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Longfellow  
Nokomis

# Messenger



Your community newspaper since 1982

July 2013 • Vol. 29 No. 5

www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

21,000 Circulation

## Art in all directions

Utility boxes on East Lake St. feature 20 Longfellow artists

By TESH M. CHRISTENSON

Longfellow is home to some amazing artists. And now more people know about them thanks to an art installation along East Lake Street that features 20 artists.

Earlier this year, 10 utility boxes along East Lake Street and five on the Midtown Greenway were covered with artwork. The 10 boxes on East Lake Street are under the "I'm A LoLa Artist" theme, which is a series of public art installations the Longfellow Community Council (LCC) and the League of Longfellow Artists (LoLa) have coordinated throughout the neighborhood.

In 2012, a series of 56 posters were placed in storefronts along East Lake Street that included an image of a LoLa artist, an image of their art, and a quote from them as to why they do what they do. This idea was replicated on the utility boxes.

"I believe there are double benefits to the art on utility boxes: it takes what can be an eyesore and makes it visually interesting," said Longfellow artist Bob Schmitt of Laughing Waters Studio. "But also it is featuring



Jeff Weispfenning's painting sits kitty corner from the Dairy Queen along E. Lake St. He is one of 20 Longfellow artists whose artwork is now featured on utility boxes. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

not just the work of artists, but the work of artists who live/work in this particular Minneapolis neighborhood."

"The primary goal of the

project is to prevent and reduce graffiti," said Spencer Agnew of the Longfellow Community Council (LCC). "Utility boxes in their natural state are a blank canvas for graffiti and are frequently tagged. Other neighborhoods, like Kingfield, have had success preventing graffiti by installing public art. LCC has taken a similar approach in the past through mural projects at neighborhood commercial buildings, but this is our first utility box art project."

Schmitt was responsible for selecting which artists were featured on the utility boxes. With an eye to whose work would look good enlarged to that scale, Schmitt also factored in compatibility with another work and coolness of their quotes.

His own work is featured at Lake and W. River Parkway. Schmitt is a landscape painter, art teacher, designer, gardener, with a passion for children and their families.

"I paint the landscapes I love (Lake Superior, Minnehaha Falls) but in the traditions of Chinese brush painting. I hope to convey hope and peace in my work," said Schmitt.

Before pursuing art full-time by opening Laughing Waters Studio, he owned a graphic design business for 25 years. See more at <http://www.laughingwatersstudio.com>.

"The whole experience of LoLa has been this uncovering of an incredible group of artists residing in this little corner of the city," observed Schmitt. "In the past, Lowertown, NE Mpls, Se-



Passersby at Lake and W. River Parkway enjoy the bright mosaic design of Lisa Arnold, which has transformed the blank utility box sitting at the corner. It is part of a project that features Longfellow artists. Information on Arnold is on one side of the utility box. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

ward were known to be hotbeds of artistic talent and showcased in their art crawls. Who knew that this quiet little corner of Minneapolis contained so many and such a variety of art and artists?"

He added, "Another richness of LoLa, and by extension this great streets project, is that it represents people who are professional artists and making their living that way, to people who are just creating for the love of creating, to inexperienced or young artists who are just beginning to show their work."

The utility box project was funded by a grant from the city of Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling Division through the "Innovative Graffiti Prevention" program.

### ABOUT LOLA

The League of Longfellow Artists is dedicated to bringing to light the treasures of artistic expression created by artists living or working in the Greater Longfel-

low neighborhood of south Minneapolis (the geographic area defined as east of Cedar Avenue to the Mississippi River, and south of 28th Street to the Crosstown).

Having begun in the summer of 2009 as a small grassroots effort initiated by artists Anita White and Bob Schmitt (and creatively named by neighborhood activist Shirley Nielson), LoLa now flourishes as an annual art crawl that is managed as an artist-run community.

During its first year, 42 artists were featured at 20 different sites. Last year, it had grown to 69 sites and 115 artists. This year, expect 150 artists at 80 sites.

LoLa is committed to raising the visibility of local artists in the Longfellow neighborhood and to building a true sense of community for these artists.

Throughout the year a variety of informal gatherings are offered to support neighborhood artists around topics, types of work, use of electronic media and more. Learn more at [lolaart-crawl.com](http://lolaart-crawl.com).

## It takes a village...and maybe a Viking...to build a playground



More than 200 volunteers joined forces on Thursday, May 30, to build a new playground at the Howe Campus of Hiawatha Community School. The new playground's design is based on drawings created by children who participated in a Design Day event in March. Build Day was hosted by Minneapolis Public Schools, Hiawatha Parent Teacher Organization, Minneapolis Building and Construction Trades Council, The Toro Company, the Minnesota Vikings and organizers from KaBOOM!. Above, Viking running back Adrian Peterson signs autographs for a throng of students and other onlookers on the Howe Build Day.

## If you aren't a Messenger Facebook friend, you might have missed this last month:



- Presentation by master gardener Theresa Rooney
- Pictures from the South Chicago Car Show
- the Longfellow Community Council Fourth Annual Community Warming
- Neighborhood Fun Day at Trinity of Minnehaha Falls
- African Nights 2013 at Patrick's Cabaret
- Sound Unseen premieres "Greetings From Tim Buckley"
- Meeting of the Longfellow Faith Forum
- What was selling at the Midtown Farmers Market
- Breaking news that the Minnehaha reconstruction project has been delayed
- LBA hosts its 8th Annual Legislative Update
- Garden Club meets to talk about succulents
- Becketwood LoLa Art Fair
- Volunteers sought for the River Gorge Committee
- Minnehaha Academy's Girls and Boys Track and Field have great showing at state meets
- Svenskarnas Dag
- Healthy Seniors meet to discuss "vulnerable seniors"
- Kick-off of the Summer Reading Program at Nokomis Library with Banana-Wocky
- program on how Climate Change is impacting our gardens
- Special care package gathering at Todd Park for US soldiers in Afghanistan
- Scandinavian Quartet perform at Bethany
- 6th Annual Fruit Bowl
- Nokomis East Neighborhood Garage Sale
- volunteers place finishing touches on Howe School playground
- Epworh hosts a Street Dance
- Greenway Glow festival
- Presentation by master gardener

# Colvin Roy stepping down as 12th Ward Council Member



Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy

By IRIC NATHANSON

Sandy Colvin Roy is stepping down as the 12 Ward's Council Member when her current term ends in December. In a surprise announcement on June 17, Colvin Roy said that she would not run for re-election this fall.

The four-term incumbent posted a statement on her Facebook page saying that, after consulting with her family, she decided that the time had come

for her to step aside.

"Being elected to represent the people of the 12th Ward has been a privilege and honor that I will always treasure," Colvin Roy said. "But it is a hard job and takes a tremendous toll on daily life. I look forward to gardening again; to being home for dinner at a regular time; to walking into the grocery store or a restaurant without being stopped about an issue. Not that I minded any discussion

with a resident, but it does take its toll. Most of all, I look forward to not having my motives and intent attacked whenever I make a decision."

The Longfellow/Nokomis city hall representative decided to bring her political career to a close following her loss of the DFL endorsement in a hard-fought battle with Andrew Johnson at the 12th Ward DFL convention earlier this year.

Colvin Roy's withdrawal

from the 12th Ward race boosts Johnson's chances to succeed her. But with an open council seat, other candidates may be drawn into the race when filings for the November election open in July. Now that the 9th Ward's Gary Schiff has vacated his council seat and ended his mayoral bid, Longfellow will be represented by two political newcomers when the new City Council convenes in January.

## South Minneapolis hard hit from battery of storms over the weekend



Residents in one Nokomis neighborhood looked to be enjoying a summer day like any other. On backyard patios they were grilling out, chatting across fences, sharing cheerful exchanges. But out of power for the fourth day, they were making do: grilling anything from defrosted meats to limp frozen pizzas that didn't make the journey to another ice box, and taking advantage of a cool breeze and the light of day. While neighbors -- some across the street -- moved indoors at dusk to lights glowing and televisions flickering, those still without power lifted lanterns and flashlights and limped indoors to quiet, stagnant darkness. On Saturday, the Nokomis Library was abuzz with people looking for a place to power up or just to read in air conditioned relief. Areas throughout Minneapolis were ravaged by high winds the evening of June 21st, ripping branches tearing down power lines, and yanking trees up out of the ground. Sidewalks, rooftops and cars were crushed. Xcel Energy reported half a million customers impacted by power outages, many in the storms that ripped through earlier that morning. On June 23rd their recorded message said it could be several more days before all service was restored. (Photos by Jill Boogren)

## Messenger

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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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By JAN WILLMS

Most of us can recall the warnings of our parents during our childhood years: Don't play in the street!

But for a few days this summer, those words can be forgotten. Open Street Minneapolis events began on Lyndale Ave. S. on June 23, and will continue on Central Ave. July 28, Minnehaha Ave. Aug. 11 and on North Lowry as part of Harvest Fest Sept. 21.

"The main point is to experience major streets in Minneapolis in a new way, safe and car-free," said Colin Harris, a volunteer for the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition that hosts and organizes the Open Streets, partnering with the City of Minneapolis. Community Design Group is also working with Open Streets.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association and Partnership for a Healthier America, Hennepin County Medical Center, The Current, Zeus Jones, Pizza Luce and Calhoun Cycle are sponsors for this year's events.

This is the third year Open Streets has been held in Minneapolis. Harris said his job is to figure out how to make it happen.

"I started thinking about it in 2009," he noted, "and how to make it a reality. It took 20 months before it became a reality."

Harris said the idea of Open Streets, which creates a car-free environment so people can play and be physically active, began 40 years ago in Bogota, Columbia.

"They have it every Sunday in Bogota and call it Ciclovía, which means bike path in Spanish," Harris said. "The event connects 80 miles of streets in Bogota."

Cities in the United States use various names, such as Sunday Streets or Streets Alive for their car-free play days.

This will be the first year that Minnehaha Ave. is participating. People can walk from Lake Street to Minnehaha Park. Harris said it

# 'Open Streets' campaign reintroduces city streets to Minneapolis dwellers



The idea of Open Streets, which creates a car-free environment so people can play and be physically active, began 40 years ago in Bogota, Columbia. This is the third year Open Streets has been held in Minneapolis and the first time for Minnehaha Avenue. (Photo courtesy of Colin Harris)

gives individuals the chance to experience that street and realize how easy it is to walk two miles.

"We'll have basketball and four square and playground equipment at every event," Harris added.

Although the Lyndale event kicks off with a bike race sponsored by a local bike shop, Harris said Open Streets is not so much about racing, registration and starting and ending an activity.

"It is more spontaneous and about free form," he explained. "Everyone of every age is welcome to participate." He said some people may join in with wheelchairs.

"One of the goals is to promote local businesses along the streets, as thousands of people walk by," Harris continued. He

said participants may notice a business they had not seen before, and make a plan to return and patronize that business.

"It's creating a better economic vitality," Harris said. Restaurants will provide food, but on Minnehaha some food trucks may



This will be the first year of Open Streets where Minnehaha Avenue will be participating. Participants can walk or bike from Lake Street to Minnehaha Park. (Photo courtesy of Colin Harris)

come in, since the street is 2.5 miles long. Music will also be part of the day.

"A lot of businesses are doing special activities in Minnehaha," Harris said. "The Rail Station Grill is having an anniversary special; Harriet Brewing is having activities in its parking lot and the HUB is doing bike demos. Nice Ride, the bike rental program, will be at all four events."

Partnership for a Healthier America, one of the sponsors, works with the private sector and its Honorary Chair Michelle Obama to create Play Streets, which gives neighborhood residents an opportunity to use their streets as paces where they can be physically active and take pride in their community.

"We're showing that streets can be used for different purposes and working towards reducing obesity," Harris said.

He said his organization has worked with Longfellow Community Council and Longfellow Business Association, and also local churches.

"The biggest challenge is that there are a lot of stakeholders involved," Harris said. "We have to close the street to cars and work with the Police Department, Public Works and Metro Transit. A licensing coordinator in Minneapolis helps coordinate everything with the neighborhoods and the business community."

He said one of the biggest benefits of Open Streets is the participation of the neighborhoods.

"I love hearing stories about how people biked for the first time on a particular street, or parents telling me their child learned to ride his or her bike during Open Streets."

"And once businesses experience this, they really enjoy the opportunity to engage with the neighborhoods."

For more details on each event, go to [www.openstreetsmpls.com](http://www.openstreetsmpls.com)

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# Viewpoints

Messenger

For more information on submitting letters or news announcements to the Messenger call Denis Woulfe at 651-645-7045.

Several requests to pass on Public Service Announcements have come across the NENA City Desk recently, so here they are, followed by block leader information, and opportunities to get involved in the Minneapolis Monarch Festival.

## NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

BY RITA ULRICH AND DOUG WALTER

### PSAs, NNO and MMF

#### Guided Tours of our Local National Park

"Bike With a Ranger" is a family-friendly, fun way to explore the Mississippi River on a guided bike tour with a park ranger from the Mississippi National River & Recreation Area, a national park in the Twin Cities.

Rides are offered most Saturdays, June through September. Three different routes range from 8-13 miles each, and depart from Fort Snelling or Matthews Park in Minneapolis, and Harriet Island in St. Paul.

Rides are \$8 for adults; kids under 10 ride free. Registration is required. Visit [www.missriverfund.org/bike](http://www.missriverfund.org/bike) for trip dates, details, and to register online. Additional information is available at <http://www.nps.gov/miss/planyourvisit/events.htm> Scroll down to "Bike with a Ranger-Summer 2013."

#### Register your bicycle with police

Every year, thousands of bikes are lost or stolen in Minneapolis and many of them are actually recovered. However, because of a lack of proper identification, only a small percentage are ever returned to their owners.

To increase the chances that your stolen bike will be returned, you can register your bicycle with the Minneapolis Police Department. You can register online, call 311, or use 311's phone app.

To register bike, you will need to include your bike's serial number, a description—make and model—and your contact information.

Visit the Police Department's website at [www.minneapolismn.gov/police/about/evidence/police\\_about\\_bicycles](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/police/about/evidence/police_about_bicycles) for more information about bicycle theft prevention.

And speaking of serial numbers, it's a very good idea to record the serial numbers of all electronics and other valuables you have. The same principle applies: it greatly increases the chances that you will get your items back if they are recovered (it also makes it easier to prosecute when property can be positively identified as stolen).

#### Having a Block Party on August 6?

If you don't know, maybe it's because your block doesn't

have a block leader to organize it. If that's the case, maybe you could be the block leader, or a co-leader together with a neighbor. It's easy to get started—just attend an hour and a half training session, and you'll get the tips and resources you need to lead the way in making your block safer.

The next block leader training at the Third Precinct (Minnehaha Ave and Lake St) is Tuesday, July 9, 6:30-8:00 pm. Pre-registration is very much appreciated—call 612-673-2839.

Training gives you tips on recruiting neighbors to help you (for example, plan your National Night Out Party), to identify and resolve issues on your block, your responsibilities as a block leader, and how having a block club helps reduce crime.

On a side note, we are happy to make copies for block leaders at the NENA office.



Hard working volunteers had fun greeting guests and checking-in volunteers at last year's Minneapolis Monarch Festival.

#### Get Involved with MMF!

You probably already know that the Minneapolis Monarch Festival (MMF) offers quality activities that highlight the Minnesota-Mexico connection created by the Monarch Migration. It features music, dance, visual arts, education, and games to inspire appreciation of monarchs, habitat conser-

vation, and preservation of the Monarch Migration.

The number of monarchs has steadily decreased over the last decade, and this past winter a 59% decrease in the number of monarchs reaching Mexico from the previous winter illustrates the urgency of creating habitat that will allow monarch numbers to recover. The migration—

one of the world's greatest is very much at risk.

Here's how you can help monarchs and the Festival: We are looking for people who will raise monarchs to be released at the Festival. We will provide training and supplies. The release is done in the Nokomis Naturescape Gardens after Festival participants learn about the monarch life cycle and habitat needs.

There are other ways to help before and during the Festival. We need people who are willing to serve on working groups that will produce certain aspects of the festival: the Kids Fun Run, the Monarch Migration Game, and the Information Booth, for example. We want your ideas and a willingness to spend some time between now and September 7 planning and preparing your project. We especially need people who can lead teams of volunteers. If you have any interest in leadership, forget about workshops or classes. You can learn by doing it, and we will help.

All of these things contribute to making the Festival run smoothly and be an enjoyable and educational experience for everyone. Plus, having a network of people who know how to plan and manage different parts of the event makes it more sustainable. If you are interested or would like more information, contact the NENA office: 612-724-5652 or [nenan@nokomisest.org](mailto:nenan@nokomisest.org)

The Minneapolis Monarch Festival is produced by NENA and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, with educational and technical support for the University of Minnesota's Monarchs in the Classroom program.

#### Upcoming NENA Meetings and Events

**Livability Working Group:** 6:30 PM, Monday, July 8, at NENA, 3000 East 50th St.

**NENA Board:** 7 PM, Thursday, July 25 at NENA.

**Raising Monarchs:** Date/location to be determined. Call NENA for more info: 612-724-5652.

**Monarch Festival Working Group Meetings:** Dates to be determined, starting in July.

## Letters to the Editor

#### Minneapolis Schools volunteer responds to story on suspensions at South High School

I read your article about race and suspensions. I have been a volunteer in MPS since the early 80's. I am not saying there is no racism involved. But in most cases I say no.

Here is what I have seen in some schools. When a teacher spends more time trying to keep order in the classroom than he or she does teaching, then the kids who want to learn are cheated.

I have talked to some of these parents who are at the

School Board Meetings to complain about these suspensions. After the meetings I ask them one question. If you are so sure about racism going on in the classroom, why don't you ask to have a camera put up in the classroom. The first thing out of their mouth is: "That would be invasion of privacy." To which I say: "Oh really, or are you afraid of what you might see."

One statistic I would like to see is of the parents claiming racism, or fault of the teacher and or school. How many of those parents attended their Parent/Teacher Conferences? Find out if there is a behavior problem be-

fore it leads to a suspension. Your employer must give you time off for this.

The other thing I hear from some parents that bothers me is: "Teachers need to be held accountable." Well that is true. But when will someone have the guts to say parents need to be held accountable as well. Accountable to help their kids get the best education they can for their future. And there is a lot more to the education of a child that just getting them to the school door.

Gary Riesenber

## Presentation on homelessness at Longfellow Faith Forum

The June meeting of the Longfellow Faith Forum (LFF) included 10 people from various faith communities. A huge thank you goes out to Bethany Lutheran ELCA for hosting and to Karen Boberg with help from Pastor Jo for providing a delicious lunch.

Our guest speaker, Monica Nilsson, Director of Community Engagement, St. Stephen's Human Services, shined a light on a topic that evokes an array of thoughts and feelings -- homelessness. And not just homelessness "out there",

but homelessness right here in our own community. Each night in Hennepin County, primarily downtown and near north and south Minneapolis 4,000+ people do not have stable housing of their own. This isn't just the men on the street corners holding signs asking for money. This is young people, men, women, children, entire families who experience homelessness on a daily basis.

Nilsson challenged the general misconceptions of homelessness being a male issue or a minority issue or a per-

sonal choice. Men without stable housing account for 30% of the homeless population. We were asked, "Would it surprise you to learn that 50% of the homeless population are children? Are they choosing to be homeless?" And it was quite disturbing to learn that Seniors are one of the main sub-populations showing the greatest increase in homelessness, as well as unaccompanied youth (ages 16-21).

Continued on page 5

# Neighborhood celebrates reopening of Roosevelt Library

*Community room, bathrooms added*

By **TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN**

Roosevelt Library has reopened after a \$3.2 million renovation that stretched over 15 months.

During a ribbon-cutting event on Saturday, June 1, Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin said, "We have a lot to celebrate today."

"You are going to love it when you get inside," Minneapolis Council Member Sandra Colvin Roy promised the crowd gathered in front.

Highlights of the project include two new bathrooms on the main level, and the addition of a 500-square-foot multi-purpose room onto the rear of the facility.

This community room was the wish of local residents who wanted a space for adults to meet or children's reading hour to happen without disturbing others

using the library, noted Colvin Roy. A few parking spaces were removed from the back in order to fit the addition.

Another resident suggested that the front yard be used better. There are now outdoor spaces for reading and gathering, including two benches in the shade of an old tree on the north side and a bench and small patio on the south side.

"You don't always see the comments of the community in the final project, but in this one you do," Colvin Roy observed.

Colvin Roy served on the committee that picked new art for the building. One percent of the total construction budget was spent on art, she pointed out. Artist Sheryl Tuorila of Brooklyn Park is currently in the process of creating several mosaic tile pieces for the renovated building. They



Dignitaries (including Library Board President Jill Joseph, Minneapolis Council Member Sandra Colvin Roy, and Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin) cut a ribbon celebrating the reopening of the Roosevelt Library on Saturday, June 1, 2013. The library was closed for 15 months during a \$3.2 million renovation. Two bathrooms and a community room were added, and a central customer service point with an enclosed work space behind it created inside. (Photo by Tessa M. Christensen)

will be installed this summer.

Previously, the library lacked a good work area for librarians. Now there is a central customer service point with an enclosed work space behind it.

"The librarians have space to work and it feels more open," said Colvin Roy.

Many elements of the existing building were re-purposed, including window benches and the front door. The windows have been refurbished using original window frames. New environmental and sustainable features

have also been added, including a storm water management system and building design that maximizes the use of natural light to reduce the need for artificial light.

Roosevelt Library now has 15 public computers and 12 iPads for use inside the building. Additionally, the collection at the library was refreshed.

A new program held in the community room will be Read to a Dog, a program that helps children learn to read, pointed out John Betcher, a Friend of Roosevelt Library.

He is impressed with the work done at Roosevelt.

"It is absolutely beautiful," said Betcher, who lives in the neighborhood. "It is beyond my expectations. It is going to be a very usable library for all ages."

"I feel like they kept the old charm of the building but updated it and opened it up," said Lisa Stuart, who served as librarian at Roosevelt before it closed. She is now the Youth Services librarian at Nokomis.

Continued on page 13

## Faith Forum

Continued from page 4

Too many people cycle through public institutions of jails, hospitals, detox centers, and shelters at great financial cost to taxpayers. But the greatest cost is borne by our community with the loss of human dignity.

Yet into that darkness and complex challenge, Nilsson spoke hope. She said people are moving out of homelessness and into affordable housing – we just don't see it. But the most provocative thing Nilsson said was, "I am hopeful for improvement. Can we end homelessness? I'll say this, in 20 years, there hasn't been a person I've met for whom we could not end their homelessness if we have the resources and appropriate, affordable housing." If you would like to take action to end homelessness right here in our neighborhood, please visit St. Stephen's website at [www.ststephensmpls.org](http://www.ststephensmpls.org). They have a vast array of resources and opportunities.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, July 9th at Christ Church Lutheran. Watch for further information. We are looking for hosts for upcoming months. If you would be interested in hosting, please contact me directly.

If you would like more information regarding the Faith Forum or have any comments and/or suggestions, please let us know.

Pauline Phillips  
LFF Planning Committee  
[longfellowfaithforum@a.com](mailto:longfellowfaithforum@a.com)

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# Major makeover proposed for Minnehaha Avenue

Hennepin County decides to delay reconstruction until 2015, develops two possible layouts

By JILL BOOGREN

Larry Foss of The Fix Studio is excited for the reconstruction of Minnehaha Ave. It was part of the reason he and his wife Sophie St-Jacques chose to locate their studio on the street.

"I think it's great," he said. "It's gonna mean I don't have a foot of water outside my door each time it rains. People won't have to jump across a lake."

Space2Burn's Jon Wittman said having a road without potholes is "extremely desirable." Others just want to be able to cross the street.

Plumbing, potholes and pedestrian fixes are part of a major makeover planned for Minnehaha Ave. Now slated for 2015-16, the road redo is meant to correct drainage problems and a crumbling surface. But it's also being viewed as an opportunity to enhance the neighborhood by creating a more livable, walkable, and bikeable street.

Hennepin County has developed two layouts for the roadway, both of which would bring big changes for the corridor by realigning angled cross streets, narrowing driving lanes, adding turn lanes, and including curbed sidewalk extensions, or "bumpouts," at major intersections.

Not everyone embraces the proposed changes. Robert Nelson, owner of Nelson Electric, has a corner lot that houses his and six other businesses. Bumpouts would mean loss of parking.

"Parking is already horrendous," he said. "I'm landlocked. I don't have a parking lot." He wonders where snow is going to go in winter and whether bumpouts are truly needed. He



Griselda Flores waits for the bus on Minnehaha Ave. at 42nd St. This is one of the intersections expected to see changes if proposed layouts for Minnehaha reconstruction are adopted. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

said the county is trying to make Minnehaha less a thoroughfare, "but it always has been. This is a business area first."

Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin said bumpouts are a safety improvement.

"If you look at how far the trip is across the street as you march south from Lake St., the distance... is being cut back significantly," said McLaughlin. "It's a friendlier road and a better place for pedestrians to be." Near the post office the road will shrink from 80 to 40 feet wide.

City Council Member Sandy

Colvin Roy said they need to look at every intersection to balance pedestrian safety against loss of parking. She said she generally favors bumpouts, because "the best way to make pedestrians safer is to shorten the amount of space they're out in front of vehicles that could be moving."

One resident who asked not to be named and lives adjacent to Minnehaha Ave. said with drivers avoiding Hiawatha Ave., there's increasingly more traffic, and the traffic is faster. She said anything that slows traffic would be good.

While having no opinion on the bumpouts, Foss said drivers doing 50 mph have no intention of stopping on Minnehaha and sees slowing traffic as an improvement. He acknowledged his situation at The Fix Studio is unique, in that he has a parking lot next door.

## Type of Bikeway

What separates the county's two concepts is what type of bikeway will be used. One layout puts bike lanes on each side of the road, as they are now, but with a one-foot buffer between the lane

and traffic. The other installs a two-way separated bikeway, or "cycle track," on the west side of Minnehaha.

County staff have recommended, and city staff have accepted, the bike lane concept as their preferred design.

"The on-road bike lane concept directly addresses safety issues by providing good visibility between motorists and bicyclists as bicyclists are traveling in the roadway adjacent to motorists," wrote Hennepin County Project Engineer Kristy Morter in an email.

She pointed to a recent bike-motorist crash report (Messenger, Mar. 2013) that shows Minnehaha as having the third lowest crash rate of 28 arterials analyzed in Minneapolis, making it one of the safer roadways in town. The one-foot striped buffer is expected to improve the comfort and safety of the bicycle facility, she said.

Whether the buffer is enough to attract more riders — a major goal of the city — is a big question. Jill Chamberlain, Longfellow Community Council Transportation & Environment Committee co-chair, said she is not comfortable riding on Minnehaha.

"There are people who are going to ride no matter what. We don't need to build for them," she said. "But there's this whole pocket of people inclined to bike. For a mom with a toddler in a Burley, you open this connector between a major park in the city and the Midtown Greenway."

The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) and

Continued on page 7

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# Minnehaha Ave.

Continued from page 6

Pedestrian Advisory Committee support the cycle track option. A memorandum submitted to Commissioner McLaughlin and city council members shares data showing cycle tracks as both the safest and the safest-feeling type of bikeway. One study cited found that cycle tracks provide a 28% lower rate of injury than on-street riding, and that 2.5 times more people use cycle tracks than standard streets.

"One thing we know is people strongly prefer protected facilities," said Nick Mason, chair and Ward 12 representative of the BAC. "When we do them, more people come, and when they're out there, we have data that shows they're safer for bicyclists, and a lot of times they're safer for everybody."

McLaughlin said running a two-way cycle track on one side of

a two-way street with skewed intersections creates "significant safety issues."

"Safety's a pretty high, high bar," he said. "I'm not going to put a biking facility out there that is less safe than what we've got right now... but I'm listening still on that."

Foss doesn't think traffic will look both ways approaching intersections, putting riders at risk.

The BAC memorandum states the research is "highly relevant" to Minnehaha Ave. in that four of the six bikeways studied were two-way cycle tracks on one side of a two-way street.

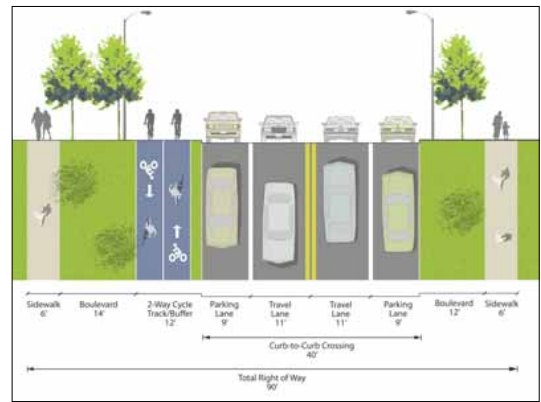
Colvin Roy said she's "very open" to cycle tracks but has asked the county if more than just paint can be used if bike lanes are adopted instead. McLaughlin said there are options, like making the whole lane either a different color or different surface, and that they need to examine that closely.

On its website, the county suggested that 50 more trees and

50 more parking spaces would be lost with the cycle track concept. This is disputed by the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition.

"There is little doubt that more can be done to add a cycle track while preserving more trees and parking than in the County proposal," coalition members posted in their blog in May. They suggest the county is out of line with its own and national design standards, and slight modifications to bus stop unloading zones can nearly eliminate added tree loss. McLaughlin said he has asked staff for a rationale for each of the trees that would be removed.

Mason views a cycle track as a long-term investment that will encourage the kinds of business we want to have and people who want to come spend money and live along the corridor. The BAC memorandum reports that some stores along a protected bikeway in New York saw a 49% increase in sales, compared to an average of 3% for Manhattan as a whole over



A graphic representation of what a two-way cycle track could look like on Minnehaha Ave. (Provided by Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition volunteers)

the same period.

"It'll make it a really livable place," said Mason. "And be a great fun place to visit."

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## Minnehaha Avenue project delayed, public meetings to be held in July

By JILL BOOGREN

Road reconstruction for Minnehaha Ave. is now delayed to 2015-16, but people will soon have an opportunity to ask questions and give input at public meetings expected to be held in July.

Two meetings are being planned, although neither has been posted at the time of this writing — one for the north end of Minnehaha and one for the south. City Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy said this is to keep meeting sizes manageable. They will be part open house

and part open forum for Q&A.

Of two proposed concepts, county staff are recommending the design featuring bike lanes over a cycle track.

"It's in the preliminary stage, so nothing is set in stone," said Hennepin County Project Engineer Kristy Morter. After the meetings in July, staff will address comments and update layouts, then have another set of meetings in September. They'll then bring the preferred layout to the city council for approval. Once the council approves the layout they will move

to final design, which Morter said can take close to a year.

Lighting may be included in the project. According to Colvin Roy, if a street being reconstructed is identified as a "pedestrian corridor," which Minnehaha is, then pedestrian-level lighting will be paid for by the city and not assessed to property owners.

Owners will still be assessed for the road using the most current Uniform Assessment Rates. City of Minneapolis Project Engineer Chris Engelmann said an assessment letter will be sent out early in the year

of construction, and a public meeting and hearing will be held at that time to answer questions.

People see some good in the delay. "It gives people adjacent to the road a longer time to prepare, and it also gives us more opportunity to have this community conversation," said Colvin Roy.

Jill Chamberlain, Longfellow Community Council Environment & Transportation Committee co-chair, hopes people come out to the meetings to give planners the chance to hear

from a diverse range of people.

"I have a strong opinion, but I'm one person in our community," said Chamberlain. "I hope they listen and incorporate those concerns and ideas into the design."

People will have an opportunity to experience Minnehaha as a neighborhood gathering place when Open Streets comes to the avenue on Aug. 11th.

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# The NEW East Lake STREET



Jeff Weispfenning's painting sits kitty corner from the Dairy Queen along E. Lake St. He is one of 20 Longfellow artists whose artwork is now featured on utility boxes. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

By **TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN**

Lake St. between the river and Hiawatha is no longer the vacant space people drive through on their way to the busier sections west of Hiawatha.

Instead, it is coming back to life, filling up with innovative new restaurants and businesses.

In the past few months, two new restaurants have opened their doors on Lake Street: Parka Restaurant at 4023 E. Lake St. and Zeke's Unchained Animal at 3508 E. Lake St. Forage Modern

Workshop has opened next to Parka in the former carpenters' union building.

The redevelopment will continue with a new grocery store at 3815 E. Lake St. and two new tenants at the former Molly Quinn's building.

Plus, the installation of artwork on utility boxes along Lake St. has brought the creativity of the area up a notch.

"Let's be honest, 10 years ago East Lake was a bit of a dump," remarked Kris Kiel of HOLOS Creative.

Today, the energy on E. Lake St. helped Longfellow earn one of City Pages Highest Distinctions: 2013 Best Neighborhood.

## ART ON THE STREET

The utility box art installation along E. Lake St. features 20 local artists on 10 utility boxes, all members of the League of Longfellow Artists (LoLa), which helped coordinate the project with the Longfellow Community Council (LCC).

"I believe there are double

benefits to the art on utility boxes: it takes what can be an eyesore and makes it visually interesting," said Longfellow artist Bob Schmitt of Laughing Waters Studio. "But also it is featuring not just the work of artists, but the work of artist who live/work in this particular Minneapolis neighborhood."

The primary goal of the project, according to Spencer Agnew of LCC, is to prevent and reduce graffiti. "Utility boxes in their natural state are a blank canvas for graffiti and are fre-

quently tagged. Other neighborhoods, like Kingfield, have had success preventing graffiti by installing public art," he observed.

The utility box project was funded by a grant from the city of Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling Division through the Innovative Graffiti Prevention program. (See feature story on page 1.)

## TRANSFORMATIVE WORK

For several years now, East Lake Street has been struggling. Redevelopment on E. Lake St. in the 1960s and 70s replaced much of the traditional retail storefronts with auto-oriented designs. That, coupled with lingering effects from the 2006-08 reconstruction project and the economic downturn, left the street inactive. There have been more commercial vacancies on this portion of Lake Street than the rest of the Street from Hiawatha to Lake Calhoun combined, according to Redesign.

"Vacancy levels lead to blight and disinvestment. People feel like their neighborhood is not being taken care of," noted Eddie Landenberger of Redesign, who has been helping to change that trend and fill empty buildings.

"It's transformative work," said Landenberger.

Most recently, Redesign has focused on the vacant Molly Quinn building at 3300 E. Lake St. A collapsed foundation had doomed the property to vacancy since 2008. There wasn't a bank that would provide capital until Redesign stepped in and cleaned up the messy issues. "It was one of those impossible buildings," remarked Landenberger.

By fall, there will be two new tenants at 3300 E. Lake.

The former Peterson Machinery site is also undergoing a \$4.5 million transformation. A few buildings will be razed and the Peterson structure renovated to house a grocery store with character. Owner Joel Ahlstrom envisions a store that will resemble the one his grandfather once ran years ago at 2700 17th Ave. S.

## LIVE LOCAL, SHOP LOCAL, HELP YOUR NEIGHBORS

The E. Lake St. area has had the dubious distinction of having one of the highest vacancy rates in the city of Minneapolis, noted Scott Cramer of Northern Sun (2916 E. Lake St.).

He has seen recovery start at the Lake and 27th triangle and spread out from there.

Continued on page 9

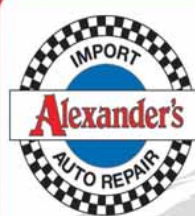
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# Lake Street

Continued from page 8

Even at its worst, E. Lake St. was supported by a wonderful community that believed in living local, shopping local, and helping your neighbors, noted Kiel.

"Independently-owned businesses like The Craftsman, Harriet Brewing, Gandhi Mahal, and Miller Upholstering recognized something special about the area and chose to open shop here," said Kiel. "Midori's, El Norteno, and others stuck around through the challenging road construction and the community supports them."

Gandhi Mahal's owner Ruhel Islam is a prime example of a business owner focused on helping his community. Local non-profit organizations are welcome to use a community room in the restaurant free of charge, and he regularly donates food to various worthy causes.

This year, he is embarking on a project to provide his restaurant with vegetables grown from local garden plots, tilapia farmed in the Gandhi Mahal basement, and honey from rooftop hives. Islam hopes to offer a complete economic model for others.

"Teamwork makes this possible," stressed Islam. (See related story on page 10)

Northern Sun is also leading by example. The first solar garden in Minneapolis will soon be installed on its rooftop. It will have the capacity to produce 40 kilowatts of clean, solar energy—enough to power 8-10 homes.

"There are wonderfully creative businesses opening up all the time that draw people from all over the city - Harriet Brewing, Trylon Microcinema, Peace Coffee, Gandhi Mahal, The Craftsman, Longfellow Grill, Prairie Woodworking, Merlin's Rest, and the list goes on and on," said Kiel.

The irony, according to Kiel, is that the residents haven't changed much over the past 10 years. "We've always know this was a great place to be!" said Kiel. "The biggest change is that the secret is getting out and more people are choosing to live in this area."

"I see younger folks moving in and asking for amenities they're used to going to malls for and wanting them in their neighborhood," said Landenberger. They want variety and choice, he added.

"Lake Street is a destination location and an awesome commercial corridor to frequent," said ZoeAna Martinez of the Lake Street Council.



Above, Northern Sun Merchandising owner Scott Cramer is participating in the very first Community Solar Garden in Minneapolis. Cramer will lease out a portion of his roof to subscribers, and has the opportunity himself to be an owner of solar panels. At right, Longfellow newcomer Harriet Brewing was one of the first Minneapolis microbrews to house its own taproom. (Photos by Tesha M. Christensen)



It was about 10 years ago that the infamous sauna at the triangle of Lake, Minnehaha, and 27th was shut down, noted Kris Kiel of HOLOS Creative. "Then The Resource Center of the Americas and the Cafe of the Americas moved in and commissioned a beautiful two-story mosaic on the south side of the building," she said. Kiel believes that the focus for East Lake is development without gentrification. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)



Forage Modern Workshop and Parka Restaurant at 40th Av. S. and East Lake St., share a space that formerly housed the Carpenters' Union. The two are among the new businesses breathing life into an area of Lake that was mostly vacant before. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

  
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Gandhi Mahal's owner Ruhel Islam is a prime example of a business owner focused on helping his community. Local non-profit organizations are welcome to use a community room in the restaurant free of charge, and he regularly donates food to various worthy causes.


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# Gandhi Mahal owner seeks self-sufficiency for his restaurant

*This year he has invested in 12 garden plots scattered throughout the city, a tilapia tank in his basement, and rickshaws that avoid the use of fossil fuels*



Gandhi Mahal owner Ruhel Islam is growing vegetables on his sidewalk. It is part of a larger effort to be self-sufficient and provide the restaurant with locally grown vegetables. This year, he has 12 garden plots scattered throughout the city. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

By **TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN**

Be the change. Start small. Lead by example. Lake Street restaurant owner Ruhel Islam believes this is how you build community.

After a 2010 trip with HECUA (Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs) to his home country of Bangladesh, Islam, the owner of Gandhi Mahal restaurant, came back inspired. He was no longer content to just talk about the issues. He wanted to take action.

In 2011, they planted a garden in the backyard of employee Riz Prakasim, who resides in the Corcoran neighborhood. They planted late, but still managed to harvest 2,000 pounds of vegetables. This year, they have recruited 12 partners in Minneapolis and surrounding suburbs. Each landowner has provided a plot for a garden. Some are small, such as the single raised garden bed at Minnehaha Liquor and the containers outside Gandhi Mahal's doors. Others are larger. There is a site manager for each location, and one coordinator to oversee them all. High school and college students are tending the gardens.

This year's goal is to grow 10,000 pounds of vegetables.



Gandhi Mahal owner Ruhel Islam tends the tomato plants growing on the sidewalk outside the restaurant. This year, Islam has 12 garden plots scattered throughout the city. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

this overall effort will take and what pieces will come first, but he is confident his dream will be achieved.

And when it does, Islam hopes to offer a complete economic model for others.

Part of Islam's drive to be self-sufficient is rooted in his own culture and home country of Bangladesh, where he grew up on a farm that his family still runs.

"I want to know where the food is coming from that I cook here," explained Islam.

and young people are opting for careers in medicine or law instead of agriculture.

"Gardening is very important," said Islam.

There is no long-term supply of food, and the problem of not enough food for people becomes apparent during disasters.

Islam pointed out that the American food system is based on fossil fuels. He encourages others to buy local and grow local.

"We're hoping to chain people's mindsets about how we view and interact with our food chain," said Prakasim. "A food chain based on fossil fuels is not sustainable."

Islam noted, "Food is the true wealth."

*"Food is the true wealth."*

— Ruhel Islam

Some of the produce will be used fresh. Some will be frozen and canned for use over the winter in Gandhi Mahal's kitchen.

Having homegrown vegetables is just one piece of Islam's overall plan to be self-sufficient. He also intends to raise his own chickens, farm tilapia and possibly shrimp in his basement, and place bee hives on his roof (for honey in his signature mango lassi). Islam is not sure how long

Islam is also concerned about the food chain here in America. As a restaurant owner, Islam has faced food shortages this winter. He was unable to buy eggplant, corn oil or naturally raised chicken from wholesalers. Onions tripled in price, and ginger rose from \$18 to \$28 a case to \$50.

The food industry is not secure, he pointed out. Most of the farmers in the U.S. are over 65,

## A PLAN TO BE SELF-SUFFICIENT

By late summer, Islam hopes to install a 500 gallon tank in his basement to house tilapia. The waste will be used to fertilize gardens and grow the cilantro, tomatoes, chilies and more they use in the restaurant. The tilapia themselves will be fed with chicken scraps.

Continued on page 13

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**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  
Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Dan Matasovsky

**Holy Trinity Lutheran (ELCA)**  
2730 E. 31st St. • 612-729-8358  
[www.htlcmpls.org](http://www.htlcmpls.org)  
Sunday Worship 8:45 & 11:00 am  
Education opportunities for all ages 9:45 am  
Childcare available  
Pastor: Jay Carlson  
Traditional Worship - Contemporary  
Message - A Call to Social Justice  
All are welcome - No exceptions

**Minnehaha United Methodist**  
3701 E. 50th St. • 612-721-6231  
[www.minnehaha.org](http://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)  
(Childcare; fully accessible)

**St. Albert the Great Catholic**  
E. 29th St. at 32nd Ave. S. • 612-724-3643  
Sunday Mass 9:30 am (Childcare available)  
Saturday Mass 5:00 pm  
M.T.Th.F. Rosary at 8 am, Daily Mass 8:15 am  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament first  
Fridays from 9 am - Noon. Air conditioned!  
(Handicapped accessible)  
Fr. Joe Gillespie, O.P.  
[www.saintalbertthegreat.org](http://www.saintalbertthegreat.org)

**St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran**  
4600 E. 42nd St. • 612-722-8000  
Worship 9:00 and 10:30 am,  
Summer - 9:00 only  
Education for all at 9:00 am  
(Childcare; Wheelchair Acc., Braille)  
Coffee 10 am  
Julie A. Ebbesen, Pastor  
[www.stpeders.net](http://www.stpeders.net)

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
of Minnehaha Falls  
5212 41st Ave. S. • 612-724-3691  
[www.trinityfalls.org](http://www.trinityfalls.org)  
Sunday Worship Schedule  
One Service: 10 am (through Sept. 1)  
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  
**612-721-6231**

Minnehaha United  
Methodist, 3701 E. 50th St.



# Longfellow Community Council

Serving Longfellow, Hiawatha, Cooper, and Howe neighborhoods

## Longfellow Residents Shift to a Clean and Efficient Energy Future

The Longfellow neighborhood has long been one of Minneapolis's leading neighborhoods for solar installations and neighborhood action to reduce home energy use. In 2012, Longfellow residents joined families from other nearby neighborhoods in the pilot phase of insulation and solar bulk-buying programs organized by Cooperative Energy Futures, an emerging neighborhood energy co-op. The second phase of Cooperative Energy Future's bulk buying programs launches this summer; neighbors can sign up to start the evaluation process until August 15th 2013 and have until September 15th, 2013 to make a commitment. The four programs currently offered include:

- The Grow Solar residential solar bulk buy, helping groups of residents install solar electric panels on their homes for discounted group rates,
- The Neighborhood Insulation group contracting program, helping groups of neighbors save money and ensure quality on air sealing and insulation,
- Weatherization Work Parties scheduled by block groups to help neighbors weatherize as a team,
- A sign-up process for future community-owned solar projects on community buildings

Details about these programs, including events to learn more, can be found at <http://cooperativenergyfutures.com/bulk-buying/>.

Longfellow residents can also learn more at a workshop hosted by the Greater Longfellow Community Council and Cooperative Energy Futures on Monday, July 15th 6:30-8PM in the Multipurpose Room of Longfellow Park. Please contact [contact@cooperativenergyfutures.com](mailto:contact@cooperativenergyfutures.com), or call (612) 568-2334 with questions.



## Community Warming Party

The 4th Annual Longfellow Community Warming Party happened on June 5 at the Sea Salt Eatery in Minnehaha Regional Park. Despite rain and wind, several dozen neighbors came to show support for all things Longfellow.

Twelve local businesses donated items or services for a raffle that raised \$178 for the Longfellow Community Council. LCC would like to thank everyone who came out to the party, and all the businesses that donated items for the raffle.

## LoLa Art Crawl August 24TH & 25TH

This "biggest little neighborhood art crawl in Minnesota" is bound to sweep you off your feet as you are mesmerized by the works of artisans who live/work in Longfellow. This

event will run from 10 am to 5 pm both days. Make sure you put on sun block and take the whole family out! FFI: [www.lo-laartcrawl.com](http://www.lo-laartcrawl.com)

## The 30th Annual Minneapolis National Night Out Tuesday August 6

National Night Out (NNO) is an annual nationwide event that encourages residents to get out in the community, holding block parties, and getting to know their neighbors as a way to encourage crime prevention. It's a great way to promote community-police partnerships and enjoy a Minnesota summer evening surrounded by friends and family.

A tradition in throwing a block party is to get your street blocked off for traffic. This year the deadline for registering your event for free is July 23rd, between July 24th and August 1st the fee is \$100. To register your event go to [www.minneapolismn.gov/nno/nn\\_o\\_register](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/nno/nn_o_register). Last year Minneapolis outranked all U.S. Cities of similar population for participation in NNO. We hope to again top that list this year!



## Save the Date!

The Longfellow Annual Corn Feed is on Thursday, August 8th at Longfellow Park.

## Calendar of Meetings and Events

# JULY 2013

Meetings are free and open to the public, and are accessible. Check the calendar on our website [www.longfellow.org](http://www.longfellow.org)

### ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 10  
7:00 - 8:00 pm  
Fireoast Café  
3800 37th Ave  
FFI: [jessica@longfellow.org](mailto:jessica@longfellow.org)

### NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Monday, July 8  
6:30 - 8:00 pm  
check website for location  
FFI: [spencer@longfellow.org](mailto:spencer@longfellow.org)

### RIVER GORGE COMMITTEE

Monday, July 8  
6:30 - 8:00 pm  
Hiawatha School Park  
4305 42nd St. E  
FFI: [joanna@longfellow.org](mailto:joanna@longfellow.org)

### LONGFELLOW FAITH FORUM

Tuesday, July 9  
12:00 - 1:30 pm  
check website for location  
FFI: [joanna@longfellow.org](mailto:joanna@longfellow.org)

### COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Tuesday, July 9  
6:30 - 8:00 pm  
LCC Office, 2727 26th Ave S  
FFI: [joanna@longfellow.org](mailto:joanna@longfellow.org)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, July 18  
6:30 - 8:30 pm  
Minnehaha Academy  
Anderson Conference Room  
FFI: [melanie@longfellow.org](mailto:melanie@longfellow.org)

### ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Tuesday, July 23  
6:30 - 8:00 pm  
check website for location  
FFI: [spencer@longfellow.org](mailto:spencer@longfellow.org)



## Gorge on Ice Cream While You Explore the Mississippi River Gorge

You won't want to miss this! The River Gorge Committee is hosting their 9th annual Share the Mississippi River Gorge event! It is set for Tuesday, July 30th from 6pm to 8pm at West River Pkwy and 35th St. In addition to delicious FREE ice cream, there will be FREE canoe rides and FREE tours of the Oak Savanna. Look out for special guests as you walk around the park! We are always looking for volunteers! Please contact [joanna@longfellow.org](mailto:joanna@longfellow.org) or 722-4529 ext. 2 for more information.

## Longfellow Community Council

2727 26th Avenue So., Minneapolis, MN 55406  
Phone: 612-722-4529  
[www.longfellow.org](http://www.longfellow.org)

Melanie Majors	Executive Director	<a href="mailto:melanie@longfellow.org">melanie@longfellow.org</a>
Ruth Romano	Office Staff	<a href="mailto:ruth@longfellow.org">ruth@longfellow.org</a>
Spencer Agnew	Housing and Environment Coordinator	<a href="mailto:spencer@longfellow.org">spencer@longfellow.org</a>
Joanna Lund	Community Engagement Coordinator	<a href="mailto:joanna@longfellow.org">joanna@longfellow.org</a>
Jessica Buchberger	Communication & Events Manager	<a href="mailto:jessica@longfellow.org">jessica@longfellow.org</a>

# 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.

## Stevens House holds July events

Historic John H. Stevens House Museum, Birthplace of Minneapolis, is pleased to announce two outstanding events in July: Native Plants as Medicines: Our native plants gardener, Jerry Foley, is back again to show off our native plants garden and to demonstrate how settlers and Indians used these natural plants as medicines on Sunday, July 21, at 2 p.m.

There will also be "A Special Day of Music," with Phil Halstead Music. Phil, a well-known veteran of almost 20 years on the Minnesota music scene, will entertain us with music from the 1950's and forward. Savor the nostalgia as you enjoy this lovely out-of-doors performance on Sunday, July 28, 2 p.m.

These events are free. Historic John H. Stevens House Museum is located in Minnehaha Falls Park, conveniently across from the 50th Street LRT station. For more information, call 612-827-0138.

## LBA to meet July 11 at Minnehaha Communion

Longfellow Business Association meets Thursday, July 11, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. at Minnehaha Communion Church, 4101 37th Avenue South, Hennepin County and City of Minneapolis staff will give an update on the Minnehaha Avenue reconstruction (CSAH 48) project scheduled to begin in Spring 2015. At this "open house" meeting format business owners will have an opportunity to view current road plans, talk with the project staff and comment via comment cards. For more information call Ruth 612-722-4529 x1

## Picnic Quilt Theology

Discuss the Big Questions of Faith in an outdoor setting. A study group sitting on "picnic quilts" in the park. Walk, then talk! Meet Wednesday evenings through July 31 at 6:30 p.m. at Bethany Lutheran Church (3901 36th Ave S) and we will walk to the park, lay down our quilts and discuss deep issues of faith using the "Animate Faith" DVD series and journals. All are welcome!

## Oral (dental) health & seniors

Join Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Community Education for a presentation about oral (dental) health on Tuesday, July 16 at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st Street. Growing older not only affects general health, but oral (dental) health too. Older adults

## Celebrate Restored Public Art July 13 at Nokomis Library

The public is invited to celebrate the restoration and reinstallation of the stabile sculpture "Wind and Water Chime" at Hennepin County Library - Nokomis, Saturday, July 13, at 11 a.m.

The hanging sculpture of approximately 2,400 rectangles of brass, bronze and copper on 400 yards of monofilament has been fully restored and reinstalled in the adult reading area on the library's western side, near the entrance.

On July 13, see the sculpture in its new library location and hear from elected officials and other project stakeholders about the restoration.

"Wind and Water Chime" was created by artist and Macalester College art professor Donald Celender in 1968 when Nokomis Library was built. In his artist's statement, Celender notes the sculpture "was conceived as an ethereal, slightly active, varicolored composite of reflecting forms, which would simulate nearby Minnehaha Falls as well as introduce a sense of subtle sound and motion in the library." It was originally suspended over a fountain.

The sculpture was removed when the library closed for renovation in 2009. It was restored based on the recommendation of the Nokomis Library Public Art Selection Committee under the One Percent for Art initiative, which dedicates one percent of project costs on Hennepin County Library building projects of \$1 million or more to the selection, purchase and installation of works of art. The budget for this restoration was \$52,000.

Art conservator Kristin Cheronis cleaned and polished all 4,800 sides of the sculpture's thin metal rectangles and re-strung them on new monofilament line with spacing designed to achieve the sculpture's original appearance. Cheronis also took steps to protect the art from future damage.

"Wind and Water Chime" was reinstalled in 2013 by Joel Pieper Fine Arts and a new bench surround was added, designed by Matthew Streed of DLR Group, the architect of the Nokomis Library renovation.

Nokomis Library is located at 5100 34th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Library hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 12-8 p.m.; Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. For more information, call the library at 612-543-6800 or go to [www.hclib.org](http://www.hclib.org).



Hennepin County Library

may have dental problems related to chronic medical conditions, medications, or difficulty accessing regular dental care. There is strong evidence that poor oral health can affect overall health. This presentation will review some of the dental problems of older adults and provide tips to help you keep your smile. Presented by Stephen Shuman, DDS, from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry.

## Medalist Band to perform at Becketwood

The Medalist Band will perform

an outdoor concert at Becketwood Cooperative, 4300 West River Parkway, at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 10

Visitors can tour Becketwood's grounds and gardens starting at 6:30 p.m., prior to the concert.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information call 612-722-4077.

## Volunteer visitors needed for seniors

Help seniors stay in their homes and keep socially connected. If you like seniors, you'll love this

volunteer position! We're looking for "Friendly Visitors" to visit isolated seniors in the greater Longfellow and Seward neighborhoods. Call Mary at Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for more information.

## Tour Longfellow Gardens - July 10!

Join the Longfellow Garden Club for our annual Garden tour to be held the evening of Wednesday, July 10. In spite of March-like temps through April and May, and April showers that just won't quit, Longfellow gardens are up

and blooming!

Included on the tour is a unique garden designed and planted to withstand drought and use little water.

Beginning at 6:30 p.m., you can pick up a tour map at Epworth United Methodist Church. Epworth is located at 3207 37th Ave. South. All gardens are in Longfellow, with the first tour beginning at 7 p.m. Garden Club events are free and open to everyone.

Find us on the web at: <http://www.facebook.com/LongfellowGardenClub> <https://sites.google.com/site/longfellowgardenclubminnesota/>

## Longfellow residents premiere one-act comedy

Howe neighborhood residents Eli and Leora Effinger-Weintraub premiere Eli's one-act comedy "Brittle Things" as part of the 2013 Minnesota Fringe Festival. The Effinger-Weintraubs are also co-producing the show, which opens August 3 at 7 p.m. at Theatre in the Round. More information at <https://www.facebook.com/#/brittlethings2013>.

## Summer Saturdays 'Chat with a Ranger'

Many Saturdays through the summer, a National Park Service ranger will be at Coldwater Spring to talk with visitors. Chat with a ranger to learn more about the history and nature at Coldwater Spring.

## Thursday, July 18 and Thursday, August 15

Walks with a Ranger 10 a.m.-11 a.m. - Take a summer stroll with a National Park Service ranger at Coldwater Spring to see and hear what's happening at the park. The National Park Service is restoring Coldwater to an oak savanna prairie. No registration needed.

## Coop forms to develop a community-based energy future for South Minneapolis

A quiet revolution is taking place across the rooftops, attics and walls, and community meeting rooms of a number of Twin Cities neighborhoods. Groups of residents are coming together to make the transition to a clean, efficient, and community-based energy future, working together to tighten up their homes' energy use and generate clean energy in the neighborhood. Cooperative Energy Futures (CEF), a co-op of community members, has emerged to help residents

work together to cut costs and simplify the process of contracting home efficiency and clean energy improvements.

In early 2012, the CEF launched a neighborhood insulation group-contracting program, helping a group of South Minneapolis residents in the Phillips, Powderhorn Park, Corcoran, and Longfellow neighborhoods work with a qualified home efficiency contractor, SustainMax, to insulate and air seal their homes, cutting

winter heating costs and summer cooling costs by up to 50% and creating a noticeable improvement in home comfort.

The second phase of Cooperative Energy Future's bulk buying programs is launching May-August, with deadlines for residents and groups of neighbors to sign up by August 15th, 2013 and to commit to projects by September 15th, 2013. The four programs currently offered include:

Details about these programs

can be found at <http://cooperativeenergyfutures.com/bulk-buying/>, where dates and locations of educational workshops and events where interested residents can learn more will also be posted. Interested residents, neighborhood groups, and local governments wishing to bring Cooperative Energy Future's bulk buying programs to their community should contact [contact@cooperativeenergyfutures.com](mailto:contact@cooperativeenergyfutures.com), or call 612-568-2334.

We visited our daughter, granddaughter and son-in-law in Phoenix last week. We will never again visit in the summer months. It was over a hundred degrees every day. I know it's a dry heat, but really, suffice it to say, now I know what hell feels like.

We had plenty of time to do a little renovating for her, since we spent a lot of time inside. She and her husband just bought a new house; not a brand new house, but new to them. It's a whopping three thousand square feet, double the size of our old white house.

Krista had requested we work on her kitchen. She had good quality cabinets, but they were dried out oak and the knobs were beige flowered. Too much blah! Since there was no time for painting the cabinets, I decided we should clean them. She'd bought Orange Oil from Home Depot.



# The Old White House

By SHERRI MOORE

Dynamic "Duo" is delightful

It moisturized the cabinets and returned them to a rich shine. The knobs were the easiest part. Krista had chosen knobs that fit into the existing holes of the old knobs, making installation a breeze. I even used the old screws. What a breeze!

While I was working on the cabinets, Mr. M. was working on the island. The tile counter tops were okay, but the bottom was a hideous burgundy. Normally, I like burgundy, but it looked really out of place in the desert.

I suggested Mr. M. use the

Glidden "Duo" primer and paint combo. The price is close to a gallon of regular paint, and the amount of time you save on labor is monumental. We tried many samples, and finally decided on moss green, the color of Mr. M.'s shirt, sitting with his back to the island, playing with Kayla, our granddaughter. They were playing with a box. She had at least five hundred dollars of toys in the living room, but preferred an empty box. I think for Christmas, I'll give her a flash light to go with the box.

Mr. M. painted the cabinet while the kids were out for dinner. We were watching Kayla, but she slept through that night, much to our frustration. We were both thrilled when the paint covered in one coat. No kidding, how many times does a product perform as well as the advertising? Mr. M. was cautiously optimistic.

"Yeah sure, we'll need to see it in the daylight to make sure it covered."

The next morning, in the hotter-than-hell sunlight, it looked great. Of course, Krista thought

the burgundy was showing through in a couple of spots. With Mr. M., with his nose right up to the surface, didn't see any of the old color. But, being the dotting father; he painted again. I, however, still believe it covered in one coat.

So, go forth, and paint your hearts out, it will cover in one coat!

It's too bad we were only there a week. I would've liked to have knocked down the wall between the kitchen and dining room, and replace the dining room light fixture. Maybe next time!

*(Sherri Moore is a freelance writer and resident of the Nokomis neighborhood. She and Mr. M. are still renovating their old white house. She welcomes your comments and can be reached at sherri.moore92@msn.com.)*

## Gandhi Mahal

Continued from page 10

"We are starting an aquaculture," noted Islam.

He is also working with researchers at the University of Minnesota that are dedicated to making basement gardens a reality. New technology will port sunlight from the roof into the basement with zero loss. "We really want to work on the cutting edge of technology to propel indoor farming forward," said Prakashim. He pointed out that Europe is 20 years ahead of the United States. "We're playing catch-up," Prakashim observed.

Another slice of Bangladesh will hit local streets later this summer when it is time to harvest vegetables from Gandhi Mahal's 12 garden plots. Rickshaws are being specially built to transport vegetables from the garden to the restaurant and thereby avoid using any fossil fuel. A Kickstart campaign will kick off on Thursday, July 11. Proceeds from dinner at Gandhi Mahal that day will go towards the campaign.

"I can't wait to see those," said Islam. "It's very exciting."

In the kitchen, all the used cooking oil is gathered and picked up by Cat Biodiesel for use as biodiesel.

"Teamwork makes this possible," stressed Islam.

He operates on the principal that the more you give, the more comes back to you. Every Tuesday night, 10% of every meal goes to MN350, a group dedicated to building a climate movement in Minnesota. Proceeds from dinner every second Wednesday go to the Midtown Farmer's Market.

Islam offers a community

room for use free of charge to non-profits and community groups such as the Longfellow Restorative Justice Committee and the Longfellow Business Association, two groups he is active in. Other groups, such as the Permaculture Research Institute and HECUA, have held classes there.

A few months ago, the restaurant was designated a World Peace Site.

"We have to be the change we want to see in the world," said Prakashim. It's a lesson he's learned from Islam, and one he's passing along.

It's been just five years since Islam opened up his Lake Street restaurant, but he has joined the ranks of those who have made a mark on the community and transformed East Lake Street into a place that can stand as its own destination location.

## Roosevelt Library

Continued from page 5

### BELOVED INSTITUTION

"This is an institution that is really loved in this community," McLaughlin observed.

He recalled how when the city of Minneapolis shut the library down in December 2006, the community rallied around it. When the city and Hennepin County merged their libraries in 2008, Roosevelt was reopened.

Funding for the renovation of the 86-year-old building was provided by the city of Minneapolis bond proceeds from the city-wide 2000 library referendum.

A Roosevelt Friends group has recently formed. For more information, email roosevelt@supporthclib.org.

Roosevelt Library is located at 4026 28th Ave. S. Hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12-8 and Saturdays from 10-6.

### ABOUT THE LIBRARY

- The existing library building was constructed in 1927 and is a 4,320 SF (footprint) single-story building, with a small basement utility space.
- The building was designed by Minneapolis architect, Jerome Paul Jackson as a community library that would serve the adjacent Roosevelt High School and Roosevelt neighborhood.



Roosevelt Library has reopened after a \$3.2 million renovation that stretched over 15 months.

- The building was placed on the National Historic Register in May 2000 and has been designated a Building of Cultural Significance by the city of Minneapolis through its Historic Preservation Commission.

### GOALS OF THE RENOVATION

The goals of the renovation and expansion project were:

- Renovate the building's envelope (façade and roof assemblies).
- Provide new building mechanical, electrical and technology infrastructure.
- Make the facility accessible.
- Provide a multi-purpose community gathering space for additional
- Create exterior public spaces for reading and activities.
- Improve staff work areas.

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Next deadline:  
**July 15**

Next issue:  
**July 25**

# Long-awaited Ford demolition begins



The long-awaited demolition of the Ford Motor Company's Twin Cities Assembly Plant began June 10 with a countdown by elected officials and the sound of metal coming off of the old paint building.

By **JANE MCCLURE**

The long-awaited demolition of the Ford Motor Company's Twin Cities Assembly Plant began June 10 with a countdown by elected officials and the sound of metal coming off of the old paint building. An excavator equipped with a large grapple ripped down metal, exposing steel roof beams. The door that so many workers had entered so many times was removed with a few quick bites.

The plant, which was shuttered in December 2011, is making way for future new development. As the paint building came down, former Ford employees watched and shared memories.

South Minneapolis resident Dale Conrad and his friend and former co-worker Denny Dickhausen watched the paint shop come down. Each had put in almost 40 years at the plant, with many years in the paint shop. They remembered when the shop went up, in 1984. It was one of the newer structures at the 88-year-old plant.

"I used to go in those doors every day," said Conrad as the grapple pinched and carried away the entry roof. "It's sad to see it go down like that. Just to see it go down is sad."

"It's truly the end of an era," said Dickhausen, a Highland Park resident whose wife Brenda also worked for Ford. "It brings tears to my eyes. I spent so much of my life there and I still miss many of my friends."

Ford officials estimate it will take at least two years to tear down the plant buildings. As-

bestos and other hazardous materials were removed over the past several months. Equipment was scrapped out or shipped to other Ford facilities.

The 122-acre site has already been the subject of environmental testing and extensive community planning. St. Paul city officials envision some type of mixed use development there. Ford still owns the property and has already heard interest from national as well as local developers.

Ford will clean the property to industrial reuse standards.

Plans for the demolition won approval in December 2012 from the St. Paul Planning Commission. Those plans regulate everything from dust control to noise mitigation to traffic routing.

Before demolition began, St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman said, "Today is a day that the landscape of St. Paul fundamentally changes." But he went on to note that June 10 was also a day "that marks a giant step forward for the Highland community, for the city of St. Paul and for the region."

St. Paul Ward Three Council Member Chris Tolbert, site manager Mike Hogan and Coleman then did a countdown. The excavator began tearing down metal, with a water cannon running continuously to keep the dust and debris in check.

Demolition work will be restricted to weekday business hours. Trucks have specific routes they are to use. While rail use to haul away debris has been discussed, it's most likely trucks will be used. Closings of Ford Park-

way aren't anticipated.

The city is requiring that noise and dust be controlled. Weekly inspections will be done by city staff.

Hogan said Ford officials are working closely with the city on demolition. Recently screening fences went up to shield the site from view. More fencing is planned because when the main building goes down, that side of the site would otherwise be open.

A complaint line was set up for any problems that occur during demolition. Updates will be presented weekly on the city's website. As of mid-June no complaints had been received about the demolition work.

Henry Ford himself chose the St. Paul plant site. Construction began in 1923. The plant and its hydroelectric plant were built for \$10 million. More than six million vehicles were produced there.

Ford began building in St. Paul in 1923, spending \$10 million on the plant and hydroelectric dam on a site chosen by Henry Ford himself. Model T cars, Ranger trucks and even armored cars for the World War II military effort were among the many types of vehicles produced there.

Hogan said not all of the plant will be reduced to rubble. Saving some of the bas reliefs on the 1920s-era main building has been discussed. Historic lanterns on that building are also likely to be saved.

What we'll do with those building elements hasn't been determined yet," he said.

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Like the *Messenger* on Facebook and start receiving regular updates about news and events going on in the Longfellow and Nokomis neighborhoods.

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# Classifieds

## Messenger

Want ads must be in the Messenger before July 15 for the July 25 issue. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at [www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com](http://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 July 15 for the July 25 issue.

### ACCOUNTING & TAXES

Individual and corporate tax returns prepared for small and medium sized companies. Accounting and payroll services performed in addition. Vern Teichroew Accounting, 612-726-1544 or [vteichroew@comcast.net](mailto:vteichroew@comcast.net). B-13

### BATHROOMS

Bathroom/kitchen!! Basement finishing. Bad water pressure? Sinks, Toilets and tub/surrounds, etc. Ceramic tile. Basement bathrooms installed Call 612-275-9815. 7-13

### CEMENT WORK

Cement work, chimney repair, brick and sidewalk repair, steps, walks, patios. John Dynneson. 612-247-1517. B-13

### COMPUTER REPAIR/SERVICE

Harmony PC computer repair, service, instruction. Service in your home. 20 years exp. State Courts, Microsoft. Woman-owned. 651-605-5804. [www.harmoniypc.us](http://www.harmoniypc.us) 8-13

### EMPLOYMENT

The Longfellow/Nokomis Messenger is looking for local reporters to write news and feature stories on a freelance basis. Pay is based on small stipend per story. Journalism students or graduates are preferred, but not required. Prior newspaper experience preferred.

### FLOORING

Drennen's Hardwood Floors - Sanding, install, repair. 25 years experience. Call David 612-877-2019. 8-13

### FOR SALE

For Sale: Vintage 1900-1949 lights, house hardware, doors, tubs, radiators, etc. Also furniture hardware. 651-644-9270. 20% off with ad. B-12

### HALL FOR RENT

Spacious, clean and refurbished hall for rent. Parties, Birthdays, Weddings, Anniversaries, etc. call the Post @ 612-724-9909 or 612-724-8611. B-13

### HANDYMAN

Dr. House does it all: From a leaky faucet to a new addition. I can save you money on electrical and plumbing. Call John at 651-231-5652. B-13

### HAULING

Just Call, We Haul, for free estimates for garage, attic, and basement clean-ups. Call 612-724-9733. 7-13

### LAWN

All your GREEN needs: Mowing/Lawn Care/Landscaping, 20+ Years in Mpls. Call 612-781-3420. [SorensenLawnCare.com](http://SorensenLawnCare.com) 7-13

### LESSONS

KinderSing! Engaging children 6 wks to 3 yrs & their parents/guardian in music through singing, movement, stories & play. June/July enrollment available. Call Blue Tree Music Education at 612.388.5014 for info.

### PAINTING

Interior/exterior painting, enameling, plaster patching, free estimates. Bob. 651-633-5565. 12-13

### PAINTING

Wallpaper removal, painting, small jobs wanted. Jim 651-698-0840. 9-13

### PIANO TUNING

Quality piano tuning and repair. Reasonable rates. Call Robert Clough @ 612-722-7586 or e-mail: [robtclough@aol.com](mailto:robtclough@aol.com). 12-13

### REAL ESTATE

Flourish Realty LLC. Full Service Real Estate/Property Management Services. Local Realtor®, Ecobroker®, & Resident, Daniel Schultz: 612-408-0233, [dan@flourishrealty.net](mailto:dan@flourishrealty.net) 7-13

### RENTALS

Office or therapy space for rent: On bus route. Easy access to light rail. Located at Minnehaha Ave S. and 42nd St. Open to build out. 2nd floor office space available. Call Jim between 8 a.m. 2 p.m. 612-729-2316 or email: [KRZ@NELSONELECTRICINC.COM](mailto:KRZ@NELSONELECTRICINC.COM). B-1

### SERVICES

Custom Remodeling - Roofing, siding, exterior/interior painting, Sheetrock, taping and texturing. Marty 612-724-8819. 8-13

Sheetrock, tape, texture, paint, free estimates. Dick Evans, 612-889-9228, 952-888-0600. 8-13

Concrete work: Steps, sidewalks, patios, driveways. Licensed, bonded, insured. Call Tom Seemon, 612-721-2530. 11-13

Tuckpointing and repairs of steps--foundations--chimneys--Humid basement repairs--concrete steps and slabs repaired. 31 yrs Curt 651-698-4743 / c 651-210-9521 7-13

### WANTED

\*\*WANTED\*\* - Old Stereo, HiFi Equipment, HAM, and Cameras. Andy 651-329-0515. 4-14

### WANTED TO BUY

Paying the most cash for your furniture, dishes, glassware, knick-knacks, costume jewelry, antiques, pictures, lamps, household items, etc. I make house calls. Mary. 612-729-3110. 9-13

**Classifieds**  
**\$1 per word**

## Messenger advertisers get results!

There's a reason why most of the advertisers on this page run an ad in the Messenger every month. Find out more how you can use the Messenger in your marketing program.

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# What's Cookin'...

By COLETTE MULLENMASTER

## Minnehaha Lake Wine & Spirits with Steve Krause

**CM:** Minnehaha Lake Wine and Spirits has been around a long time. Where did it get its start?

**SK:** Minnehaha Liquor was among the first liquor stores licensed in Minneapolis after the repeal of prohibition. I don't know the exact date but I have calendars and other memorabilia dating back to the mid 1930's. Originally we were on the north side of Lake St. across from Minneapolis Moline. In those days home delivery was a big part of the business because of the stigma associated with being seen in a liquor store. Thankfully those days are gone. Today beer, wine, and spirits are socially accepted and enjoyed by most people as food accompaniments and for celebrating the joys in life. Also much has been written about the health benefits of moderate consumption.

**CM:** Longfellow has seen a re-vitalization over the years and recently won City Pages Best Minneapolis neighborhood. What is it that Minnehaha Lake Wine and Spirits considers as the best thing about doing business in this community?

**SK:** I have owned and operated this business for the past 24 years. Obviously during that time I have seen and been a part of many changes in our neighborhood. Most of them for the better. The



things that I enjoy most about doing business in this community are the cultural diversity of our residents, the progressive nature of our politics and the spirit of tolerance that I feel in my interactions with the people in our neighborhood.

**CM:** How does Minnehaha Lake Wine and Spirits see itself in the community over the next 10 years?

**SK:** My plan for the business in the coming years is for continued growth. We will continue to offer great selection and service at the lowest prices possible. I also plan to remain active in the community. I have been a member of the Lake Street Council, Co-Chair and Board member of the Longfellow Business Association and Board member for the East Lake St. Special Services District. I have enjoyed my participation and involvement in this community and plan to continue.

### HOT TIP!

### KINKY Liqueur Summertime Cocktails

#### Get Kinky Tonight

2 ounces Kinky on the rocks. Rocks glass.

#### Kinky 7

1 part Kinky and one part 7up. Tom Collins glass.

#### Kinky Bubbles

1 part Prosecco and 1 part Kinky. Champagne Flute

#### Kinkytini

1 part each of Kinky, Opulent Vodka and cranberry juice. Chilled Martini glass.



Kinky and Opulent Vodka are both bottled in Princeton Minnesota. Kinky is a blend of mango, passion fruit and blood orange. Enjoy responsibly! Please visit [longfellownokomisessenger.com](http://longfellownokomisessenger.com) to see the Minnehaha Wine and Spirits video which includes a demo of making the Kinky cocktails.

### Minnehaha Lake Wine and Spirits

2613 East Lake Street Minneapolis, MN 55406 • 612-729-9371 • [www.minnehahalake.com](http://www.minnehahalake.com)

### Bikes, Beer & Bemusement



## Tour de Fat makes its way back to Minneapolis

Get excited because the traveling bike festival known as Tour de Fat will be once again cycling its way to Minneapolis this month.

Beginning at 10 a.m. on July 27th, New Belgium Brewing will bring a "ballyhoo of bikes and beer" to Loring Park.

If you are unfamiliar with Tour de Fat, it is a free, family-friendly event that carries with it costumes, local food, eccentric entertainment, a parade, unusual bike contests and the joy of cycling.

The day opens with a massive bicycle parade that bobs and weaves through city streets, an event for all skill levels; all are welcome and imaginative costumes are encouraged.

For the remainder of the afternoon, the stages light up with wild and exciting acts all while the park becomes a celebration like none you have seen.

"The pinnacle of Tour de Fat is the ceremonious car-for-bike swap. At each of the 15 Tour de Fat stops, one person will become the center of the show as he or she gets up on

stage, hands over their car keys and pledges to live one year car-free. Each car-for-bike swapper will choose a local bike shop to help turn a \$2,250 budget into an ultimate car-replacement commuter bike. Vehicles for Charity will auction the cars, with proceeds," says New Belgium.

Other tents and attractions include the crowd-pleasing Lips of Faith Tent, the Le Tigre Tent, Port-a-oke, Bike Pit, and Slow Ride.

The festival benefits non-profit organizations like the Midtown Greenway Coalition, Bicycling Alliance of Minnesota, Minnesota Off Road Cyclists, and Minneapolis Off-Road Cycling Advocates through beer and merchandise purchases.

In 2012, Tour de Fat drew a crowd of 3,000 people, with 800 cyclists in the costumed parade, all to raise \$19,000 to benefit the city's cycling community.

Join us in Loring Park to see what TDF is all about. For more information visit the New Belgium Brewing TDR webpage.



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