



Community Hop
Garden takes root
in Longfellow

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Monarchs get the
royal treatment
at 2015 festival

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Folk arts school
starts from
the ground up

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Hiawatha Golf Course at lower elevation than Lake Hiawatha

The groundwater pumped out of golf course per year equals 15-16" covering entire 640-acre Nokomis-Hiawatha Regional Park...data leaves MPRB with more questions and puts golf course improvements on hold

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

The hundreds of local residents who packed inside the Lake Nokomis Community Center on Tuesday night, Sept. 15, expected to be sharing their opinions on three concepts for the Hiawatha Golf Course.

Instead, they learned that everything at the golf course is currently on hold.

On Sept. 11, the city of Minneapolis shared information with the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board (MPRB) from a preliminary study that shows groundwater issues at the golf course.

It suggests that 273.6 million gallons of groundwater are being pumped from the golf course each year.

This pumped water is not from a rainstorm or water running into the course from the city's stormwater system. Nor is it water coming from Minnehaha Creek on the south side. Instead, this is shallow groundwater that exists on the site, always sitting just beneath the ground surface.

"The volume of groundwater being pumped from this site to enable a game to be played is shocking, and will take time to process and understand," stated MPRB District 5 Commissioner Steffanie



When asked who in the room golfed, a show of hands went up in the Lake Nokomis Recreation Center. A few hundred people attended a meeting on Sept. 15, to discuss the future of the Hiawatha Golf Course. Many there pushed for the continuance of 18 rounds of golf and warned that if the course were remade as 9-holes many wouldn't be interested in playing there anymore. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Musich.

"No doubt like many of you, I am still struggling to understand what this means for the course and this project as a whole."

MPRB has been working to improve the golf course with plans to complete the project in 2016. Part of the work was to be paid for by \$1.2 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds following storm damage in the summer of 2014, the worst damage at the course since 1987.

The back nine holes at the golf

course have been closed since the flooding. They will remain closed, so FEMA funding is not jeopardized by doing any work there, said Assistant Superintendent of Planning Michael Schroeder.

Water may limit use at site

While MPRB had considered canceling the Sept. 15 public meeting, they chose to share this new information with attendees and answer questions as the staff was able, according to Schroeder.

Initial data shows that the

infiltration rate at one of the five ponds at the Hiawatha Golf Course is 1.16 cubic foot per second (CFS). While Schroeder acknowledged that one cubic foot per second seems small, it becomes concerning when you add up how much that is per minute, per hour, day or year.

A dimensional analysis of this figure suggests that 273.6 million gallons of groundwater are being pumped off the course each year to make it playable. The pumps run constantly.

"That's the number that concerns us," said Schroeder.

He pointed out that amounts to 15-16 inches covering the entire 640-acre Nokomis-Hiawatha Regional Park.

Additionally, the study shows that the ponds are 4 feet lower than the water level of Lake Hiawatha.

The elevation of Lake Hiawatha is 812.2 feet, the fairways are at 810 feet, and the ponds are at 808 feet.

MPRB does not yet know whether the water levels would even out if they stopped pumping the groundwater from the ponds, but that is a question they are looking for an answer to, said Schroeder.

The golf course currently has a permit from the Minnesota Depart-



Lisa Cerney, director of surface water and sewers for the Public Works Department in Minneapolis, stressed that the groundwater being pumped from Hiawatha Golf Course is not new water to this system. "It exists there already," she said. Currently, the ponds at the golf course are at a lower elevation than the lake. The ponds are at 808 feet, and the lake is at 812. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

ment of Natural Resources to pump 38.5 million gallons of groundwater to use to irrigate the golf course,

Continued on page 3

Neighbors near Brackett Park 'Paint the Pavement'

Article and photos
by MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

By 9am on Aug. 29, there was a buzz of activity at the intersection of 39th Ave. and 28th St. Traffic was blocked off in all directions, and neighbors were busily sweeping the street clean. What was going on?

Neighborhood resident Robin Garwood explained, while continuing to mark grid sections on the asphalt with tape and twine: "We've flyer'd the whole neighborhood," he said, "and invited everybody to come out and help with our 'Paint the Pavement Project.'"

The inspiration started at last year's National Night Out, on the 2800 block of 39th Ave. It's a block with lots of young families, and they use the playground at Brackett Park all year long. 28th St. is something of a through-way, and resident Sarah Lovan was interested in finding a way to get drivers to slow down. She brainstormed with Gar-

wood, who works as a policy aide for Councilman Cam Gordon, and several other neighbors also concerned about the intersection.

Lovan started digging around and learned what it would take to get a Paint the Pavement Project approved at the SE corner of Brackett Park. "Springboard for the Arts provided valuable assistance," she said. "While Minneapolis only has five such projects, St. Paul has approved many more, so they had plenty of know-how."

Garwood was designated as "lead artist" on the project, and neighbor Robert Russell became "logistics specialist," filling out and filing the application with the City of Minneapolis.

Garwood soon found himself bankrolling the project as well, paying from his own pocket the \$50 encroachment permit and the \$225 needed for the obstruction

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Joshua Houdek and daughter Sage loaded up their paint brushes and left their mark in the middle of 28th St., two blocks from where they live.

Making Roosevelt High School beautiful, one garbage can at a time

By TESHAM. CHRISTENSEN

Semilla Arts Program is making Roosevelt High School beautiful; one garbage can at a time.

The group held its first mosaics workshop at the May Art Crawl, fittingly titled "Art Crawl III: Mosaics."

The teddy bear mosaic produced at that event was later installed on the garbage can at the corner of 28th Ave. and 40th St.

On each Wednesday in September, Semilla hosted additional mosaic workshops. The goal was to mosaic more garbage cans and the handicapped ramp.

"We'd love to work more in

Longfellow/Nokomis," said Patrick Cabello Hansel, co-founder of Semilla. "Our funding is from year-to-year, as is the planning for future projects, but it would be nice to extend our reach."

Planting seeds

Semilla (which means "seed" in Spanish) Arts Program is a project of the St. Paul's Lutheran Church at 2742 15th Ave. S. in the Phillips neighborhood. The program was founded by church pastors Patrick and Luisa Cabello Hansel.

"This whole project grew out of our belief that God is active in our community and that we are co-creators with God in transforming our community," explained Patrick. "All our community programs are open to anyone, so both church members—and those who are not—participate."

Their daughter Talia will be a sophomore at Roosevelt High School this year. Last year, Patrick and Luisa connected with Roosevelt's art coordinator Candida Gonzalez, and held their first workshop. They hope to continue working at the high school throughout this school year, although the amount they do depends on funding.

Using arts to build stronger communities

Luisa is a native of Chile and lived in Mexico for 15 years, where she developed her artistic powers. She is a watercolorist in addition to running the mosaic program. Patrick is a published poet and fiction writer and has sought to bring poetry to the communities where they have worked. Last year, they published the first edition of a new literary magazine *The Phoenix of Phillips*.

When Luisa and Patrick came to Minneapolis 10 years ago, they heard over and over from people that they wanted to see a more beautiful, healthier and stronger neighborhood.

"We had used arts as a strategy of community transformation in inner-city neighborhoods where we served in Philadelphia and the Bronx, so it was a natural extension to begin a similar program here," explained Patrick.

The Semilla Arts Program of St. Paul's has a special emphasis on reaching those who don't often receive quality arts instruction, including immigrant and homeless



Luisa Cabello Hansel of Semilla Arts Project demonstrates how to create a mosaic teddy, the Roosevelt mascot. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

families, seniors, and people with disabilities.

St. Paul's was founded 127 years ago by Swedish immigrants. The majority of members today are Latino immigrants.

In the last 10 years, Patrick and Luisa have taught over 2,000 people in over 30 sites—in mosaics, murals, photography, creative writing, drama and other art forms. They host the annual "A Taste of Phillips" Art Festival, and two years ago, they began the Phillips Avenue of the Arts with Heart of the Beast and other neighborhood partners.

Art with, not for

"A big part of our philosophy is that we do community art with people, rather than for them," explained Patrick.

For example, they are working with block clubs and community gardens to do mosaic signs and mosaics on the city concrete garbage cans. Again this summer, they partnered with the Multiple Sclerosis Achievement Center to create art with people who have MS. Trained youth "Arts Pollinators" partnered with the clients of the center to create a beautiful mosaic mural.

"Part of our push this year is to encourage people to be 'pollinators,'" Patrick said, "arts pollinators, pollinators of faith and justice, and in Phillips, we are also working with the community organization to plant literal pollinator-attracting gardens in boulevards."

For more information, email phcreate@aol.com or call 612-296-2231.



Under the guidance of Semilla Arts Project, people work to install a mosaic on the trash cans outside Roosevelt High School. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

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125 First Ave. NW, PO Box 168
Minneapolis MN 55369
651-645-7045

Publishers:
Calvin deRuyter, Tim Nelson

Managing Editor:
Calvin deRuyter, editorial@deruyternelson.com

Advertising:
Denis Woulfe (651-917-4183);
denis@deruyternelson.com

Production:
Tim Nelson

Contributing Writers:
Tesha M. Christensen, Jan Willms, Jill Boogren,
Matthew Davis, Margie O'Loughlin, Loren Green

Now, communicate with the Longfellow/Nokomis Messenger electronically!

Now it's easier than ever to keep in touch with the *Messenger*. Letters to the editor and news releases for publication can be sent via e-mail at editorial@deruyternelson.com. Be sure to send copy in the body of the e-mail, and please mark whether the copy is a letter, a news release for publication, or perhaps just your thoughts on the last issue. Don't forget to write!

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Hiawatha Golf Course

Continued from page 1

which is far below how much is being pumped.

At nearby Lake Nokomis, the elevation level of the lake is higher than that of the ponds. When it rains, the ponds fill and then overflow into the lake, according to Musich.

They had assumed the same thing was happening at Lake Hiawatha.

"While the park planning process from the public view can seem unnecessarily cumbersome and long, ensuring that our planning process includes due diligence to validate assumptions uncovers issues and stumbling blocks early, allowing for a successful project in the long run for generations of Minneapolitans to come," said Musich.

A holistic approach

When asked by attendees at the Sept. 15 meeting why this information was just discovered, Schroeder explained that part of its planning process for the Hiawatha Golf Course is involving the city of Minneapolis and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District. Each entity has been compiling information and completing studies. MPRB received information from the city on the 11th that came from a consultant hired by the city.

This initial data, collected as

"The volume of groundwater being pumped from this site to enable a game to be played is shocking, and will take time to process and understand."

— MPRB District 5
Commissioner
Steffanie Musich



Would Lake Hiawatha be cleaner if it was disconnected from Minnehaha Creek? "You disconnect the creek from the lake, and you get a more polluted lake," said Minnehaha Watershed District Board Vice President Brian Shekleton. He explained that if the pollution entering the lake from the city's stormwater culvert had no way to leave the lake, it would get more concentrated. Shekleton pointed out that they are working to increase the storage capacity of the creek and slow the speed of water to prevent sediment build-up by re-meandering it and putting it back where it was in the 1920s and 30s. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

part of a report expected to be presented to the Park Board and city in November, suggests that the groundwater volume is greater than previously understood and may pose limitations for how the golf course land can be used in the future.

"The future park and rec uses of this site are unknown, but I can assure you, this land will remain parkland even if golf is no longer a viable use of the space," promised Musich.

It's no longer just about how MPRB can accommodate golf, said Schroeder.

However, he assured the crowd that MPRB is still committed finding a way to accommodate golf as the primary activity at this site. That goal is in addition to also bettering the water ecology, addressing the trash coming in the city's stormwa-

ter culvert on the north side, and including non-golf activities.

"We are trying to look at this in a very holistic way," stated Schroeder, one that doesn't waste millions of taxpayer dollars when the course floods again.

Several residents stressed that golfers won't be interested in using Hiawatha unless it is an 18-hole course. Schroeder acknowledged that the city recognizes the viewpoint of golfers.

He added that by simply reconfiguring the golf course, MPRB can deal with many of the water and trash issues, which earned a round of clapping from the crowd.

Schroeder also pointed out that 15% of the city's population, or 60,000 people, golf, and the MPRB sees the value of this recreational use for residents.

"We're trying to find a solution—as crazy as it might seem—to keep everybody happy," said Schroeder.

Golf usage going back up

According to MPRB Director of Golf Keith Kainy, golf usage in Minneapolis has been rebounding since a nationwide low during the recession of 2008/09. He also pointed out that what astounds him is Hiawatha is one of the few golf courses he knows of that didn't take a drop in rounds during the recession.

Schroeder did note that the MPRB is making changes to ensure that its golf courses, including Meadowbrook farther upstream, are self-sustaining in the future. While 15 years ago, the city's golf courses made \$1,845,849, in 2013, they lost over half a million dollars, according to a report prepared last year by Golf Convergence for the Park Board.

Golf course useful for floodwater storage

Lake Hiawatha, originally called Rice Lake, was formerly a wetland. It was dredged in the 1920s to create a lake, and the golf course was built with the fill material.

Attendees at the Tuesday night meeting recalled swimming in the lake as children when it was 35 feet deep, compared to the 8-9-foot-deep it is now.

One resident suggested that the creek is adding too much sediment to the lake, and he advocated for blocking the lake off from Minnehaha Creek.

"You disconnect the creek from the lake, and you get a more pol-



A new study suggests that 273.6 million gallons of groundwater are being pumped off the Hiawatha golf course each year to make it playable. The pumps run constantly. "That's the number that concerns us," said MPRB Assistant Superintendent of Planning Michael Schroeder. He pointed out that amounts to 15-16 inches covering the entire 640-acre Nokomis-Hiawatha Regional Park. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

luted lake," said Minnehaha Watershed District Board Vice President Brian Shekleton. He explained that if the pollution entering the lake from the city's stormwater culvert had no way to leave the lake, it would get more concentrated.

Another resident suggested that the outflow be increased to allow more water to flow out of the lake.

Shekleton observed that this will result in basements flooding downstream, which is why the Watershed District was created 50 years ago to prevent.

"The golf course is a better place for flood waters to be stored than neighborhood streets," said Schroeder.

Lisa Cerney, director of surface water and sewers for the Public Works Department in Minneapo-

lis, stressed that "the groundwater is not new water to this system. It exists there already."

Shekleton remarked that they might be able to increase the storage capacity of the creek during storms by re-meandering it. This is what is being done upstream in Hopkins and St. Louis Park. By putting the creek back where it was in the 1920s and 30s, they are slowing the speed of the water to prevent sediment build-up and increasing the capacity to hold water from storms. Through various measures upstream, they will reduce stormwater run-off by one-third.

Can trash from streets be prevented?

Some at the meeting pushed for a solution to the trash problem around the city's stormwater culvert on the north side, and asked that the MPRB allow neighborhood resident Sean McConaughy to implement a short-term solution this fall. The stormwater culvert there drains the area south from Lake St.

Schroeder responded that he did not have an answer to that question.

What happens next?

MPRB will continue to solicit comments from community members about what they'd like to see at the golf course. Comment online at minneapolisparcs.org/currentprojects.

After more data is collected, MPRB will hold another community meeting to share information. Schroeder expects that to be within the next 2 to 3 months.

Following that, MPRB will proceed with concept plans once more, and will know whether the timeline for work in 2016 is still feasible.

Letters to the Editor

The number #1 cause of cancer

To the Editor,

Would it not seem odd if researchers were working on a cure for the ills caused by cigarette smoking and the cure had nothing to do with the stopping of smoking.

So goes the goofy, never-end-

ing, yet very profitable business of cancer research—"Mary Gooze swims to raise funds for cancer research," August 2015 *Messenger*.

We are living cancer causing lifestyles and then trying to find a cure for cancer that does not address our lifestyles...no wonder cancer research has been going on forever.

There is a wonderful ancient Chinese saying: "Sickness enters through the mouth." Based on volume, something we ingest every day of the year, auto emissions is by far the number one cancer causing agent that our bodies have to deal with. Yet our society refuses to address it. We just continue to drive more and more, and cancer researchers drive cars to work, to work on finding a cure for cancer.

—Frank Erickson

Kudos

Greetings!

I wanted to send the *Messenger* a quick note for being a fine local paper.

The "other" neighborhood paper for Longfellow seems so much more a personal, political rant all the time.

I appreciate that you cover things of interest to the neighborhood.

Thanks!

— TRW

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NENA Neighborhood Asset Survey

Over the past months, NENA was out and about door-knocking, popping up with our Pop Up Engagement Kiosk, hosting listening sessions and conducting interviews. All of the groundwork was to help the Board of Directors prepare for the upcoming fall Strategic Planning sessions. There is still time for you to share your ideas, frustrations and hopes!

Take a moment to visit www.nokomiseast.org and complete the NENA Neighborhood Asset Survey. Share your opinions and let us learn from you.

NENA will be sharing the Strategic Plan in early 2016—don't be surprised if your ideas pop up in the plan!

Thank you Pollinator Pals!

Just a note to send our special thanks to the dozens and dozens of volunteers who helped make the 2015 Minneapolis Monarch Festival a huge success. Visit www.monarchfestival.org to view photos from the event.

Community Meeting

Council Member Andrew Johnson (Ward 12) and NENA's Housing, Commercial and Streetscape Committee, are co-hosting a community meeting Sept. 30 to gather neighborhood input on a proposed housing development at 54th St. and Riverview Rd. Join the conversation as the City prepares plans to develop the site for a new multi-family construction project. The community meeting will be held at Mor-

NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

3000 East 50th Street

Strategic Planning, Minneapolis Monarch Festival, Nokomis Block Party & more

ris Park Recreation Center from 6:30-8pm.

Milkweed for Monarchs Workshop Oct. 10

Learn how to collect and plant milkweed seeds. Provide monarch habitat and plant this fall. The beloved monarch has suffered a steep decline in only a few years, largely due to milkweed habitat losses. The milkweed family is the only monarch caterpillar host plant (their specific diet). No milkweeds = no monarchs. Learn the secrets to successfully planting milkweed from an experienced nursery grower. To get you started, a variety of milkweed seeds will be provided. Kid friendly! \$5 donation per person or family. Preregister and reserve space by contacting Vicki at 612-232-8196 or vbok@usiwireless.com. The workshop will be held at Lake Nokomis Recreation Center from 1-2pm.

Committee seeking new members

NENA Housing, Commercial and Streetscape (HCS) Committee Mission Statement: The HCS Committee provides services to NENA members and NENA Board of Directors and staff to ensure the furtherance of Nokomis

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

9/30/15: Community Meeting, 54th St. & Riverview Rd. Housing Development, Morris Park, 6:30-8pm
10/07/15: NENA Housing, Commercial and Streetscape Committee, NENA Office, 6:30pm
10/08/15: NENA Executive Committee, NENA Office, 7pm
10/20/15: Milkweed for Monarchs Workshop, Lake Nokomis Community Center, 1-2pm
10/22/15: NENA Board Meeting, Crosstown Covenant Church, 7pm

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East allocated to NENA for the purpose of maintaining or enhancing our housing and commercial stock.

HCS Committee meetings are the first Wednesday of the Month; 6:30-8:30pm at the NENA Office, 3000 E. 50th St.

All are welcome to the HCS Committee meetings! Interested? Contact the HCS Committee Chair at housing@nokomiseast.org.

Home improvement loan programs

This summer, NENA launched a new housing rehabilitation loan program. Owners of 1 to 4 unit

residences can apply for up to \$15,000 to make improvements to their properties. Owner-occupants and investors may apply. The interest rate is either 2% or 3% depending on income. No income restriction applies. For more information or to request an application, call the Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation's Housing Resource Center 612-722-7141. Or, visit www.gmhousing.org. Loan applications are processed on a first-come-first-served basis.

A limited amount of funds are available for emergency repairs. Only owner-occupied households are eligible. Income restrictions apply. The maximum

loan amount is \$7,500. The loan is 0% interest, and there are no monthly payments. The loan is due in total on the sale of the property or transfer of title. If you have an emergency, contact the Housing Resource Center at 612-722-7141.

Nokomis Naturescape

Join volunteers at the Nokomis Naturescape most Tuesdays throughout the summer for group gardening activities. Volunteers meet from 6-8pm at the garden near 50th St. and Lake Nokomis Pkwy. All are welcome!

Nokomis East Gateway Gardens

Native Plant Demonstration Garden, 50th St. and Hiawatha Ave., NW corner. Enjoy a visit here to imagine how native plants can find a place in your yard! Five years ago a beautiful native perennial garden of native flowers, prairie grasses and trees emerged from an unused barren half-acre lot. The Gardens are a community collaborative effort between NENA, residents, Metro Transit and the City of Minneapolis. The architects at colberg/tews created a garden design of a monarch wing when seen from an aerial view. Volunteers are the backbone of Gateway Gardens, and it can use your time and talent—beginners are welcomed!





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Moving from conferences to districts in high school football caused many to hope for a more competitive balance.

While some teams have seen that result, some squads such as Roosevelt may have to wait. Roosevelt, like many other teams, may have to grow into their respective districts with competition equal to, or better than, their old conferences. The strength of the schedule in the Twin City District Blue Division has not eased up from what the Teddies saw in the Minneapolis City Conference.

Roosevelt opened with a tough stretch of games against South, St. Agnes and Brooklyn Center in the first three weeks. All of those teams posted winning percentages of .500 or better, and all three beat the Teddies. St. Agnes and Brooklyn Center simply took the place of Southwest and/or non-conference teams that won by two or more touchdowns against Teddies in 2014.

It took facing former St. Paul City Conference cellar dweller St. Paul Humboldt to finally notch a win on Sept. 11 in a 38-8 victory. That win began a more welcoming stretch of the schedule for Roosevelt with a young Spectrum



In The Zone

By MATTHEW DAVIS

Roosevelt adjusting to life in Twin City District football



Roosevelt football players (l to r) Marcus Riley, Orain Gundy and Marquan Burton regroup following a play on Sept. 4. The Teddies have seen their ups and downs in the new Twin City District this fall. (Photo by Matthew Davis)

program and winless Edison on tap.

However, the Teddies get to face Class A power North and a

strong Washburn contest in between those contests. The Teddies lost in a shutout to Washburn last year, and North continues

to run away against every regular season opponent.

Ultimately, teams win or lose games on the field regardless of who they play. Moreover, some teams will have to face more challenging opponents than others not matter how the MSHSL decides to organize high school football.

Roosevelt has seen some good performances individually during the first half of the season. Quarterback Elijah Hannah Jr. has 365 yards and six TD passes for a rating of 110.6 and just one interception. Hannah Jr. has shown the ability to make plays with his legs too with 5.2 yards per run and three TDs.

Gundy Orain has been solid in the backfield, averaging 8.8 yards per carry with two TDs. Marquan Burton helped the passing game with four TD catches and a 19.2-yard average when he touches the ball.



Taray Graves has caught three touchdown passes through the first five games of the season for Roosevelt. (Photo by Matthew Davis)

Taray Graves likewise gets good yardage on receptions, 18, and had two TD receptions. Graves has come up big on defense too with 1.5 sacks and a forced fumble.

Events are sponsored by Friends of the East Lake Library unless otherwise noted.

Art for Life: Multimedia Blue Guitar: Thur., October 1, 10:30am. For adults 55+. With vintage paper, paint, sewing patterns, cardboard and more, create a Picasso-inspired multimedia piece. No experience necessary. Materials provided. Registration required, register online or call the library at 612-543-8425.

Teen Geekery Club: Thur., Oct. 1, 6pm. For teens. Are you an anime and manga fan? A cosplayer? A fan of Doctor Who, Sherlock, Homestuck or Supernatural? If yes to any of these, Teen Geekery Club is for you! Watch anime, share your artwork and discuss your favorite fandoms.

Adult Nonfiction Book Club: Tue., Oct. 6, 6:30-7:30pm. Join our discussion of new and interesting nonfiction titles. Bring along your recommendations for

Check It Out - News from East Lake Library

Programs abound through October at East Lake Library

future meetings. Lending copies may be picked up at the information desk prior to meeting. October's title is "The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains" by Nicholas Carr.

Childcare Group Storytime: Wed., Oct. 7, 10:15am. Talk, sing, read, write and play together in a format appropriate for the children in your care. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

Senior Surf Day: Fri., Oct 9, 9:30-11:30am. Learn computer basics, how to navigate and search the Internet and how to access websites of interest to seniors. Get hands-

on computer experience with help from representatives of the Senior LinkAge Line®.

Adult Book Club: Fri., Oct. 9, 10:30-11:30am. Join our discussion of new and interesting titles. Bring along your recommendations for future meetings. Lending copies may be picked up at the information desk prior to meeting. October's title is "The Ocean at the End of the Lane" by Neil Gaiman.

Paint It Green: Rube Goldberg Marble Machine: Sat., Oct. 10, 2-3:30pm. K-grade 6. Design and make your own marble machine using a variety of tubes, papers, unusual scraps, tape, glue and wire. Then add a few marbles and watch the good times roll! Materials provided. Registration

required, register online or call 612543-8425.

Quick Reads Adult Book Club: Mon., Oct. 12, 6:30-7:30pm. Join our discussion of new and interesting under-200-page titles. Bring along your recommendations for future meetings. Lending copies may be picked up at the information desk prior to meeting. October's title is "The Hen Who Dreamed She Could Fly" by Sonmi Hwang.

Used Book Sale: Sat., Oct. 17, 9am-4:30pm; Sun., Oct. 18, 12-3pm. Bargain hunters and book lovers take note: the Friends of the Library will hold a sale of hundreds of adult and children's fiction and nonfiction books in hardcover and paperback. Most

books are withdrawn from the Hennepin County Library system or donated by the public. Funds raised will benefit the library. Book donations accepted at the library beginning Sept. 27.

Curious Community: Ballare Teatro: Tue., Oct. 20, 7-8pm. Hear a TED Talks-style presentation from South Minneapolis leaders and businesses that will inspire participants to get curious about the spaces, places and faces of their community. *In collaboration with the Longfellow Community Council.*

First Pages for Adults: A Novel Idea: Tue., Oct. 27, 6:30pm. Have you always wanted to write the Great American Novel, but don't know where to begin? Learn the core elements of a novel to help you get started.

Weekly programs

Job Search Assistance: Tuesdays, 3-4:30pm. Get one-to-one assistance with your job search. If you need help filling out job applications, writing your resume, or finding job leads this is your opportunity to speak with a job counselor and get some help with your job search, connections to community resources and training programs. No appointment necessary.

Conversation Circles: Sundays, Oct. 4, 11, & 25, 3-5pm. Non-native English speakers: practice your English and make new friends in an informal, volunteer-led setting, and learn about the library, too.

Baby Storytime: Fridays 11:15am. For children from birth to 24 months and their parent or caregiver. Talk, sing, read, write and play together in a format designed especially for babies. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

Family Storytime: Fridays 10:15am. For children of all ages and their parent or caregiver. Talk, sing, read, write and play together in a format appropriate for young children. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.



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An Ounce of Prevention

Deterring graffiti in urban neighborhoods starts with being proactive about graffiti-prone spaces

Article and Photos
by MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

When Michelle Howard, Clean City Coordinator for the City of Minneapolis was asked how graffiti started, she said, "I think when the first cave paintings were made." Human beings are born with an instinct to make their mark, both figuratively and literally.

The graffiti we see around town came out of the Bronx, New York, in the late 1960's. It's the most visible element of Hip-Hop culture, the others being emceeing, DJ-ing and break dancing. Writers, as graffiti artists prefer to be called, started doing their art on subway trains almost fifty years ago.

The goal was, and is, to "get up," to have one's name or one's art seen in as many places as possible. Once that's done, writers try to out-do each other for style. The fact that making graffiti is an act of vandalism shoots it full of adrenaline, and the risk of arrest makes writers work really fast. Note that graffiti is only considered vandalism when no permission was given to create it....

Whether or not you appreciate graffiti as an art form, it's safe to say that no one wants to have their property "tagged." Unwanted graffiti has a negative effect on a neighborhood and decreases property values. There are a few steps property owners



Jimmie Denson, Graffiti Removal Team for the city, tackled a control box in South Minneapolis for the umpteenth time. He said, "This tagger just keeps coming back over and over again."

can take to make their home or business less attractive to graffiti vandals.

In Longfellow and Nokomis, garages are the most likely target for graffiti. Taggers prefer a smooth, flat surface so planting shrubs or vines, creating a mural yourself, or having improved garage lighting will all act as deterrents. If you do create your own mural, there's an etiquette among graffiti writers that's almost always observed: they won't paint over someone else's art.

Fences that border on alleys are also prime targets. Choosing a style with board gaps or lat-

tices is best.

What to do if your home or business has been tagged?

Persons whose property has been damaged are considered victims of a crime. The City of Minneapolis makes free, environmentally-friendly solvents available for pick-up at any fire station. The product, which is available in quarts, will clean up almost any spray paint.

Most property owners remove graffiti themselves. Howard said, "If washing with our solvent isn't enough, the best solution is to paint the whole garage wall that's been tagged.

If you just paint over the tag itself, especially if your paint doesn't quite match, the tagger will likely return and enjoy the 'frame' you've created."

If a porous surface like stucco or brick has been tagged, using a power washer is the only option.

How to report graffiti?

If you see a graffiti crime in action, call 911. While the arrest rate for graffiti writers is extremely low (only about 1%, according to Howard), it is still a crime.

Call 311 if a property, including your own, has been tagged in your neighborhood. A work order will be sent out the next day, and a member of

the Graffiti Removal Team will come and photograph the graffiti. From that time, the home or business owner will have one week to remove the tag—or the City will come and do it for them, and send them the bill.

Angela Breen, an administrative analyst with the City of Minneapolis, said, "The City has an annual budget of just under a million dollars for graffiti removal. Minneapolis has a stated zero tolerance for graffiti, so as fast as the writers are putting it up—the City is taking it down."

On occasion, an extension can be granted to a property owner for hardship, but, ac-

Continued on page 14

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PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in accordance with 38 U.S.C. Sec 8161, et seq., and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, hereby provides updated notice of VA's proposal, and its request for views on an Enhanced-Use Lease (EUL) project at the Minneapolis, MN VA Medical Center campus. Since the project is a Federal undertaking, VA must consider the effects of the proposed project on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470 et seq.). The purpose of this notice is to invite public consultation on this project.

The Minneapolis VA Medical Center proposes to establish an EUL for an affordable housing facility of not less than 100 units on the Minneapolis VAMC property. The contemplated housing facility will be located on approximately 3 acres of VA land located across Minnehaha Avenue across from the Light Rail Station on the east side of the Minneapolis VAMC.

IDENTIFICATION OF PROPERTY: The contemplated EUL land parcel is located on the Minneapolis VAMC campus, south of 54th Street between Minnehaha Avenue and Highway 55. The new building is proposed to be constructed between the two existing Single Resident Occupancy units. The contemplated EUL land parcel is part of the Minneapolis VA Medical Center and is not on the National Register of Historic Places but is approximately 1,000 feet from the Coldwater Spring Historic Site.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED USE OF THE PROPERTY: VA is developing an Enhanced Use Lease (EUL) with CHDC Veterans Limited Partnership, to construct a new building and repurpose underutilized VA land in support of VA's goal to end Veteran homelessness. The initiative will develop new housing opportunities for Veterans through public-private partnerships and VA's EUL program. The proposed project is to construct an affordable housing facility of not less than 100 units on the Minneapolis VAMC property. The Enhanced Use Lessee will be required to finance, design, develop, maintain and operate the new VA housing facility in accordance with applicable Federal, State and local requirement. The Lessee's leasehold interest will revert to VA upon the expiration of the lease.

The public is encouraged to submit comments on the proposed project in writing. Comments must be received by September 27, 2015. Comments should be addressed to:

Steve Challeen
Director, Facilities Engineering
Minneapolis VA Health Care system
One Veterans Drive
Minneapolis, MN 55417
or
Email: steven.challeen2@va.gov

Longfellow Community Hop Garden takes root

Perhaps the first community-style hop garden in the country just produced its second harvest

By LOREN GREEN

Those who live here already know that Longfellow is a unique place. It's not just the beauty of the river and the falls, but the people, the culture, and the community that have sprung up in this fertile zone. Community Hops, established in 2013, is thought to be the first community-style hop garden in the US, and it continues to prosper as the vining plants grow into maturity. The garden just finished its second harvest (in year three), and local home-brewers are salivating at the fresh hop options to put into their kettles.

The garden, located at 38th St. and Dight Ave., has prospered in the shadow of Hiawatha's grain elevators. Hops take up to five years to reach full maturity, but in just three years the plants are coming along well.

"I was impressed by the harvest we had last year. It was substantial for a first-year crop," says Andrew Schmitt, one of the garden's founders. In its second harvest this year, the garden collected over 50 pounds of hops on Sept. 12.

Schmitt is also a key member of MN Beer Activists and The Minnesota BeerCast, but while those projects display his love of beer, they are separate from the garden itself. Schmitt serves as a spokesman for the garden. He lives in St. Paul and is busy with other jobs, but between the 49 garden members, there is no chore in splitting up the caretaking of the thriving hops, especially since so many members live right in the Longfellow community.

"It's been quite the transformation from what it was," he says of the previously vacant corner lot. Owned by Hennepin County, the plot lacks city water that is an inconvenience for the garden, but not a problem. The community gar-



The hops were harvested this year on Sept. 12. They collected over 50 pounds from the nine varieties in the garden. (Photo by Loren Green)



The Longfellow Hop Garden is located at 38th St. and Dight Ave. (Photo by Loren Green)

den instead captures rainfall from the neighboring garages through a good faith agreement to construct shared rain gardens. "We have a contingency plan if we really need it," Schmitt says, but in three years that has yet to happen, and with each year the efficiency of the process is improved.

When they moved in, it was an overgrown lot filled with litter and weeds. The crew cleared out the junk and erected poles and galvanized aircraft cables to secure the upward-growing hop plants. They currently have nine varieties of hops: Mt. Hood, Chinook, Cascade, Centennial, Hallertau, Willamette, Sorachi Ace, and two wild hops. Only the Pacific Gem, native to New Zealand, failed to make it through the Minnesota winter.

The community is embracing the garden, pests steer clear, and the harvest continues to grow. Aphids and downy mildew are concerns, he says, "but once you get them established hops are pretty hearty."

The garden's equipment is mostly donated. Supplies are do-

nated by St. Croix Valley Hops, Hippiity Hops Farm, Nomad World Pub, Third Street Brewhouse, Allegria, and others. This aspect is highlighted with a community mural.

"Not everybody lives on a quarter-acre suburban estate where they can put up a trellis," Schmitt explains. "The goal is to engage the urban communities and give a spot for people who want to go out. If it beautifies and otherwise unusable space, it's a win for everybody." They'd like to add a bench so neighborhood residents who aren't members can enjoy the space too, but that isn't in the immediate budget. One way that the bounty will be shared, though, is through this season's harvest.

As this season's hops are collected and dispersed to gardeners, the next step is how to enjoy them. Schmitt notes the quantity is too low for sale to a local brewery—plus many of the members are homebrewers, so it makes perfect sense for the farmers to enjoy their labors. As such, this year will introduce the First Annual Fresh

Hop Brew Comp, held at the garden from 12-3pm on Oct. 25. The competition is open to all locally grown, fresh hopped homebrews, but garden members can enter at a discount. Judging is open to the public, ages 21+.

While Community Hops in Longfellow is the first, it will not be the only endeavor in the city. Schmitt has worked with Fair State Brewing Coop in Northeast to plant their own garden, and he continues to gauge interest in more patches.

"We're not a bunch of scientists or botanists, we're guys that are into community and beer," he stresses. Many of the Longfellow members take part to do something green—not because they homebrew themselves—and learning about urban agriculture is an important lesson for all, young and old.

"That's the neat thing," Schmitt concludes. "It's not about beer; it's about a garden in the community. The beer is just a bonus."



A vacant lot overrun with weeds and litter was transformed with erected poles and aircraft cables, into the supports needed for the hop vines. (Photo by Loren Green)

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Monarchs get royal treatment at 7th Annual Monarch Festival



Angie Courchaine, Chicks on Sticks, spreads her wings.



The audience gets up to learn some dance steps with Kalpulli Yaocenxtli.



Oskar Ramos dances.

Article and all photos
by JILL BOOGREN

Butterfly lovers from around the Twin Cities and region gathered at Nokomis Park on a gloriously sunny Saturday in September to celebrate the littlest members of royalty at the seventh annual Minneapolis Monarch Festival—Festival de la Monarca. Kids and adults alike wore colorful wings, created art, enjoyed live music,

and helped newly-emerged adult monarchs take flight.

Already at 10am a line was forming outside the University of Minnesota Monarch Lab. Inside the lab, volunteers demonstrated the monarch life cycle, from caterpillar to chrysalis to butterfly. They explained their diets—milkweed for caterpillars, nectar for butterflies—and showed how to distinguish between female and male monarchs (males have two black dots on their hind wings). They then tagged monarchs with a tracking sticker and released them.

Young Amelia and Maeta Donald, together with their family for their second time at the festival, learned about the butterflies inside the lab then helped release a monarch outdoors.

"That's the highlight for us, seeing the butterflies up close," said their dad, Matt Donald.

The lab releases monarchs they've raised as well as those raised by volunteers who bring them to the festival. Over 100 monarchs were expected to be released throughout the day.

The Larsen and Staloch families, from Bloomington, have been coming to the festival since it started. They raise monarchs they've brought to the Monarch Lab.

Their favorite part about raising monarchs? "That you get to let them go," said Jackie Larsen. Annie Staloch added, "You get to see the life cycle."

A tagged butterfly—their tags are noticeable when wings

are closed and upright—was spotted early in the morning getting nourishment from the Great Blue Lobelia plant at the Wild Ones exhibit.

"This generation is going to fly to Mexico," said Vicki Bonk, who has been part of the Nokomis Naturescape and Monarch Festival since their in-

ception. Monarchs will migrate an astounding 2,300 miles to the mountains of Michoacán, Mexico, where they will spend the winter with millions of other monarchs. The butterflies start heading north again in March, and it takes two or three generations to get back to Minnesota. This means each fall a brand new generation of monarchs makes the journey south. Even though they have never been there before they end up in the same place as their ancestors—often in the exact same trees — adding to the wonder of this incredible natural cycle.

Throughout the festival people enjoyed tacos, pineapple, ice cream, and other treats. Art tables were full of people printing monarch flags, mak-



Amelia Donald takes a turn with the magnifying glass in the Monarch Lab.

Continued on page 9



A monarch caterpillar depends on milkweed to grow and develop.

Famous Fall Festival & Roast Beef Dinner Sunday, Oct. 18 from 11 to 4

Great full dinner: \$11 adults \$10 65+ \$5 age 6-12
kids 5 and younger dine for free

vegetarian option & take-outs available
classic festival booths and raffles
plus FREE Kids' Creativity Area.

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Monarch Festival

Continued from page 8

ing colorful hats, and sculpting clay ornaments. A costume parade, led by Angie Courchaine of Chicks on Sticks, saw a trail of wings wend its way through the park.

Performers with Kalpulli Yaocenoxtli in full-feathered regalia drew a huge crowd with their rhythmic dancing in the Aztec/Mexica tradition. "Mexica" is the traditional word for their ancestors, explained performer Sergio Quiroz. Many audience members jumped at the chance to learn a dance with them at the end of the show.

The festival is a collaboration between Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, Minneapolis Park and Recre-

ation Board, the University of Minnesota Monarch Lab, Wild Ones, and others. Bonk emphasized the importance of volunteers to make the festival happen and to nurture the four-acre Nokomis Naturescape—a monarch waystation. Volunteers of Wild Ones Twin Cities are the primary stewards of the Naturescape, which is planted with milkweed and nectar-producing native plants. They're there every Tuesday from early spring through fall, where they plant, weed, and sometimes water the gardens by hauling up jugs of water from the lake. They need and welcome more volunteers.

"Our dream is that people would adopt a section and be chief cook and bottle washer of that section—adopt-a-plot, an area they always groom," said Wild Ones President Marilyn

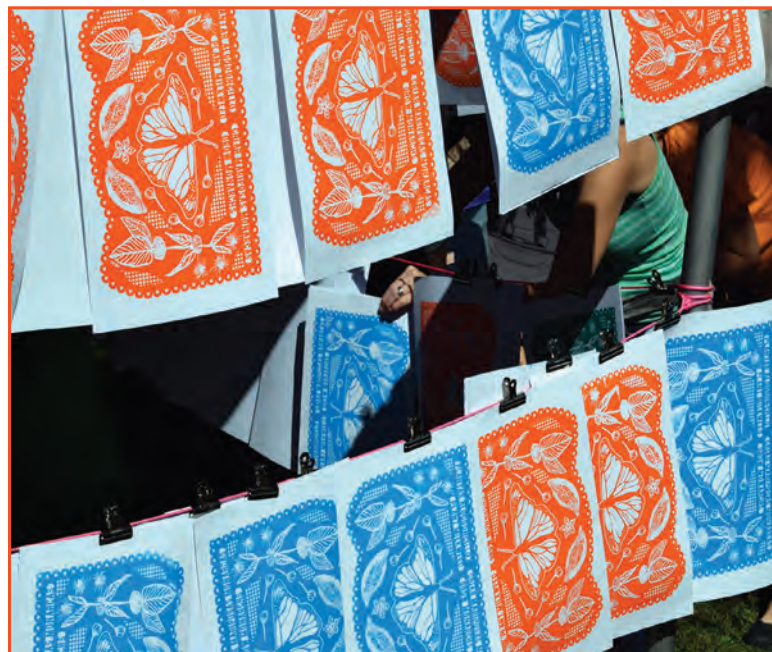
Jones. "We know our native [plants]. We love to work with learners."

Monarch populations have been in decline in large part due to habitat loss. For those interested in planting a monarch waystation, here are a few tips: use native plants, as they're accustomed to our climate and soil; provide butterfly nectar plants and especially milkweed, so caterpillars have a source of food; and avoid using pesticides.

Learn how to collect and plant milkweed seeds at a Milkweed for Monarchs Workshop, Sat. Oct. 10, 1-2pm, at Nokomis Community Center.

For more information see wildonestwincities.org, monarchlab.org, monarchwatch.org, and monarchfestival.org.

(All photos by Jill Boogren)



Monarch prints hanging to dry read "Plant Milkweed / Grow Monarchs."



From left: Andy Larsen, Annie Staloch, Jackie Larsen, and Nick Staloch sporting their paper hats with butterflies made by Onelia Rios (behind, in the blue hat), and Josselin Cano (orange hat) of el Valor, an early Head Start program in Chicago. The Larsen and Staloch families, from Bloomington, have been coming to the Monarch Festival since it started. They raise monarchs and have brought them to the Monarch Lab for release.



Kelly Nail, a volunteer in the Monarch Lab, holds up the monarch for its release. Here it will begin the 2,300-mile journey to the mountains of Michoacán, Mexico. Butterflies raised in the lab are released as well as monarchs raised by volunteers that are brought to the festival. Over 100 monarchs were expected to be released throughout the day.

Christian Faith in a Multifaith World

Challenges and Opportunities for Our Time



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October 12 - 13, 2015

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LONGFELLOW

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

NDC Meeting to Discuss the Scale of New Construction Homes Being Built in Longfellow

Many residents have expressed concern about the size and scale of new homes in the area that appear larger than surrounding homes or seem out of character for the neighborhood. Last year, in response to these types of concerns, a number of changes were put into place to help safeguard against oversized homes. Please join Council Member Andrew Johnson and City Planner

Brad Ellis at this month's Neighborhood Development Committee meeting for a presentation of the City's current building standards, which will be followed by a question and answer session. The meeting will be held Tuesday, October 13th from 6:30 – 8:00pm at Longfellow Park (3435 36th Ave S).



Do you work for a business or community organization and want to connect with Longfellow neighbors at our October Best. Meeting. Ever. Community Resource Fair?

Register online from October 2nd-16th at:
longfellow.org/resourcefair

Sponsorship opportunities are also available.

For more information, contact Patty Day at communications@longfellow.org.

Calendar of Meetings and Events

OCTOBER 2015

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

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Tuesday, Oct 13
6:30-8pm
Longfellow Park, 3435 36th Ave S
joannalund@longfellow.org

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Tuesday, Oct 13
6:30-8pm
Longfellow Park, 3435 36th Ave S
joe@longfellow.org

RIVER GORGE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, Oct 14
6:30-8pm
Hiawatha School Park,
4305 42nd St E
joannalund@longfellow.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, Oct 15
6:30-8:30pm
Brackets Park, 2728 39th Ave S
melanie@longfellow.org

LCC'S BEST MEETING EVER

General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, Oct 27
5:30-8:15pm
Minnehaha Academy North

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Tuesday, Oct 20
6:30-8pm
Lake Coffee House, 3223 E Lake St
joe@longfellow.org

Best. Meeting. Ever.

General Membership Meeting & Resource Fair

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

5:30-6:30pm Resource Fair, 6:15-8:15pm Dinner & Program
@ Minnehaha Academy North Campus, 3100 West River Pkwy

Please join us for our fall General Membership Meeting, which includes a free delicious Community Meal with food provided by local restaurants, an update on the LCC organization and committees, free Childcare, Raffle Prizes, a Community Resource Fair, and the opportunity to meet your neighbors! It really is the best meeting ever!

Committee Spotlight: Community Connections

If you could improve and support your neighborhood what would you do? The Community Connections Committee needs YOUR help to make our neighborhood even better! Are you interested in helping with projects like the Longfellow Shoveling and Rak-

ing Network? Do you have your own ideas about how to improve our community through projects, events or initiatives? Join your neighbors and representatives from community organizations such as the 3rd Precinct, Volunteers of America and the Minne-

apolis Parks to hear neighborhood updates and to work on exciting projects. The committee meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8:00pm at Longfellow Park.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Oct 13, 6:30-8pm @ Longfellow Park

President's Message

Eric Day,
President of the Board

Hello Neighbors. I hope you are all having a wonderful fall. This is my favorite time of year. Crisp mornings and nights and beautiful sun filled days, changing leaves, family trips to the apple orchard, and harvesting more produce than we know what to do with from our gardens. It also brings with it two of my favorite Longfellow Community Council events, our October General Membership Meeting and our November Chili Cook Off. I want to invite you to attend both of these fun, family-friendly events.

This year's October General Membership meeting (or what we at the Longfellow Community Council affectionately refer to as "The Best Meeting Ever") will be Tuesday, October 27th at 5:30 p.m. at Minnehaha Academy North Campus. This meeting will include a community resource fair, a free meal generously do-



Eric Day

nated by some great local restaurants, updates from and about the Longfellow Community Council and its various committees, a chance to meet neighbors, and the opportunity to learn ways to get involved to make our community an even better place to live, work and play. There will be free child care available at the event and we hope to see as many of you as possible. Our com-

munity is always strongest when neighbors come together.

Although the second event is not until mid-November, you should definitely add it to your calendars because you won't want to miss it. The Longfellow Community Council's annual Chili Cook-off is an event that gets better each year. Last year I had the honor of creating a traveling trophy (the Chili Cook-off Cup) for the best overall chili. The competition to take the trophy home for a year looks to be stiff once again. The LCC Chili Cook-off will be November 15th at Gandhi Mahal - stay tuned for additional information and details. So, if you think you have what it takes to win the Cup, consider entering and getting as many of your family and friends to attend as you can to vote for your chili. This event is not only fun and delicious, but it is also a fundraiser for LCC and it is always great to see the community come out and support this important neighborhood organization.

Thanks again for your continued support and I'll see you around the neighborhood!

COOPER

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HIAWATHA

Longfellow Community Council

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Melanie Majors, Executive Director
JoAnna Lund, Community Engagement Coordinator
Joe Sturm, Housing & Environment Coordinator
Communication and Events Coordinator

melanie@longfellow.org
joannalund@longfellow.org
joe@longfellow.org
communications@longfellow.org

Wild Lore Folk School starts up in South Minneapolis

Founders hope to build traditional skills such as soap making, weaving, tanning and more

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

A group of South Minneapolis residents interested in traditional skills have started the Wild Lore Folk School, a collectively operated non-profit.

One of the founders, Alicia Hoven, pointed out that in our modern industrial society people spend less and less time making things.

"We buy all the things we need, and they were made in factories on the other side of the world," Hoven remarked.

She hopes that Wild Lore can help shift that perspective by giving people the tools and skills to see things differently, and maybe even adopt a different set of values about the world.

"Even though we live in the city, we are still a part of the earth. I believe that as humans, we need to redevelop our connection to the rest of the world," said Hoven. "Things like growing and harvesting food in sustainable ways, making items for daily use that are not coming from industrial production, and simply gaining knowledge about our local flora and fauna, are all a part of that shift."

Wild Lore has been offering a class or two each month on a variety of topics. In September, it was on how to bind books and how to canoe.

The group's first big event was held at the Longfellow Recreation Center, and several of the organizers and teachers live in the Longfellow neighborhood.

Craft fair planned Sept. 26

A festival of traditional crafts, skills, and arts is planned for Sat., Sept. 26 at the Corcoran Recreation Center, 3334 20th Ave. S. The craft fair, classes and presentations will be from 1-4pm. Crafts will be available for purchase, and there will be opportunities to learn about the skills involved in making them. There will be short classes, and demonstrations throughout the



Learn how to make an earth pizza oven during a class on Oct. 3 and 4. The cost is \$50 and is being taught by Derek Maxwell. (Photo submitted)

afternoon. A benefit square dance will follow the craft fair from 5:30-8:30pm. The events are free, but the group requests a \$5-\$10 donation.

The festival has pulled together a basket weaver, soap maker, spinner, bowyer, tanner and more. Participants will learn how to brew a cousin of Kombucha called Jun, which is made with green tea and raw honey, and asked questions about wilderness first aid.

These are the sorts of traditional skills Wild Lore aims to build through democratic education and resource sharing in an urban community.

"We want to be learning these skills and talking about these ideas without traveling many hours by car," said Hoven. "We want to place that learning here in Minneapolis where we live and not remove it from our day-to-day lives."

Classes, events, and gatherings

On Oct. 3 and 4, Wild Lore will host an Earth (Pizza) Oven Class from 10am to 6pm. During this

workshop participants will get a hands-on experience building an earth (cob and clay) oven. The workshop will allow participants to experience each stage of the building process, and cover oven design and dynamics. Each participant will gain the knowledge and experience to complete their own oven project confidently. The class is being taught by Derek Maxwell, and the fee is \$50.

Wild Lore also hopes to host regular craft nights where people can just get together without a structured class environment.

"Gatherings of that sort are important to us because part of what we envision is building more community and dialogue about traditional skills and healthy relationships with the natural world," explained Hoven.

Organizers want to do more than teach classes and share skills. They want to do it in the context of their underlying values.

"We're less interested in showing someone how to make a birch bark napkin holder from a kit and



Alicia Hoven hopes that Wild Lore can help shift people's perspective from buying things to making their own by giving people the tools and skills they need. (Photo submitted)

sending them on their way," said Hoven.

They dream of finding a space that can serve as a classroom, resource center, and gathering space. They'd love to have a reference library, tools to borrow, materials to trade, spur-of-the-moment skill shares, week-long "field trip" classes to the woods, and more.

Idea born during spring harvest

The idea for the Wild Lore Folk School was planted last spring, shortly after some the collaborators spent a month and a half in the woods living in wall tents to harvest maple syrup. They then headed up to Duluth for the smelt run.

"I think that the momentum of those harvests and that community of people helped get Wild Lore going," noted Hoven.

They started meeting in the middle of April and spent a lot of time just talking about big ideas, values, and dreams of what this could be. At some point, they decided to create the folk school. The first class was Black Ash Basketry in June taught by Zac Fittipaldi.

Fittipaldi has been working on wilderness skills since 2003 when

he killed his first deer and figured out how to turn the skin to leather. He has traveled the country learning, practicing, and passing on skills including basket weaving, hide tanning and leather craft, wild food gathering, and ax craft, and teaches at many gatherings and schools. Fittipaldi completed a basketry apprenticeship at the Ancient Arts Center of Coast Range, Ore.

Hoven grew up in a rural area in the woods and has always had a connection to the wilderness and the natural world.

In the past five or so years, she has started being more and more intentional about learning traditional and wild crafting skills. She has been involved in some other small collective projects, enjoying the collaborative process and creating something new together.

"I really value sharing knowledge and creating accessible learning and teaching spaces," said Hoven. "I am excited to help create a space when I can learn and hone some great skills."

For more, browse www.wildlore.org, email info@wildlore.org or leave a message at 612-lotus18.

Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

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

Pastor Jo Bauman
Sundays:
9:15 am Education for adults & kids
10:30 am Worship
Saturdays, Oct 3 & 17
5:00 pm Soul+Food Dinner Church
Oct 31 - Trunk & Treat - 5:30 - 7:30 pm
All are welcome!

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

Children especially welcome
Contemporary Worship - 8:45 am
Sunday school - 10:00am
Traditional Worship - 11:00am
Oct. 4 - one worship service at 10:30am
Wonderful Wednesdays:
Choirs for Prek-12, meal at 5:45pm,
Confirmation, Sr, High and Adult Choir

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

Rev. Pam Armstrong
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
(Childcare Provided)
(Wheelchair Accessible)

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

Pastors Dan Ankerfelt & Sally Ankerfelt
Sabbatical Support Pastor: Dr. Hollie Holt-
Woehl (last Sunday at MCLC is October 4)
Sunday Worship - 9:45 am
Sunday School - 9:45 am
Child Care Available
(Handicapped accessible)

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

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

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

Julie A. Ebbesen, Pastor
Worship: 9 and 10:30 am,
Summer: 9 am only
Education for all: 9 am
(Childcare, Wheelchair Acc., Braille)
Coffee 10 am

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

Pastors Derek Johnson & Matt Oxendale
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:30 am
One Service: Oct. 11 - 10 am
AA Meetings Tuesdays/Sundays 7:00 pm
Wed. Community Meals - 5:30 pm

Projects of the Neighborhood Churches Include:

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

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

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In Our Community

Messenger

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

Blessing of the Animals scheduled

A Blessing of the Animals is planned for on Sun., Oct. 4, 4pm, at St. Albert the Great Catholic Church, E. 29th St. and 32nd Ave. S. All species and faiths are welcome at this free celebration of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals. It's a lively and fun-filled event that takes place rain or shine. Bring your animal companion (or a picture) and enjoy the friendship between humans and dogs, cats, horses, turtles, guinea pigs and a wide variety of other guests.

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.

Music fundraiser scheduled Sept. 26

For the 7th consecutive year, the John Hugelen Cajun Music Scholarship Fund Committee is gearing up for its gala fundraiser. The event will take place Sat., Sept. 26, at the Eagles #34 Club, 2507 E. 25th St. The event raises

South High School opens with smudge ceremony



The All Nations Program of South High School welcomed students to the 2015-16 school year with a smudging ceremony on the football field Friday morning, Sept. 4. At South High School, there are three academic programs; the open program, liberal arts, and our All Nations program. Culturally specific, the Native American program has been in existence for more than 25 years at South. Students in the All Nations program smudge each morning to get their day started. Special ventilation is installed for this purpose. The smudging ceremony is a cleansing, in which sage is burned in a shell, the smoke is pulled in by participants head to foot and dissipates into the air. It's a cleansing ritual that helps lift any negative energy. On Sept. 4 they invited the entire South student body to the football field as a welcome back to the school year. About 150+ participated. In the left photo sophomore, Brayan is getting smudged (pulling the smoke over him with his hands). In the right photo, South High Principal Aponte is demonstrating to the school's newcomers—students who are brand new to the country, some less than six months. (Photos submitted)

funds to provide scholarships to study Cajun music at a variety of music camps offering intensive learning experiences for young musicians.

The group was founded to honor John Hugelen, a devoted and multi-talented musician with a deep love of Cajun music. Hailing from Forest City, Iowa, he played Cajun accordion and fiddle and sang, providing a special presence and inspiration to everyone whose life intersected

his. He died in 2009 from cancer.

This year, the guest musician from Louisiana is Brandon Moreau, a superb fiddler, singer and band leader, accompanied by the best Cajun musicians in our area, the Midwest Cajun Playboys. These musicians will get anyone out on the dance floor with their infectious beats and soulful singing. Everyone is welcome, from newcomers to Cajun music to die-hard Cajun dance fans.

The evening features a large silent auction with great bargains. The acoustic Cajun jam begins at 5:30pm, followed by performance from previous scholarship recipients, before the featured musicians take the stage from 8-11pm.

All proceeds go towards funding scholarships for next year's round of music camps. Suggested donation \$15.

Rummage sale scheduled Sept. 26

Epworth UMC (3207 37th Ave. S.) is having a fall reuse/rummage sale on Sat., Sept. 26 from 9am until 3pm. If you have any questions, please contact Epworth at 612-722-0232. <http://epworthumcmpls.org>.

Make the most of your doctor visit

Join Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Community Education for a presentation about effective doctor visits on Tue., Oct. 20 at 10:30am at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. Your doctor is an expert on medical care, but you're an

expert on yourself. Do you know how to communicate clearly to receive the answers you need from your doctor's visit? Join in to discuss some steps you can take to help ensure your doctor visit is both informative and empowering for you. For questions, call Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799.

Reserve now for Lutefisk Dinner

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church is sponsoring its Annual Lutefisk Dinner on Sat., Nov. 7. Seatings will be at 3pm, 4:15pm, and 5:30pm for this family style meal. The meal will include lutefisk with white sauce and butter, homemade meatballs/gravy, potatoes, coleslaw, cranberries, lefse and angel food cake with lemon topping. The cost is \$16, and reservations are necessary. Please call the church office at 612-722-9527 by Oct. 30 to reserve your spot. The address of the church is 4101 37th Ave. S.

Monthly art classes slated for seniors

Try out easy art classes for older adults! Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors will hold three fall art classes on the second Thursday of the month at St. Peder's Lutheran Church, 4600 E. 42nd St. from 1-3pm. Classes cost \$3 each and include refreshments, project supplies, a presentation on the art medium and personal instruction and guidance. No art experience is necessary; discover your inner artist!

Class dates are Oct. 8, Mosaic Picture Frame (register by Sept.

30); Nov. 12, Rock Art (register by Oct. 30); and Dec. 10, Candle Holder (register by Nov. 25). Register by calling 612-729-5799 or emailing kirstanketter@lshealthyseniors.org

Volunteer visitors needed for seniors

Help seniors stay in their homes and keep socially connected. If you have a heart for seniors, you'll love this volunteer position. We're looking for "Friendly Visitors" to visit isolated seniors in the greater Longfellow and Seward neighborhoods. Call Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 or email info@lshealthyseniors.org for more information.

Annual Fall Festival slated at St. Albert

The famous Fall Festival and Roast Beef Dinner at the Church of St. Albert the Great is planned for Oct. 18 in the lower level Social Hall of the church, E. 29th St. at 32nd Ave. S. The accessible entrance is behind the statue of St. Albert. Extra parking is one block north, in the Sullivan School lot.

Classic Festival fun starts at 10:30am following the 9:30am Mass, and the delicious roast beef dinner with all the trimmings will be served from 11am-4pm. Cost for the dinner is \$11 for adults; \$10 for seniors 65 and older; \$5 for children age 6-12; children 5 and under are free. Take-out dinners and vegetarian lasagna are also available.

Bingo is from 12-4pm in the gym. Cash raffle, mini-affle items and baskets, 50/50 raffles; free Children's Activities Area with Cake Walk. Classic booths include Martha's Cupboard (with candy, baked goods, and other treats) and jewelry.

Adoption support group meets monthly

The Adoption Support Network holds monthly support groups at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church (4101 37th Ave. S.) for parents and teens who have been adopted. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month (Oct. 6) at 6:30pm.

Adoptive parents are provided with a confidential, non-judgmental environment where they can support each other and share resources. Teens are invited to meet other teens who understand what it's like to be adopted. The teen group is not a drop-off group—parent(s) must attend the parent support group.

For more info and to RSVP,

Continued on page 13

Sandy Colvin Roy hospitalized after bus/pedestrian accident Sept. 8

Former Minneapolis City Council Member Sandra Colvin Roy remains hospitalized and recovering from serious injury after she was struck by a school bus on Sept. 8. The report was that she was attempting to cross the street at 28th Ave. S. and E. 49th St., when she was hit by the bus.

There were nine students on the bus at the time, and the driver had worked for the Minneapolis & Suburban Bus Co. for four years with a good driving record. Tests show that he was not impaired at the time. Police have been unable to find witnesses to the accident after a canvas of the surrounding area.

Colvin Roy's condition relates to a head injury she received in the accident. She underwent surgery to relieve skull pressure. She remained sedated through Sept. 13 in an attempt to allow her body to heal and stabilize. Then they began dialing back her sedation and roused her every couple of hours to check for any changes in responses. All sedation was removed by the 18th, and on Sept. 21 she was moved to Bethesda hospital in St. Paul to work with physical, occupational and speech therapists.

Colvin Roy held the 12th Ward city council seat for 16 years. In 2013, she did not seek re-election after failing to get party endorsement. She was the chair of the Transportation and Public Works Committee. She also served on the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission and worked on the staff of then-Hennepin County Commissioner Jeff Spartz.

She and her husband live in the Nokomis East area four blocks from Lake Nokomis.

The public has been asked not to call the hospital for updates on her condition so that they can put full attention to her care. Those who wish to keep abreast of her condition should find information at <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/sandy.colvinroy>.

In Our Community

Continued from page 12

contact Ginny Blade at 651-646-5082 or gabbyblade@nacac.org (parents); or Christina Romo at 651-644-3036, ext. 17, or christinaromo@nacac.org (teens).

Rummage sale planned for Oct. 17

The Living Table United Church of Christ will host a multiple family Church Basement Sale on Sat., Oct. 17 from 9am-4pm. A Bag Sale is scheduled 3-4pm. Living Table United Church of Christ is located at 3805 E. 40th St. The sale will feature household items and small furniture; clothing for men and women; some children’s clothing and toys; linens, garden supplies, dishes, decorative items and much more.

Faith Lutheran starts book club

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3430 E. 51st St., will begin its monthly book club in October. Everyone is invited to join the group on Sat., Oct. 3, 10am to discuss Harper Lee’s “Go Set a Watchman.” Leslie Evens, Chair of the English Department and Professor at North Central University, will facilitate the discussion. Come for coffee, lively discussion and suggestions for future book discussions.

Faith-based tutoring available

Each Tuesday, from 4-6pm, Faith Lutheran Church (3430 E. 51st St.) provides after-school tutoring and activities through a nationally-recognized tutoring and mentoring program called Rebecca’s Garden of Hope. This is a free, volunteer-driven ministry of learning and support “anchored in Christ and reflecting the qualities of love, perseverance, discipline, and structure” to help the community’s children grow. Tutoring and homework help is available in language arts and mathematics, grades 1-5. In addition to academic help, students will receive healthy snacks, will enjoy games and other enrichment activities, and will learn about God’s Word. Please contact Faith Lutheran Church, 612-729-5463, if you’d like to register your child or if you would like to volunteer as a tutor the program.

Danish Center sets Oct. 18 breakfast

The next Danish American Center Aebleskiver Breakfast is planned for Oct. 18 from 9:30am-12:30pm (no reservations are required). Cost for regular “all you can eat and drink” breakfasts is \$9 per adult and \$5 for children ages 5-12. Younger children are free. The menu includes aebleskiver, scrambled eggs, sausage, juice, and coffee. The Danish American Center is located at 3030 W. River

Pkwy. (off of Lake St.). For more information, please call Lisa Jensen at 612-724-7705 or the Danish American Center at 612-729-3800.

Energy workshop: reserve your spot

The Seward Neighborhood Group is hosting an Energy 101 Workshop on Thur., Oct. 8, 6:30–8pm . The workshop will be held at Matthews Recreation Center (2318 S. 28th Ave.). Join them to talk about how to save energy and money in your home.

Representatives from local nonprofit Center for Energy and Environment will be available to answer questions about ice dams, attic insulation, and air sealing, high-efficiency lighting, energy-efficiency myths, and more. There will be a brief presentation on low-and no-cost tips to save energy at home, home improvement financing options, Home Energy Squad Enhanced, and the Clean Energy Partnership between the city of Minneapolis, Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy. Light snacks and beverages will be provided.

To reserve your spot contact Hannah Strong at 612-335-5828 or email hstrong@mncee.org.

Baked Potato Dinner set Oct. 25

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3430 E. 51st St., will host its 27th annual Baked Potato Dinner on Sun., Oct. 25 beginning at 11:30am. The dinner will feature a large baked potato with a variety of toppings, an unending salad bar, pies, and beverages. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 12 and under, or a family of five tickets for \$24.

Garden club hosts Metro Blooms

Laura Hurley, Environmental Project Manager for Metro Blooms, will speak at the Oct. 14 meeting of the Longfellow Garden Club. As you may have read in the article in last month’s *Messenger*, Metro Blooms is active with rain garden and alley programs to minimize stormwater runoff. You’ll learn about a new rain garden project coming to Longfellow and details about transforming alleys.

The meeting begins at 7pm, Wed., Oct. 14, at Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S. Meetings are free and open to everyone. Come at 6:30 to help set up. More at www.facebook.com/LongfellowGardenClub ; or sites.google.com/site/longfellowgardenclubminnesota.

Harvest Festival planned Oct. 8

Epworth United Methodist Church is planning their Harvest Festival for Thur., Oct. 8, 5:30-7:30pm. The festival will include face painting, a bouncy house and more for the kids (proceeds of kids activities will go to Feed My Starving Children). There will be food for the family (open face

Special events planned at Tapestry Dance

Tapestry Folkdance Center is welcoming several special guests to the Twin Cities in the next month.

On Sept. 26-27, the Center will host three dance events with East Coast guest musicians Larry Unger (who plays guitar, banjo and bass with the band, Notorious) and Audrey Knuth (country fiddler).

On Sat., 4-6pm, the duo will perform waltz music, preceded by a waltz dance lesson at 3:30 with instructor Stan Silver. You may hear them perform the lovely “Two Rivers” waltz, which was featured in the Ken Burn’s National Parks TV series. The cost for lesson and dance is \$6.

Unger and Knuth return Saturday evening to provide a lively musical background to the Center’s weekly Contradance, with caller David Kirchner. You don’t need to know how to dance to attend a contradance. There is a 30-minute lesson before the dance begins and then throughout the evening, a “caller” walks dancers through the steps required for each different dance. Contradance begins at 7:30; cost is \$10; \$8 (members) or \$7 (students).

The musical twosome ends the weekend with an English Country Dance on Sunday night, 6- 9pm. Like most Tapestry dances, this elegant folkdance from the 17th and 18th Centuries is accessible to beginners, with a caller giving instruction. Cost is \$7.

October 23-25 is the annual International Dance Weekend at the Center. This event features special guest teacher, choreographer, dancer and musician, Ahmet Lüleçi, a native of Turkey. For five years, he was director of dance for HOY-TUR, long considered one of Turkey’s leading folkdance associations.

The International Weekend will feature four dance workshops, a potluck lunch on Saturday with an introduction to Turkish culture, a brunch with the teacher on Sunday, and a live dance party on Saturday night, Oct. 24, at 8:30pm, with local musical group Orkestar Bez Ime.

The cost for each 2 to 3-hour dance workshop at the International Weekend is \$20 (\$18 for members). Admission for the entire weekend of events is \$68 (\$58 for members) until Oct. 9; after that the cost is \$80 (\$70 for members). The dance party is \$12 (\$10 members).

You never need a partner to dance at Tapestry.

Tapestry Folkdance Center is located in the Longfellow neighborhood on the corner of Minnehaha Ave. and 38th St. Off-street parking is located next to the building and across the street.

For more information, see the organization’s website at www.tapestryfolkdance.org.

turkey sandwiches, mashed potatoes and corn) for \$9 for adults and \$5 for kids. In addition, there will be a Bazaar and Bake Sale with vegetarian and gluten-free options available.

The church is located at 3207 37th Ave. S. Pre-order, delivery and carry-out options available (612-722-0232 or 612-232-5998). For more details check out Epworth at their website: mplsepworthumcmpls.org or Facebook page, Epworth UMC, Mpls.

Trunk or Treat planned Oct. 31

Looking for a family-friendly Halloween event? Come to Trunk or Treat, complete with decorated cars and lots of treats, a bounce house, and kids’ games. This free event will be held outdoors at Trinity of Minnehaha Falls, 52nd St. and 40th Ave., from 3-5pm on Sat., Oct. 31. For more information, call 612-724-3691.

RX available for fruits, vegetables

Children who visit HealthPartners Nokomis Clinic, will not only get a check-up and preventive care, they will also have the opportunity to receive a \$10 prescription(Rx) to buy fruits and vegetables. Prescriptions from the HealthPartners Nokomis Clinic can be redeemed at Cub Foods grocery stores.

The fruit and veggie Rx runs through October and is based on research linking consumption of fruits and vegetables to improved health. The 2013 Minnesota Student Survey found that a majority of 5th graders (6 out of 10) in the Twin Cities metro area eat fruit only once a day or less. Three out of four 5th graders eat vegetables once a day or less.

The program, which began two years ago as a pilot program has now expanded to other locations, including Nokomis. An estimated 8,800 families are expected to get a prescription

for fruits and veggies this year.

NA meeting open every Friday night

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3430 E. 51st St., hosts a Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meeting every Friday from 7-9pm. Everyone is welcome.

St. Peder’s open doors for marathon

This fall St. Peder’s Lutheran Church, 4600 E 42nd St, is opening its doors to Twin Cities Marathon spectators. This is the sixth year that the church has provided coffee, treats and most appreciated access to restrooms.

“It is a great way to serve the larger community,” says St. Peder’s Pastor Julie Ebbesen. “The race takes care of the runners’ needs, and we help to make things a little more hospitable for those who cheer the runners on.”

Doors are open to serve spectators on Sun., Oct. 4, from 9 to 11:30am. Each year St. Peder’s serves about 100 people during this event.

For more information on St. Peder’s ELCA see www.stpeders.org.

Rally for Rakhma scheduled Oct. 3

Rally for Rakhma is a fun run, walk or bike ride around Lake Nokomis, Sat., Oct. 3, 9:30-11:30am, to support Rakhma Homes. Rakhma Homes-Twin Cities nonprofit that provides a safe, loving home to those with Alzheimer’s disease or dementia.

You can register individually or create a team. The \$25 registration fee includes a t-shirt, Caribou Coffee, Mel-O-Glaze donuts, snacks and a chance to win prizes! They encourage everyone to set a \$100 minimum fundraising goal and encourage family, friends, neighbors and coworkers to join you or support you

in making a difference for those with memory loss. There will be awards for the participants who raise the largest funds.

Unger and Knuth perform Sept. 26-27

Guitar and banjo player Larry Unger and fiddler Audrey Knuth will be performing at the Tapestry Folkdance Center Sept. 26-27. You can enjoy their performances at three dances held at Tapestry Folkdance Center over the weekend.

Sat., Sept. 26, 3:30-6pm will feature Waltz, or choose 7:30-11pm for Contra. Sunday’s dance is 6-9pm and will feature English Country Dance.

Both performers are well-known national performers whose catalog of work features American and Celtic tunes, with elements of swing and blues. Unger’s original fiddle tunes have been featured in the Ken Burns’ TV series on the national parks.

See the Tapestry website, www.tapestryfolkdance.org, for price details.

Lady of Peace plans block party

Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church and School is planning their 2015 Block Party for Fri.-Sat., Sept. 25-26. Hours of the party are Fri., 5-10pm, and Sat., 9am-midnight. Planned are games of chance, carnival rides, beer garden, bean bag toss tournament, bingo, raffle, sweet shop, and a food tent. Saturday night includes a spaghetti dinner by Fat Lorenzo’s, black light dodgeball and a live performance with the 12-piece R&B/funk and soul band Emerson Avenue. They promise fun for all ages!

For events in the neighborhood that were not submitted in time for this issue of the *Messenger*, check out the online calendar at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com.

Graffiti

Continued from page 6

cording to Howard, "it doesn't happen often." Block Clubs and the Senior Linkage Line may be able to connect elderly neighbors to resources and help them get services.

The Graffiti Removal Team is especially busy during the warm months removing tags from public places. The optimal temperature for spray paint is between 55-90 degrees. The four-person team uses a soy-based product similar to what's handed out at fire stations for flat surfaces and, for the really tough stuff, an industrial-strength solvent called (believe it or not) Elephant Snot.

"It's not pretty, but it gets the job done," explained Jim-

mie Denson, a six-plus year veteran of the team.

As Denson and co-worker Eric Tullki pulled up to a South Minneapolis control box covered with tags, they muttered, "So this guy's coming around again." Tullki added, "We see the same tags all over the place for a while, and then they move on."

"Contrary to public perception, very little graffiti is thought to be gang-related," said Howard. She estimated that in Minneapolis, the numbers are as low as 3%. The small amount of graffiti that is gang-related marks a territory, and can be used to recruit new members. But the vast majority is just about putting up one's mark—maybe because the writer feels there's no other way to be seen or heard.



Tom Buskirk, East Lake Frattalone Hardware, said, "We card anyone who appears to be a minor." According to city ordinance #223.170, it's illegal for a hardware store to sell spray paint to anyone under 18.

Graffiti 101

By JoJo of Murals by Eros

A "tag" is considered the lowest level of our art, just the quick signature on a surface. Next up is a "throwie," given that name because it's a simplified, bubble style that's thrown up on a wall real fast. Then there is a "piece," which is short for masterpiece. These are the bright colorful, word and letter combinations of the artist's name. A piece generally takes many hours and a lot of paint to complete. The very highest level is called a "burner," and can only be executed by the most experienced and talented in the area.

In short, a throwie goes up over a tag. A piece can go over a throwie and a burner goes over everything.

If these so-called rules are violated, there can be consequences—like other writers going over the violator's work. The person violating the rules also loses respect in the culture.

The culture typically polices itself.

Note: Jojo runs a program in South Minneapolis known as The G.A.M.E. (Graffiti Art Mentoring & Education)

Classifieds

Messenger

Want ads must be received by the Messenger by October 19 for the October 29 issue. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

Messenger Want Ads are \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to Messenger Classifieds, 125 1st Ave. NW, PO Box 168, Minneapolis, MN 55369. Want ads must be mailed to the Messenger before October 19 for the October 29 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to denis@deruyter-nelson.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

ANTIQUES

Northwest Architectural Salvage - 2000 sq ft. of vintage lights, house hardware, doors, door knobs, tubs, etc. Also furniture hardware. 651-644-9270. 651-227-0382. 20% off with ad. B-15

BATHROOMS

Bathroom/kitchen!! Basement

finishing. Bad water pressure? Sinks, Toilets and tub/surrounds. etc. Ceramic tile. Basement bathrooms installed Call 612-275-9815. 8-15

COMPUTER REPAIR/SERVICE

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HANDYMAN

Dr. House does it all: From a leaky faucet to a new addition. I can save you money on electrical and plumbing. Call John at 651-231-5652. B-15

MASSAGE THERAPIST

Professionally educated, licensed, and insured male massage therapist specializing in sports and rehab therapy. All wel-

come. Let me earn your business! Find out more at www.TonySchwartzBodywork.com. Located on 42nd and Minnehaha Ave. B-15

MISC. SERVICES

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The Autumn Leaves are Falling

Article and photos
by MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

What to do with all those autumn leaves?

According to Sam Bauer, turf specialist with the University of MN Extension Services, "It's a misconception that leaves need to be raked, bagged and hauled away."

In natural ecosystems, no one is doing anything with the leaves that fall. They land where they

land, they decompose, and the process is essential to building healthy soils.

"The main reason that people haul their leaves away in the fall is that it's what they're used to doing," Bauer said.

Bauer recommends making leaf mulching part of a fall lawn care regimen. "Mulching fallen leaves into the lawn is advantageous, so long as about 75% of the

grass canopy is left visible," he said. In other words, you want to see more green than brown. There's no need to worry about snow mold. If you stick with Bauer's recommendation, air circulation will be more than adequate.

Grass should be mowed and watered well into the fall. Just leave the leaves and mow right over them, either with your regular lawn mower (it will take a few extra passes) or with deeper serrated mulching blades. Mulching blades can be purchased for any lawn mower.

When mowing, remove whatever container would usually capture the grass clippings. Leave the cut grass and chopped-up leaves to rest on the lawn surface. They'll settle into the lawn, providing some nutrients and organic matter for the soil below.

Leaf mold is "black gold"

What to do if you have more leaves than your lawn can absorb? Leaf mold may not sound pretty, but to gardeners it's nothing short of "black gold." There are a couple of ways to create it, the easiest being to make a pile of leaves, either con-



tained or not contained, about 3' by 3'. Let the leaves sit, adding water periodically, and within 6-10 months, they'll have decomposed. By keeping the pile moist, decomposition will happen faster. Shredded leaves will also decompose faster than un-shredded ones.

The result will be leaf mold, a dark, rich mulch that is arguably the best soil amendment around. While leaf mold doesn't provide the nutrients of regular compost, it does greatly improve soil structure, texture and water holding capacity. Leaf mold helps loosen heavy soils and adds heft to sandy soils. It can hold several hundred times its weight in water, and helps create a healthy ecosystem for beneficial insects.

While it almost sounds too good to be true, consider this. Soils amended with leaf mold may approach the poetic phrase, "well-drained and evenly moist," so often read about in garden magazines but rarely seen in real life. In our work as gardeners, this is important! It's as much about growing good soil as it is about growing good plants.

Don't have a compost bin or container to make leaf mold in? No problem. Fill your compostable yard waste bags and, instead of having them hauled away by the City on trash day, store them on the side of your house. Moisten the contents periodically and, by spring, bags and leaves should have decomposed into a dark brown to black, aromatic and crumbly leaf mold. Work 2-4" of leaf mold into the top 6" of garden soil in the spring, or ring the periphery of existing peren-

nials with a top dressing.

Another great option for surplus leaves is to rake them loosely onto garden beds. While snow is an excellent insulator, it comes and goes—leaving perennials vulnerable when the temps dive down.

One important place to rake

The place to make sure you have raked meticulously is along your street. According to Sue Rich, volunteer coordinator with Friends of the Mississippi River, "This is where leaves actually become pollutants. As they break down, they release their nutrients. When allowed to wash into the storm sewer system, it's like throwing down hands full of fertilizer. The excess nutrients encourage algae growth in rivers and lakes, which ultimately deprives fish and aquatic plants of oxygen."

There are many small ways each of us can make a difference in caring for the natural world. Consider adopting the storm drain near your house or at the end of your alley, and commit to keeping it free of leaves and other organic material.

If none of these options for dealing with fall leaves appeal to you, remember that state law now requires everyone in the metro area to use biodegradable bags for yard waste. The bags will be picked up on trash day, and should be set out for pick-up by 6am. The City collects approximately 6,000-8,000 tons of yard waste annually, which is ground up and made available as compost eventually. Yard waste removal will continue this year through Nov. 16.

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Paint the Pavement

Continued from page 1

permit and four street barricades. A donation jar was set out at the event to help defray these costs; anyone wishing to contribute can send Robin a check at 2816 39th Ave. S., Minneapolis 55406.

As Garwood reflected back on the last 12 months, he said, "Turns out my knowledge of city government came in handy." He added, "Unfortunately, it was a slow and a frustrating process."

Bright spots included the vote of confidence neighbors got from the Longfellow Community Council (LCC). LCC wrote a letter of support to the City of Minneapolis, guaranteeing significant liability coverage in the unlikely event of an accident related to the project.

Welna Hardware, at 2201 E. Franklin Ave., donated six bright and beautiful gallons of paint. And

Photo right: artists of all ages and levels of skill were welcome at Paint the Pavement.

the Birchwood Café, at 3311 E. 25th St., donated a great selection of delicious bars and cookies.

The goals of the project are to calm traffic, and to help build community by bringing neighbors together. The first goal will be measured over time. The second goal was joyfully met within minutes of the official start time.

By 10:31am, the street was filled with artists of all ages. The basic shape of the rocket, paying homage to the famous Brackett Rocket slide, was sketched out and painted by Garwood. But the rocket flames, the planets and the stars were left in the creative hands of neighbors both large and small. As Garwood summarized, "This was a terrific day and, I hope, something the kids will long remember."



Robin Garwood, lead artist and generous donor, surveyed the developing artwork.

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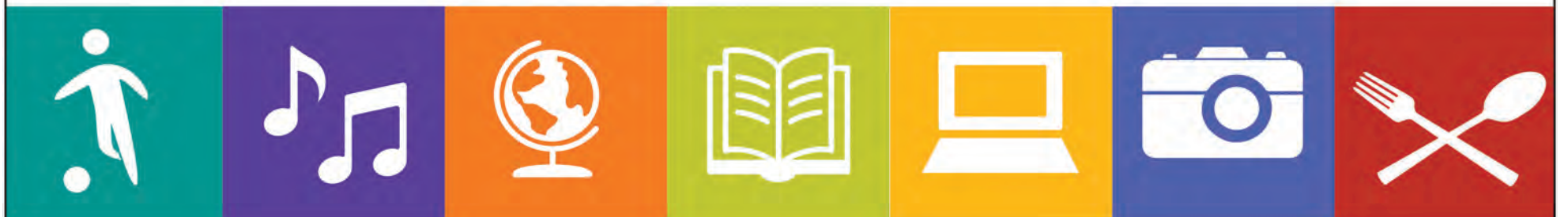


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