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The Minneapolis City Council hasn't allowed these kids or those in support of a farm at the Roof Depot site to speak, so they gathered together on June 17 to flood city council member offices with phone calls sharing their ideas for what they want in their community. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Kids want clean air in South Minneapolis

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN
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The desire for healthy food and air brought kids and their adults to the East Phillips Cultural and Community Center on Monday, June 17, 2019 to engage in grassroots action. The group, which spanned multi cul-

tures and ages, pulled out their phones to contact city council members to tell them they don't want a city water yard to take up 16.5 acres at Hiawatha Ave. between 26th and 28th St.

They'd rather see an urban farm, aquaponics, solar array, affordable houses, bike shop and other small businesses at the

Roof Depot site as proposed by the East Phillip Neighborhood Institute, according to organizer Cassandra Holmes of Little Earth. They don't want 400 diesel trucks adding to the air pollution in the neighborhood and along the Midtown Greenway. "We are tired of them not listening to us and putting all their

garbage on us," she stated.

"Kids need clean air. They deserve clean air. We need to stop the polluting industries," agreed former state representative Karen Clark. "This is what environmental injustice looks like." Learn more about the project at <http://www.eastphillipsneighborhoodinstitute.org/>

'Don't close Minnehaha Parkway'

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN
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Don't close the parkway. That's the message a majority of residents are telling the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board (MPRB).



CAC chair Jim Tinch passed the mic around.

The proposal to close the section of Minnehaha

Parkway underneath the Nicollet Ave. bridge and put a small playground and parking lot there instead is part of a larger master plan being developed for the five miles of Minnehaha Creek that stretch through the southern part of Minneapolis.

Vehicles would still be able to drive continuously on the route. Eastbound traffic would not go under the Nicollet Bridge but would instead go up and be forced to make a right-hand turn due to a median on Nicollet. Traffic from Nicollet could turn right and head back east down to the creek. Westbound traffic in that area would not change.

The current eastbound lane on the west side of the bridge would remain as a trail. The section of eastbound traffic east of the bridge would be a two-way roadway to access the climbing wall, picnic area, canoe/kayak launch and small parking lot planned for the site instead.

What's the purpose of parkway?

During a meeting at Nokomis Recreation Center on Thursday, June 13, 2019, MPRB Planner Adam Arvidson explained that they began this process by asking, "What is the purpose of the parkway road? Is it a pleasure drive or a commuter route?"

They discovered that east of the bunny sculpture, Minnehaha Parkway is the southernmost route people use to get across town. West of the bunny, the parkway is functioning more as a pleasure route, and drivers have many options for travel throughout the area.

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Yes, Short Line Bridge could extend Greenway into St. Paul

Study re-opens conversation about rehabbing bridge for bikes and peds while still carrying trains

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Engineering feasibility studies usually don't have people sitting on the edge of their chairs but on June 6, 2019, supporters of the Midtown Greenway Coalition did just that.

More than 60 bike enthusiasts gathered at the Hamline Midway Library to hear the results of the Extend the Greenway feasibility report, and to discuss the possibility of extending the Minneapolis bike trail into St. Paul.

The study involved in-depth structural analysis of the 100-year-old Short Line Railroad Bridge over the Mississippi River, east of 27th St. in the Longfellow neighborhood.

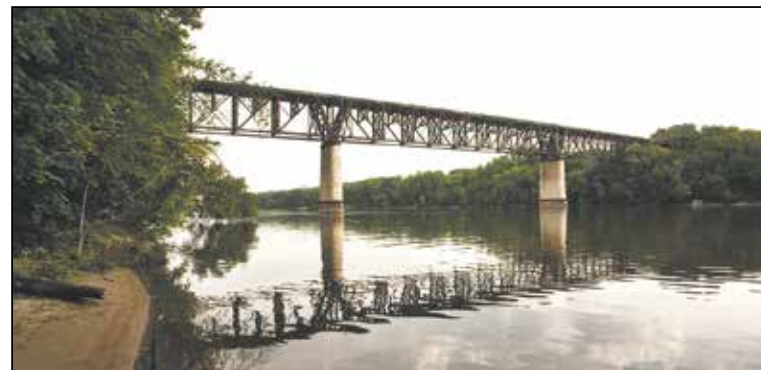
Midtown Greenway Coalition executive director Soren Jensen explained, "With the support of our 35+ Extend the Greenway partners, and donations from hundreds of people on both sides of the river, we hired engineering firm Kimley-Horn and Associates to determine if the bridge could be rehabbed to

"The idea isn't to have all the answers right now, but to spark interest in re-examining the idea." ~ Soren Jensen

safely support bikes and pedestrians. We are pleased to announce that the results are in – and it can!"

This isn't the first time that the Short Line Bridge has been studied.

Jensen said, "Hennepin County conducted an engineering study in 2006, and concluded that the bridge was just too old to be used as a connector. At that point, the conversation kind of died. For our study, we re-framed the question to be, 'What would it take to strengthen the bridge to make it structurally sound?' Kimley-Horn's report outlined several options for rehabbing the bridge to make it safe for bikers and pedestrians. No matter which one is chosen,



What would it take to make the Short Line RR Bridge east of 27th St. on West River Parkway structurally sound so that it could continue the Midtown Greenway trail across the Mississippi River from Minneapolis into St. Paul? (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

structural redundancies will have to be built into the bridge to make it usable."

Jensen continued, "The idea isn't to have all the answers right now, but to spark interest in re-examining the idea. The easiest thing would be if the train didn't run, but ADM says they will continue investing in it as long as the Atkinson Mill on Hiawatha Ave. stays open. Almost

all of our options involve sharing the bridge with the train, and could include building a replica bridge or adding a second story above the tracks."

The existing 5.5-mile-long Greenway Bike Trail was built in three phases and, if everything works out, the expansion across the Mississippi River would be Phase Four.

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Your concerns
are her
concerns

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'Simplify things'
in Hiawatha Golf
Course Master plan

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Get to know
Longfellow
business leaders

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Blue Moon metamorphoses into Milkweed Cafe

Longtime staff take over beloved neighborhood coffee shop, renovate and open with new name

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN
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Blue Moon Coffee Cafe (3822 E. Lake St.) has been transformed into Milkweed by longtime staffers Brenda Ingersoll and Alex Needham.

The new shop opened on May 22, 2019.

After shutting the doors on the neighborhood's beloved coffee house for the last time on Dec. 31, 2018, the new owners began an extensive renovation project. Throughout the changes, they've sought to maintain what the neighborhood – and they – loved best about the local coffee house.

The couple drew upon their own experience working at the Blue Moon under owner Lisa Berg, who operated the cafe for 24 years before closing due to health issues. They've also factored in comments they heard from residents during the transition. During the renovation, passersby regularly peeked in the windows and stepped through the door to check on the progress.

Ingersoll managed at Blue Moon from 2014-2016 and Needham worked there from 2013 to 2016. When their son, Bruce, now four, was born, they worked back-to-back shifts, and handed the baby off at the cafe.

"We really fell in love with the space," recalled Needham. "It has been my favorite job," said Ingersoll.

With their past experience, running the coffee shop won't be new for them. But they also recognized that Blue Moon won't be the same without Lisa, and so they're starting fresh with a new identity: Milkweed.

They plan to make their own nut milks, and offer tea blends from Sacred Blossom and other Fair Trade organic companies. They're sourcing supplies from local vendors as much as possible.

As Ingersoll has been recently diagnosed with celiac disease, the cafe offers gluten-free options and its own facility is entirely gluten-free. Those who aren't gluten-free can select from the pre-packaged sandwich they offer, along with grab-and-go options from Seward Co-op and

deli. Gluten-free options from Sift Bakery are available. Also on the menu are paninis, quiche, salads and more.

Coffee comes from Tiny Footprint Coffee in Brooklyn Park, a company that combines small-batch artisan coffee with reforestation efforts in Ecuador, making it the world's first carbon negative coffee. To-go cups are compostable.

"For a place that does grab and go things, we're trying to make as small an impact as possible," observed Ingersoll.

A former stewardess, Ingersoll says that running a coffee shop is essentially like running an airplane. "You've got to build relationships," she said.

She's excited to be her own boss and to apply her design sensibilities to an entire space. A floral designer, Ingersoll also runs a floral business out of her house. She plans to sell tropicals and other plants at Milkweed -- where they'll also function as decor. "I love plants so I'll fill the space with them," she stated.

Coffee shop evolution

During the renovation work, the only coffee in this long-time coffee house was from a Mr. Coffee drip machine as the espresso machines sat unplugged. Much of the renovation work was done by Needham, who works for a construction firm around his job in the film industry.

With the help of volunteers and professionals, they replaced and squared off the old bar, added nine seats, and reconfigured the space for new uses. In all, they've put in six sinks and three floor drains in the building that was constructed a century ago and is owned by blues musician John Kolstad. Wood planks from one area were reused as flooring elsewhere.

When Blue Moon originally opened in the 1990s, there wasn't as much laptop use as there is today, explained Ingersoll. Recognizing how coffee shops have evolved, they replaced benches and table tops with a bar along one wall for single users repurposed from a bench that used to sit alongside the back wall. Another bench near the children's area by the back door is still



Alex Needham (left), son Bruce, and Brenda Ingersoll during the renovation. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

being used.

The back nook has been reimagined with a caterpillar and butterfly theme for kids. Along with toys, there will be ready-to-go art projects. "Parents can work and watch their kids," observed Ingersoll, a busy mom herself.

The nook size is a bit different, as the bathroom door has moved and a prep space carved out of the old supply closet.

The new main bar was milled from a Silver Maple tree that fell in Seward.

Long-time customers asked if the new owners were going to keep the lounge, and the answer is yes. The location of the comfy chairs has shifted a bit, but they're still there.

They can accommodate in-house musical shows, and have a beer and wine license. Local art hangs on the walls in three-month stints, with Jim Blaha, a former Blue Moon barista, up first.

"It's simple and small, but cozy," stated Ingersoll. "I think the neighborhood will appreciate a little bit of music in the neighborhood occasionally."

Milkweed continues to share a door with Hymie's Vintage Records, which is undergoing its own transformation and is for sale. "Record hunters enjoy drinking coffee and vice versa," observed Ingersoll.

As many of the former staff as wanted have stayed on at the neighborhood coffee house.

"I remember when this floor was shiny," observed neighborhood resident Nikki Baker one Sunday in January when she dropped by with Hamuman Carlson to check on the renovation progress. She recalled bringing her daughter to the cafe when she was four, and dropping in a couple times a week. "It's definitely a community place which is what people need."

"It's such an important part of the neighborhood," added Carlson. "It's going to be new, but it is going to be the new same."

Hours right now are Monday to Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Owner Brenda Ingersoll prepares a cold press in the recently reopened coffee shop at 3822 Lake St. As she has celiac disease, Ingersoll makes sure to have gluten-free options available for customers. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)





A mural at the newly opened Funky Grits at Chicago Ave. and 38th St. celebrates the contributions made by females in Minneapolis, including Angela Conley, third from left. (Photo submitted)



Longtime Southside resident Angela Conley worked as a county social worker before being elected as commissioner. (Photo submitted)

YOUR CONCERNS ARE HER CONCERNS

Commissioner Angela Conley wants constituents guiding decisions from the 24th floor

By TESHAM. CHRISTENSEN
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Editor's note: This is the second in a two-part series. The first part ran in the May 2019 Messenger.

Addressing unsheltered homelessness is an issue Hennepin County District 4's new County Commissioner Angela Conley is passionate about, and one that local residents focused on when she was door-knocking during her campaign.

Many years ago, Conley had to leave where she was living for safety reasons and was technically homeless. "That experience taught me ways in which we can do better," said Conley, who later spent 20 years working in social work at both the county and state level. "I know housing and having a place to sleep at night are basic human rights."

Conley believes that the answer to fixing this issue is funding, and hopes to see a number of different agencies partnering together with direction from the state. This way, someone from Washington County can stay within their community and not go to a shelter in Hennepin County because that's the only one that has space.

"This is a lot bigger than just Hennepin County," said Conley.

Plus the answer requires more than providing a bed and a mat to those who are homeless. It will require that – and on-ramps to supportive housing and permanent housing. "We have to meet people where they are at," observed Conley.

Right now, Hennepin County operates as a referral-based system which means that someone might get referred to four or five other agencies to meet his or her varying needs. Conley said, "It's often a full-time job for people to get chemical health services over here and mental health

services over here, and then help with finding employment over in this direction. All of that should be under one roof."

She added, "We should be doing it with people who are involved in our shelter system because housing stability is when you have the support you need to maintain your own housing."

That costs money, Conley recognizes, so she's looking at where money is being spent now, evaluating if the outcomes are good, and questioning if that money should be spent elsewhere.

"We are moving in the right direction, but we're still not where we should be," stated Conley. "We're still busting at the seams."

According to the Wilder Foundation, Minnesota is seeing the highest numbers of homelessness in the 30 years they've been tracking it. She pointed out, "Homelessness has jumped 10% in the last three years."

Conley is taking a close look at how the county invests in shelters and supportive housing, as well as real estate.

"We've got a market out here that not a lot of people can afford anymore. It's harder to buy a home. Houses go up for sale and they're snatched up right away. Rent keeps going up, but wages don't," she remarked. When people get out of jail, landlords won't rent to them. And women and children fleeing domestic violence make up a large percentage of the homeless and have specific needs before they can get back on their feet.

There are also members of the community who don't go to shelters, and some of those people came together last year at the Hiawatha Encampment, the largest encampment Minnesota had ever seen.

As a Southside resident, Conley drove past the Hiawatha Encampment regularly. She recognizes there are many rea-

sons why people opt to not use shelters, such as not being able to bring a loved one or beloved pet. Others don't think the shelters are safe, and worry that they don't have a place to lock up their belongings. Addiction is also an issue, and opioid addiction is hitting the fourth district hard, Conley said.

She pointed out that encampment was full of many Native American and African Americans – the two groups experiencing the highest levels of homelessness. "You had a group of folks who found community amongst each other and who chose to live amongst each other," Conley observed.

"There are also 200 to 300 people who sleep on the trains overnight. So this is an issue that not a lot of people have talked about."

According to Conley, the county has divested from shelters and invested in affordable housing over the years. Her question there is: "Affordable to who?"

All of the affordable housing is calculated based on median income, and affordable workforce housing is at 60% of the median income. "We have people at 30% of the median income. Where can they go?" she asked.

Also lacking is shelter that is culturally specific, and meets people where they are at even if they aren't ready for addiction treatment.

Conley co-chairs Heading Home Hennepin, which brings together the county, city of Minneapolis and others to look at the ways people might be able to work together to provide resources to create the infrastructure needed to house more people.

"If we make these investments on the front end then the resources are already there, and we wouldn't have to go into an encampment and provide services there because we were already on the front end working up-

stream to stop the build-up at the bottom," said Conley. "There's a lot of possibility in taking on this issue head-on. It's going to require the political will for people to say, 'Yes, this is an issue.'"

Conley also pushed for unsheltered homelessness to be included in the county's federal legislative platform this year for the first time.

WHAT IS A COUNTY COMMISSIONER?

During her campaign, Conley started with that question because she loves talking about the county.

"I have spent my career in public service, and I wanted everybody to know what commissioners do because it's a level of government that is sort of invisible," observed Conley. "A lot of people know who their state reps are, they know who their senator might be, they know the governor, they know their city council, but do you know who your commissioner is? Raise your hand. We'd be in a room of 25 people and one person might raise their hand."

She'd point out, "The county is involved in pretty much everything you do," and deals with more than just the big, contentious issues of light rail and stadiums.

When you take out your garbage, it's burned at the county energy recovery center downtown. The road you drive on to get to work everyday may be a county road even in the city, and if you're concerned about safety on it you'll need to talk to the county. If you are on a fixed income and you need help paying for medical care or you're experiencing food insecurity, you may apply at a county office.

"This is your largest government entity aside from the state, and it's operating a \$2.4 billion budget. We're the second largest

county in the Midwest -- only to Cook County near Chicago. We're very, very big with a far reach in people's everyday lives," stated Conley.

Her office will be intentional about holding community office hours for citizens to share concerns and ideas. The first was held at Sabathani, and others will be held at various places throughout the large fourth district including Longfellow, by the airport, in Cedar-Riverside, Phillips and the Central neighborhood.

"We want folks to know that their commissioner is very interested in having community lead on key decisions," said Conley.

In March, she was part of a meeting focused on the Cedar/Highway 77/Highway 62/Edgewater area, and was most interested in hearing what those in attendance had to say. "I think community should be leading on what they know is best for their neighborhood," stated Conley, and her staff took a ton of notes at the meeting. She plans to hold a follow-up meeting to talk about how those ideas can be implemented.

"That's the kind of leadership you can find out of the District 4 office," stated Conley. "I don't want to be in this space making up solutions based on what I think the community needs. I want people in the fourth district to be guiding decisions that happen up here on the 24th floor because these are decisions that ultimately affect your life."

For a long time, Conley didn't feel included in decision making and so she's taking that experience and turning it around.

"This really truly is the district four people's office," said Conley. "I want people to know that they have access to their commissioner, and their concerns are my concerns."



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The Motley Conversation

Messenger

Join the conversation, and let us know your diverse and varied thoughts on the issues that affect your neighborhood. Send letters and guest commentaries to news@LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com or call 612-345-9998.

At 14, Trinidad Flores was diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy, a condition in which an enlarged heart struggles to pump blood. His mom, Little Earth's Cassandra Holmes, watched him endure three surgeries and a failed heart transplant before he died in 2013 at age 16.

Now she's leading a charge to decrease the pollution in South Minneapolis.

She doesn't want to see any more neighborhood babies born in need of breathing tubes, or young people who've succumbed to asthma and diabetes.

During a community meeting about the Roof Depot site off Hiawatha and 28th St. on June 17, 2019, Holmes walked through the crowd holding up maps that show how many kids in the neighborhood have been treated for lead poisoning, how many have visited the emergency room because of asthma attacks, and how many have dealt with arsenic poisoning.

For every 10,000 people, over 200 are hospitalized because of asthma in this area. Of the 7,000 children who live in Phillips, about 40% live in poverty and 80% fall into various ethnic groups.

The Clark/Berglin Environmental Justice Law was enacted by the state legislature in 2008 in an effort to curb the amount of pollution in this South Minneapolis area, particularly in the Arsenic Triangle near Cedar and 28th where the Smith Foundry and Bituminous Roadways asphalt plant still operate, belching out fumes each day over Phillips, the Midtown Greenway, South High School, and the rest of us.

"This is what environmental injustice looks like," former state legislator Karen Clark told those



Too Much Coffee

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN, Tesha@LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

Cassandra Holmes asks you to make a phone call

gathered on June 17 at the East Phillips Recreation and Cultural Center.

"People tell me, 'I plug my nose when I drive past your neighborhood,'" observed Steve Sandberg.

"We want to live a long life and we don't want any more trucks in our community," said Holmes. She pointed out that residents have asked the city to consider the load Phillips already carries and support the EPNI plan community members put together in response to the needs they know they have.

They see the trouble residents have finding apartments and homes they can afford. They see the problem of not having access to fresh, green vegetables. They want their kids to have better. They want to be part of fixing things for their neighborhood and the world, and they have some bright ideas about using aquaponics and solar power in their corner of South Minneapolis. They're inspired by the Midtown Greenway and want to fashion a neighborhood that places a high priority on biking and walking – two methods of travel that are accessible to the poor and the rich, build better health, and don't spew pollution into the air.

And so the idea for the East Phillips Indoor Urban Farm was born. To make it affordable, planners pinpointed a large building that they could reuse

(another green initiative).

But the city has other plans for the former Roof Depot site, and it involves moving its water yard there. They intend to use the land to store manhole covers, sewer pipes, and sand-salt mix, and send out public work's fleet of diesel trucks into other areas, concentrating the air pollution. Although EPNI once sought to buy the entire site, after the city threatened eminent domain and subsequently purchased it out from under the community, EPNI asked for three acres, then two acres, and then one acre.

"They said 'No,'" pointed out Holmes. And they haven't once allowed the community group to present to the city council.

So she asked community members to take out their phones, and engage in grassroots organizing by calling their city council members one by one and asking them to support the East Phillips Indoor Urban Farm.

Twenty-nine-year-old Margarita Ortega took out her phone. "I know what it's like to grow up in pollution and grow up with asthma and breathing problems," Ortega said. "I have two children going through it, as well." The Little Earth resident also knows what it is like to struggle to find green food, and is excited by the idea of an indoor urban farm within a few blocks of her house. She shook her head when talking about city staff and coun-

cil members. "They're just worried about money and power," she said.

Adam Fairbanks doesn't live in South Minneapolis anymore, but his family still does. He took out his phone, too, and started calling city council members. He works with Red Lake and helped meet the needs of residents at the Wall of Forgotten Natives last year where he saw the large number of nebulizers and inhalers prescribed to those who were there. He blames the smog and pollution in Phillips for the health problems residents have.

"I'm amazed that the city has not supported this project," Fairbanks said.

"They don't listen," agreed Cindi Sutter, who has dreams of living at a revitalized Roof Depot and having access to garden plots and solar energy.

Abah Mohamad had her phone out, too. She's also baffled about why the city isn't supporting the urban farm plan. "It has everything the community needs," Mohamed pointed out. "I'm a little bit emotional and very upset. It is the only hope and only vision that this neighborhood has. It's exactly what will serve the neighborhood."

Is this the same city and the same leaders that are telling the nation that they are encouraging community involvement, racial equity, and affordable housing?

Is this the same city that pledged to do something about homelessness following the largest homeless encampment last summer that this state has ever seen, and is going into another summer without having made much progress towards solving things?

Are they really ignoring a plan that's already in process, is designed, has funds already designated, and could be up and running quickly in a building currently sitting empty that helps our community solve homelessness in a comprehensive manner?

Talking about issues and supporting grassroots activism is something newspapers are very, very good at. We're here to shine the light into the dark corners of government, like this one. We're here to give you the information you need to change your communities for the better.

While the Roof Depot site and the center of the controversy is in Phillips neighborhood, it isn't confined to that one neighborhood. It affects all of South Minneapolis. If this water yard and its trucks start traveling along Cedar and Hiawatha and 26th and 28th, the pollution center will spread outward. Travel along the Midtown Greenway now in the Longfellow/Seward section and you'll be accosted by the strong fumes from the existing foundry and asphalt plant, as well as vehicle traffic.

This is an issue that affects the health of our children, our ability to breathe in this city that we love, and our ability to live the lives we want to.

And, so, Holmes is asking, "Will you take out your phone?"

Got an opinion?

TMC
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News for you

Write to us about it!

We want your letters to the editor and guest columns.

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National Night Out registration

Aug. 6, 2019 is National Night Out (NNO) - a celebration of police-community partnerships! Block Leaders signed up through their Crime Prevention Specialists can register an NNO event and apply to close a street/alley is a single online process. You will need permission of 75% of your neighbors to be approved for street closure - keep their names and addresses handy in the event your permit application needs to be reviewed.

If you register by July 23 you can block your street for free. If you register from July 24 through

NENA

(Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

4313 E. 54th St., www.nokomiseast.org, 612-724-5652

July 29, there is a \$100 fee. You will not be able to block off your street if registering after July 29.

Great Kickball Tournament

Vie for the title of best kickball team in Nokomis East! Get a 8-10 person team together for the mother of all tournaments.

Enjoy a family-friendly summer afternoon and raise money

for the neighborhood projects you love such as Nokomis East Bike Racks, Artsy Utility Box Wraps coming this summer and repairs to the Bossen Community Mural on 58th St. Help NENA add fun and beauty to the place we all love to call home! A unique, conversation-starting trophy will be offered to the victorious at the end of the day.

Details: Saturday, July 27, 2019 (Rain Date: Sunday, July 28, 2019), noon - about 6 p.m., Keewaydin Park, 3030 E. 53rd St.

Team Registration: <http://nokomiseast.org/great-kickball-tournament-fundraiser/>

Festival volunteers needed

Join us as a volunteer at this year's Monarch Festival and see for yourself. Volunteers must be at least 14 years old. Bilingual Spanish speakers are especially encouraged to volunteer. All volunteers receive an official Festival T-shirt as our way of saying thank you.

This year's Monarch Festival will occur on Saturday, Sept. 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Festival celebrates the monarch butterfly's amazing 2,300 mile migration from Minnesota to Mexico with music, food, dance, hands-on art, and native plant sales.

The Festival will be held just east of the Lake Nokomis Community Center in the area bounded by E. Minnehaha Parkway, Woodlawn Boulevard, and E. Nokomis Parkway.

Please sign up at <http://monarchfestival.org/volunteer/> to be an important part of running the Minneapolis Monarch Festival.

Messenger

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News for you!

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'SIMPLIFY THINGS'

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN
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What can the Hiawatha Golf Course Community Advisory Committee (CAC) agree on?

Towards the end of the sixth CAC meeting on June 11, 2019, members began working on a list of recommendations for the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board (MPRB) on what they'd like included in the Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan. Three concepts with various amenities such as environmental play areas, fishing pier, BMX/pump track, disc golf, water access, amphitheater, aqua range, larger parking lot, bird blinds, outdoor firepits, and more had been presented in March 2019.

However, CAC members can't agree on what form golf should take in the future as some members continue to push for an 18-hole golf course.

CAC members began working on their list following over an hour of community comment and about an hour of comment from themselves. Any of the 100 or so people gathered who wanted to speak were given a chance to, and the meeting went late. Over 200 people also submitted comments at open houses held earlier this year, and many others shared input via an online survey.

"The consensus seems to be less is more," said CAC member Anne Painter after hearing public comments. "Simplify things. Nokomis is right next door."

MAKE TRASH A PRIORITY

CAC members want to balance natural and recreation spaces with appropriate plantings, while keeping costs low for both capital improvements and maintenance.

The majority of CAC members agree that pollution mitigation with the involvement of the city is a top priority.

"Trash and pollution mitigation have to be incorporated into what we're doing," stated CAC member Nathan Shepherd.

A revised or improved clubhouse with winter activity is recognized as a nice amenity to have at Hiawatha Golf Course, and some from the audience voiced support for a dog patio. Others were concerned this would gentrify the neighborhood.

All seemed to agree on a more purposeful interpretation of African American and Indigenous history, art, and culture at the site, whether that is through public art or menu items at the clubhouse.

SHOULD A TRAIL FOLLOW THE LAKE?

Most CAC members would also like to see the fence come down strategically in order to increase accessibility to park and water.

There was a lot of discussion around having a safe walking path around Lake Hiawatha, and whether it should be directly adjacent to lake or not. Over the past few years many citizens have stated they'd like to be able to walk around the whole of Lake Hiawatha as they do Lake Nokomis. CAC member Sean Connaughty, who has removed over 6,000 pounds of trash from the lake over the past few years and serves on the Friends of Lake Hiawatha, is concerned that if a trail is installed next to the lake in the areas that are currently undeveloped that the diversity of wildlife around Lake Hiawatha will disappear. "We won't have others living around the lake," he observed.

Neighborhood resident Ryan Seibold agreed and urged CAC members to "keep this area the sanctuary that it is."

OPINIONS MIXED ABOUT GOLF

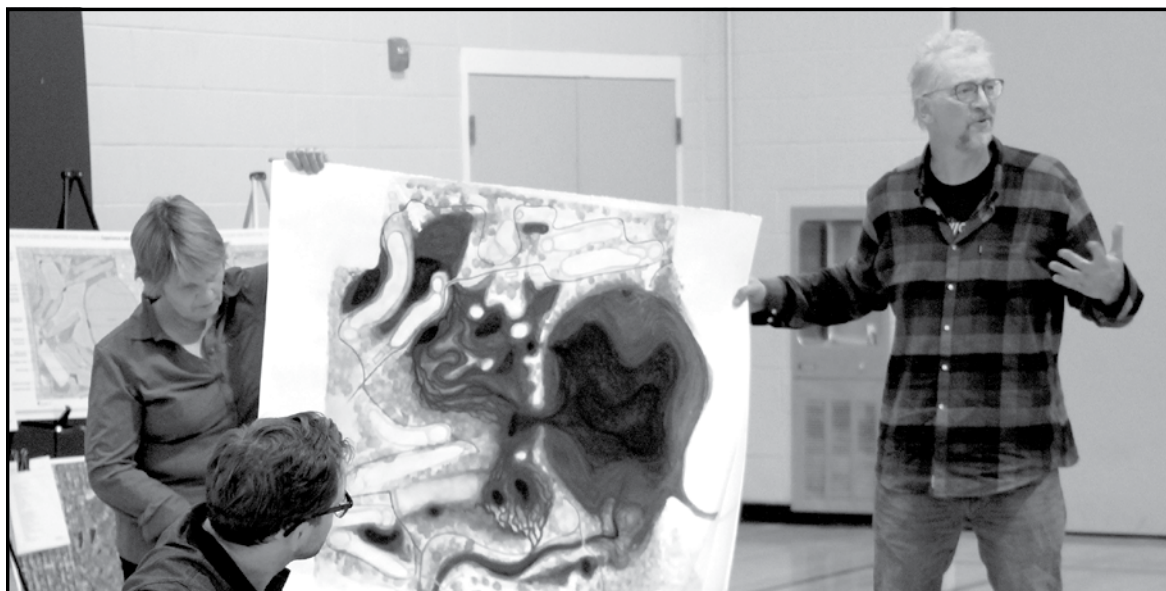
CAC member Kathryn Kelly submitted a petition with the signatures of over 400 people who support keeping an 18-hole golf course. In its 2017 directive to the CAC, park board members directed them to create an option with at least 9 holes of golf.

Craig Nichols, who is a CAC member and golfer, pointed out that many of the items in the three concepts created for the site are available at other parks. "It seems a little bit to me that we're taking one community and saying we want another community to use it instead," he stated.

He pointed out that incorporating some pieces of the concepts developed by the design team, such as putting bee hives and wildflowers on the property, could be done if it remained an 18-hole golf course.

Twenty-year South Minneapolis resident Dave Frolick observed that there are options for biking and activities at nearby parks, but there is no other place to golf but Hiawatha. He observed that his 18-year-old son, Jay, has been part of the First Tee program at Hiawatha Golf, and just recently had the opportunity to play at Pebble Beach.

"This area wants to be a wetland," observed Connaughty. He held up a concept for the property that he and a few others had worked on and showed it to the group gathered. "Can we use the dry spaces and existing topography and layout to create 9-holes?" Connaughty asked.



CAC members Roxanne Stuhr (left) and Sean Connaughty share their idea for the future of Hiawatha Golf Course, one that focuses on water being in the low areas. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

"I think we can design this to be self-sustaining in a way that doesn't need to be constantly managed and manipulated."

Landscape designer and CAC member Roxanne Stuhr remarked that the golf course shouldn't be the only place for water to go. "Our neighborhood is a sponge," she said. "Each of us has a house where we can absorb water." If it isn't absorbed there, it goes into city streets and down into waterways, where it causes flooding.

Community member Bobby Warfield pointed out that 14 billion gallons of water flow into Lake Hiawatha, and the park board is concerned about 292 million gallons that have been deemed excessive pumping at the golf course. He blamed the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and those upstream for not doing their job and causing problems downstream.

"It costs \$15,000 to pump. We're going to spend \$60 million

to make it into a monument to ourselves? That doesn't solve anything," Warfield said to applause from attendees.

"Our neighborhood is home to an expanding number of families who desire more opportunities than just golf," stated Matt Hilgart.

WILL MPRB SELL GOLF COURSE?

Some members of the public expressed concern during the meeting about MPRB selling the golf course property to private developers who might build homes on the land. According to Pederson, while MPRB can sell park land it is incredibly difficult.

"To sell property, we'd need to define the property as no longer needed for park purposes, then seek property disposal approval through the district court. During that district court hearing any party can step forward and dispute our disposal intentions as being unnecessary," Pederson said.

TOUGH TO HEAR

Throughout the meeting at Pearl Park, attendees expressed frustration that they couldn't hear what the CAC members were saying. They requested that CAC members stand up and face them, which most did after being asked. Some stepped off to the side to make it easier for audience members as well as fellow CAC members to hear.

Following the meeting, Pederson said that he intends to bring a microphone to remaining meetings when CAC members are speaking to the public or the public to the CAC members.

The conversation about what should be included in the master plan will be continued at a later meeting; a date has not yet been set. The CAC may have preferred concept by August 2019. If that happens, a public hearing is likely for October following a 45-day comment period.

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Traditional Worship - 10:30 am
Español - 1:30pm

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www.epworthmpls.org
Pastor Steven Reiser
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
(Childcare Provided)
(Wheelchair Accessible)
Upcoming Events:
Every Sunday through August 18 - ASL
Classes at 12 p.m.
Every Wednesday through August 7 - Weed
& Water Wednesday for kids 9:30 a.m.
July 10 - Beer & Bible @ Merlin's Rest 6:30
p.m.
August 12 - 16 - Vacation Bible School -
Register at <https://epworthmpls.org/vbs/>

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran
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www.minnehahacomunion.org
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www.saintalbertthegreat.org
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Saturday Mass: 5 pm
M,T, Th, F: Rosary at 8 am, Daily Mass
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Tuesday and Thursdays, Aerobics Class,
10:00 am, \$5

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of Minnehaha Falls

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Curious about water issues?

Curious about how Lake Hiawatha works within the larger Minnehaha Creek watershed?

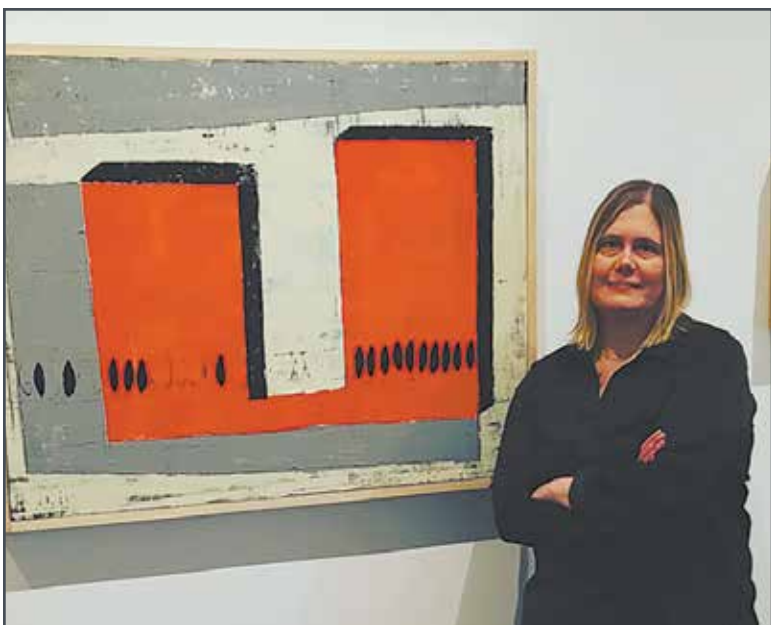
Go here for answers:

>> Minnehaha Creek Watershed District studies: <https://minnehahacreek.org/project>

>> 2017 Water Management Alternative Assessment for Hiawatha Golf Course: https://www.minneapolisiparks.org/_asset/hs0vds/July-2017-Executive-Summary-Hiawatha-Golf-Course-Assessment-Report.pdf

>> Hiawatha Golf Course Assessment Area Pumping of Groundwater & Stormwater Project page: https://www.minneapolisiparks.org/park_care_improvements/park_projects/current_projects/hiawatha_golf_course_improvements/

>> Nokomis-Hiawatha Regional Park Master Plan, https://www.minneapolisiparks.org/_asset/1dg1fv/nok_hia_masterplan.pdf



LoLa co-chair Lisa Anderson said, "I get excited for LoLa every year because it's fun to see what new and returning artists are up to. I am very excited that we are really promoting how easy it is to bike around the crawl." (Photo submitted)



LoLa volunteer Megan Moore coordinates the Winter Fine Arts Exhibition and the LoLa tent at Highland Fest.



LoLa co-chair Steve Clark is planning to show visitors ways to experience the crawl this September in bite-size segments according to their particular interests and transportation modes. (Photo submitted)

Look out! Here comes LoLa... to the Highland Fest?

- Highland Fest July 20-21
- Annual LoLa Art Crawl Sept. 21-22

By SHARON PARKER

The League of Longfellow Artists (LoLa), best known for their annual art crawl in the Longfellow neighborhood, Sept. 21-22 this year, is heading across the river to also participate in the Highland Fest art fair, July 20-21. That is, a dozen LoLa artists will be sharing a tent during the annual summer event. In addition to some of their own art for sale, these Longfellow artists will have "save the date" postcard reminders for visitors, and will answer questions about LoLa for the curious.

Fest organizers had contacted Megan Moore, painter and LoLa volunteer, and she recruited fellow LoLa artists and the art crawl steering committee to share the cost as an opportunity to promote LoLa to a wider audience, and to support neighbors in Highland by renting space in

their event. "I am excited to see LoLa artists collaborating together for an event hosted outside our organization," says Moore.

The shared tent at Highland Fest is one of several recent changes for LoLa, now in its 11th year.

Administration of the artist-led organization passed from co-founders Bob Schmitt and Anita White, through a transitional year in 2014, to 2015, when Dave Holliday, spouse of artist and educator Meg Erke, stepped in to keep the crawl going.

During Holliday's leadership, LoLa became a nonprofit, eliminating the need for a fiscal agent, a service that had been provided by the Longfellow Community Council. Additional changes during that time include a new format for the crawl's printed materials, from a large folded map to a half-letter-size brochure, an updated website by David Skarjune, and the Winter Fine Art Exhibition launched by Moore in 2018.

"I was happy to step into the LoLa leadership team in 2015 when it looked like the Crawl

wasn't going to happen that year," recalls Holliday, crediting other volunteers who helped make the crawl happen. "Dan Goddard, Megan Moore, Sally Lieberman, Lisa Anderson, Steve Clark, and Shirley Neilsen joined me. We made a few changes that year including tightening the LoLa boundaries (but grandfathering in LoLa artists outside those boundaries), and moving the crawl from August to the third weekend of September. Our team also ramped up fundraising efforts and rewarded our sponsors with a beautiful ad in the newly created LoLa Art Crawl brochure designed by Megan Moore." The brochure and other materials are now created by graphic designer Ann Wempner.

With a solid team of volunteers in place, Holliday decided it was time to pass the baton. "With some new professional obligations and a very active young family, I have decided to step off of the LoLa leadership team in 2019," he says.

The new co-chairs are painter Lisa Anderson, who is also treasurer, and neighborhood arts

enthusiast Steve Clark, who will coordinate several facets of organizing the crawl with the many artist volunteers.

"I walked parts of the Crawl in 2014 and fell in love with our neighbors' creative abundance," says Clark. "In 2015, I began to volunteer behind the scenes and have not stopped. Meeting artists has fostered a deep sense of gratitude for the riches they give to their community," he says.

Anderson and Clark are also enthusiastic bicyclists; in fact, Anderson's "day job" is in the bicycle industry. Their ideas for promoting this year's crawl include touting the bicycle friendliness of the Longfellow Neighborhood, as well as the multimodal ways the crawl can be enjoyed, including the ease of finding free on-street parking near clusters of sites on the crawl, then strolling from site to site.

"I get excited for LoLa every year because it's fun to see what new and returning artists are up to. I am very excited that we are really promoting how easy it is to bike around the crawl. Our neighborhood is a very

bike-friendly neighborhood – we need to shout that from our roof tops," says Anderson.

Clark is planning to show visitors ways to experience the crawl this September in bite-size segments according to their particular interests and transportation modes.

"The 2019 Crawl promises to reveal many of the paths and routes visiting crawlers take," he says. "You don't have to travel more than a few blocks before our signature yellow signs dot lawns and curbs, inviting you in to explore. Key to helping new and returning crawlers reach artists' doors, yards, studios, and hosting businesses, is showing them how easy it can be to bicycle, skip, skateboard, stroll, walk and drive to new and familiar sites. We look forward to making these options more clear and exciting than ever before."

The LoLa steering committee also includes photographer Sue Romain, secretary and member liaison; glass mosaic artist Chris Miller, sponsor recruitment and marketing; and this writer, working with Miller on marketing.

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Redhawks' state title hopes slip away but future remains bright

By MATTHEW DAVIS

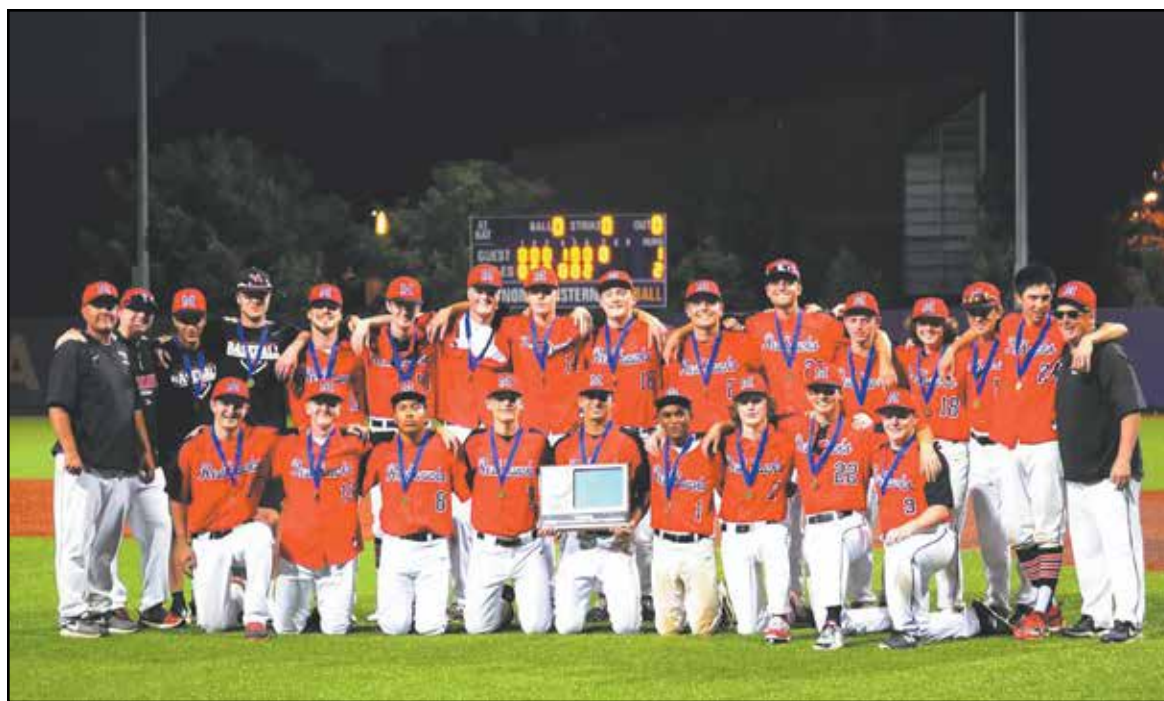
Minnehaha Academy had everything clicking in the Class 2A state baseball championship game June 20, 2019, before a late rally by Duluth Marshall to thwart the Redhawks' title hopes.

The Redhawks built a 2-0 lead on top-seeded Duluth Marshall and carried the lead into the sixth inning. Things still looked promising for the Redhawks with a 2-1 lead going into the final inning at Target Field in Minneapolis. The Hilltoppers had only six hits in the game at the point, and their star pitcher Ben Pederson was rapidly approaching a 100-pitch day.

"We played almost a perfect game," Scott Glenn said about the title game. "We had it set up exactly how we wanted it, and they just beat us. Not much we can say other than tip the hat to them."

Duluth Marshall scored three runs in the seventh inning en route to a 4-2 win over the Redhawks. It started with a double and a fielding error that placed a runner on third to start the inning. Redhawks starting pitcher Brock Brumley exited the game.

Bennett Theisen entered the game in relief of Brumley, but he couldn't stop the bleeding against the Hilltoppers soon enough. The Hilltoppers grabbed a 4-2 lead, and the Redhawks



The Redhawks played a nearly perfect Class 2A state baseball championship game on June 20, 2019, but ended up losing 4-2 to Duluth Marshall when they scored three runs in the seventh inning. (Photo submitted by Minnehaha Academy)

couldn't answer with their bats in a hitless bottom of the seventh.

It ended a promising run for the Redhawks (20-5), which sought its third state title in four years. The Redhawks won back-to-back titles in 2016 and 2017, which had many of this year's seniors on the roster. That included Brumley and Theisen, who pitched in the 2017 title game,

won 6-4 by the Redhawks over Pierz.

Glenn said it was a good bookend to their high school careers. Theisen will pitch at the University of Minnesota next year, and Brumley will pitch at Division I Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tenn.

Senior shortstop Noah Dehne, who started all four years

for the Redhawks, will play at North Dakota State University in Fargo, N.D. Dehne went 3-4 in the June 20 championship game.

Junior right fielder Jake McCabe drove in a run for the Redhawks, which scored Dehne in the third inning. Dehne drove in a run earlier in the inning when he got on base with a single.

Minnehaha Academy came into the game red-hot at the plate with a 9-1 win over St. Peter and a 12-5 win over LaCrescent-Hokah in the first two rounds of the tournament at St. Cloud June 13-14. The Redhawks had to face a MLB prospect in Pederson this time around with Duluth Marshall.

"We killed the ball," Glenn said about the first two rounds. "We hadn't done that all year. It gave us a good chance to get back to Target Field."

While Glenn and company didn't take home the first-place hardware, he hopes his players will keep things in perspective.

"To come so close, to end your career playing at Target Field, that's a good deal. I think most kids would take that," Glenn said.

Minnehaha Academy may not be done after this spring despite the graduation of 10 seniors from the team. Glenn believes the Redhawks can reload.

"It'll be different, but I don't think we're going to miss a beat next year when you look at the pitching we have coming back," Glenn said. "We're going to have two soon-to-be senior kids who are both very good pitchers. We need to replace some key starters and find some hitters."

"I think we should have a pretty good chance to get back at least to state," added Glenn.

Yes, Short Line Bridge could extend Greenway

Continued from front page

Jensen said, "It's important to remember that transit projects take time. This one would have a complicated funding structure pooling federal dollars, support from both Hennepin and Ramsey counties, the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, business and non-profit sponsors, and individual donors."

"What we hope to do is get the conversation started."

Looking ahead, if the Greenway were extended as far

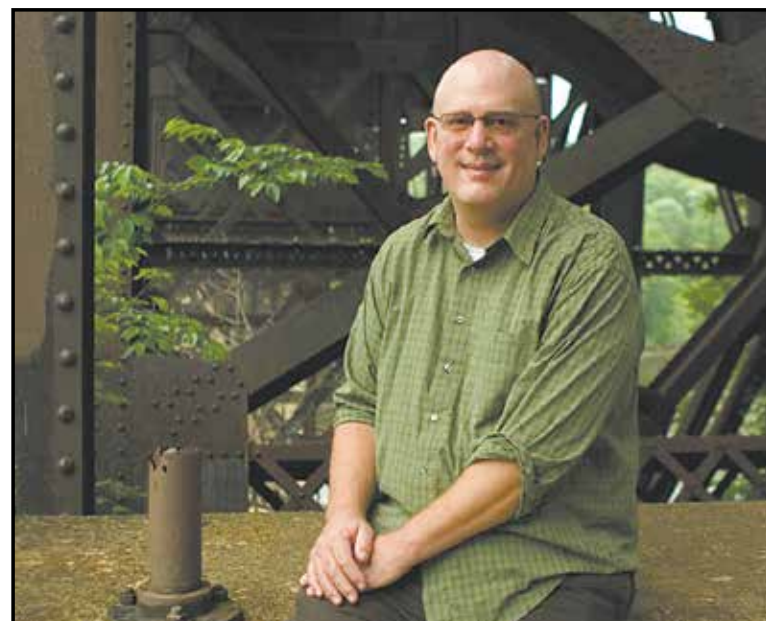
as Cleveland Ave. in St. Paul, there would be safer bike and pedestrian access to Alliance Field, the State Fair Grounds, the Green Line LRT and more.

The Extend the Greenway Partnership also supports the proposed Min Hi Line in South Minneapolis, which would connect the Midtown Greenway to Minnehaha Falls Park.

All Minneapolis and St. Paul non-profits, neighborhood groups, and businesses who share the vision of extending the Greenway are welcome to join the partnership. For more

information, contact Soren Jensen at soren@midtowngreenway.org.

Executive director Soren Jensen, at right, said, "In my eight years at the Midtown Greenway Coalition, the question I'm asked more than any other is, 'Why doesn't the Greenway extend into St. Paul?' We hope our bridge study helps start conversations with railroad and government officials about how to move this project forward." (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)



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'Don't close Minnehaha Parkway'

Continued from front page

MPRB staff heard from many people about areas where there are safety concerns between drivers, pedestrians and bikers, including the area of the parkway just west of Portland where some traffic diverts to 50th at an angled intersection.

In order to simply things and create more space for bikers and pedestrians, MPRB is proposing that a few sections of roadway near Portland and Lynnhurst Park, as well as Nicollet, be designated as one ways.

Minnehaha Parkway crosses 50th St. just west of Portland and connect back with it at Lynnhurst about 20 blocks later. "We are talking about a portion that touches the same street twice," said Arvidson. "There is enough redundancy in the city grid."

He observed that planners are focused on this question: "How do we think about the park as a whole?"

'People want to drive entire length of creek'

Several citizens pointed out that Minnehaha Parkway is part of the Ground Rounds system,

South Minneapolis residents say they want to continue to drive the entire length of the parkway in both directions, putting them at odds with a proposal to close a few sections and make others one-ways.



Attendees at a community meeting on June 13 check out proposals for the parkway. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

and talked about how much they enjoy using this route.

Kevin Kvale at 54th and Logan, drives for a living. "You look for sources of calm and the parkway is definitely one of the sources I use," he said. "I think it's a mistake to limit the access to it."

Susan Reinhardt, who lives at 53rd and Girard, remarked, "We use it to show off the city. There's an aspect of driving down the creek - it's iconic to living in Minneapolis."

Barbara Mahoney is 81 and uses the parkway each day to drive from East River Road to her

daughter's house in Hopkins. "I enjoy every minute," she said, lamenting the loss of viewing the fall foliage if this plan goes through.

"People want to drive the entire length of the creek," stressed Steve Thompson.

A number of people pointed out that due to their age and health, they are no longer able to bike or walk along the trails, and instead rely on driving.

In contrast, a younger woman said she's excited about the plan for a park in Nicollet Hollow, and believes it is a good

compromise. She pointed out that in her zip code only 11% of residents are over 65, and suggested that younger residents have childcare and other obligations that prevent them from attending an evening meeting to voice their support.

A teenage girl questioned whether it would be wise to restrict the number of cars in the area, and said she wouldn't feel safe biking or walking in Nicollet Hollow with this plan.

Provide input on the plan at www.surveymonkey.com/r/CreekPreferred.

Park planners check community pulse on creek project

New plan will provide a 20-30-year vision for Minnehaha Creek

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN
tesha@
longfellownokomisemessenger.com

Bike trails, pickleball courts, ADA-accessible launching pads, storywalks, and pollinator gardens are part of a 20-30-year vision for the park land along the five miles of Minnehaha Creek that cut across the southern part of Minneapolis.

The area has been broken down into four sections, and preferred concept plans for each segment have been released to the public and the 19 members of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC).

During a meeting at Nokomis Recreation Center on Thursday, June 13, 2019, MPRB Planner Adam Arvidson stated, "This project is not yet complete and this is not the last opportunity to have your voice be heard. Tonight we're trying to get the pulse of where we stand."

Planners did community engagement in the parks last summer, and held several community open houses during the winter in order to solicit ideas and feedback. These were then incorporated into these preferred concepts presented at the sixth CAC meeting, and additional ones are expected before a final draft is passed onto the park board for review and a public hearing.

The master plan will cover



Left to right, Lucia Luepker, age 12, Josie Bures, age 10, and Libby Bures, age 13, ask that the meadow near their houses be left undeveloped so they can continue to play there. "We live in our meadow," J. Bures said on behalf of the trio, adding that the loss of it would have a big impact on their childhood. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

the creek, trails, trees, roads, recreation amenities, and all else contained within park board land between the Edina border and Minnehaha Falls.

Arvidson pointed out that the MPRB, city of Minneapolis and Minnehaha Creek Watershed District have given feedback on the plans as they develop.

"We're trying to make sure that these three public agencies that you pay for are moving forward together," said Arvidson.

Safer crossings for peds, bikers

The majority of comments MPRB is receiving right now about the plan have to do with the park road that runs the length of the creek. (See related story starting on front page.)

Segment three, from east of Interstate 35W to Cedar, includes ways to make things safer for pe-

destrian and bikers. In fact, there are more crossings here than in any other segment of the plan.

Options to improve crossings include high visibility crosswalks with raised pedestrian pads, and a tunnel underneath Cedar Ave. Although the tunnel would be lower than the creek, planners are confident that they can design it in a way to keep it dry, as has been done elsewhere.

The majority of comments received during the planning process so far have revolved around the Portland/50th/Parkway area, and the plan would straighten intersections and place improvements at 50th, Portland and Park.

Planners are also trying to balance the needs to slower bicyclists with faster ones and will add additional trails in some areas.

Water and flooding issues

Planners have also been working to increase flood storage capacity in the creek and slow the water down to prevent damage. The areas identified for stormwater BMPs (best management practices) take into account the city's stormwater outfalls as well as existing problem areas, according to Arvidson.

In segment four, the creek right now is very straight, and the plan would add more curves to increase flood capacity and storage.

In response to a concern voiced at the meeting about the ducks and geese in the area, Arvidson pointed out that habitat will be better than it is now.

A few stormwater BMPs would also be added in this section, with a large one underground in what is now a large field of 34th that is often damp. The installation of the BMP means that the area would be drier than it is now, Arvidson said.

Another large one is planned for the field in the southwest intersection of Cedar and the Parkway which typically floods.

On behalf of the Nokomis Hiawatha Water Sustainability grassroots group, Joan Soholt talked about water issues in the neighborhood, and the number of people with water in their basements and broken pipes. "We are asking for more comprehensive studies," said Soholt, done by the University of Minnesota or United States Geological Survey.

"We feel like the park board is moving too fast with this," stated Soholt.

#1: Edina to Lynnhurst

>> This section of the creek would remain wild without paved trails as it is today.

>> An overlook on the Penn Ave. bridge would be added.

>> The existing Lynnhurst Recreation Center building would be torn down, and a larger structure built on the north side of 50th. It would focus on the local environment and creek.

>> The tributary that pours south from Lake Harriet would be "daylighted," and the pipe it currently flows would be removed so that it is accessible again.

>> A bridge would be built on 50th for traffic to cross this tributary, and bikers and pedestrians would cross underneath it.

#2: Lynnhurst to 35W

>> As requested by residents, the trails will stay in the gorge. A braided channel restoration approach may be used.

>> Trails under Lyndale Bridge will be widened.

>> The section of roadway under Nicollet Bridge will be closed and picnic area, restrooms, art, adventure play, parking lot, creek access and more added.

#3: 35W to Cedar

>> Two areas with single track bike trails of varying skill levels will be added near Bloomington. Two tennis courts will stay.

>> A redundant section of roadway south of the gas station at Cedar will be removed and a stormwater BMP added. South of the parkway where it typically floods, another stormwater BMP will be installed.

>> A tunnel will transport bikers and pedestrians safely under Cedar Ave.

>> Stormwater BMPs will be installed at several locations along with creek restoration and remediation.

>> The area around Portland and 50th will be realigned, and some sections made one-ways to discourage thorough traffic.

* Note: The section from Cedar to Lake Hiawatha is included within the Nokomis-Hiawatha Regional Park plan.

#4: Lake Hiawatha to Minnehaha Falls

>> A tunnel will provide safe crossing under 28th. (This will be built this summer when the 28th bridge is replaced.)

>> The tennis courts at 30th will become a pollinator garden, and those at 32nd fixed up. The courts at 34th will be converted in a bike skills park.

>> Underground flood storage with pollinator gardens and open space would be added on the east side of 34th.

>> Many parts of the creek between bridges will be remediated to slow down water and provide more capacity storage. Several BMPs will be installed.

>> An ADA takeout will be positioned before the falls.

>> The green space in the boulevard would have a storywalk with natural plantings and public art along a natural surface trail.



BUSINESS LEADERS

For the past 25 years, the Longfellow Business Association has been working to insure a vibrant business climate in the Greater Longfellow neighborhood. "We provide small business advocacy, referrals to grants and technical assistance, and networking and marketing through our monthly meetings. All are welcome - please join us!" encourages LBA staff member Kim Jakus. "We also partner with The Messenger on our Longfellow Business Directory, which is printed and distributed to over 8,000 households in the neighborhood." Learn more about the LBA or sign up for the weekly e-newsletter at www.longfellowbusinessassociation.org. Board members, left to right: Jon Peterson (River Lake Clinic), Kathy Nelson (writer), Dan Kennedy (Kennedy & Cain), James Freid (Big Bell Ice Cream and the Minnehaha Scoop), Denis Woulfe (Longfellow Nokomis Messenger), Kristi Adams (Waddell & Reed Financial Advisors) and Jill Spanitz-Marckel (Applied Energy Innovations). Not Pictured: Ann Mosey (Tapestry Folkdance), Michael Cain (Kennedy & Cain), Cheri Kay Getz (US Bank), Dan Swenson (Alexander's Import Auto Repair) and Kim Jakus (LBA staff). (Photo submitted)

Are you part of the vibrant business community in Longfellow?

ADVERTISE IN THE LBA DIRECTORY.

Call Denis today at 651-917-4183.

Classifieds & Service Directory

Messenger

Want ads must be received by the Messenger by July 15 for the July 25 issue. Call 651-917-4183 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*, 5139 34th Ave. S. #17097, Minneapolis, MN 55417; or e-mail denis@longfellownokomisemessenger.com. Want ads must be mailed to the *Messenger* before **July 15 for the July 25 issue**. Call 651-917-4183 for more information. All classified ads will also be automatically placed on the *Messenger's* website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

APARTMENT WANTED

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

CRISIS HOTLINE

Call the Minnesota Day One Crisis Hotline at 1-866-223-1111 if you or someone you know is seeking shelter due to a dangerous relationship or needs to create a safety plan. B-19

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SELF DEFENSE

Five Fingers of Self-Defence and Empowerment for women and girls (age 13+), Monday, July 15, 6-8pm, \$50. Student, senior rates, scholarships available. Five Element Martial Arts studio, Cedar and 38th. 612-729-7233, www.femamartialarts.org. B-19

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In Our Community

Messenger

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Celebrate 4th of July

Celebrate Independence Day at Minneapolis Parks. The Red White & Boom 5K TC Half Marathon, at Father Hennepin Bluff Park, 6:30 a.m. Tangle town 4th of July Celebration for all ages at Fuller Park, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. (9:30 a.m. parade assembly). Red, White and Boom! at the Downtown Minneapolis Riverfront, 6-10 p.m. Other upcoming events: Wednesday, July 10, Ice Cream Social and Movie in the Park at Hiawatha School Park, 7:30-9 p.m. (movie begins at dusk). Thursday, July 11, Morris & Keewaydin Summer Festival and Movie in the Park at Keewaydin Park, 6-8:30 p.m. (movie "Bumblebee" begins at dusk).

Roots and Kindship

Attend a community gathering to revitalize relationships with Mother Earth and each other on June 26, 6:30-8:30 p.m. outside Nokomis Recreation Center. (In case of rain, event will be held inside.) Wisdom Dances, directed by Emily Jarrett Hughes, share the collective joy of traditional songs and dances as tools for healing. Through dance they connect with their European roots and explore ways to live in right relationship in Minnesota. Respond to Lyla June's invitation to co-create "a story of how humanity fell in love with itself and our Mother Earth once again." Bring a blanket or your own chair. ASL Interpreted. Accessible seating available.

Elder Voices meets

Elder Voices will meet Friday, June 28 and Friday, July 26, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Elder Voices meets at Turtle Bread Company, 4205 34th St. at the corner of 42nd Ave. and 34th St. There will be time for people to tell or update their Elder Stories. There will be a report from the housing work group of the Minneapolis Regional Retirees Council (AFL-CIO).

Longfellow Garden Tour July 10

Longfellow Garden Club invites people to tour four beautiful gardens on Wednesday, July 10, 6:30 p.m. The tour is free and open to everyone. Pick up map between 5:45-6:30 p.m. on the big rock by Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S. Each garden on the tour is unique and highlights how to make the most of a small yard. One garden includes fallen logs and rocks sculptures that display unique patterns and textures. "The berms and hollows might just make you think you've fallen into wonderland. Find inspiration for your garden and enjoy a beautiful evening!" say planners.

Seward Summer Walks begin

Seward Summer Walks begin on Wednesday, July 10, 7 p.m. at Matthews Park. Come ready to

Little Brothers mural celebrates elders

The Minneapolis/St. Paul Chapter of Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly (LBFE) dedicating its newly installed exterior mural on Thursday, June 20 at its offices at 1845 E. Lake St. in Minneapolis. The three-part mural, which was funded by a Great Streets grant through the Lake Street Council, celebrates elders and the importance of friendship to offset isolation and loneliness as we get older.

The mural was created by local artist Elissa Cedarleaf Dahl and spans the 45-foot length of LBFE's brick building. At its highest point, the mural extends nearly 18 feet from the ground. It depicts three separate pairs of friends.

"The whole time I was designing this mural I was thinking of my relationship with my grandmother, the things we would do together, and the warmth I felt for her," said Dahl. "I tried to embody these feelings with the different friendship pairs, showing a closeness and a comfort."



Check out the new mural at 1845 E. Lake St. (Photo submitted)

Dahl painted the images of the pairs of friends, who are representative of LBFE's Visiting Companions program, on parachute cloth and adhered the cloth to the brick. To create the elements surrounding the elders, Dahl collaborated with LBFE's elder program participants.

"The elders who helped to create this mural chose objects and symbols that represent the friendships they found through LBFE," she explained.

"LBFE has a simple mission to connect caring volunteers with lonely older adults," said James Falvey, LBFE's Executive Director. "This mural shows the beauty of those friendships while depicting a positive image of aging. We hope it will inspire more people to join us and forge a new friendship with a wonderful older adult in our community."

share your oral histories. July 17 - meet at 2300-33rd Ave. to learn about the history of Birchwood Cafe. July 24 - Explore the lost commercial strip and heart of Seward's main business area; meet at 2715/2717 E. 25th St. July 31 - Meet outside the main entrance to Flour City Ornamental Iron, 2637 27th Ave. to learn about the theme of "Making changes thru protest, agitation, and conflict."

Seward Redesign celebrates 50 years

Seward Redesign will commemorate 50 years of community real estate and economic development in Seward and Longfellow with a community wealth building summit and celebration on Friday, Sept. 20, 2019. The Summit will feature an afternoon keynote

address by Chicago-based Pete Saunders, with a series of panels, workshops and tours earlier in the day. More at <https://redesigninc.org/>.

Free games, treats

Minnehaha Senior Living, an assisted living facility along with Providence Place Care Center, will host a community event for National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 6, 4-7 p.m. at 3733 23rd Ave. S. There will be free games, music, free frozen treats, and drawings for Twins prizes.

Epworth kids events

Epworth UMC (3207 37th Ave. S., Minneapolis) will host Weed & Water every Wednesday through Aug. 7, 9:30 - 11 a.m. for kids 0 to 8 and their caring adult.

Each free session will include a story, craft, games and a snack. Vacation Bible School is set for Aug. 12-16, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., for children ages 5-11. Don't miss this action-packed week, where kids will explore the entire faith story, from the Garden of Eden to the New Jerusalem. Learn more about God's creation through stories, crafts, games, science and music. Each day will also include lunch. Information at <https://epworthmpls.org/vbs/>.

ASL, beer and Bible

Epworth UMC hosts Beer & Bible on Wednesday, July 10, 6:30-8 p.m. at Merlin's Rest for those new to the Bible, new to beer, or well-versed in both. Enjoy great discussion and fellowship —beer is optional. Free American Sign

Continued on page 11



Bossen Renters Party

All are welcome!

July 13, 12-3 pm

33rd Ave and 58th Street



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NENA upcoming meetings and events:

7/13/18: Bossen Renters Party, 33rd Ave and 58th St, noon.
7/3/18: NENA Housing, Commercial, and Streetscape Committee, NENA Office, 6:30 p.m.
7/09/18: NEBA Board Meeting, McDonald's Liquor Event Space, 6:30 p.m.
7/10/18: NENA Green Initiatives Committee, NENA Office, 6:30 p.m.

NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)
4313 E. 54th Street

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In Our Community

Continued from page 10

Language classes are offered every Sunday through Aug. 18, 12-2 p.m., Epworth UMC (3207 37th Ave S, Minneapolis.) taught by Epworth member Shirley. Email epworthechoes@gmail.com.

Transition picnic

Join Transition Longfellow for a potluck picnic get together in Longfellow Park (34th St. and 36th Ave. S.) on Saturday, June 29 from noon-2 p.m. All are welcome to attend, whether or not you live in the neighborhood or have attended other Transition Longfellow events. Play various lawn games such as Frisbee, soccer, ladder golf, Bocce ball and lawn Yahtzee. Plus there's a wading pool and playground at the park.

Puppet Festival

Puppeteers from near and far will attend the National Puppetry Festival July 16-21 in Minnesota. Most performances and activities take place at the University of Minnesota's Rarig Center, 330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. The free Puppets + Community Day takes place on the West Bank Plaza. Tickets (\$15 individual or \$20 for adult/child pair) are available at <https://www.puppeteers.org/national-puppetry-festival-2019/public-performances/>. The Wednesday, July 17, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. show, Cellula, features Z Puppets Rosenschnoz (4054 Chicago Ave. S.).

Rising artist show

Minneapolis artists Nana Aforo and Angela Divine Knox are exhibiting work at Urban Forage Winery and Cider House at 3016 E. Lake St. through Labor Day.

Art Show highlights top four companies identified in Lake Hiawatha trash

"Anthropocenic Midden Survey - Lake Hiawatha Trash Survey 2019" is a public art installation that focuses on the top four corporations found in the trash at Lake Hiawatha.

The outdoor display will be up for the whole summer and the indoor display ends July 14. View it at MCAD (2501 Stevens Ave.) in the sculpture garden located on 26th St.

On April 20, 2019, 104 volunteers removed 350 pounds of trash from the circumference of Lake Hiawatha in 2.5 hours, including 18,897 items. All of the items were sorted and cataloged. The brand names and parent corporation of each visible brand were recorded. The top four corporations from all the categories have the distinction of being represented in this public sculptural installation. They are 1. Pepsico 2. Coca Cola 3. McDonalds and 4.

Mars Corporation. A comprehensive trash survey was also created and accompanies the exhibit.

SENA resident Sean Connaughty is a Minneapolis-based artist and teacher who has been working on addressing severe pollution problems at Lake Hiawatha, his neighborhood lake, for the past five years. Working with his community he has removed 6,000 lbs. of mostly styrofoam and plastic trash since 2015. Lake Hiawatha is home to diverse wildlife and is a key migratory stop for birds and is a tributary to the Mississippi River via Minnehaha Creek. Despite these cleanup efforts the Lake remains littered with trash with more arriving at every rainfall.

"As I see it there are three groups that bear responsibility for the trash in Lake Hiawatha. They are the producer, municipality and consumer. All three will need



View art exhibit showing trash from the top four corporation that has been found in Lake Hiawatha. The exhibit will be up all summer at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. (Photo submitted)

to change their practices if we are to successfully address the pollution of Lake Hiawatha and the degradation of our water and critical habitat. The municipality in this case is the city of Minneapolis government and the Minneapolis

Park and Recreation Board," said Connaughty. "They created and manage the public infrastructures that deliver polluted stormwater to our shared water resource."

The complete trash survey data: <https://tinyurl.com/>

The exhibition is a combination of Knox's photo montages made from a combination of film and digital images to create what she calls "photographic cubism," and Aforo's expressive and colorful paintings which fill the room with energy and emotion. "Minneapolis does a great job of showcasing local music, but I think we could do a better job of showcasing local visual artists," said Urban Forage co-owner Jeff Zeitler. "There's a lot of talent here and we hope to do a better job of getting it out in front of the community here in South Minneapolis."

Hook & Ladder shows

New Orleans' favorite sons, The Iguanas, bring the diverse sounds of their hometown's fusion of Blues, Latin, Zydeco, Cajun, Tex-

Mex and Roots Rock to the Hook & Ladder on Wednesday, July 10, 8 p.m.

The Hook & Ladder is proud to welcome Metal Threat's, an Utter Death Metal Caravan: The Chasm with Cruciamentum(UK) - English Death Metal from the United Kingdom, Infernal Conjuraton (MX) Death Metal from Tijuana, Mexico, and Coffinrot (MN) Death Metal from Minnesota for a musically deadly evening, not to be missed on Monday, July 8, 8 p.m.

Minnesota-based singer-songwriter, Joe Carey has been making rock and roll noise for over three decades - often splitting his time between bands and his solo work. His impact on the Twin Cities rock and indie-alternative music scenes is immeasurable. Catch his show with special guests, Martin Devaney, Jessi-

ca Carey and Scottie Devlin on Thursday, July 18.

Hear Kevin Gordon with special guest, James Loney, on Friday, July 19, 8:30 p.m. Gordon's songs have been recorded by Keith Richards, Irma Thomas, Levon Helm, Hard Working Americans, and others.

Seth Walker with special guest, Scottie Miller, will perform on Friday, Aug. 2, 8:30 p.m. Seth Walker has become widely recognized as one of the most revered modern roots artists in the country. With a respect traditional styles, coupled with an appreciation of contemporary songwriting, Seth incorporates a range of artistry with warmth and grace.

Paul Cebal Tomorrow Sound whos is set for Friday, Aug. 9, 8:30 p.m., at The Hook & Ladder in Minneapolis. Paul Cebal Tomorrow Sound brings forth a

funky, lyrically charged, musically explosive, rhythmic groove. Taking cues from the dance bands of western Louisiana—and his native Midwest—the streets (and 45's) of New Orleans, and the touring African and Caribbean Soul, Funk & Blues combos of his youth, bandleader Paul Cebal, arranges a masterful synthesis of rhythmic fusion.

Submit your news

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



You never know what kind of fun to expect during Open Streets. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

Open Streets July 21

Explore Lake + Minnehaha during the Open Streets event on Sunday, July 21, 2019, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The route includes E. Lake St. from Elliot Ave. to Minnehaha Ave.; and Minnehaha Ave. from Lake St. to E. Minnehaha Parkway/Godfrey Parkway.

Open Streets Minneapolis is a free event series that opens city streets to folks biking, walking, and rolling. These events are hosted by Our Streets Minneapolis, a local nonprofit organization, in partnership with the city

of Minneapolis.

At each Open Streets Minneapolis event, local businesses, artists, community groups, and institutions come out into the street to play.

Open Streets Minneapolis gets folks out of their cars so neighbors can explore their communities in a whole new way.

Open Streets Minneapolis invites people to be curious about their city as they discover local businesses, use active transportation, view live performances, create art, and make connections with those around them.

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School's out but Dowling Elementary is still buzzing

Students, community members learn about beekeeping from Pollinate Minnesota

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

The students at Dowling Elementary School are done for the year, but 60,000 or so honeybees in their school yard apiary are gearing up for a busy summer.

Through a partnership with the non-profit organization Pollinate Minnesota, Dowling received two bee boxes last year – each houses one queen honeybee, enough males to ensure reproduction, and tens of thousands of hard working female worker bees. The bee boxes were placed on school property adjacent to the Dowling Community Gardens: home to 200+ community garden plots, which offer up a smorgasbord of flowering plants for the bees to feed on.

The hives have provided a living, outdoor classroom for students from the K-5 environmental magnet school since their arrival late last summer. Environmental education specialist Tracy Young and ELL teacher Jeff Johnson started thinking about having an apiary at their school a couple of years ago. They reached out to Erin Rupp, founder of Pollinate Minnesota, and were able to bring their idea to fruition.

Pollinate Minnesota is an education and advocacy organization working toward a better co-existence of pollinators and people. They offer safe, immersive experiences with honeybees for learners of all ages. As an educational organization, they teach over 100 programs a year, mostly



Tracy Young, Dowling Elementary School environmental education teacher, visits the school apiary. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

to K-12 youth, and partner with organizations like Dowling to install and maintain their apiaries.

Tracy Young explained, "Our students have been able to interact with bees in many different ways. With the younger children, we use a combination of stories, puppets, and play activities to help them understand the different jobs that bees do – both in and around the hive. Some of our best experiences have been

just sitting and watching the bees go about their business. The K-2 students are invited to approach the fenced-in apiary, but don't go inside the 6' tall, chain-link enclosure. Starting in third grade, students get to work with the bees up-close, wearing bee suits and other protective clothing."

She continued, "Honeybees aren't aggressive, but that doesn't mean people aren't afraid of them. There were a few chil-



A pair of Tracy Young's anatomically correct bee puppets helped students understand how pollen is collected from flowers like these irises. (Photo submitted)

dren who were scared in the beginning, but once they learned about the honeybees and how they worked together – their fear went away."

One of Young's most successful teaching tools this year was a series of bee puppets she made with cardboard and donated chop sticks. The younger students took the puppets outside and "collected" pollen from apple trees while they were

blooming. They learned about bee anatomy, bee behavior, how flowers are pollinated, and why it matters.

Pollinate Minnesota will be hosting a community bee-keeping class at the Dowling Apiary later this summer. Look for updates at www.pollinatemn.org in the next few weeks. For more information on forming a pollinator partnership, contact Erin Rupp at erin@pollinatemn.org.



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