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Minneapolis Youth Movement formed by students to bring about changes in their school district

By TESSA M. CHRISTENSEN

What began as a protest by Native American students grew into a walkout that united all ethnic groups at South High School on Monday, March 11.

Organizers estimate that 500-1,000 students peacefully walked out of the school in a show of solidarity.

The event was organized by senior Winona Vizenor, a Native American student enrolled in the All Nations program. The walkout came three weeks after a riot at South High on Feb. 14 that involved up to 300 students and required police intervention. After seeing the Somali students stand up for themselves following the riot, W. Vizenor was inspired.

"We wanted to organize something so we could be heard," said W. Vizenor.

"We've tried talking to the principal, and we were brushed off," said W. Vizenor. "We don't have a teacher in our program who stands up for students."

WHAT IS THE ALL NATIONS PROGRAM?

The All Nations SLC program at South High is a program within a program at the high school. It began in 1989, and is open to students citywide. In addition to the typical math, English and science and other standard classes, Ojibwe culture and language are offered. Ninth and 10th graders enrolled in the program take classes only with other All Nations students; upperclassmen are integrated with the rest of the student body.

However, in recent years several pieces of the program have been eliminated, including the drum group and smudging.

During an assembly in the 700-person auditorium on Monday morning, March 11, prior to the walk-out, students told fellow students, community members, school staff, Principal Cecilia Sadler, Director of Indian Education Danielle Grant, and Minneapolis Public School Associate Superintendent Stephen Flisk that they don't feel they are "getting the full cultural program they could be getting," said Lisa Bellanger, from the Minnesota Transitions School who attended as a community member.

"They want it to be enriched," said Winona's mother, Lynette

South High students walk out to support All Nations program



Between 500-1000 students at South High School walked out on Monday, March 13, 2013 to show their support for the All Nations program and to ask for more cultural awareness at their school. (Photo courtesy of Minneapolis Youth Movement)

Vizenor. She added, "The program has been falling down, and the students feel that."

L. Vizenor pointed out that this spring, her daughter will graduate with only one-fourth of the students who entered the All Nations program with her in ninth grade. The rest have dropped out, been suspended or received academic transfers out of the school. At one time, the suspension rate for Native American students at South High School was so high that it was garnering attention, she pointed out. Today, the rate of academic transfers out is high.

"There is still segregation and racism," L. Vizenor remarked. "There is a problem with administrators."

STUDENT REQUESTS

Native American students have asked that they be allowed to smudge once more. Smudging involves the burning of sage in a ritual of purification. "It's a way of cleansing when you feel bad," explained L. Vizenor. "They find strength in that."

They have also asked that the drum groups be returned.

And they've asked that students not in the All Nations program be allowed to participate as desired. They want to be more integrated with the rest of the school, according to W. Vizenor, and to have other students attend the All

Nations classes if they wish.

"My culture is judged out of ignorance," said W. Vizenor. "And I know I'm not the only culture judged out of ignorance at South High."

With that in mind, W. Vizenor asked students from many different ethnic groups to speak at the

assembly held prior to the walk-out.

"All recognized the need for diversity and gave a powerful message about learning and recognizing each other," Bellanger. "I was really impressed with them."

"If this is an example of the young people coming up, I'm very happy."

FROM ASSEMBLY TO WALK-OUT

W. Vizenor had initially planned to organize a walkout, but then agreed to work with school staff to hold an assembly inside instead. Her main stipulations were that any student at South High who wanted to and any community member be allowed to attend. However, during the event, she learned that there were people from both groups who were not allowed in, and at the end of the assembly, she asked those in attendance if they wanted to proceed with the walk-out. They did.

"The walk-out was successful and peaceful," said W. Vizenor.

She added, "We walked out to support the All Nations program. We walked out to support each other."

The drummers followed the students out of the assembly into the street to help keep the students focused on peace and unity, noted Bellanger.

The school locked the building down during the walkout. As part of that, administrators said they would not allow students back in to get items they left inside, including their coats and house

keys. However, after local Native American activists insisted students had the right to get their things, administrators agreed to allow students back in one at a time with supervision, according to W. Vizenor.

Students were also warned before they left the building that their departure would constitute an unexcused absence and that they would not be allowed back without a parent. They were welcome back the next day.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Following the walkout, 50 students gathered at MIGIZI Communications at 3123 E. Lake St. to discuss their next steps. They said that they felt good about what they had accomplished that day. They said they wanted change. And they challenged each other to stay responsible.

The students have formed the Minneapolis Youth Movement, which can be found on Facebook. They intend to start meeting with people from other schools to broaden their understanding of cultural awareness, according to W. Vizenor. Once they've listened to each other, they plan to approach the school district with ideas for change.

Their parents and other adults have also taken up the call to action, and plan to begin meeting. To get involved, contact Lynette Vizenor at either lynettevizenor@rocketmail.com or call 612-481-3266.

"Let's make a change," said W. Vizenor.

South Minneapolis Housing Fair planned April 13

Homeowners can get their home improvement questions answered and find ways to bring creative visions to reality at the South Minneapolis Housing Fair Saturday, April 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Newcomers and long-time Housing Fair fans should note this year's new location at 2121 Lake Street, in the Minneapolis Sports Center, directly behind the Midtown YWCA. Near the Hiawatha Light Rail stop on Lake Street, it's convenient by bus, walking, bike and car with parking in two lots.

The Fair, in its 19th year, is free to the public. It provides useful local contractor connections and neighborhood/consumer resources for homeowners and prospective homeowners. Attendees will chat with experts among the numerous carefully vetted exhibitors covering many aspects of home improvement.

Co-locating with the fair for the first four hours, 10 a.m.-2



Bring your home improvement questions to the South Minneapolis Housing Fair Saturday, April 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

p.m., will be a Hennepin Fix-It Clinic. It's an opportunity for consumers to bring non-functioning small household appliances to see if and how they can be brought back to life. Other fun features: Bird feeder building for kids of all ages, power tool door prizes, Ask an Expert and the Natedogs food truck.

Four special 30-minute presentations will address these topics: 11:00 a.m. Remodeling Your Home Through Social Media, Noon: Financing Home Improvements, 1:00 p.m. Front Door FengShui: Welcoming Opportunities, and 2 p.m. Growing Monarch Habitat.

The South Minneapolis Housing Fair is produced to benefit all Minneapolis residents, by representatives of several neighborhood organizations, South High Community Education, and a dozen other corporate and institutional sponsors.

Visit www.housingfair.org for more information, or pick up a program at neighborhood offices and South Minneapolis libraries. To volunteer during the fair or to be notified of exhibitor opportunities for next year, contact Event Coordinator Margo Ashmore at MANAGER@HOUSINGFAIR.ORG or call 612-867-4874.

Old-fashioned 'Riverside Market' proposed for Lake Street

By JAN WILLMS

Having been in the business for more than 50 years, Joel Ahlstrom knows something about groceries. And now he wants to bring that experience to the Longfellow area as he plans to open Riverside Market, an old-fashioned grocery that emphasizes service, at 3815 East Lake Street.

Describing his plans to the Neighborhood Development Committee of the Longfellow Community Council (LCC) at a meeting March 12, Ahlstrom said he has been working on this project for four years, although the dream has been there longer.

He operated the Riverside Market on Franklin Avenue for 19 years and currently owns a store by the same name in Isanti.

"There is a need for a store in this area," he said. "It's kind of a vacuum, and I think I know what people are looking for, and it is not Rainbow or Cub." He said his idea for a grocery is to build one that has character.

His store will feature wooden floors and cases finished with wood. Shelving will reach to the ceiling, as it did in stores of yesteryear. He plans to put old-fashioned packaging from early companies in Minnesota, such as Pillsbury, Hormel and Land O' Lakes, on the top shelves. The shelves that are reachable by customers will contain a full line of products, including natural foods.



Having been in the business for more than 40 years, Joel Ahlstrom plans to open Riverside Market, an old-fashioned grocery that emphasizes service, at 3815 East Lake Street. Above, a rendering shows his plans for the proposed Riverside Market on East Lake Street between 38th and 39th Avenue.

teryear. He plans to put old-fashioned packaging from early companies in Minnesota, such as Pillsbury, Hormel and Land O' Lakes, on the top shelves. The shelves that are reachable by customers will contain a full line of products, including natural foods.

two years ago and had not realized it existed.

He said the employees will be dressed in old-fashioned style, with men in white shirts, bow ties and garters on their sleeves and the women in white blouses. He also hopes to have a dress-up day once a month, in which customers can wear fashions from the 1800s.

Saturday mornings will bring crafts to the store, butter-churning or candle-making. Barber-shop quartets will perform, and even piped-in music will play songs from the 1920s.

There will be a full bakery and deli. Ahlstrom said he is bringing in the best produce person and best butcher that he has met in his 51 years of grocery business. "The stores are as good as the people who work in them," he said.

But although the store will replicate the style of businesses from the early 1900s, it will be thoroughly up to date in meeting today's standards.

"We will meet or exceed the green energy codes," said architect Mike Mularoni. The entire

block between 38th and 39th Avenues will be used for Riverside Market. The former Peterson Machinery building will be renovated and house the new store. Mularoni said he plans to keep many of the original features in the building. The remaining buildings on the block will be removed.

There will be 14,000 square feet on the main floor of the building. The front of the store will feature windows, and passersby will be able to look in and see employees at work in the deli and the bakery. The architect said there will be 46 parking spaces in addition to parking an existing house will be razed.

Mularoni said the City Planning and Economic Department (CPED) had a lot of input on the site and street for the store. He and Ahlstrom waited until they knew everything was in place for the project to bring it to the LCC for its endorsement and some help with funding.

The project's total cost is \$4.5 million, with the majority of

funding through bank loans which are expected to close by April 15. There is a remaining gap of \$180,000, which they hope to fill through community loans.

"We have \$150,000 of that," Mularoni said. The Neighborhood Development Committee agreed to send a letter of support to the LCC, and will work on developing a scope of service to work with Riverside Market on the \$30,000 in funding that is needed.

Ahlstrom said a market survey done on putting a grocery store in the Longfellow area resulted in incredible numbers.

"And because we are in an urban area, it won't increase the traffic count enough to be measurable," Mularoni added.

"It's going to be a store the neighborhood can be proud of," Ahlstrom assured. He said he wanted to prevent grocery shopping from being a hassle and instead make it something people look forward to.

"I don't ever want to retire," he said. "I love what I do. And this grocery store is going to be as fun as it possibly could be."

"It's kind of a vacuum, and I think I know what people are looking for, and it is not Rainbow or Cub."

- Joel Ahlstrom

"The most important thing is that we are going to have exactly what people want," Ahlstrom said. "I have learned that people will tell you what they want. Every neighborhood is different, but I listen to customer requests."

He envisions a store that will resemble the one his grandfather once ran years ago at 2700 17th Ave. S. "I came across a photo of my grandparents in front of that store, with my father in a stroller," Ahlstrom said. He said he found the picture a little over



Joel Ahlstrom envisions a store that will resemble the one his grandfather once ran years ago at 2700 17th Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Recently, he came across a photo of his grandparents in front of that store, with his father in a stroller (above).

Messenger

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



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Last blue carts to roll out this spring

City reports boost with one-sort recycling

By JILL BOOGREN

Every two weeks, Mike Schulz spends about a half hour sorting and putting out recycling. The small bins he now has are not large enough for his family of five, and if he misses recycling day, he's often left with 10 or more bags stacked up for the next one.

He and his wife Shannon are very excited about one-sort recycling and have envied neighbors who already have their blue carts.

Soon they're about to get theirs.

Last fall 30,000 households received their blue carts and began using the one-sort system, which allows people to toss all their recycling together into the cart without separating paper from plastic from cans from jars. Carts will arrive at the remaining 80,000 households beginning in late April through June.

Word at the curb is people can't wait. No more sorting. No more juggling bins and bags or watching bottles flip and roll down the street with the first gust of wind. And no more worries about bags getting soaked in puddles or bursting at the seams. Storing recyclables in the blue cart and rolling it curbside should just be easier.

"Multi-sort puts huge demands on residents to sort separately all different items in individual bags, store them, then bring them out," said Dave Herberholz, director of solid waste and recycling for the city of Minneapolis. "Now you've got one 95-gallon cart where you can store everything."

The aim is to make it easier for those who already recycle and

encourage those who don't. And it seems to be working. The city reported 396 more tons of materials recycled, a 63% increase, in neighborhoods using the new blue carts over the same period a year ago when they were using bins and bags.

"I expected that we would see a substantial increase in the amount of materials being recycled, but a 63% increase exceeded my expectations for the startup period," said Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy, who chairs the Transportation and Public Works Committee, which is involved in garbage and recycling programs. "This is a real improvement in the effectiveness of our recycling activity."

The new system is also a lot safer for collection crews, who are responding favorably so far.

"Multi-sort can be difficult, lead to injuries by strains, slips," said Herberholz. "This way [workers] roll the cart out to the truck, lift to a semi-automated dump, and it goes into the hopper."

The city hopes to double the amount of recycling collected from 18,000 to 36,000 tons by 2015. Recycling keeps materials out of the waste stream and saves energy and resources. According to Earth911, making new aluminum cans from used cans takes 95% less energy than using virgin materials. And an aluminum can can be recycled over and over again, returning to a store shelf as a brand new can within 60 days.

One-sort recycling gets hauled to the Waste Management material recovery facility here in Minneapolis, which means there are no new



This is a typical recycling day for Jeff Boogren and many other residents who sort materials into separate paper bags and put them curbside at dawn. This will soon change when blue carts, which hold all recyclables together, unsorted, arrive at remaining households from late April through June.

transport costs. According to Herberholz, they will accommodate the higher volume. But can this material, after it's been chucked all together in one cart, really be put to good use? In short, yes.

"Over the last number of years the processes of handling the municipal recycling, separating the materials, have gotten much more sophisticated," said Colvin Roy.

New systems of conveyors, magnets, screens and fans are used to more accurately separate items. Papers, cans and plastic bottles are lifted, grabbed or blown into their own piles and compressed into bales that are then transported for use in products made in Minnesota and around the world. Paper makes more paper. Glass gets remade into new glass. Cans become more cans. Plastics are reformed and used for t-shirts, baseball caps, new bottles, and even lawn furniture.

Being able to sell these materials helps pay for the recycling program. According to Colvin Roy, an important factor in switching to

one-sort was the ability to collect enough revenue by selling recyclables to avoid increasing the cost for residents.

"That was an important question for me since I know many households are already feeling crunched by rising costs," said Colvin Roy. "We determined that we could make this change without increasing costs, and we were able to purchase the new carts with money from this well-managed enterprise fund." No new fees have been added with one-sort.

The trick is to keep materials useful. Sometimes things end up in the cart that shouldn't be there, like yard waste. And sometimes things get scrapped because they've become contaminated and lost their value, for example newspaper that due to co-mingling has been soiled by food.

About four per cent of what's collected gets discarded as trash, which is a lot lower than what one-sort used to do but higher than the more precise multi-sort. The tradeoff, said Colvin Roy, is

that with one-sort we collect a lot more material. She expects as more people learn what can and can't go in the blue cart these rates will get better over time.

Last year the city expanded the types of plastics and paper it collects. These include plastics numbers one through seven (the numbers are on the bottom of containers), which include: yogurt, pudding and fruit cups; disposable cups and bowls; margarine, cottage cheese and other containers; and takeout, produce and deli containers (including clear "clamshell" containers). Now accepted as "paper" recycling are milk cartons, juice boxes, and soup, broth and wine cartons.

Rinsing containers is important to keep the cleanest mix to maximize return on recyclables, and therefore keep fees low. This doesn't require a heavy soap scrub, Herberholz said, just enough to get rid of food residue so it doesn't ooze out all over the other recyclables. Putting stuff in wet is okay, just don't include soiled paper or pizza boxes caked with leftover cheese.

Plastic bags should never go in the cart because they can gum up the equipment (many grocery stores have drop boxes for plastic bags). Yard waste, styrofoam, food and garbage should also be kept out.

Herberholz is very pleased with the participation and quality of recycling. "The program wouldn't be successful without the commitment from the residents of Minneapolis," he said.

For those who just can't let go of sorting, rest assured you can still brown bag your recyclables and toss them into the blue cart. As long as those bags are paper.

A schedule for rollout into remaining neighborhoods will be available this month. Recycling will still take place on the same day of the week, and residents will be sent instructions on what to include in their blue carts. People can call 612-673-2917 with questions.

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Viewpoints

Messenger

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

Over the years, I've accumulated a wish list of things I'd like to see in our neighborhoods. Some are small wishes, but others are grand dreams. Here are the top things on my list:



Hiawatha Notebook

By TOM GILSEAN

Wish list for our neighborhoods

1. East-west bike route between the Midtown Greenway and Minnehaha Parkway. We have two marvelous bike routes along the Greenway and the Parkway. But we need one in between the two. How about 42nd Street? Lots of bicyclists use that street now. A few changes and an official designation would make it even better as a crosstown bikeway.
2. Minneapolis Moline Museum. At one time, Minneapolis Moline was a major employer in our area, turning out tractors and farm implements in a factory at the corner of Minnehaha and Lake. It's long gone, though MM tractor enthusiasts hold gatherings every year all over the Midwest. A museum would preserve the memory of this company and attract Moline tractor fans from all over. I've written about this idea before. And even got a nice response from the owners of the Freeman Building. But it's still just a dream, and needs someone to lead the way.
3. Color in the concrete. How about adding color to the concrete we use for bridges and other construction projects? Or painting what we already have? Wouldn't it be great if the Hiawatha Expressway bridge over Lake Street was painted a cool blue? And the Highway 55/Crosstown overpass a light green? Looking ahead, all contractors could be asked to add some coloring to their concrete. Looking back, we could paint what we already have built. And while we've got out the paint, why not paint

- the entire crosswalk at key intersections (instead of just stripes).
4. Windows in all new buildings — retails, commercial and industrial. Windows add a lot, especially those at pedestrian level. It's also nice to have natural light when you are inside. But much of the new construction in recent years includes few or no windows. Let's change that. And let's campaign for existing businesses, like Target, to add windows.
5. Bike route to the airport. To get to the airport, you have to drive or take mass transit. You can't ride your bike. Why not? For many people in Longfellow and Nokomis, getting to the airport would be just a short bike trip. So let's find a way to make that possible.
6. Water fountain you can walk through. Water fountains add a lot to a community. Yes, we have our lakes, but a fountain would be nice, too, especially for those who can't swim or use wheelchairs. Let's invite former residents Andrea Myklebust and Stan Sears back to design a fountain for us. (They have designed a very nice fountain you can walk through in Iowa City. We could have one here, too.)
7. Local phone company. I first wrote a column on this idea about ten years ago — when most of us still had landlines.

Since then, there has been a pronounced shift to cell phones. But it would still be nice to have a local phone company — a cooperative — to provide phone and Internet service.

8. Local radio station. A community thrives when there are a lot of different voices — in print, on the air, online. Using the model of the Messenger and other community newspapers, let's start a community radio station. It could be online or over the air.
9. Tool lending library. I've long wished for a place where I can borrow a tool or two — specialized tools which I only use occasionally. I'm guessing there are other people who feel the same way. In some cities, Oakland, Calif., for example, a tool lending library can be found at the regular public library.
10. Neighborhood bikes. Wouldn't it be great if you could just hop on a bike at Rainbow Foods and ride it over to a nearby store. Then leave it there. I envision a fleet of yellow bikes, spread out at various locations around Longfellow and Nokomis, allowing anyone to make a quick bike trip. This would be a "hyper-local" service just for our neighborhoods.

That's my list. I'd love to hear your comments. I'd also like to know what's on your wish list. Write to me at the address below.

(Tom Gilsean has been writing a column for the Messenger since 1997. You can write to him at tomgilsean@gmail.com. Or in care of the Messenger.)

Annual Meeting will Highlight Monarch Festival and Migration

NENA's Annual Neighborhood Meeting on Tuesday, April 30, will have some very special guests. Members of KetzalCoatlucue Aztec Dance Group will be there to perform and to talk about monarch butterflies in Mexican culture. Many of you will remember KetzalCoatlucue from their performances at Minneapolis Monarch Festival over the last three years.

We all know how much monarchs are part of our Midwestern experience, but may not know how the Monarch Migration connects us with Mexico. If you saw recent news reports on the unprecedented 59% decline in monarchs at their overwintering site in Mexico this year, you have some sense of just how endangered the Migration has become. We hope that producing the Minneapolis Monarch Festival with the Park Board has raised awareness about habitat loss and resulted in more monarch gardens in Nokomis East and beyond. There is a lot to learn about this issue, including proposed federal legislation, and we will have information available at the Annual Meeting.

Board Elections: NENA needs energetic, committed people for its Board of Directors. Seven seats are up for election this year: three at-large seats and one representative for each of NENA's four neighborhoods (Wenonah, Minnehaha, Morris Park, Keewaydin). Neighborhood representatives must live in the neighborhood they represent.

Several other seats are also open due to attrition, so if you've been thinking about serving, this is a good time for it. It is a great way to stay current on neighborhood news, and participate in discussions of issues and how NENA can best serve the neighborhood.

If you are interested in running for the Board, please call the NENA office (612-724-5652) to request an information packet or to ask any questions.

The Annual Neighborhood Meeting will be at Crosstown Covenant Church (29th Ave at 56th St), 6:30

NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

BY RITA ULRICH AND DOUG WALTER, NENA STAFF

Not the Same Old Events

– 9:00 pm. It will include dinner, KetzalCoatlucue Aztec Dance Group, highlights from 2012, Board elections, volunteer awards, and the Noki (Best of Nokomis) Award.

New Venue, New Ideas, New Fair

What's new in home improvement is just the beginning of what you can learn at the revamped South Minneapolis Housing Fair on Saturday, April 13, 10am – 3pm. From decorating and repairs, to landscaping and additions, the Fair will offer a wide range of exhibitors and services in an all new setting – the Minneapolis Sports Center, located next to the Midtown YWCA at 2121 East Lake Street.

It will also have new features. The Hennepin Fix-it Clinic will be at the Fair 10am – 2pm, where people can bring a non-functioning item or how-to question and volunteers will show them how to, well...fix it. Several short presentations on popular Fair topics will replace full length workshops, with the workshops being offered through South Community Education in the weeks following the Fair.

A subtle change is an increased emphasis on smaller jobs and handyman services. Contractors that are willing to do small jobs are identified in the Fair directory, making it easier for homeowners to find the right contractor. The Fair Advisory Committee (made up of six neighborhood organizations, a business representative and South High Community Ed) has gone to considerable lengths to ensure that exhibitors are properly licensed and registered with the State and are well regarded in their profession.

It is a new Fair, and if you haven't been to one in a while, it is worth stopping in, whether you are looking

for a home, need repairs, want ideas, or have a major project in mind. You won't see a more carefully vetted and diverse group of exhibitors anywhere else. The Fair is free and open to everyone.

Ward 12 Candidate Forum

Last month, we mentioned a pre-caucus Ward 12 Candidate Forum, but the details weren't finalized at that time. They are now; the Forum, sponsored by NENA and SENA (Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association), will be Thursday, April 11, 7:00 PM at Roosevelt High School in the Media Center. The League of Women Voters will moderate. Everyone is welcome!

Upcoming NENA Meetings and Events

South Minneapolis Housing Fair 10 AM – 3 PM, Saturday, April 13, at the Midtown YWCA-Minneapolis Sports Center, 2121 E. Lake St.

Livability Working Group: 6:30 PM, Monday, April 15, at NENA, 3000 East 50th Street.

Board of Directors: 7pm, Thursday, April 25, at NENA.

Nokomis East Business Association Annual Meeting: 6:00 PM, Tuesday, April 23 at Faith Lutheran Church, 3430 E 51st St.

NENA Annual Neighborhood Meeting: 6:30 – 9:00 pm, Tuesday, April 30, Crosstown Covenant Church, 29th Ave at 56th St.

NENA welcomes requests for accommodations. Call (612) 724-5652 or email rulrich@nokomiseast.org. Please give us as much notice as possible, but no less than 4 business days.

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

Do the Write Thing!

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

Ranked Choice to impact city politics in 2013

By IRIC NATHANSON

The Minneapolis city election is still eight months away, but the 2013 political season is already in full swing as ward and citywide candidates roll out their election campaigns.

This year, for the first time since 1993, local voters will fill an open mayoral seat, now that R.T. Rybak is not seeking re-election. With more than a half dozen candidates competing to succeed Rybak, Minneapolis will face its first real test of Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), first used for the 2009 city election.

RCV could come into play in Longfellow and Nokomis, where competitive races are shaping up for the 9th and 12th ward city council seats. In the 9th Ward, four announced candidates are vying to succeed mayoral candidate Gary Schiff. They include Alondra Cano, Jettie Ann Hill, and Charles Ryan Curtis, who are expected to seek DFL endorsement. A fourth candidate, Ty Moore, has the endorsement of the Fifth District Green Party.

In the 12th Ward, Andrew Johnson, the Chair of the Longfellow Community Council, is challenging incumbent Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy. The DFL endorsement for that race could be determined when the 12th Ward Convention convenes on Saturday, April 27. Ninth Ward candidates will be competing for the DFL endorsement at their

ward's convention on Saturday, May 11.

In the Second Ward, a DFL candidate has yet to emerge to challenge incumbent Cam Gordon, the Council's only Green Party member.

At the ward level, Ranked Choice will be triggered at the November 5 city election, where at least three candidates are seeking election to a city council post.

Under RCV, voters identify their first, second and third choices for each city wide district and ward office listed on the ballot. If a candidate receives more than 50% of the first place votes cast, that candidate is elected. However, if no candidate receives 50% "plus one" votes, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated and his or her second place votes are distributed among the remaining candidates. If the elimination round does not result in a winning candidate, another elimination round takes place with the second place votes of the candidate with the next lowest votes distributed among the remaining candidates. This process continues until one candidate finally

emerges with more than 50% of the vote.

The multi-tiered RCV system has sparked controversy, as the 2013 election season gets underway. In a March 5 Op Ed for the Star Tribune, Devin Rice maintained that the complexities of the Ranked Choice Voting could disenfranchise minority and less affluent voters, because of errors on their ballots. Rice also pointed to reports showing that the cost of RCV elections was substantially higher than the cost of the standard single choice elections.

In his own Star Tribune commentary, Cam Gordon disputed Rice's claims about RCV's high cost and its impact on less advantaged voters. Gordon noted that RCV eliminates the need for a primary election, which has a high per-voter cost in low turnout election years. He acknowledged that some ballot errors had been reported in 2009, but those errors did not lead to voter disenfranchisement. "Going forward, they might point out the need for clearer ballot design and better voter education. But any attempt to equate these voter

practices with not having a vote counted is wrong," Gordon maintained.

Don Ostrom, a retired political science professor from Gustavus Adolphus College, said the real test of RCV will not occur until this year's city election on November 5. "It is still early in the year, and we already have at least six announced candidates for mayor," Ostrom said. "We need to wait and see how voters narrow down to three choices and then rank those three choices in the order of their preference. Rank Choice will make the 2013 mayoral election substantially more complicated than it has been in the past."

"This new voting system did not have a significant impact when it was implemented here in 2009. We need to see how it functions in a competitive situation, before efforts are made to expand the system more widely," Ostrom said.

One mayoral candidate, who is running as an independent in a field crowded with DFL opponents, believes that RCV can benefit him. "It's an absolute game-

changer," said Cam Winton, who calls himself a moderate Republican. "Ranked-choice voting is a wonderful development for someone who wants to bring fresh thinking," Winton told the on-line daily MinnPost. "It enables someone like to me to build coalitions across the political spectrum."

Dan McConnell, the chair of the Minneapolis DFL, said his party's conventions could opt to use RCV, but that decision would be made by each convention in consultation with the candidates that are seeking endorsement.

The DFL endorsement process gets underway at precinct caucuses held in each of the city's thirteen wards on Tuesday, April 16. Caucus attendees will select delegates to the ward conventions that will act on city council endorsements.

Minneapolis Republicans will not hold precinct caucuses this year. Their delegates and party officers were elected for two years terms in 2012.

All DFL precinct caucuses will convene at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16.

Second Ward

Precincts 1 and 8
Anne Sullivan School
3100 East 28th Street

Ninth Ward

All precincts
Green Central Park
Community School
3416 4th Avenue South

Eleventh Ward

All precincts
Washburn High School
201 West 49th Street

Twelfth Ward

All precincts at Roosevelt
High School (except Precinct 7)
4029 28th Avenue South
Precinct 7 at Minnesota Veterans
Home, 5101 Minnehaha Ave

Letters to the Editor

Disappointed in South High story

I was disappointed to read the article on South High School in the March issue of the *Messenger*, in which your reporter interviewed a fearful parent and a student who had not actually been at the "food fight." My son goes to South and I have talked to several parents whose kids

were at the lunch room riot, and I've learned that it was not 200-300 kids fighting and pushing and "throwing bottles" (my son says bottles are not allowed at the school, outside of small plastic juice bottles).

The media hyped this story and made it much bigger than it was—certainly, 300 students fighting sounds more exciting than the minor event it actually was. Unfortu-

nately, this gives our city school a bad and undeserved reputation.

I'm disappointed that our local paper was a part of the hype and didn't do enough research to find out the truth.

Theresa Jarosz Alberti

Next Deadline: April 15

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KetzalCoatlucue dancers at the Minneapolis Monarch Festival

The parents and staff of Lake Nokomis Community School received the Noki Award in 2012



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Prevention chore list as spring arrives can be important advance work for home, garage and limited budget

By DEBORAH BROTZ

HOME & GARAGE

Gutters and Downspouts

- Remove debris from gutters and downspouts and patch any holes. Make sure the downspouts direct water at least 5 feet away from your foundation walls.
- Reattach gutters that have pulled away from the house.
- Run a hose on the roof and check for proper drainage. If leaks exist, dry the area and use caulking or epoxy to seal the leak.

Windows and Doors

- Inspect/replace caulk on windows, doors, and other penetrations, such as dryer vents and cable wire holes.
- Clean screening and check for holes. If holes are bigger than a quarter, that is plenty of room for bugs to climb in.



- Patch holes or replace the screen. Save bad screen to patch holes next year.
- Tighten or repair any loose or damaged frames and repaint.
- Replace broken, worn, or missing hardware.
- Wind can ruin screens and frames if they are allowed to flap and move so make sure they are securely fastened.

- Tighten and lubricate door hinges and closers.

Furnace

- Replace or clean your furnace filter. It should be checked once a month and replaced or cleaned as needed.
- Have a professional air conditioning contractor inspect and maintain your system as recommended by the

manufacturer.

Hot Water Heater

- Check your water heater. If you have a gas-fired water heater, make sure it is venting properly.
- Check around the base of your water heater for evidence of leaks. If water leakage or rust is found, the water heater should be replaced.

Plumbing

- Check the shutoff valve at each plumbing fixture to make sure they function.
- Know the location of all valves and what equipment and water lines they serve.

Siding, Fascia and Trim

- Clean siding with a pressure washer to keep mold from growing. Check all wood surfaces for weathering and paint failure.

- Examine fascia or soffit boards. Replace if they are soft or rotting because they may allow rain in your attic.

Foundation

- Check foundation walls, floors, concrete, and masonry for cracking, heaving or deterioration.

Roof

- Inspect roof surface flashing, eaves, and soffits. Check flashings around all surface projections and sidewalls.
- Inspect the roof for damaged, loose or blistered shingles.

LAWN & GARDEN

Lawn Care

It is important that you wait until the soil temperatures rise and you get some growth before attempting any renovation program on your lawn.

- Rake to remove leaves and to control thatch.
- If you have a moss problem, apply a product called lawn sand to your lawn.
- Aerate your lawn in the spring to help encourage root growth, relieve compaction, and dry out any wet areas on the lawn.
- If your lawn is riddled with bare patches due to dog spots, heavy traffic or neglect, apply grass seed to fill in those bare patches. The solution is called "over seeding."
- Lawns can be fertilized organically by using compost and mulching mowers or with chemical fertilizers.

Trees & Shrubs

- Cut back and trim all vegetation and overgrown bushes from structures.
- Clean up fallen limbs, branches and other debris around the home to discourage the proliferation of wood-eating insects such as termites.

Flowers & Garden

Resist the urge to start digging in your flower beds too early. When it's dry enough, you can start to dig beds and add compost or manure in preparation for planting. Many South Minneapolis homeowners looking to the future have decided to get solar installations for their home. Applied Energy Innovations (AEI), 4000 Minnehaha Ave. S., specializes in promoting and installing affordable green energy solutions. They install both commercial and residential solar systems

Continued on page 10

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Roosevelt and Wellstone: Two schools, one address

By JAN WILLMS

Blending the best of their educational programs, Roosevelt Senior High and Wellstone International High School share the same address and same commitment to their students.

Located at 4029 28th Ave. S., each school is a separate entity, although students from each school may take classes in the other.

Roosevelt High School was established in 1923. According to second-year principal Michael Bradley, the school has 850 students in grades 9-12.

Educational justice for all is Roosevelt's mission, and it started its International Baccalaureate program about five years ago.

As an authorized International Baccalaureate (IB) World School, students can take advantage of a college-preparatory education focusing on skills development as well as intellectual and emotional growth.

"About three or four years ago, we also started a Middle Years Programme," Brady said. The Roosevelt school website claims that the IB Middle Years Programme provides a framework of academic challenge that encourages students to embrace and understand the connections between traditional subjects and the real world, and become critical and reflective thinkers. The program consists of eight subject groups integrated through five areas of interaction that provide a framework for learning within and across subjects.

"This is a prep curriculum for getting into the diploma programme," Bradley said. He said Sanford Middle School offers the Middle Years programme for grades 6-8, and Roosevelt offers it to students in grades 9 and 10.

The IB provides 11th and 12th graders with a rigorous education held to international standards with external accountability. This demanding academic program is recognized, worldwide, as an outstanding educational experience.

Roosevelt also offers classes in automotive and health care careers, Bradley said. "These classes are in an IB Career-related Certificate (IBCC) programme," he added. He said Roosevelt has been growing and last year had the best projected numbers for the district.

"This year we're projected to grow, also," Bradley said. "And the more we grow, the more we can enhance programming. We have increased our arts and music field, and we have built a very strong band."

Bradley admitted that historically, in the local community, Roosevelt had a negative reputation. He said that has greatly changed, with the school being defined by a sense of structure and law and order.

"This is in great part due to the dedication of our teachers," Bradley said. "They are focusing on professional development, as part of a Professional Learning Community (PLC) that is active at Roosevelt."

Many of the new features at the school began at about the same time that Wellstone International moved from its basement location in the Lehmann Center on Lake Street to the Roosevelt campus.



Former Wellstone International High School counselor Daniel Hertz with Wellstone graduates Phuoc Huynh, Pateng Her, Salam Girmay, Fardos Essa, and Dennis Binyanya in front the peace pole at the school.

Aimee Fearing is the new principal at Wellstone this year, a school that focuses on international students.

"We have a population of 240 students," Fearing said. Enrollees at the school are between the ages of 14 and 21, and they speak a language other than English at home.

Although Fearing is new to administration, she has taught ESL for 12 years. "I was at Minneapolis Edison High School. I was working with programs that mirror the ones we have here," she said.

"We do immersed English," explained Terry McDanel, an English as Second Language (ESL) teacher at the school. "It was originally called exhilarated English. It is very similar to the Immersion schools that teach Spanish or Ger-

man—we do it with English."

McDanel said the English speaking level of each student at Wellstone varies greatly.

"Many do not speak English at all; for example, a Somali student who is an immigrant from a refugee camp and has no experience with English at all," McDanel said. "Some students might come from the interior of Ecuador, who have studied in their own language but not in English. Some come from Kenya, historically a British colony, and have learned in the educational system taught in British English." He added that some students leave a war torn country and have not had academic learning in their own language or English.

"We have historically worked with local colleges," McDanel

noted, "especially Minneapolis Community and Technical College."

"They have piloted some programs transitioning students from high school to college," he explained. MCTC offers courses to bring ESL students up to speed.

"Our students can take Post Secondary Educational Opportunity (PSEO) classes and earn high school and college level credits at the same time," McDanel said.

He said it is very common for the Wellstone students to sometimes take classes at Roosevelt, depending on their level of English and how long they have been in this country.

"If they have been here one year, they are usually at level one," McDanel said. "Those at levels 3, 4

and 5 often take Roosevelt classes. This is great, from a number of perspectives."

He said it offers them a good immersion in English and is positive from a cultural point of view.

"Generally our students tend to be very competitive," he related. "And Roosevelt offers classes we are too small to offer."

He said that many Wellstone students are interested in the art and auto mechanics classes available from Roosevelt.

"Our students bring a lot to the table," McDanel said. "They have had life experiences that others have not, and have a strong sense of maturity, good personal conduct and attitude."

McDanel said the Wellstone population has increased dramatically the past couple of years. He explained that the immigrant population is very unpredictable.

"When people come, it takes them awhile to find the place they will stay. Extended family and a community that speaks their language are their strongest resources," he said.

McDanel said that initially Wellstone did not accept students as young as 14, but they found a need for them to get enrolled as early as possible. Technically, they can stay within the school system until age 23, if they achieve good grades and exemplify good behavior.

"It's a matter of faith," McDanel said. "We hesitated to take younger kids, but there is a great need in the district for some of them who are vulnerable and at high risk."

McDanel said that if students are reached early, a high risk situation can turn into a situation that will not fail.

"Our students work very hard to compete in challenging classes," he said.

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What's Cookin'...

By COLETTE MULLENMASTER

Seward Co-op with Tom Vogel and Staffers

CM: How and where did Seward Co-op get its start and how did it come to this location on East Franklin Avenue?

TV: Seward Co-op was founded by a group of volunteers in the winter of 1972. They were idealistic and passionate about natural foods and the cooperative business model. The original Seward Co-op (or "Seward Coop," as it was called, since it wasn't officially a cooperative at first), was located at 2201 E. Franklin Ave., where Welna II Hardware is today. Over the past four decades, the co-op has always made its home on Franklin Avenue, moving to 2111 in 1998, and, most recently, to the current store at 2823 in 2009. Since 1972, Seward Co-op has grown significantly in size and membership, but it retains its roots in the Seward community.

CM: The Seward neighborhood has seen a revitalization over the years that has stemmed from a community of residents and businesses who love the neighborhood. What is it that Seward Co-op considers as the best thing about doing business in this community?

TV: As a member-owned business, Seward Co-op has always been a reflection of the community in which it operates. Since the co-op's founding 40 years ago, the Seward neighborhood has changed dramatically, becoming more

ethnically diverse. As a result, the co-op's staff, customers and product selection have changed, as well. Today, many employees of East African descent work at the co-op, and one now can find such offerings as injera on the bread shelves or teff flour in the bulk department. One thing that has remained constant, though, is that Seward Co-op continues to be an anchor in the community, both as a job creator and a supporter of local businesses.

CM: Is there a special memory or time over the years that comes to mind to share with the Messenger readership?

TV: Last August, Seward Co-op celebrated its 40th anniversary. To acknowledge this milestone, we threw a party, inviting the entire community — everyone who had made the co-op's success possible over the years — to the East River Flats Park along the Mississippi. We had music, beverages, kids' activities, and, of course, great local food. Thousands of people came to enjoy the beautiful day and share in the co-op memories.



TIP!

Helpful Facts About Wild Rice

Wild rice should be stored in a cool dry place and in a tightly covered container.

How much to cook?

1 pound uncooked rice = 20 to 25 average servings
One cup uncooked rice equals 3 to 4 cups cooked rice
Cooked wild rice freezes fine!

When blending with white or brown rice, cook separately.

Use chicken stock in place of water when cooking, for a richer flavor. Lumberjacks used to eat wild rice for breakfast like oatmeal. Try it!

Basic Cooking Method:

Wash the rice thoroughly. One way is to put it in a strainer and run cold water over it. Add one cup wild rice to 3 cups boiling water or stock in a heavy saucepan. Reduce heat and simmer while covered for 30-35 minutes. Then, uncover, fluff with fork and simmer for 5 more minutes. Drain off any extra fluid if it isn't to your liking.

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LBA-Becketwood partnership to protect the Mississippi from storm water damage

By IRIC NATHANSON

Two Longfellow organizations are launching a new collaboration this spring to protect the Mississippi from environmental damage caused by storm water runoff.

The Longfellow Business Association and Becketwood Cooperative are joining forces to promote a storm water control demonstration on Becketwood's West River Parkway campus.

The demonstration project will involve a series of rain gardens, connected to a large cistern, that will capture runoff from co-op's roofs, sidewalks and parking lots and divert it away from the river after each rainfall. Funding for the project is coming from the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) with a match provided by Becketwood.

"This new effort is important to Longfellow in general and to our members, more specifically," said LBA's Ruth Romano. "The river is one of the key reasons that people choose to live here. It is a prized resource that helps build a strong community. LBA members know that a healthy river means a healthy community and that has a direct impact on the health of their business."

"We want to encourage other businesses and organizations in Longfellow to follow Becketwood's lead," Romano added. "Our role at LBA will be to help provide the community education that can help promote best practices. Once the new installations are in place,



The Longfellow Business Association and Becketwood Cooperative are joining forces to promote a storm water control demonstration on Becketwood's West River Parkway campus. Becketwood Co-op's Kristina Blomquist (left) and Longfellow Business Association's Ruth Romano are collaborating on Becketwood's storm water control project. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

we will be able to use Becketwood as a key demonstration site."

When the senior housing cooperative was built in the mid-1980s, it incorporated traditional building styles that relied on gutters and storm sewers to divert rainwater away from its building. "Back then, environmentally sustainable practices had not yet come into widespread use," explained Kristina Blomquist, Becketwood's Landscape Designer, who helped develop the MWMO proposal in partnership with the LBA. "But,

now we have a fuller understanding of the damage caused by pollutants from parking lots and lawn chemicals that are washed into the river through the storm sewers," she said.

Becketwood's environmental upgrades are a central feature of its Landscape Water Management Plan, funded with an earlier planning grant from MWMO. "The plan identifies areas on our campus that receive the most storm water runoff and shows us plant-based techniques that can help us control that run-off," Blomquist said. "Plant-based so-

lutions are not only cost-effective and beautiful; they help to recharge the groundwater supply by promoting infiltration of the runoff. That approach boosts the resilience of Becketwood's landscape and helps us cut down on expensive irrigation."

The MWMO grant will help Becketwood deal with a persistent flooding problem that it encounters after each rainfall. Because its north parking lot, off 46th Avenue, does not drain properly, the rainwater ponds on the parking lot, creating what the co-op members call "Lake Becketwood."

"We will be redesigning our north patio area adjacent to the parking lot to incorporate one of the new rain gardens. This redesign will drain the parking lot and eliminate Lake Becketwood. It represents a more environmentally appropriate and cost-effective alternative to a traditional approach which would have relied on an expensive regrading of the lot," Blomquist explained.

Becketwood and LBA were able to obtain the \$50,000 MWMO grant because of the potential benefits to be achieved by the joint proposal, according to MWMO Executive Director Doug Snyder. "We are looking for projects that can have a major impact on the quality and quantity of water draining from our watershed district into the river. The joint proposal was able to show that impact. We also want our projects to serve as demonstrations, so other groups can see them and say: 'we can do that, too.' That was another plus for the proposal that came to us from Becketwood and LBA," Snyder added.

"For our cooperative, the grant helps us deal with some long-standing storm water control problems on our campus," noted Gene Peterson, a co-op member who helped spearhead the development of the MWMO proposal. "By dealing more effectively with the huge amount of rainwater coming off our large property, we become better environmental stewards, in keeping with our 'green' ethic here at Becketwood."

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Chore list

Continued from page 6

utilizing three different solar technologies based on the needs and wants of the customer: Photo Voltaic (electric), Solar Thermal (hot water and space heating), and Solar Thermal Hot Air (space heating).

"The payback on solar improvements depends on the size of the installation that is determined for you," said Jessica Ward-Denison, communications director and co-owner of AEI with her husband, Dustin Denison, AEI Principal. "Depending on rebates, tax incentives and bulk buy programs, most paychecks are within seven to 10 years. AEI has developed the state's largest bulk buy program for residential and commercial properties. Property owners can see a realized savings utilizing 'Bulk Buy' of up to 30 percent

compared to just three years ago. These systems take advantage of the Minnesota made TenKsolar."

There are financial and personal incentives for homeowners and contractors to install solar.

"For many property owners, the personal incentive is strong—the desire to invest in clean energy technologies that will last and be better for the future of the community and Minnesota," said Ward-Denison. "The financial incentives include a system that pays for itself and rebates available through Xcel and the 30 percent Federal Tax Credit (until 2016). There is a high demand for local rebates, and they're highly competitive. We anticipate the 2013 program will be fully subscribed and potentially over-subscribed for 2014 and 2015 with most projects being on a waiting list for up to three years, depending on how Xcel will manage the applications going forward."

Founded in Longfellow,

AEI's goal is to use their trade experience and training to invest in their communities by installing energy efficient and accessible technologies.

"Minnesota does not have the raw resources of coal, oil, natural gas or large hydro," said Ward-Denison. "We spend \$20 billion every year to import these resources into Minnesota for electrical generation energy consumption. When AEI installs solar in Minnesota, it produces Minnesota made energy, provides Minnesota based jobs, and keeps that money in Minnesota and our local communities."

AEI will hold an open house on Wed., June 26, from 5 p.m.-7 p.m.

For further information, call (612) 532-0384.

The South Minneapolis Home Improvement Fair will be Sat., April 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Minneapolis Sports Center—Midtown YWCA, 2121 E. Lake St. www.housingfair.org

Local Nokomis East teen following her dream—the stage!

Ananda Cordova Stuart is no stranger to the spotlight. Just cast in yet another Stages Theatre Production, Ananda will play Bertha – CinderEdna's evil stepsister. Based on Ellen Jackson's fairy tale adaptation, famous Cinderella and spunky Cinder Edna are neighbors who have the same problem: two stepsisters and a stepmother. In this clever story, the audience has a chance to follow two very different girls- one who uses a fairy godmother and one who uses a bus to get to the princes' ball. Who will get their happily ever after and what does that even mean?



Ananda Cordova Stuart

sion into practice in theatre.

Most recently Ananda played a bilingual Monarch butterfly in the Diary of a Worm, Spider and Fly. Shows run: April 26 –May 25, 2013 at Stages Theatre in Hopkins, MN.

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2013 Summer Camps

5-7 Year Olds
Little Hawks Camp – June 10-14
9:30 – 11:00 am Cost \$75
Orchard Field

8-11 Year Olds
Developmental Camp – June 10-14
9:00 am -12:00 pm Cost \$95
9:00 am - 3:00 pm Cost \$175
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13-18 Year Olds
Striker / Keeper Camp – June 17-21
12:30-3:30 pm Cost \$150
McMurray Field

12-18 Year Olds
Competitive Player Camp – July 29-Aug 2
9:00 am - 12:00 noon Cost \$150
McMurray Fields

9-14 Year Olds
Striker / Keeper Camp – June 17-21
9:00 am - 12:00 noon Cost \$150
McMurray Field

Olympics Camp – June 24-28
9:00 am – 11:30 am Cost \$95
9:00 am – 3:00 pm Cost \$175
Orchard Field

Summer Skills Challenge – July 8-12
9:00 am -11:30 am Cost \$95
9:00 am - 3:00 pm Cost \$175
Orchard Field

Details and registration at
www.blackhawkssoccer.org



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imagine that

mock trial



Longfellow Community Council

Serving Longfellow, Hiawatha, Cooper, and Howe neighborhoods



Register for the Longfellow Garage Sale Day

Get on the map for the 2013 Longfellow Sale Day! The neighborhood sale day will be held on Saturday, June 1st. Registration costs \$5, which goes towards printing and advertising costs for the event. Registered sales will appear on print and online maps and on a detailed list of sale locations that will be made available on our website. The sale day will be advertised in a variety of print and digital media. To get signed up, go to <http://www.longfellow.org/sale/> and fill out the short registration form. If you'd like to sign up by mail, phone, or in person, contact Spencer: 612-722-4529 (ext. 5) or spencer@longfellow.org.

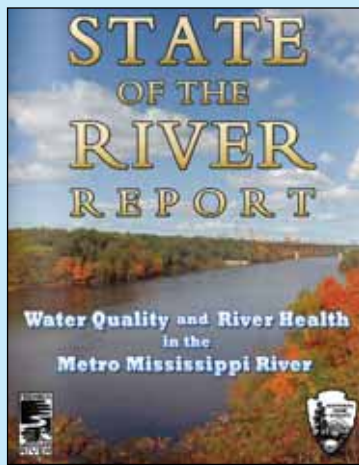
Meet Jessica Buchberger, Communications and Events Manager

Hi Everyone! I'm very excited

to be getting started with LCC this Spring when so much is happening! I currently work with another neighborhood group (Prospect Park), and love working with communities across Minneapolis. I grew up in a St. Paul suburb, moved to Wisconsin for a few years, lived in Denmark for a bit, and graduated from Beloit College in 2010. Now I am so happy every time I call Minnesota my home! Since graduating I have worked as a political organizer and event planner with a few different organizations in the Twin Cities. I also volunteer as an Event Coordinator with a nonprofit group called The Pet Project, so between it all I keep pretty busy! In my free time I'm usually reading, hanging out with my friends, drinking coffee, or wishing very hard that it was spring-time so I could enjoy being outside.

The State of the Mississippi River

Have you ever had questions regarding the Mississippi River? Come learn the answers and much more at a public presentation of the State of the River Report by experts of the National Park Service and Friends of the Mississippi River. The report highlights the status and trends of 13 key indicators of water quality and river health in the metro Mississippi River.



This event is sponsored by the Longfellow Community Council's River Gorge Committee.

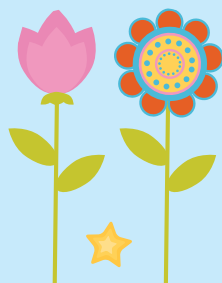
When: Wednesday, April 17, 2013
Time: 7 pm to 8 pm
Where: Minnehaha Academy North Campus
3100 West River Parkway, Minneapolis
(Park in East Lot; Enter at clock tower door)
Cost: FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC! Bring a friend! For more information, visit: www.stateoftheriver.com.

Meet Yer Lor - New LCC Community Engagement Coordinator

Hello! Thank you for such a warm welcome. I am very honored to be the new Community Engagement Coordinator at the Longfellow Community Council representing all of the Greater Longfellow friends.

I was born, and currently reside, in Saint Paul, and come from a large family with seven siblings - I am the third youngest. I graduated from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities in May of 2012 with degrees in Political Science and Spanish Studies along with a minor in Leadership. During May sessions in college, I studied abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina to improve my Spanish and Montpellier, France to understand the effects of language barriers. I come from a background of community building in the metro area, specializing in youth engagement.

Feel free to contact me at yer@longfellow.org or 612-722-4529 (ext.2). I look forward to building with you all a stronger and more beautiful Greater Longfellow!



2013 Open seats:

- *Longfellow Neighborhood – 1 seat (2-year term)
- *Cooper Neighborhood – 1 seat (2-year term)
- *Hiawatha Neighborhood – 1 seat (2-year terms)
- *Howe Neighborhood – 1 seat (1-year term)
- Community Representative – 3 seats (1-year term)
- **Business Representative – 1 seat (1-year term)
- At-Large Representative – 1 seat (3-year term)

* In order to run for a neighborhood specific seat, you must live in that particular neighborhood.

** In order to run the business representative, you must own or work for a business located in the Greater Longfellow neighborhood.

Calendar of Meetings and Events

April 2013

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

ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 3
7:00 - 8:00 pm
Fireroast Café
3800 37th Ave
FFI: jessica@longfellow.org



NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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



RIVER GORGE COMMITTEE

Monday, April 8
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Hiawatha School Park
4305 42nd St. E

LONGFELLOW FAITH FORUM

Tuesday, April 9
12:00 - 1:30 pm
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
FFI: yer@longfellow.org



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Tuesday, April 9
6:30 - 8:00 pm
LCC Office, 2727 26th Ave S
FFI: yer@longfellow.org



ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Tuesday, April 16
6:30 - 8:00 pm
LCC Office, 2727 26th Ave S
FFI: spencer@longfellow.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, April 18
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Brackett Park
2728 39th Ave S
FFI: melanie@longfellow.org



Longfellow Community Council

2727 26th Avenue So., Minneapolis, MN 55406

Phone: 612-722-4529

www.longfellow.org

Melanie Majors	Executive Director	melanie@longfellow.org
Ruth Romano	Office Staff	ruth@longfellow.org
Spencer Agnew	Housing and Environment Coordinator	spencer@longfellow.org
Yer Lor	Community Engagement Coordinator	yer@longfellow.org
Jessica Buchberger	Communication & Events Manager	jessica@longfellow.org



Major Volunteer Opportunity - Join the LCC Board in April!

The Longfellow Community Council (LCC) annually elects a Board of Directors in April during our "No Pie Charts! Only Pies" General Membership meeting. Our meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 23 from 6:30 - 8:00pm.

It's easy to run for a LCC board seat. Simply show up to the General Membership meeting and have someone nominate you or nominate yourself. The LCC Board welcomes people from all backgrounds and experiences. For additional details or if you have questions, please contact Melanie at 612-722-4529 ext. 4 or via email at melanie@longfellow.org

No Pie Charts! Only Pies!

ANNUAL MEETING, PIE POTLUCK
& BOARD OF DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2013

RESOURCE FAIR 6:00 - 6:30 pm PROGRAM 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Minnehaha Academy North Campus, 3100 W. River Parkway

Browse our Resource Fair and mingle with your neighbors. Then join us for pie, hear updates on LCC events & activities, and vote for the Longfellow Community Council Board of Directors.

**Savory, sweet, tart or cream—
You bring the Pie! We bring the Plates!**

We will collect donations for the Minnehaha Food Shelf. You will receive one ticket for each non-perishable food item that you bring for a chance to win a fabulous prize. Limit ten tickets per person, but please bring as much as you are able to donate.

Go to longfellow.org for more information.



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.

ECFE Pajama Party planned April 12

The East Parent Advisory Council (PAC) for Minneapolis Schools Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) program will be sponsoring a Pajama Party for families and kids. The event date is Friday, April 12th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The location is Anne Sullivan Communication Center at 3100 East 28th Street. There is a suggested donation of \$5 per family.

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

Join us for the 22nd Annual Pancake Breakfast

Plan on attending this great South High get-together on April 28, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. All you can eat pancakes, along with scrambled eggs, sausage, juice, milk and coffee make up the menu priced at \$6 for adults and \$3 for children 10 and under. There will also be items for sale and lots of door prizes! Please contact the South High Foundation office at 612-668-4344 with questions. Hope to see you at South High School, 3131 19th Ave. South on Sunday, April 28th!

27th Annual Auction at Epworth April 6

On Saturday, April 6, 2013, Epworth United Methodist Church will hold its 27th Annual Auction. Collectibles, Furniture and Business Donations will be available for preview beginning at 11:30 p.m. Auction will start at 12 p.m. Food will be available for purchase throughout the afternoon. Epworth United Methodist Church is located at 3207 37th Avenue South, (corner of 37th Avenue and 32nd Street). For More Information: Please call 612-724-8613. For more information: Contact Peter Johnson: peterj911@comcast.net or 612-419-5647.

LBA holds annual meeting April 11 at Riverview Winebar

Longfellow Business Association invites members and Longfellow business owners to our Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 11, 11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the

Holy Trinity announces 'Anne of Green'

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Theatre Circle proudly announces its spring production: Anne of Green Gables - Lucy Maud Montgomery's classic story about the young orphan girl, Anne Shirley, who comes to live with the older Marilla Cuthbert and her brother, Matthew. She forever changes and enriches their lives.

Performances are Thursday, May 2, Friday May 3, Saturday May 4 at 7 p.m. and Sunday May 5, 4 p.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 East 31st Street. Performances are free; a free-will offering will be taken at each performance and will be used to defray production expenses.

Peter Johnson directs our cast, which includes people from Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, residents of Longfellow Community, as well as some students of area schools, as well as others from the Twin Cities acting community.

Holy Trinity Theatre Circle selects its plays that include inter-generational casts to foster relationships among all ages, plays that address theological/social/political issues to generate conversations that challenge and develop our faith, and a production that is enjoyable and that stretches the casts' portrayal of the characters they assume.



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Theatre Circle proudly announces its spring production: Anne of Green Gables - Lucy Maud Montgomery's classic story about the young orphan girl, Anne Shirley, who comes to live with the older Marilla Cuthbert and her brother, Matthew. Above, Jillian Jacobson performs as Anne Shirley in Anne of Green Gables.

Riverview Winebar, 38th Street at 42nd Avenue. Councilmembers Gary Schiff, Sandy Colvin Roy, and Cam Gordon will join us to talk about business news in Longfellow and the City. RSVPs are requested for lunch. Contact Ruth 612-722-4529 x1. If you are interested in serving on the Longfellow Business Association Board of Directors please contact Ruth at 612-722-4529 x1.

Alpha is coming to Bethlehem Covenant Church this spring

The Alpha program, sometimes called Christianity 101, is returning to Bethlehem Covenant Church at 3141 43rd Ave. S. this spring. The course provides a non-threatening, no obligation opportunity to explore and discuss the Christian faith and get to know others in a small group setting.

Alpha is a 10 week course designed for people of all ages, newcomers to Christianity, those wanting to know more and those who want to revitalize their faith. There are no prerequisites... all are welcome.

Originating in England, the program has reached more than 5 million people around the world. It will follow dinner together at 5:45 on Wednesday evenings beginning April 3 and ending on June 5. Call the church at 612-721-5768 to register or to get more information. Join us and bring a friend.

ReUse/Rummage Sale will be April 27

Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S., will offer its ReUse/Rummage Sale Saturday, April 27, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., a fitting close to the end of the week that begins with Earth Day! You can find gently-used household items, dishes, books, clothes for all ages and sizes and toys and games. Refreshments sold, too! If you have clean items you wish to recycle, they may be brought to the church beginning Wednesday, April 24. Please call 612-722-0232 to insure that someone can receive your donation.

Pancake Breakfast on April 14

The Hiawatha Y Service Club is sponsoring a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, April 14th between the hours of 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Hiawatha YMCA located at 4100 28th Avenue South in Minneapolis. The cost of the breakfast is \$6 per person for persons over five years of age or \$20 per family. Everyone is welcome. For additional information call Arlo Pannkuk at 952-890-1740.

The proceeds from the breakfast are used to help sponsor youth programs at the Hiawatha and Blaisdell YMCA. The Hiawatha Y Service Club is a service organization to help provide programs at the YMCA and support youth in the community.

Live healthy with plants discussed

Join Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Community Education for a presentation about the benefits of plants on Tuesday, April 16 at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st Street. Spring is a great season to put your green thumb to work and get active at the same time! Come learn about the health benefits of growing plants - houseplants, container plants and outdoor plants. Presented by John Macy, who has been a commercial grower, floral designer, instructor with Seward Peace Garden Project, and on staff with University of Minnesota Extension Service.

Arvonne Fraser to speak at Healthy Seniors event

Arvonne Fraser, longtime Minneapolis political and intellectual leader, and Senior Fellow Emerita with the Hubert Humphrey School of Public Affairs, will be the featured speaker at Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors 15th Annual Italian Dinner on Thursday, April 18 from 6 - 8 p.m. at Minnehaha Academy-North Campus, 3100 W. River Parkway. Tickets for the event are \$35 and can be purchased through the Healthy Seniors office at 2800 E. Lake Street (inside the US Bank building) or by calling 612-729-5799. Proceeds go to help neighborhood seniors live independently at home.

Garden Club April 10

Gardeners everywhere are paying more attention to bees and other pollinators as we learn more about what they do for us - and what we can do for them. Come hear Elaine Evans, bee expert and U of M entomologist talk about bees that live in our neighborhoods and ways we can make our yards and gardens bee-friendly. (Because our native bees are ground dwellers without nests to protect, they are less apt to sting.) Bumble bees ensure perfect tomato pollination (more tomatoes) because they shake a tomato flower by buzzing their wings and release pollen trapped deep in the flower!

April is the club's Silent Auction fundraiser. Please plan to bid / donate to help raise money for knowledgeable and interesting Speakers.

Garden Club events are free and open to the public. Time: 7-9 pm, April 10, at Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave South.

Find us at: <http://www.facebook.com/LongfellowGardenClub> and

<https://sites.google.com/site/longfellowgardenclubminnesota>

Books for the Book Sale April 25

Save your books for East Lake Library's spring book sale!

Whether or not your Spring Cleaning is early this year, unlike Spring, your excess books are very welcome at the book sale. Donations may be left at the Library beginning April 25. Send us an email for book pickup after April 25: eastlake@supportthelib.org

The East Lake Library Friends group are holding the sale on Saturday, May 19, 10-5 and Sunday, 12-3.

Find the Friends at: <http://www.supportthelib.org/group/eastlake-library/>.

Ladies Salad Luncheon at Bethany

Ladies Salad Luncheon at Bethany Lutheran Church (3901 36th Ave S) Saturday, April 20, beginning at noon. There will be a wide variety of salads for lunch. Then enjoy the program "In the Beginning....Stories of Creation" featuring humorous and inspirational readings by Mark Twain, James Weldon Johnson and Moses, read by Linda Bowers and Jo Bauman. Intern Pastor Jo Bauman will also introduce the simple and beautiful melodies of Taizé worship. Tickets are \$8. Make reservations through the church office at 612-729-9376.

Walk at Coldwater planned April 13

All welcome for a springtime walk with a National Park Service ranger at Coldwater Spring on Saturday, April 13, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. The National Park Service is restoring Coldwater to an oak savanna prairie. Coldwater Spring is at 5601 Minnehaha Park Drive South, between Minnehaha Regional Park and Fort Snelling State Park.

Walk at Coldwater planned May 11

All welcome for a walk with a National Park Service ranger at Coldwater Spring on Saturday, May 11, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. The National Park Service is restoring Coldwater to an oak savanna prairie. Coldwater Spring is at 5601 Minnehaha Park Drive South; between Minnehaha Regional Park and Fort Snelling State Park.

Next deadline:
April 15



The Old White House

By SHERRI MOORE

Selling a deceased parent's home

Normally, I like to write about funny happenings, crazy outcomes, cheerful stories, etc. Lately, we've had friends whose parents have passed on. They face the task of doing something with the house. I've known a few who have bought out their siblings and stayed in the old homestead. Can a house on a city lot be considered a homestead? I've always wondered if the buyers can get past their childhoods, and think of the house as their own. Luckily, we've never been faced with that problem.

When Mr. M.'s mother passed, he and his siblings gave their share of the farm to the oldest brother. At the time, each share was worth about four hundred dollars. Not much money to hold up the Finnish tradition.

Most of our friends have sold the homes and split the proceeds with their siblings. Sometimes the parent doesn't want to update or change anything from when their spouse and children lived there. I understand that! However, it means that there's got to be some work done before the house can go on the market. Sometimes the real estate agent

can give some direction, but most of the sellers don't know where to start.

There are books out on renovating and/or staging a house for sale. I recommend "This Sold House" By Diane Keyes. Her book is available on Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble.com. She talks about removing excess furniture and what colors walls should be painted to achieve the look of a spacious room.

It's necessary to look at the home objectively. A complete paint job inside and sometimes outside is a good start. New kitchens and bathrooms can make the difference between not selling, and getting the asking price. For new kitchen cabinets and bathroom vanities that cost less than an arm and a leg, try Ikea or Home Depot. Often, the standard in stock cabinets can be made to work, and offer lots of options. I've read that a pantry cabinet is a good idea.

Sometimes, you can remove old, worn furniture and put in a few new pieces to improve a room. I remember moving my end tables to one of our renovated houses. I took the lamps too.

It made sitting on the sofa kind of odd; we couldn't read the paper without light! I took the area rug too. Our living room looked very cold, but spacious! Incidentally, that house had sat empty for several months, but sold a week after we added furniture!

A friend said it was hard clearing out his mother's things, but it was nice to renovate the bathrooms and kitchen. He'd been wanting his father to update the home for himself, but he never would. His sons all got together and put in a new kitchen and bath. It paid off for them: They got their asking price, after having the home on the market for only a week! The market is really coming back!

It is sad to change a house where there are such deep memories, but then, another nice family will move in and make their own new memories.

(Sherri Moore and Mr. M. live in their Nokomis neighborhood and are in their twentieth year of renovating their old white house. Sherri welcomes your comments and can be reached at sherrimoore92@msn.com.)

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Arvonne Fraser to Speak

Arvonne Fraser will be the featured speaker at the Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors 15th Annual Italian Dinner! All are welcome!

Thursday, April 18
Doors open at 5:30 p.m.
Dinner and Program from 6 to 8 p.m.
Minnehaha Academy
3100 W. River Pkwy.

Entertainment • Dinner • Silent Auction

Tickets are \$35 and available through the Healthy Seniors office at 612-729-5799.

Nokomis Square Cooperative
Grandma's Attic Sale

Save the Day...
Saturday, April 27, 2013
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Hundreds of Items For Sale...
Lunch served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Mini Raffles
Treasure Table
And More!

5015—35th Ave. So.
Minneapolis, MN 55417
612-721-5077

NOKOMIS SQUARE COOPERATIVE

Submit your upcoming events to our online calendar:
<http://www.longfellownokomismessenger.com/submit-an-event/>

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Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

Bethlehem Covenant
3141 43rd Ave. S. • 612-721-5768
www.bethlehemcov.org
Pastor Ryan Eikenbary-Barber
Handicapped Accessible
Children especially welcome
Maundy Thursday March 29. Worship 7 pm
Good Friday March 30, Worship 7 pm
Easter Sunday March 31
Contemporary Worship at 8:30 am (every Sun.)
Easter Breakfast (and egg hunt) at 9:30 am
Traditional Worship 11 am (every Sun.)
Sunday School resumes April 7 at 9:30 am

Christ Church Lutheran
3244 34th Ave. • 612-721-6611
Sunday Worship at 9:30 am
Childcare Provided
Education Hour at 11:00 am
Pastor: Kristine Carlson
A welcoming congregation
www.christchurchluth.org

Epworth United Methodist
3207 37th Ave. • 612-722-0232
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Education: Adults at 9:45 am;
Children and Youth, 11:30 am
(Childcare Provided)
(Wheelchair Accessible)
Rev. Pam Armstrong

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

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

Minnehaha United Methodist
3701 E. 50th St. • 612-721-6231
www.minnehaha.org
Traditional Service 9:00 am
Contemporary Worship 11:00 am (Sept.-May)
10:30 am (June-Aug.)
Education for all ages 10:15 (Sept.-May)
(Childcare; fully accessible)

St. Albert the Great Catholic
E. 29th St. at 32nd Ave. S. • 612-724-3643
Sunday Mass 9:30 am (Childcare available)
Saturday Mass 5:00 pm
Daily Mass 8:15 am M,T, Th, F
Join us for Holy Week:
Holy Thursday -- Celebration of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 pm
Good Friday -- moving prayer service for the Lord's Passion, 7:00 pm
Easter Vigil on Saturday at 8:00 pm (no 5:00 pm Mass)
Easter Sunday Masses at 9:30 and 11:00 am (Handicapped accessible)
Fr. Joe Gillespie, O.P.
www.saintalbertthegreat.org

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

Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls
5212 41st Ave. S. • 612-724-3691
www.trinityfalls.org
Sunday Worship Schedule
8:30 am Traditional, 11 am Contemporary
Holy Week: Thurs/Fri Services 7 pm
Easter Worship: 7 am & 10 am
AA Meetings Tuesdays/Sundays 7 pm

Projects of the Neighborhood Churches Include:
Minnehaha Food Shelf,
Serving People Tuesday
10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Call us at
612-721-6231
Minnehaha United Methodist, 3701 E. 50th St.

Moon Palace Books opens in Longfellow

By TESHAM. CHRISTENSEN

Two booklovers have opened up a bookstore in Longfellow. Moon Palace Books is located in the same building as Peace Coffee Wonderland Park and Trylon Microcinema at Minnehaha Ave. and 33rd St.

"I've written books, published books, and sold books to stores," said Moon Palace owner Jamie Schwesnedl. "And I love to read, but Angela is a total book maniac. I don't think anyone who knows her was surprised to hear that she was opening a bookstore."

"I'd probably read everything if I had time," admitted Jamie's wife and co-owner Angela Schwesnedl.

She had worked at the Paperback Exchange at 50th and Penn for 10 years, but wanted to sell more new books that reflect her interests and tastes. That combined with a desire to work within walking distance of her Powderhorn residence and a wish to own her own business resulted in the opening of Moon Palace Books last fall.

The small size of the store sets it apart, according to the Schwesnedls. "You can stand in one spot, and see a lot of different kinds of really interesting books," said Angela. "Chances are, if it's a new book, one of us has read it, or has it in our to-read pile."

They have set out to be a neighborhood bookstore, one that people from Longfellow, Powderhorn, and Corcoran can bike or walk to with their kids.

The couple picked a location they were already familiar with, as both have volunteered with the Trylon Microcinema next door, which screens classic films each week. The Trylon uses a pair of Century 35mm projectors donated by the University of Minnesota, as well as 1080p/24 digital projection and 8-channel sound.

"Longfellow is a great neighborhood," said Angela. "It's full of readers and writers and people who like to shop where they live. We wanted to be close to businesses we liked so the chance to be in the same building as Peace Coffee and the Trylon was very appealing."

The name of their bookstore was one the Schwesnedls felt would fit with both Peace Coffee Wonderland Park and the Trylon.

"Moon Palace is the name of a book by Paul Auster. I read it when I was just figuring out what kind of reader I was and what

kind of things I like to read, so I always say it's the book that turned me into a reader," observed Angela. "It's about a guy who inherits boxes of books from his uncle and uses the boxes for furniture, and then when things get hard he reads them and sells them."

Moon Palace Books is a general interest bookstore. The Schwesnedls sell new and used, fiction and non-fiction, kids' books, cookbooks, and a few magazines.

"We just keep trying to carry more of whatever kinds of things people are buying," stated James. "Angela works really hard to stay on top of what's coming out, what looks exciting to her, and what she thinks our customers will like."

On their web site, customers may order books and either have them shipped to a personal address or direct to the bookstore. They also have e-books available online, and sell Kobo Minis, Glos and the Kobo Arc e-reader tablets in the bookstore. "Just because someone wants to read an e-book doesn't mean that they have to buy from a big internet retailer," said Angela.

"You can read ebooks and still shop local and support an independent bookstore like Moon Palace Books."

UPCOMING EVENTS

There are several upcoming events at Moon Palace Books.

To celebrate the release of his new book, Songs of the Abyss, Eamon Espey has collaborated with Lisa Krause to make a puppet show adaptation of his comic, "Ishi's Brain." It will be presented at Moon Palace Books on Saturday, April 20 at 4 p.m. Krause and Espey turn the story into a science fiction ritual where a lone spirit spends his final days and an alien shaman helps guide the dead into the next world. The show includes shadow puppets, masks, a marionette and a liberal use of painted cardboard with an original soundtrack written by Stephen Santillian of Baltimore bands Thank You and Ghost Life.

Join a book discussion and reception World Book Night on April 23.

CONTACT AND HOURS

Learn more about Moon Palace Books by calling 612-454-0455, emailing info@moonpalacebooks.com, or browsing <http://www.moonpalacebooks.com>.

Hours are Monday to Saturday noon to 6:30 p.m. and Sunday noon to 4 p.m.



Moon Palace Books owners Angela and Jamie Schwesnedl read to their 15-month-old daughter Roxie, who loves the children's section at the bookstore. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

ANGELA'S TOP 5 BOOKS (SO FAR THIS YEAR)

- 1) "Driftless" by David Rhodes
- 2) "Prairie Silence" by Melanie Hoffert
- 3) The Fault in Our Stars by John Green
- 4) "The Voyeurs" by Gabrielle Belle
- 5) "Devil in a Blue Dress" by Walter Mosley



JAMIE'S TOP 5 BOOKS

- 1) "The Parable of the Sower" by Octavia Butler
- 2) "The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fist Fight in Heaven" by Sherman Alexie
- 3) "Freedom" by Jonathan Franzen
- 4) "Just Kids" by Patti Smith
- 5) "Bluebeard" by Kurt Vonnegut

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Classifieds

Messenger

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

Messenger Want Ads are \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to Messenger Classifieds, 1885 University Avenue, Ste. #110, St. Paul, MN 55104. Want ads must be mailed to the Messenger before April 15 for the April 25 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to denisw@aplacetoremember.com. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

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Individual and corporate tax returns prepared for small and medium sized companies. Accounting and payroll services performed in addition. Vern Teichroew Accounting, 612-726-1544 or vteichroew@comcast.net. 3-14

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

FOR SALE

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

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Paying the most cash for your furniture, dishes, glassware, knickknacks, costume jewelry, antiques, pictures, lamps, household items, etc. I make house calls. Mary. 612-729-3110. 6-13

Schuh speaks at Trinity April 16

Tasha Schuh of Ellsworth, WI, inspirational speaker and author, has announced she will speak to the women of the Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls, Tuesday, April 16, 2013, during their Coffee, Chat & Challenge from 9:30 to 11:40 a.m. The title of her presentation will be "Little Things Make a Big Difference." The event will be held at 5212 41st Ave. S.

Women of the community are encouraged to attend, however, Trinity regrets that child care will *not* be available.

Tasha's newly release book "My Last Step Backward," a poignant memoir that seeks to inspire you to welcome adversity and face your own trap door of opportunity, will be available for sale and autographing at this event.

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So, how is our Mississippi River?

“State of the River” presentation to be held April 17 at Minnehaha Academy North Campus

At dawn I hike to the river's edge, a few blocks from my Longfellow home. The spring air is moist and cool, and fog sweeps gently across the quiet water. Sounds of the city have dropped away. In May a few swallows will flit over the water catching early insects, I'll see eagles cruising easily along the treetops, and the forest will be alive with migrating birds. The river looks clearer than it used to be. Here and there small trees have been cut by beavers. There's so much life here! I feel lucky... it's all practically at my doorstep, in my neighborhood – at the world

renowned Mississippi.

With such a picture, our river must be healthier than it has been in a long time. So, is it?

Fortunately, the National Park Service (NPS) and Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR) have collaborated to answer that question, and many others. Like how are the eagles? Should I worry about Asian carp? Is it okay to eat the fish? Can I swim in the river? Their “State of the River Report” for the metro Mississippi River highlights 13 key indicators for water quality and river health, and presents the information simply, but scientifically and graphically, for a general public audience.

The report's authors, Longfellow resident Trevor Russell (FMR) and Lark Weller (NPS), will present the report for the public at Minnehaha Academy

my North Campus, 3100 West River Parkway, Minneapolis, on April 17, 7-8 pm. (Park in the east lot, enter at the clock tower door; presentation will be in the chapel.) Sponsored by Longfellow Community Council's River Gorge Committee, the event is free and open to the public. A Stewardship Guide of river friendly tips for home, yard and community practices will be available at the presentation.

The National Park Service's “State of the River Report” for the metro Mississippi River highlights 13 key indicators for water quality and river health, and presents the information simply, but scientifically and graphically, for a general public audience. (Photo courtesy of the National Park Service)



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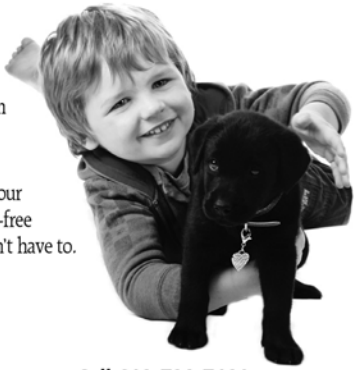
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