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What's INSIDE

News.....3



Keewaydin Park discussed March 6

News.....6



Cedar Towing may lose license

News.....7



Housing Fair coming March 10

News.....8



Longfellow hosts USA's newest citizens

Development boom underway along the Hiawatha corridor

By IRIC NATHANSON

Later this year, residents will start moving into the Station 38 apartments now nearing completion at 38th Street, just west of Hiawatha Avenue. Those new occupants will find that it takes them about two minutes to walk from their building's back door to the 38th Street LRT station just down the block.

Station 38 is the latest in a growing list of transit-oriented developments being built at or near the stations along the 12 mile Hiawatha Light Rail Transit line. Other new TOD (Transit Oriented Design) projects include the Oaks Station Place now under construction at the 46th Street station, and the Longfellow Station, scheduled to break ground this summer on the former Purina Mill site at 38th and Hiawatha.

A total of just under 8,000 new housing units are proposed or under construction along the LRT line, in addition to the 7,500 units that were built along the transit route starting in 2000. Hennepin County Peter McLaughlin, who helped spearhead construction of the Hiawatha LRT, is pleased with the development boom generated by the state's first Light Rail Transit line.

"We always believed that LRT was more than just another transportation project," McLaughlin said. "It has the potential to shape the way growth occurs in this metro area, and now that is beginning to happen in an important way. That all this



Recently, the city of Minneapolis hired a new director of transit development, David Frank, who spends full time seeking new transit-oriented real estate projects that can expand the city's tax base. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

activity is occurring in the face of a gale force recession is quite significant."

"When the Hiawatha LRT was on the drawing boards, it took all of our energy just to get the project built," McLaughlin added. "Development needed to come later. Now we are finally catching up by making those public improvements that can maintain the momentum."

Minneapolis city officials, who share McLaughlin's view, are

stepping up their effort to promote TOD along the Hiawatha line. Recently, they hired a new director of transit development, David Frank, who spends full time seeking new transit-oriented real estate projects that can expand the city's tax base.

"Transit can be a 'win-win' situation for the city and the people who live here," Frank said. "It can help preserve the city's single family neighborhoods at the same time that it promotes growth at those strategic places, where people can use LRT to get to their jobs and take care of their daily business in an efficient way."

"We need to grow as a city and add population, but we need to find appropriate places to put that new population. If we come to the 2020 census and our population has not grown, we could be in a difficult place as an urban center. The goal is provide housing options for people so they can live where they won't need to drive every day—and that means development at or near the transit stops."

Frank's role is to act as something of a match-maker, bringing together property owners who may own underutilized sites near

the LRT stations with developers who are looking for new TOD opportunities.

"I may call on an owner who has never been approached about selling his property," Frank said. "He or she may have a thriving business but it may be one that does not need to be located at the transit station. I will try to assess that owner's interest in relocating to another more appropriate site. If there is some interest in this option, then I will connect them with a TOD developer who may want to acquire the site."

Frank said his job is not to provide public subsidies for development. "In the past, the city may have had more direct resources to allocate for development, but that is no longer the case. What I can offer is up-to-date information on public improvements that can make the site more attractive to a potential developer."

At the Station 38 site, an unused parcel next to the LRT station attracted Klodt Development, a local company that built Hiawatha Flats, a 233 unit project, east of Hiawatha at 43rd Street.



"Transit can be a 'win-win' situation for the city and the people who live here."

- David Frank
City of Minneapolis
Director of Transit Development

Continued on page 4

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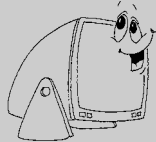
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Give input on Keewaydin Park plan March 6

School expansion forces pool, playground relocation at park

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

Check out the new design for the Keewaydin Park on Tuesday, March 6, at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Keewaydin Park Recreation Center, 3030 E. 53rd St.

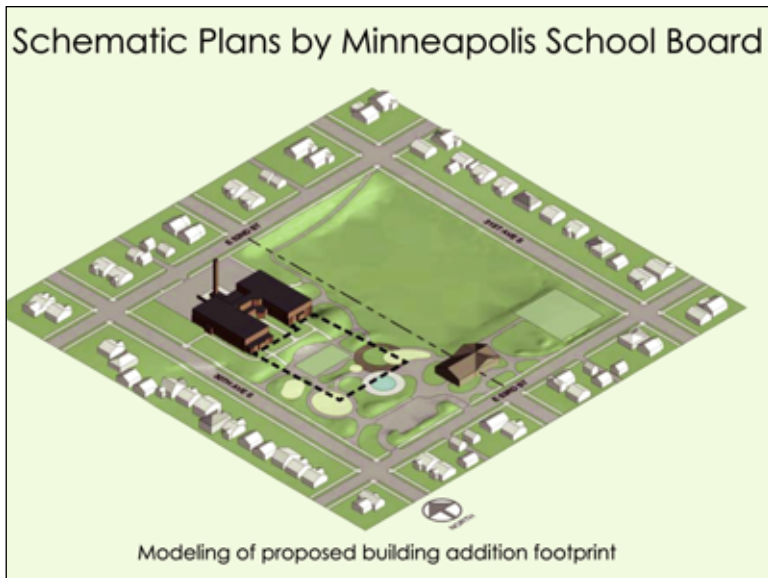
Since gathering input from community residents during a meeting Jan. 21, Minneapolis Parks and Recreation staff has been working on a new master plan for the park. The expansion of Lake Nokomis Community School's Keewaydin Campus has prompted this redesign, as the existing playground and wading pool are on school-owned land and will need to be relocated. The park board supported building to the south in order to preserve the athletic fields on the east.

"I greatly appreciate that over 35 members of the Keewaydin community came out for the Keewaydin Park workshop," said Fifth District Commissioner Carol Kummer. "This level of participation shows how much people care about this park."

WHAT DO COMMUNITY RESIDENTS WANT?

Some common themes expressed during the Jan. 21 meeting were replacing the play equipment and water features; aligning the fields to better serve youth softball, baseball and soccer; and saving the trees and as much green space as possible, said Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board Manager of Public Engagement and Citywide Planning Jennifer Ringold.

"We were impressed with the level of similarity in the features desired by the participants," said Ringold.



The expansion of Lake Nokomis Community School's Keewaydin Campus has prompted a redesign, as the existing playground and wading pool are on school-owned land and will need to be relocated.

Some wanted a new tennis court. The former ones were removed in 2007 because they were in poor condition, not because they weren't getting used. It will cost between \$50,000 - \$75,000 to install a single tennis court.

While some of the existing items can be moved to another spot at the park, others, such as the main play structure, much of the equipment in the Pre-K container, the seesaw, and the spring animals can't. They are nearing the end of their life expectancy, explained Ringold. A playground generally lasts about 20 years. "The larger play structure, although faded, and Galaxy Spica spinners for the older children are in good condition and can be moved. It is probably more economical to replace the swings. However, the safety zone for swings are big consumers of space; we might not have room to replace these," she added.

Additionally, the park board

won't reuse any equipment that doesn't meet existing safety and handicap-accessible standards.

The estimated cost for a new wading pool/splash pad is \$500,000, and a new playground will cost about \$300,000.

The athletic fields have drainage issues and could also use renovation, which would cost about \$200,000, according to Ringold.

The fields are used most heavily for soccer; last year there were eight teams with 91 participants. They are also used for baseball and softball. Over the last three years, soccer and baseball enrollment has stayed steady. The number of softball teams dropped from four teams to two teams in 2011. However, all four existing field are in poor condition, damaged by heavy use and ice sheets. They are no longer flooded for ice skating in the winter.

Jay Larson, a member of the school steering committee, at-

tended the park meeting in January. He said it was reassuring for him to hear that the pool would likely have been replaced by the park board within the next few years, and that the playground equipment was nearing the end of its life expectancy.

"After this meeting, and as a Keewaydin resident who lives only a couple of blocks from the park, I feel much better about the school and park's decision to partner and move forward with the demolition and rebuild of Keewaydin's playground and pool," Larson stated.

"I will admit, being a parent of three young children who use Keewaydin park almost daily during the warmer months and having to possibly live without a park for a summer or two will be rough. However, we will simply walk a few more blocks away and be able to utilize other nearby parks with playground equipment and wading pool (such as Hiawatha or Nokomis)."

WHERE WILL THE MONEY COME FROM?

The parks department has not yet identified where the money to move and/or purchase new playground equipment and a pool will come from. According to Ringold, the parks department has budgeted \$500,000 total to split between the service area of Morris, McRea, and Pearl in 2013. "We expect some of this funding will help with improvements for Keewaydin," Ringold said. "We will also be working with other possible funders and looking for grants after the master planning is complete."

Continued on page 5

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UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS

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Hale Elementary School
(1220 54th St E)

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Keewaydin School Addition

Architectural planning continues for Keewaydin's new addition and some renewal in the existing building. RSP Architects is working with the construction managers at MPS Facilities to shape a workable final design. Almost weekly, successive conceptual plans have been presented to MPS staff and then to the Keewaydin Construction Steering Committee for review and often, much discussion. This is proving to be a difficult job, as the architects must balance the pressures of instructional needs and community desires with a very tight construction budget.

As the plan develops, RSP has come up with some creative spatial design elements that could help inspire a unique learning environment for our areas students. There is some pushback from Facilities because these elements are considered intangibles; difficult to justify the extra cost as essential to student achievement. We hope that when the final plans are approved, some of those elements will be incorporated into the new building. Expect a public open house to unveil the plans sometime this spring.

Discussion on the playground and wading pool are continuing on a separate track (see below). Park Board planners have assessed and evaluated each piece of existing equipment and the pool for fitness, ADA compliance, and the possibility of reuse in another location. Meanwhile, MPS Facilities has been working with the architects to reduce the new additions footprint by rearranging and stacking elements of the building. That might allow some of the existing equipment to remain in place while funding is sought for a new, contemporary play area.

Review Designs for Keewaydin Park

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) will hold a public meeting for review and comment on new

NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

By Rita Ulrich and Doug Walter, NENA Staff

Schools, Parks and Block Leaders

master plan designs developed from the work of community members at the design workshop held in January. The meeting will be Tuesday, March 6, 7:00 p.m. at the Keewaydin Community Center, 3030 E. 53rd Street.

The new plan is needed because expansion of the Keewaydin School building will impact the outdoor recreation facilities at the park. Further information is available on the Keewaydin project page on the MPRB website. An easy link to that page is at www.nokomiseast.org.

Block Leader Get-Together

Our area Crime Prevention Specialist, Sue Roethele, has scheduled a get-together for Nokomis East block club leaders on Monday, April 2, 7:00 pm at the Nokomis Community Center.

The get-together will be a chance for block leaders to get to know each other, share concerns and ask questions. For more information, contact Sue Roethele, MPD Crime Prevention Specialist, (612) 673-2839, or by email, sue.roethele@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Last Chance for \$30 Home Energy Visit

The cost for Community Energy Services (CES), Minneapolis premier residential energy efficiency program, will be increasing in March 2012. To sign up for the current price of \$30 you must attend a presentation and schedule your home visit before March 31, 2012.

Attending a FREE Community Energy Services pres-

entation qualifies you for a home energy visit from a team of energy pros that will install energy savings materials and identify opportunities for insulation and mechanical upgrades. 98% of homeowners who attend a presentation schedule a home energy visit because of the service and value. CES reports that homeowners have

been amazed at all the practical and easy ways to make their home much more energy efficient and comfortable.

CES has helped over 4,000 Minneapolis homeowners fight ice dam problems, make home energy improvements, and save energy and money in their homes while staying comfortable. CES also helps homeowners with any next steps including: finding qualified contractors, applying for utility rebates and accessing low interest financing. To take advantage of the program, visit mnces.org or call (612) 219-7334.

Upcoming NENA Meetings and Events

South Minneapolis Housing Fair: Saturday, March 10, 10 AM-3 PM, South High School, 3131 19th Ave S.

Planning and Development: 7 PM, Wednesday, March 21, at the NENA office, 3000 E. 50th St.

NENA Board: 7 PM, Thursday, March 22, at NENA.

Important Dates for 2012: NENA Annual Neighborhood Meeting May 15; Neighborhood Garage Sale June 23; National Night Out August 7; Minneapolis Monarch Festival September 8; Night Before New Years 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.

Hiawatha development

Continued from page 1

At its angled site adjacent to the 38th Street station, Klodt is building an upscale 64 unit apartment building where rents will range from \$925 per month for a studio to \$1530 per month for a two bedroom unit.

Paula Foley, a Klodt vice president, said her firm has gotten a good response to its initial marketing for Station 38. "So far, all we have done is put a sign on the building and that has generated a list of 60 people who are interested in the apartments. Those are people who ride the LRT or drive down Hiawatha, so they are familiar with the site."

Once it completes Station 38, Klodt does not have any immediate plans for another TOD project along the Hiawatha corridor, according to Foley. "We are always interested in new opportunities but we want to move carefully. There are a lot of new apartment projects springing up now," she said.

At the 38th and 46th street stations, the city of Minneapolis is not directly subsidizing the market rate projects. But the city is moving ahead with certain public improvements that are intended to spur development along the transit corridor.

One needed improvement involves upgraded access across Hiawatha for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists, according to 12th Ward Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy, whose ward spans the LRT line south of 38th Street. Colvin Roy said the city intends to implement a new traffic signaling system that can ease traffic congestion and provide better access for TOD projects along the corridor. "We will be installing a new system that is much more sophisticated than the one that was available to us when LRT opened in 2004," she said.

Colvin Roy added that the city, in partnership with Hennepin County, is working on a plan to provide safer



The city of Minneapolis, in partnership with Hennepin County, is working on a plan to provide safer pedestrian access across Hiawatha through the use of wider medians and small "pork chop" sized pedestrian islands between the through lanes and the right turn traffic lanes. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

pedestrian access across Hiawatha through the use of wider medians and small "pork chop" sized pedestrian islands between the through lanes and the right turn traffic lanes.

Pedestrian access will be particularly important for Longfellow Station residents, who will need to cross Hiawatha Avenue to reach the 38th Street LRT station. The \$36 million project will include 10,000 square feet of commercial space and 180 units of rental housing. About half the units will be affordable to lower income renters.

A half mile down Hiawatha, the mixed use Oaks Station Place is being built on excess right-of-way for the 46th Street LRT station. In an effort to promote transit-oriented development at the station site, the Metropolitan Council sold the irregularly shaped parcel to Norman Bjornnes who built the Hiawatha Oaks project on the east side of Hiawatha Avenue next to the Walgreen's Drug Store at 46th Street.

Bjornnes' new project will include 104 units of market-rate rental housing, along with 5500 square feet of

retail space and additional 2800 square feet of offices. Oak Station Place will be built in two sections connected by a two-story skyway. Colvin Roy said that the new apartment project is in line with the small area plan developed by the city in partnership with residents in the area. "This new project provides an amenity that serves as a buffer between neighbors to the west and the LRT station at 46th Street," Now, instead of looking at a fence, nearby residents will look out an attractive building with its own landscaped plaza."

While Station 38 and Oaks Station Place are market rate developments, affordable rental projects are in the planning stage for the Franklin and Lake Street stations. At 54th Street and Riverview Avenue, construction has started on a 42 unit apartment building for people on fixed incomes over the age of 55.

"Few areas of the city are seeing the kind of development that we are seeing along the Hiawatha corridor," said Colvin Roy. "Convenient access to transit and great neighborhoods makes for a powerful combination."

Copper thieves target South Minneapolis

By JAN WILLMS

Copper theft has become an ongoing problem for many residential and commercial property owners. It happens frequently in vacant buildings.

But recently a series of incidents involving stealing copper from HVAC units has taken place in Minneapolis.

"Stealing from an HVAC unit is a new one for me," said Donald Greeley, crime prevention specialist for the Phillips neighborhood.

Third district crime prevention specialist Shun Tillman agreed. But since mid-November of 2011, there have been at least 11 reported incidents of thefts from businesses. One incident occurred on 36th and Hiawatha; the other ten were in Ventura Village, Phillips West and Midtown neighborhoods.

Due to the rising prices in the worth of metals, copper theft has become a popular way for many thieves to gain extra money by selling items such as wires, pipes and cables. It has been reported that these materials can



Due to the rising prices in the worth of metals, copper theft has become a popular way for many thieves to gain extra money by selling items such as wires, pipes and cables.

be found on foreclosed properties, construction sites, many businesses, vacant properties, residential homes and most recently, air conditioning units.

These units are commonly targeted because of the copper coils that are incorporated into

their design.

"Thieves can access the roof, remove the unit and remove the whole system itself," Tillman explained. "A good-sized unit is difficult to carry; it is usually going to take a couple of folks to do it."

"A lot of the thieves get on

the roof of the building, tear off the sides of the air conditioner and take the coils out on lines that run into the building that are copper as well," Greeley added. "They may take the chemical pipes too."

Most of the area thefts occurred between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

"The theft usually happens at night, because it's easier to do it when a business is closed," Greeley said. He and Tillman advised anyone who sees any suspicious activity, anyone loitering around buildings carrying a ladder or a bag of tools, to call 911. "Call 911 and let the police decide how to handle it," Tillman said.

The public is advised to contact the business if any suspicious activity is noticed during regular business hours. The business owner may not be aware that someone is trying to access his or her roof and air conditioning equipment.

A free security survey is available from the Minneapolis Police Department to provide business

owners with preventive information.

"We can give both businesses and residences ways to prevent this from happening," Greeley said.

There are several methods that can deter copper thieves from stealing air conditioning units. Installing lighting on the unit, hiding the air conditioning unit behind bushes or enclosing the units in a protective cage are some possible prevention options. Other possibilities are fencing in the unit, relocating it to a less accessible or visible area, putting an alarm on the unit and padlocking it. Even if all these methods do not prevent stripping of the unit, they can definitely slow down theft of the entire unit.

Tillman said that as of this writing, no arrests have been made for copper theft. "The investigation is still pending," he noted.

"Given that we have not had tons of snow, it definitely makes it easier to commit this kind of crime," Tillman said.

Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Benefit Concert planned March 11

Join us on Sunday, March 11, 2-4 p.m. at Faith Mennonite Church, (2720 E 22nd St.) for a concert supporting restorative justice in our community. Performers include: Linda Breitag, Sophia Breitag, Chris Jones, Ray Makeever, and Robin Nelson. There will be folk songs, songs of peace, roots music, Celtic fiddling, serious silliness, and YOU singing along. Freewill donations gratefully accepted.

Since 2004, Seward Longfel-

low Restorative Justice Partnership has provided an alternative to juvenile court for youth committing misdemeanor offenses in Seward and Greater Longfellow. Join family and neighbors to support an essential program in our neighborhood.

For further information about the concert or SLRJP contact Michele Braley at SLRJP; 612-338-6205 x108 or michele@sng.org

Keewaydin

Continued from page 2

Will Keewaydin School allocate some of its \$16 million construction budget for the playground? Until the steering committee finalizes the design and receives estimates, the school doesn't know what its budget will cover, according to Larson. "The current playground and pool just south of the school is a priority for the committee and much discussion is happening in/around what to do," he remarked.

Keewaydin School has not yet identified when the playground will be removed to accommodate the construction project. Construction is slated to begin as soon as classes let out in June.

Larson observed that at this time, "We do not know how the

"I greatly appreciate that over 35 members of the Keewaydin community came out for the Keewaydin Park workshop."

- Fifth District Commissioner Carol Kummer

construction timeline will lay out and how this will effect recess time for the students at Keewaydin. However, it is most likely that students will be re-directed to another location for recess during construction."

WHAT'S NEXT?

At the March 6 meeting, attendees will review the concepts developed based on the Jan. 21

meeting and identify the community's preferred plan. This preferred plan will become the master plan that is presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval. Park staff anticipate bringing the master plan to the Board of Commissioners in April.

For further information, visit the park project page on the MPRB website: <http://www.minneapolisparcs.org/default.asp?PageID=1320>.

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BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

Cedar Towing may lose its license

Company waiting for issue to be resolved before moving into Longfellow



Minneapolis has announced its intention to deny Cedar Towing's license to operate because of numerous code violations, including overcharging customers and allowing its own employee to authorize tows from private property. Cedar Towing has put its relocation plans on hold until this issue is resolved. It hopes to move to 3527 Dight Ave. S. in the Longfellow neighborhood.

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

Cedar Towing intended to move into the Longfellow neighborhood last fall, but is still waiting for the city's approval. Because its license to operate hasn't been renewed, city staff won't sign off on the necessary paperwork for the move from 359 Hoover Street in the University neighborhood to 3527 Dight Ave. S. in the Longfellow neighborhood.

When Cedar Towing sought to renew its operating license in September 2011, the city initiated an investigation into their business practices.

Although the attorney's office declined to press criminal charges in December, Minneapolis has announced its intention 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. It has allowed the company to operate since September until these issues are resolved.

Cedar Towing is the city's largest of five towing companies. 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 OPTIONS

A letter written to Cedar Towing President Julie Rodriguez by Dana Banwer of Minneapolis' licensing and environmental services division on Jan. 26, 2012 laid out three options for the company. One, surrender its business license. Two, acknowledge the violations did occur and allow the Minneapolis City Council to determine if any adverse license action should be taken such as the revocation or

denial of Cedar's business license, suspensions, administrative fines or additional business license operating conditions. Or three, opt to have the case be presented to an administrative law judge.

"The city believes that we have the evidence to back up what we said in the letter to them," noted Minneapolis Licenses Division Manager Grant Wilson. "We are not making stuff up. We believe these things are true or we would not have taken this road."

Based on evidence gathered during a search warrant, the city believes Cedar Towing overcharged customers by \$88,424.50 between Jan. 1, 2011 and Oct. 18, 2011. "We suspect this has been going on for a number of years," Wilson said.

The current towing fee set by the city's ordinance is \$212. The storage fee is \$28 a day. Cedar Towing has been charging the storage fee on the first day a vehicle is towed, rather than beginning on the second day as stated in the city ordinance. Rasmus argued, "There is no language in the service fee section of the Ordinance (section 349.270) that suggests in any way that storage fees may not be charged on the first day of a tow, or that a licensee must wait until after midnight of the day a vehicle is towed to charge storage fees," argued Rasmus.

Representatives from the city and Cedar Towing met on Thursday, Feb. 9. Cedar Towing asked for one week to decide which option to pursue (go before the city council or an administrative law judge). They were given a deadline of Feb. 17, according to Wilson.

"We're working with the city to resolve these issues and we're hopeful," stated Cedar Towing's attorney Dan Rasmus.

RELOCATION INTO LONGFELLOW

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.

The announcement last fall that Cedar Towing intended to move into the Longfellow neighborhood was met with some trepidation as neighbors expressed concerns about whether the impound lot would generate crime, lower property values and increase noise and traffic. Others were pleased that the building that once housed John's Welding Service would be used again, and that outside art on the property would be preserved.

To move into the vacant property, Cedar Towing asked the city to remove the pedestrian-oriented overlay on the property, which prohibited a towing company. It also asked for a conditional use permit and a variance of the off-street parking requirement. The city's planning division recommended that the city deny Cedar Towing's request as it does not match the city's comprehensive plan. However, Planning Commission members approved it at the Aug. 29, 2011 meeting and it was subsequently approved by the City Council at its Sept. 2 meeting. Before moving into the Dight Ave. location, Cedar Towing was required to comply with various landscaping and site conditions, including the remodel of the building to create a front entrance off Dight Ave.

Contractors, artisans, TV shows, seminars warm up the South Minneapolis Housing Fair

"Want to get great ideas and referrals to make your home improvement wish book come true? or be on TV?" ask organizers of the 18th annual South Minneapolis Housing Fair. The fair is Saturday, March 10, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at South High School, 3131 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55407.

There, 80-some home improvement professionals, finance people and artisan trades gather under one roof. One exhibitor, Magnetic Productions, will be recruiting for their "I Hate My Kitchen" and "I Hate My Bath" shows.

"We want to do business locally, with people who understand the homes in this area," say Leslie MacKenzie and Peter Foster of the Longfellow neighborhood. "The fair, and the Longfellow Nokomis Messenger are the only places we go for contractors."

The popular, free information fair is a project of several south Minneapolis neighborhood organizations. In addition to exhibits, several workshops will be offered in two sessions that day. Topics include how-tos on glass block windows, tile, and rain gardens, plumbing terminology, the power of color and solar energy. There are sessions by Michael Ansel of Otogawa-Ansel Design+Build on green



The 18th annual South Minneapolis Housing Fair. The fair is Saturday, March 10, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at South High School, 3131 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55407. (Photo courtesy of South Minneapolis Housing Fair)

bath and kitchen makeovers.

As Diana Grunden says in her seminar introduction, "let's go over a few things so you know if you have what it takes to DIY your landscape." Seminars help attendees figure out whether it's time to hire professionals.

As a warm-up to the Fair, earlier in the week, on March 6, 6:30 p.m., Bob Buck of Buck Brothers Construction will present "When should I contact a contractor?" at the East Lake library, 2727 East Lake Street, for

homeowners who want to make changes but are not sure where to begin, or those thinking of tackling a DIY project. Learn how the pieces of the construction puzzle fit together, and how to work with today's professionals to stretch dollars.

"We're excited to partner with Hennepin County libraries to highlight the Fair and their helpful home improvement books," said Fair coordinator Margo Ashmore. "We'll have a recommended reading list at the talks and in the South Minneapolis Housing Fair directory. The directory will be available at the libraries nearest the South High School location, as well as local stores and on March 10 at the Fair."

For more information on the March 10 South Minneapolis Housing Fair, visit www.housing-fair.org or Facebook.

"The fair, and the Longfellow Nokomis Messenger are the only places we go for contractors."

- Leslie MacKenzie and Peter Foster



The Old White House

By SHERRI MOORE

The new kitchen in an old house

I had the pleasure of admiring a friend's new kitchen. Gloria has been a friend for a long time. She and her husband have an old house too. Her house is a large Arts and Crafts style, here in Minneapolis. She's renovated just about everything except the basement and kitchen. Last October, she did the kitchen. Boy, did she do the kitchen!

Of course, a wall was knocked down. The wall had a hallway on the other side, and a side door at the end. Once the wall was gone, you can look directly into the nice large family room that was added two years ago.

The old kitchen had just a small set of cupboards, added back in the day when you only needed one cabinet against the far wall. There was space for a little table for two, and not much counter space, just a bit around

the sink. The floor was an old, yellow, linoleum. The floor looked good—it could've lasted another 50 years! Although the house is 100 years old, the floor looked like it was from the thirties or forties. Other than the floor, the kitchen remained relatively untouched and appeared to be original.

Blending a new kitchen in an old house can be challenging. I've seen several kitchens that appear to have nothing to do with the rest of the house. Gloria wanted her kitchen to look like the rest of the house, so the cabinets were the key in carrying through the Arts and Crafts look. After checking out cabinetry at the big box stores, she was lucky to be referred to a carpenter who runs a two man shop from his garage.

You might think custom cabinets would be priced out of sight for most people, but guess what?

By the time you order custom cabinets from the big box store, you might be able to use an independent. Gloria was as surprised as I was. The carpenter promised he could match the cabinets in the look of existing woodwork in the house.

The massive wood trim in the living room, front hall and dining room is a walnut. Not the dark, almost-black walnut, but a medium walnut, more like coffee, or in my case, a weak tea. She has cabinets on three walls, with the double oven (what everyone would love) and refrigerator built in with cabinets above and below. She added a stainless cook top and overhead microwave and hood. After adding the hardware; a reproduction of what she already had in the dining room, you really couldn't tell it wasn't original woodwork and what was new.

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Fri.-Sat. 4:30pm - 11:00pm

Longfellow a classroom for some of United States' newest citizens

By JAN WILLMS

When Rukia Osman arrived in this country from Ethiopia in 2008, she spoke no English. She knew nothing about the United States. Today, she can converse easily in English, and she can name the first President, the current Speaker of the House and talk about the Civil War.

Osman continues to study English, but she has recently completed a 16-week course on citizenship available in the Longfellow neighborhood.

The classes, offered at 2700 Lake St. and 730 Hennepin Ave., are funded by a large grant that the International Education Center (IEC) and the Minnesota Literacy Council received from the federal government to implement programs that help individuals with a green card to gain citizenship.

Usually, an immigrant can apply for citizenship after living in this country for five years. But, since Osman joined her husband here, who is already a citizen, she can apply within three years. She has already had her fingerprints documented and is waiting for her interview.



When Rukia Osman (center) arrived in this country from Ethiopia in 2008, she spoke no English. She knew nothing about the United States. Today, she can converse easily in English, and she can name the first President, the current Speaker of the House and talk about the Civil War. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

There are 100 possible questions that aspiring citizens must be able to answer before passing the interview test; only 10 will be asked, but since they don't know which ones, they must be prepared to answer all 100. Many of

the questions are difficult enough that native-born citizens would be hard put to answer them.

"The classes have been very helpful," Osman said. "I have learned a lot about the United

States and its history."

Her teacher Jessica Horning loaned her a citizenship book. She worked with flash cards and listened to a CD of the 100 questions.

"A friend and I studied to-

gether," Osman said. "And my husband helped me. He would ask questions, and if I didn't understand, he explained."

Osman said learning about some of the details of the House of Representatives was the hardest for her, but she feels confident now and prepared for her interview.

"I'm not nervous about the citizenship test," she said. "I feel well prepared and happy."

Osman said she wants to be a citizen because she is making her home here.

"I want all my rights, and to travel to my country and visit my parents. And I hope I can vote in the next presidential election," she said.

Becoming a citizen is also a goal for Haji Mohamed, who came from northern Somalia. Mohamed said his family had escaped when Somalia was at war, and had fled to Europe. He worked for the American Embassy in Riyadh Saudi Arabia.

"My wife and children went to London, and they have UK citizenship," he said. "Because I was

Continued on page 9

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Citizens

Continued from page 8

working with the American government for a long time, I decided to come to the United States."

"Before I came, I talked with Americans I worked with," Mohamed recalled. "I told them I was going to Minnesota, and they asked why. They told me the people are friendly, and there are 10,000 lakes. But they also said it was very cold, and Minnesota has big mosquitoes."

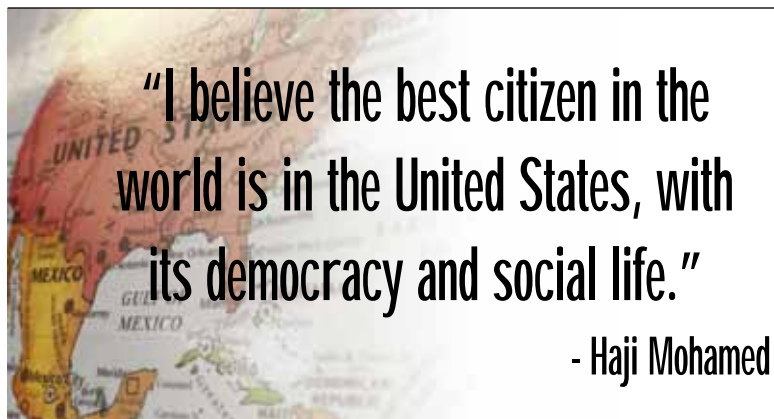
Mohamed said that he has found everything to be true, except for the mosquitoes. "I really haven't seen them," he said with a laugh.

Mohamed, who has volunteered at a food shelf and has worked at the Hyatt Hotel in Minneapolis for two years, said he wants to be able to be a citizen.

"I believe the best citizen in the world is in the United States, with its democracy and social life," he explained. "I want the opportunity for my future to work and retire, to visit my family. I hope it will happen."

Mohamed has been taking ESL classes, and said the citizenship classes have been so helpful to him.

"We study three sections: civics, history and the system of government," he said. "Some of the questions are hard to remember, like the age when people can register to vote or enlist in the military. But I understand it all



right now. If you practice, it's actually easy."

Mohamed, who also has Horning for a teacher, said she is one of the best teachers he has had and credits her for helping him prepare.

"You fill out an application and send it to the immigration office," he said. "They send you a letter, and after some time you get your fingerprints documented. Then you wait, and then you have the interview. If you pass, you will make an appointment for your swearing-in ceremony."

Mohamed is also looking forward to voting.

"Insha'Allah, (God willing), I will vote in the next presidential election," he said.

"The 2012 election has served as a good motivator for my students," said Horning. "It's right around the corner."

Horning, who previously was an ESL high school teacher, has been teaching ESL at the Literary Council for the past year and a half. She started teaching

free citizenship classes on Lake Street in July.

Besides gaining the right to vote, she said having a U.S. passport to travel to their own countries for longer periods of time is an incentive for many of her students. Some also want to become citizens to eventually bring other family members here, and many plan to spend their lives here and want the rights and responsibilities of a U.S. citizen.

"I have learned a lot about our own government and history through teaching this class," Horning said. The class meets for three hours every Friday for 16 weeks.

"The 100 questions are the most challenging," Horning said. "Some are easy, but some are very difficult and challenging."

In order to become a citizen, individuals must also answer questions about whether they have had tax problems or if they are habitual drunkards, for



Rukia Osman continues to study English, but she has recently completed a 16-week course on citizenship available in the Longfellow neighborhood. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

example.

"I tell them the US government knows everything, so it is best to not ever lie on your application," Horning said. "If they answer yes to some of the questions, I advise them to see a lawyer."

Horning said her students range in age from about 19 to 60. A majority are working on their English skills, as well as the citizenship classes.

"There is a lot of excitement

when someone passes the test, and we have them come back and tell the rest of the class about it," she said. "We also watch mock interviews in the classes."

Many come back and say thank you," Horning said. "And I'm hoping to go to some naturalization ceremonies."

Anyone interested in finding out more about the classes can call the International Education Center at 612-871-6350 or send an e-mail to shall@iecminnesota.org

Boy Scout Troop 1 Spaghetti Dinner

Boy Scout Troop 1 is having a Fat Lorenzo's spaghetti dinner from 5 to 6 p.m. on Friday, March 23, at Minnehaha United Methodist Church, 3701 East 50th Street. It's \$9 for adults, \$6 for children, and \$25 per family. Proceeds support the Troop's outdoors program and its scholarship fund. Troop 1 serves boys from ages 10 to 18 from neighborhoods and schools throughout South Minneapolis.

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South Minneapolis Housing Fair

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Page 9

Broadway at Longfellow offers teen mothers chance to graduate

Longfellow School reopened fall 2011 after a year closure

By TESHA H. CHRISTENSEN
 Lourdes Meza-Molina wanted a chance to graduate from high school, even if she is a teen mom.

The 19-year-old mother of two is one of over 100 students enrolled at Broadway at Longfellow School, 3017 East 31st St., an alternative learning program for pregnant and parenting mothers.

They all face challenges, but the benefit of Broadway is that they can face them together.

Broadway gives Carol Smith, 17, a needed support network she doesn't think she'd find in another school. "We can all relate to each other," Smith observed. The moms with older kids give advice to those who are pregnant and have recently given birth. They share stories about their kids. Each faces the same sort of challenges: childcare, baby daddy issues, balancing work and school, keeping a roof over their heads, and feeding

their families.

Kiara Bryant-Campbell, 17, stayed at her high school when she found out she was pregnant, but "it didn't work out." She felt ostracized by fellow students, and discovered she didn't have as much in common with them as she did before. At Broadway, "you don't feel like the odd one out," she said.

Keeping up with old friends isn't easy when you're a teenage mom. When she can't go out because she doesn't have a babysitter, some friends get angry, Bryant-Campbell observed. "They don't understand how it is," she said. "I've got a kid. They need to come up with things we both can do with my kid. A lot of people don't understand that."

Smith also tried to stay at her high school after learning she was pregnant, but it was hard to focus on studying when she was suffering from morning sickness and had to run out of class.



Little Christian Meija-Meza enjoys a mid-day visit from his aunt Yessica Meza-Molina, left, and his mother, Lourdes Meza-Molina. Both women are students at Longfellow at Broadway, an alternative high school for pregnant and parenting mothers. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

She likes it that the teachers at Broadway don't play the "sympathy card," but instead expect the same of everyone.

"We want people to motivate us, not say, 'You've got a baby so it's okay if you don't do your work,'" agreed Bryant-Campbell.

Fa Vang, 18, pointed out that at Broadway, there isn't the same focus on attendance you find at typical high schools, because

staff understand when students can't make it because either they or their child is sick. The mother of three-year-old twins appreciates both the independence and the camaraderie offered at Broadway.

"We're all girls and we're all in the same situation," Vang said.

Classes at Broadway are offered as either seated classes or as blended-online classes, and they are completed at one's own pace. Students work in a day-long advisory in the subjects they need to

Continued on page 13

Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

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

Classic Worship at 11 am every Sunday
 Mar. 11 Contemporary/Casual Worship at 9 am
 Education for all ages at 10 am (no adult classes on Mar. 11)

Wednesdays: Children's choirs at 3:45 and 4:45; supper at 5:45; children's activities at 6:15

Lenten Worship Wednesdays at 6:30 pm (Handicapped accessible)

Childcare available
 Pastor Ryan Eikenbary-Barber

Christ Church Lutheran
 3244 34th Ave. • 612-721-6611

Sunday Worship at 9:30 am
 Childcare Provided
 Education Hour at 11:00 am
 Pastor: Kristine Carlson
 A welcoming congregation
www.christchurchluth.org

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

Sunday Worship 10:30 am
 Christmas Eve Worship 7 pm (Childcare Provided)
 (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
 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7 pm
 Christmas Day Service 9 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

Sunday Mass 9:30 am (Childcare available)
 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 and 11:00 am
 Ash Wed. Worship Feb. 22 6:45 pm
 Meal served at 5:30 pm
 AA Meeting Tuesdays/Sundays 7 pm

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Longfellow School in transition

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

Longfellow Community School, located at the corner of 31st Ave. and 31st St. was built in 1918. It was closed in 2010.

Broadway at Longfellow School moved into the vacant Longfellow Elementary School building in the fall of 2011. The program caters to over 100 teenage mothers up to age 21 from across Minneapolis. While the program itself isn't new, the move from North High School (where it had been located since the district opted to develop its headquarters at Broadway High School, 1250 West Broadway Avenue) to Longfellow enabled the program to have a home of its own, rather than share space with another high school.

Learn more about the program at: <http://broadway.mpls.k12.mn.us> or call 612-668-4700.

Getting our home improvement wish book done—
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"We want to do business locally, with people who understand the homes in this area. We find all sorts of home improvement ideas and referrals every year; community information, too!"

—Peter and Leslie, Longfellow



south minneapolis housing fair

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South High School
 3131 19th Ave. S. Mpls.
www.housingfair.org





Longfellow Community Council

Serving Longfellow, Hiawatha, Cooper, and Howe neighborhoods

The Board Member Experience

By Alex Tsatsoulis, Cooper Representative



When my wife and I moved to Longfellow last year, we knew that we wanted to be involved in our neighborhood, and give something back to our community; one of us serving on the LCC Board seemed like the perfect opportunity to do just that.

Being on the LCC Board has given me a great insight into the inner workings of our neighborhood, and shown me just how diverse and wonderful a place it is. It has enabled me to have a say in important projects and policies that will shape how our neighborhood grows for years to come.

Just this past year alone we've worked on crime and graffiti prevention efforts, debated and approved variances for denser transit-oriented development, and supported the growth of new businesses in our neighborhood. But none of that work could be done without dedicated neighborhood residents on LCC committees and on the LCC Board.

Serving on the board and going to committee meetings has helped me meet many of the great residents and business-owners who call Longfellow home. I highly recommend running for the LCC Board if you are interested in how our neighborhood works and want to help make our already great neighborhood even greater!

Seven Neighborhood Organizations steer toward a bright future

By Becky Timm, PPNA

Over the past year, seven neighborhood organizations in south Minneapolis have worked together to explore strategic partnership opportunities that will improve operating efficiencies and ensure long-term sustainability of the sector while improving the capacity to engage and build grassroots leadership.

The partnership is called the Southside United Neighborhoods Project (SUN Project) and the following neighborhood organizations, representing eleven neighborhoods, are participating: Longfellow Community Council, Bancroft Neighborhood Association, Bryant Neighborhood Organization, Central Area Neighborhood Development Organization, Corcoran Neighborhood Organization, Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association and

Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association. With generous support from the McKnight Foundation, the SUN Project has hired the Dendros Group to help guide the exploration and evaluation process. The organizational assessment period began in December 2011 and will conclude in the spring of 2012 with a set of recommendations for how the seven organizations can move forward more collaboratively. The recommendations will be presented to the seven organizations and the communities at-large for final approval. The SUN Project will assess the feasibility of strategic partnerships to address the following needs: a stronger collective voice regarding policy matters; elimination of duplicate administrative functions within the seven neighborhood organizations; and development of a proactive response to the changes in neighborhood funding sources and the needs of the communities. Maintaining the unique identities of each of the neighborhoods is a top priority as the SUN Project moves forward.

Pie, No Pie Charts, Chocolate-Banana Cream Peace of Pie

by Richard Parnell

- (1) iBook laptop, Blueberry Clamshell, exp: 2001
- (1) webpage with multiple translations of "p-e-a-c-e"
- (1) bottle, food coloring, Blue
- (1) container, non-dairy topping (Kool or just cool, whipped)
- (1) pie crust, Graham (homeopathic) cracker, store bought, 10"
- (1) package, instant chocolate pudding, non-brand name
- (1) cow, or carton of milk
- (2) ripe bananas, sliced (first remove yellow parts, then brown parts)



Mixed up. Half baked. Sliced, not diced.

NO PIE CHARTS! ONLY PIES!

Annual Meeting, Pie Potluck & Director Elections

Wednesday, April 25, 2012 • 6:30-8:00pm
Minnehaha Academy North Campus
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Join the Longfellow Community Council for our Annual Meeting and board elections! Bring a pie to share, receive updates on what's happening in Longfellow, network at our resource fair and elect board members you believe in!

Participate in our drawing and win a prize! Receive one ticket for each non-perishable food item that you bring for the Minnehaha Food Shelf. Limit ten tickets per person, but please bring as much as you are able to donate.

Childcare is available so bring the whole family! FFI Joanna at joanna@longfellow.org; 722 4529 x2.

LONGFELLOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Calendar of Meetings and Events March 2012

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

Advancement Committee

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

Neighborhood Development Caucus

Monday, March 12
6:30 - 8:00 pm
LCC Office, 2727 26th Ave S.
FFI spencer@longfellow.org

River Gorge

Monday, March 12
7:00 - 9:00 pm
Hiawatha School Park, 4305 42nd St. E
FFI: joanna@longfellow.org

Longfellow Faith Forum

Tuesday, March 13
12:00 - 1:30 pm
Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37th Ave S
To RSVP or for more information contact
Joanna@longfellow.org or call (612) 722-4529 x 2

Community Connections

Tuesday, March 13
6:30 - 8:30 pm
LCC Office, 2727 26th Ave S
FFI: joanna@longfellow.org

Board of Directors

Thursday, March 15
6:30 - 8:45 pm
Brackett Park, 2728 39th Avenue S
FFI: melanie@longfellow.org

Environment and Transportation Committee

Tuesday, March 27
6:30 - 8:00 pm
Hiawatha School Park 4305 42nd St. E
FFI: spencer@longfellow.org

Earth Day River Gorge Cleanups!

NO PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED! GREAT FOR INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND GROUPS

Sat., April 21, 9:30 a.m.-Noon

Join this annual Earth Day tradition and contribute to the health and vitality of the Mississippi River Watershed. Volunteers from throughout the community will meet at one of two cleanup starting points: East 36th Street along West River Parkway or East 44th Street along West River Parkway.

Here, you'll sign in and receive gloves, trash bags, refreshments and directions, and also enjoy free educational presentations. Additional information will also be available on the Mississippi River Gorge Stewards program, which this cleanup is part of, as well as more local upcoming restoration events.

No preregistration required! Individuals, families, groups -- everyone is welcome.

Please note that start-time is 9:30 a.m. (we will still be setting up at 9 a.m.).

For links to maps and additional details, visit: <http://www.fmr.org/participate/events>

Thanks to program partners Longfellow Community Council, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and the National Park Service!



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

Fish Dinners at St. Albert

The Church of St. Albert the Great is having its famous Fish Dinners on the six Fridays of Lent, from Feb. 24 through March 30, served from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Baked and fried tilapia, potatoes, meatless spaghetti, cole slaw rolls, desserts, beverages, \$10 for adults, \$9 seniors 65+, children 6-12 \$5. Children 5 and under eat free. Bingo in the gym from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Raffles, too!

The church is on the corner of E. 29th Street and 32nd Ave. S. Accessible entry behind the statue. Overflow parking with shuttle bus one block north at Anne Sullivan School lot.

Home improvement at East Lake Library

Want to make changes to your house but not sure where to begin? Thinking about tackling a DIY project? Learn how the construction puzzle fits together and how to work with today's professionals to stretch your dollars at a free program, Home Improvement: When to Contact a Contractor, on Tuesday, March 6, 6:30 p.m. at the East Lake Library. Presented in partnership with South Minneapolis Housing Fair. Register by calling 612-543-8425.

Storytelling is for everyone

Join Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Community Education for a presentation about telling your life story on Tuesday, March 20 at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st Street. Storytelling is a powerful vehicle that can be used to transmit values, culture, language and life lessons. Join this session to engage in sharing stories. If you wish, bring a memorable story from your childhood that helped shape who you are today. Contact Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for more information.

Spaghetti Dinner at St. Helena Church March 10

Please join us for a Fat Lorenzos "All you Care to Eat" Spaghetti Dinner at St. Helena Church - Rowan Hall. Serving spaghetti, salad, bread, dessert, milk, coffee and wine Saturday, March 10, 5-7:30 p.m., 3204 East 43rd St. 612-729-9301 to purchase tickets or for questions. All proceeds benefit the St. Helena School Sports Program, making athletics accessible to everyone at an affordable price. Thank you for your support.

Pre-Sale Tickets Family - \$25



On Monday, March 12, 7:30 p.m. Accordo will present a concert at the National Historic Landmark, Christ Church Lutheran, 3244 34th Avenue South. Accordo includes SPCO principal players Steve Copes, Ruggero Alliffranchini, Maiya Papach, and Ron Thomas, and Minnesota Orchestra principal cellist Tony Ross. (Photo by Roe Dori)

Accordo performs at Christ Church

Monday, March 12, 7:30 p.m. Accordo will present a concert at the National Historic Landmark, Christ Church Lutheran, 3244 34th Avenue South.

Accordo includes SPCO principal players Steve Copes, Ruggero Alliffranchini, Maiya Papach, and Ron Thomas, and Minnesota Orchestra principal cellist Tony Ross. The March concert also includes guest artists Edward Arron and Ian Ding.

Accordo is a Minnesota-based chamber group. Its 2011/12 season is presented by Kate Nordstrum Projects, Northrop Concerts & Lectures, and The Schubert Club.

Tickets available at <http://schubert.org/accordo/> and at the door, if not sold out.

Adult - \$8 Kids 12 and under & Seniors \$6 At the Door
Family - \$30, Adult - \$10, Kids 12 and under and seniors \$8.

Transition Longfellow Community Movie Night

Permaculture is more than gardening... it's a movement focused on sustainable living on all levels. "Intro to Permaculture Design" encapsulates some of the most significant aspects of Permaculture - leaving the viewer feeling more confident about how to capably wield the design tools Permaculture utilizes.

Giving Tree Gardens expert gardener Russ Henry will be on hand to answer questions that the movie will undoubtedly provoke.

Friday, March 16 - Bethany Lutheran Church, 3901 36th Avenue South; 6:30 p.m. - Community Potluck (come even if you don't bring food!); 7:15 p.m. - Movie; 8:20 p.m. - Discussion with Russ Henry. For more information call: 612-221-0131. Find us on Facebook: Longfellow Sustainability Group.

LBA to discuss Lake Street study

Longfellow Business Association meets Thursday, March 8, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. at Gandhi Mahal - 3009 27th Avenue S

Sam Newberg / Joe Urban Inc will present results of the East

Lake Market Study. LBA was awarded a City of Minneapolis Great Streets Grant for the proposal for a corridor assessment/market study of East Lake Street and Art in Vacant storefronts on East Lake St. in partnership with the Longfellow Community Council and League of Longfellow Artists (LOLA).

For more information call Ruth at ruth@longfellow.org or 612-722-4529 x1

Longfellow holds March 9 ECFE Pajama Party

The East Parent Advisory Council (PAC) for Minneapolis Schools Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) program will be sponsoring a Pajama Party for families & kids. The event date is Friday, March 9, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The location is Anne Sullivan Communication Center at 3100 East 28th Street. There is a suggested optional donation of \$5 per family.

There will be also be a silent auction! During the party, participate in our silent auction including items from local Longfellow businesses! Cash and checks accepted. All proceeds benefit the East Side Parent Advisory Council whose mission is to support Early Childhood Family Education in Minneapolis.

Roosevelt Pancake Breakfast April 22

Event: Roosevelt High School Pancake Breakfast; Time: Sunday, April 22, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Place: Roosevelt High School, 4029 28th Av. S.; Purpose: To raise funds for student scholarships and educational grants.

To bring old friends, community members and alumni together for a morning of fun, friendship, and food.

Cost: Breakfast tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ten and under. Raffle tickets for the best raffle in town are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Questions: Brian Nutter 612-743-6329 or Brian.Nutter@mpls.k12.mn.us

Volunteer visitors needed for seniors

Help neighborhood 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 Longfellow and Seward neighborhoods. Call Mary at Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for more information.

Pushing back against bullying program

You will be my witnesses. Real kids can push back against bullying! Join us for a Faith Family Night at St. Peder's Lutheran Church on Sunday, March 25th, 5 p.m. - family dinner; 5:45 p.m. speaker, Marilyn Sharpe. A \$5 suggested donation for dinner.

All youth and families are invited to a special evening focused around how we are called to be Christ's witnesses here and how we are able to help those who are bullied, those who bully others, and those who are bystanders.

We welcome Marilyn Sharpe to help led the discussion on bullying. Marilyn Sharpe knows it's all about faith! She is the principal of Marilyn Sharpe Ministries, LLC, dedicated to helping congregations equip households to nurture faith in all of the generations, all of the time, wherever they are. She is a congregational coach, trainer, writer, presenter, speaker, retreat leader and teacher. She presents with energy, passion, and contagious enthusiasm.

For more information or to RSVP please contact Sarah Grans 612-722-8000 or sarah@stpeders.net. Recommended for 4th graders & up. Childcare will be available.

Deacon to speak at "Saturday Breakfast for Men" at St. Helena's

The Church of St. Helena, will hold a "Saturday Breakfast for Men" with Deacon Joseph Michalak, Archdiocesan Director of Diaconate Formation, who will speak on "Valiant Knights for Marriage in the Family, the Church, and Society" on February 25 in Rowan Hall, 3204 East 43rd St. Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. in Rowan Hall, following a Mass at 8 a.m. in the church. The charge for the breakfast is \$5. Complimentary tickets are available for those having difficulty paying. Reservations must be received by 12 noon on Friday, February 24, by calling 612-729-7321 or e-mailing johnsondag@sainthelena.us

Annual Codfish and Meatball Dinner March 2

St. Peder's Lutheran church will be holding its annual Codfish and Meatball Dinner on Friday, March 2. There will be seatings at 5 and 6:30 p.m. The dinner also includes boiled potatoes with our famous mustard gravy, peas and carrots, Havarti cheese on pumpernickel, cupcakes and beverages. The cost is \$12 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. St. Peder's Church is located on 4600 East 42nd St. Call St. Peder's Church office at 612-722-8000 or email Kristin Lerstrom: kristin@stpeders.net for reservations. Please state how many meatball or cod dinners, seating time preference, and phone number if leaving a message.

Basic Teachings of the Catholic Church

The Church of St. Helena, will present an eight-part series on "Basic Teachings of the Catholic Church" taught by Fr. James Reidy, Ph.D., on Monday evenings, February 27 through April 16, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Parish Offices, 3204 East 43rd Street.

This series is for adult Catholics who want to learn more about their religion; those who are not Catholic and just want some background on the Catholic Faith; and adult Catholics who have not received one or more of the following sacraments: Penance (Confession), Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist.

There is no charge for the course except for the textbook. Complimentary copies are available for those who have difficulty paying. Please call John Sondag (612-729-7321) to register.

Broadway at Longfellow

Continued from page 10

complete to graduate and prepare for college. They choose how they will accomplish their goals –with support of teachers and instructional support staff, through Project-Based Learning (PBL), small group projects and seminars.

The students at Broadway feel supported by the staff and teachers, both in their academics and personal lives. “If we’re feeling down about something, they give us advice,” noted Vang.

“Even though they are here to do a job, they have a way of making you feel comfortable,” Smith added.

The benefits go beyond the classroom. Students are eligible for childcare located within the building, and on Thursdays both staff members and students gather there to interact with the kids. They also get in-home visits from the school nurse, who not only does well-baby visits, but talks about post-partum de-

There is a health clinic, and in a portable unit out back, Hennepin County staff members meet with students to discuss childcare assistance, welfare needs, medical assistance and various other programs students can tap into.

Moving into south Minneapolis in the fall of 2011 from its long-time home in north Minneapolis hasn’t hurt the program, Glawe said, despite fears it would. North-side students are still attending, in part because of the curb-to-curb service offered. Any student within the city of Minneapolis can take a bus to the school, and there are car seats already strapped inside to make it easier for the young moms and their children.

Many of the students now enrolled in the Broadway program had dropped out of school previously. “It’s a way of bringing them back to the fold,” explained Glawe.

Like most of the students at Broadway, Smith’s dreams and priorities have changed since she became a mom. Instead of living on campus at the University of Minnesota while she earns a nurs-

“You want to be a better person. You want to be educated for your children. You want to give them everything you don’t have.”

- Yessica Meza-Molina

pression and ways to get a dad more involved. Students can access free parenting supplies, such as cribs, clothes, car seats, and more.

Having childcare located in the same building as her classes was a big draw to Yessica Meza-Molina, 20. She likes being able to check in on her one-year-old child during her lunch break.

Last year, when Broadway was housed at North High School, only half of the children in daycare were located within the same facility. Although they were accessible via a 10-minute bus ride, it wasn’t the same, according to program director Diane Glawe. It’s been nice for both students and staff to have a home of their own this year, rather than sharing space with another school. The other programs housed at the Longfellow building support the Broadway program. Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) classes and Special Education ECFE classes are offered there.

ing degree, Smith will go to a school that is more flexible, such as the Minneapolis Community and Technical School. “It will allow me to get my work done and at the end of the day go home to my daughter,” she explained.

Things also changed for Bryant-Campbell. Because she knows that she’ll need her family around to help care for her son, she has shelved her dreams of attending college down south. “It’s not just me, but me and my son,” she said. “I am more focused on my son than me.”

Obtaining her high school degree didn’t used to be important to L. Meza-Molina. But now she wants to be a good example for her children. She wants to be able to tell them: “If I achieved that, you can too.”

Her sister, Y. Meza-Molina agreed. “You want to be a better person,” she said. “You want to be educated for your children. You want to give them everything you don’t have.”




Students chat about what makes Broadway at Longfellow different from other schools. Left to right: Fa Vang, Kiara Bryant-Campbell and Carol Smith. (Photo by Tessa M. Christensen)



St. Paul Blackhawks Soccer Club 2012 Little Hawks Spring Soccer League
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Saturdays May – June
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Details and registration at www.blackhawksoccer.org

St. Paul Blackhawks Soccer Club 2012 Traveling Summer Soccer League
U9 - U11 Boys and Girls
Ages 9-11 April – July
Building character and community through soccer.
Registration Deadline: March 16, 2012
Details and registration at www.blackhawksoccer.org






Hiawatha Transmission Line Project Open House

We will have updates on:

- Construction Timing of the Underground Line
- Substation wall design public outreach efforts
- Permitted route and substation locations

Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2012
Time: 5:30 – 7:30 PM
Where: Plaza Verde
1516 E Lake Street
Minneapolis, MN 55407

Refreshments will be provided



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What's Cookin...
By COLETTE MULLENMASTER

Augustana Care Center's Catoya Clausell Marketing Director

CM: What do you find most attractive about being located in this community?

CC: We are in the heart of the historic Elliot Park neighborhood, Augustana Apartments and Health Care Center combine charm, convenience and community.

CM: What is the mission and philosophy of care at Augustana Apartments?

CC: The mission of Augustana Care is to serve God by fostering fullness of life for older adults and other people in need through the provision of health care, housing and other services in a Christian tradition. Older adults are vital to our communities. New experiences, relationships and giving back to the community are all important aspects of their lives. At Augustana Care, we provide services that help older adults celebrate life as they live it to the fullest.

CM: Is there anything else you would like to add about Augustana's services?

CC: Spiritual care is also a vital part of the Augustana Care experience. Chaplains and volunteers are dedicated to providing spiritual and emotional support to residents and families from a variety of cultures and backgrounds.

FEATURES & AMENITIES

- Convenience Store
- Sidewalk Bistro
- Silver Curl beauty shop
- Fitness Center
- Medical Clinic and Services
- Woodworking
- Library/computer lab
- Computer & Internet Access

CM: Many older adults are on fixed incomes that don't go as far as they used to. Are there options available at Augustana Apartments for folks at all income levels?

CC: For older adults who cannot afford market-rate rentals, one-bedroom apartments are available at reduced rates to those who qualify. To learn more, please inquire at our housing office 612.238.5255.

CM: If someone were interested in learning more about Augustana Apartments as a living option for either themselves or a loved one, what should they do?

CC: We invite you to visit, share a meal with us and experience life as it is lived and celebrated at Augustana Care. **You are always welcome!**

From the kitchen of Chef George Serra
Habanero & tequila glazed Quail

- 8 clean quails
- 1/2 head of garlic roasted and peeled
- 1 onion peeled and chopped
- 2 habanero chilies *habaneros are quite hot, so take seeds off*
- 2 all spice berries
- 1 cup of tequila
- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar

Place the quail, garlic, onion, chile, spice berries in a sauce pan and cover with water and salt & pepper to taste, bring to a boil, lower heat and simmer til the quail is just barely cooked, remove the quail, strain and save the broth, mix the olive oil, tequila and brown sugar and brush the quail, bake at 350° for 20 minutes or til the bird is golden brown. While the quail is in the oven reduce the broth and pour over the bird.

Go to www.longfellownokomismessenger.com to see a video of Chef George preparing baked Quail.
Augustana Care Center • 1510 11th Avenue South, Minneapolis • 612.238.5255

Hiawatha light rail service interrupted

As the Messenger goes to press, we have learned that LRT service along the Hiawatha line has been temporarily interrupted as a result of damage to the Sabo bridge. LRT riders are being bussed around the damage site while LRT officials work to restore service.

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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 March 19 for the March 29 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

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. 3-12

ADDITIONS

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EMPLOYMENT

The Longfellow/Nokomis Messenger is looking for local reporters to write news and feature stories on a free-lance basis. Pay is based on small stipend per story. Journalism students or graduates are preferred, but not required. Prior newspaper experience a must. Send resume, cover letter and clips to: Longfellow/Nokomis Messenger, 1885 University Av. S., St. Paul, MN 55104.

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. 3-12

Need a handyman?? Any job, big or small. Plumbing? Electrical? Remodeling? Decks? Leave it to "Dynamo Dave." Call me first and save money. 612-701-2272. Shhhh! Don't tell my wife, but my own home projects can wait because yours will always take priority! 12-12

HALL FOR RENT

Parties, Birthdays, Weddings, Anniversaries, etc. call the Post @ 612-724-9909 or Gary @ 612-987-8857. BB-3-12

LAWN CARE

Sorensen Lawn Care serving Minneapolis for 17 years. Services include mowing, spring and fall clean-ups, aeration, fertilization, mulch installation, emerald ash borer treatment. Call Jeff 612-781-3420. 6-12-00

FOR SALE

For Sale: Vintage 1900-1949 lights, house hardware, doors, tubs, radiators, etc. Also furniture hardware. 651-644-9270. 20% off with ad. 4-12

OLDER ADULTS

65-plus programs in Longfellow and Seward: yoga, support groups for the visually impaired, foot care and blood pressure clinics, senior socials and health talks, volunteering, nursing services, and more. Call (612) 729-5799 for information. Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors. 4-12

HAULING

Just Call, We Haul - We haul away almost anything from old furniture and appliances to yard waste and construction debris. We'll do all the loading and clean-up for you. For free estimate on cleaning your garage, attic, basement, and yard. Just call 612-724-9733. 3-12

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Bolton Home Services, LLC. Painting, staining and wall, ceiling and trim repairs. Sash cord replacement. Local Business with references. Call Rosa for an estimate. 612-386-7582. 3-12-00

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Interior/exterior painting, wallpaper removal, small wall repair, average garage \$250, average 3 rooms \$250. Jim 651-698-0840. 3-12

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Join us for Pancake Breakfast on the 4th Sunday of each month. From 8:00 a.m. to noon. Wold Chamberlain, American Legion Post 99, Pancake Breakfast. All you can eat pancakes. Adults \$6. Children \$3. Includes 3 sausages, juice, milk & coffee. Eggs are \$.25 each. Prepared anyway you want. Address is 5600 - 34th Ave. So. Phone. 612-724-9909. February 26, March 25, April 22 and May 27. 4-12

Continued on page 16

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South Minneapolis resident Linda Stuart named among Girl Scouts Centennial Honorees

As part of the yearlong 2012 celebration of the Girl Scouts Centennial, Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys recently announced the Centennial Award Honorees. The honor recognizes Girl Scout Alumnae and community members who exemplify the culture, values, diversity and spirit of the Girl Scout Movement.

Among the people recognized is Linda Stuart of Minneapolis, MN. A long-time Girl Scout supporter, Linda Stuart embodies the qualities of courage, confidence, character and community contribution that Girl Scouts strive to develop in girls.

Linda began her journey as a Girl Scout in 1985 as a Brownie and remains committed to bettering the lives of girls through Girl Scouting. She runs a coop junior troop with 2 other moms for her 11 year old daughter. She also serves as the Lake Nokomis Service Unit Manager in South Minneapolis. Linda is the Director of Global Citizens Network, a MPLS based nonprofit that provides cross cultural learning through short-term volunteer expeditions around the world. Travel teams include families, students, and individuals ages 8 years old and up. Global Citizens Network, estab-



As part of the yearlong 2012 celebration of the Girl Scouts Centennial, Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys recently announced the Centennial Award Honorees. Among the people recognized is Nokomis resident Linda Stuart.

lished in 1992 will celebrate its 20th year anniversary on April 14, 2012 at the Nicollet Island Pavilion. See more: www.globalcitizens.org

Nominated by friends, family, coworkers and community members and selected by a volunteer

committee, chaired by Valerie Halverson Pace, Ph.D.—West Region Manager, Corporate Citizenship and Corporate Affairs, IBM Corporation, each of the Centennial Award Honorees live their lives in accordance to core Girl Scout values.

Classifieds

Continued from page 15

PIANO TUNING

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REAL ESTATE

Flourish Realty LLC. Full Service Real Estate/Property Management Services. Local Realtor, Ecobroker, & Resident, Daniel Schultz: 612-408-0233, dan@flourishrealty.net 7-12

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@NELSON-ELECTRICINC.COM. 3-12

SALAD LUNCHEON

Spring Salad Luncheon - entertainment, prizes. \$10 at the door. For more info call 952-888-2345. Sat. Mar. 3, 12:30 p.m. at Holy Emmanuel Church, 204 E. 104th St., Bloomington, MN 3-12

SERVICES

Home remodeling/repair. Carpentry, basement, bathroom remodeling and design to include all handyman services. All calls returned same day. Always on time. Licensed and insured. Mem-

ber BBB. Jeff 612-388-2258. www.grosscupremodeling.com BB-12

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