



Some neighbors upset with new parking fees at YWCA Midtown

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10th Monarch Festival delights with art, music, and butterflies

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Eighty-five apartments may replace former Bridgeman's

Former Bridgeman's, recently Somtaste Restaurant, may be razed for a proposed six-story apartment building

By TESSA M. CHRISTENSEN

The former Bridgeman's near Minnehaha Park could soon be razed and replaced with a six-story apartment building.

Developers believe that there are many people interested in living this close to a regional park.

"We really like its location and the proximity to the regional park and falls," said Reuter Walton Development developer Kyle Brasser.

The 85-unit, 65,000-square-foot structure at 4757 Hiawatha Ave. would offer studio (500 square feet), one-bedroom (about 650 square feet) and two-bedroom (about 1000 square feet) apartments. Rents are expected to range from \$1000-2,000.

The proposed 85-unit structure at 4757 Hiawatha Ave. would offer studio (500 square feet), one-bedroom (about 650 square feet) and two-bedroom (about 1000 square feet) apartments. Rents are expected to range from \$1000-\$2,000. (Graphic submitted)

It will also have an exercise room, common area and bike center on the main level.

This apartment building would be located next to the commercial buildings along Hiawatha Ave. and Nawadaha Boulevard, and provide more housing density. It is not being built in the middle of a block of single-family homes, Brasser pointed out. It will be just south of the strip mall

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Fong family closes Dragon City Cafe after 42 years on Lake St.

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

The Dragon City Cafe closed its doors for the last time on Fri., Sept. 14. Even at 2pm on the last day, every table was taken, and customers waited in line at the cash register to get their take-out orders, and to say goodbye.

Located at the SE corner of 43rd Ave. and E. Lake St. since 1975, the cafe had the feeling of not having changed much in all that time. Owner Donna Fong was still in the kitchen, supervising four generations of family members. As she has done for 42 years, Fong's daughter Joanie Quan greeted every customer—seeming to know each one's name and favorite dish on the menu.

Longtime customer Linda Maloney stopped in with her family. "When my sons were young," she said, "we used to come here several times a week. To tell you the truth, I'd sometimes take a little money from my (now) ex-husband's change jar if it looked like we might be short. This place was an integral part of my children's childhood."

Charles Reimler, seated inches away at the next table, added, "It was the friendliness that kept me coming back. Joanie remembered my stepson's food allergies every time and would go out of her way to make his favorite meal. It always reminded me of the television show 'Cheers,' except without the beer."

Owner Donna Fong and her



Joanie Quan was one of Donna Fong's two children who worked full-time in the restaurant since it opened 42 years ago. Now a grandmother of seven, Quan said, "Our customers have been part of our family." (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

husband Daniel came to Minnesota from China and made Minneapolis their home. They cooked at the venerable Nankin Restaurant (then the only Chinese restaurant in town) from 1969-1977.

Grandson Bill Quan said, "Many of my aunts and uncles met each other at the Nankin, got married, and then worked for my grandparents when they opened Dragon City Cafe. My grandparents had eight children; their kids, grandkids, and even some of the great grandkids have all been part

of the family business. My grandma and grandpa put their heart and soul into this place."

In a competitive industry, the Dragon City Cafe seemed to break most of the rules for what makes a restaurant last. They kept a small, modest dining area, probably didn't change the menu that often, had no website and, according to grandson Bill Quan, "never really did any advertising." But customers loved coming there, and most came very regularly. As evidence of their



Owner Donna Fong with one of the dozens of fresh bouquets brought in by customers. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

loyalty, bouquets, pots of flowers, and handwritten notes were piled on every flat surface, and many customers dabbed at their

eyes with paper napkins.

Son Richard Fong said, "My parents loved what they did every day here, and it showed."

Local photographer wins \$50,000 Distinguished Artist Award

Wing Young Huie also releasing a new book, "Chinese-ness: The Meaning of Identity and the Nature of Belonging"

By JAN WILLMS

Minneapolis photographer Wing Young Huie has spent his 30-year career going out in the world, getting people's stories and taking their photos. "And I'm always juggling projects," he added in a recent interview in his studio, The Third Place, at 3730 Chicago Ave.

"This is my office more than a retail art gallery," Huie explained. He has his photos on display, some windows along the back wall and a Ping-Pong table in the front.

"I'm a self-employed artist with no staff, so I am open at irregular hours or by appointment," Huie said. "We do have events here, and I play Ping-Pong every once in a while. It's a lot of fun."

Huie is renowned for his photos of strangers, often holding a chalk-board with a word or phrase describing their innermost thoughts. He has had these photos of everyday people displayed along Lake St. in Minneapolis and University Ave. in St. Paul. His photos have been displayed on billboards and walls, as well as on 4x6 photo paper.

He was recently recognized for his body of work with a \$50,000 McKnight Distinguished Artist Award, the first photographer to ever be a recipient. "You have to be nominated for it, so it's kind of like a career achievement award," Huie noted.

Huie will be releasing his latest project a book called "Chinese-ness: The Meaning of Identity and the Nature of Belonging," on Oct. 30 at a book launch party at the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul.

"It was really eight years ago that I conceived of this idea," Huie said. He is the youngest of



Wing Young Huie was recently recognized for his body of work with a \$50,000 McKnight Distinguished Artist Award, the first photographer to ever be a recipient. (Photo by Jan Willms)

six children, and the only one in his family to be born in the United States. He had never been to China until he was invited there in 2010 by Arts Midwest, an arts organization that works with an international artists' exchange program.

"They collaborated with the US embassy in China and brought me over and put together an exhibition from my different projects that toured through 12 cities in China," Huie said.

"Being there for the first time, it made me wonder what if? What if my family had never left China? It made me look at all the 'what ifs' in my life, and so I decided to start this project 'Chinese-ness.'"

He said that since 2010 he has made four trips to China and photographed people there, as well as people in the Twin Cities, Worthington, and other towns in Minnesota and other states, collecting a perspective on the defini-

tion of "Chinese-ness."

"My idea was that you don't have to be Chinese to experience Chinese-ness," he concluded. "Many of the photos are of ethnic Chinese, but not all of them. I really look at identity through the filter of Chinese-ness."

Huie said part of this book (his seventh) is memoirist. "I write about my experiences and collect other people's experiences. In one way it also describes how my Chinese-ness collides with my Minnesota-ness and my American-ness."

Huie calls this book his most personal of all his books, and also the one with the most writing. "One-third of it is text," he said, "most of it written by me. I conducted conversations with people telling me their stories, to accompany their photographs."

He added that another difference in this book is that he photographs men in China that he could have been. For example, he writes about a photographer and his wife who have a studio in China. "Had my parents not left China, I could have ended up being him," he said.

"I also carried the idea a little farther," Huie stated. "After photographing a Chinese man, I asked to wear his clothes. Then he photographed me. So the two photos are side by side, and I would write how I could have been him. I did that maybe a dozen times, in the book."

As part of the "Chinese-ness" project, Huie also worked with the Minnesota History Theatre regarding a play about the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, the first time the United States targeted a big country of people coming here. The act banned all immigration of Chinese laborers. "The

play was about immigration, and I photographed the descendants

Continued on page 3

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ACCREDITED BUSINESS

Celebrate the turning of the seasons with this outdoor library event at Gateway Garden, 4224 E. 50th St. On Sat., Sept. 29, starting at 11am until 1pm, Tour the Gateway Gardens native plant community garden and enjoy an outdoor story time! The Nokomis Library will have a pop-up library available, with a place for sharing books, playing, and exploring the natural world.

You'll learn about the Library's innovative new programs connecting youth and adults alike to the natural world outside our doorsteps. Families will also learn about the history of the Gateway Garden and how they can get involved.

Morris Park Fall Festival

Save the date for the Morris Park Fall Festival on Sat., Sept. 29, 12-2pm at Morris Park, 5531 39th Ave. S.! This free family event will include a wide variety of activities, including building/flying kites, giant yard games, Minneapolis Park Board Naturalist activities, and music. The fire pit will be set up with s'mores making for all attendees. Food for sale will include chili, chips, hot cider, hot cocoa, and water.



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Tour the Gateway Gardens native plant community garden and enjoy an outdoor story time! The Nokomis Library will have a pop-up library available, with a place for sharing books, playing, and exploring the natural world.

NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

4313 E. 54th St.

Gateway Garden library event scheduled Sept. 29

Upcoming meetings and events:

10/03/18, 6:30pm: NENA Housing, Commercial and Streetscape Committee, NENA Office, 4313 E. 54th St.
10/10/18, 6:30pm: NENA Green Initiatives Committee, NENA Office
10/18/18, 6:30pm: Legos at the Library, Nokomis Library, 5100 S. 34th Ave.
10/25/18, 7pm: NENA Board Meeting, NENA Office

Web: www.nokomiseast.org • Facebook: www.facebook.com/Nokomiseast
Twitter: twitter.com/NokomisEast • Email: nena@nokomiseast.org • Phone: 612-724-5652

Legos at the library

Are you up to the Lego challenge? Come to Legos at the Nokomis Library, 5100 S. 34th Ave., on Thur., Oct. 18, 6:30-7:30pm and find out. Nokomis East adults, find your inner kid (or your inner city planner) with the Housing, Commercial, and Streetscape Committee. Build the best neighborhood building with Legos and win a prize! Then, hang out with the HCS Committee and learn about upcoming projects.

Accepting applicants

NENA is seeking applicants for the vacant Board seat from the Minnehaha neighborhood. If you live (homeowner and renters) in the Minnehaha neighborhood, you can nominate yourself (most common); or any NENA member can nominate a Morris Park neighborhood resident as an applicant for the Board. Completed nomination

forms are due on Oct. 11.

The NENA Board of Directors will review all applications and appoint a new Board member at its Oct. 25 meeting. This is a replacement appointment serving from Oct. 2018 to Apr. 2020. The appointed Board member may run to be elected to the seat at the April Annual Meeting and serve a full two-year term.

Visit www.nokomiseast.org for more information and an application.

NENA home loans

NENA offers two home improvement loan programs for homes in the Keewaydin, Minnehaha, Morris Park and Wenonah neighborhoods. Loan applications are processed on a first come, first served basis.

Home Improvement Loans

Did you know that the NENA Home Improvement Loans also cover large energy efficiency home improvements like solar panels? These loans also cover

most permanent home improvements. Call the Center for Energy and Environment at 612-335-5884 for more details on project eligibility. Owners of one to four unit residences can apply for up to \$15,000 to make improvements to their properties. Owner-occupants and investors may apply. The interest rate is either 3.5% or 4.5% depending on income. No income restriction applies.

Emergency Repair Loans

A limited amount of funds are available for emergency repairs. Only owner-occupied households are eligible. Income restrictions apply. The maximum loan amount is \$7,500. The loan is 0% interest, and there are no monthly payments. The loan is due in total upon the sale of the property or transfer of title.

For more information or to request an application, call the Center for Energy and Environment at 612-335-5884.

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor,
The Messenger's recent headline of "'Extremely affordable' housing..." seems off the mark. The \$18 million cost for 80 units is \$225,000 per efficiency apartment. At \$10.8 million the 44 Minnehaha Commons residents will live in \$245,000 units. Please look into these construction costs—which should be enough to buy a nice condo. This can't be the answer for affordable housing.
Nathan Reed Mitchell

Editor's Note: Thanks for your letter. "Affordable housing" in terms of rental housing (which we were writing about) referred to the cost for a tenant to rent a unit after the building is built. It had nothing to do with the cost of building the apartment units themselves. We agree that we don't see anything "affordable" about actually building them.

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125 First Ave. NW, PO Box 168
Minneapolis MN 55369
651-645-7045

Publishers:
Calvin deRuyter, Tim Nelson

Managing Editor:
Calvin deRuyter, editorial@deruyternelson.com

Advertising:
Denis Woulfe (651-917-4183); denis@deruyternelson.com

Production:
Tim Nelson

Contributing Writers:
Tessa M. Christensen, Jan Willms, Jill Boogren, Matthew Davis, Margie O'Loughlin, Stephanie Fox

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Local photographer

Continued from page 2

of people who came over as paper sons and paper daughters. That is also in the book," Huie said.

Paper sons and daughters were defined as Chinese people who were born in China and came to the United States by purchasing fraudulent papers stating they were blood kin to Chinese Americans who had citizenship in the United States.

"The Chinese Exclusion Act definitely speaks to what is happening right now," Huie said.

While gathering information for "Chinese-ness," Huie also completed a project in 2017 called "What Do You See?" working with White Bear high school students and in conjunction with the White Bear Center for the Arts. Through a variety of mediums, he showed the students his process for interacting with strangers. "You photograph them, get interviews with them or pieces of their stories," he said.

"They photographed each other, did chalk talks." He said that students in a pottery class made two different cups that represented different aspects of who they are. In some cases, the students made drawings, two different portraits that showed their fellow students shifting identity.

He sometimes gave an assignment to a class to just go out in the hallway and talk to someone they had never talked to before, and come back with a story. For the chalk talk, Huie would ask the students some questions. They would write a statement on a chalkboard.

"Questions are a way to start a conversation," Huie said. "I had them pair up with a fellow student who they did not know. I provided the questions, which were very open-ended, such as 'Who are you? How do other people see you? What advice would you give to a stranger?' After we have this conversation, we write something on a chalkboard that reveals something about ourselves."

Huie said he told them they could write whatever they wanted as long as it was real. It could not be their favorite saying, something they had heard in a movie, read in a book or heard in a song.

The students completed this assignment by ultimately writing something on black construction paper, then photographing each other.

There was an installation of the photos in the hallways of the two branches of the high school, and an exhibition at the White Bear Center for the Arts. The Center for the Arts also created a book of the photographs and reflections of the students.

"Basically, I just went out and showed them what I do," Huie said.

Some neighbors upset with new parking fees at YWCA Midtown

Y management says new system will relieve congestion and misuse of the lot by non-members using the private lot

(Editor's note: Reporter Tesha M. Christensen is a neighborhood resident and has been a member of the Midtown YWCA since 2013.)

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

Some neighborhood residents and Y members are upset that the Midtown YWCA is now charging for parking.

They're questioning why the change was made without member input, why other options weren't considered, and why very little notice was given.

Most of all, members are upset about what amounts to a minimum \$180 increase in fees for those who drive a vehicle to the YWCA on the heels of a project that closed the locker rooms for the entire summer.

Ericsson resident Kristen Olsen is so bitter and disillusioned about the added cost and the lack of member involvement in addressing the parking situation that she canceled her membership and moved to the St. Paul JCC across the river. She had joined the YWCA in 2013.

"The parking fees amount to a substantial increase in our monthly fitness costs," pointed out Olsen. "For my family, it's a \$15 per month increase."

Olsen doesn't think that the 'solution' is consistent with the problem identified by the YWCA, which is unauthorized parking by non-members.

"If that is truly the problem the Y is trying to solve, it could be easily addressed by installing a parking gate that scans a member card to get in, or offering two hours of free parking for members, then charging for extended visits," said Olsen. "Instead, the Y is assessing a cost on its own members to fix a problem caused by non-members. It doesn't seem fair to impose a penalty on members for a problem they didn't cause."

Olsen added, "The Y gave very little notice of the cost increase and did not include members in discussions about the problem and how it might be addressed. The Y had info sessions and sought member feedback on remodeling the locker rooms, for example. Why didn't it include its own community and all the stakeholders in a change to the parking lot that affects almost every member who uses the club? They lost a lot of goodwill in how they rolled out this change, in my opinion."

Letter/email sent mid-August

Members received a letter around Aug. 16 that was dated Aug. 3 and lacked the signature of a specific staff member. Instead, it was signed by "YWCA management." An email also went out that day.

The letter announced that the YWCA Midtown was implementing a new pay parking gate system to "relieve the congestion and current misuse" of the parking lot. Installation began in August.

The YWCA has been charging for parking at its Downtown location since 1998, and about the same at the Uptown location, according to spokesperson Corinne Mattli.

There will be a 20-minute free grace period for members and program participants entering the lot who are picking up or dropping off. After that free period, parking



Neighbors are worried about traffic back-ups along 22nd Ave. once the new parking gates are active. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

rates at the gate start at \$1 for up to 1.25 hours; 1.25-2.5 hours costs \$2; with an increasing fee up to \$20 for six or more hours. Credit cards will be accepted at the exit lanes, and a cash/coin/credit "pay-on-foot" station will be available. Members have the option to set up an auto-load parking card for \$15 a month plus tax that will reload automatically with a monthly debit withdrawal. Members can also opt to get a stored value card that can be loaded with funds for a 10 percent credit on the total value purchased.

Families who receive their fitness memberships on scholarship based on their income will receive a free parking pass.

It cost about \$200,000 to install the new system, which includes four parking gates and software to interface with a billing system. There are one entry and three exit gates. The YWCA Board voted on the change in June.

The YWCA did not have an estimate of how much the system will cost each year to maintain, nor did staff provide numbers on how much revenue the parking fees are expected to generate. Midtown YWCA General Manager Alex Aguilar stated that they expect it will take a few years to garner the \$200,000 the system cost to install. Currently, the Y is replacing about six gates at the Uptown location each year after drivers run into them.

The Midtown YWCA has about 20 bicycle spaces and plans to add additional bicycle racks, according to Aguilar.

Lot remains for members only

YWCA representatives point out that the area around the Midtown location has changed drastically since the Y moved in 18 years ago. There's a new Hennepin County service building across 22nd Ave. S. with a paid parking lot, and the

Park-and-Ride there was removed. The next phase of that project will add about 500 housing units. The light rail station at Hiawatha and Lake St. sees about 30,000 riders each week. Plus, the school district is wrapping up construction of a new Adult Education Center on the west side of the YWCA.

"It's become more and more difficult to maintain the parking lot as a private privilege to our members," stated Aguilar.

The Midtown lot has 178 spaces, and there have been signs in the lot for years that designate it as a member-only lot.

A few years ago, the Y's 4,800 members received parking permits to place on their rearview mirrors when in the lot to identify themselves.

However, YWCA management contends that it has been a personal safety issue for staff to enforce that it is a member-only lot when drivers refuse to cooperate. "There have been too many incidences to count," said Aguilar. A few cars have been towed.

Although the issue has been non-member use, the new system does not scan a member's card before a car may enter the lot, nor does it scan a membership card when payment is made. There will continue to be signs in the lot stating it is a member-only lot, and a new sign will be placed by the entry gate. Staff will not be patrolling the lot to ensure compliance with the requirement that only members park in the lot, but if they notice that a particular vehicle seems to be a problem repeatedly, they can access video footage to help figure out if the vehicle belongs to a member or not.

The YWCA has not hired specific staff to patrol the lot and don't plan to. Instead they have opted for an automatic system.



It cost about \$200,000 to install the new system, which includes four parking gates and software to interface with a billing system. There is one entry and three exit gates. The YWCA Board voted on the change in June. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Some members not convinced

"This really is a last resort," stressed YWCA Minneapolis President and CEO Luz Maria Frias. "We have a history of taking other measures with no success."

Not all members agree with that statement, however.

"The case that the Y has made for the parking fee is not convincing," wrote Standish-Ericsson residents Doris Overby and Dick Taylor in a letter to the Y on behalf members on Aug. 20. "In fact, the Y's own rationale undermines the need for a parking fee. Why? Because their core reason is to deflect the wrongful use of the parking lot by non-members. One demerit of this policy is that it imposes an extra cost on many members, the very people not responsible for the problem."

The two suggested that the fixed cost of the new parking system could be spread out over more years and the rate charged to members be reduced.

A second letter on Aug. 29 continued their argument against the new parking fees.

"The members of the Minneapolis YWCA are stakeholders with rights and genuine interests. They deserve respect and consideration. Our grievances beg to be redressed."

On behalf of themselves and others, they suggested that a meeting be held with members.

The YWCA is not planning to hold a meeting.

"Unlike in the case of the locker room renovation for which we solicited feedback regarding the preference between the number of showers versus lockers, this was an operational and financial decision that falls well within the purview of the YWCA management," stated Frias.

She stressed that the Y is a private non-profit—not a government entity—and doesn't need to seek public input in decisions.

Frias added that they have heard from bicyclists and transit users who thank them for not imposing a fee for a parking lot on them.

Others think that parking should be included in their membership fees.

"The cost is not a pittance for many people. It's \$180/year. If a business (and the Y is a business) wants clients, they need to provide parking just like Target does, the bank, and even the post office does," stated Corcoran resident Gaylyn Bicking.

"Some people have no choice but to drive due to the distance they live from the Y," pointed out Bicking. "Some have

young children. Some are elderly. Walking during our long, dark winters is problematic for women and older people."

Corcoran resident John V. Burling pointed out, "Every paying member subsidizes everything that goes into the Y, presumably at all locations, with their dues whether they use a service or not." Burling noted that some people don't use the free childcare or the waterslide; they haven't been in the sauna or the steam room; used the basketball courts or the treadmills; or participated in the women's triathlon or any other group classes. Yet, a membership includes all these things—and should also include parking as an amenity.

The YWCA did not provide figures on how many memberships have been dropped because of the changes to the parking lot. Nor did they provide information on the last membership rate increase.

Concern about mistreatment

Twenty-five-year YWCA member Dick Taylor of Powderhorn and six-year-member Doris Overby of Standish have not yet decided whether they will remain YWCA members, and say it hinges upon the YWCA response to the parking issue, as well as an incident that happened to Overby while collecting signatures at the Midtown YWCA on Aug. 20. She was told to leave the property.

According to a letter posted publicly on the Standish-Ericsson e-Democracy forum, "Members were eagerly signing the letter when the assistant manager and the security official approached Ms. Overby in such an unfriendly way that she was made to feel hurt, embarrassed, confused, frightened, and defensive."

Taylor and Overby stated, "We are alarmed and dismayed at the discourteous and unnecessary treatment meted out to Doris; we are disappointed by a lack of responsiveness to our concerns. The lack of response is simply a continuation of the lack of respect that has characterized this matter from the beginning."

When asked for details about the incident, Frias and Aguilar declined to comment.

Taylor and Overby are asking for a written apology made to Overby by the CEO; a review of the protocol for staff member interactions with members that guarantees mutual respect so that the YWCA lives up to its own goals and mission; and a forum open to all members to discuss both aspects of the matter.

Carter boys place at National Junior Championships Road Race

By JAN WILLMS

Fourteen-year-old Jack Carter has joined his brother Nick, 16, in scoring as a championship bicycle rider. Nick recently took first place in National Junior Men's Championships in his age division, and Jack came in second in his age bracket. The boys were competing in road bike racing at Hagerstown, MD.

They also are on the mountain bike team at South High School, where Jack is a ninth grader, and Nick is in 11th grade. But the sport of cyclocross has them crossing the Midwest every fall to participate in multiple races.

"In cyclocross, you're on a road bike with wider tires that are shaped a bit differently and have knobs on them," Nick explained. "The races usually consist of a one-to-two-mile lap, about an hour long. The actual rides depend on how the course is designed."

He said cyclocross races usually have at least two obstacles that often require the rider to get off his bike, carry it through the obstacle and then jump back on and continue riding.

"Some riders try to find ways to ride their bikes through the barriers, and that makes it more of a spectator sport," Nick added.

He said cyclocross demands a combination of strength and technical ability. "All the courses are different, and some play well to people who are really strong. Others are suited to people who can ride well."

The boys come to cycling naturally. Their dad, Doug, has been biking for years and introduced his sons to cyclocross. A state engineer for Minnesota Department of Transportation, he attends all the compe-



Nick Carter crosses the finish line to win at the 2018 National Junior Men's Championships. (Photo provided)

titions with them and rides in the master division in many of their races.

Their mom, Katie, a biology teacher at Roosevelt, said she is more of a casual bike rider, cycling around the neighborhood. "For our family, cycling is a big thing," she said. "But the boys have chosen the sport on their own. Every year we ask them if they want to try soccer or another sport, but they always want to do the cycling."

"They get zero pressure from us; they do it all themselves," she noted.

For Nick, the cyclocross has provided a series of goals, always working towards advanced levels of cycling. His wins in national championships have led him to be invited two times to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO. "They invite people to what they call Identity Camps," said Katy. "They identify people who are ready to race at the next level."

Although mountain bik-

ing and road racing are among Olympic sports, cyclocross has not yet been included. "Because it's a fall sport, one of the questions is whether to place it in the winter or summer Olympics," Nick said.

"Nick's next goal is to get to the World Cyclocross in Europe," noted Katie. She said she thinks Jack does as well as he does by competing with Nick. "They compete in everything they do," she laughed.

Not so, according to Jack. "Often my older brother is ahead, and it gives me a point to strive toward. I try and catch up with him rather than compete with him."

Jack said the biggest challenge for him in racing is holding on to the other people in the race. "I should be staying with the pack, instead of just charging in there. That is the hardest for me," he noted.

Jack said a lot of cycling can lead to crashes, but he has never crashed on pavement.



(L to R) Jack Carter, coach Sherry Townsend, Nick Carter, and coach Charlie Townsend. Nick came in first in his age division, and Jack came in second in his division. (Photo provided)

"Cyclocross is mostly on dirt and grass, so that's not so bad. Road cycling is on pavement. I tend to play it more safe than dangerous," he added.

"We both do multiple types of cycling," Jack said. "Our championships in July were in road biking, where aerodynamics is important. Each type of cycling has its season," he continued. "Road biking has ended, and now cyclocross starts. We will be traveling around the Midwest to compete."

Locally, there are cyclocross races every Wednesday night in the Battle Creek area. "The big season races start in a couple of weeks at Waterloo WI," Nick said. "The best riders from all over the world will come to Wisconsin, then on to Iowa City."

Nick said the sport has grown tremendously. "When I started at 9, there were maybe

four juniors in races. Now, the junior fields have 70-80 riders," he said.

For Nick, the atmosphere at the races is his favorite part. "People come to watch, and everybody has a good time, cheering everyone on."

Jack said he likes the fast speed of the road races the most. "I like just being in the race and enjoying it," he said.

Nick has been invited to join an elite team out of Kansas, the Kansas City Cyclocross (KCCX). But he still hopes to maintain a balance between school, home, and biking.

"Some kids our age will do online school so they can focus on biking," Jack said. "Our parents want us not to do that because it can lead to burnout. My dad enjoys cycling today as much as when he was a kid; he didn't burn out. So we are taking a lighter pace."

Activist planning ninth trip to Mongolia to fight domestic abuse

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

To hear Chimgee Haltarhuu tell it, she is the luckiest woman in the world—but it wasn't always that way.

A native of Mongolia, the 53-year-old East Nokomis resident grew up in a country where domestic abuse was, and still is, widespread. She first experienced violence as a child, witnessing domestic abuse in her home. Haltarhuu said, "While this happens all over the world, there is an especially high level of cultural acceptance for men hurting women in the country of my birth."

For years, Haltarhuu wanted to do something about it. In 2010, using all of the energy and talent at her disposal, she did.

Haltarhuu is a skilled gymnast and an experienced circus performer. A veteran acrobatics coach at the St. Paul-based Circus Juventas, she approached her boss there eight years ago with an idea. Would he be willing to sponsor a weekend performance in the Circus Juventas building, with proceeds benefiting a Mongolian circus tour? Without hesitating, co-founder and circus director Dan Butler, said, "Yes!" Mission Manduhai was born.

"Manduhai means a woman warrior hero in Mongolian,"



Chimgee Haltarhuu of Mission Manduhai said, "Domestic abuse is a global issue. It's been considered okay for men to control their wives through violence in my country, but we believe that people's views are changing." (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

Haltarhuu explained. "Our mission was to travel to remote

parts of the country using free circus performances as a way to draw crowds. The people there are nomadic herders, and they never have the chance to see live entertainment. We drove through the villages in the afternoon shouting, 'Free circus show tonight at 7!' Because nobody owns the land in Mongolia, we could choose a flat spot anywhere, roll out our carpets, and start to rehearse."

"Our goal with the tour," Haltarhuu continued, "was to spread the word, especially to young people, that domestic abuse is wrong. Before each performance, I gave a short talk in Mongolian about how domestic abuse hurts women. Afterward, we handed out flyers with resource information for victims. There is a domestic abuse hotline in the capital city of Ulaanbaatar, as well as a safe house where women (and their children) can stay if fleeing abusive partners. After every performance, many women would stay to tell me their stories."

Haltarhuu understands the feelings of fear and hopelessness that come from being in an abusive relationship. She said, "I was a victim of domestic abuse in my first marriage too. I married young, to an-

other circus performer; he was my first love. When he drank, he got angry—and when he got angry, he beat me."

"I was one of the lucky ones though," she continued. "Not many people can say that the circus saved their life. I had taken gymnastics classes when I was young, and gotten accepted into Circus College in Ulanbatar at the age of 16. I was small and strong, and I learned quickly. In 1991, I was chosen for an American tour with the Ringling Brothers Circus. I was able to leave my abusive marriage, and take our 5½-year-old son with me."

After traveling by circus train across the United States for six years, Haltarhuu and her young son settled in Vermont. They joined the Yankee Doodle Circus in upstate New York, where she met the circus music director Eron Woods, a highly trained jazz musician who now teaches at Cadenza Music. They married and eventually found their way to East Nokomis, where they bought their first home in 2003.

Mission Manduhai has made the long journey to Mongolia eight times since that first trip in 2010. Every year, Haltarhuu has brought three or four teenage students from Circus Juventas, and hired a few young

Mongolian circus performers to round out the troupe. They travel together for 3-4 weeks, logging thousands of kilometers across the often road-less countryside in rented Russian military vans. She took this summer off, and used the time to plan for the 2019 tour.

"Next year," Haltarhuu said, "we'll be bringing Helen Rubenstein with us, the Deputy Director of the Minneapolis-based organization Global Rights for Women. We also plan to hire a Mongolian doctor to join us. The villagers in Mongolia don't have access to health care, and it is badly needed."

For more information on Chimgee Haltarhuu's Mission Manduhai, or to donate, visit www.missionmanduhai.org. Haltarhuu regularly performs around the Twin Cities with Circus Manduhai, the family circus which includes her son Tamir (now 32, and also an acrobatics coach at Circus Juventas), and her husband Eron on percussion. Check for upcoming performances at www.circusmanduhai.com.

Haltarhuu is also available for speaking engagements on her experiences, and the work of her mission to end domestic abuse in Mongolia.

Dogs were the stars of Bark!Art, including on stage

By STEPHANIE FOX

At too many places in the city—farmer's markets, restaurants, playhouses—dogs are not welcome. Not so at Bark!Art, a dog-centered festival in the East Nokomis neighborhood where dog-focused businesses, dog owners and dogs came together for two hot afternoons (Sept. 15-16) of shared fun.

The festival was created by Off-Leash Area, an East Nokomis based theater and dance group that a few years ago saw a need for a place for innovative theater, and saw dog frolic and leash-free dog parks as a metaphor for imaginative

theater performances.

The brick and mortar theater, Art Box, is Off-Leash Area's rehearsal and performance space, located at 4200 E. 54th St. For years, the building was vacant, but was purchased by Off-Leash Area and is now a place where small performance companies and artists can find a location for practice, productions, and classes.

It was also the perfect place for a late summer neighborhood festival.

Many East Nokomis neighbors showed up with their dogs, but people came as far as Burnsville to share the day with their canine friends. This is Bark!Art's

first year and putting it together was a challenge said Paul Herwig, one of the organizers. Sponsors included Oxendale's Market and the Canine Coach.

Part of the fun, Herwig said, was a play featuring a live and on stage canine actor Lily, owned by Herwig. Herwig engaged Canine Coach to train Lily for her part. "It was a bonding experience for us and our dog," he said.

In addition to the canine actor, the group had a unique and innovative idea. "Dogs were invited into the theater to see the show," Herwig said. "It's something specific to this festival and a lot of fun."

And, this time, dogs were also welcome to be part of the audience. About a dozen dogs came with their owners at Sunday's performance, to share seats and watch the play.

The play, "Paws and Effect," is a story of a young misunderstood New York school girl who runs away from home, to Central Park, where she meets a magical dog who teaches her to accept people—including herself—for who they are. The play was written, directed and starred Jennifer Ilse, who along with set designer Herwig, runs Off-Leash Area.

This year's Bark!Art was fantastic," said Herwig. "We are

a small nonprofit with limited staff and resources. It was a community project that fits the neighborhood."

"The only time where there was any commotion from the dogs in the audience was when our neighbor's dog recognized Lily on stage. As soon as she came on stage they locked eyes," he said. The two dogs are close friends since puppyhood. "Having dogs in the audience was super fun."

Herwig hopes that this small festival will become an annual event and will continue to attract people and their dogs, for years into the future.



A large banner welcomed everyone to the first-ever dog and art festival, Bark!Art. (Photo by Stephanie Fox)



Dogs love the theater, along with their owners. (Photo by Stephanie Fox)



Dog-centered businesses, from dog treats to dog toys and dog training, set up tents to greet dog owners. (Photo by Stephanie Fox)



Dog trainer and Bark!Art sponsor Jess Kittredge with her dog, Professor Chaos. She is the Canine Coach who worked with the dog performing in the play "Paws and Effect." (Photo by Stephanie Fox)



Off-Leash Area, a contemporary dance and theater company, was one of the sponsors of this years first Bark!Art. (Photo by Stephanie Fox)



Gigi showed up at Bark!Art for an afternoon of fun. (Photo by Stephanie Fox)

Largest ever 10th Annual LoLa 2018 Art Crawl was sizzling hot

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

The League of Longfellow Artists (LoLa) had its tenth annual art crawl on what felt like the two sultriest days of summer: Sept. 15-16. More than 130 artists exhibited their work in 62 different locations throughout the Longfellow neighborhood.

The self-guided LoLa Art Crawl is always free and allows

visitors to shop for locally created, fine art and crafts at their own pace. Meeting artists face-to-face in their homes, yards, or studios is a different experience from going to a crowded art fair or store. Visitors come by bike, on foot, car, bus, and train. Most appear to use the smartly designed, readily available map guides. But it's also fun to just wander the

neighborhood looking for the familiar, yellow and pink artist-site signs.

LoLa started in the summer of 2009 as a grassroots effort on a much smaller scale than it is now. Longfellow artists Bob Schmitt, Anita White, and Shirley Neilson had a brainstorming session, and thought, "Why not put on an art crawl?" Fast forward a decade, and LoLa is

not only a flourishing nonprofit organization—it's become an emblematic neighborhood event that people really look forward to.

A wide variety of arts and crafts are exhibited each year, including printmaking, jewelry, fiber, photography, glass, painting, clay, sculpture, woodworking, and mixed media.

LoLa has grown into "the

biggest little neighborhood art crawl in Minnesota." The un-juried show is meant to be a gateway into exhibiting art for new artists, as well as a dependable showcase for established artists. The event received broad support from neighborhood businesses and organizations again this year. For more information on future events, contact longfellowartists@gmail.com.



Brendon Farley opened his home for the LoLa Art Crawl and covered the walls with his acrylic and oil paintings. He starts every canvas by painting it with a red "ground," then works in such a way that the red is revealed along the contour lines. Farley said, "Everything I paint is from the neighborhood. I ride my bike around, and take pictures of things that interest me; then I work from the photos to make my paintings." (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)



Kat Bernhoft uses mosaic to make durable, colorful bird baths and table tops. A fourth-year participant in LoLa, she said, "I have another full-time job, but mosaic making is my therapy." (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)



Neighbor Steve Gagner specializes in laser cut and 3D printed art, jewelry, and functional woodworking. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

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10TH MONARCH FESTIVAL DELIGHTS

Article and all photos
by JILL BOOGREN

An estimated 10,000 people came to Lake Nokomis under gloriously sunny skies for the Monarch Festival-Festival de la Monarca on Sept. 8. In its tenth year, the event celebrates the monarch butterfly's 2,300-mile migration from Minnesota to Mexico through music, art, food, and dance.

With support from the Min-

nesota State Arts Board and Metro Regional Arts Council, ten different artists offered hands-on art-making opportunities.

Tents were abuzz with people painting, folding, gluing and pressing materials into monarch and caterpillar figures. Prints directed by Sol y Luna Gallery and Sarah Nassif hung on clothespins to dry, as did monarch-painted orange wings from In the Heart of

the Beast Puppet & Mask Theatre (HOBT) and freshly-pasted piñatas from Yolanda Martinez. Kids showed off their felted caterpillars and hand puppets.

Visitors came from all over the metro area, some "frequent flyers" of the festival, others there for the first time.

"It's awesome," said Shannon Johnson, of New Hope, who was there with her family

for the first time. "There are so many activities for kids." Accompanying Johnson was her husband, Derek, and kids, Daphne, Felix and Simon, whose faces she painted with colorful monarchs.

Monarch wings, many of them homemade and painted on cardboard or canvas, were a prominent feature of the costume parade, which made its procession to the stage where the

Folwell Performing Arts Magnet Mariachi Band was performing De Colores and other favorites. According to Stacy Aldrich, who teaches orchestra at the school, the band is comprised of 7th and 8th graders (at Folwell students begin learning string instruments in third grade). Some alumni joined them for the festival.

Music and dancing continued throughout the day. The masks,



Adriana Foreman (at right) and Dillon Sebastian of In the Heart of the Beast Puppet & Mask Theatre paint large butterfly wings and lay them out to dry on the tennis courts.



Tennyson Meyers checks out a monarch in the butterfly tent at U.S. Fish and Wildlife's conservation station.



Kaylee McDonald of St. Bonifacius paints a monarch wing during her first trip to the festival.



Ballet Folklorico Mexico Azteca wow the crowd with traditional folk dancing.

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WITH ART, MUSIC, AND BUTTERFLIES

feathers, and capes worn by the Chinelos San Pablo Apóstol delighted their early morning audience, many of whom danced alongside the costumed performers. Later on, dancers with Ballet Folklórico México Azteca dazzled the large crowd.

As always, there were opportunities to learn about monarchs. Tours of the Nokomis Naturescape Garden,

a monarch waystation, offered a glimpse of the native plants that benefit monarchs.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFW) and MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge hosted the Monarch Butterfly Migration Art Shanty that was on Lake Harriet last winter. Layne Warner, of the Wildlife Refuge, presented inside the shanty as listeners colored and cut small pictures of monarchs to pin to a tree.

arches to pin to a tree.

"Sometimes so many monarchs are on a branch [where they overwinter in Michoacán, Mexico] it will fall off," Warner said.

The University of MN Monarch Lab education tent showed visitors the life cycle of butterflies. With small groups gathered outside, they tagged and released about 75 butterflies throughout the day.

While monarchs reigned supreme, other pollinators were featured too. Kids scrambled across the field in a monarchs-versus-bees soccer matchup, and the USFW had a station for people to fill and color their own seed packets to benefit the endangered Rusty Patched Bumble Bee.

"The Twin Cities is one of a few places the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee is found," said Tam

Smith of USFW.

Visitors also bought monarch-friendly native plants and ate elote (grilled corn traditionally served with chili-spiced mayo) and treats from a dozen different food trucks.

The event was hosted by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board in partnership with Nokomis East Neighborhood Association.



As instructed, hands are still to allow this newly emerged and tagged monarch to take flight. It is one of about 75 butterfly releases from the U of MN Monarch Lab during the festival.

Photo left: Lennox White, 17 months old, enjoys her first monarch festival by dancing with the Chinelos San Pablo Apóstol.



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New Development Community Review Meeting

for 4757 Hiawatha Ave.
& 4553/4561 Minnehaha Ave.

Tue, Oct 9 • 6-9pm

Brackett Park, 2728 S 39th Ave

All Greater Longfellow residents are welcome to attend, learn about these new projects, and provide input and feedback.



6-7:25 pm | Reuter Walton Development for 4757 Hiawatha Ave.

7:35-9pm | Hayes Harlow Development, Left Lane Corporation & Twin Cities Home Rental on plans for 4553/4561 Minnehaha Ave.

Attention Block Club Leaders:

Are you/do you have a Block Club Leader in Longfellow, Howe, Hiawatha, or Cooper? LCC is asking Block Club Leaders to self-identify by sending us a message at info@longfellow.org. We want to help serve as a resource for you as well as provide relevant information to residents.

Open Citation Grants Available:

Up to \$5,000 for residents with open citations on their property

The Longfellow Community Council is offering grants up to \$5,000 for residents of Longfellow, Cooper, Howe and Hiawatha neighborhoods of Greater Longfellow who have received citations from the City of Minneapolis after a property inspection. The grants are offered to residents who are at or below 80% AMI (area median income). To find out if you qualify, contact the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) at 612-335-5858 or go to the grant page on their website at <https://www.mncee.org/services/financing/>

longfellow/. After you access this page, click on the words "START APPLICATION PROCESS" to the far right of the page and fill out the requested information to see if you qualify. This program is funded by the Longfellow Community Council and will be open until grant funds are expended.

Focus on Local Business:

Are you the owner or manager of a business in the Cooper, Hiawatha, Howe, or Longfellow neighborhoods? If so, you're invited to take a moment to fill out our form (link to form available at: www.longfellow.org/2018/07/19/focus-on-local-business/)

Longfellow Community Council is starting an on-going project to help draw attention to local businesses by spotlighting the unique things they have to offer and the wonderful people behind the businesses! LCC values the connection between residents and local businesses. Check out who we've featured so far at: www.longfellow.org/tag/longfellow-local-business/

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Longfellow Community Council's Annual Winter Warming Party

6-7:30 Thu, Nov 29, 2018

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www.longfellow.org/2018/09/11/resource-fair-registration-bme-2018/
Follow the instruction to pay via Square (or mail in a check) to complete your registration. The number of participating organizations is limited, tables & chairs provided.

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In Our Community

Messenger

Send us your news! When you submit your press release it will be considered for both the newspaper as well as the Messenger Facebook page (Facebook.com/LongfellowNokomisMessenger). You can also go to our website, LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com and enter the information in the online Event Calendar.

Hiawatha Plan CAC meets Oct. 10

The third Community Advisory Committee meeting for the Hiawatha Golf Course Property Master Plan is scheduled Wed., Oct. 10, 6-8pm at Pearl Recreation Center, 414 E. Diamond Lake Rd.

At the meeting, the CAC and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board staff will begin establishing a vision for the golf course property. A vision is a unique, high-level, singular statement that captures a community's intent for a given area of parkland. It's usually one sentence long.

Establishing a vision at the beginning of the master planning process allows for every subsequent decision to flow through and be filtered by the vision so that it meets the intent of the community. It should be an exciting meeting and get everyone moving on a solid path forward!

All CAC meetings are public and anyone interested in the creation a long-term plan for the Hiawatha Golf Course Property is welcome to attend.

Harvest Festival slated at Epworth

Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S., has scheduled their annual Harvest Festival for Sat., Oct. 13, 2-6pm. This event has fun for the whole family, including a bouncy house, Bubble Baron, face painter, pumpkins and squash to take home, as well as a boutique and bake sale! At 4:30pm, dinner will be available for purchase (carry-out and delivery available)—there are open face turkey sandwiches with the fixins (vegetarian and gluten options available).

Meals are \$9 for adults and \$5 for kids. Learn more and pre-order your meal at EpworthMPLS.org/Event/Harvest-Festival.

Longfellow Garden club meets Oct. 10

Join the Longfellow Garden Club for an evening to experience the beauty and history of notable French gardens.

Normandy and the Loire Valley in France hold many of Europe's most beautiful and romantic gardens. The region's mild climate and acidic soil provide the perfect conditions for a vast array of garden styles from simple cottage gardens to grand estates.

Club member and expert gardener Martha Duckert visited seventeen of these gardens this June as a member of a tour sponsored by the MN Horticulture Society.

Duckert will present a travelogue of the tour, including garden-eye photos, historical context, and her observations of the

gardeners who have created and maintain some of the most famous gardens in France.

The meeting begins at 7pm, Wed., Oct. 10, at Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S. More at www.facebook.com/LongfellowGardenClub.

Library Book Sale planned Oct. 19-20

Friends of East Lake Library, 2727 E. Lake St., invite you to the Fall book sale on Fri.-Sat., Oct. 19-20. Hours are 12-5pm on Friday and 9am-5pm on Saturday. Prices are great: Children's and teen books are 50 cents. Adult hardcovers are \$1, adult paperbacks 50 cents. Most CDs/DVDs are \$1.

All money from the sale stays in East Lake Library programs.

We do appreciate your donations, so please have a look—maybe those dusty stacks from the Summer of 2016 hold a few likely candidates. Beginning Oct. 8, the red donations cart will be near the parking lot entry. As always, fiction, biography, and history are popular, as are home repair and do-it-yourself books. And, we never have enough picture books—kids (and their parents) are avid customers! No One Reads Text Books, so please keep them safe at home.

Baked Potato Dinner scheduled Oct. 28

Faith Ev. Lutheran, 3430 E. 51st St., will host its 30th annual Reformation Sunday dinner on Sun., Oct. 28, beginning at 11:30am. The menu includes a large baked potato, a variety of toppings, unending salad bar, pies, and beverages. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$5 for children 5-12 years, or a family ticket for \$25. Proceeds go to Faith's Education Fund. Call 612-729-5463 for tickets or buy them at the door.

Trumpet and organ featured Oct. 7

Mount Olive Music and Fine Arts presents a program of music offered by Minnesota Orchestra's trumpeter extraordinaire, Charles Lazarus, with an eclectic program of music by Handel, Purcell, J.S. Bach, and an arrangement of American Nomad (Concerto for Trumpet and Orchestra) for trumpet and organ by Steve Heitzeg. David Cherwien is the organist.

Lazarus is one of the area's finest musicians, with an amazing palate of stylistic abilities, offering sell-out performances with the Minnesota Orchestra and his own jazz ensemble.

The event takes place at 4pm, Sun., Oct. 7, at Mount

Olive Lutheran Church, 3045 Chicago Ave. S. A reception in the church's Chapel Lounge follows the concert. This event is free and open to the public; a free-will offering will be taken to support the Music and Fine Arts program.

This is the first event in the 2018-2019 Mount Olive Music and Fine Arts season. For further information on this event and on the Music and Fine Arts program, please see online at www.mountolivechurch.org.

'TODAY, I'm Alright' planned Oct. 14

Everyone who has a connection with trauma is invited to a two-hour workshop Sun., Oct. 14, 1-3pm at Squirrel Haus Arts, 3450 Snelling Ave.

This workshop will be an opportunity for resource sharing, art-making, conversation and most importantly—identifying strategies for change. This workshop invites people who have had their life touched by trauma: People recovering from disordered eating, gambling, chemicals, alcohol, or sex addictions and people recovering from death, divorce, cults or abuse.

Each participant will go to the drawers and cupboards of "TODAY, I'm Alright" to choose a talisman to discuss at the workshop and then take home with them to help in their recovery.

Please open all the cupboards and drawers, consider what you see and take one of the contents, if invited. Leave your reflections and comments in the art and attend our workshop!

Friends and family are also invited to this workshop. Everyone needs to evolve and change for a recovery to be successful. Recovery is way more complicated than to "Just Say NO."

Music Wednesdays now ongoing

Hook & Ladder Theater & Lounge, 3010 Minnehaha Ave., has scheduled performances for its popular Free Music Wednesdays series. Doors open and happy hour for these free 21+ performances starts at 6pm, with music at 7pm. The residencies feature a variety of genres of music, all presented in a comfortable lounge setting.

First Wednesdays (Oct. 3, Nov. 7, and Dec. 5) features The Dang Ol' Trio (sponsored by Bent Paddle Brewing). The Dang Ol' Tri'ole is a six-person bohemian folk group. Having played together seven years, members have honed their skills to demonstrate fluency at their respective instruments through complex melodies, dense compositions, improvisational soloing and dynamic presentation. Whether presenting their more



"Which Witch is Which??" will be performed Oct. 16-21 at Avalon Theater. (Photo provided)

DanceCo plans October performance

DanceCo is premiering "Which Witch is Which??" Oct. 16-21 at the Avalon Theater, 1500 E. Lake St., Oct. 16-21.

Which Witch is Which?? is a mystery ballet filled with magic and interactivity. There are wizards, witches, muggles and we need your help to solve the case of the missing key! Tickets \$10 kids, \$12 adults, free lap passes 2 years and under.

DanceCo is a professional dance-theater company in the Twin Cities, built on the creative vision and collective experience of Longfellow residents husband-and-wife team Brittany and Matthew Keefe. DanceCo's creative focus is to produce original dance for young audiences and their families.

There will a preshow wand making craft and workshops (20 minutes before curtain) teaching the audience dance moves to become part of the show!

The Keefes are seasoned dance professionals with roots in the Twin Cities. Their collective work ranges from performing with numerous professional dance companies to teaching, choreography, stage management, administration and leadership roles.

For performance tickets go to the online box office at www.artful.ly/store/events/14530, or at DanceCoMN.com.

complicated pieces or playing easy-going tunes, The Dang Ol' Tri'ole exhibits a highly entertaining stage presence that mixes musicianship with humor.

Second Wednesdays (Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12) find Becky Kapell & The Fat 6 on stage (sponsored by Insight Brewing). "This late-bloomer Minneapolis country crooner fell in with esteemed local twang vets Paul Bergen and Erik Koskinen to craft her debut album 'That Certain Ache.' Her smoky but tender voice recalls Jeannie C. Riley while her songwriting has a Lucinda Williams-like balance of down-and-out grit and hopeful beauty." — Chris Riemenschneider, Minneapolis Star Tribune

Third Wednesdays (Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 19) will feature the Big George Jackson Blues Band (sponsored by Able Seedhouse & Brewery). Vocalist/harmonica player Big George Jackson is known as the "authentic big man of the blues." He sings with a distinctive bass-rich voice that only a six-foot, six-inch gentle giant could be blessed with. Add his fat harmonica playing,

dead-on phrasing, commanding stage-presence and instant audience rapport and it easy to understand why the audience howls when he delivers his music.

On the fourth Wednesdays (Oct. 24, Nov. 28, Dec. 28) Scottie Miller will perform (sponsored by Fair State Brewing Cooperative). Minneapolis based singer-songwriter-pianist Miller recently released his tenth CD "Stay Above Water." Miller was inducted into the MN Blues Hall of Fame in 2017 and received an award for Best Self-Produced CD. Miller has garnered international recognition as touring keyboardist for three-time Grammy-nominated singer Ruthie Foster and is featured on her Blues Music Award winning CD "Live At Antone's."

A fifth Wednesday (Oct. 31) will feature Paul Bergen's Astronauts of Rhythm & Sound (sponsored by Fulton Brewing). Led by Paul Bergen, this group features members of the Hillbilly Voodoo Dolls, Real-Phonic Radio Hour, Molly Maher and Eric Koskinen's bands, Curtiss A's band, Certain General, and more.

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In Our Community

Continued from page 11

Expect swamp blues, country classics, and other truck driving music.

Thielen art at Gandhi Mahal in October

"Across a Meadow," a retrospective show of landscape paintings by Hiawatha neighborhood resident Marie Thielen will show at Gandhi Mahal Restaurant (3009 27th Ave. S.) beginning on Oct. 1 with an opening reception scheduled from 4-8pm on Oct. 11.

Thielen is both painter and photographer and has lived in South Minneapolis for the past 27 years. Nature is her inspiration. "The beauty and order in the natural world bring delight and surprise, with seasonal changes providing a long view. Painting my impressions of what I observe has always calmed my spirit and supported my basic optimism in life," she said.

Just over a year ago Gandhi Mahal initiated "art on the walls," making the wall space in the meeting room available for community artists to display their work.

This is Thielen's second show in this space. In February her series of small paintings entitled "Simply There" filled the south wall. The October show will feature much larger works and inaugurate the new expansion and stairway to the hydroponic garden.

The public is invited to view the art during restaurant hours, 11:30am-3pm for lunch and from 5-10pm for dinner. The Community room gallery is accessible through the restaurant.

For the opening reception on October 11, the Community room outside door will be open.

Movie and discussion planned Oct. 13

"Dodging Bullets" and a pre-film discussion on Truth, Healing and Reconciliation will be held on Sat., Oct. 13, 5-10pm at Squirrel

Haus Arts, 3450 Snelling Ave. S. The cost is "Pay What You Can" from \$0-\$25.

Have you become so paralyzed by fear of "other" that you do not dare to have an authentic conversation with anyone outside your socio-cultural silo? Come to non-profit Art to Change the World's See. Say. Do historical trauma event with a hot dish and an open heart and mind.

Dr. Anton Treuer professor, writer, and lecturer, who was heavily featured in the Dodging Bullets documentary film, will lead a Truth, Healing and Reconciliation discussion (5-6:30pm) focused on historical trauma with Wesley May (Red Lake) and Sarah Edstrom. Dodging Bullets starts at 7pm.

The discussion event will include a community hot dish meal and will feature Thought Leaders Michael Goze from the American Indian Community Development Corporation, Judge Jim Randall, retired Minnesota Court of Appeals judge, Steve Barberio, Executive Director of Bet Shalom temple Herman Milligan, African American managing partner of the Fulton Group, members of the Hmong community and others. This is not a panel discussion.

Blind Ministry meets

The Blind Outreach fellowship will meet on Sat., Oct. 13, at Faith Ev. Lutheran Church, 3430 E. 51st St., from 12-2pm. Lunch is served at noon followed by a Bible study and fellowship.

Johnson to perform at Moon Palace

Musical artist Calvin Johnson will play at Moon Palace Books, 3032 Minnehaha Ave., on Sun., Sept. 30, at 7pm. Johnson recently shared a new video for his single, "Like You Do," in an exclusive premiere with Billboard. The single is off his upcoming album, A Wonderful Beast, which is out on Oct. 12 with K Records.

A Wonderful Beast is an experiment in sound. Calvin

entered the Audio Eagle Studio in Nashville, TN using the premise "Rock'n'roll Will Never Die" as a starting point. Working closely with Producer Patrick Carney and Chief Engineer Marc Whitmore, the team tested the resiliency of such time-honored materials as the electric guitar, modular synthesizer and trap drum kit, combining them in various ratios with musical elements like chords A, C, and Dm. The results are the Frankenstein's monster of an album, A Wonderful Beast.

Coffee and Crafts planned Oct. 7

Faith Ev. Lutheran, 3430 E. 51st St., will hold Coffee and Crafts on Sun., Oct. 7, 1-3pm. "Make and Take" bath bombs, lip balm, foaming soap and recipes for much more will be part of the program. RSVP to events@faith-lutheranmpls.org. \$10 donation is requested.

Faith Book Club meets Oct. 6

The Faith Ev. Lutheran Book Club meets the first Saturday of every month from 10-11:30am at the church, 3430 E. 51st St. The book for Oct. 6 is "The Shadow of the Wind" by Carlos Ruiz Zafón. Join the group for coffee, treats, and conversation in the basement fellowship room.

ACW fundraiser planned Oct. 5

Art to Change the World (ACW) will hold a major fundraising event at Squirrel Haus Arts, 3450 Snelling Ave. S. on Fri., Oct. 5, 5:30-7:30pm, before the See. Say. DO opening night.

This VIP experience event will be a lively, fun, interactive night, filled with open conversations about society's pressing issues. Attendees will have the first opportunity to view and purchase the art, bid on ACW artist art from the silent auction, discuss the issues featured in the art show with the 20 artists and their topic experts, and share the issues they are most passionate about. Nametags will be small signed artworks from ACW members.

Tickets are \$75 each, and, in support of ACW values of inclusion, all patron-level attendees are encouraged to donate a ticket to a youth/artists/first-time attendee. (\$50 of the ticket price is tax deductible)

For more information go to www.arttochangetheworld.org/calendar-event/530-730-friends-of-acw-fundraiser-includes-ticket-to-borealis-dance-75.

Oct. events at LS Healthy Seniors

Join Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Community Education for a monthly Senior Social/Health Talk on Tues., Oct. 16 at 10:30am at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. The presentation is entitled "Power of Attorney." Find

out what a power of attorney is, when you need one, and what you should consider before completing the forms. Presented by an attorney from Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid.

Tai Chi Easy exercise classes are held on Mondays from 10:30-11:30am at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. Classes cost \$5/each and discounts may be available for lower-income seniors. Tai Chi is a low-impact, slow-motion exercise that's adaptable to individual abilities. Registration is not required - come and try it!

A free monthly Diabetes Support Group for adults will be held on Wed., Oct. 10 from 1-2:30pm at Trinity Apartments, 2800 E. 31st St. Anyone with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes is invited to attend. Call Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for more information.

A three-class series on "Rock Art" (acrylic painting on small stones) will be held on Mondays, Oct. 3, Nov. 7 and Dec. 5 at Trinity Apartments, 2800 E. 31st St. Classes cost \$4/each, and all supplies are included. Registration is required by calling 612-729-5799 or email us at info@LShealthyseiors.org.

Additionally, we're looking for "Friendly Visitor" volunteers and volunteer drivers to

Continued on page 13

Secure your child's path to college.



**HIAWATHA
ACADEMIES**

HiawathaAcademies.org/enroll-now

Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

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

Rev. Matthew Kennedy
Handicapped Accessible
Contemporary Worship - 8:45am
Traditional Worship - 11:00am
Espanol - 1:30pm
Wednesday Meal - 5:45pm
Wednesday Kids choirs and bible studies 3:45 - 5:45pm
Youth Activities 6:30 - 8:00pm
No Wednesday activities on Oct. 17 & 31

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

Pastor Steven Reiser
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
(Childcare Provided)
(Wheelchair Accessible)
Upcoming:
October 13: Harvest Festival
October 14: Brunch Bunch at All Square Restaurant
October 17: Beer & Bible at Merlin's Rest
October 24: Bagel and Bible
November 3: Fall Pasty Sale

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran
4101 37th Ave. S. • 612-722-9527
www.minnehahacommunion.com

Pastors Dan and Sally Ankerfelt
Sunday Worship - 9:45 am
Sunday School - 9:45 am
(Wheelchair Accessible)

Spirit Garage - The church with the really big door
The Hook & Ladder Theater & Lounge
3010 Minnehaha Ave. • 612-827-1074
www.spiritgarage.org

Celebrating 21 years this month! Come celebrate Oct. 21, 1-3:30 at Squirrel Haus Arts
Come to church - 10:30 AM Sundays!
Strong coffee, loud music, serving all makes and models
3rd Thursday Theology on Tap:
Sisters' Sludge Wine and Coffee bar
October 18th, 7-8:30 PM
Pastor: Holly Johnson
Music: John Kerns and bands

St. Albert the Great Catholic
E. 29th St. at 32nd Ave. S. • 612-724-3643
www.saintalbertthegreat.org

Fr. Joe Gillespie, O.P.
Sunday Mass: 9:30 am (Childcare available)
Saturday Mass: 5 pm
M, T, Th, F: Rosary at 8 am, Daily Mass 8:15 am
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, First Fridays from 9 am to noon (Handicapped accessible)

St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran
4600 E. 42nd St. • 612-722-8000
www.stpeders.org

Julie A. Ebbesen, Pastor
Sundays: 9 am Worship (childcare available)
9 am Kids and Youth Faith Formation
10 am Coffee & Fellowship
10:30 am Adult Faith Formation
Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month.
October 7 - Twin Cities Marathon Outreach Event
October 28 - Reformation Sunday (Handicap acc., Braille)

Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls
5212 41st Ave. S. • 612-724-3691
www.trinityfalls.org

Pastor Matt Oxendale
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Sunday School 9:15 a.m (kids & adults)
Trunk or Treat - Oct. 31 - call for info
AA Sun & Tues 7:00 pm

PROJECT OF NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCHES

Minnehaha Food Shelf,
Serving People Tuesday, 10:30 am - 3 pm
Call us at 612-721-6231
Minnehaha United Methodist •
3701 E. 50th St.

HELP A STUDENT IN YOUR COMMUNITY NOW!

Become a foster grandparent with Lutheran Social Service

- Utilize your time, talents and compassion to help mentor youth in your local school
- Provide one-on-one attention to children who may be struggling or have fallen behind in the classroom

GET STARTED TODAY!

Call Kate at 651.310.9447

www.lssmn.org/seniorcorps



Tapestry Folkdance Center 3748 Minnehaha Ave 612-722-2914
www.tapestryfolkdance.org

**Falling Leaf
Contra Dance Weekend**
October 13 - 14
Featuring
George Paul and Potent Brew
Sue Hulsether, caller
Sam Timmreck, Flatfooting

**Star of the North
English Country
Dance Weekend**
October 19 - 21, 2018
Featuring
Susan Kevra and Olde World
Charm School

Registration for dance events available on our website

Bulgarika Live!!
October 2, 2018
7:30 - 10:30 pm
Tickets \$15
Come hear Bulgarika in their only
Minnesota appearance!



**A Weekend of
Romanian Dance with
Sonia Dion & Cristian
Florescu**
November 2 - 4
including
Saturday Evening Dance Party
with Orkestar Bez Ime

In Our Community

Continued from page 12

help seniors live independently. Call Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 or email us at info@LShealthyseniors.org for more information on activities, services or volunteer opportunities.

Holiday Bazaar scheduled Nov. 17

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37th Ave. S., will hold its Annual Holiday Bazaar on Sat., Nov. 17, 9am-2pm. There will be crafters selling cards, calendars, jewelry, crocheted items, dish towels, American Girl Clothing and other finds that make great gifts! There will also be a great silent auction, raffles, Grandma's Attic and the best bake sale! In the kitchen, they serve Flotegrot, ham sandwiches, cake, and coffee.

Reserve now for the Lutefisk Dinner

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37th Ave. S., is holding its Annual Lutefisk Dinner on Sat., Nov. 3, with seatings at 3pm, 4:15pm, and 5:30pm. Lutefisk with white sauce and butter will be served with homemade meatballs/gravy, potatoes, coleslaw, cranberries, lefse and angel food cake with lemon topping. The dinner is served family style. The cost is \$16 and reservations are necessary. Please call the church office at 612-722-9527 by Oct. 26 to reserve your spot.

New class for teens starts Sept. 30

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37th Ave. S., will present "Face2Face: A Relationship Readiness Class for Teens," on Sundays 5-8pm, from Sept. 30 through Nov. 4. This class is for teens, ages 13-16, who invited to learn the fundamentals of relationships and have fun in the process. Each teen will receive materials from Prepare-Enrich, a

leading resource used by therapists, counselors, and pastors in their work with couples who plan to marry or those who want to improve their relationships. Prepare-Enrich identified areas of focus that would help teens improve the quality of their budding relationships. The first six weeks of class will cover the material from Prepare-Enrich: knowing yourself (personality, peer pressure, values, and decision-making); friendship, love, and intimacy; navigating the world of dating; breaking-up or saying "I do"; Family; Communication and Conflict Resolution; and Forgiveness. The last two weeks will be optional and will cover the additional topics of relationships with God and Christ. All classes include a meal and interactive activities. Valued at \$200, the course is offered for \$75 per person (sliding scale from \$75-\$25), which includes materials and food. Call Minnehaha Communion at 612-722-9527 to sign up or go to www.eventbrite.com.

LGBTQ support group meets Saturdays

A support group for LGBTQ adults living with mental illness meets weekly on Saturdays, 1-2:30pm, at Living Table United Church of Christ, 3805 E. 40th St. This free support group is sponsored by NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) and led by trained facilitators who are also in recovery. For information call David at 612-920-3925 or call 651-645-2948.

Reserve your pasties

Join Epworth for their 27th year of making and selling pasties to the community! Warm up with the delicious handheld savory "pocket pies" this November! We offer options for vegetarian, no salt, gluten-free (no crust) or no rutabagas variations as well as the traditional ground beef and vegetable pies. Order your \$6 pocket pie by Oct. 31 at epworthmpls.org/pastysale or by calling 651-645-9855. You can pick up your handmade pasties during the afternoon on Nov. 3.

AA and NA meets

Every Monday night there is an AA meeting at 7pm at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church (4101 37th Ave. S.), and every Tuesday and Wednesday night there is an AA meeting at 7:30pm. On Thursday night, there is an NA meeting at 7:30pm. All are welcome to attend.

Gamblers Anonymous meets Wednesdays

Gamblers Anonymous meets Wednesdays from 6-7pm in the Hope Room at Living Table Church, 3805 E. 40th St. Anyone with a desire to stop gambling is welcome.

Beer & Bible with Epworth set Oct. 17

Whether you're new to the Bible, new to beer, or well-versed in both, you're invited to join the Beer and Bible group once a month at Merlin's Rest, 2601 E. Lake St. The next event is Wed., Oct. 17, 6:30-8:30pm. This month, we continue our conversation about the Book of Exodus. All walks of life and faith welcome. Come and enjoy great discussion and fellowship—beer is optional.

Brunch Bunch scheduled Oct. 14

You're invited to join the Epworth Brunch Bunch at All Square, 4047 Minnehaha Ave., at noon on Sun., Oct. 14. It is an opportunity to try one of the many great eating establishments in the neighborhood while having some fun conversation while consuming some yummy food.

Squirrel Haus opens new exhibit in Oct.

Twenty established and emerging artists and their topic expert team members are creating social and environmental justice works, transforming the cutting-edge art space Squirrel Haus Arts into an inviting and magical universe which draws the visitor into a

thought-provoking, interactive journey with the intent of inspiring action in our community. The "See. Say. Do." exhibit will have a Public Opening Night on Sat., Oct. 6, 7-10pm, with the artists and their expert/authentic voices in attendance Squirrel Haus Arts is located at 3450 Snelling Ave.

Rummage Sale scheduled Oct. 6

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37th Ave. S., will hold their Annual Rummage Sale on Sat., Oct. 6. The sale runs from 9am-1pm with bag time starting at noon. Lunch is served with the best sloppy joes and homemade bars available for purchase.

Telling Our Stories to meet Oct. 26

"Elder Voices Telling Our Stories" will meet Fri., Sept. 28 as well as Fri., Oct. 26 at Turtle Bread Company (4205-34th Ave.). People will have an opportunity to describe their retirement journeys including what is challenging and energizing. There will be an opportunity to discuss the elimination of Medicare Cost Plans and describe how this is impacting peoples retirement journeys. New topics will include a brief update on Multicultural Elder Dialogues project. There will be a continuing introduction to the Minneapolis Advisory Commission on Aging and the Minneapolis for a Lifetime Strategy.

Nokomis seniors plan upcoming events

Nokomis Healthy Seniors (NHS) would like to invite the public to the following programs and events. Unless otherwise noted, events are held at Nokomis Healthy Seniors, 4120 17th Ave. S., in the Bethel Evangelical Church building. All events are free, open to all, and no reservations are required unless noted otherwise. Call NHS at 612-729-5499 for more information on any event.

Join Nokomis Healthy Seniors on Fri., Oct. 5, from 1-3pm for a free **Diabetes Support Group** at Nokomis Library, 5100-34th Ave. S.

Nokomis Healthy Seniors in conjunction with Minneapolis Community Education will hold a **class on downsizing** on three Mondays: Oct. 8, 15 and 22, from 1-2:30pm at Bethel Lutheran. To register, call Community Education at 612-668-3939 or go to mplscmunityed.com.

On Tues., Oct. 9 at 1pm there will be a free **Low Vision Support Group** meeting at Nokomis Square Co-op, 5015-35th Ave. S.

Join Nokomis Healthy Seniors for **"Lunch and a Movie"** on Thur., Oct. 11. Share a meal at 11:15am, and then watch the movie "The Glass Castle," in their own theatre. The 2017 movie is about a young girl from a dysfunctional family whose imagination is filled with hope as a distraction from her poverty. The movei will be shown at Nokomis Healthy Seniors inside Bethel Lutheran Church, 4120 17th Ave. S. All are welcome, but reservations are required, so call 612-729-5499.

A free **Caregiver Support Group** meets Thur., Oct. 25 at 1pm, and is designed for those caring for an older adult. No RSVPs needed. Held at Nokomis Healthy Seniors, inside Bethel.

NA group meets twice weekly

A Narcotics Anonymous group meets every Wednesday at 7:30pm, and every Friday evening at 7pm at Faith Evangelical Lutheran, 3430 E. 51st St. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Submit your news

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

- Replicable Models for Successful Projects featuring Repair Cafes in Pasadena, CA; gleaning projects and eat local week in Sarasota, FL; Transition Streets in Berkley, CA; and the local entrepreneur forum in Decorah, IA. (12:45pm)
- Connecting to the Wider Movement featuring speakers from the Post Carbon Institute, Strong Towns, and EcoDistricts (2:15pm)

The online Summit ends with an interactive conversation. Attendees can adjourn to a shared meal at Gandhi Mahal restaurant in the community room. To reserve a spot for dinner (there is a fee), please email leslie.mackenzie@gmail.com.

Preparedness emails

Each Friday, Transition Longfellow sends out an email with actions you can take that week to become more prepared for extreme weather. Sign up for the series at the website, where you can also find past emails.

Transition Longfellow

By LESLIE MACKENZIE

Movie Night, Parent Group and Online Summit

The volunteers with Transition Longfellow create opportunities for South Minneapolis neighbors to get to know one another while also learning to live more sustainably and prepare for changes ahead. Visit www.transitionlongfellow.org for more details on these and other activities. Transition **Parents & Kids Play Group** meets Sat., Oct. 6, 10am to noon at the Longfellow Park building, 3435 36th Ave. S. Join with other parents who are concerned about raising resilient kids, living a sustainable, low-waste, less consumer-oriented family life. Share conversation, resources, and ideas. In October, the group hopes to visit an orchard. **Movie Night** is scheduled for Fri., Oct. 19, with a potluck at 6:30pm, and movie 7-9pm, at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37th Ave. S. Share a potluck meal, then watch the documentary "Renewal: Stories from America's Religious Environmental Movement." Renewal offers an overview of

what different religious traditions and congregations are doing to match environmental challenges with practical solutions. The video includes nine short stories—Evangelical Christians in Appalachia, an urban Muslim community, the Jewish Teva Learning Center, the Green Sangha Buddhist community, Catholics and Native Americans embrace of religious ritual to protect land and water, and nature meditations. Area faith communities are particularly invited to attend to meet others who are concerned about environmental issues and wishing to connect and act for change. For more information, please contact Leslie at 612-810-3216.

Online Summit Transition is a national and global network of communities taking practical action to address climate change. People participating in, or interested in learning more about the Transition movement, can attend the 1st national Online Summit, celebrating the 10th anniversary of Transition in the U.S. A free local screening of the Summit will take place at Walker Community Church, 3104 16th Ave. S., on Sat., Oct. 27, from 11:30am to 4pm. Keynote speakers include: • Co-founder Rob Hopkins, Transition global network coordinator Sarah McAdams and U.S.

co-director Don Hall, exploring the history of Transition in the U.S., success stories and common challenges. (noon) • Meg Wheatley (author of "Who Do We Choose To Be? Facing Reality, Claiming Leadership, Restoring Sanity"), will speak on "Creating Islands of Sanity: Leading Well in this Time of Increasing Turbulence."When fear and polarization predominate, sane leadership on behalf of the human spirit provides the way forward. Wheatley asks us to consider how we can use our influence and power to evoke generosity, creativity, and community (1:30pm) There will also be two panel discussions:

Former Bridgeman's

Continued from page 1

that houses Pet Supplies Plus, Anytime Fitness and Dreamers Vault, among other businesses.

Reuter Walton decided not to include commercial in this development because it will be located on the same block as the new Cub Foods development, explained Brasser. "Speculative retail space in apartment buildings is difficult to fill," he added.

Reuter Walton has built about 20 ground-up developments within Minneapolis. Several are located in the Uptown, University of Minnesota and Downtown areas. This will be the company's first development in the Longfellow neighborhood. Currently, Reuter Walton is constructing an apartment building in the Mac Groveland neighborhood of St. Paul at Snelling and St. Clair.

It would take about one year to construct the 4757 Hiawatha Ave. building. Construction is anticipated to begin in



The former Bridgeman's Restaurant at 4757 Hiawatha Ave. was most recently home to Somtaste restaurant. Reuter Walton proposes to raze the existing structure to construct a 6-story apartment building. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

the spring of 2019.

Parking tops list of concerns

The Reuter Walton proposal was presented to the Neighborhood Development and Transportation Committee (NDTC) in September.

They received positive feedback regarding the need for apartment housing in the area and were told there is an appetite for mixed housing in this corridor, according to Brasser.

The majority of comments were about parking.

Reuter Walton is planning to provide 59 indoor parking stalls on the main level and a sub-level lot for the 85-unit building. "For city planners, that's an acceptable ratio," said Brasser, "but there's concern from residents that it isn't adequate parking."

Because of these concerns, developers are exploring ways to provide more parking on site.

Given the proximity to the light rail station at 46th St., developers expect apartment dwellers to use public transit. But they acknowledge, "we're still a far cry from people relying on that as their main source of transportation," said Brasser.

He believes this is a broader issue that the city needs to address for the area.

For the buildings they have constructed within Minneapolis, Reuter Walton typically has a .7-.85 ratio, or 70 stalls per 100 units. The 4757 Hiawatha building is on the low end of that ratio, which is part of why they're hoping to add more parking stalls.

At the NDTC meeting, residents also questioned traffic flow to this site, which is currently accessed by the Nawadaha frontage road that follows Hiawatha and then turns east to connect with Minnehaha Ave.

The roadways around the area are expected to change in the future, as the plan is to extend Snelling south of 46th.

This development will be on the agenda for the Longfellow Community Council meeting on Tues., Oct. 9 (6-9pm), and in front of the city planning commission in November.

Other new apartment buildings in the area include:

- a 4-story, 37-unit building at 4737 Minnehaha Ave. (at the current Greg's Auto) by The Lander Group

- a 4-story, 55-unit building at 4553/4561 Minnehaha Ave. by Hayes Harlow Development, Left Lane Corporation, and Twin Cities Home Rental

- a 5-story, 80-unit efficiency building at Hiawatha and 45th by RS Eden (Amber Apartments)

- a 5-story, 148-unit, mixed-use building that will house Cub Foods at 46th and Hiawatha by Oppidan

- two 5-story buildings at Snelling Yards, 3601 E. 44th St., by Lupe Development Wall Cos. and Ecumen with 130 units of workforce affordable housing and 121 units of senior housing

Classifieds

Messenger

Want ads must be received by the Messenger by October 22 for the November 1 issue. Call 651-645-7045 for more information.

Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

Messenger Want Ads are \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to *Messenger Classifieds*, PO Box 168, Osseo, MN 55369. Want ads must be mailed to the *Messenger* before Oct. 22 for the Nov. 1 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to denis@deruyternelson.com. Call 651-917-4183 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the *Messenger's* website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

HANDYMAN

Dr. House does it all: From a leaky faucet to a new addition. I can save you money on electrical and plumbing. Call John at 651-231-5652. B-18

LAWN SERVICE

A Greener Lawn service provides weekly mowing, spring clean-up, and complete lawn care. Owner operator, 20 years in South Minneapolis. 612-554-4124. 10-18

PAINTING

Bill's Painting. 38 years experience. Painting, wallpaper, staining and texturing. Fully insured. Free estimates. Attention to details. Call Bill 612-790-1266. 10-18

Painter Jim since 1982. Small painting jobs, wallpaper removal. 612-202-5514. 10-18

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612-724-6045
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www.atreeservices.com

PET SERVICES

John's Dog Walking - Daily dog walks, boarding and in home pet visits. 15 years experience, Insured and Bonded. 612-825-9019. www.facebook.com/johnpetservice. 10-18

River Birch Bark Dog Services. Training, Behavior, Consulting. Riverbirchbark.com 651-605-5804.

SEEKING APARTMENT

Single working woman is looking for quiet one or one-bedroom apartment for Fall move. No basements or studios. Flexible move date. 651-489-9053 OR lynns@bitstream.net

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Seward Co-op 'seed program' is a respected, nationwide model

By JAN WILLMS

Seward Co-op first opened its doors in 1972, and along with the community it has grown and diversified over the years. Starting at 22nd and Franklin, the store expanded and moved to 2108 Franklin Ave. in 1998. An additional need for expansion brought it to its present location at 2823 Franklin Ave in 2009.

"But after a few years even with this space, we needed more room and we're getting complaints about parking," said Abby Rogosheske, education and outreach coordinator for Seward Co-op. "We felt the need to open a second store at 317 E. 38th St., the Friendship Store. That store opened in 2015."

At the same time, the co-op owners realized a central production facility was needed for the stores. That facility opened in 2015 in a former creamery building at 2601 E. Franklin. Downstairs is the production facility where all deli items, bakery items, and sausage are made for both stores. Upstairs houses the administrative offices. And because of zoning requirements, a storefront was needed, and so the Creamery Café was born.

"We thought also having a café was a good thing," Rogosheske said. "Our manager, Sean, talks about a three-space concept: home, work, and community." The café, as well as the stores, provides for a community gathering place.

Having the additional room has allowed the co-op to pursue



Abby Rogosheske, education and outreach coordinator for Seward Co-op. (Photo by Jan Willms)

several programs for the community. One of these is the seed program, which refers to a grant that the co-op can run. "The concept is that each of us plants a little seed," Rogosheske said. The idea began with the opening of the co-op on 28th and Franklin. "It started as part of a March food drive," Rogosheske explained. "All the co-ops have a friendly competition to see how much money and food we can raise. We ask customers to round up to the nearest dollar on a purchase. And that additional money goes for a food shelf."

She said the drive was such a success that the cashiers said Seward Co-op should do this every month. "It was an entirely staff-led initiative," Rogosheske



Tamales y Bicicletas was the Farm Table program in July 2018. (Photo provided)

continued. "So at that point, a committee was formed, and we as a staff choose one of the recipient organizations every month to receive the round-up. I facilitate the process, but specifically, the cashiers at the two stores and front of the house at the café are the ones who do this. They do the work, asking customers if they want to round up and if they want to hear about the organization."

Rogosheske said it is a very competitive process. "We had a hundred applicants this year," she said. The average donation comes to about 40 cents, but the money raised from the two stores and café is considerable. The August check for that month's selected organization, Mad Dads, was \$23,000.

"We can raise over \$20,000 every month," Rogosheske said. "To me, that is the power of a cooperative community right there, when each gives about 40 cents but all come together as support within our community."

Rogosheske said each applicant writes a two-page application essay. "I put it into a giant binder," she said, "along with other supplementary materials. The committee then reads through everything."

The applications are on the Seward Co-op website in mid to late May, with a submission deadline of June 30. The selection process is worked on throughout the summer.

The process has been switched up a bit this year, according to Rogosheske. "It's such a popular program; we wanted to provide more opportunity for the community to participate besides just rounding up. So this year we tried an experiment."

The staff committee selected eight recipients out of the 12. Ten other finalists were select-

ed, for a total of 18. "Those ten get smaller grants from Seward Community Fund," Rogosheske explained. "A Community Choice vote for those ten was launched Sept. 19. Anyone can vote for the top four choices from that list. An organization can get its name out there, and there will be a new level of engagement from the community."

She said the selections are pretty much narrowed to the Twin Cities. The choices for organizations reflect the communities served and ownerships that reflect diversity are a priority. Although the vast majority of organizations that are awarded monthly are nonprofits, some for-profit farm organizations have been selected in the past.

The September winner of the seed program was Capi, a food shelf that is specific to Asian immigrants. The October selection is the Hmong American Farmers Association (HAFA).

Rogosheske said finalists in the Community Choice vote would be announced by late September, with the final winners announced at the Seward Co-op annual meeting Oct. 30. "We recognize the selections at the meeting, and people get applauded," she said.

At the beginning of each month, representatives from the selected organization come into the Co-op and train the cashiers so they can talk about the organization when asking customers to round up. That same month, according to Rogosheske, the organization has representatives tabling at the stores and interacting with customers, so they are confident about where their money is going.

"At the end of the month, we do a check ceremony, have some

treats and hand over the check," Rogosheske said. "Whatever amount people have rounded up to is given to the organization, with no percentage taken out by the Co-op."

She said other co-ops are doing similar programs, but Seward could be considered a national model for the process. "We get a lot of phone calls asking how we run our program," she said.

Another innovation Seward has started is the Farm Table dinner, held once per quarter. "We try to align with seed recipients, and the meal is sourced partially from their food. The meal is held in our café, created by our executive chef and sourced from the seed recipient. Our next one is coming up Oct. 23, a three-course dinner that will raise awareness about that month's seed recipient, HAFA."

Seward Co-op also supports other co-op programs, such as Village Financial Cooperative, that is specifically African-American led. "There is a perception of food co-ops started by white hippies in the 1970s in white spaces, but there is a long history of co-op development in African American communities," she said. "We have conversations about how do we support a more cooperative economy in general," she added.

Some classes, some free and some for a fee that is discounted to members, are held at the Seward Co-op on a regular basis. Classes include cooking with bulk greens, fermenting your own pickles, supply chain sustainability, soap making, and Japanese cooking.

Reflecting on her job with the Co-op, Rogosheske said she feels so proud of the seed program, the Farm Table dinners, and classes. She said Seward Co-op now has the physical space and staff to be able to offer a variety of services to the community.

She feels passionate about her job. "I love it. I have a passion for food justice and sustainability and working for justice on many levels. So whatever role the Co-op can play, I want to be part of connecting the Co-op into however we can plug in to social justice."

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Memories and milestones fill Laughing Waters Bluegrass Festival

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

The 20th Annual Laughing Waters Bluegrass Festival was held on Labor Day, Mon., Sept. 3, at Minnehaha Park. Featured performers included King Wilkie's Dream, Pride of the Prairie, the 50th Anniversary reunion of the Middle Spunk Creek Boys, Becky Thompson and Old School, and the Sawtooth Brothers.

East Nokomis resident Alan Jespersen, a guitarist for the Middle Spunk Creek Boys, is the festival's creator, tour-de-force, and all-around unsung hero. He said, "I had the idea for the festival back in 1998 when the performance space at Minnehaha Park was brand new. Typically, the Minneapolis Park Board doesn't pay performers, but I knew we could do that with the help of some sponsors. This year's sponsor list included more than 60 neighborhood businesses. The Minnehaha Avenue DQ was our very first sponsor 20 years ago, and they haven't missed a year since."

Jespersen rents the pavilion at Minnehaha Park and puts on what many people consider to be one of the musical highlights of summer in the Twin Cities. There's no admission charge, plenty of seating on the benches in front of the stage, an open space for dancing, and the chance to see Minnehaha Falls in all its late summer glory.

"I spend about two months organizing the festival. It's a lot of work, but it's also a labor of love for me," Jespersen said.

Musicians from all over the country contact Jespersen about playing at the festival. "We've got the details pretty well worked out



Past band members (left to right) Mark Kreitzer, Steve Block, and Mark Briere saddled up to the mic. Jespersen said, "We had some great players over the years. This is where we all learned how to play in a band together." (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

after all these years," Jespersen said, "and it's a nice 40-minute gig for a band. We transport the musicians and their gear from the parking area in a golf cart, and our sound man, Doug Lohman, is as good as they come. Next year we'll be bringing Jerry Wizentowski from

Milwaukee as our festival headliner. He's a fantastic bluegrass singer, and not to be missed."

The Middle Spunk Creek Boys are the pillar of the Laughing Waters Bluegrass Festival. The band currently has four members but has had about 25 revolve through

since it started. Eighteen of the "Spunks" came back for the 50th reunion concert at Laughing Waters and played in several different combinations.

Jespersen said, "We got together at my store, and rehearsed for three days straight before the con-

cert. I've never played that much guitar in my life, in such a short amount of time. It's been a great ride though and, I'm happy to say, we're all still friends."

For information about next year's festival, contact alanjesp@gmail.com.



Alan Jespersen married his longtime sweetheart (and Middle Spunk Creek Boys bass player) Janine Kemmer, in a surprise wedding ceremony on-stage after the band finished their set. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)



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