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Longfellow
Nokomis

Messenger



Your community
newspaper since 1982

October 2013 • Vol. 29 No. 8

www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

21,000 Circulation

Will Midtown Farmer's Market be here next year?

With its future in jeopardy, market supporters are talking about what they value: location, community, fresh food, music and more

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

Will the Midtown Farmer's Market be around next year?

Right now, no one can answer that question for sure.

Its future is in jeopardy as the Minneapolis School District (MPS) decides what to do with the property it owns at Lake and Hiawatha, which it leases for free to the farmer's market.

Longtime Midtown Farmer's Market vendor Denny Havlicek thinks it would be a big mistake for the school district to sell the property, which now includes the Brown Building, and relocate its Adult Basic Education (ABE) program. He supports the \$83 billion development plan the community helped create that placed adult basic education as an anchor tenant.

While selling apples each Tuesday, Havlicek sees adult students coming via train, bus and car. Because of how easy the site is to get to for students, Havlicek thought the district would never consider relocating its programs. And he thought the farmer's market was safe.

"It's good for them. It's good for us. I think it's a win-win," said Havlicek.

He doesn't understand why the district doesn't see things the same way. "They are hurting their district, as well," said Havlicek.

In May 2013, MPS rejected an \$83 million multi-use development plan that had been created with the help of the community. They are now likely to sell the 6.5-acre property at auction



Denny Havlicek sells apples during the Sept. 14 Midtown Farmers Market, just as he has since the market first opened 11 seasons ago. "It's a priceless asset to the neighborhood," said Havlicek. He doesn't understand why the Minneapolis School District doesn't view it the same way. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

to the highest bidder instead, with little to no public input.

The school district had announced its intent to sell the land in 2008, but planned to make its adult basic education be an anchor tenant. The negotiations surrounding that aspect of the plan failed in 2013 as the cost of 35,000 to 40,000 square feet in that development was more than the district was willing to pay. The decision came not long after a new administrative building for the district, the \$41.7 million Davis Center,

opened and sparked taxpayer ire.

The district bought the Brown Institute building in 1998 after the technical school moved to Mendota Heights. It was used for offices and Anishinabe Academy, an Indian-focused pre-K-through-8th-grade school that operated there from 2003 to 2009. When the district decided to sell the Lehmann Building, farther west on Lake Street, adult education programs moved to the Brown building.

a plan began to take shape.

A team composed of 4-5 developers proposed building 80,000 square feet of office and retail space, plus as many as 575 units of housing serving several differing rental markets, including seniors and low-income people. L&H Station Group also planned to create space for farmers market stalls.

After the proposal was made, negotiations between L&H and the school district were done behind closed doors without community involvement, observed Gustafson.

AN \$83 MILLION COMMUNITY PLAN

When the Corcoran Neighborhood Organization (CNO) asked residents what they wanted to see near the Midtown Station after light rail was operational, they heard about a mix of housing, retail/office, structured/underground parking, and public open space, pointed out CNO Executive Director Eric Gustafson. The market was a key-stone element in the Corcoran Midtown Revival Plan, which was adopted by the City Council as part of the Minneapolis Plan in 2002.

When the school district began a request for proposals (RFP) process in 2010, the neighborhood organization began bringing key players together, including community leaders and developers. Together with community members,



Midtown Market Manager Miguel Goebel (left) chats with musician Sergio Mojica about what he values about the Midtown Farmer's Market on Saturday, Sept. 14. "It beats going to the supermarket," said Mojica. "You don't get to hang out with people, make friends or listen to music there." The Farmer's Market is conducting input from folks who shop there, as well as vendors, to share with those making decisions that will affect the future of the market. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Two South High students named National Merit semifinalists

Two South High School students were among only 7 Minneapolis students named semifinalists in the 59th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for about 8,000 National Merit Scholarships that will be offered in the spring.

The two South High School students were William M. Ibele (primary major Drama and Theater Arts) and Anna M. Schwartz (International Relations and Affairs).

About 1.5 million juniors in more than 22,000 high schools completed the 2012 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®). The tests served as an initial screen of National Merit Scholarship entrants. The nationwide pool of semifinalists, representing less than 1 percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest scoring entrants in each state.

To advance, the semifinalist and their high school must submit a detailed scholarship application, in which they provide information about the semifinalist's academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and

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Messenger

1885 University Ave.
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The Longfellow/Nokomis Messenger is a monthly community publication in the Longfellow and Nokomis areas of Minneapolis, owned and operated by deRuyter-Nelson Publications, Inc. All correspondence should be sent to the Messenger, 1885 University Ave., #110, St. Paul, MN 55104. Editorial and advertising offices can be reached at 651-645-7045. Our fax number is 651-645-4780.

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Minnehaha Refectory upgrade: A new wave for Sea Salt?

By JILL BOOGREN

Think about Minnehaha Park, and the falls, majestic oaks, picnics in the grass, and lounging on the patio at Sea Salt might spring to mind. Hanging out inside the refectionary, the building that houses the eatery, probably doesn't.

A fixture at Minnehaha Park for over 100 years, the building has sheltered many birthday parties, family reunions, and other gatherings, including the park's annual Halloween event, but often sits empty.

Despite being in one of the region's most beautiful settings, the building is uninviting and, in the words of Minneapolis Park Commissioner Scott Vreeland, "dark and creepy."

This may change soon, now that the refectionary, or pavilion, is due for renovation.

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board recently held open houses at the park to discuss site needs and potential improvements. Highest priorities were repairing the roof and upgrading the bathrooms. Sea Salt would also like more kitchen and storage space, and their line to order food needs to be better managed so people aren't compacting the soil under the oaks.

Chris Weglinski, co-owner (with Jon Blood) of Sea Salt, would like to improve the flow of the way their customers come in. Right now, he said, "we have them standing in the dirt."

He'd also like to open up the building to let in more light and make it more "outside-y," as he calls it. "It's gonna be a lot prettier."

He dreams of having a bar where the door separates the restaurant from the rest of the pavilion. He can picture a big German beer hall in there.

Sea Salt's wish list comes as their lease is up for renewal. They're hoping to negotiate a new



A line forms outside Sea Salt at Minnehaha Park. As part of the pavilion upgrades, the Minneapolis Park Board hopes to better manage the food ordering line to lessen impact on the oak trees and create smoother traffic flow to the popular eatery. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

deal with the Park Board that would grant a longer lease in exchange for investing some of their money into building upgrades.

As far as Vreeland is concerned, this makes good sense.

"Sea Salt has been so good to work with and so successful," he said. "If they're willing to make an investment, a bigger lease is fine with me."

Sea Salt, along with Tin Fish, Bread & Pickle and now Sandcastle, signify a relatively new mode of operating food concessions in parks, one Park Commissioner Carol Kummer thinks is working "extremely well." She recalls the backlash about 15 years ago when Dairy Queen was being considered for food service at Lake Harriet.

"People went nuts," she said. "We've found, I think, the right note. These [concessionaires] are local folks, very specific, nothing corporate. It's home grown, and it fits."

But it's more than just a love of the local. There's real money in it for the Park Board, which earns a percentage of their receipts. In

this, Sea Salt is a pretty big fish. In 2012 their contribution to MPRB was over a quarter million dollars, a number that's increased every year since they opened in 2005.

Tin Fish at Lake Calhoun has also seen an annual rise in revenues. In short, the concessions are succeeding where the Park Board has tried and failed.

"It goes to the whole idea, do what you do best, and hire out the rest," said Kummer.

Revenue-generating benefits aside, Cliff Swenson, MPRB director of design and project management, points out that Sea Salt and other vendors also help the Park Board with its goals. One of the changes Sea Salt would like to make is to install a dishwasher so they can reuse dishes and move away from plastic throwaways.

"They see an opportunity in the expansion to help with our initiative of zero waste," said Swenson. "They have an interest in being really good neighbors, and that's important to the board. We don't have to argue that they should reduce their waste."

He's careful to point out that it is still a public space.

"The Minneapolis Park Board is about providing public access to these public parks," said Swenson. "The refectionary is a gathering place for the public. Our goal is to make sure the public always has access."

The bathrooms, shelter and patio will continue to stay open for anyone who wants to use them, regardless of whether they're eating at Sea Salt.

One more consideration is it's an historic site, which means any improvements must be in keeping with its historic character. The building used to be more open; the bank of burners, closing off the north side, and the drop ceilings came later, creating today's much darker space. The fireplace was also added later.

Initial design ideas remove the bank of burners, which haven't been operational for years, with the idea of installing glass doors to enable use in cooler months.

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Nokomis East Business Association takes off

By JILL BOOGREN

After several years revving up, the new Nokomis East Business Association (NEBA) may now be taking off.

Its 4th annual neighborhood Block Party, the association's signature event held in September at the Oxendale's Market parking lot and outside Faith Lutheran Church, was a big hit.

It featured businesses from around the Nokomis area, like Nokomis Beach Gallery, Plantique, and Berry Sweet Kitchen, as well as some from "north of the border," like Angry Catfish and Peace Coffee. Non-profits like Nokomis Library, Nokomis East Neighborhood Assn., Friends of Lake Nokomis and Metro Blooms, were also there.

Gray Duck Chai, Thousand Hills Cattle Co., Tecumseh Farms, and others whose products are available at the market and nearby cafes, gave out samples.

"It's bigger. There are more vendors than two years ago," said Adrienne Turzynski, who was checking out the fire truck at the classic car show outside McDonald's Liquors with her husband Jacob and kids Evan and Alice.

This reflects NEBA president Neil Oxendale's vision for the association to serve a much broader community that includes not just storefront businesses, but home-based businesses and non-profits as well. He sees it as an opportunity to network, share resources and be a collective voice on issues that may affect the neighborhood.

From a business standpoint, Oxendale believes there's a great customer base here, and the association can help businesses find more ways to reach them and keep them here.

"Everything's here," he said. "We don't have to drive anywhere."

Oxendale's philosophy for the association seems to drive his business as well. Love of the neighborhood is what propelled him to buy the store six years ago. A 14-year employee of the previous grocery store, he had heard of others taking an interest and worried it would be taken over by someone who wasn't from here, and people would lose their jobs.

"I saw so many missed opportunities. That's how I knew I wanted to go forward," he said. The market still employs many of the original staff as well as members of his own family.

Oxendale sees a lot more young families moving in who are active in the neighborhood. He's also found that a lot of them like to cook. They want more of a farmer's market feel, with local vendors, so he has adjusted his product line to accommodate, something he says is continually changing.

"I love the day-to-day interaction with people, and I love trying different foods," he said. "You can't bring in everything, but you want to bring the right things. The unique thing."

His is still a convenience store, but he also uses a lot of smaller suppliers and tries to hit on specialty items so "people don't have to leave the neighborhood."

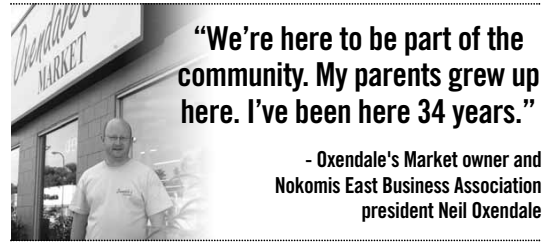


Sheila Larson talks to Bruce Bale, owner of Plantique, at the fourth annual Nokomis Block Party, co-sponsored by the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association in September. "I love it," she said of the neighborhood gathering. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

Bruce Bale, owner of Plantique, said they're also "big advocates" of shopping, growing and buying local. A lot of people come to their store because they're dissatisfied with what they purchased at a big box shop,

he said. Buying local "keeps your dollars local, your plants last longer, and they'll be healthier." Plantique grows their plants in Farmington.

Oxendale wants to be sure people know NEBA isn't just



"We're here to be part of the community. My parents grew up here. I've been here 34 years."

- Oxendale's Market owner and Nokomis East Business Association president Neil Oxendale

34th Ave. or the old Nokomis Village, but the whole area.

"We care what's going on at Nokomis Beach and The Wellness Center," he said. In addition to the Block Party, he envisions more events like a silent auction they held last winter.

"We want to get it so people know there are events in this corner of Minneapolis, so people re-

alize there's so much more going on," he said. He wants to help grow the entire neighborhood, which he said "helps all of us."

"We're here to be part of the community. My parents grew up here. I've been here 34 years," said Oxendale. "We want it to do well."

NEBA also holds board meetings and networking breakfasts.



Leslie Scaramuzzo, at right, and Mary Sweeney taste samples of Gray Duck Chai from co-owner Jon Alden at the Nokomis Block Party. His locally-made chai is offered at Oxendale's, Parka and other establishments. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

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Longfellow resident grabs national attention for mental healthcare for children

Sue Abderholden, executive director of NAMI Minnesota and a Longfellow resident, is one of four outstanding mental health and addiction treatment advocates recognized with a 2013 National Council for Behavioral Health Advocacy Leadership Award. The National Council honored Abderholden on Sept. 16, at a special reception on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC with the Exceptional Individual Achievement in Advocacy Award.

"This past legislative session, tremendous gains were made to improving Minnesota's mental health system for children with mental illnesses and their families.



Sue Abderholden

lies. Sue Abderholden is recognized as a steadfast champion for children and adults living with

mental illnesses and their families and dedication to improving mental health and addiction services in our state inspires other advocates and inspires real change," said NAMI Minnesota's board president Barb Lindberg.

The sheer volume of children's mental health legislation Abderholden shepherded through the legislature this session was exceptional. The largest victory this year was an increase in school-linked mental health funding, which was increased 50% for the first year of the biennium and 100% for the second. These grants to mental health providers in schools have proven to decrease the barriers

faced by children in accessing mental health treatment and to improve outcomes.

In addition, benefits covered by Minnesota's public health insurance programs were expanded to include family education, care coordination and in-reach services to ensure smooth transitions and reduce readmissions after a child leaves the hospital or emergency room. Funding for community mental health crisis teams was also increased.

Several other major changes were also accomplished.

The 2013 Advocacy Leadership Awards, which are supported by Sunovion Pharmaceuticals, honor both individuals and or-

ganizations that have demonstrated exemplary efforts and results in advocating for behavioral health policies that increase access to mental health and substance use services.

Award winners each receive a \$5,000 grant for the non-profit organization of their choice.

"We are pleased to honor Sue Abderholden for the remarkable impact she has made," said Linda Rosenberg, president and CEO of the National Council for Behavioral Health. "More importantly, we are proud to see the results of her efforts, knowing the importance it has to an untold number of people in Minnesota."

National Merit

Continued from page 1

awards received. A semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the quali-

fying test.

About 15,000 students are expected to advance to the final level in February. All National Merit Scholarship winners will be selected from this group of finalists. Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

Free Defensive Driving Classes offered in October

Two defensive driving classes are being offered this month (for anyone 55 or older) at the office of State Farm agent Dan Cheung, 4020 Minnehaha Avenue S. The classes are free, but call 612-728-1000 to register in advance.

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class, participants will get 10% discount for their car insurance no matter which insurance company they are with.

Class dates for the classes are Tues., Oct. 15, 5:30-9:30pm, and Wed., Oct. 16 from noon-5pm.

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Monarch Festival Volunteers Rock!

NENA would like to thank everyone who helped make the 2013 Minneapolis Monarch Festival a success, especially the volunteers and organizational staff who went above and beyond:

- **The Planning Team** that organized the event: MaryLynn Pulscher (MPRB), Liz Young-Isebrand (Monarch Lab), Vicki Bonk (NENA volunteer), Susana DeLeon (KeztalCoatlque), and NENA staff, Soraya Valedon, Yasmin Ventura, Doug Walter and Rita Ulrich.
- **The Volunteer Gardeners** from NENA, Wild Ones, Audubon and individuals who maintain the Nokomis Naturescape Gardens.
- **The more than 70 other people**, including team leaders and 20 bilingual volunteers. You came from all over the metro area and spent countless hours in the intense heat, helping make this a spectacular event for an estimated 9-10,000 guests!

You all have our continuing gratitude, awe, and respect.

Event photos are on the Minneapolis Monarch Festival's Facebook page. Watch for information on the 2014 Festival at www.monarchfestival.org



Nokomis East Neighborhood Assoc.
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www.nokomiseast.org

Midtown Farmer's Market

Continued from page 1

What happens at Lake and Hiawatha "has the potential to make or ruin the neighborhood," said Gustafson. "That's not an exaggeration."

He is concerned that 12,000 volunteers hours spent building the farmer's market will be wasted if it closes.

Recently Hennepin County has stepped forward and is considering becoming an anchor tenant at Lake and Hiawatha in order to move the project forward, an option supported by County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin.

65,000 CUSTOMERS

Since 2003, the Midtown Farmers Market (MFM) has connected locally produced food and goods with 65,000 customers

per season. The market has 40-50 vendors each day it is open, with a total of 100 throughout the season. Some sell seasonal produce, other sell arts and crafts items.

The MFM currently operates on Saturday mornings from May to June, and Tuesday afternoons and Saturday mornings from June through October.

It was the first Minnesota market to accept SNAP-EBT, or food stamps, and consequently drew 632 new users in 2012.

The market and CNO are currently soliciting input from folks about what the farmer's market means to them and what they value about its existing location.

GOING TO THE SUPERMARKET

"To uproot this market would be devastating to the neighborhood, the market people and the vendors," said Havlicek. "I really think it's the wrong thing to do."

He believes that the existing location is ideal, pointing out that traffic at the market increased when they moved to the front parking lot from a back one.

Musician Sergio Mojica appreciates being able to ride his bicycle to his gigs at the farmer's market. He points out that the value of it lies in helping preserve the environment by offering local vegetables over those transported in from California. Plus, they aren't grown with harmful pesticides.

"It beats going to the supermarket," said Mojica. "You don't get to hang out with people, make friends or listen to music there."

Midtown Farmer's Market Manager Miguel Goebel gets most of his food at the market during its season from May to October. "It's about more than just produce," said Goebel. "It's a gathering space."

"It's a priceless asset to the neighborhood," said Havlicek.

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Check Out Our New Nightly Specials

Sea Salt

Continued from page 2

Renderings also show Sea Salt's kitchen expanding to where the fireplace is and a new ice cream and beverage bar facing inside the pavilion. There's a basement that Sea Salt could use for storage. Funding may determine whether red Spanish tiles will be used for the roof.

Weglinski's dreams may not be too far from reality. Any design approved will likely open up the building, expand desirable seating space, and give Sea Salt more operating room.

LeeAnn Hudson, who has been visiting the park for as long as she can remember, welcomes an upgrade.

"It's a beautiful park, and [the building] is an eyesore," she said. "It'd be nice to see the repairs, so it doesn't look so crummy."

Other improvements, like adding more bike parking and managing traffic flow, are also being considered. Swenson said it will be a multi-phased project, with funding allocated by MPRB (no dollar amounts were available at the time the Messenger went to press).

MPRB is working with Hess Roise Historical Consultants and Miller Dunwiddie Architecture. Swenson expects plans to go to the Park Board for approval in late October or early November.

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Keeping fit, stretching muscles, and strengthening community

By JILL BOOGREN

On the third floor of Minnehaha United Methodist Church, 3701 E. 50th St., in a room down a quiet corridor, big band music is playing, and a group has gathered as they do every Tuesday and Thursday morning: not to make music, but to move to it.

It's a fitness class that church member Shirley Arms started up about 33 years ago and has been leading ever since. Now at age 80, she shows no signs of stopping, and neither do the other members of the group.

Delores Burg, at 101 years of age, is one of Arms' longest-standing sidekicks, having been going for almost as long as the class has been running. She calls it her medicine, part of her therapy.

"I love it. It's such a great group," said Burg. "I really give 'em a lot of credit for being as able as I am."

Arms created the routine based on classes she was taking at the time and including suggestions from others. By and large, it's still very much the same.

Best geared for people middle aged and up, according to Arms, the workout is designed to be non-strenuous and to "keep all body parts moving." It is stretching and strengthening, without stressing the joints.

Everyone participates however they can, which for some means sitting or standing with a chair or walker. Not everybody goes to the mat for floor exercises, and that's okay. Arms wants it to be challenging, but "no overdoing it."

With grace and poise (she was a dancer back in high school), she keeps everybody moving... and coming back.

Her secret? "I never let 'em quit." She even recorded her instructions to a CD so the group could still get together when she wasn't able to be there. This happened a few years back, when she broke her leg.

"They still kept going," she said. "It doesn't matter what happens, the group will continue."

Now when she's not at class the others take turns leading, with Arms' voice on the soundtrack as

their guide. And when she is there, Arms lets her recorded self do the talking, sometimes correcting herself: "Don't listen to her," she'll say, when the routine is meant to go differently.

Arms' good nature is inviting. Once in full swing, she leads the group to the middle to share birthdays, news and other happenings. Sometime after rockin' to "Snake Charmer" and before a "Pink Panther"-induced cool down, she strictly enforces a smile rule — even if it comes through gritted teeth. The session always ends with an applause.

An active group

It should be said that this is no idle bunch. Some people walk and follow other exercise regimens; Burg has an audio program that keeps her stretching at home every day. But they all seem to have a hand in other things, too.

Conrad Larson has been attending class with his wife, Rachel Larson, on Thursdays, but on Mondays and Tuesdays he volun-



High fives for everyone: Shirley Arms kicks off the fitness class at Minnehaha United Methodist Church. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

teers at the Minnehaha Food Shelf, which is down in the church basement. Fitness regulars Bette Stacy, Carolyn Hoolahan, Joyce Kovacs and Lois Tourtelotte often head straight downstairs after class on Tuesdays to help out at the food shelf as well.

Wanda Driver, who's been with the group since she retired in the 1990s, met Nancy Johnson and Judy Loomis of Lake Nokomis Lutheran church while advocating for affordable senior housing in the neighborhood (their efforts paid off this year when Riverview Apartments opened near the Veterans Home after a decade-long process). Johnson and Loomis now attend regularly. At five or six years in, Johnson calls herself "the new kid on the block."

And Arms, on top of leading these classes, faithfully helps with the church's monthly, mini-harvest, among other activities. She may be best known as the "camel lady" for the church Christmas pageant. Years ago they acquired some costume camel heads, and being inside the camel was figured to be a great role for students who don't want to be in the spotlight.

"I never know how many are

going to show up to be a camel, so we have many-humped camels," she said. Made of blankets and cloth, when more people arrive, she just keeps "shoving 'em in."

People may have come for the exercise, but they stay for the community.

"I know I need to exercise, but I find this to be the most wonderful group," said Loomis, who has been going to the class for about four or five years. "They all have amazing stories."

Driver appreciates the friendships that have blossomed. "You get better acquainted when you're doing something together." At Arms' birthday party her nephew found Burg and told her she was his second grade teacher at St. Helena, just another example of their interconnected lives.

"I tell them often how much I brag about them and how important they are in my life," said Arms. "It's a really good-feeling group. They make you feel good."

The group meets at Minnehaha United Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-10am. All are welcome. It's free. Donations, usually one dollar, are accepted any time and go downstairs to the food shelf.



A few participants at one of the Minnehaha United fitness classes. Left to right: Founder Shirley Arms, Judy Loomis, Joanne Becklund, Rachel Larson, Ellen Lohff (in the back), Delores Burg (center), Nancy Johnson (in the back), Kelly Burg, Dorothy Karlem, Judy Walker. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

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South Minneapolis continues to debate merits of RNAV technology at the airport

By JAN WILLMS

It is still an exciting event for a child to look up in the sky and see a plane overhead. But when both adults and children live beneath flight paths that may engender sound and air pollution, the romanticism of airplanes tends to weaken.

The ongoing concern with requirements for proposed area navigation (RNAV) prompted a public meeting Aug. 27, hosted by U.S. Representatives Keith Ellison and Erik Paulsen. In spite of the sweltering heat that day, the meeting drew an audience of 500.

RNAV comes out of a 2003 Congressional Act. RNAV is a method of instrument flight rules (IFR) navigation that allows an aircraft to choose any course within a network of navigation beacons, rather than navigating directly to and from the beacons. This can reportedly conserve flight distance, reduce congestion, and allow flights into airports without beacons.

The plan was approved last November by Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) Noise Oversight Committee, but the Commission later voted to implement only part of the plan.

For residents who are living in areas across the city and its surrounding suburbs that are affected by the proposed rerouting of air traffic, the benefits of RNAV are outweighed by the problems that accompany a concentration of airplanes along fewer paths.

A Nokomis resident in attendance said there was a lot of ground noise from the airport. "Last night I was walking the dog around 10 pm, and the noise was unbearable," he said.

Others questioned why the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) was so concerned about safety, in that there had not been any evidence of safety problems



The ongoing concern with requirements for proposed area navigation (RNAV) prompted a public meeting Aug. 27, hosted by U.S. Representatives Keith Ellison and Erik Paulsen. In spite of the sweltering heat that day, the meeting drew an audience of 500.

with the current system.

An Edina resident said he counted 293 planes over his home in one day. "That's an insane amount of planes, and it's going to get worse," he said.

A meeting participant from Kingfield said he had purchased a home in the area 20 years ago. "If you want to talk to my shrink," he quipped, "you can find out the effects of airplane noise."

Concerns about property values, rattling porch windows, shaking wooden steps, and health pollution problems were all raised during the meeting.

Gary Cooper, the regional administrator of the FAA, said he was at the meeting to listen. "Our goal is to serve the people," he said.

Bill Miller, who has lived in the Standish-Ericsson area for the past 10 years, has been a long-time follower of the RNAV issue.

"Besides the tremendous noise and impact, there has been a strong smell of kerosene," Miller said. "I am concerned about that strong kerosene smell and have looked at the data."

Miller explained that the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

(MPCA) did have air monitors in place. He pointed out that one, located right above the MAC center and right off runway 30R, stopped its operation in 2007. The other, monitor 968 on top of the Wenonah Elementary School, stopped its monitoring in 2010. "They decided to route planes over the school at the same time," he said. He said he questioned why the monitors were stopped from monitoring pollution in areas that were on a direct route, and he was told it was just a coincidence.

Miller is calling for an environmental impact study that would have proper methodology. "They only sample the air every six days," he said. "We can have five days in a row of non-windy days, and then the wind could shift. How is that proper monitoring?"

Miller said the MPCA has to work with the CDC on monitoring pollution from the planes. "We need a federal agency to look at the potential effects of pollution on people," he said. "Unfortunately, we are the mice in this experiment."

Continued on page 13

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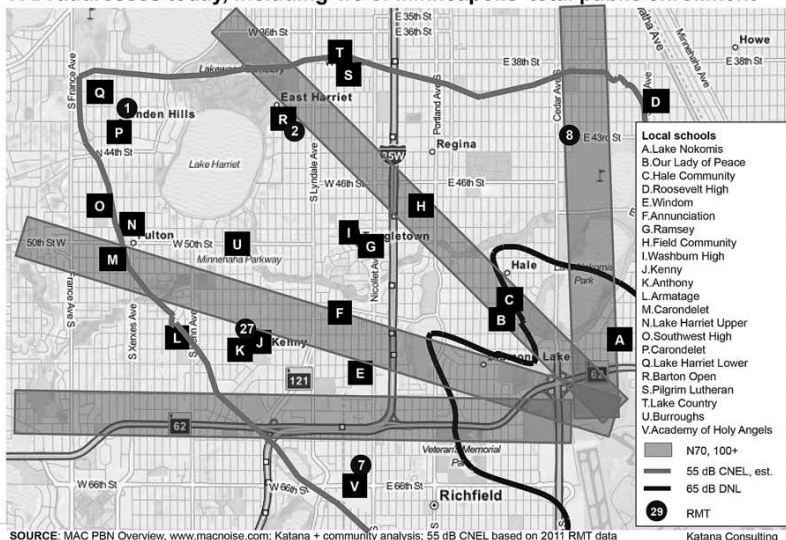
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4.5 | The 55 dB CNEL contour and N70 would affect 19 more schools than the FAA addresses today, including 1/3 of Minneapolis' total public enrollment





Metro Transit Police Department Chief John Harrington advocates for beat cops at the light rail stations as he works to bring back community policing. Next year, Harrington hopes to expand the number of officers working along the Hiawatha Corridor - Blue Line from 12 in order to implement the beat cop system along the entire line. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

Metro Transit Police Department reinvents itself for safer ride

Chief John Harrington hopes to add beat cops on Blue Line

By TESSA M. CHRISTENSEN

Beat cops at the start and end of the Hiawatha Blue Line are working to create a safer environment.

They mark the return to a form of community policing advocated by Metro Transit Police Department Chief John Harrington, who assumed leadership of Metro Transit in September 2012.

Next year, Harrington hopes to expand the number of officers

working along the Hiawatha Corridor - Blue Line from 12 in order to implement the beat cop system along the entire line. He has asked for an increase in his 2014 budget to add officers.

When the Green light rail line on University Ave. opens next year, there will be 15 Metro Transit Police Officers patrolling it.

The officers will do more than ride the trains and check fares. They will also actively pa-

trol the stations and work to build relationships with riders.

Since assuming leadership of Metro Transit's police officers a year ago, Chief John Harrington has worked to change the philosophy of the department, and with that address 85 recommendations for change made by the Upper Midwest Community Policing Institute before his

Continued on page 12



DISCOVER

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October 29, 6:45 p.m.
Grades 9-12
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Few political sparks fly at September 19 mayoral forum

By IRIC NATHANSON

An overflow crowd jammed into the Parkway Theater on Sept. 19 to hear seven well-mannered Minneapolis mayoral candidates outline their positions on issues ranging from taxes to transit to bike lanes. Martha Allen from the Minneapolis League of Women Voters moderated the forum, which often resembled a seminar on local government rather than a free-wheeling political debate. The event was sponsored by the Hale Page Diamond Lake, Field Regina and Nokomis East neighborhood associations.

The seven candidates—Jackie Cherryhomes, Betsy Hodges, Cam Winton, Don Samuels, Stephanie Woodruff, Dan Cohen and Mark Andrew—responded to written questions prepared by the three neighborhood groups and by members of the audience. While the 90 minute event was marked by a low key, civil tone, the seven were often cut off in mid-sentence by the League's timekeeper who maintained a strict one-minute limit for each

candidate's response.

Five of the seven, Cherryhomes, Hodges, Samuels, Cohen and Andrew, noted that they were either current or former office holders. They stressed their political experience and maintained that they had a proven track record, which qualified them for the city's highest political office. First-time office seekers Winton and Woodruff positioned themselves as political outsiders who would bring a fresh approach to City Hall.

Each of the seven struggled to stand out in a crowded field, but often ended up voicing similar responses to the questions posed by Allen. Most touched on themes they had expounded in other forums when Allen asked what the city needed to do to attract people with high skills and high talent. Andrew said Minneapolis needed to maintain a vibrant economy and build on its cultural and natural amenities; Woodruff wanted to "put people above politics" and eliminate wasteful spending; Hodges stressed the importance

of entrepreneurship and safe neighborhoods; while Samuels called for renewed effort to eliminate economic and social disparities in the city.

In response to a question about duplication of city services, Winton said the city and the county should explore ways to consolidate certain "back office" functions such as procurement and technology. Cherryhomes called for improved coordination between the city and Park Board police forces. Samuels said he would be moving into "dangerous territory" to start singling out city departments that needed to cut back or be eliminated.

The candidates did differ among themselves when they were asked about recent City Hall efforts to eliminate the Neighborhood Revitalization Program and incorporate its services into a new city Department of Neighborhood Engagement. Current Councilmembers Hodges and Samuels defended the move, saying the new department continued give neighborhoods a voice in City Hall deci-

sion-making. Cherryhomes and Andrew, who both served on NRP's Policy Board, disagreed. They maintained that the reorganization downgraded the neighborhoods' role. Winton questioned whether any formal structure was needed for neighborhood initiatives, now that social media gave neighborhoods and their residents a way to communicate directly with their elected officials.

Cohen, who ran for mayor in 1969 but lost to Charlie Stenvig, got a big hand of applause when he attacked the City Council's decision to back local funding for a new Vikings stadium, but Cohen later received some boos when he talked about his signature issue, his plan for a casino in downtown Minneapolis.

The seven candidates were each asked who would be their second choice under the city's new ranked choice system. Only Woodruff and Cohen were willing to disclose a second choice. Woodruff said she would pick Samuels and Cohen said he

would pick Hodges. Andrew hinted that he might ask his supporters to not pick a second or third choice when they vote for him.

While each of the seven often prefaced his or her remarks with the statement that "I am the only candidate in this race who will....." they generally refrained from criticizing each other. Several mentioned how much they admired and respected their fellow candidates.

An informal poll of audience members after the forum found that many were still undecided about mayor's race after sitting through the hour and half event. However, several, who had already picked a first choice, said the forum helped them narrow some options for a second and third choice.

One long-time political observer said he was pleased with the overall tone of the forum: "After all the junk that was thrown at us in the 2012 election, it is refreshing to be able to sit through a calm, reasonable discussion of the issues."

Next deadline:
Oct. 14
Next issue:
Oct. 24

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GET READY FOR FALL

By DEBORAH BROTZ

While you're still enjoying the warm, sunny days of summer, fall is right around the corner. It's not too early to be thinking about what you need to do to get your home and garden ready for winter.

After the June 21-22 storms, there were 600 fallen trees. Although we didn't have a lot of hot days with temperatures in the 90's until the end of August, we didn't get much rain either. This has caused lawns to become yellow and brown and trees to become stressed. So between our home and our yards, there's much to get ready for this fall.

HOME & GARAGE

Gutters and Downspouts

- Clean gutters and drain pipes and be sure they drain away from the house. Drain outside faucets.
- Be sure water is not coming down behind gutters and that all support brackets are securely in place.
- Check to ensure water drains properly and doesn't pool.

Windows and Doors

- Change summer screens to cool weather storm windows and doors.
- Inspect and repair any loose or damaged window or door frames.

- Install weather stripping or caulking around windows and doors.
- Clean and lubricate garage door hinges, rollers, and tracks and be sure screens are tight.
- Remove window air-conditioners or put weatherproof covers on them.

Heating Systems

- Replace the filter in your furnace.
- Have a heating professional check your heating system.
- Clean your ducts to better your heating system's efficiency.
- Clean your thermostat's heat sensor, contact points, and contacts. Lubricate hot water heater's pump and motor.

- Bleed air from radiators or convectors.
- Drain hot water heater. Remove sediment from the bottom of the tank.

Plumbing

- To prevent pipes from freezing and bursting, ensure that the pipes, as well as the wall cavities where they reside, are well insulated.
- Be sure that you know how to locate and turn off the water shut-off valve in case pipes freeze.

Chimney and Fireplace

- Have a certified chimney sweep inspect and clean the flues and check your fireplace damper.

- Test your fireplace flue for a tight seal when closed.
- Install a carbon monoxide alarm near the fireplace and furnace.

Attic Ventilation

- Be sure attic insulation doesn't cover ventilation vents in the eaves to prevent winter ice dams on the roof.
- Be sure ridge vents and vents at eaves are free of plants and debris.
- Check bird and rodent screens for attic vents to prevent any unwanted guests.

Roof

- Check roof and around vents, skylights and chimneys for leaks.

LAWN & GARDEN

Lawn Care

- Fertilize cool season grasses such as Kentucky bluegrass, fine fescue, and perennial ryegrass.
- Eliminate broadleaf weeds such as dandelions, broadleaf plantain, and ground ivy with weed killer.
- Continue mowing every week or so until grass has stopped growing.
- Lay seed so that your lawn gets a head start in the spring. Cover the seeds lightly with straw or mulch to protect from feeding birds.
- Dethatch or aerate, or do

both to reduce thatch, a layer of dead grass stems and roots that build up faster than they can decompose, accumulating on top of the soil layer and reducing water penetration to the roots.

- Run all gas-powered lawn equipment until the fuel tank is empty.

Trees & Shrubs

The City of St. Paul Forestry Department is asking residents to water trees, both private and public, because of our hot and dry weather. The continued dry weather is stressful on trees, can weaken them, and make them more susceptible to illness, disease, and death. Young trees are

especially vulnerable. People should look for yellowing leaves, drooping or wilted leaves and premature leaf drop and loss.

For best results, watering should be done in the early morning or evening.

Long and slow watering sessions help water to soak into the ground, encouraging deeper root growth. Slow watering can be done with a slow trickle from a regular hose or soaker hose or by using watering bags. Watering should be done once a week, while your tree is experiencing drought conditions.

A rule of thumb is 10 gallons of water per week per one inch of tree trunk diameter.

For public trees planted recently, the City provides watering

bags free of charge, which should be removed in winter.

People should continue watering trees throughout the entire year until it is too cold to use the hose or the ground is frozen.

Flowers & Gardens

Plant bulbs such as crocus, daffodils, hyacinths, tulips, and other spring-flowering bulbs.

In cold-winter areas, mulch after a hard freeze. Spread 2 to 3 inches of compost, composted cedar, pine, or fir bark, weed-free straw, or similar material.

In northern areas, dig and store tender bulbs such as tuberous begonias, dahlias, and gladiolus.

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The Best Meeting Ever!

LCC's Annual General Membership Meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 22nd from 6pm-8pm at Minnehaha Academy (3000 W River Pkwy). The meeting will cover a variety of topics that matter to the community, and will also have our official launch of the new logo! Plan on attending and coming hungry, because we already have a lot of food from local businesses lined up to serve the community! Note! The entrance to the meeting will be to the North of the doors facing the parking lot. Signs will be posted.

The Resource Fair will start at 5:30pm and end when the meeting starts. To sign up for the Resource Fair visit www.longfellow.org



LCC's Annual Chili Cook Off!

LCC will host our Chili Cook Off Fundraiser early this year on November 3rd at the Zeke's Unchained Animal (3508 E. Lake St) from 5pm-7pm. This year tickets will be available for purchase ahead of time on our website, www.longfellow.org, so keep an eye out in the coming weeks!

Mayoral Candidate Forum

Join fellow Minneapolitans Tuesday, October 1st for a discussion with candidates on housing, homelessness, and economic development. Time will be available for additional questions with candidates following the forum.

The forum will be at Central Lutheran Church (333 S 12th St) from 6:30-8pm, with reception to follow.

RSVP for the event and find out which candidates are confirmed at stablethrivingcommunities.eventbrite.com.

This forum is presented by Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness, Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers, Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity and Co-Sponsored by the League of Women Voters, Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, and the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless.



A New Look for LCC!

You will probably notice a change in LCC's page this month. The LCC staff, Board of Directors and other volunteers have been working over the past several months on a re-branding campaign. Its time for a fresh new look that will help to promote both LCC as an organization and Greater Longfellow as a community. Starting this month, we have a new masthead that will also be used on our letterhead and envelopes. We are also creating new t-shirts and tote bags that we hope to have available for the October 22nd General Membership meeting. There are several elements to our new logo that will be featured in various ways - depending on the use and placement (i.e., neighborhood signs, t-shirts, other promotional materials). We are really excited to show off this new brand to the community and to highlight the appeal of Greater Longfellow to a broader audience. You'll be seeing more of the new logo over the next few months as we roll out this new branding campaign.

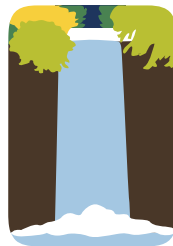
road reconstruction that is slated to begin in Spring of 2015.

Approximately 100 people showed up to hear from a panel representing various interests of the community and to ask questions and make comments about the impact of the reconstruction.

The panelists included Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin, Minneapolis City Council Members Sandra Colvin Roy and Gary Schiff, Hennepin County Project Engineers Kristy Morter and Nick Peterson, Minnehaha Avenue Resident Lois Hill, Minnehaha Business Owner Sam Nestingen and Bicycle Advisory Committee Representative Nick Mason.

Neighborhood residents discussed protected bike lanes and cycle tracks, the duration of the construction, increased pedestrian safety, financial assessments, street lighting, bump outs, infrastructure replacement, loss of parking and trees.

Meeting participants did not vote or come to any conclusions at the meeting, but they were able to make their preferences and concerns known as Hennepin County moves forward to present final plans to the Minneapolis City Council in early October.



LCC has forwarded all comments and questions to Hennepin County and to Council members Schiff and Colvin Roy.

The County will hold two final meetings for resident input and questions on September 30th and October 2nd from 6-8 p.m. Both meetings will be held at Minnehaha Lutheran Communion Church at 4101 37th Avenue S. Updated County plans can also be viewed at www.hennepin.us/Minnehaha.

Residents Voice Their Opinions - Minnehaha Avenue Reconstruction

The Longfellow Community Council (LCC) held a community-wide meeting on September 11th to get input from residents about the

Calendar of Meetings and Events

OCTOBER 2013

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

ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, Oct 2
7:00 - 8:00 pm
Fireroast Café
3800 37th Ave
FFI: jessica@longfellow.org

LONGFELLOW FAITH FORUM

Tuesday, Oct 8
12:00 - 1:30 pm
Faith Mennonite / St Martin
2720 East 22nd Street (Seward)
FFI: joannalund@longfellow.org

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Tuesday, Oct 8
6:30 - 8:00 pm
LCC Office, 2727 26th Ave S
FFI: joannalund@longfellow.org

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Monday, Oct 14
6:30 - 8:00 pm
check website for location
FFI: spencer@longfellow.org

RIVER GORGE

Monday, Oct 14
6:30 - 8:00 pm
Hiawatha School Park
4305 42nd St. E
FFI: joannalund@longfellow.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, Oct 17
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Brackett Park
2728 39th Ave S
FFI: melanie@longfellow.org

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Tuesday, Oct 29
6:30 - 8:00 pm
check website for location
FFI: spencer@longfellow.org

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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 in the online Event Calendar.

Does your child need homework help?

East Lake Library, 2727 E. Lake St. is offering free help with homework for K-8th grade students several times each week from now through Dec. 19. No advanced sign-up needed. Times for the help are Tuesdays, 3:30-7:30pm, Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30pm, and Thursdays, 3:30-7:30pm.

Living Table holds annual garage sale

Living Table's 2nd Annual Multi-family Garage Sale will be held Sat., Sept. 28, 9am -3pm and Sun., Sept. 29, noon - 2pm after services at Living Table United Church of Christ, 4001 38th Ave. S.

Divorce Care Group meets weekly

Are you or someone you know divorced or separated? The Divorce Care group meets on Mondays from 6:30-8pm. This 13-week series is hosted by Trinity of Minnehaha Falls on the corner of 52nd St. & 40th Ave. S. For more information, contact Judy at 612-724-3691.

Trash and Treasure sale planned

The Trash and Treasure Sale will be held Fri., Oct. 25, 9am-6pm, and Sat., Oct. 26 9am-2pm at Hope Lutheran Church, 5728 Cedar Ave. S. Household items, books, toys, clothes and more will be available. This sale is being held to support global mission outreach in Guatemala and Nigeria.

Garden Club to meet October 9

Making the best use of our available yard space is important, so why not choose shrubs that are not only beautiful, but also can produce fruit that you (or the birds) can use? And when you replace a tree lost to recent storms, why not find a diminutive variety that is not such a wind target or is less likely to take the fence or garage if it does go down?

The Longfellow Garden Club is hosting Rebecca Koetter, PhD, Urban Forestry, on Oct. 9 to discuss the many options of dual-use shrubs and trees well-suited for beautiful city landscapes. The meeting will start at 7pm at Epworth United Methodist Church, located at 3207 37th Ave. S. They'll also be offering Minnesota State Horticultural memberships, including Northern Gardener magazine, at a discount (\$37 by check only).

Garden Club events are free and open to everyone.

Schmitt resigns as LoLa admin

Bob Schmitt, administrator of the League of Longfellow Artists art crawl for the last 5 years has resigned the position.

"Working with each of you to build a remarkable neighborhood art crawl has been a phenomenal experience of group creativity and spirit. None of us knew that it would grow so big in such little time," Schmitt said.

Schmitt said that over the last 3 years a strong event steering committee had been established, and that he was confident in the group's ability to navigate the transition to the 2014 Art Crawl.

Epworth plans Harvest Dinner

The Epworth Annual Harvest Dinner will be Thur., Oct. 10. The meal is served from 5 to 7 p.m. and features roast turkey with all the trimmings (including rutabagas and choice of pie).

Tickets are \$10 for adults; \$6 for children from 5 to 12; while children under 5 eat free. Your family can eat for \$27.50 total (dine in only). Carry out is available, as well as delivery in the neighborhood by calling 612-802-0261 in advance.

The Mini-Boutique will be open from 4:45-8 p.m. with handcrafted items and gifts; Fair Trade coffee and tea also available for purchase.

Diabetes topic of Healthy Seniors meet

The Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Community Education will present a program about diabetes on Tues., Oct. 15 at 10:30am at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. About 20% of people over age 65 have diabetes. Learn more about diabetes and how to prevent or manage it. Take away practical tips on nutrition and physical activity for healthy living. The program is presented by Sara Vine from the YMCA Diabetes Prevention Program. Call Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for more information.

Minnehaha redesign calls for new meetings

As a follow up to the meetings held in July, the County is holding two meetings to discuss the feedback they received about the Minnehaha design and any changes they are making as a result. There will be two meetings just to accommodate the large number of people who may be interested in the topic.

The meetings will be held Mon., Sept 30 and Wed., Oct. 2

from 6-8pm at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37th Ave. Hennepin County and City of Minneapolis Public Works staff will provide information about the project, which is scheduled to begin during the spring of 2015.

Low Vision support group meets

The Low-Vision Support Group for seniors meets monthly on the second Tuesday of the month at 1:30pm at Trinity Senior Apartments (2800 E. 31st Street) and is facilitated by staff from Vision Loss Resources. You do not have to be a resident of Trinity to participate. Upcoming group dates are Oct. 8, Nov. 12 and Dec. 10. Call Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for more information.

Faith re-dedicates organ October 27

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3430 East 51st Street, will re-dedicate its GWF Hunt organ on Sun., Oct. 27, during the 9am worship service. The day will begin with a hymn sing at 8:45am. During the service, in addition to the re-dedication, special music will be presented by the choir and Sunday School and an organ/piano duet by Katherine Grein and Louise Rardin. The public is invited to attend the organ re-dedication.

Academy holds admission programs

Minnehaha Academy will hold two school admissions programs in October. The programs are for the public and parents to learn about life at Minnehaha Academy. Prospective parents and students are especially encouraged to attend these lively and informative opportunities to meet teachers, administrators, parents and students. These events provide a great overview of Minnehaha Academy's academic, athletic and art programs.

The program for Lower School Admission (PreK-Grade 8) will be held Sun., Oct. 27, 1pm at Minnehaha Academy, 4200 West River Parkway.

The program for Upper School Admission (Grade 9-12) is planned for Tues., Oct. 29, 6:45pm at Minnehaha Academy, 3100 West River Parkway.

Further information can be found at www.MinnehahaAcademy.net or by calling 612-728-7756.

Game nights slated at Nokomis Library

Join fellow teenage game enthusiasts for Xbox 360 gaming every Friday from now through Nov. 22

(omitting Oct. 25) at the Nokomis Library, 5100 S. 34th Ave. The fun starts at 4:30pm and goes to 6:30pm. Games will include Halo, Games of War 3 and more. Game suggestions welcome. Free and open to anyone 16 and over or with parental consent. This group is sponsored by Friends of the Nokomis Library.

Business Association to discuss Minnehaha

The Longfellow Business Association will discuss Minnehaha Avenue reconstruction and the potential impact it may have on businesses, on Thurs., Oct. 10 at 1:30pm at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37th Avenue S. (at 41st & Minnehaha).

"A Choice of Weapons" discussed at East Lake

Join in a conversation about the 2013 One Minneapolis One Read book, "A Choice of Weapons," by Gordon Parks. The conversation will take place at the East Lake Library, 2727 E. Lake St., Thurs., Oct. 10, from 6:30-8pm. Parks' autobiography, set in the Twin Cities, tells how he managed to escape poverty and bigotry, and launch his distinguished career by choosing the weapons given him by "a mother who placed love, dignity and hard work over hatred." This program is presented in support of One Minneapolis One Read.

Fossil Day set Oct. 19 at Coldwater Springs

The 4th annual Fossil Walk is scheduled at Coldwater Springs for Sat. Oct. 19, 1-2pm. In honor of National Fossil Day, tour Coldwater with a paleontologist and a National Park Service ranger to learn more about fossils at the park. October marks the fourth year the National Park Service has organized National Fossil Day events. No registration required; just show up. Coldwater Spring is at 5601 Minnehaha Park Dr. S., between Minnehaha Regional Park and Fort Snelling State Park. For further information go to www.missriverfund.org, or email khavelin@missriverfund.org.

Writing group meets at Nokomis Library

The Nokomis Library Writing Group meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30pm. Join fellow writers for encouragement, feedback, and to help each other take writing to the next level. Bring works in

progress, paper and pen. You will explore different ways to think about writing. The library is located at 5100 S. 34th Ave.

Next Colaf Series performance Oct. 3

Patrick's Cabaret (3010 Minnehaha Ave.) presents their Colaf Series Thurs., Oct. 3 at 7:30pm. Performers are:

- Katherine Glover is a writer, performer and playwright. She's toured four solo-shows across the U.S. and Canada and performed at dozens of spoken word and comedy venues in the Twin Cities.

- Although he makes his living as a headhunter for attorneys, Howard Lieberman has an unique blend of performance art and storytelling that has made him a fixture in the Twin Cities performance world.

- Nikki Matteson (of Nikki & The Ruemates) is an emerging twin-city singer/songwriter. Matteson leads (vocal/guitar) the new-folk band The Ruemates with guitarist Richard Rue.

- John Fenner, a 30-year founding member of the Minneapolis band Strange Friends, is a south Minneapolis resident and the father of two. He is an accomplished singer/songwriter as well as an author and storyteller.

Lutefisk Dinner planned Nov. 2

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37th Ave. S., is having its Annual Lutefisk Dinner on Sat., Nov. 2. The Dinner is served family style with lutefisk, meatballs, boiled potatoes, coleslaw, cranberries, lefse and for dessert angel food cake with lemon topping. The cost is \$16 for adults and \$10 for children under 10. Reservations are needed for seatings at 4pm, 5:15pm and 6:30pm. Call the church office at 612-722-9527 to place your reservation.

Help protect the Oak Savanna

Oak Savanna Invasive Species /Brush Removal is scheduled for Sat., Oct. 5, 9:30-11:30am near 36th and West River Parkway. Help remove invasive brush, including buckthorn, the invasive woody species that degrades our local native plant communities and wildlife habitat in the rare oak savanna and oak woodland in the Longfellow neighborhood in south Minneapolis. Sign up with FMR Registrar Lindsay Hefferan, lhefferan@fmr.org, 651-222-2193 x24, to receive details and directions. Or learn more at http://www.fmr.org/participate/ongoing/oak-savanna_restoration_2013-10-05.

Continued on page 14

Metro Transit

Continued from page 7

tenure. He doesn't want to see officers merely react to crime when it happens. He wants them to help prevent it by operating as neighborhood beat cops.

Beat officers do more than just respond to crime when it happens. They also actively prevent it by their presence. A beat cop begins to feel a sense of responsibility for the area, bus or train he/she serves, noted Harrington. "You don't want people to do bad things on your beat," he said.

CRIME ON THE HIAWATHA LINE

According to Metro Transit Police Department Chief John Harrington, ridership studies have shown that people feel the most at risk when they are on a platform waiting for a train or bus transfer.

The Lake Street station has been particularly troublesome, averaging one incident a day in 2012. On a busy road and major bus routes, the Lake St. station sits on an enclosed platform above the road. It is the third busiest station on the light rail line with about 2,700 rides on weekdays.

To help combat the crime problem there, patrols were increased and classical music piped over loud speakers. With the help of a \$100,000 federal grant, 24 high definition surveillance cameras were installed to replace the existing ones. There are plans to upgrade the cameras at other stations over the next few years. After these improvements, the number of quality of life crimes



took a dip.

The two most common crimes on light rail are disorderly conduct and the theft of electronics and backpacks, both on and off the train, noted Harrington.

Each day, 260,000 people hop on a Metro Transit bus or train. When there's a problem, officers average a 2 minutes or less response time.

For the entire transit system, the number of crime incidents has dropped 45 percent over the past six years to about 7 per every 100,000 rides. The Hiawatha Blue Line makes up about 13 percent of all Metro Transit ridership.

OFFICERS ADDED

"I fundamentally believe that when I got here, the department was understaffed," said Harrington, whose background is in community policing.

In the last year, Metro Transit has added administrators, supervisors and officers. There were 22 new part-time officers added in April 2013, and 19 full-time in August. Another 26 part-time officers will join the ranks this fall.

In the hires, Harrington has sought to create a department that reflects the communities it serves. Of those hired in August, half were people of color, and several were multi-lingual, Harrington observed. He pointed out that 100 foreign languages are spoken within the Metro Transit area.

The cost of each officer is \$93,000 per year (salary, benefits and supplies). Metro Transit Police Department's total budget in 2013 is roughly \$12.41 million.

CHALLENGES OF A MOVING SYSTEM

The 83 full-time Metro Transit police officers cover the second biggest jurisdiction in the state, one that stretches over 8 counties, 90 cities, 3,246 square miles and 3 million people.

The size comes with its set of challenges, one Harrington believes only a department dedicated to transit can handle. He pointed out that the crimes Metro Transit deals with don't fit easily in one geographic space, which makes it tough for city police departments to handle. For instance, a bus might start out from St. Paul and end in Minneapolis. The victim might live in Brooklyn Center and the witnesses spread throughout several other cities. So, whose job is it to handle, who does the follow-up and who pays for it?

Metro Transit's Police Department was created 20 years ago in acknowledgement of those problems, pointed out Harrington. "We are unique," he said.

That's not to say Metro Transit works alone. Rather, the department partners with many other organizations. Harrington is currently working to establish formal memorandums of understanding with the many cities and other entities in their jurisdiction to clearly outline who handles what. His goal is that each group "share information so that investigations can be seamless and the perpetrator brought to justice," Harrington remarked.

PAST EXPERIENCE A BOON

To accomplish this task, Harrington is relying on the relationships and colleagues from his 30 years with the St. Paul Police Department, six of which he spent as chief there. He believes that the trust he has built over up his career is a boon to him in his position with Metro Transit.

From his time as senator, Harrington has brought a broad view of problem solving.

"The legislature prompted me to look at things from a regional perspective," Harrington said.

The mission of Metro Transit is to be a safe, cost-effective and efficient provider of transit throughout the metro area.

Since he came on board in September 2012, the role of metro transit has shifted and changed a lot, Harrington pointed out. "We've pretty much reinvented ourselves," he said.

"This year we'll go through another reinvention."

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Holiday sale planned November 2

Virkeyst is having their annual Holiday Sale on Nov. 2 from 10am-1pm at the Danish American Center, 3030 West River Parkway. There will be handmade gift and craft items, recycled sweaters, baked goods and a soup luncheon. All proceeds go to charities.

Holiday Bazaar planned for Nov. 16

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37th Ave. S., will be holding its Annual Holiday Bazaar on Sat., Nov. 16, from 9am-2pm. The event showcases area crafters, Grandma's Attic, a large Silent Auction, bake sale featuring holiday treats and lefse along with a luncheon of Flotegrot, ham sandwiches and cake.



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There have been changes recently, Mr. M. has returned home. He's been down in Florida for the past two and a half years. No, there wasn't a messy Kardashian style break up. Mr. M. was in Florida working. His company bought a steel plant there that needed a complete re-design and overhaul. Mr. M. returned every Friday night, and left again every Monday morning.

At first, I was not happy with being alone during the week, especially because the arrangement started in December. Keeping up the house, and taking care of the duplex seemed like so much work. My son, Sean and I talked about who would do what. I agreed to keep up what I could at the duplex; deal with the demands of the tenants, light shoveling, etc., and he would be in charge of more complicated stuff, like electrical, plunging toilets, and snow blowing when the snow was over four inches. I still worked full time at



The Old White House

By SHERRI MOORE

Mr. M. returns to the Old White House

3M. That meant, I often stopped and shoveled at seven in the morning, on my way in, or four in the afternoon, on my way home.

At first my son was worried that I couldn't stay alone, which was a problem for my mother and aunts.

"Do you want me to move home to take care of you?"

"Just who do you think you're talking to? I do not need to be 'taken care of'. Remember, I am the one who took care of you!"

What a laugh. However, I could understand his concern, I'd never lived alone. I went from my parents' house to my first mar-

riage (a big mistake).

Once we hit our stride, it worked out well. We had a few problems; like no heat on a twenty five below zero night. I called an HVAC cousin, who came over the next day. Thanks to my neighbor, Michael, who snowblowed the front sidewalk and the driveway in back of our old white house. I got along fine, shoveling the rest of the sidewalks.

A few of my close neighbors knew I was alone during the week, and kept an eye out, but no one else knew. No point in drawing any unwanted attention.

Mr. M. and I became avid cell

phone texters. It was great, he became quite witty in a few words, and I could understand him just fine. We did talk at night, just a couple of times a week.

My concern was the house. As always, I had things that needed to be done. It was necessary to eliminate any big projects and concentrate on the small ones. During Mr. M.'s absence, I painted, cleaned, rearranged, bought and refurbished antique furniture. I also kept up the shoveling, ice removal, and in the summer, planting, mowing, weeding, and taking care of two yards.

The best part about being

alone was giving up cooking. I realized quickly, I didn't have to cook or plan any meal. Such freedom! I started going to happy hour once or twice a week to eat free or cheap appetizers. I became very close to Lean Cuisines. This allowed me more time to write, or work on my projects.

Mr. M.'s big Florida project was completed in early August. Now, we are both getting used to living in the same place together. It's been tougher than I thought. For the first week, I jumped anytime he entered the room, having forgotten that I wasn't alone. He has learned not to question every decision I've made. For the most part, we have both adjusted.

Last weekend, Mr. M. put up the remaining dry wall in the alcove. (Sean had injured his back before he was done.) We managed to work together, and not kill each other. I guess, we are savoring the time together.

RNAV

Continued from page 6

Miller said any problems from jet fuel could affect people subtly.

"I work as a nurse and see the side effects of exposure of things slowly, over a long time," he said, "things like cigarette smoke, household chemicals and possibly, airline fuel."

Miller claimed his hat was off to MAC in providing information about noise pollution. He wants the same information on air pollution.

"When it is not windy, I can smell the kerosene," he noted. "I plan my days based on the wind conditions."

"I don't know the answers, but this does affect us," Miller stated. "Pollution is relevant."

He said regarding RNAV and the concentrated flight patterns, people get used to it, move away or give up.

"It's how you do business," he said. "It's sad, but I'm glad there is some momentum."

Building on that momentum, Dean Amundson joined with others a year ago in November when RNAV changes were first announced. "We found out through a news article," he said.

A core group of about eight people, representing three or four affected neighborhoods, formed

the Minnesota FairSkies Coalition. The group's goal is to protect the neighborhoods environmentally from the disruption of sound pollution and air pollution.

Amundson said the proposed air flight paths will affect schools, many of which are not air conditioned or sound-proofed. "It's the same way with churches that house daycares and charter schools," he said.

Amundson claimed that the Kingsfield area, where he lives, is one of the newly affected and highly affected areas close to RNAV and the route change.

He said the FairSkies Coalition did a lot of outreach for the Aug. 27 meeting, hoping that at least 100 would attend. The 500-member audience on a hot summer's day surprised him.

"We are trying to educate people about exactly what could happen," Amundson related. He said the group's website, www.MSPFairSkies.org, offers 12-15 minute documentaries.

"We are speaking to everyone, from block to block," Amundson explained. "Our next step is a mayoral election blitz. We have had a good response from three candidates. We're going to ask for a well thought out position from each candidate, and we want to see this as part of their platform."

Amundson said the first installation of RNAV occurred in

December 2012, but it failed technically. "It just didn't work," he said. "So just one portion of it went up, and we got a stay on routes going over Minneapolis, Edina and Richfield."

"We're hoping for more fair distribution (of routes), higher altitudes and easing up during rush hours," he said.

The website also has a petition for individuals to sign, calling for a reexamination of the RNAV process. "The petition will go out to all levels of government," Amundson noted.

"We want a complete and thorough environmental impact study," he added. "The State of Minnesota would like that, too."

"We're asking the FAA and MAC for transparency and accountability," Amundson said. He acknowledged that RNAV can't be avoided and will eventually be in place.

"How it is implemented is what we are fighting for," he said.



"We are trying to educate people about exactly what could happen."

- FairSkies activist Dean Amundson



"When it is not windy, I can smell the kerosene."

- Standish-Ericsson resident Bill Miller

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www.bethlehemcov.org

Pastor Ryan Eikenberry-Barber (Handicapped accessible)
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Coffee at 9:30 am, Classes at 9:45 am (except 10/13)
Traditional Worship Sundays at 11 am (10:30 am on 10/13)
Wednesday meal and activities for the family at 5:45 pm (except 10/16)

Christ Church Lutheran
3244 34th Ave. • 612-721-6611
Sunday Worship at 9:30 am
Childcare Provided
Education Hour at 11:00 am
Pastor: Kristine Carlson
A welcoming congregation
www.christchurchluth.org

Epworth United Methodist
3207 37th Ave. • 612-722-0232
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Education: Adults at 9:45 am; Children and Youth, 10:45 am (Childcare Provided)
(Wheelchair Accessible)
Rev. Pam Armstrong

Faith Evangelical Lutheran (LC-MS)
3430 E. 51st St. • 612-729-5463
Worship 9:00 am
Fellowship Hour 10:00 am
Education Hour 10:30 am
Rev. David Domanski

Minnehaha United Methodist
3701 E. 50th St. • 612-721-6231
www.minnehaha.org
Traditional Service 9:00 am
Contemporary Worship 11:00 am (Sept.-May)
10:30 am (June-Aug.)
Education for all ages 10:15 (Sept.-May)
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Julie A. Ebbesen, Pastor
www.stpeders.net

Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls
5212 41st Ave. S. • 612-724-3691
www.trinityfalls.org
Pastor Derek Johnson
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Children's Church at 10 am Service
Wed. Meal/Gathering 5:30 pm
AA Meetings Tuesdays/Sundays 7 pm

Projects of the Neighborhood Churches Include:

Minnehaha Food Shelf,
Serving People Tuesday
10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Call us at
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Minnehaha United Methodist, 3701 E. 50th St.

In our community

Continued from page 11

Historic Fort Snelling hosts history mysteries

The Minnesota Historical Society is hosting a series of unique Halloween experiences at society sites, including two at the Historic Fort Snelling.

The first is for adults, ages 21 and up, on Sat., Oct. 19 from 6-9pm. Just for adults, this special evening allows visitors to explore the fort at night during this "murder mystery" program. Guests will be led through the fort where they will visit the crime scene, talk with witnesses, examine medical evidence and decide for themselves whether the suspect is guilty or not. Enjoy complimentary beer (limit 2) before or after the program at the Sutler's Store (courtesy of Barley John's). Don't miss this one-of-a-kind evening at Historic Fort Snelling. Participants must be over age 21. The cost for the program is \$20 (\$2 discount for MHS members) and reservations are required, which you can reserve online at <http://tickets.mnhs.org>.

The second event is for families, and is scheduled for Sat., Oct. 26 from 6-9pm. This special evening allows visitors to explore the fort at night during this "murder mystery" program. Guests will be led through the fort and visit the crime scene, talk with witnesses, examine medical evidence and decide for themselves whether the suspect is guilty or not. Don't miss this one-of-a-kind evening at Historic Fort Snelling. This program is appropriate for ages 14 and older. Tickets for this performance is \$15, \$13 seniors and children 14-17 (\$2 discount for MHS members) and reservations are

required, which you can reserve online at <http://tickets.mnhs.org>.

Baked Potato Dinner is 25 years old

The 25th Annual Baked Potato Dinner will be held at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3430 E. 51st St. on Sun., Oct. 27, from 11:30am-1pm. The menu: large baked potato and a choice of several toppings, salad bar, pies, and beverages. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 12 years of age. Or, you can buy a family ticket for \$24. Tickets will be sold at the door or call 612-729-5463 or e-mail felc@q.com for tickets.

Who Haunts Here told on October 27

"Who Haunts Here, the Ghosts of Minnehaha Park and the Twin Cities," as told by Ghost Investigator Duke Addicks will take place Sun., Oct. 27, 4pm at the Historic John H. Stevens House Museum, 4901 Minnehaha Ave., right across from the 54th Street LRT station. This program is not for small children. It is best for adults and older children. The cost is \$5 per person; \$10 per couple plus immediate family members

Candidate forum planned October 9

American Legion Post 99, 5600 34th Ave. S., is planning an event so that the public can meet the candidates from Wards 11 and 12, as well as candidates for mayor, Park Board, Bureau of Tax and Estimation. On Oct. 9 at 5pm, tables will be provided for the candidates or their representatives to discuss positions with the public and present hand-outs. Contact Gregg Iverson at 612-724-7567 or greggiverson@gmail.com for more information.

Knitting group meets at Nokomis Library

The Fearless and Friendly Knitting Group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of every month as well as the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at Nokomis Library, 5100 S. 34th Ave. On Tuesdays the group meets from 6-8pm, and on Wednesdays the group meets from 10am-noon. For men and women at all skill levels, the group encourages making new friends while creating your own handmade masterpieces! Drop in, or stay the whole time. Learn how to knit or practice new techniques. Bring your own needles and yarn. Other needlecrafts are also welcome! This group is sponsored by Friends of the Nokomis Library.

LCC annual meeting planned October 22

Longfellow Community Council's Annual October General Membership Meeting (also known as The Best Meeting Ever!) will be held on Oct. 22 at Minnehaha Academy, 3100 West River Parkway, from 6-8pm. A resource fair will be held from 5:30-6pm and interested parties can register online. This year's meeting will once again provide a free dinner for community members made up of donations from local restaurants! Please join them and make this the Best Meeting Ever!

Bethlehem Covenant Hosts Salmon Dinner

Alaska Silver Salmon caught off shore in Nome Alaska will be the featured entrée for a Fundraising Dinner on Tues., Oct. 1 at 5:30pm at Bethlehem Covenant, 3141 43rd Ave. S. Providing the salmon and the after-dinner presentation will be Dennis Weidler,

General Manager of KICY AM & FM of Nome.

The dinner is a fundraiser for the operation of the 50,000 watt AM station and 1,000 watt FM station, owned by the Evangelical Covenant Church in Chicago, and are staffed by volunteers. Some are long-term missionaries and the rest live and work in the community of Nome, a largely Inupiaq Eskimo community of 3,700 on the southern coast of the Seward Peninsula.

KICY AM-850, which celebrated 50 years of service in 2010, is the only radio station in the United States licensed to broadcast into a foreign country in their language. Every evening from 11pm to 4am, the station turns their 50,000 watt signal westward and broadcasts into the Russian Far East in the Russian language.

Most of the fundraising efforts are to offset the rapidly escalating fuel costs. In Nome, a gallon of heating oil or diesel fuel costs \$6.25 a gallon and is delivered by barge. All electricity is produced by diesel generators as the nearest power grid is 550 miles away and there are no roads connecting any of the Bush Villages. In addition, no fuel can be delivered from Oct. through May as the harbor is froze, and prices are literally 'frozen' for a full eight months.

It is a fundraiser, and a free will offering will be accepted. Whatever you can provide is appreciated.

Volunteers needed for fall yard clean-up

Improve your health while helping a senior citizen in Minneapolis remain independent in their home! You choose the date and time to rake and clean up the yard. This opportunity is perfect for individuals, groups, and families. It is seasonal: Oct. - Nov. (depending upon the weather). This is a 1-time unpaid fun, flexi-

ble activity on weekdays or weekends. Feel free to sign up multiple times!

Exact location TBD in Minneapolis, depending upon where the senior citizen resides. Ongoing unpaid volunteer opportunities are also available. Please contact Jeanne the NIP Seniors Program, Volunteer Coordinator at srvolunteer@neighborhoodinvolve.org or call 612-746-8549 for more information or visit their website at www.neighborhoodinvolve.org.

MN Community Sings coming to Minnehaha

Join in the Community Sing. In the Dark, on Sat., Oct. 12, 7pm at Minnehaha Park's Wabun Shelter C. Join us for the last outdoor sing of 2013. Mary and Bret will be joined by guest song-leader Nat Case.

The event is on in rain or shine, so check the forecast and dress accordingly. Wabun Shelter C is just across from (and north of) the main entrance to the Minnesota Veterans home. The shelter is approximately 1/3 mile south of the intersection of W. 46th St. and 46th Ave. S. in Minneapolis. There will be some signs up directing you to the sing.

As always, they'll pass the bucket to help meet expenses not covered by the grant of the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council: \$5 donation per person suggested.

Trunk or Treat Event

Looking for a family friendly Halloween event? Come to Trunk or Treat - complete with a spooky house for kids and plenty of treats given out from the trunks of decorated cars. This free event will be held outdoors at Trinity of Minnehaha Falls, 52nd St. & 40th Ave., from 5:30-7:30pm on Halloween, Oct. 31. For more details, contact 612-724-3691.

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Messenger

Want ads must be in the Messenger before October 14 for the October 24 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, 1885 University Avenue, Ste. #110, St. Paul, MN 55104. Want ads must be mailed to the Messenger before October 14 for the October 24 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to denis@deruyternelson.com. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

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Next Area B meeting scheduled for Oct. 10

Minneapolis Public Schools will sponsor the next Area B Family and Community Meeting 6-8pm Thurs., Oct. 10, at Northrop Elementary School (Ericson Building), 4315 31st Ave. S.

This meeting is an opportunity to meet other families, community members, and members of the Minneapolis Public Schools in Area B. Dinner will be

provided and interpretation services in Spanish, Somali and Hmong will be available.

Childcare will be available for kids ages 3 & up, and all children welcome. Complete information about agenda, guests and directions to sites will be provided in a message to your child's school, on the website and through e-newsletters.

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Zebra mussels found in Lake Hiawatha

'It was inevitable' that the invasive species make its way to Minneapolis, according to MPRB

By **TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN**

Zebra mussels have officially infested Minneapolis waters. They have been found in Lake Hiawatha.

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) water quality workers found several of the small, invasive mollusks Aug. 28 on a plate submerged in the lake as a detection device. Following that discovery, MPRB staff thoroughly searched both upstream and downstream to see if there were more in the city.

"Mussels were found on the underside of the Lake Hiawatha fishing dock where the sampler is located, on beach buoys, and on large rocks at a few locations just downstream of the lake – but none were found upstream to Xerxes Avenue," observed Debra Lynn Pilger of the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board.

"Some might suspect that because Lake Hiawatha sees very little boat traffic, and has no boat launch, it would be immune from this type of infestation," observed Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association Neighborhood Coordinator Bob Kambeitz.

"But since the Minnehaha Creek flows into and out of Lake Hiawatha, it's not surprising that zebra mussels would work their way into the lake from upstream at Lake Minnetonka."

The Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board has been expecting to find zebra mussels since 2010 when they were discovered in Lake Minnetonka and the entire watershed was declared infested. Minnehaha Creek flows from Lake Minnetonka through Lake Hiawatha to the Mississippi River, which has been designated as a zebra mussel infested water body



This zebra mussel was discovered on the fishing pier at Lake Hiawatha on Aug. 28. Following that discovery, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board staff thoroughly searched both upstream and downstream to see if there were more in the city. They urge people to be especially careful about moving equipment between Lake Hiawatha and Lake Nokomis to avoid spreading the infestation.

by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR).

At the end of the 2012 sampling season, zebra mussels had made their way to Brownsdale Dam, about a mile upstream from the Minneapolis city limits.

"It was inevitable," said Pilger. "It was just a matter of time until they got here."

NO TREATMENT

There is no treatment for zebra mussels, according to Pilger. "We will be focusing our efforts on keeping them out of other lakes," she said.

While the creek flows through Lake Hiawatha, at Lake Nokomis water only flows out. According to Doug Walter of the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, "The lake's level is kept higher than that of the creek and excess water flows over a dam to prevent the possibility of invasive

species entering Lake Nokomis.

"Up until a year or so ago, there was an inflatable bladder that automatically raised a pivoted weir (or gate, if you will) to keep the lake's discharge above the creek. It used a complicated system of electronic water level sensors and an air compressor with the requisite to adjust the height. However, the equipment proved trouble-prone and expensive to maintain (let alone not working during heavy storms where power was knocked out). That was replaced with a fixed dam."

PLAN FOR PREVENTION

Zebra mussels cause problems for both swimmers, who are cut by the sharp shells, and anglers, who lose tackle. Groups of mussels can damage buoys, dock supports, boat parts and other underwater structures. A native to

Russia, they spread easily and have few predators.

In 2012, the MPRB Board of Commissions began inspecting boats at public launches at Lake Harriet, Lake Calhoun and Lake Nokomis, and placed bait disposal receptacles at many of the city's most popular fishing spots in an attempt to block the spread of zebra mussels.

The discovery of zebra mussels in Lake Hiawatha underscores the need for continued diligence in complying with the state's laws to prevent and curb the spread of invasive species, according to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Anglers, boaters and other recreationists must remove all aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species, drain water from all water equipment including portable bait containers, and drain bilges and live-wells by removing the drain plug before leaving the boat landing.

STOP THE SPREAD

To help prevent the spread of zebra mussels and other aquatic invasive species:

- Always remember to Clean, Drain, and completely Dry any equipment moving between water bodies.
- Do not move equipment from Lakes Nokomis and Hiawatha to other water bodies – always move from non-infested to infested waters.
- Be especially conscientious about the potential of transferring AIS from the creek or Hiawatha to Lake Nokomis.
- As buoys and structures are removed from lakes this fall, please inspect them carefully for anything that could be zebra mussels and report any findings to Environmental Operations, 612-313-7791.

About Zebra Mussels

Zebra mussels are native to freshwater lakes and rivers of south-eastern Russia and traveled to the United States via ballast water in freighter ships. They spread easily and have few predators.

Zebra mussels can easily out-compete our native mussels because they do not need a larval host, and they have a much more rapid growth rate in addition to a shorter time to maturity. In their larval stage they are able to spread by floating through the water, eventually settling on hard surfaces and reproducing after just short of a year.

Zebra mussels can have many impacts on water bodies. Initially, the mussels can increase the water clarity by filtering out large amounts of some types of algae. Negative impacts can range from sharp shells collecting on beaches, growth on structures that may require cleaning, waterfowl die offs, increased blue-green algae blooms (which zebra mussels do not prefer to eat), changes in the fish community structure, and increased aquatic plant growth.

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