

messenger

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Nokomis homes on Home Tour

Minneapolis continues stadium debate despite stall in Legislature

By JAN WILLMS

Although a plan for a Vikings stadium touted by Mayor R.T. Rybak is as up and down as a yo-yo at the Minnesota legislature, ideas and discussions continue to swirl around the team's future.

Minneapolis residents have been debating the pros and cons of a Downtown East Vikings stadium plan promoted by Rybak, as the mayor has brought his case to the people with neighborhood forums.

With seven City Council members now supporting the controversial plan, Rybak has cited the benefits to the hospitality industry, the growth in jobs, and the lowering of property taxes as major reasons for forging ahead with this proposal.

The \$975 million stadium would be funded by contributions of \$427 million from the Vikings, \$398 million from the state and \$150 million from the city. In addition, the team would provide \$327 million and the city \$189 million in operating costs. The stadium would be built on the Metrodome site in downtown Minneapolis, with hopes of a 2016 opening.

Facing a mixed crowd of supporters and opponents, Rybak fielded questions at an April 10

gathering of about 100 city residents at the Nokomis Recreation Center.

Admitting there is a lot of confusion about the return in investment from the plan, and that it might require 57 doctoral theses to figure it all out, Rybak nonetheless cited the importance of the project in benefitting the hospitality industry.

"We need to stop and look at the people working at the jobs in restaurants and parking ramps," he said. He said a lot of those workers are immigrants, and their jobs are important to them.

"I am not a big advocate of referendum government."

- Mayor R.T. Rybak

By redirecting city sales taxes to fund the \$150 million, Rybak emphasized that the plan would invest in the hospitality industry while lowering property taxes by aiding the city-owned Target Center.

"The issue is whether we as a city have control over this," Rybak said.



Facing a mixed crowd of supporters and opponents, Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak fielded questions at an April 10 gathering of about 100 city residents at the Nokomis Recreation Center. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

"I have tried for 10 years for us to have some control over taxes. The state imposes, and the state has 100 per cent control. For the first time ever, we would have control. The state would take its share to use for the Vikings and give us the remainder for economic devel-

opment." Rybak added that the stadium would not just be for the Vikings games. "They have 10 dates per year," he explained. "It would be used for many other things, such as soccer games and concerts."

His view that the stadium would act as a huge job generator for the construction industry was met with approval by union members in attendance.

"There's a lot of anti-union, racist policy going on with local and federal government," one woman claimed. "I'm not a big sports fan, but this is the best thing we can do."

As one person attending said the issue was all about building a Vikings stadium for a billionaire, and another rose to disagree, the mayor called for everyone to be respectful of each others' views. He made this comment a few times during the forum, and was able to keep the discussion running smoothly.

Rybak said he could not quantify how important having an NFL franchise in the city is, how much it will draw business in. He said the real issue is replacing property tax with a sales tax on hospitality.

He also expressed that if he had control of the money, his number one issues would be education and transportation. "I don't put the Vikings at number one," he said.

The audience questions and views seemed to be split in support and opposition of the mayor's plan. One man expressed his support because he sees this as a great opportunity for Minneapolis not to have to raise property taxes.

opment."

Some audience members expressed concern, however, that the stadium funding issue is not being put to a vote.

The City Charter adopted language in 1997 that requires a city-wide vote when Minneapolis spends more than \$10 million on a stadium.

A resident asked Rybak how he could say people do not have a right to vote on it, questioning whether such action would be legal.

Rybak said the charter amendment does not apply in this case, based on an oral opinion from the city's counsel.

This is the statement City Attorney Susan Segal has issued regarding the charter issue:

"Based on my reading of the current proposal the legislature would direct the Commissioner of Revenue to retain a part of Convention Center taxes for the purpose of paying off certain capital and operating expenses required for the proposed Vikings stadium. If that is the case, the taxes would be outside the control of the City and our Charter provisions."

"I am not a big advocate of referendum government," Rybak



Some audience members at the Nokomis Recreation Center expressed concern that the stadium funding issue is not being put to a vote. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

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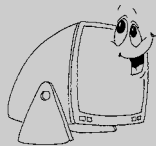
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Now it's easier than ever to keep in touch with the Messenger. Letters to the editor and news releases for publication can be sent via e-mail at denisw@aplacore-member.com. Be sure to send copy in the body of the e-mail, and please mark whether the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

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CORRECTION

In the March issue of the Longfellow Nokomis Messenger the "What's Cookin'" column had an incorrect phone number for Augustana. The phone number should have been 612-238-5255.

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Sabo Bridge may reopen soon

Minneapolis considers opening the bridge back up before a permanent repair is completed.



Workers install a variety of equipment on the Sabo Bridge in order to collect data about how the bridge responds to weather conditions. That data will be used to help fashion a repair plan. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN
The Martin Olav Sabo Bridge may soon open back up to pedestrian and bike traffic. Experts are investigating whether Minnesota's only cable-stayed suspension bridge could be opened to users before a permanent fix is made, according to Minneapolis Public Works deputy director Heidi Hamilton. The five-year-old bridge has been closed since Feb. 19, 2012 when a pair of cables was found lying on the bridge deck. The Chicago-based firm Wiss, Janney and Elstner (WJE) is currently investigating why the anchor plates holding the cables fractured. Minneapolis and Hennepin County are splitting the \$150,000 fee. In order to reopen the Sabo Bridge, one major question needs to be answered. "We need to know if the shoring in place is adequate to support a live load of bicyclists and pedestrians," said Hamilton. The original design engineering firm, URS, will answer that question in early May. Meanwhile, the search for answers as to why the anchor plates fractured continues. Several instruments were installed by city workers and WJE staff

the week of April 16 that will provide experts with important data about how the bridge handles weather and wind conditions. According to Minneapolis Bridge Engineer Jack Yunza, anemometers were installed to track wind speed, duration of wind and temperature during wind events. Strain gauges, displacement transducers and accelerometers will provide actual stress range movement, amplitude and frequency of cable vibrations experienced by the bridge during wind events. These instruments will be monitored 24 hours a day. Together, these two pieces of data will be correlated to provide a complete picture of what's happening to the bridge in all kinds of weather, explained Yunza. The data from these instruments will then be reviewed alongside the report of why the plates broke. The metallurgical analysis of the broken plates is being done by Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. Yunza stated, "The information gathered will become the basis for the repair plan."



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Trail Watch riders keep Greenway safe

Volunteers report suspicious behavior and unsafe conditions, help fix flat tires, and provide a friendly presence on the trail

By **TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN**

Trail Watch riders help keep the Midtown Greenway safe every night of the week.

Traveling in groups of three or more, the riders act as extra eyes and ears for law enforcement by observing and reporting suspicious behavior or unsafe conditions. Trail Watchers do not intervene in incidents they come across in the Greenway; rather they're a friendly presence on the trail and report criminal or intimidating behaviors that are noticed during the shift to police.

The program began as an offshoot of the Minneapolis bicycle forum mplslove.com in response to the number of assaults and robberies on the Greenway that had happened in the fall of 2008. People talking together on the forum organized a citizen's patrol. In 2009, the Midtown Greenway Coalition took over the program and formalized it. There are similar programs in cities such as New York, Portland and Anchorage.

FIGHTING PERCEPTION THE TRENCH ISN'T SAFE

Andrew Paule is a single dad with a daughter who uses the Greenway as a basic route from Uptown to the River Road. He joined the bike-mounted safety patrol because he thought it would make her safer, as well as other riders.

"The goal of the program has always been to make the riders on the Greenway feel safer," said Paule, who leads rides on Fridays and Saturdays. "A perception existed that the Greenway was unsafe at night, and even though it is much safer to ride it than city streets, many people avoided it. Plus, the 'trench' (between 28th St. and Hennepin) is down, away from others, and can be eerie at night alone for some."

"It's important to know that crime against bikers and others is rare in the Greenway," pointed out Midtown Greenway Coalition Executive Director and Longfellow resident Soren Jensen. "In fact, the Greenway is one of the safest places to ride a bike."

But like other places in the city, crime does exist, and Trail Watch riders help prevent it by their presence.

"I think we have had an impact," Paule noted. "Crime is down on the Greenway significantly. We had zero incidents between 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. for two years."

There was a small crime wave this winter of two to three incidents near the 12th Ave. bridge. Trail Watch riders responded by patrolling that area more frequently, particularly during the time the incidents were occurring.

Gabriel Hoffman, the Seward representative on the coalition board, heads up the Mid-



Trail Watch volunteers (left to right) Andrew Paule, Tom Kern, Kathy Koch prepare for a Sunday evening ride. To volunteer with Trail Watch, send an email to trailwatch@midtowngreenway.org, or visit the Trail Watch page at <http://www.midtowngreenway.org/trailusers/Trail%20Watch/TrailWatch.html>.

town Greenway Coalition's Trail Watch program and is the Thursday night ride leader. "I have come across the aftermath of several situations," he said. "We provide what help we can, and call 911, but most nights it is pretty quiet out there. I keep my eyes open when I'm down there, but I've never had a problem, nor been in an uncomfortable situation."

The Midtown Greenway Coalition encourages people to ride in pairs after dark when possible, and is launching a "buddy up" program this year.

"While Trail Watch will always be our #1 crime prevention program, the coalition has also recently started a Crime Prevention Task Force to look at more things we can do to help prevent crime, from working on more lighting and cameras, to hiring private security patrols," said Jensen.

WHAT IS A RIDE LIKE?

Trail Watch riders set off nightly at around dusk from the Midtown building entry on 10th Ave., acknowledging that people using the Greenway tend to get uneasy around that time of day. They put on their vests and notify police dispatch that they're heading out. Then they begin traversing the trail between Lake Calhoun and the Metrodome.

"For the first couple of hours after dark there are still a lot of riders out and we believe that many know who we are and feel safer because of it," said Paule. "The police also know who we are now, and respond better. The dispatchers in particular know where we are now, and get cars out quickly."

All rides carry a basic mechanical kit (fixing flats, broken chains, etc.) and will help people who are not able to fix their bikes. Trail Watch riders also sweep glass and pick up trash (especially glass bottles) to help out.

Each night the rides strike a different pace and tone.

"Friday night ride is a fast ride and we tend to do a lot of 'up top' riding," said Paule. "We have had problems with people tossing rocks off of bridges, and problems with people hanging out on the Greenway. Being at street level al-

lows us to peer down and see what is going on. The people who cause the problem spots know that we are out and looking for them and not simply riding along the Greenway."

Saturday tends to be the "pass out lights" ride. Paule and another rider buy lights and distribute them to people riding without. "It helps keep all of us safer," he said.

Wednesdays used to be the WOW (Women Ride on Wednesdays) ride. In the winter, there's hot cocoa on Sundays.

"The riders tend to know each other pretty well," pointed out Paule, and each ride is a social event for those involved.

Just as there are more riders out on the Greenway during nice weather, so there are more Trail Watch volunteers during those months.

"Biking is very seasonal for many people," observed Paule. "They ride a lot during the spring, some in the summer (it's hot) and basically stop for the fall and winter. It's like gyms - you can't find a parking spot in early January, but you can use any weight station or machine you want in late summer at any time."

"But, 30 years ago there were maybe a dozen people who rode in the winter. Now there are thousands, and every year more people are doing it. So we are getting more people out year round for Trail Watch."

Some Trail Watch volunteers come out for several rides a week; others show up once a year. "It's a volunteer thing and we view showing up even for an hour as a good thing," noted Paule.

There is an incentive program for Trail Watch riders courtesy of local businesses. Bryant-Lane Bowl, Common Roots Cafe, Galactic Pizza, Pizza Luce provide free food once a month. Additionally, riders who participate in six or more rides in a quarter get a 10% discount on in-stock parts and accessories and a 5% discount on bikes at Free Wheel Bike, as well as maintenance and tune-ups from Bikes and Pieces. Wells Fargo donated \$1,000 to continue development of the program.

Learn more at <http://www.midtowngreenway.org>. Or, email trailwatch@midtowngreenway.org.

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CATOYA'S CORNER
by Catoya N. Clausell



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Viewpoints

Nichole McIntosh has four favorite places around our neighborhoods where she takes visitors. She sent her list in response to a recent column in which I asked for good places to take family and friends who come to visit (Hiawatha Notebook, April 2012). At the top of her list is Sea Salt Eatery, that fine restaurant in the refectory building at Minnehaha Falls. If you choose your night and seating carefully, you can hear live music on one side of you and Minnehaha Falls on the other side. The menu is mostly seafood. "I like the crayfish po'boy," notes McIntosh.

Second on her list is Matt's Bar, 3500 Cedar Ave. S. It's the home of the Jucy Lucy, a burger with the cheese inside the meat instead of on top. (Yes, Matt's spells this burger without an 'i.' "Visitors have to try a Jucy Lucy," she says. Matt, by the way, is Matt Bristol, who started the bar in 1954.

Next on her list is the Riverview Theatre 3800 42nd Ave S. It's been a part of the neighborhood since 1948. "Who doesn't love cheap movies!" says our reader. Low prices for movies is just part of the attraction of this theater. Also appealing is the eclectic film selection. Plus, you can get popcorn to go.



Hiawatha Notebook

By TOM GILSEAN

Readers respond with favorite places

Fourth on the McIntosh list is the Birchwood Cafe, 3311 E. 25th St. Longtime residents may remember this as a grocery store. Built in 1926, this was originally a dairy and converted to a grocery store in the 1940s. Since 1995, it's been a very nice neighborhood restaurant with plenty of vegetarian and vegan offerings. Says our reader: "Great neighborhood spot with delicious desserts."

How about you? What's on your list of best places to take visitors around our neighborhoods. Let me know in a letter or an email.

* * * * *

Traffic on Minnehaha Avenue should be sped up, not slowed down. That's the view of John O'Neill, who responded to my recent column suggesting slower speeds and more room for bikes and pedestrians along Min-

nehaha. "I disagree," he writes. "I believe all should be done to make Minnehaha as auto friendly as possible."

O'Neill says Minnehaha is a good — and necessary — alternative to Hiawatha for cars. He says Hiawatha "has become a parking lot due to the traffic light situation." Moving more cars onto Minnehaha would reduce "gas wasted sitting at lights" as well as accidents and deaths at the train crossings.

* * * * *

As for my thoughts about what's happened to the mail, Michael LePree suggests I don't know what I am talking about. He writes: "Obviously you are totally clueless as to your facts so why would you embarrass yourself by writing about something you know nothing about."

* * * * *

(Tom Gilsean has been writing a column for the Longfellow Nokomis Messenger since 1997. You can reach him via email at tomgilsean@gmail.com. Or write to him the old-fashioned way in care of the Messenger.)

Annual Neighborhood Meeting – May 15

NENA's Annual Neighborhood Meeting will be May 15, 6:30pm at Crosstown Covenant Church, 5540 30th Ave S. We'll start with dinner at 6:30pm, followed by the meeting at 7:15pm, with Board elections and volunteer recognition.

If you are committed to neighborhood improvement, citizen participation, advocacy and community building, consider volunteering your time, energy and talents by running for the Board of Directors. It is a great way to stay current on neighborhood news, and participate in discussions of issues and how NENA can best serve the neighborhood.

We will be electing two representatives from each of our neighborhoods: Keewaydin, Wenonah, Morris Park, and Minnehaha. Neighborhood representatives on the Board must live in the neighborhood they represent. If you are interested in running, please call the NENA office (612-724-5652) for an information packet.

If you are new to the neighborhood, or to NENA, the Annual Meeting is the best time to learn about your neighborhood organization and its work. It's also a good time to meet other people from the neighborhood.

Growing Monarch Habitat Workshop

NENA will be offering its annual Growing Monarch Habitat Workshop on Saturday, May 26, 10-11am at the Nokomis Community Center. The workshop includes an overview of the monarch butterfly life cycle, and the different types of native plants that it needs for food and shelter. A "Garden-to-Go" kit is included in the registration price. It has a selection of native plants to start your own monarch garden, and you'll learn how and where to plant them.

NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

By Rita Ulrich and Doug Walter, NENA Staff

Meetings, Monarchs, and the Big Garage Sale

The registration fee is \$25, but people who want to attend the workshop and do not need the plants may attend for free. Please call or email the NENA office for a registration form (612-724-5652 or nena@nokomiseast.org). Don't delay – the number of garden kits is limited. Registrations are due May 18.

Neighborhood Garage Sale is June 23

The annual Nokomis East Neighborhood Garage Sale will be Saturday, June 23, with advertised hours of 8am – 4pm. If you want to hold a sale, and be included in the map and address listing, registrations will be accepted up until June 11. Last year's survey of participants showed that people wanted the maps available earlier, so the deadline is earlier this year.

There's no fee for participating, but you must live south of Minnehaha Parkway and East of Cedar Avenue.

Here's how it works: You plan your own garage sale, and NENA will publicize the event in garage sale calendars, Craigslist, etc. We'll create a listing and map of sale locations for shoppers. At the end, we'll ask participants to complete a short survey to let us know how it went.

The best way to get good traffic at your sale is to recruit your neighbors to hold a garage sale. Shoppers will look for clusters on the map to maximize the number of sales they can hit. Registration forms are available at the NENA office (3000 East 50th St) and on our website: www.nokomiseast.org

Do You Want a Community Garden?

NENA has had a small group of volunteers working for the last two years on getting a community garden started in Nokomis East. It has done extensive research, but is at a point now where, without additional people getting involved, the project will run out of steam.

The community garden gurus tell us that it takes a group of 10 committed people to get a garden going. If you are interested in working on a community garden, and can commit to spending a year working on it, please contact the NENA office (612-724-5652). Without new volunteers, it's unlikely we will be able to start a community garden in the foreseeable future.

Upcoming NENA Meetings and Events

Annual Neighborhood Meeting 6:30 PM, Tuesday, May 15, at Crosstown Covenant Church, 5540 30th Ave S. The meeting will start at 7:15 PM.

NENA Board: 7 PM, Thursday, May 17, at NENA.

Important NENA Dates for 2012: Neighborhood Garage Sale – June 23; National Night Out – August 7; Minneapolis Monarch Festival – September 8; Night Before New Year's Eve Party – December 30.

Last-minute schedule changes are posted on our Calendar page at www.nokomiseast.org or you may call (612) 724-5652.

Please note that the NENA office will be closed May 21- 28. Staff will be attending the Neighborhoods USA conference in Indianapolis, and giving a presentation on the Minneapolis Monarch Festival.

Metro Blooms presents Raingarden Workshops May 12, June 7

Metro Blooms is proud to present Raingarden Workshops with sponsorship from the City of Minneapolis.

On Saturday, May 12, a Raingarden Workshop will be offered from 10 a.m.-noon at Longfellow Recreation Center, 3435 36th Ave. So.

Metro Blooms will also be offering another Raingarden Workshop on Thursday, June 7, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Nokomis Lutheran Church, 5011 31st Ave. So.

In each of these two-hour workshops you will learn the basics of why, where, and how to

install a raingarden. During the presentation, you will learn what makes up a watershed, how pollution affects a watershed, and how residents can improve water quality. We will cover healthier lawn care practices including less-toxic lawn care, using rainbarrels, and using na-

tive plants, trees and shrubs. We will present the basics of raingarden design, installation, and maintenance, including where to install a rain garden, how to measure infiltration, how to size a raingarden, how to prepare soil, how to redirect downspouts, and how to choose suitable na-

tive plants. Participants will receive a packet of supporting materials including a homework assignment to guide the planning of their own rain garden.

To register for this and other Metro Blooms workshops visit www.metroblooms.org or call 651-698-1390.

Construction resumes at 46th and 46th development site

By IRIC NATHANSON

An abandoned construction site at one of Longfellow's most prominent intersections is showing new signs of life now that work has resumed on the long-stalled development at 46th Avenue and 46th Street.

The intersection was to have been the site of an upscale condominium development but the project was abandoned when the bottom fell out of the condo market in 2006 and 2007. Last year, the property was sold to a development team led by Michael Lander, who built West River Commons at Lake Street and West River Parkway.

In place of a 32 unit condominium, Lander is building a 48 unit apartment building at the 46th Street site. The apartments will be built on the foundation that had been laid for the earlier development.

Lander said he and his team are using the existing foundation because of their emphasis on adaptive reuse. "We could have started over and ripped out the foundation, but we chose not to do that. It is part of our green focus. We have encountered some challenges as we have moved ahead with construction, but we are overcoming them," Lander said.

The Minneapolis developer said that his group decided to convert the project from ownership to market-rate rental because of fundamental changes in the housing market. "Right now, it is very difficult to finance condos. Buyers are nervous after the market collapse."

"We are finding that a lot of people, who may have opted for ownership in the past, now want to rent, so we are targeting that segment of the market composed of one and two person households," Lander explained.

The 46th and 46th project, now renamed, Parkway West Apartments, is one of several rental developments now under construction in Longfellow, in-



In place of a 32 unit condominium, developer Michael Lander is building a 48 unit apartment building at the 46th Street site. The apartments will be built on the foundation that had been laid for the earlier development. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

cluding the Station 38 Apartments at Hiawatha LRT's 38th Street station and the Oaks Station Place at the 46th Street station.

The Parkway West Apartments will have the same height and footprint of the earlier project but it will look less massive, according to Lander. "We have designed the facade to have more articulation so it resembles a series of town homes. We think it will provide a welcom-

ing architectural statement for people driving over the Ford Bridge into Minneapolis, and it will replace what is now something of a neighborhood eyesore."

Lander said that the project will make use of extensive landscaping along the sides of the building fronting on 46th Street and 46th Avenue. "Landscaping is important to us because it adds character to the development. The landscaping at West

River Commons is a good example of the approach we use," he said.

With its location on two major bus routes and an LRT station a half mile away, Parkway West is billing itself as a transit oriented development. Residents will receive a monthly transit pass and will have access to an "Hourcar," a rental vehicle they can use on a short term basis. If security and insurance issues can be resolved, the

Hourcar may be available to neighborhood residents as well as to Parkway West tenants.

Lander said that construction of the project is scheduled to be completed in early 2013. It will include a mix of one and two bedroom apartments with a one bedroom unit averaging about 640 square foot. The smaller units will "live big," according to Lander, through the use of properly-scaled appliances and a design that maximizes natural light.

Tenants will have their own bike storage units and access to a rooftop deck and a community room.

Rental rates, in the \$1.50-\$2.00 per square foot range, will be set two to three months prior to completion of the project, Lander said.

The Parkway West project has generated opposition from some nearby residents who feel the project is out of scale with the surrounding neighborhood and will exacerbate traffic problems in the area. In an August 1, 2011 letter to the city's Community Planning and Economic Development Department, the Longfellow Community Council acknowledged these concerns, but said it was supporting several zoning variances requested for the development, because the Council believed that the "long-delayed project will be of great benefit to the Longfellow community."



The 46th and 46th project, now renamed, Parkway West Apartments, is one of several rental developments now under construction in Longfellow. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

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What's Cookin' ...

By COLETTE MULLENMASTER

Fireroast Mountain Cafe owner Jeff Fisher

1. How did you happen to become the owner of the Fireroast Mountain Cafe?

When I discovered that Fireroast was for sale, I made the decision to buy it because I really wanted to offer food and drink that was not just delicious, but also good for people, and for the environment. It's been really rewarding for me to see people excited about what we're doing here, the quality of our food and coffee and the friendly community atmosphere.



Jeff Fisher

2. What made you choose this community as a location?

As a runner, I have been a part of the river community for over a decade and have enjoyed the feel of the Longfellow / Howe neighborhood. Several years ago, I had Tim at Prairie Woodworking do some cabinetry work for our home. Now as a local neighborhood business owner, it feels so great to build relationships with people like Tim to do work on the cafe and keep money and jobs in the neighborhood.

3. What is the best thing about running a cafe in this community?

Unlike many coffee shops where people's lives run parallel to each other and barely intersect, at Fireroast, people genuinely connect. I think there's a sense of friendliness and relaxation here that makes that possible. Customers enjoy that it's the owner who makes their latte, and the pastry chef who hands them their fresh-baked scone. This neighborhood appreciates that Fireroast isn't just another café, it's THEIR café.

Moroccan-Spiced Tomato Soup

Ingredients:

3 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon ground cumin
1 teaspoon mild chili powder
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
2 teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon black pepper
1 large onion, diced

4 cloves garlic, minced
2 pounds organic tomatoes (fresh or canned)
4 cups vegetable broth
4 cups cooked chickpeas
3 tablespoons chopped fresh mint
3 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
Yogurt for garnish (optional)
Red pepper flakes for garnish (optional)

Heat the oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Add the diced onion, and sauté until the onion begins to soften and caramelize (about 5 minutes). Add the spices and the minced garlic, and sauté for an additional 5 minutes, adding a splash of oil if necessary to keep the onions from sticking. Remove the pot from the heat. Purée the onion mixture with the tomatoes and the vegetable broth. Return the soup to the stove and add the chickpeas, mint, and parsley. Heat the soup through, and salt to taste. Serve with a spoonful of yogurt, a dash of red pepper flakes and a sprig of mint.

Fireroast Mountain Cafe

3800 37th Avenue South Minneapolis 612-724-9895 fireroastmountaincafe.com



For Allen and Joanne Hinderaker, light was an important consideration when they were putting together their kitchen remodeling plan.

Nokomis area homes featured in Mpls-St. Paul Home Tour

By IRIC NATHANSON

Kris Davidson faced a small crisis as she was ready to start remodeling her kitchen. The day before the tiles for the backsplash were scheduled to be delivered, the tile company burned down. But Kris did not have to

face the crisis by herself. She had a design consultant, Christine Nelson, who got to work right away, lining up a replacement supplier. "With Christine's help, we didn't miss a beat," Kris recalled. "That wouldn't have happened if I was on my own."

Kris's home at 5145 29th Ave South will be open to the public on April 28 and 29 as part of the Minneapolis-St. Paul House tour, now in its 25th year.

In 1996, Kris purchased her compact Cape Cod in Nokomis East. "Right from the beginning, I loved the house, but I knew it needed work," she recalled. "The kitchen was dark and dated, with orange laminate countertops. I knew those had to go."

After living with the orange laminate for more than ten years, the Nokomis homeowner decided that she was ready to move ahead with her remodeling in 2010. She selected Christine Nelson to work with her at the recommendation of some friends. "I knew I wanted a cottage look in the kitchen. Christine helped me pin down the specifics in terms of color and design, and that served as the basis for my plan."

A focal point for the plan was a colorful tile art piece, made by SoMi Tile, that served as backsplash behind the sink. Kris's plan included all new appliances, kitchen cupboards and a remodeled bathroom. "We took everything down to the studs and started over again. Luckily, I had a friend that I could stay with while the construction was underway, so I was able to move out. I would advise people who are planning a major remodeling to do that whenever possible. It makes the whole process much less stressful."

Kris was not able to bump out the walls of her compact kitchen, but she was able to take out a chimney that was no longer

Continued on page 7

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Allen and Joanne Hinderaker, who have lived in their home facing Lake Nokomis since 1978, had remodeled once before, in 1986, but decided that it was time for another makeover.

Home Tour

Continued from page 6

being used. "We gained an extra four feet in the kitchen, and that made a big difference. We also took out the dropped ceiling, and that gave us more height and more storage space," she said.

An avid Minneapolis-St. Paul tour-goer, Kris said she gained a lot of good ideas from people whose homes were on the tour in earlier years. "I am glad that I will be able to give back some of what I learned to the people who will be coming through here at the end of the month."

For Allen and Joanne Hinderaker, light was an important consideration when they were putting together their kitchen remodeling plan. "All these years, we had been chopping carrots in the dark, and we did realize that," said Joanne, whose home at 5341 Woodlawn Boulevard is also on the Home Tour.

The Hinderakers, who have lived in their home facing Lake Nokomis since 1978, had remodeled once before, in 1986, but decided that it was time for another makeover. The 1986 remodeling had included a kitchen cabinet hung from the ceiling over their central island. But the cabinet made the room look small and the island impeded traffic flow in the modest-sized kitchen.

Joanne and Allen installed all new appliances, cabinets and lighting in the kitchen, and remodeled a tiny half-bath on the first floor of their Tudor-style home. Because they were not able to bump out the walls of the kitchen and the bathroom, they had to do some careful planning with the help of their designer, Diana Berndt.

"You have to be creative when you are working with a small space. Every inch counts. You can do a lot with less, but you have to be thoughtful about it. And you have to consider the trade offs, if you are working with a budget. If you upgrade the counters then you may have to get by with a less extensive lighting system."

"When you are getting ready to remodel, it is important to consider how you use the space. You need to consider what works now in the space you have, but what needs to be changed because it drives you a little crazy," Joanne said.

"The trust factor with your contractor is also important," she added. "We were lucky that

we were able to find Greg Hosch who was a good fit for us. Greg was very good at communicating. He kept us updated every step of the way, and that made a big difference for us."

"It is a little daunting to consider all the people who will be coming through our home," Joanne acknowledged, "but we are glad to be a part of the tour. We like living here in Nokomis, and we hope the tour can encourage more people to see the advantage of city living."

Other area homes on the tour include 2518 East 52nd Street in Nokomis East and 2852 35th Avenue South and 3520 35th Avenue South in



Kris Davidson's home at 5145 29th Ave South will be open to the public on April 28 and 29 as part of the Minneapolis-St. Paul House tour, now in its 25th year.

Longfellow.

The self-guided Minneapolis St. Paul House tour will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Satur-

day, April 28 and from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, April 29. More information is available on-line at www.msphometour.com.

Tour guides are also available at Hennepin County and St. Paul public libraries.





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The regional trail corridor extends south from Lake Nokomis Parkway in Minneapolis, along Cedar Avenue, adjacent to Solomon Park and west along E. 60th Street to Bloomington Avenue S. From there the trail route extends south into Richfield and then into Bloomington. It finally reaches the Minnesota River where it will connect with the proposed Minnesota Valley State Trail.

New bike trail to link Lake Nokomis with Minnesota River

Fat Lorenzo's owner concerned about safety along Cedar Avenue

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

In a few years, bicyclists will be able to hop on a trail and ride from Lake Nokomis to the Minnesota River.

Portions of the 7-mile Intercity Regional Trail are slated for construction in 2014. Right now, planners are accepting comments on the design.

"The Intercity Regional Trail will expand opportunities for safe recreation and commuting. It will provide convenient, off-street trail connections to the Three Rivers Park District regional trail system via the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail (which is nearing completion), as well as to the future state trail in the Minnesota River Valley. Trail users also will be able to connect to the Mall of America," said Jason McGrew-King of the Three Rivers Park District.

The Intercity Regional Trail will begin on the south side of Lake Nokomis, connecting the Minneapolis Ground Rounds trail system to the Minnesota River in Dakota County through the cities of Minneapolis, Richfield, and Bloomington.

Like the other regional trails operated by the Three Rivers Park District, the Intercity Regional Trail will be a paved, multi-use trail surface with mowed grass shoulders, according to McGrew-King. The majority of the 10-foot-wide, asphalt trail parallel existing city streets.

"In Minneapolis, trail users

will have good vantage points of Lake Nokomis. Also in Minneapolis, Edward Solomon Park offers natural areas and opportunities for passive recreation," McGrew-King pointed out. "Taft Park in Richfield offers a great deal of recreational opportunities, and Taft Lake will be undergoing significant water quality improvements. In Bloomington, the trail also will travel near Wright's Lake Park. Further south, the trail will provide views of the Minnesota River Valley."

In some areas, the trail will travel through an urban environment and will provide access to employment centers, shopping and restaurants, and will offer connections to mass transit, McGrew-King added.

There will be rest stops every mile.

FEDERAL FUNDS WILL HELP PAY FOR CONSTRUCTION

Most of the trail is not yet constructed, although there are a few pieces already in place. Work will begin on 3.8 miles between Lake Nokomis and the Mall of America in 2014, courtesy of a Federal Surface Transportation Program grant in the amount of \$5.5 million.

The trail segment between the Mall of America and Minnesota River will be constructed as resources are available and when the Minnesota Valley State

Trail or a feasible and acceptable crossing of Long Meadow Pond is complete.

It will cost \$348,000 for the portion of the trail in Minneapolis, which includes not only the cost of the trail but also that of modifying Old Cedar and Edgewater Blvd. The total project will cost an estimated \$8,994,000, of which \$630,000 is for right-of-way; the majority of this tab will be paid by federal funds. The annual cost of maintenance for the new section of trail will be about \$817, and will come out of the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation budget.

The bill did look larger for Minneapolis in the initial planning process, when it was proposed to replace the pedestrian bridge on Cedar to minimize vehicular conflicts and limit right-of-way. That option is no longer on the table.

CHANGES AT EDGEWATER AND OLD CEDAR

Changes in the area will affect how traffic moves. To make the trail crossing shorter, Edgewater Blvd. will be narrowed at the Cedar Ave. intersection to minimize the distance trail users will need to cross the street and better define the roadway intersection for motorists.

The entrance to Old Cedar Avenue from Cedar Avenue southbound will be reconfigured and will include a longer deceleration lane. Old Cedar Avenue will remain one-way southbound until 58th Street E. Old Cedar will be narrowed and one lane of parking removed. This will create separate walking and trail facilities, and include a 4-foot grass boulevard between the trail and sidewalk, adequate space for snow storage and space for loading/unloading of parked vehicles on Cedar Avenue.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS

Fat Lorenzo's owner Scott Siegel is skeptical that these changes will make the area safe enough for bicyclists. "I don't know why you'd want to put a bike on Cedar," he said. "I look at Cedar as a freeway. People drive fast around here."

Instead, Siegel thinks the trail should go down 16th Ave. S.

Siegel pointed out that Edgewater is a busy, uncontrolled intersection, one at which he already sees bicyclists injured at on a regular basis. "The reality is they're not going to stop the cars," Siegel said. He has advocated for turning Edgewater into a cul-de-sac to help solve some of the traffic woes. Siegel wishes that the parks department will convert the open space between Edgewater and the Lake Nokomis Parkway into a parking lot.

He noted that people use Old Cedar and Edgewater more than the parkway, both for travel and parking. Siegel is concerned

Continued on page 9

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Stadium

Continued from page 1

Others questioned how much the Vikings are really paying when they are also getting all the naming rights. "I would really like to have the real numbers," that individual said.

Kevin Carpenter, chief financial officer for the City of Minneapolis, said the stadium is not an investment of city resources that will generate a 500 per cent increase, but nonetheless is important.

"It's not what we get back, but what do we lose if we don't do it?" he asked.

One audience member cited the cost of suites that rent out for approximately \$47,000 to \$325,000 a year.

"We'll end up paying about \$75,000 per year per suite, and the Vikings will generate that from us," he said. "What is the real contribution the Vikings will make?"

Another person in attendance questioned the state's reliability as a funding source. "Why doesn't the city ask more of the state?" he wondered.

Rybak admitted that the state's funding sources seem to change every couple of weeks. "I'm not sure how they will fund it, and I feel bad that I can't speak more to how the state will do its funding," he said. He noted that with this stadium project women, small businesses and minorities will be



Dan Webster speaks to the crowd on behalf of the Vikings stadium, saying he thinks it offers a great opportunity for Minneapolis not to have to raise property taxes. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

a part of the plan.

"When we came to the table, we said we would only be involved if they were included," Rybak said.

Council member Sandy Colvin Roy, who recently decided to support the stadium plan, gives Rybak his majority support on the City Council.

Colvin Roy said her support for his proposal is primarily because it offers property tax relief.

"I understand that there are strong feelings about the topic of public funding for stadiums, but after a lot of investigation I came

to believe that this plan would bring substantial property tax relief to Minneapolis property tax payers, something I cannot ignore," she said.

"We can use sales taxes, the majority of which are collected in downtown, to ease the burden on property tax payers by covering the bills for Target Center," Colvin Roy said. "Minneapolis residents certainly contribute to the sales tax, especially the 1/2 per cent city-wide portion, but many people who come downtown for events or visit restaurants and businesses across the city also contribute a lot to

those taxes."

"City residents invest in our infrastructure and amenities," Colvin Roy continued, "but get increasingly less help to support those regional amenities. The mayor's proposal would help to correct that by spending the taxes collected in Minneapolis on city needs."

Ward 9 council member Gary Schiff, who along with Ward 2's Cam Gordon does not support the mayor's plan, disagreed.

"I don't oppose a new Vikings stadium," he said. "I oppose the horrible funding plan that places

the burden on everyone who eats and drinks in downtown Minneapolis, and robs the Convention Center and Target Center of funds they need to operate effectively."

Schiff said he does not believe a stadium bill will get through this legislative session. And based on recent events, he appears to be correct. In a vote April 16, a Minnesota House committee voted down the Vikings stadium bill, although in the last few days it has been brought to life again.

Citing his optimism that the DFL will take control of the House and Senate, and that the Vikings are not going anywhere, Schiff said next June is a time to have discussions about paying stadium costs fairly with user fees, not taxes on the meals of downtown workers.

"I do not accept the city attorney's verbal reading that a citizen vote is not required," Schiff added. He said the referendum to the City Charter was approved in 1997 because people do not trust politicians to spend money appropriately.

"I think that is more true today than ever, and people deserve to vote," Schiff said. He said he does not approve the relief of \$5 to \$12 per household for property tax in exchange for a \$625 million subsidy to the Vikings.

A formal hearing and preliminary vote by the Minneapolis City Council will be held April 24 at City Hall, 350 S. 5th St.

Bike trail

Continued from page 8

about removing one lane of parking on Old Cedar, pointing out it will not only affect his customers and attendees at Hope Lutheran Church, but also those who use the existing trails around Lake Nokomis.

As proposed, the trail will mean that half the sidewalk in front of his door will be taken

away. Access into his business and space for outdoor seating is a major concern for Siegel.

He's hoping for another neighborhood meeting at which to address his concerns, and those he's heard from other residents. "I don't think there's a lot of neighborhood support," Siegel stated.

COMMENT ON THE PLAN

The public has the opportunity

to provide comments from April 2 through May 1; written comments may be submitted by e-mail to ICRT@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org, by fax to 763-557-5248, or by mail to: Three Rivers Park District, Intercity Regional Trail, 3000 Xenium Lane N., Plymouth, MN 55441. Final trail design is expected to begin in late fall or early winter.

"The Intercity Regional Trail will connect several regional trails, providing excellent opportunities for people to live healthier lifestyles by using the Intercity Regional Trail and connecting trails for recreation and bicycle commuting. The trail will serve areas of Hennepin County that historically have been underserved by regional trail facilities."

Jason McGrew-King

Q & A With Trail Watch Organizer Gabriel Hoffman

What is the goal of the program?

"To keep the Midtown Greenway safe. The trail is, in fact, a lot safer than the surrounding streets, and we want to keep it that way."

What's a typical night like on the Greenway?

"On a good night, where there are no incidents, it's just a fun ride with a bunch of friends. And fortunately, most nights are good nights."

What sort of situations have you come across?

"Most nights, it is pretty quiet. We sometimes get rocks being thrown off of bridges, and with some frequency we have to deal with people passed out drunk under one or another of the bridges. On very rare occasions, we come upon the victim of a mugging (personally, I've only seen this once). Then there are the occasional odd ones — we had a person fall off one of the bridges and break his leg. Most of the



time, if we see anything, it is groups of young men who seem to be setting up for an attack, at which point we call it in and wait for the police from a safe distance away."

What does a ride with the Trail Watchers look like?

"Rides last about two hours, and the mileage depends a lot on who shows up, and what happens while we are on the ride. The most I've ever done in one night was about 25 miles, and the least (on a night with multiple events) was about 10."

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Motorists get rocked as they make the railroad crossing on East 35th Street

By JAN WILLMS

Wham! Bam! Bam!

These were the noises Elizabeth Tobias, who lives on 16th Avenue S. in Minneapolis, said she experienced as she drove her car over the railroad tracks on East 35th St. in Minneapolis.

"It scared the daylight out of me the first time I drove over those tracks," she said. "Thirty-second and thirty-eighth streets are perfectly nice, but the right-hand lane on 35th seems to be disappearing."

Tobias said there are no lane marks there, and the merging is not clear.

"Traffic can be challenging, and the person in the left lane will slow down a lot. People are trying to pass them on the right, and some people abruptly slow down," Tobias said.

She and her husband, Peter, cross the railroad tracks every morning from Monday through Friday to take their son to his school in Saint Paul, and they cross every weekday afternoon to bring him back. On Sundays they drive across the tracks on their way to church and back.

They have ample, first-hand experience of the jarring shaking to their car as they go over the uneven pavement.

Tobias said she was not sure who to complain to. "The train

tracks belong to the railroad, the roads belong to the city, and the property to whoever owns the grain elevator there."

As it turns out, the seven sets of railroad tracks are owned by General Mills, Archer Daniels Midland Co. and Minnesota Commercial Railroad.

According to City Council Member Gary Schiff, the city of Minneapolis has been asking Soo Line/MN Commercial Rail to repair the broken pavement and railroad ties on E. 35th St. just east of Hiawatha, for the past 10 years.

When he asked people to e-mail the railroad with their complaints, apparently someone listened and the bumpy spots were repaired. Workers with the city and the three companies removed rotting wood timbers and filled potholes and spaces next to the track with asphalt.

Tobias said the recent repairs offered enough improvement she doubts anyone would now complain.

But the repair does not offer permanent improvement, according to Schiff.

"I appreciate the asphalt patching that the railroad companies quickly provided to 35th Street, but this is only temporary and not a long term solution," Schiff said.

He said he would again ask the railroad companies to be good neighbors and provide more permanent repair.

"Hundreds of private vehicles and bikes are damaged every year from the condition of the tracks," Schiff noted. "The solution of concrete ties that were put in place on 32nd Street should be applied to 35th Street. The railroad companies want public tax dollars to be used to fix their tracks, and I find that completely unacceptable."

According to a recent Star Tribune article, permanent repair will require cooperation between the three companies and the city, but the groups cannot agree as to who would shoulder the biggest burden of the estimated \$400,000 cost.

Deputy Director of Public Works Heidi Hamilton has been quoted as saying that the railroad has told the city that this is not a problem for them.

"Unfortunately, because the railroad is federally regulated and exempt from city laws, the city lacks any legal authority to force them to make repairs to the railroad tracks at this crossing," she said.

Several attempts to reach the railroad for comment were not successful.



According to City Council Member Gary Schiff, the city of Minneapolis has been asking Soo Line/MN Commercial Rail to repair the broken pavement and railroad ties on E. 35th St. just east of Hiawatha, for the past 10 years. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

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Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commissioner Elections

On June 28, 2012, the City of Minneapolis will hold elections for new Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commissioners (NCEC) in Districts 2, 4, 6 and 8. Greater Longfellow is located in District 8 and has been represented by resident Marcea Mariani for the past 3 years. This seat is open to any resident in the 8th District who would like to run. Commissioners for the NCEC are elected by neighborhood residents who act as electors. Greater Longfellow, made up of Cooper, Longfellow, Hiawatha and Howe neighborhoods is allotted 4 electors and 4 alternates. LCC is seeking residents who are interested in acting as electors or alternates and willing to attend the June 28th

meeting. Anyone interested in representing LCC as an elector or alternate should contact Melanie at the LCC offices by phone at (612) 722-4529 or via email at melanie@longfellow.org by Monday, June 25, 2012.

FFI: <http://www.minneapolis-mn.gov/ncr/boards/ncec/WCMS1P-089624>. The NCEC is an excellent opportunity for anyone interested in serving on a City board and who would like to participate in planning for the future of Minneapolis neighborhoods.

Pathways to a Peaceful Neighborhood

LCC invites you to a 3-part series of panel discussions on positive, community-based approaches crime and conflict. Join us for the first panel and learn about restorative justice and how neighbors from Longfellow and Seward created Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Partner-

ship to respond to youth crime in our community. Also, discover ways to apply restorative justice to conflict in your own life.

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The second and third panel discussions will address Conflict Mediation (Tuesday, June 5) and Court Watch (Thursday, June 28th). Look soon for more info on these! Contact joanna@longfellow.org with questions or for more information.

River Gorge Facebook Page



Do you love the Mississippi River Gorge? Keep up with what's in bloom and other news from the

Gorge via the new Facebook page created by the River Gorge Committee. Search for Mississippi River Gorge and "Like" us! Share what you've seen in the Gorge and photos you've taken, or just see what others are posting. Thanks to volunteer Mike Lynch for launching the page!

Midtown Community Works Arbor Day Event

For the 12th annual Arbor Day on the Midtown Greenway, volunteers will celebrate by planting trees and shrubs between 26th-28th Avenues. Tree Trust staff, Master Gardeners and Tree Care Advisors will provide education on tree and shrub planting as well as plant maintenance that will ensure strong growth. Snacks, coffee, water and shovels will be provided. Don't forget your gloves! Bike racks will be available on site. Event will begin at 9am on Saturday, May 5th at 26th Avenue & the Midtown Greenway. FFI contact Rebecca Spurr, 612-879-0106.

**Saturday, May 5
9:00 am
26th Avenue
and the Greenway**

Celebrate All Things Longfellow!

Join your friends and neighbors as we come together to celebrate everything that makes our neighborhood great! The Longfellow Community Council (LCC) is happy to announce the return of our Community Warming party; bringing together the whole neighborhood for food and fun! We'll be kicking off the Take a Look at Longfellow campaign - showcasing some of our neighborhood's great places and history. There will also be a silent auction featuring donations from local artists and businesses with all proceeds benefiting LCC.



Stop by and join the neighborhood for some food or a drink! The event is FREE and open to all!

**Longfellow Community Warming
Thursday, June 7th: 5:00 - 7:00 pm
Longfellow Grill Patio
2990 West River Parkway**

Calendar of Meetings and Events

May 2012

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

Advancement Committee

Wednesday, May 2
7:00 - 8:00 pm
Fireroast Mountain Café
3800 37th Avenue S
FFI: joanna@longfellow.org

Community Connections

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

Neighborhood Development Caucus

Monday, May 14
6:30 - 8:00 pm
LCC Office, 2727 26th Ave S.
FFI: spencer@longfellow.org

River Gorge

Monday, May 14
7:00 - 9:00 pm
Hiawatha School Park, 4305 42nd St. E
FFI: joanna@longfellow.org

Board of Directors

Thursday, May 17
6:30 - 8:45 pm
Brackett Park, 2728 39th Avenue S
FFI: melanie@longfellow.org

Environment and Transportation Committee

Tuesday, May 22
6:30 - 8:00 pm
Hiawatha School Park 4305 42nd St. E
FFI: spencer@longfellow.org



Longfellow Community Council and Volunteers of America Receive Grant

LCC and the Volunteers of America (VOA) have received funding from the U of M's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) to do an 8 month gardening and computer training program for men who are transitioning from prison. Using a community garden plot, participants will learn how to grow healthy local food and receive an educational curriculum provided by Harvest Moon Backyard Farmers. Ruhel Islam from Gandhi Mahal restaurant will then teach participants cooking and food preserving skills for their garden bounty. We'll also partner with Free Geek, a non profit computer tech organization which will provide participants with training on how to build and recycle computers. Through this initiative and partnership VOA participants will gain job skills, experience a supportive learning environment, and become engaged in the Longfellow community.

Green the Greenway

**Tuesday, May 22
5:00 - 6:30 pm
Anne Sullivan Ramp to
Midtown Greenway**

Join us for spring clean up and tending the native plantings on the Midtown Greenway. Tools, gloves and a snack provided. All ages welcome! RSVP to Hillary Oppmann at hillary.oppmann@gmail.com or 724-8110.



Longfellow Community Council

2727 26th Avenue So., Minneapolis, MN 55406
Phone: 612-722-4529 • Fax: 612-724-1024
www.longfellow.org

Melanie Majors	Executive Director	melanie@longfellow.org
Ruth Romano	Office Staff	ruth@longfellow.org
Joanna Solotaroff	Community Organizer	joanna@longfellow.org
Spencer Agnew	Housing and Environment Coordinator	spencer@longfellow.org



In Our Community

Garden Club Plant Swap — May 19 at Sanford

Rain or shine! That's the tradition for the Longfellow Garden Club's annual spring Plant Swap.

Dig up extras of your happily spreading plants and bring them to swap. If you have none to swap, just make a small donation to the Club's Speaker Fund.

Plants can be brought beginning at 10:30 a.m. to Sanford's west parking lot, on the 41st Avenue side. The Swap starts promptly at 11 a.m., and most plants disappear within 30 minutes!

Garden Club events are free and open to the public. For more information, contact us at: LongfellowGardenClubMail@gmail.com or go to www.facebook.com/LongfellowGardenClub.

Hiawatha School holds Fiesta May 24

Please join the Hiawatha Community School, 4201 42nd Ave So., for their annual FIESTA! Thursday, May 24th from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Enjoy pony rides, inflatables, games, great food, silent auction and much more family fun! Everyone welcome!

LBA meets May 10 for Safety Update

Longfellow Business Association meets on Thursday, May 10, 1:30-2:30 p.m., for a Crime & Safety Update with MPD Crime Prevention Specialists Shun Tillman and Luther Krueger, and a discussion of the 38th Street LRT station rezoning study with City Planner Paul Mogush. Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 41st & Minnehaha Avenue South

LoLa Wants YOU June 1

Are you an artist living or working in the Greater Longfellow neighborhood? LoLa wants you to join our fourth annual Art Crawl. The deadline for artist registration is June 1, 2012.

What is the LoLa Art Crawl? The art crawl is a self-guided tour of exhibits at artists' homes, gardens, or studios and at supportive local businesses throughout the Longfellow neighborhood. Joining LoLa is a great way to show and sell your art, while giving admirers a glimpse of where and how you do your work. The 2012 Art Crawl will be held August 25 and 26, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Who is LoLa? The League of Longfellow Artists (LoLa) is a group of artists and arts supporters dedicated to bringing to light the work of artists living or working in the Greater Longfellow neighborhood. Having begun in 2009 as a small grassroots effort, LoLa now flourishes as an artist-run annual art crawl featuring mediums of all kinds.

Join us! Registration is open to all artists who live or work in the Greater Longfellow neighborhood of Minneapolis (the geographic area east of Cedar Avenue to the Mississippi River, and south of 28th Street to the Crosstown).

Visit the LoLa website at lolaartcrawl.com and select "Artist Registration." Download and print the PDF registration form—it contains all the details. Every participating artist must submit a completed registration form and \$25 payment, postmarked on or before June 1, 2012. Please register one artist per form, \$25 per artist.

Questions? Contact art crawl administrator Bob Schmitt at bob@laughingwatersstudio.com or call 612-333-1881.



One of the LoLa artists who will be in the annual Art Crawl is Duane Boom. Boom creates stained glass and fused glass.

(4101 37th Av S) hosts. FFI Ruth 612-722-4529 x1.

Mind-Body Connection & Stress Management

Join Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Community Education for a presentation about the Mind-Body Connection and Stress Management on Tuesday, May 15 at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st Street. Stress plays a large role in illness and personal well-being. Learn how you can decrease your stress and improve the way you feel. Participants will learn simple relaxation skills that they can use

on their own. Contact Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for more information.

Safety event for older adult drivers

RSVP/Volunteers of America of Minnesota and Nokomis Healthy Seniors are partnering to bring a unique safety event to older adult drivers in the community. At CarFit, drivers receive a quick but comprehensive check of how well they and their vehicle work together. Trained volunteers walk through a 12-point CarFit checklist with drivers, looking at proper positioning for seats, seat belts, mir-

rors, steering wheels, and more. The entire process takes about 20 minutes, and drivers leave with recommended car adjustments and adaptations, a list of resources in the community and greater peace of mind. CarFit is not a driver assessment program, and any identifying information will be kept confidential. CarFit was developed by the American Society on Aging in collaboration with AARP, American Occupational Therapy Association and AAA.

CarFit will take place on Thursday, June 14, 2012 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church at 4120 17th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Appointments are required and can be made by calling 612-729-5499.

Volunteers are also needed for this, and other, CarFit events. Volunteer training will be held on Friday, May 11, 2012. Call 952-945-4161 to learn more.

Transition Longfellow presents films

Transition Longfellow presents two short documentaries: "Gimme Green" ~ (27 minutes) examines the American obsession with the residential lawn, and "Home Grown, 21st Century Family Farm" ~ (52 minutes) documents a family that subsists on a 1/5 acre inner-city plot of land.

This is a "Free Will Offering" movie night. Friday, May 18, Potluck 6:30 p.m. (optional), Movie 7:15 p.m., Bethany Lutheran Church, 3901 36th Avenue South, 55406. A short discussion will follow the movie for those who want to stay. Contact Annette @612-221-0131 for more information.

Epworth UMC offers spring luncheon

Enjoy a variety of salads and the music of The Mellow Fellows Saturday, May 12, when Epworth UMC offers its spring salad luncheon. Serving begins at noon in the Fellowship Hall of the church, 3207 37th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$3.50 for children 12 and under. Tickets available at the door. Questions? 612-722-0232.

Spring Book Sale May 19-20 East Lake Library

Sure, the late season tulips may still be in bloom, but it really will be the Spring Book Sale at the East Lake Library!

Dates: Saturday May 19 (10-4 p.m.) and Sunday May 20 (noon to 3 p.m.).

Children's and teen books are 50 cents, adult hardcovers are \$1 and adult paperbacks are 50 cents. Bag sales (\$5) are 3-4 p.m. on Saturday and all day Sunday.

Donations are welcome any time – librarians can show you where to put them.

The book sales are a project of Friends of East Lake Library, people in the community who volunteer a little time to support the Library – we always welcome new folks! Ask one of us at the Sale. Contact us at: east-lake@supporthclib.org

May 28 is officially John H. Stevens Day

Come help us celebrate with historic games for kids and adults; entertainment, refreshments, and free tours of the House Historic John H. Stevens House Museum, Birthplace of Minneapolis, now located in Minnehaha Falls Park at 4901 Minnehaha Avenue, Monday, May 28, 12 to 4 p.m., Admission FREE. For more information, call 612-827-0138.

Mother's Day Brunch May 13

The annual Mother's Day Brunch will be held on Sunday, May 13, from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Danish American Center located at 3030 West River Parkway. The breakfast includes an egg dish, aebleskiver, Danish pastries, "rugbrod" (pumpernickel) with cheese, fruit and coffee.

The cost for adults is \$9 for members and \$11 for others. All children are \$6.00 and under 5 are free. No reservations needed – just come! For more information, call 612-724-7705. Hope to see you there for this well attended event!

The Greenway Glow planned June 9

The Midtown Greenway Coalition presents The Greenway Glow (formerly the Greenway Challenge), an illuminated night-time bike ride and its biggest fundraising event of the year on Saturday, June 9, 2012 from 9 p.m.-midnight. The Greenway Glow will take participants on a brief tour of Northern Spark art installations in the corridor, including a rest stop at the Vine Arts Center and a post-ride party at Intermedia Arts. Glow riders will enjoy free food from Bryant Lake Bowl, as well as complimentary New Belgium beer and other beverages. Fabulous prizes await the largest team, the individual with the best costume, the most creatively-lit bicycle, a lucky raffle winner, and the rider who raises the most money.

Not only that, but those who register before May 25 are guaranteed a glow-in-the-dark performance t-shirt, and the first 75 to register will also receive a free mini bike light courtesy of Civia Cycles. Registration is \$25 before May 25/\$30 after, with each individual raising \$75 or more before the event. To register visit www.midtowngreenway.org or contact Rebecca at 612-879-0106 or Rebecca@midtowngreenway.org. All funds will help support the projects and programs of the Midtown Greenway Coalition, which include the Trail Watch safety patrol, Greenspace and Artspace committees, outreach to communities surrounding the Greenway, and working with developers to encourage Greenway-friendly buildings. For more on the recent activities of the coalition, check out the Midtown Greenway Coalition's current and past newsletters.



The Midtown Greenway Coalition presents The Greenway Glow (formerly the Greenway Challenge), an illuminated night-time bike ride on Saturday, June 9, 2012 from 9 p.m. to midnight.

Okay, so we don't have rats. That is a very good thing since I have already squealed over two dead mouse bodies. This is my second attempt to clean out the storage room we call a fruit cellar. In the old days, the lady of the house would have colorful mason jars of home-canned fruit and vegetables lining the old wooden shelves. I have store-bought canned goods I put down there in 2009, probably thinking we would need them in case of inclement weather. We could be holed up in the basement for at least a week before we would need any food! It would be a great opportunity to take off a few pounds.

Mr. M. is helping me haul out boxes so I can clean out the room and donate or sell whatever we don't need. He is armed with a face mask, work gloves, and work glasses. He must be expecting hazardous materials.

I have a shirt on my head to protect my hair from falling mouse bodies or those dreadful cobwebs.

Why a shirt? I didn't want to go all the way up to the second floor for a scarf. I also have on a face mask since he scared me into wearing one. Gloves and my regular glasses complete my stylish ensemble.

Mr. M. has outdone himself into putting off being in the basement as long as possible. I just found him in the garage where he was supposed to be dropping off trash. He was reading an old magazine. It could be worse; he



The Old White House

By SHERRI MOORE

Cleaning out the ratty, old basement

could be taking straight shots from a pint size bottle of whiskey, like one of my deceased relatives. Compared to that, reading an old magazine isn't so bad.

We returned to the basement and continued moving out boxes together. A short time later, I discovered he was missing again. This time, I found him up on his computer, checking on every Finnish athlete.

"We only have an hour of work left, can you please join me in the wine cellar for light-hearted stories about my family, and maybe haul out a few boxes?"

This time, I kept him entertained with a wide array of stories to keep him entertained. Cleaning with him is a good workout for my imagination.

It's been at least 15 years since we really cleaned out everything from the basement.

"Just think, next time we have to clean the storage room, we'll be moving into a nursing home."

He didn't laugh.

"Yeah sure, I'm not going to a nursing home!"

"Okay, if you continue helping me clean, I'll cancel your

reservation."

He didn't laugh again. It was a tough room. I guess no one likes to be reminded of our advancing age or mortality.

After just a couple of hours, we have hauled a lot of junk out to my car. I'm having a garage sale with my son's girlfriend at my son's house. She wants to sell

some of her kids clothes, and I'll sell the junk. I hope we make enough to take a cheap vacation. I don't think we'll save the money for the nursing home. Hopefully, we'll be able to get by on our own. Besides, I hear 60 is the new 40.

(Sherri Moore is a freelance writer, and resident of the Nokomis neighborhood. She and Mr. M. are in their 19th year of renovating their old white house. Sherri welcomes your input and can be reached at sherrimoore92@msn.com.)



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Cedar Towing on track to move into Longfellow

Settlement reached between Minneapolis and Cedar

By TESSA M. CHRISTENSEN

It looks like Cedar Towing will be moving into Longfellow after all.

Although the city considered revoking the company's license to operate earlier this year, an agreement was reached in mid-April that will not only allow Cedar to remain in business but also facilitate its move to 3527 Dight Ave. S.

Cedar Towing co-owner Tom Rodrigue expected to move to the Dight Ave. building at the end of April from the present location at 359 Hoover Street in the University neighborhood. The company had initially planned to move in to the building that formerly housed John's Welding Service last fall.

"Everything is resolved," Rodrigue said. "I'm originally from South Minneapolis and I'm glad to be back. I plan to bring a lot to the neighborhood."

Minneapolis has announced its intention in January 2012 to deny the company's license to operate because of numerous code violations, including overcharging customers and allowing its own employee to authorize tows from private property.

In the settlement reached between the city and Cedar Towing, Cedar does not admit to any guilt. However, Cedar will pay a \$10,000 fine in two installments.

If there are any further violations within a two-year period, the city may fine Cedar another \$10,000.

The Class A towing license held by Cedar will also be suspended for 30 days sometime before the end of 2012. There are only six towing companies in Minneapolis to hold a Class A towing license, which allows towing companies to tow a car without the owner's consent as long as the property owner has asked that it be done. Cedar will maintain its Class B towing license, which allows the company to handle tows for people whose vehicles have broken down.

"I think this is a very fair settlement and it averted a very lengthy hearing process for both sides," said Minneapolis Licenses Division Manager Grant Wilson.

Cedar Towing is the city's largest towing company. In 2008, Cedar Towing agreed to pay \$1,341 in fines for various violations, some of the same ones the company is accused of repeating in 2011.

Cedar Towing's business operations include service tows, motor club towing/services, impound towing, jump starts, lock-outs, winching, tire changes and gas fills. Cedar Towing also provides snow plowing services, lot sweeping and a striping service. The business holds an Auto Lien Auction most Tuesdays at 11 a.m.

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Bethlehem Covenant
3141 43rd Ave. S. • 612-721-5768
www.bethlehemcov.org
Children especially welcome (Handicapped accessible)
Sunday School at 9:45 am thru 5/20
Classic Worship 11 am thru 5/20
The Gathering at 9 am on 5/13 (Contemporary Worship)
May 27 Worship at 10 am
Wednesday Programs at 5:45 pm through May 16

Christ Church Lutheran
3244 34th Ave. • 612-721-6611
Sunday Worship at 9:30 am
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Education Hour at 11:00 am
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www.christchurchluth.org

Epworth United Methodist
3207 37th Ave. • 612-722-0232
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(Wheelchair Accessible)
Rev. Pam Armstrong

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

Holy Trinity Lutheran (ELCA)
2730 E. 31st St. • 612-729-8358
www.htlcmpls.org
Sunday Worship 8:45 & 11 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

Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church
5011 31st Ave. S. • 612-729-2323
www.lakenokomis.org
Summer Worship at 9:30 pm
Sunday Worship at 8:00 am & 10:30 am
Education Hour at 9:15 am (nursery; fully accessible)

Minnehaha United Methodist
3701 E. 50th St. • 612-721-6231
www.minnehaha.org
Traditional Service 9:00 am
Contemporary Worship 11:15 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
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Saturday Mass 5:00 pm
Daily Mass 8:15 am M,T, Th, F
(Handicapped accessible)
Fr. Joe Gillespie, O.P.
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

Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls
5212 41st Ave. S. • 612-724-3691
www.trinityfalls.org
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11 am
Sunday School: 9:30 am (thru May 20)
AA Meeting 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.

CLASSIFIEDS

Classifieds

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 May 21 for the May 31 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to denisw@aplacetoremember.com. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

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EMPLOYMENT

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Cable, spinet, cherry wood, piano w/original bench. \$650. Will pay up to \$100 moving expense. 651-428-7419. 5-12

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Local artists show Asian arts and gardens over Mother's Day weekend

Book artist Mary Witkus and brush painter Bob Schmitt will open their respective homes and gardens over Mother's Day weekend, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, May 11-13, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Laughing Waters Studio hosts its 9th annual "Spring has Sprung" Art Sale. The sale includes original paintings, Chinese calligraphy, scrolls, prints, cards, art lamps, art objects for the home—all from the brush of

Bob Schmitt. Much of Schmitt's painting interprets familiar Minnesota scenes but in the manner of Asian brush painting. He has recently completed a series of four paintings focused on Lake Superior.

Sale hours are Friday, Saturday, Sunday, May 11-13, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Concurrent with the annual sale is Laughing Waters Studio's fifth annual student show of Chi-

nese calligraphy & paintings, plus artwork created by the studio's Art for Nonartists classes. Come see the students' work, try your own hand at Chinese brush painting, take a walk in the spring gardens of Laughing Waters Studio.

Come for a cup of tea and be the first to peruse the new collection of books inspired by the spring garden. The handcrafted books Witkus creates may be

used as journals and photo albums. Many books feature handmade papers and beads by local and international artists. She also sells photo books and cards of her Japanese garden.

Mary will have her Japanese garden open for visitors. It has been featured in several magazines, Fine Gardening is the latest, and has also been part of various garden tours. She utilizes the same aesthetics in her garden

and home as she does in her books. Sale hours are Friday, Saturday, Sunday, May 11-13, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Laughing Waters Studio is just west of Hiawatha Avenue at 3718 East Minnehaha Parkway. For info, 612-333-1881. Mary Witkus' home is just off the Parkway at 4717 35th Avenue South, just 2 blocks west and around the corner. For info, 612-743-7040.

Classifieds

Continued from page 14

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. 5-12

SERVICES

Trust a neighbor to do the job right! Need a handyman?? Any job, big or small. Plumbing? Electrical? Remodeling? Decks? Etc. Call Dynamo Dave. 612-701-2272. Free estimates! 12-12

Glamping Minnesota, camping in comfort. Outdoor Outfitter Service. 612-722-2172. www.GlampingMN.com

Sheetrock, tape, texture, paint, free estimates. Dick Evans, 612-889-9228, 952-888-0600. 5-12

Home remodeling/repair. Kitchens, basement, bathroom remodeling and design to include all handyman services. All calls returned same day. Always on time. Licensed and insured. Member BBB. Jeff 612-388-2258. www.grosscupremodeling.com B-12

Bathrooms, General Carpentry, Trim and Doors, Sheetrock and Repair. Mike 612-578-1611, 651-762-4705. B-12

Concrete work: Steps, sidewalks, patios, driveways. Licensed, bonded, insured. Call Tom Seemon, 612-721-2530. 11-12

Hanson Building and Remodeling Home Remodeling and Repair. Local. Licensed, Insured. www.HansonBuildingandRemodeling.com Call Dan 612-655-4961. 6-12

Tuckpointing and repairs, steps, chimney and foundations, stucco repairs. Basement walls and flooring. Basement ceilings. 30 yrs Curt 651-698-4743. 5-12

WANTED

WANTED - Old Stereo Equipment, Hi-fis & Hams. Andy 651-329-0515. 12-12

Artist-Designer needs 400-500 sf studio space in Longfellow neighborhood. Street level and quiet preferred. Call Anna, 612-360-7468. 5-12

WANTED TO BUY

Paying the most for your furniture, dishes, glassware, knickknacks, costume jewelry, antiques, pictures, lamps, household items, etc., I make housecalls. Call Mary. 612-729-3110. 5-12

Next deadline:
May 21
Next issue: May 31

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Plans emerge to reuse the Ford Motor Company property

By JANE MCCLURE

Plans to reuse the Ford Motor Company property in Highland Park are shifting into gear again. Anyone interested in a review of the past land use studies and upcoming redevelopment efforts can attend the Ford Site Planning Task Force meeting at 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, June 4 at the plant's education and training center.

The meeting comes at a time when there are efforts underway to save parts of the plant. Twin Cities automotive historian Brian McMahon is leading efforts to reuse the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) education and training center at the plant, as well as part of the original 1924 building.

Family members of former Ford employees are asking that pieces of the 1924 building façade, especially those pieces that honor plant workers, be saved and reused in some way. Stonework on the building, which includes bas-reliefs of workers, scrolls and chiseled Henry Ford quotes, is the focus of a preservation effort.

Few redevelopment sites in St. Paul have received the time and attention that the 122-acre Ford property has. The task force, which is overseen by the city's Planning Commission and Department of Planning and Economic Development (PED), has studied the Ford site since 2007. Delays in the original plant closing date have given city officials and community members more time to plan and make suggestions for future site reuse. But the study process has gone on for so long, those involved agree that a meeting is needed to share past studies and information.

"This will give the community a good chance to see what has been studied and to learn about the steps ahead," said Ward Three Council Member Chris Tolbert.

Planning and Economic De-



Anyone interested in a review of the past land use studies and upcoming redevelopment efforts can attend the Ford Site Planning Task Force meeting at 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, June 4 at the plant's education and training center. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

velopment (PED) Director Cecile Bedor said the meeting is a refresher course for those interested in the redevelopment project, as well as a look to the future. She also noted that all of the studies are on the city's website.

Ford closed the plant in December after 86 years of manufacturing trucks and cars there. Ford will clean up the site and then sell it for redevelopment to a developer or developers. While Ford can sell to whomever it chooses, the city's leverage in encouraging its wishes for future land use, parks and other site features would be through any requested zoning changes or public financing that a developer would need.

The task force has worked with consultants and city staff to develop five possible land use scenarios for the Ford property. All call for mixed-used redevelopment, but each has a different predominant land use, including light industrial, commercial, institutional and housing uses. Over the next several months the task

force and consultants will be involved in an Alternative Urban Areawide Review or AUAR process, to study each of the five scenarios and their impacts.

The task force has also led the development of ideas for future parks and recreation uses at the property, and has studied pollution cleanup efforts. Ford is responsible for site cleanup, which will get underway when the buildings are cleared out and knocked down. More should be known this summer about the extent of site pollution.

The site cleanup could also affect how the land is reused. City officials haven't ruled out the possibility that parts of the site may be too polluted for redevelopment for uses other than industrial or recreation use. But Ford officials have said they won't know the extent of pollution cleanup needed until the buildings are demolished.

McMahon, who works as executive director of University UNITED, a University Avenue

community development group, contends that the buildings can and should be reused, ideally as an industrial training center. He's asking that the buildings be saved until a use can be studied.

McMahon notes other Twin Cities area facilities have been used for training and that more needs to be done to promote training of industrial workers.

"It would be shortsighted to tear these buildings down until we know if they can be repurposed," he said.

MnSCU, for its part, doesn't want to continue to use the facility. "We have no use for the Ford property given its current condition and unknown future," said MnSCU Public Relations Director Melinda Voss. "We have sites for training at campuses and elsewhere that meet our needs at present."

"We are still evaluating all options for the training center, but demolition is a possibility," said Stefanie Denby, marketing and communications director for Ford

Land. Ford Land is the property arm of Ford Motor Company.

No other viable use has been identified, according to Denby and city officials. Because of where the training center is located on the plant property, it could impact future redevelopment plans.

Ford's termination of its ground lease with MnSCU does trigger a penalty, because state bond funds helped pay for the building. The penalty is estimated at \$2.5 million and would have to be paid to the state. A bill introduced at the 2012 Minnesota legislature would require that the penalty proceeds be turned over to the state commissioner of employment and economic development to be used for "job creation incentives or investments to attract new employment uses to the Ford plant site in St. Paul as part of redevelopment." McMahon has argued that the penalty should be used to purchase the land beneath the training center and continue its use.

The 1920s-era part of the Ford plant has been studied for its historic significance but has had so many changes, it hasn't been recommended for preservation. "The plant has been evaluated and deemed to not have significant historic value because of renovations that have occurred over the years," said Denby.

Nor would it be eligible for state or federal historic tax credits, such as those being used to redevelop the former Schmidt Brewery.

Denby said Ford is aware of the community interest in preserving parts of the building façade, such as the stonework, light fixtures and other details. "We will attempt to save them as we demolish the structure," she said.

Tolbert said if architectural details from the plant could be saved and reused, he'd be interested in that.

Basilica Choir performs at St. Albert the Great

The Basilica Cathedral Choir will be presenting "Totus Tuus" a Marion concert on Friday, May 4th, 7:30 p.m. at St. Albert the Great Catholic Church.

Thought by many to be among the very best of church choirs in the area, their reputation for powerful presentations is well earned having been selected to perform at both state and national ACDA (American Choral Directors Association) conventions. The choir has toured and performed in Europe and elsewhere in the United States. Last month they released their fourth CD. Currently

they are preparing for a European tour in June of 2012.

This 80 voice choir under the direction of Teri Larson and featuring the Basilica Schola Cantorum with Chris Stroh, organ, will be featuring the music of W.A. Mozart, Henryk Gorecki, Franz Biebl, Eric Whitacre, Donald Krubsack and Stephen Paulus.

Tickets will be available at the door the evening of the concert and are in support of their 2012 European tour to the Netherlands and Paris. \$15 adults, \$10 students and \$50 families. St. Albert's is located at 2836 33rd Ave. S.



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