share complementary approaches and coping strategies to manage symptoms so you can have a full life, despite the pain.

Tai Chi Easy exercise classes are held on Mondays from 10:30-11:30am at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. Classes cost \$5/each, and discounts may be available for lower-income seniors. Tai Chi is a low-impact, slow-motion exercise that's adaptable to individual abilities. Movements vary between sitting and standing and help improve breathing, coordination, flexibility, and strength. Registration is not required—come and try it!

Additionally, we're looking for "Friendly Visitor" volunteers and volunteer drivers to help seniors live independently. Call Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 or email us at info@LShalthyseniors.org for more information on activities, services or volunteer opportunities.

Pancake Breakfast scheduled Apr. 14

The 22nd Annual RHS Foundation Pancake Breakfast is scheduled for Sun., Apr. 14, 8am-noon at Roosevelt High School, 4029 S. 28th Ave.

The breakfast features all the pancakes you can eat, the best high school raffle around, tours of the school and mini-reunions for alumni and faculty. All proceeds from the breakfast are donated to students scholarships and RHS faculty grants.

The cost is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under.

Epworth plans 32nd annual auction

Epworth UMC, 3207 37th Ave. S., is hosting its annual live auction on Sat., Apr. 6, with a preview at 11:30am and the auction starting at noon. You can bid on furniture, gift cards and more at this exciting event. Proceeds from this event support church programming, such as Cabin Fever, Sunday School, and Vacation Bible School.

Want to donate an item for the auction? Send them an email at epworthumcmplsmin@gmail.com or call 612-722-0232 to set up a time to drop it off, or for Epworth volunteers to pick up your item!

Faith Book Club meets Apr. 6

Faith Lutheran's Book Club meets the first Saturday of every month at 10am at 3430 E. 51st St. "People of the Book" by Geraldine Brooks is the featured book for Apr. 6. Everyone is welcome. "A Gentleman in Moscow" by Amor Towles is the planned title for May 4.

Beer & Bible with Epworth set Apr. 10

Whether you're new to the Bible, new to beer, or well-versed in both, you're invited to join the Beer & Bible group once a month at Merlin's Rest, 2601 E. Lake St.

The group meets next on Wed., Apr. 10, 6:30-8pm. All walks of life and faith welcome. Come and enjoy great discussion and fellowship—beer is optional.

Can't make it on Wednesdays? Join the Bagel & Bible group, following the same curriculum, on the fourth Sunday of each month (Apr. 28) at 9:15am at Epworth, 3207 37th Ave. S.

"What The Moon Sees" takes stage

Zorongo Flamenco Dance Theatre and School, 3012 Minnehaha Ave. S., will present "What The Moon Sees," Thur.-Sun., Apr. 11-14, at 8pm, with matinées on Sat.-Sun., Apr. 13-14 at 2pm. Performances will take place at Lab Theater, 700 N. 1st St. There will be a post-performance discussion led by the Director of St. Stephen's Human Services; following the Sunday 2pm matinée.

"What The Moon Sees" is a mesmerizing collage of premiere choreographies that takes audiences on a journey that explores female creative power contrasting with heartfelt stories of women without homes: "Casita" is inspired by homeless women's stories, a poignant work danced by Susana di Palma and Jeanne d'Arc Casas, and will feature original flamenco/blues/jazz music performed by guitarist Ben Abrahamson, Billy Steele on keyboard, percussionist Jose Moreno and vocalist Tonia Hughes with flamenco guitarist Jose Valle "Chuscales" and flamenco singer José Cortés. Choreographed by di Palma with director Dominique Serrand, "Casita" wends its way through four powerful works by international choreographers:

- Hermanas and Sombras, Belén Maya (Spain)
- Sin Miedo y Sombras, Jeanne d'Arc Casas (Puerto Rico)
- A Women's Tale, Fanny Ara (France)

These provocative pieces are danced by Zorongo's Majas Ensemble, Colette Illarde, and Deborah Elias. Lighting is designed by Jesse Cogswell.

Tickets are \$40 for priority seating, \$30 general admission and \$20 for seniors and students. You can purchase tickets at www.showclix.com/event/what-the-moon-sees.

GLBTQAIP support group meets

A peer support group for GLBTQAIP adults living with mental illness meets weekly on Saturdays, 1-2:30pm, at Living Table United Church of Christ, 3805 E. 40th St. This free support group is sponsored by NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) and led by trained facilitators who are also in recovery. For information call David at 612-920-3925 or call 651-645-2948.

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.

Annual birding hike scheduled May 4

Your winter blues are certain to melt away with the sights and sounds of returning songbirds! Join local birding experts Dave Zumeta and Lee Pfannmuller to look for migrating and returning spring birds along the Mississippi River Gorge on Sat., May 4, 7-10am.

The river gorge is a premier place for bird watching! Sometimes over 50 species have been found during the annual spring hike in the Mississippi Flyway. Over 170 species have been observed in this area, and the best time to see and hear them is in May.

Novices and experienced birders all welcome. Bring your binoculars (or let them know you need to borrow a pair) and a water bottle. Wear sturdy shoes for hiking the river's bluffs and banks.

The hike is free, but RSVP is required as the number of participants is limited. RSVP by Apr. 30 to justin@longfellow.org or call Justin at 612-722-4529.

When you RSVP, you will be provided with the starting location for the hike. Please note, this hike typically fills. We encourage anyone who has participated in previous years to wait until Apr. 10 to register to allow new people to register first.

This event is sponsored by the Longfellow Community Council's Environment and River Gorge Committee.

Gamblers Anonymous meets Wednesdays

Gamblers Anonymous meets Wednesdays from 6-7pm in the Hope Room at Living Table Church, 3805 E. 40th St. Anyone with a desire to stop gambling is welcome.

Easter Breakfast scheduled Apr. 21

Epworth UMC (3207 37th Ave. S.) will hold an Easter Breakfast on Sun., Apr. 21 at 9:30am, followed by worship service at 10:30am. We will have observed Lent as we continue our "Year of Love," and we will celebrate the complete joy Jesus brings at this special service.

Blind Ministry meets at Faith Mar. 9

The Blind Ministry group will meet at Faith Ev. Lutheran, 3430 E. 51st St., on Sat., Mar. 9, from 12-2pm. Lunch is served at noon followed devotion and fellowship.

Moon Palace hosts poetry reading

Mizna teams up with Poetry Asylum and Moon Palace Books to present a reading from Dubai-based poet Zeina Hashem Beck, "Louder Than Hearts," on Mon., Apr. 8, 7pm, at Moon Palace Books, 3032 Minnehaha Ave. This is a free event, and books will be available for purchase.

Hashem Beck will be accompanied by a lineup of local artists including poet and playwright Ifrah Mansour,

award-winning playwright Wilie Nour, poet-rapper-comedian Nader Helmy, and film curator and poet Valerie Deus.

Hashem Beck is a Lebanese poet whose second full-length collection, "Louder than Hearts," won the 2016 May Sarton New Hampshire Poetry Prize. She's also the author of two chapbooks, "3arabi Song," winner of the 2016 Rattle Chapbook Prize, and "There Was and How Much There Was," a Smith|Doorstop Laureate's Choice, selected by Carol Ann Duffy. Her first book, "To Live in Autumn," won the 2013 Backwaters Prize. Her work won Best of the Net, was included in *Bettering American Poetry*, was nominated for the Pushcart, and has appeared in *Mizna*, *Ploughshares*, *Poetry*, the *Academy of American Poets*, and *World Literature Today*, among others. Her poem, "Maqam," won *Poetry Magazine's* 2017 Frederick Bock Prize.

Beck lives in Dubai, where she founded the poetry collective PUNCH.

Mansour is a Somali, refugee, Muslim, multimedia artist and an educator based in Minnesota. Her artwork explores trauma through the eyes of children to uncover the resiliencies of blacks, Muslims, and refugees. She interweaves poetry, puppetry, films, and installations.

Nour is a Palestinian American writer and community activist. His work appeared in *Mizna*, and he has performed his poetry at community functions and local public schools. He is an actor and a student of traditional Arabic drumming.

Helmy is a writer, developer, entrepreneur, and musician born in Cairo, currently living in Minneapolis. He enjoys writing poems, songs, screenplays, sketches, jokes, and essays. His primary profession is building innovative technologies in software architecture and design, where he is currently developing a transformative new framework for human-first digital identity and data freedom on the Internet.

Deus is a poet and film curator. When she's not writing, she hosts Project 35, a local low-fi radio show featuring music from all over the diaspora and poetry. She curates Film North's Cinema Lounge and is the Shorts Programmer for the Provincetown International Film Festival.

Moon Palace is a neighborhood independent bookstore located in south Minneapolis, selling new and used books since 2012.

Metro Blooms slates workshops

Unseasonable warmth, long periods of drought, and flooding rains are the new normal in Minnesota. Metro Blooms is offering three different workshops at 11 different metro locations to share practices for creating resilience in your yard so it can withstand these challenges. The \$15 workshops can fill up fast, so register as soon as possible. Scholarships are available upon request. To register, visit www.metroblooms.org/workshops or call 651-699-2426.

All three workshop topics are going to be offered at Longfellow Recreation Center, 3435 36th Ave. S., at 6pm on the fol-

lowing days:

- Wed., Apr. 3, "Healthy Soils Workshop" (1.5 hours). Laying the groundwork for healthy soil. Healthy soil helps plants thrive, filters and cleans water, prevents erosion and is teeming with life. Learn why healthy soil is the foundation of a resilient yard, and take action to strengthen and protect the soil in your yard.

- Thur., Apr. 25, "Resilient Yards Workshop" (2.5 hours). A framework for understanding resilience. Learn how to create resilience in your yard using site planning, rain gardens, turf alternatives, trees, other plantings and more. Registration includes one-on-one design assistance for your yard from Blue Thumb landscape designers, Hennepin County Master Gardeners, and Master Water Stewards.

- Wed., May 8, "Turf Alternatives Workshop" (1.5 hours). Your guide to a low-maintenance lawn. A one-hour presentation on alternatives to conventional grass turf that require less watering and fewer chemical inputs, with step-by-step instructions for establishing them. This workshop includes information about pollinator-friendly (bee) lawns. Group will discuss common challenges and solutions.

Elder Voices slates meeting for Apr. 26

The April gathering of Elder Voices, telling our stories, will take place Fri., Apr. 26, 10-11:30am at Turtle Bread (4205 34th St.). As always there will be an opportunity to tell or update their "elder stories." The meeting is open-ended concerning additional topics. Facilitating may be up to those in attendance given that Don may still be recovering from being hit by a car and DeWayne and Marcea may still be on their road trip.

Habitat starts new mortgage program

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity recently created a first-of-its-kind mortgage program, which targets those who want to buy an existing house, but don't earn enough to qualify for a mortgage from a traditional lender.

The program enables Habitat to serve a broader income range, including those who may think their income is too high to qualify for Habitat. Households earning \$60,000 to \$80,000+ have successfully bought homes with Habitat on the open real estate market.

Habitat is on pace to help more than 100 Twin Cities families buy homes this year—double their historic average. They are engaging the community through their \$55 million "Multiplying the Impact" campaign to support this growth to serve more Twin Cities first-time homebuyers.

Twin Cities Habitat's program expansion was made possible by an innovative partnership with Bremer Bank. The \$98 million partnership is the largest of its kind among Habitat affiliates nationwide and now serves as a model.

Households can use Habitat's mortgage to buy a home

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Longfellow accessory dwelling unit to be part of Home Tour

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Christopher Strom Architects, a five-person architectural firm located in St. Louis Park, has built a portfolio of award-winning custom residential homes over the years. Lately, they've been getting a lot of attention for their ability to translate big design into small structures—which they call second suites. One of those projects will be part of this year's Minneapolis-St. Paul Home Tour on Apr. 27-28.

A second suite is a permanent, secondary residence on a city lot with a dedicated kitchen and bathroom. Legally, they are referred to as accessory dwelling units (ADUs). A second suite gives city dwellers a little more room without increasing the mass of their main house. It also allows for multi-generational living while maintaining independence and privacy. Families can share resources, provide caregiving, and enjoy spending time together. While not cheap, an ADU can be a cost-effective alternative to an apartment or even an assisted living facility.

ADUs became legal in Minneapolis on Dec. 5, 2014, when the City Council amended zoning code.

"We love the idea of building new in the city without having to do a tear-down," Strom said. "With a second suite, homeowners may decide to build-to-blend with the character of their existing home, or add a contemporary counterpoint to what's already there."

The ADU at 3537 37th Ave. is a case in point. Owned by



Stephanie Erickson, Ross Pfund and baby Quinlan in their partially completed accessory dwelling unit. The new structure will have a living room, kitchenette, ¾ bathroom and bedroom over a double garage. A forced air furnace is located under the interior staircase. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

Stephanie Erickson and Ross Pfund, it's the fourth project of its kind designed by Christopher Strom Architects in Minneapolis.

"There's an amazing stock of bungalows and other well-proportioned homes in Longfellow," Strom said. "They're beautiful in the size and shape that they are, but they're challenging to add on to. The reality is that people have a different expectation of reasonable space in this generation, but you don't have to wreck a house

to make it bigger."

Erikson and Pfund had meant to replace their single stall, shed-style garage anyhow. With the arrival of baby Quinlan a year ago, their home suddenly got smaller. Erickson said, "We saw two of Chris's other projects in the neighborhood and thought maybe we should consider building an ADU. The idea of having a family room and a guest bedroom was really appealing. Both our sets of par-

ents live out of town, so it'll be great to have a place where they can be comfortable during visits. Our house is 1,100 square feet, and the finished ADU will be about 500 square feet. By law, the ADU can't be larger or taller than the primary structure, and one or the other must be owner-occupied."

"ADU design is really a game of inches," Strom added. "When doing a custom residential design, the temptation is to keep

increasing the size of the footprint to accomplish design goals. With an ADU, you don't have that luxury. This way of working has impacted the way we look at our other projects."

There are a lot of benefits to building an ADU. It could be used as business space (the City of Minneapolis allows one home-based employee in addition to the business owner). It could be home for an aging parent, or a young adult child returning to the roost. It could be used for rental income, or as an Airbnb. It could be used to enhance current living space, and provide more flexibility.

Strom concluded, "A second suite like the one on 37th Ave. isn't a tricked-out garage. It's a single family home with a garage on the bottom."

For more ideas or to start a conversation, visit the alternative dwelling unit website of Christopher Strom Architects at www.secondsuite.org.

The 2019 Minneapolis and Saint Paul Home Tour will be Sat., Apr. 27, 10am-5pm and Sun., Apr. 28, 1-5pm.

In its 32nd year, the Tour features homes ranging from the very old to the very new. Homeowners will be on hand to share their home improvement experiences. The Tour will be held regardless of weather. Come out to meet homeowners and building professionals in a low-key, no obligation setting.

A list of all homes on the self-guided Tour will be online at www.MSPHomeTour.com in early April.

Polar Vortex may have slowed Emerald Ash Borer infestation

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

If you've struggled to stay positive through this year's long winter, take heart.

"The Polar Vortex of February may have killed up to 75% of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) population in the Twin Cities, and up to 95% in northern parts of the state," said Jonathan Osthus, an Emerald Ash Borer Biocontrol Coordinator for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

Osthus was one of three featured speakers at a Longfellow Community Council (LCC) event held on Mar. 12 at St. Peder's Lutheran Church. The event was sponsored by LCC's Environment and River Gorge Committee.

The Emerald Ash Borer is a green jewel beetle native to Northern China that feeds on ash species. It made its way to North America in 2002, arriving in the Detroit, MI area in wood pallets used for shipping. It has since spread to every part of the country that has ash trees. Minnesota has approximately one billion ash trees—more than any other state in the country.

EAB was first discovered in Minneapolis in Prospect Park in 2010 and has since spread to every part of the city and 17 Minnesota counties.

Philip Potyondy, Sustainable Forestry Coordinator with the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board, was the event's second speaker. "The city's Ash Canopy Replacement Plan began in 2014, and will run through 2021," he said. "We've



Recent record-breaking cold temperatures may have helped to slow the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer, an insect that feeds on all species of ash trees. The Mississippi National River Recreation Area (viewed here from the River Gorge) has an estimated half million ash trees. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

had an aggressive plan to remove boulevard ash trees since the beginning, at the rate of 5,000 per year. There are approximately 40,000 boulevard Ash trees in Minneapolis, and we are replacing every ash tree we remove with a different species of tree. For homeowners with ash trees on their property (not their boulevard), the options are to treat or remove the tree at their own expense." Mountain Ash is not a true ash and therefore is not susceptible.

Starting in 2019, the focus

shifted toward maintenance of the ash population in woodland settings, such as along the Mississippi River. Here and there, infected ash trees that could pose a hazard if they fell are marked with a green dot and slated for removal.

"We're trying to mitigate potential hazards by taking out trees near paths, benches, or parking areas—but for the majority of woodland trees in unpopulated areas, we're using a different approach," Potyondy said.

"At the woodland level, bi-

ological control is the only option," Osthus said. "We can't remove all the ash trees because they grow in precarious places. We can't inoculate them all because the cost would be too high. What we're doing is introducing three different parasitoids (insects that penetrate the egg or larvae of the EAB) to try and reduce the number of beetles that hatch each year. These three parasitoids were rigorously tested by the USDA to make sure they won't have negative effects on other na-

tive species of insects. We hope to be able to maintain at least some of the ash trees in the forest landscape by doing this."

Mary Hammes is the Environmental Stewardship and Volunteer Manager for Mississippi Park Connection, a non-profit partner of the Mississippi National River Recreation Area, and was the event's final speaker. The Mississippi Park Connection engages with more than 6,000 volunteers annually.

"We have about half a million ash trees in our 54,000-acre park along the river from Dayton and Ramsey down to Hastings," Hammes said. "The loss of those trees, and the break in the canopy that will occur, will increase the pressure of invasive species on native ones. We have to decide how we want to fill that canopy gap with new species of trees that can do well as the climate continues to change."

LCC's Environment and River Gorge Committee will be sponsoring their Annual Earth Day Clean-Up at 36th and 44th streets along West River Pkwy. on Sat., Apr. 20.

Sat., May 4 is the scheduled Neighborhood Bird Walk at the Prairie Oak Savannah; sign up on the LCC website.

The Environment and River Gorge Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm at the Longfellow Recreation Center, 3435 36th Ave. S. New members are always welcome.

In Our Community

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for sale on the open real estate market or a home developed by Twin Cities Habitat. Every homebuyer receives an affordable, fixed-rate, long-term mortgage with monthly payments set no more than 30% of income. Habitat mortgages are provided by their wholly-owned nonprofit mortgage lending subsidiary, TCHFH Lending, Inc.

Every homebuyer household completes a combination of one-on-one financial coaching, homeownership classes, and sweat equity volunteer hours before buying a home.

Each year, nearly 90% of Habitat's homebuyers are families of color. Twin Cities Habitat's foreclosure rate is under 1% thanks to diligent work selecting and preparing families.

Habitat for Humanity is attempting to address the affordable housing crisis. More than 1 in 4 Minnesotan households are cost-burdened, paying more than 30% of their income on housing. Six out of the top 10 most in-demand jobs can't even afford a one-bedroom apartment. And,

current rental housing production is not creating units for families with the greatest housing needs. There is a deficit of 92,439 affordable and available units across the state.

Golden Record Project celebrates historical event

If you could send a message out to the universe just to tell them our world was here, what would you say? What would you share?

Join Sandbox, 3109 E. 42nd St., for an intimate aural and visual event celebrating NASA's Voyager Golden Records Apr. 12-May 4. The Golden Record Project is part art installation, part performance, and part interactive museum.

In 1977, a NASA project led by astronomer Carl Sagan, and writer/producer Ann Druyan, launched time capsule discs they called Golden Records into deep space aboard two NASA Voyager satellites. President Jimmy Carter called them, "a present from a small, distant world, a token of our sounds, our science, our images, our music, our thoughts, and our

feelings. We are attempting to survive our time, so we may live into yours."

In Sandbox's Golden Record Project, a multi-disciplinary collection of twin cities artists, along with our audiences, will explore the cultural, historical and current significance of the original Golden Records, and through this exploration, create a new record of our own. How has our world changed? What would you send out today?

Performances are \$10-\$30 and tickets can be purchased at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4091991>.

CSA farm directory now available

Now that spring has arrived, it brings with it a reminder that this region is home to dozens of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farms that provide regular deliveries of produce and other locally raised food throughout the growing season.

The Land Stewardship Project's 2019 Twin Cities, Minnesota and Western Wisconsin Region CSA Farm Directory is now available. It provides detailed information on 49 farms that

deliver weekly shares of produce, meat and more to locations in the region.

Community-supported agriculture is an arrangement whereby consumers buy shares in a farming operation on an annual basis. In return, the farmers provide regular deliveries of sustainably raised food throughout the growing season (approximately June to October).

The list is available free of charge at landstewardshipproject.org/stewardshipfood/csa.

Growing tomatoes, peppers, potatoes

The Longfellow Garden Club will hold its monthly meet and its silent auction on Wed., Apr. 10, 7pm, at Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S.

Tomatoes, peppers, and potatoes are all related! Despite their differences, they still share some growing requirements and pests. In this presentation by Annie Klodd, you will learn some of the most delicious, interesting, and easy-to-grow varieties for Minnesota, gain tips on growing them successfully, and learn how to overcome common prob-

lems. You will leave feeling well-equipped to grow lots of delicious vegetables this year. Klodd is a UMN Regional Extension Educator for fruit and vegetable production.

April is also the Garden Club's Silent Auction, its major fundraiser of the year! On this night, members and attendees bring in garden-related objects for the auction and everyone bids in typical silent auction fashion. The auction funds are used to replenish the speaker budget. Everyone who enjoys the garden club, member or not, is encouraged to donate an item or two. All are welcome to join in the bidding fun to make the auction a success! Drop off auction items by 6:50pm.

Submit your news

If you are an organization located in the Longfellow Nokomis Messenger delivery area, you can submit your event, special program, or noteworthy news to us for consideration for publication. Submit your news item by email to editorial@deruyternelson.com. The deadline for the next issue is Mon., Apr. 15 for the Apr. 25 issue.

Classifieds

Messenger

Want ads must be received by the Messenger by April 15 for the April 25 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, PO Box 168, Osseo, MN 55369. Want ads must be mailed to the Messenger before Apr. 15 for the April 25 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

APARTMENT WANTED

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

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Hiawatha Golf Course

Continued from page 15

Is Hiawatha Golf Course making, or losing, money?

By TESH M. CHRISTENSEN

Is Hiawatha Golf Course losing money or making money?

Both options are asserted during community meetings.

The confusion lies in whether people are looking at the audited or unaudited figures, according to Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board (MPRB) Assistant Superintendent Michael Schroeder.

It gets even more confusing because of the flooding in 2014 when the golf course lost money during and after the flood.

"Floods impact financial performance for many businesses, including golf courses," pointed out Schroeder. "For Hiawatha, the potential for flooding exists, and it needs to be a part of a financial model."

MBRB planner Tyler Pederson explained, "The unaudited financials tell us if a golf course is making money based on revenue received and expenses paid within the year."

"The audited financials also include depreciation (annual charge for past investments in the courses), revenue and expense adjustments made during the audit, and non-

cash expenses including compensated employee absences, post-employment benefits, and pension liability. The audit is conducted by the Office of the State Auditor and requires the inclusion of the aforementioned expenses."

Hiawatha Golf Course last made money in 2009, when it generated a net audited income of \$143,274. Since then, it has lost between \$22,041 (2012) and \$696,567 (2014). In 2017, it lost \$360,370.

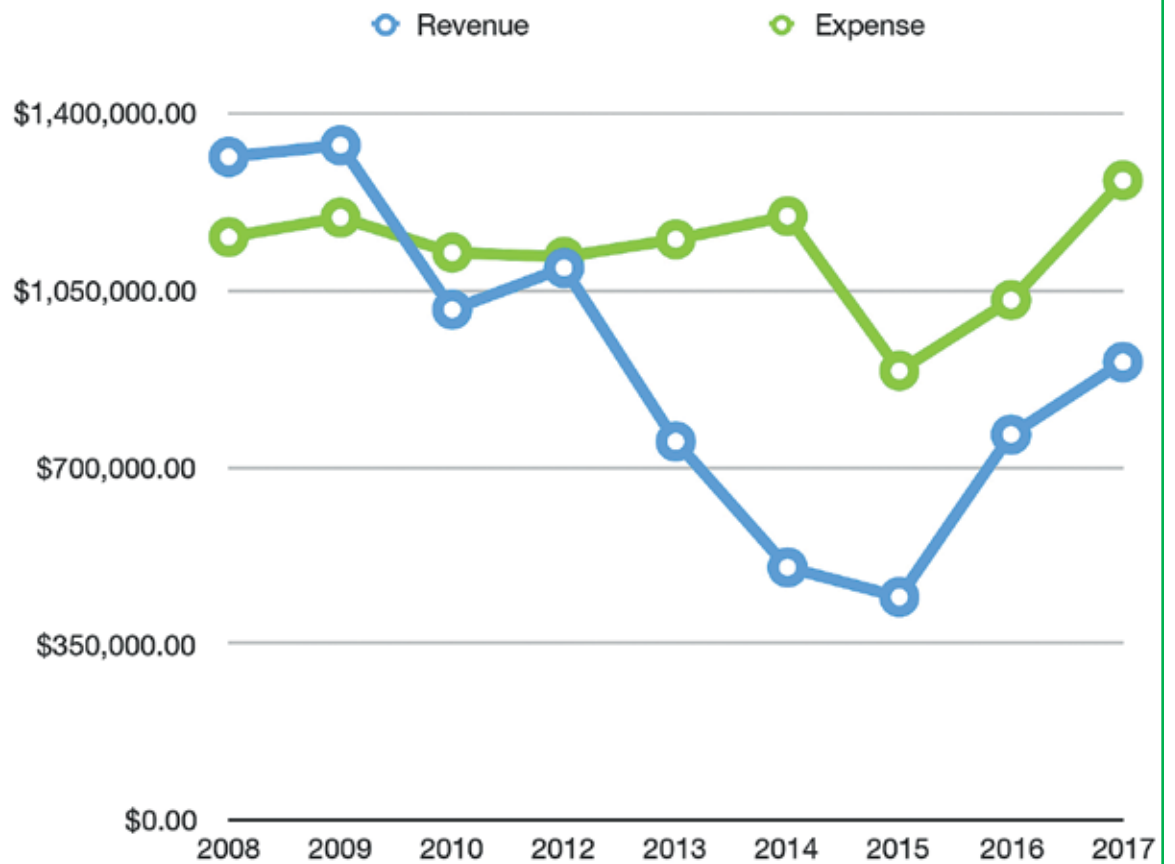
The 10-year audited loss is \$1,986,049.

All MPRB's golf courses have lost an audited \$8,870,202 in the last ten years.

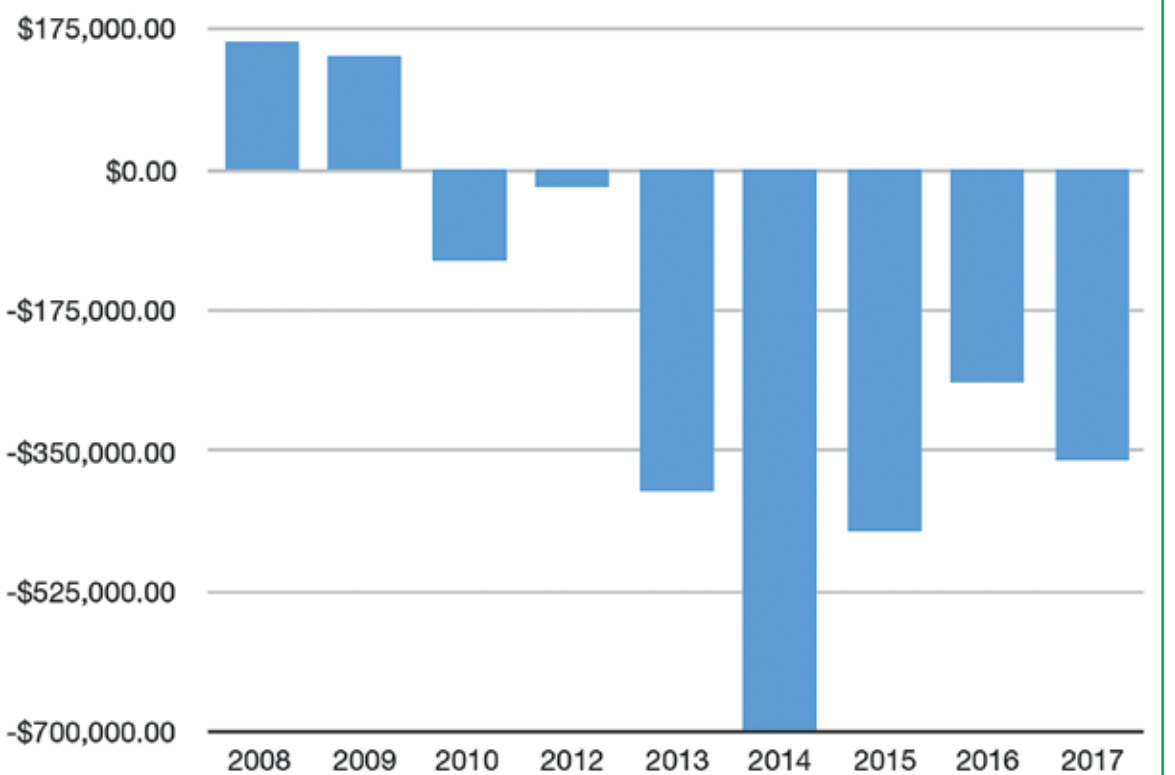
This does not include the \$125,000 MPRB is setting aside each year for reinvestment in each course.

The unaudited 10-year loss is \$749,518 with six of the last ten years losing money ranging from \$11,122 in 2011 to \$611,822 in 2014 (the year of the flood). In considering just the revenue received and expenses paid and not any other factors, the golf course was in the black in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2012.

Hiawatha Golf Course Audited Revenue and Expenses



Hiawatha Golf Course Audited Income



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- Program can be delivered in English or Spanish
- Must be considered low-income, defined as:
 - Enrollment in any government assisted program (e.g., WIC, SNAP)
 - AND/OR Annual income that is considered low (less than \$45,510 for a family of four, less than \$30,044 for a family of two, and less than \$22,311 if single).

Mamá Saludable ESTUDIO SOBRE EL EJERCICIO DURANTE EL EMBARAZO

La Universidad de Minnesota está buscando mujeres con **menos de 20 semanas de embarazo** para participar en el estudio de investigación que examina los efectos del ejercicio y la salud del estado de ánimo posterior al parto.

- Programa ejecutado vía correo o teléfono
- Debe ser mayor o igual a 18 años de edad
- No debe hacer ejercicio regularmente
- No debe tomar antidepresivos
- Usted recibirá \$100 y un FitBit por su tiempo (será permitido quedarse con el FitBit después de la culminación del estudio)
- Debe considerarse de bajos ingresos, lo cual se define como:
 - Inscrita en cualquier programa asistencial del gobierno (por ejemplo, WIC, SNAP)
 - Y/O Ingresos anuales considerados como bajos (menos de \$ 45,510 para una familia de cuatro, menos de \$ 30,044 para una familia de dos y menos de \$ 22,311 si es soltera).

Call or TEXT to 612-345-0325 or mompro@umn.edu to see if you qualify for this research study. **UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA** Llamada o TEXTO 612-237-1004 o mompro@umn.edu para ver si califica para éste estudio.

Kids get their own night out at Lake Hiawatha Park

Inexpensive kids program each Friday night gives parents a break for less than the cost of a babysitter

By TESHAM. CHRISTENSEN

Give your kids a night out and give yourself time for a date.

Each Friday night, the Lake Hiawatha Recreation Center hosts Kids Night Out from 6-9pm, the only regular program like it in the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board (MPRB) system.

"I love that it is three hours including a meal for only \$8 for Minneapolis residents," stated Ruth Johnston, who has lived in the Northrup neighborhood since 2005. "I love that it is childcare that is not in my house (don't have to clean up beforehand), and my son really likes to go. It's a fun evening out for him and a break for my spouse and me."

Some nights, Johnston and her husband go out to eat. "But the nice thing is that we can stay at home if we want," she pointed out. "Sometimes we get take out food and hang out together!"

Kids Night Out fills a gap for the Johnston family, who don't have relatives in the area. Their family is in Iowa and Japan.

"Using Kid's Night Out was even more important when our son was younger, and we were more tired and stressed out from watching after him. At 11 years old, the reason our son goes now is mostly that he likes it and wants to go," stated Johnson. "But we still enjoy the free time."

Parents can sign up ahead of time on the MPRB web site, or drop in that evening. A maximum



Eleven-year-old Micah Johnston (left) plays Uno with MPRB staff Natalie Johnson and Riley Parham (right) on Mar. 15. Micah said he likes the games, friends, and movies. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

imum of 25 kids can attend each Friday.

Johnston first learned about the program when she drove by and saw it advertised on the Lake Hiawatha Park sign off 28th Ave. Her son Micah has gone to Kids Night Out for years now, off and on.

He's part of a group of four to 10 regulars that parks staff member Natalie Johnson, who facilitates the program, has watched grow up. The majority of attendees range from eight to 10 years old.

"A lot of times parents are looking for a babysitter and find us," remarked Johnson. "This is a very affordable option. A lot of parents are shocked we have three hours and dinner at such a low cost."

Evening catered to kids

While at Kids Night Out, children play on computers, watch a movie on the big TV, buy snacks from vending machines, and play board games. Meals are pizza, corn dogs and hot dogs with chips and water.

They also play group games such as dodgeball, four corners, kickball, and soccer. The group goes outside if the weather is nice or stays inside and uses the gym if it isn't.

"We try to cater the evenings to what the kids want," pointed out Johnson. They let the kids vote on movies and suggest games. "It's different every Friday night. It keeps them coming back because they get to do what they're into."

"I like that it's really laid back," observed Riley Parham, who helps staff the program. "We really just hang out with kids and have fun."

Parham attended similar programs at Painter Park when he was a kid, and appreciates how the parks system offers community gathering spaces for a lot of kids.

Supporting families

"My son recognizes kids from Kid's Night Out when he sees

them in the neighborhood," said Micah's mom. "For me, I just feel like this is a place in the community who cares about how much parents need an evening to themselves. This kind of inexpensive, available childcare is something that provides support to parents and families. "Giving parents a break is one effective way to take care of kids in our communities."

"It's a really fun program," said Johnson. "We always welcome new kids."

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