



Local filmmaker earns award for documentary

PAGE 8



Green Bee Juicery ready for summer with organic juices

PAGE 9



Longfellow resident plants more than 10,000 seedlings

PAGE 20

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Nokomis

Messenger



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S. 28th Ave. will be closed for bridge replacement next year

The project includes moving the multi-use trail underneath the busy roadway

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

When the bridge over Minnehaha Creek is replaced next year, S. 28th Ave. will be closed to vehicles and pedestrians for about six months.

Once the work is complete, pedestrians and bikers will cross underneath the busy roadway.

Construction is expected to begin in April 2019 and be finished in November 2019.

Right now, users of the multi-use Regional Park trail cross 28th at a skewed alignment at a crosswalk. This intersection was highlighted in the Nokomis-Hiawatha Regional Master Plan, and a trail crossing below the bridge ranked as the second most important priority for the entire park.

"It's dangerous for people going over all the time," stated resident Michael McMurghie on May 9 during an open house on the proposed project.

As he's collected comments on this project, City Bridge Engineer Jack Yuzna has repeated-



Resident Michael McMurghie (left) and dog Huckleberry chat with City Bridge Engineer Jack Yuzna on Wed., May 9 during an open house on the proposed project. McMurghie expressed safety concerns about the current trail crossing the busy roadway. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

ly heard from people that they want the trail to cross S. 28th under the bridge.

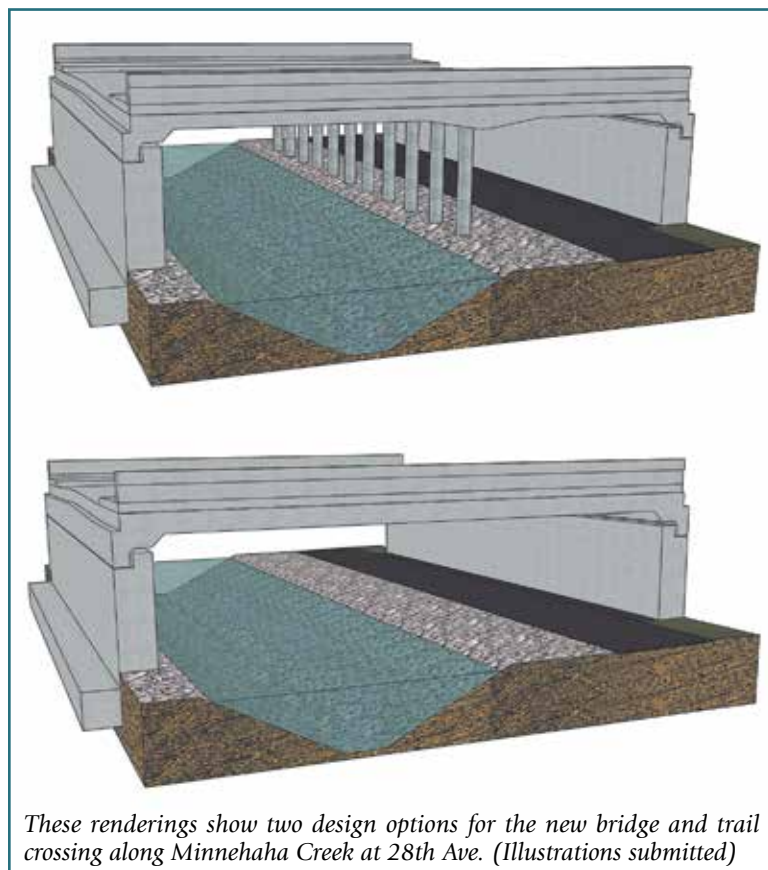
Data on accidents at the trail crossing show they've primarily been vehicles rear-ending another while passing. A few

vehicles have run off the road.

Bridge built in 1904

In addition to providing a grade-separated trail crossing under 28th Ave. S. for

Continued on page 4



These renderings show two design options for the new bridge and trail crossing along Minnehaha Creek at 28th Ave. (Illustrations submitted)

After 43 years, Reidy's Market changes hands to new owner

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Cherie and Terry Reidy turned over their grocery store keys to a new owner on May 15, after doing business in Longfellow for 43 years. The Highland Park residents have owned Reidy's Market since 1975.

The couple was just starting out when they bought the corner grocery at 3904 E. 42nd Ave. all those years ago. It was their second business venture; the first was a gas station convenience store that they co-owned briefly on the east side of St. Paul.

"This corner market had once been a full-service grocery store," Terry said. "The original wooden walk-in freezer, dairy case, and produce case were still in the basement. The previous owner operated a meat counter for his customers and, when we got here, there were two other butcher shops still doing business in the neighborhood."

The story of Reidy's Market parallels the story of every neighborhood grocery store amidst changing times. Before the early-1970's, people did most of their grocery shopping in these small stores. Supermarkets hadn't caught on, car travel was more of a lux-



Terry and Cherie Reidy co-owned Reidy's Market for more than four decades. Terry said, "The reason we were here for this long is because this is a great neighborhood, full of hard-working folks who have been a pleasure to know and an honor to serve." (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

ury, and the majority of women weren't working outside the home yet.

At 4,500 square feet, Reidy's

Market was twice the size of most convenience stores. "We called ourselves a superette," Cherie said, "which was a word from the

70's that you don't hear anymore. Over the years, we've continued to do things in a way that might be considered 'old-fashioned.' For instance, right up until we sold—we delivered weekly groceries to a home-bound woman in the neighborhood. She's someone we've known for more than a decade, and she's blind. When she needed something that we didn't stock, Terry would pick it up for her when he was out and about. Our general attitude has always been to try and be helpful."

The Reidys contributed to the community in many other ways. Every year for the last 15 years, they gave grocery bags to Howe and Hiawatha School students to decorate for Earth Day. By the time the actual Earth Day rolled around, those bags were brought back to the store by a parent volunteer and used for bagging customers' groceries.

During the December holiday season, Cherie put out a barrel in the store and made a tradition of collecting Toys for Tots. "The last couple of years," Terry said, "we received 60-70 donations for kids."

He continued, "We figured out that if we hired the local Boy Scout troop to deliver our sales

flyers for \$100/month, that was \$1,200 that they could use for their camping trips every year.

Part of what makes it possible to stay in business for 43 years is having dependable help. Cherie said, "Clare Ludden was our store manager for 41 years. We couldn't have done it without her. Both Terry and I have eight brothers and sisters, and many of them have worked here at one time or another. Only one of my siblings passed up the opportunity. Reidy's Market has really been family-owned and operated."

So what now? "We're not 30 anymore," Terry said. "That's why we finally sold the store. Cherie is planning to retire, but me? I'd like to get a part-time job somewhere. I do have a little bit of experience in the grocery business, after all."

Cherie said, "We had lots of people come in and say, 'We're sorry to see you go,' or 'We've rescinded your purchase agreement.'" To thank their loyal customers, Reidy's Market held a Customer Appreciation Day on May 12. Three days later, the name of the market was slightly changed to Reidy's Food Store.

The store continues to operate under new ownership.



The updated building concept at the northeastern corner of Hiawatha and 42nd reflects a more urban design with higher density and multi-uses. (Photo submitted)

Wash Me car wash staying for now

One-story Starbucks and Dominos reimagined as urban four-story building

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

The Starbucks and Dominos proposed at E. 42nd St. and Hiawatha Ave. is no longer on the table, and instead the property owner is looking at a four-story, multi-use building to fit with the urban setting of the location.

When neighborhood residents, the Longfellow Community Council, the Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association and the Planning Commission voiced concerns about the initially-proposed two single-story buildings with two drive-throughs, property owner Nic Boosalis restarted from scratch.

Boosalis has owned the Wash Me car wash at this intersection since 1985, and also operates one along Nicollet and another in Hopkins. Additionally, Boosalis owns PooPrints, a company that uses DNA technology to ensure that dog owners pick up dog waste.

Over the years, he has periodically explored other uses for the 42nd and Hiawatha site, Boosalis explained.

However, there is no timeline for this conceived four-story redevelopment.

"It's a work in progress," stated Boosalis. "It may get built or

it may not. Until then, the car wash will continue to operate as it does now."

Three businesses, 40 micro-apartments

According to Boosalis, the updated plan meets the city's goals for the corridor with higher density and housing.

The current plan has space for two to three businesses on the main level, with a drive-through behind and under the building that is not visible from Hiawatha.

On the next three floors are 40 units of micro-apartments with one bedroom or less. These smaller apartments for singles or couples are one way to make housing units more affordable, explained Boosalis.

The plan calls for about 20 parking spaces. It is not anticipated that residents would have vehicles, but would instead use light rail, bike or walk.

Boosalis pointed out that the car wash currently has seven bays, and vehicles are continually coming and going. He doesn't think that the proposed plan would increase the number of vehicles moving through the site.

"This is a dramatic and

positive change in what's being proposed," stated council member Andrew Johnson. "It adds much-needed housing at a time when a lack of supply is contributing to rising rents, and the design is more urban, less suburban."

"Residents and our neighborhood associations unquestionably made a difference on this by speaking up with concerns about the original proposal, which helped drive this change. Nick also deserves credit for listening to our community and being willing to go back to the drawing board."

U-Haul pulls proposal

U-Haul has pulled its plan to construct a five-story self-storage facility on the southeastern side of the 42nd and Hiawatha intersection after city staff recommended denial of the proposal.

The company is considering its options at this time, which include seeking Planning Commission approval despite the recommended denial, converting the existing single-story warehouse into a self-storage facility, or creating a new plan that integrates housing and active commercial space.

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Movies In The Park

Get in the summer mood with free entertainment at your favorite park. All movies start approximately 15 minutes after sunset. Find more Movies In The Park event information at the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board website. Upcoming dates are:

- Fri., June 8: Keewaydin Park, 3030 E. 53rd St., with the movie "Wonder."
- Sat., June 9: Bossen Field, 5701 S. 28th Ave., with the movie "Selena" (Spanish subtitles, English audio).
- Sat., July 7: Nokomis Park, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy., showing "The Birds."

Free summer meals and snacks for youth

Minneapolis Public Schools, in partnership with Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, will offer a summer food service Program at Bossen Field starting on Mon., June 11. The program provides free meals and snacks

NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

4313 E. 54th St.

Movies planned in Keewaydin, Bossen and Nokomis Parks

Upcoming meetings and events:

- 5/31/18, 6pm: Gateway Garden Volunteer Interest Meeting, Rick's Place, 4303 E. 54th St.
- 6/16/18, 6:30pm: NENA Housing, Commercial, Streetscape Committee, NENA Office, 4313 E. 54th St.
- 6/12/18, 6:30pm: NEBA Board Meeting, McDonald's Liquor Event Space, 5010 S. 34th Ave.
- 6/13/18, 6:30pm: Green Initiatives Committee, NENA Office
- 6/16/18, 8am: Nokomis East Garage Sale, Neighborhood-wide

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

to anyone under age 18. Picnic meals will be served Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 2:30-2:50pm at the park. On Thursdays, from 11am-12pm, a food truck with a grill will be offering hot lunches. More information on the program and meal site locations can be found on the Minneapolis Public Schools website.

Nokomis East Garage Sale registration

The Annual Garage Sale registration is now open for all Nokomis East (Keewaydin, Minnehaha, Morris Park, Wenonah) residents. The sale day is Sat., June 16 from 8am-4pm. Last year hundreds of people flocked to this popular neighborhood garage sale event. Join the over 100 sales that take place on this day each year. Registration is open until Sun., June 3. Register through the website at nokomiseast.org.

Are you more of a garage sale shopper? The interactive garage sale map is live at nokomiseast.org, with sales added weekly. Keep track of new Annual Garage Sale updates and information on our website, or pick up a sale list starting June 7 at Nokomis Beach Coffee, Oxendales Grocery, or the NENA office.

NENA Committee updates

NENA committees are busy this month setting goals for the 2018/2019 year, with a particular focus on community input gathered through the year-long Community Snapshot Report.

Housing, Commercial, and Streetscape (HCS) Committee meets Wed., June 6, 6:30-8pm. This past year the HCS Committee launched two business matching grants in partnership with the Nokomis East Business Association with the goal of increasing small business visibility. The committee has discussed expanding the support of Nokomis East businesses throughout the 2019 construction season, which will impact the 34th Ave. com-

mercial node.

Green Initiatives Committee meets Wed., June 13, 6:30-8pm. Green Initiatives will be expanding the Monarch Mile pollinator pathway this summer, and will also begin a Blooming Boulevards project along E. 54th St. The committee has been discussing how to leverage partnerships with other neighborhood environmental groups and expanding the successful Nokomis Green Fair.

If you want to know more about what NENA is doing, or you would like to work to strengthen our community, come to one of our committee meetings. All are welcome, and any Nokomis East resident can become a member by regularly attending committee meetings. Show up to any meeting to get involved.

Go to nokomiseast.org to find more information on each committee. Both meetings are

held at the NENA office, 4313 E. 54th St.

Home Improvement Loans

NENA currently offers two low-interest home improvement loan programs. Homes in the Keewaydin, Minnehaha, Morris Park and Wenonah neighborhoods are eligible. Loan applications are processed on a first-come-first-served basis.

Home Improvement Loans

Owners of one to four unit residences can apply for up to \$15,000 to make improvements to their properties. Owner-occupants and investors may apply. The interest rate is either 3.5% or 4.5% depending on income. No income restriction applies.

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

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

Sign up for NENA News

Get your neighborhood news delivered to your inbox every other Wednesday. Sign up today at www.nokomiseast.org. Once you sign up, you'll receive updates on news and happenings for your neighborhood.

Messenger

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Now, communicate with the Longfellow/
Nokomis Messenger electronically!

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 editorial@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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Announcing Tapestry Folkdance Center's 35th Anniversary Celebration! June 14 -18, 2018



Dance Schedule

6/14 Bollywood	7pm	Zumba	9 - 10 am
6/15 International	7:30 pm	Arts Activities & Dance	
6/16 Family Dance	3 pm	Demos	12 - 3pm
6/16 Contra	7:30 pm	Family Dance	3 - 5pm
6/17 Ballroom	6 pm	Anniversary Dinner & Program	5:30 - 6:30 pm
6/17 English Country	7 pm	Contra	7:30-11pm

Showcase Events Saturday, June 16

Tapestry Folkdance Center 3748 Minnehaha Ave.
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Letters to the Editor

Not all organic is compostable

To the editor,

Since 1941 Dowling Elementary School has enjoyed our partnership with the surrounding community and look forward to continuing this relationship indefinitely. I write this letter to ask for your help to sustain this fantastic collaboration.

Within the last year, we have watched the compost containers and areas near the garden be-

come problematic. As one person put it, "this compost area has grown and morphed into a gigantic mess that is taking over the northwest corner of our woods and is completely out of control. The result is that it is not composting properly, stinks, and threatens the health of the trees." That being said, we seek your assistance in managing this situation.

To give us a fresh start, the Minneapolis Public Schools facilities and grounds department, in cooperation with the Dowling Community Garden organization, are working to remove this mess. After the removal is completed, we will clearly mark where compost material can be placed and what is permitted in the pile. You can help by doing the following:

1. If you are a community gardener, you are welcome to use the compost pile. If you are not a member of the community garden, please use the service provided by the city of Minneapolis.
2. Please follow the guidance on the posted signs regarding what is permitted in the compost pile. Keep in mind, not everything organic can be put in a compost pile.
3. Use the compost to fertilize our gardens when it is ready.

I thank you for your cooperation and support.

Lloyd E. Winfield, Ed.D
Principal
Michael Dowling School



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28th Ave. bridge replacement

Continued from page 1

non-motorized users, the purpose of this project is to provide a structurally-sound crossing over Minnehaha Creek for motorized and non-motorized users.

This trail is a component of the Grand Rounds National Scenic Byway that has been nominated for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, and so the bridge needs to complement the historical setting as well as the natural setting.

The original bridge was constructed in 1904. The arch has a clear span of 25 feet and rise of 7 feet. Vehicles and pedestrians shared the roadway. In the 1920s, the iron railing from the Franklin bridge was installed on the 28th bridge, and sidewalks were added by cantilevering 3.5 feet beyond the bridge's spandrel walls.

The existing structure has narrow sidewalks of 4.5 ft wide. In the new design, there will be at least 10 feet on each side to make it more comfortable for pedestrians and easier to remove snow.

The clearance needs to be at least 9.5 ft to place the trail under the bridge. A separated trail for bikes and pedestrians is planned.

Community input

Planners are asking for community input on the design of the project. "It's a community amenity," acknowledged Yunza.

To accommodate a trail under the bridge, the new design can't be an arch like it is now, explained Yunza. Doing that would require more space from the yard next door. However, design elements can be incorporated that could make the square shape look more like an arch.

Planners are also seeking input on the type of railing that will be used. Current safety regulations require a concrete railing for crash protection, but that could be topped by a steel one to look like it does now.

Originally slated for 2017, the project was delayed because of the time it took to obtain a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers. The city applied for the permit in 2015.

While the exact detour route has not yet been determined, planners are coordi-



This image from 1904 shows the 28th Ave. bridge over Minnehaha Creek shortly after it was built. Vehicles and pedestrians shared the roadway. (Photo submitted)

nating it with the 34th Ave. reconstruction project as well as

Metro Transit.

After the *Messenger* went

to press, a public meeting was held May 30 on the project.

The volunteers with Transition Longfellow create opportunities for South Minneapolis neighbors to get to know one another while also learning how to live more sustainably and prepare for changes ahead. Visit www.transitionlongfellow.org for more details on these and other activities.

Transition Parents & Kids Play Group will meet Sat., June 3, 10am to noon, at Longfellow Park, 3435 36th Ave. S. Join with other parents who are concerned about raising resilient kids, living a sustainable, less consumer-oriented, low-waste family life. Share conversation, resources, and ideas in a kid-friendly play space with toys. Bring kids aged 10 and under for a play-date. This event is free.

"What's In Your Garden Soil?" is the program scheduled Wed., June 6, 6pm in the garden at 2852 35th Ave. S. This class will delve into the garden of a resident to discover the vast and complex ecosystem right under our feet. A soil analysis will be done beforehand by Renaissance Soil, a nonprofit dedicated to regenerating soil through education, outreach, and action opportunities. Learn about the fascinating microscopic world that drives plant growth, health, and—sometimes—disease. Suggested donation \$10-15 to cover instructor time and materials.

Book Group meets Thur., June 14, 6:30pm, at Moon Palace Books (3032 Minnehaha Ave.) to discuss "Independence Days: A Guide to Sustainable Food Storage and Preservation" by Sharon Astyk. This summer, join with folks in Transition Longfellow as they grow more food, learn to cook and preserve local food and work to reduce food waste. In June we'll read Part 1, Chapters 1-5. This book tackles both the nuts and bolts of building a home pantry and preserving the harvest, buying in bulk, storing food on the cheap, techniques and tools for food storage, how to preserve food on

Transition Longfellow

By LESLIE MACKENZIE

June features Movie Night, Game Night, and Parent Group



Movie Night on June 15 will feature the documentary "Living the Change: Inspiring Stories for a Sustainable Future." (Internet image)

a community scale, and how to reduce reliance on industrial agriculture. "Independence Days" is for everyone who wants to keep eating—even in hard times.

(This book is out of print, so Moon Palace will not have copies available, but it can be found at second-hand stores, and used copies are available online.)



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through the inspiring stories of people pioneering change in their own lives and in their communities to live in a sustainable and regenerative way. Donation accepted.

Each Friday, Transition Longfellow sends out a Step-by-Step Preparedness Email with actions you can take that week to become more prepared for extreme weather. Sign up for the series on the website, where you can also find past emails.

Details are being completed right now for a fun and informative Day of Garden and Food Skillshares, with workshops in the garden and in the kitchen. Watch the website for more information about this event.

Nokomis East Garage Sale Day

Dozens of sales!

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8 A.M. - 4 P.M.

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sale registration available
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Hiawatha Golf Course CAC members seek clarification from MPRB

Majority of committee members want all options on the table—not just reduced pumping scenarios

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

The Hiawatha Golf Course Community Advisory Committee (CAC) wants to be able to explore all uses at the golf course for the future, including maintaining the current level of pumping.

At the CAC meeting on April 30, members voted 9-6 to bring this issue back to the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board (MPRB) of Commissioners. The vote was done by a show of hands at the end of a meeting that went over an hour past the advertised end time.

The exact motion was as follows: The Hiawatha Golf Course Community Advisory Committee is requesting the Board of Commissioners to respectfully clarify the existing Resolution 2017-243 to include the exploration of all uses related to a reduced pumping scenario and for all uses related to a circumstance that would perpetuate the current pumping situation.

"Some members of the CAC felt the language provided by the MPRB was vague or contradictory to what they were being told verbally," explained CAC Chair David Kaplan via email. "So the interest was to get clarification from the MPRB or DNR on the pumping question once and for all."

While the title of the MPRB resolution calls for a reduced pumping scenario, the rest of the resolution seems to indicate that an 18-hole golf course might fit within the scope of the project, pointed out CAC member Kathryn Kelly, appointed by an at-large commissioner. She pushed for a clarification on the CAC charge at both the Mar. 30 and the Apr. 30 meetings.

The golf course is currently pumping 242 million gallons of water each year in a circular fashion to keep water from flooding the course, although it only has a permit through the Minnesota DNR for 36.5 million for irrigation.

Discussion about options

The 18-member CAC includes Kaplan, Kelly, Anne Painter, Chakra Sankaraiah, Craig Nichols, Damon LeFlore, Duane Whittaker, Joan Soholt, Matt Hilgart, Nathan Shepherd, Roxanne Stuhr, Sean Connaughty, Sean Keir, Sheila Terryll, Tara Olds, Teresa Engstrom, Tim Clemens, and William Means.

Some CAC members felt that that the charge from the MPRB was too vague because it didn't reference the Scenario B figure (from planning in 2017) that would reduce pumping by 70%. Therefore, members could look at a plan to



Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board staff member Deb Pilger answers questions about the permit at Lake Hiawatha Golf Course that is issued by the DNR for irrigation. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

reduce pumping by 1 liter, and it would be in accordance with the resolution, explained Kaplan.

"Others felt the issue had been addressed, and the CAC was not the right body to review or question the science and engineering previously looked at by the MPRB and staff—that the intent of the MPRB was clear last fall to reduce pumping to the lower level, even if the language was poorly constructed," said Kaplan.

"I don't know what I want this space to be, but I want the options open," stated CAC member Matt Hilgart, who was appointed by the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association.

Fellow CAC member Nicols, the Northrop School parent representative, also expressed his desire to consider all options. He pointed out, "It's a completely different park board" now due to the November election as compared to last August when the motion was passed.

"My opinion has, and always has been, that we need to review the use of the parcel for its fundamental intended purpose—as an Administrative FEMA Flood Plain used to protect homes in the neighborhood and downriver. This is a role it serves," said Kaplan. "Once that is addressed, then, and only then, do we look at what recreational activity can or should go on the space."

Public comment taken at MPRB meetings

The MPRB of Commissioners is expected to address the issue at its June 8 meeting, although that agenda won't be finalized until June 1.

All board meetings offer open time, starting at 5:30 p.m., for the public to voice comments directly to the commissioners.

The next CAC meeting, initially scheduled for May 30, has been postponed until the MPRB Commissioners have addressed the issue.

Firm to be hired

In the meantime, MPRB staff is negotiating a professional services agreement with the Barr Engineering/Berger Partnership design team.

This team will assist in creating a master plan for the golf course property.

An action will go before the Board of Commissioners in June for approval of the consulting contract.

MPRB Project Manager Tyler Pederson pointed out that the CAC is moving from a water management alternative to a master plan. A water management alternative provides a narrow focus that looks at water resources and is a starting point to figure out what is feasible. A master planning lens looks at the big picture, explained Pederson.

Through the process, a set of clear concept plans will be created and assessed, and CAC members will select the preferred one.

DNR permit for five years

MPRB is also applying for a temporary permit from the DNR to pump additional water from the golf course. This permit must be re-evaluated each year, and will only be extended for up to five years, stated MPRB Assistant Superintendent of Planning Services Michael Schroeder.

"They're allowing us to continue pumping until we come up with a different way," he stated.

During these five years, the MPRB will make annual reports and investigate the integrity of the earthen berm along the lakeshore.

The Minnesota DNR manages 16,000 permits for pumping water in the state, as any entity pumping more than 10,000 gallons a day or 1 million gallons a year needs a permit.

The highest active permit is 235,000 million gallons per year by a nuclear power plant. The highest golf courses permitted to pump over 150 million gallons per year (MGY) for irrigation are Lutsen, Bunker Hills, and Pebble Creek. Generally, the uses that pump between 220 and 300 MGY are construction dewatering, mining, municipal water supply, pollution contaminant, agriculture, power generation and petroleum, chemical and metal processing.

Opinions, comments shared

During the Apr. 30 meeting, time was taken to listen to questions and comments from commissioners, as well as meeting attendees.

CAC member Connaughty, appointed by the Friends of Lake Hiawatha, questioned whether trash mitigation at the stormwater sewer pipe that drains into Lake Hiawatha is being delayed for five years while the MPRB creates a master plan for the golf course property.

Connaughty pointed out that a five-year delay will mean that an additional 10,000 pounds of trash will enter the lake.

CAC member Soholt, appointed by the Hale Page Diamond Lake Community Association, wondered where all the water is coming from that is filling Lake Hiawatha and neighbor-



Resident Monica McNaughton pointed out, "We don't know the answers to many questions." She questioned why planning was being done when the full scope of the problem isn't understood. "These are people's lives we're affecting," McNaughton stated. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

ing areas. "What will happen to the floodplain if we fill that up with more water?" Soholt asked.

Stuhr, appointed by the Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association, pointed out that neighboring homes affect the area water issues. "Each of our personal watersheds is contributing to the larger watershed," she said. "So what we do on our own properties has an effect not only on our own home but on our neighbor's." She requested more information on water quality issues.

Resident Monica McNaughton pointed out, "We don't know the answers to many questions." She questioned why planning was being done when the full scope of the problem isn't understood. "These are people's lives we're affecting," McNaughton stated.

MPRB staff took notes on each question and comment, and will return with an FAQ sheet that addresses the issues raised.



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City adds density in 2040 plan to fit more people, more businesses

Comments being accepted online and in person until July 22 regarding draft Minneapolis 2040 comprehensive plan

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

In the next 20 years, the city of Minneapolis is planning for more. More houses. More businesses. More transit. And more demand to be in the city.

To make room for this, the city's updated comprehensive plan increases density in just about every area of the city.

Residential districts with single-family bungalows could have up to four dwelling units in the future under the new Interior 1 district.

Well-traveled routes such as Cedar Ave. S., 28th Ave. S., 34th Ave. S., 42nd Ave. S., E. 38th St., E. 42nd St., and E. 50th St. will support business buildings along the entire stretch of up to four stories tall.

The Transit Districts 10, 15 and 20 along Hiawatha will allow buildings that are 10, 15 and 20 stories—with minimum height restrictions of 2, 4, and 6 stories—in order to best take advantage of the access to transit, jobs, and goods and services provided by the proximity to a METRO transit station.

Residents gathered at Northrop Elementary on May 15 to learn more about the draft Minneapolis 2040 plan. The meeting was jointly hosted by the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) and the Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA).

"We're glad that you're here today because your voice does make a difference," stated NENA Executive Director Becky Timm.

Ward 12 Councilmember Andrew Johnson agreed. "We have a real opportunity here to make some pretty wide, substantial and impactful policy changes. We need more eyes on it. We need more input," he said.

Three main themes

Minneapolis Principal Project Coordinator Paul Mogush stated, "We've made an effort to make this a plan that reflects the values of the people of Minneapolis."

The draft plan is the result of 50 meetings over the past two years, involving residents, business owners, developers and others with interest in the future of Minneapolis. It incorporates thousands of comments.

Three central themes guide the plan that goes above and beyond typical comprehensive plans, according to Mogush.

"Housing is extremely important. We're staring down an affordable housing crisis," Mogush said, both of type and affordability.

Second is racial equality. "We have substantial disparities," pointed out Mogush, in income, education, and health.

The third is dealing with climate change. The city's goal is to reduce greenhouse gases by 80% by 2050.

Interactive website

The draft plan is a website that is entirely interactive, observed Mogush. It is designed to be navigated by what is relevant to each user and is arranged both by topic and the city's 14 goals.

On the website is the Future Land Use Map that shows the types of uses allowed on a given parcel according to 12 categories.



Residents gathered at Northrop Elementary on May 15 to learn more about the draft Minneapolis 2040 plan. Comments are being accepted on the interactive online plan until July 22. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

ries. It works in conjunction with the Built Form District Map that shows the scale of development for every parcel in the city broken up into 13 districts.

Comments are being collected at public meetings, as well as online, through July 22. Feedback will be taken into consideration as city staff member revise the plan for city council consideration.

As the *Longfellow Nokomis Messenger* is being delivered, an interactive open house is set for Thur., May 31, 5:30-8pm, at Powderhorn Recreation Center, 3400 S. 15th Ave. It is the last of five open houses spread throughout the city in May.

Comments can also be made at minneapolis2040.com or

shared on Twitter: #Mpls2040 @Mpls2040.

"Please continue to share your thoughts and ideas," urged SENA Executive Director Candace Miller Lopez.

Fourteen goals

In 2017, the City Council adopted 14 goals divided into ten topic areas. These draft policies include:

- Increasing the supply and diversity of housing in all Minneapolis neighborhoods, including small-scale multi-family buildings
- Committing to the production and preservation of affordable housing and to limiting housing displacement
- Enhancing transportation options and reducing air pollution from transportation
- Prohibiting new heavy industrial uses while preserving land for quality living-wage production and processing jobs
- Supporting businesses by making it easier to have commercial uses near transit
- Supporting entrepreneurship particularly in communities of color
- Supporting the arts and creative economy
- Supporting workers through

living wages and workplace protections

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions through energy-efficient buildings.

Concern about 4-plexes

The change from R1 Single Family to Interior District 1 has generated more comments than any other by residents concerned about single-family homes being torn down and 4-plexes built in their place, and this was discussed during the May 15 town hall meeting.

One resident with an 18-year-old son was in favor of the change to provide affordable housing. Another was against it, fearing the loss of the character that drew them to the neighborhood in the first place.

One woman suggested limiting the taller structures to the north sides of each block to avoid blocking the sunlight coming in from south windows, which is highly needed in the winter months.

Ward 11 Council member Jeremy Schroeder, also the chair of the city's zoning and planning commission, stated, "You can't make a lot cheaper, but you can make a lot smaller."

He remarked that there are options to the 4-plex, which include accessory dwelling units.

According to the draft plan, new buildings in the Interior 1 district should be primarily small-scale residential structures on traditional size city lots with up to four dwelling units, including single-family, duplex, 3-unit, 4-unit, and accessory dwelling unit building types. Building heights should be 1 to 2.5 stories.

South Area planning staff member Joe Bernard pointed out that these structures will be limited to the scale of the single-family home requirements that the city currently has as far as setbacks, height, and yard requirements.

However, once the comprehensive plan is approved, the city will need to update its zoning ordinances to match it, and this may change.



Minneapolis Principal Project Coordinator Paul Mogush stated, "We've made an effort to make this a plan that reflects the values of the people of Minneapolis." He was joined by fellow panelists South Area planning staff member Joe Bernard, Ward 11 Council Member Jeremy Schroeder and Ward 12 Council Member Andrew Johnson. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)



Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA) and Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) Executive Directors Candace Miller Lopez (left) and Becky Timm welcome attendees to a meeting on the comprehensive plan at Northrop Elementary on May 15. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

After 30 years Patrick's Cabaret schedules FUNeral for June 3

The Cabaret was based in Longfellow at 3010 Minnehaha Ave. for 17 years before losing its lease in 2016

By JAN WILLMS

It's been a good run.

For more than 30 years, Patrick's Cabaret has been a fueling force for artists working on the edge. But its life is coming to an end, and a FUNeral will be held Sun., June 3 to commemorate and celebrate its years of existence.

The event will be held at 7:30pm at LUSH, 990 Central Ave. NE, featuring artists who have had a variety of history with Patrick's Cabaret. Linda Miller, who performed in 1986, when the Cabaret first opened, will be at the closing party to offer a toast.

"Artists with a more recent history and who represent a newer generation will also be on hand," said Scott Artley, the current executive artistic director of Patrick's Cabaret. He said the FUNeral, which is described as a funeral, only funner, will explore the breadth of Patrick's Cabaret. Printed copies of the organization's just-published retrospective book "Out on the Edge: three decades of Patrick's Cabaret" will be available at the FUNeral.

Patrick's Cabaret is a queer-led performing arts incubator supporting the growth and development of artists on the edge of culture.

Founded by Patrick Scully, the cabaret started in St. Stephen's School in Whittier in 1986 and in 1999 moved to its location at 3010 Minnehaha Ave. It remained at that location through May 2016.

"When we lost the building we decided our best course of action was to become a mobile organization, working with partners," Artley said. Scully left Patrick's Cabaret in 2008 to pursue his own work. Artley came on board in January 2014 to serve part-time as a performing arts curator. "I was pretty much in charge of all the performing programs that we had, and I did that for two years," he said. "In 2016 I became the executive artistic director, adding the managerial and administrative part to what I had already been doing."

After leaving the Minnehaha location, Patrick's Cabaret offered performances at a variety of venues throughout the Twin Cities. "We also developed other services and programs, working with artists in new ways," Artley explained. "We actually served more than twice the number of artists we used to on two-thirds of the budget."

He said the organization maintained a couple of desks at Intermedia Arts, but that space was lost in November 2017. Artley has been the only full-time employee, but he has been assisted by an associate director working half-time, a program assistant working ten hours a week, and four interns working at various levels. "So I have a team, which is great," Artley added.

"One of the things I changed starting in 20114 as performing arts curator was to revamp our cabaret program, which was the signature program that we had been doing since 1986," he said. "I focused on having themed events, sort of a thread between



Patrick's Cabaret building at Lake & Minnehaha circa 1999. (Photographer unknown. This snapshot is housed in the Tretter Collection at the UMN.)



Scott Artley holding a copy of the organization's just-published retrospective book "Out on the Edge: three decades of Patrick's Cabaret." It will be available at the FUNeral. (Photo by Jan Willms)

different acts, which made appearances feel more cohesive and made the artist feel more connected to each other. I think audiences really enjoyed seeing performances that had a connecting

line between all of them."

Artley said the guest curator program was something that had been done for a while. "I sort of expanded how we brought in other artists, curating and producing their own shows. So basically a year ago I stopped curating shows and really became support for a cohort of curators who were in charge of their own shows."

"We also started a thing called Controlled Burn, queer performance for a world on fire. It was named after the practice of controlled burning on the prairie to promote new growth. We did that in December 2016, 18 acts of queer performance, right after the election when emotions were still pretty raw."

Another new program started under the cabaret umbrella was one called Lightning Rod, described as a radical performance of experimentation where a group of about 35 artists came together. "We had writers, directors, and performers, creating new work that was inspired by what was happening that week. Everyone met on Sunday, and by Friday we had six new pieces or performances that were written, directed and performed within that week," Artley said.

The name Lightning Rod came from a phrase that kept coming up, according to Artley. He said people would often ask "What is Patrick's Cabaret?" He said the answer he kept hearing was "Patrick's Cabaret has always been a lightning rod for the electricity in the air."

"We have always been a home for some of the more electric performers in town, and a space to have some of the harder conversations about what is going on in our world. So Lightning Rod felt like a very apt name for these events that drew from what was happening this week and what artists had to say about it."

Patrick's Cabaret also had a program called Raw Material, previously called the Calof Series. It provided a space for artists to try showing their works in progress and having an audience discussion about it. Starting in 2017, Patrick's Cabaret artists worked with members of the Aliveness Project, a community center for and driven by people living with HIV.

But even with its many programs and performances, Patrick's Cabaret has been struggling since losing its building on Minnehaha. "It was just becoming increasingly difficult for us to find sources of stable funding that would allow us to be what we want to be," Artley said. "Our financial predictions in January said we would go into the red in August. Closing with such advance notice has meant we could have one last amazing season and go out on our own terms, looking like what we want to look like and doing what we want to do."

"There will no longer be a Patrick's Cabaret except in memory," he said. "But there is really a lot of interesting stuff happening in the Twin Cities."

Artley said there had been

Continued on page 17

Local filmmaker earns award for documentary at film festival

By JILL BOOGREN

Longfellow-based filmmaker Cy Dodson won an Honorable Mention Jury Award at the recent Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival (MSPIFF) for his short documentary "Beneath the Ink." The film is also an official selection at this year's Palm Springs International Short-Fest and Film Market and is one of 325 films chosen from 5,400 submissions.

The film features Billy White, a tattoo artist in Zanesville, Ohio, who sets out to "erase the hate" by covering up hate symbols and racist tattoos for free. One customer, a young woman who works in daycare, comes in with a swastika on her foot, another with a hooded Klansman on his back. Each of these tattoos is ultimately covered with intricate and colorful designs, with no trace of the former visible.

To understand why people would come forward, Dodson put himself in their shoes.

"If I had something like that on my body, if I had to look at that every day and be around people and see this on myself, I would think it would be a huge weight off," he said.

But the choice to come forward publicly may owe as much to these individuals' desire for change as it does the approachability of both White and Dodson. The result is a film that is free of judgment that gives its subjects room to share their very personal, uncomfortable, stories.

The young woman admits it is "embarrassing" to have a Nazi symbol on her foot while caring for young biracial kids. The other wants to do right by his adopted African American son. It's an emotionally-charged 12 minutes and a strong testament to Dodson that he allows their humanity to shine through.

Dodson was also in familiar territory: Zanesville is his hometown.

The documentary opens with a somewhat bleak picture of this small town in Appalachia. Buildings are being razed; jobs are scarce, and, as White's voice-over narration informs, people are "legit struggling." It's also an area where racism makes its way into casual conversation enough that as a young kid Dodson thought, "I know what I don't want to be when I grow up."

"[Racism] is prevalent. It's still there," he said. "It's everywhere." Which, is one of the reasons he was interested in the story. He didn't know any of the subjects in the film, but after reading in the Zanesville newspaper of one person taking advantage of White's offer, he hoped others would be willing to tell their stories, too. One of his subjects in "Beneath the Ink," John Lemaster, was understandably very skeptical at the beginning.

"I don't blame him. I just show up," said Dodson. But once Lemaster opened up, it became apparent that he wanted to get his story out there.

While Dodson freely references the racism he saw growing up, he also suggests it isn't a complete representation of Zanesville. He loves his hometown and feels very comfortable there.

"There's a welcoming open door when I go back home," he said.



An image of a Klansman gets covered up by a new image. (Photo provided)



To those who may reject the connotation that there is racism there—or even that Zanesville is as downtrodden as the opening sequence might suggest—Dodson will point out that the overall message isn't negative.

"It is profoundly about a couple of people who are trying to change," said Dodson.

Triumph Pictures

In the storytelling business for more than 20 years, Dodson is drawn to these stories of individual renewal and triumph. His first film, "The Ragman: A Hobo's Story Untold," is a musical collaboration that uses the lyrics of songwriter and vagabond Michael Bork (The Ragman) to chronicle his life on the road. The film was the Jury Selection winner at the 2017 MSPIFF.

"My Last Breath" is about 17-year-old Josh LaRue who falls into a coma and is left paralyzed and unable to speak. He learns to write by tapping morse code with his tongue, thus creating a means for communication and getting his stories into the world. This film was the 2015 Emmy Awards winner for best documentary in the Midwest region.

"Beneath the Ink" is Dodson's third film in five years. The trailers for each can be seen on

his website at triumphpictures.com.

Dodson got his start in reporting and photojournalism at a news station in Zanesville before moving on to Roanoke, VA, Lexington, KY, and eventually the Twin Cities. His company, Triumph Pictures, is based in the Longfellow neighborhood.

Dodson will be screening "Beneath the Ink" at the Chinese Theatre in Los Angeles in June and plans to take the film to his home state sometime this summer.



Cy Dodson, center, stands outside St. Anthony Main with fellow filmmakers Nick Clausen (left) and Mark Brown (right) in the blizzard during the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival in April. (Photo by Josh Gumiel)



Early design work to cover up swastika tattoo. (Photo provided)



Film production setup at Red Rose Tattoo for Dodson's short documentary "Beneath the Ink." (Photo provided)

Green Bee Juicery ready for summer with their organic juices

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

The Green Bee Juicery is a tidy little storefront and production facility near the intersection of E. 46th St. and Bloomington Ave. Jointly owned by sisters Michaela Smith, Mallory and Melanie Maden, the Green Bee Juicery is on a mission to help people heal their minds and bodies—with juice.

According to the owners, "All of our recipes are crafted with a particular health focus in mind. Every single ingredient has a purpose. We are unabashed research nerds; if the science doesn't support it, we don't put an ingredient in our juice."

"Mallory, Melanie, and I ventured into buying Green Bee because we believe, we know, that food is medicine," Smith said. "We've all experienced this firsthand. I felt it most acutely after I delivered my second child. Lying in bed after an unplanned c-section, I needed healing in a big way. Mallory came to visit with Green Bee juices in tow (the business was owned by someone else back then). I could feel the raw, live nutrients bringing much-needed life and energy back into my body. Fast forward two years, and we're the proud, new owners of the Green Bee Juicery."

Green Bee juices are made with a cold-pressed process that retains

the highest levels of vital minerals and nutrients. One of the owners' core beliefs is that juice should be made from the freshest, healthiest ingredients available. They purchase as much locally grown, organic produce as possible, supporting small farmers and their own sustainable business model.

The storefront display case contains several rows of rainbow-colored juices: 16-ounce (\$10), 8-ounce (\$6) and 2-ounce power-shots (\$3). The most popular juice is called Turmeric Glow, described as "sunshine in a bottle." It contains pineapple, carrot, orange, lemon, ginger, and turmeric. It's loaded with vitamins A, C, and E, and the minerals magnesium, potassium, and zinc. These ingredients are known to be anti-inflammatory, pain relieving, and heart healthy.

Employee Emily Myers, said, "The cost is not high once you understand the value of the product. In our green juices, 3-5 pounds of greens go into making one 16-ounce bottle. That's a lot of organic vegetables. We only keep our bottles on the shelf for five days, because nothing has been pasteurized or heat treated in any way. All of our bottles (except the 2-ounce size) can be returned for re-use, which is better for the environment



The Green Bee Juicery offers an impressive line of raw, cold-pressed, organic juices. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

than recycling."

Another Green Bee favorite is the Power Greens juice. It's made with kale, collard, and cucumber and is bursting with calcium, magnesium, iron, and potassium, as well as vitamins A, K, and C. This anti-oxidant powerhouse detoxifies the body and promotes cell regeneration. It has the properties of a good multi-vitamin and is so much more fun.

Not to be overlooked are the nut milks. "These high protein drinks are made by soaking cashews in water for softening," Myers explained, "and then blend-

ing to the consistency of cream. We have vanilla with cinnamon and a wonderfully filling chocolate."

For customers wanting to jump-start their health regimen, Green Bee offers two different whole body cleanses. The three-day holistic cleanse includes five 16 ounce juices (two of which are green), one nut milk and

a power shot for each day. The bone broth cleanse is similar in length and numbers of bottles of broth provided.

The Green Bee Juicery, 1526 E. 46th St., is open Tues.-Fri. from 7am until 6pm, and Sat. from 8am until 2pm. Questions can be directed to orders@greenbeejuicery.com.



Employee (and cousin) Emily Myers said, "I'm lucky to be able to work in a place where everyone who walks through the door is interested in living a happier, healthier life." (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

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Roosevelt Theater strolls 'Into

Article and photos by JILL BOOGREN

Roosevelt High School Theater students brought the old Brothers Grimm stories to life in their production of "Into the Woods" in April.

The story was told by a young narrator (played by Echo Olsen), who enthusiastically pulled toys out of a suitcase in a playful representation of everyone's favorite storybook

characters: a baker and his wife, Little Red Riding Hood, the big bad wolf, Jack and his cow, a singing princess, a cleaning princess, a couple of horrid stepsisters, two anguished princes, a possessive witch, a mysterious man and big, tall, terrible giants in the sky.

It was a fairy tale mashup that ultimately reminded us to be careful what we wish for.

The musical was directed by Kristi Johnson with musical direction by Jay Albright, costume and puppetry direction by Soozin Hirschmugl, and set design and construction by Shy Iverson and Kurt Gough.

About 40 students participated as part of the cast and crew for the show, the third musical in three years for the young company.



Roosevelt Theater cast and crew members who brought us "Into the Woods"



Jack (Sebastian Gonzales) and his beloved cow, Milky White (Luke Longfellow).



The Princes (Anastasia Misna-Lubin and Jacob Maxwell), Jack's Mother (Shay Hill), Cinderella's Stepmother (Sofia Clement-Potegal) and Stepsisters Lucinda (LeeAnn Rasinki) and Florinda (Rose Andersen) perform the Act 1 Opening and title track of "Into the Woods."

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the Woods' in spring musical



It looks pretty Grimm for these storybook characters as they gaze upward at the big, tall, terrible giants in the sky.



The Wolf (Km Boogren) encourages Little Red Riding Hood (Misha Suarez) to go exploring rather than straight to Granny's house.



It was pure agony for the Princes, who sought, found and then dealt with falling in love.

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Nokomis Art Fair was the place to meet the local entrepreneurs

By STEPHANIE FOX

Nehemiah (Frank) Williams stands by his sales table at this spring's Nokomis Art Fair, greeting patrons as they arrive at the Lake Nokomis Community Center. It's not his official job—he is selling what he and his wife, Terry, call 'organic comfort drink, snacks, and treats.' But it seems he can't help himself. Engaging with the public comes naturally. He directs them from the door into the main room where an additional 42 other local vendors show off their craft, from t-shirts to greeting cards to books and more.

The Nokomis Art Fair is a semi-annual event, held spring and fall, with a small, select number of crafters chosen to sell at tables spread around what is usually the Center's gym.

Nokomis's activity specialist, Maggie Mercel, said that the panel choosing participants look for artists with a variety of specialties and artistic styles. "It's competitive," she said. "The show is building a reputation for quality work. And, the vendors like it because the price for having a table is lower than at most art fairs." The money raised, she said, goes to support park programs.

Suzanne Anderson is typical of the vendors at the Nokomis Fair. She started her jewelry and t-shirt business, called Suz & Roo (the Roo is named after her Siamese cat) 10 years ago. She has a day job, too, like most of the artists here, but says she puts in about 36 hours of work a month, attending 15 to 18 art shows a year, she said. She initially started with silver-smithing, then expanded to create reclaimed and re-fashioned antique jewelry and then to denim-colored t-shirts and baseball caps with tea-stained patches of old-fashion images sewed on. "The t-shirt prints are made using a jet printer, and I do only black and white images," she said.

Emily Niswanger also creates unique t-shirts, mostly Minnesota themed, with clothing designed for babies and toddlers, both off the rack or custom orders. She also makes eco-friendly lunch bags.

Artist Angela Davis shows off her paintings and the postcards she makes from them, with



Nehemiah Williams greets everyone who passes his table, offering samples of Winter Goddess Foods. (Photo by Stephanie Fox)

themes as diverse as iconic Twin City sites (the Stone Arch Bridge, Minnehaha Falls, and Mickey's Diner) and versions of old Minnesota icons (vintage Minnegasco and the Green Giant 'Sprout' logos) as well as African-American themed art.

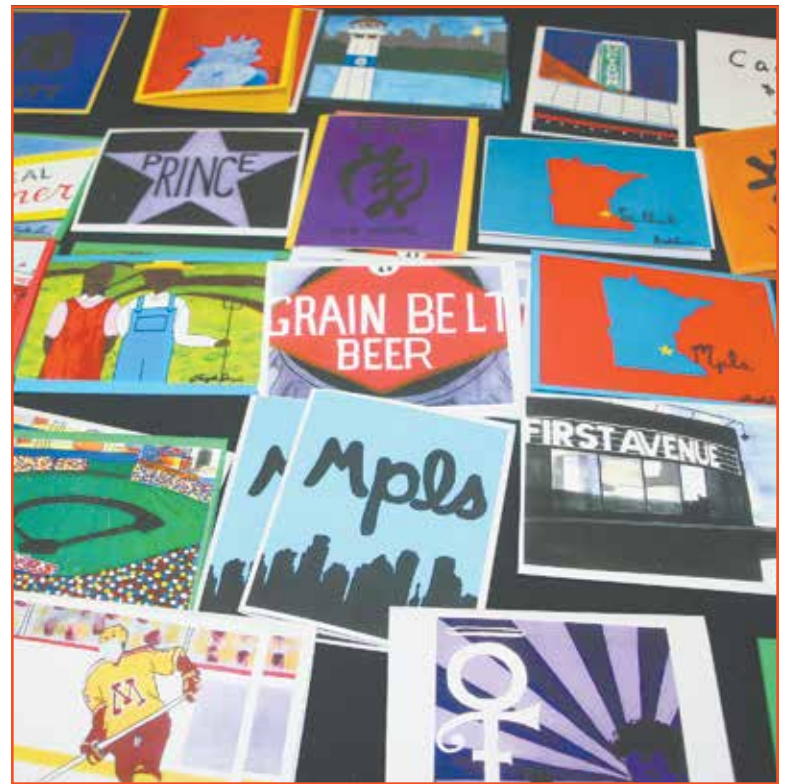
Artist Amy Zimmerman, creates hand-painted flour sack tea towels, coasters and tote bags with humorous sayings, suitable for decoration or kitchen use. She started her business, 'Lyrical Designs,' being inspired by her grandmother who was an accomplished sewer. She began making the amusing towels for friends, expanding it to a small business a few years ago. "I'd like to do this full time, but in reality, life is expensive," she admitted. "I've got student loans—I've got three degrees in music. So, for now, I work in a bank. But," Zimmerman said, "I do this as a way to relieve stress and to connect with my family roots."

In addition to the visual artists, two authors attended, with books to sell. Lesli Chinnock Anderson's book, "The Lakes in My Head: Paddling an Unexplored Wilderness," tells of her struggles with hydrocephalus, a condition characterized by an abnormal accumulation of cerebrospinal

fluid in the brain's ventricles. She was diagnosed at age 45 and tells the story of years of related medical problems, surgery, and treatments, using the idea of exploring the water wilderness of Minnesota as a metaphor for dealing with her condition.

Author Pat Dennis was there as well, selling her series of witty mystery novels, Minnesota anthologies including "Silence of the Loons" and "Stand-Up and Die," about Dennis's career as a stand-up comedian in Minnesota and Las Vegas. She was also selling her humorous collection of culinary mystery short stories, "Hotdish to Die For" (recipes included) about murderers who used Minnesota's culinary tradition of hotdishes to carry out their nefarious plans.

Back at the front entrance, the Nehemiah and Terry Williams of 'Winter Goddess Foods' continue to sell their 'Aww Nuts!' brand of flavored mixed nuts, 'Oh My Goddess! Caramel Moments', 'Tranquility Chai,' and varieties of granola. Nehemiah hands out samples to everyone who passes by his table, giving them one last chance to buy locally. "Here, have a sample," he tells everyone. The couple has been in business for nearly ten



Artist Angela Davis sells her paintings and postcards with Minnesota themes. (Photo by Stephanie Fox)

years, with products now featured at co-ops, natural foods stores, at farmers and indoor winter markets in the Twin Cities. The Nokomis Art Fair is one

of the few art events where he sells his wares, but he likes the event. "There are a lot of great artists here," he said. "This is a great place to meet folks."

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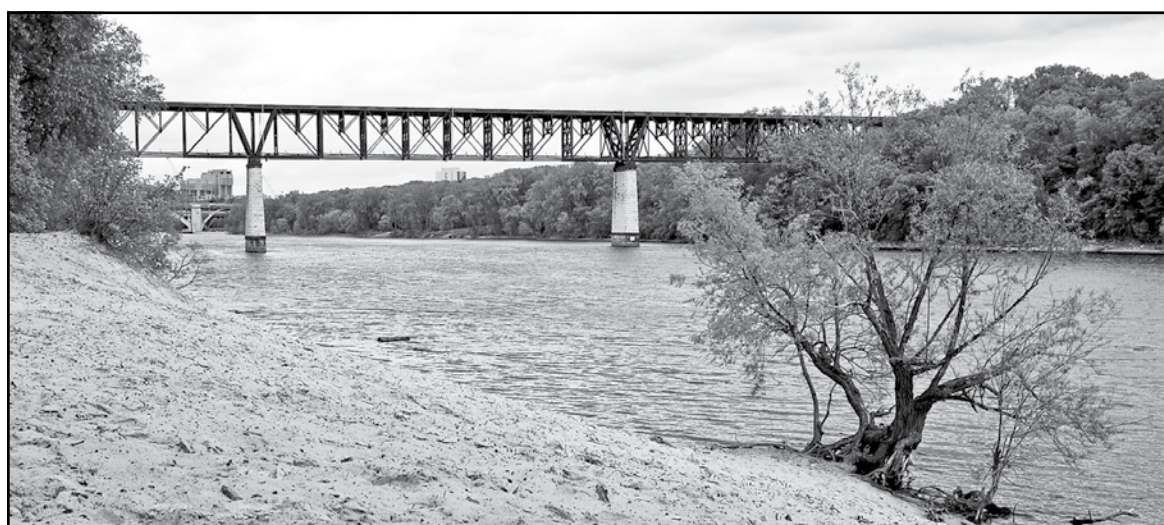
Mississippi Gorge Master Plan meetings planned for next three months

Thank you to all of the community members who continue to work on the Mississippi Gorge Regional Park Master Plan. The next Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting is scheduled Mon., June 18, 5:30-7:30pm at Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) Headquarters, 2117 W. River Rd.

This project will create a new long-term plan for Mississippi Gorge Regional Park, which hosts about 3.7 million visitors annually, making it the third most-visited park in Minnesota. The park's boundaries cover parkland on both sides of the Mississippi River from Bridge 9 (Dinkytown Greenway bridge) south to the St. Paul border (east side of the river) and Minnehaha Regional Park (west side) in the south.

The first two CAC meetings were dedicated to familiarizing the group with the project and assigning priorities to rehabilitation projects at Bohemian Flats and Annie Young Meadow.

The focus of the group will now move toward visioning the



In 2016, Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR) screened their film "Rebirth: The Mississippi's National Park." The film tells the story of Tom Kelley and his quest to designate a 72-mile stretch of the river from Dayton to Hastings as a national park. The Mississippi National River and Recreational Area was established in 1988. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

future of the entire park and learning community needs and goals for recreation in one of the most important natural spaces in the city.

Meeting notes from the first two CAC meetings have been posted online. Go to www.minneapolis.org.

From the first two CAC meetings, the following have been noted:

- Bohemian Flats rehabilitation top recommendations included interpretive signage (historical and cultural), site furnishings,

drinking fountains and bathroom facilities, and landscaping.

- Annie Young Meadow Rehabilitation top recommendations included picnic facilities for variable size groups and other support elements (drinking fountains, bathrooms), accessibility

from Upper Riverside Park to Annie Young Meadow, ADA accessibility within the park, and lighting.

When asked at the May meeting for other ideas for the two rehab areas that haven't been identified through the survey or the open house, CAC members offered several other additions, including a space for praying at Bohemian Flats; reductions in hard surfaces (i.e., consider permeable pavements); find more ways to touch the water; hammock tie-up facilities; and, motion sensing lighting and Dark Sky lighting.

The fourth and fifth CAC meetings have also been scheduled: Mon., July 16, at Luxton Recreation Center (112 Williams Ave. SE.) and Mon., Aug. 20, at Hiawatha School Recreation Center (4305 E. 42nd St.). Both meetings are from 5:30-7:30pm.

All CAC meetings are open to the public and dinner will be provided. Please contact the project manager listed below if child care is needed.

Minnehaha Townhomes being built to help homeless families

Partners from every level of government gathered May 29 at 5368 Riverview Rd. to break ground for the Minnehaha Townhomes, 16 new homes dedicated to families experiencing persistent homelessness.

The Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA) will develop, own, and manage the townhomes, which is the first new public housing in Minneapolis since 2010. Referrals will come via the Hennepin County shelter system. Families will receive support services from the county and a rapid rehousing provider, modeled on Hennepin County's "Stable Families Initiative" pilot program.

"At this moment, when we face a critical need to preserve and create deeply affordable housing in Minneapolis, the Minnehaha Townhomes are an inspiring example of what we can accomplish," says MPHA Executive Director Greg Russ. "By

taking on this challenge together, as a community, we are creating beautiful, stable homes that help deserving families move forward."

At the cost of approximately \$5 million, the Minnehaha Townhomes will represent the financial contributions of MPHA, Minnesota Housing, the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, the Metropolitan Council, and the Federal Home Loan Bank.

"This project provides much-needed housing for families transitioning out of homelessness," says Minneapolis City Council Member Andrew Johnson. "And it couldn't be in a better location; a short walk to the LRT station, which will connect residents with countless job opportunities and greatly reduces a major expense that impacts affordability—transit. It's also close to excellent schools and across the street from the most popular



The townhomes being built at 5368 Riverview Rd. are the first new public housing being built by the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority since 2010. (Photo submitted)

park in the state. With this project, families will have the affordability, support, and community needed to thrive!"

The four buildings will revitalize a long-vacant site, donated

by the City of Minneapolis. The development includes four two-bedroom and 12 three-bedroom units, along with a playground, ample green space, community patio, storm-water man-

agement, and connections to the city sidewalk and trail system.

The Minnehaha Townhomes embody the goals of Mayor Jacob Frey's recently announced affordable housing plan. "Too often, affordable housing has not been built to be affordable to people who need help the most, specifically those making at or below 30 percent of area median income," said Mayor Frey in his recent State of the City Address. "Building that deeply affordable housing is a critical part of our agenda because if we are truly being intentional about helping those who are struggling the most, those who have been subjected to historic disinvestment, then deeply affordable housing has to be top-of-mind, not an afterthought."

The Minnehaha Townhomes are expected to open to families in mid-2019.

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- Boy's Club Camp ◀
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655 Fairview Avenue N., St. Paul 55104
Just minutes from the Lake St./Marshall Ave. bridge.
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Gandhi Mahal throwing fundraiser/celebration

Ten years ago, Gandhi Mahal began its mission to be the change we want to see in the world by demonstrating sustainability and cultivating a more peaceful community. The community has been with them the whole way. 2018 marks the 10th anniversary, and Gandhi Mahal is holding a celebration/fundraiser, Thur., June 21, 6-9pm, at 27 Event Center (3rd floor of El Nuevo Rodeo), 2709 E. Lake St. Tickets can be purchased at

Gandhi10YearAnniversary.bpt.me.

The celebration starts 6-7pm when you can grab a drink and snack on appetizers, specially crafted by Ruhel Islam, owner of Gandhi Mahal, and Marshall Paulsen, Executive Chef of Birchwood Cafe. The snacks will feature locally-sourced and seasonal ingredients. Vegan and gluten-free options will be available. This will be a zero-waste event.

From 7-7:45pm there will

be a short program to include remarks and a presentation of our 'Be The Change' Awards from Ruhel Islam, as well as updates and an exciting announcement about Gandhi Mahal's aquaponics and community efforts.

From 8-9pm you can treat yourself to a little dessert from Gandhi Mahal and Birchwood Cafe while enjoying live music from a local artist (to be announced).

All proceeds raised via ticket sales will go to fund the expansion of our aquaponic system. Includes one free drink ticket. Choosing the most generous ticket price you're comfortable with will allow Gandhi Mahal to:

- continue providing educational tours for hundreds of youth each year
- growing three times as much produce and tilapia
- reduce our carbon footprint by sourcing even more food locally.

HUGE RUMMAGE SALE

St. Albert the Great Annual Sale

E. 29th St. at 32nd Av. S.

Thursday & Friday, June 21 & 22

9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

with Saturday Bag Day 9 a.m. to noon

Social Hall and Gym Rain or Shine

Tips for having a more successful NENA Garage Sale June 16

By RUTH DENNY

Garage sale time is upon us. For some, it's time to rejoice, and for others, it is time to do the dreaded cleaning and de-cluttering that we have all put on the back burner for the next day that never comes. Top that off with the coming of warmth after a winter that would not quit.

For us in the NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association) neighborhood, the big community-wide garage sale comes once a year, and we can rejoice that we can sell our old and new goods in the comfort of our garages and yards or we can look for goods that we need in someone's garage.

NENA does all the work for us with its excellent publicity machine, and we have only to erect a few garage sales signs and arrows, and we are in business. Time to get your rusty or ready customer service skills together and meet your neighbors!

Take it from someone who has been on both sides of the garage sale tables—I have some valuable tips for having a good garage sale day.

I organized over a dozen garage sales over the years by myself and with friends or family, and the amount of money I made ranged from \$20 to over \$300 when I had furniture to sell. The joy was in getting rid of stuff! Believe me, you don't want

to have to lug all your stuff back to your garage or basement after a long day of selling.

Pricing is important. You don't want to hear someone say the reason they walked away from an item they wanted was that the price was too high. The number one goal should be to get rid of stuff, and that means a willingness to negotiate. Of course, if you are selling rare family heirlooms or antiques, price as you see on the internet for similar pieces, but if it is an old stereo or couch be willing to negotiate.

A good looking sale table says a lot when people are looking, so try to be as neat as possible, get as many items on a

table as possible without looking junky and price everything. Of course, if you want to organize a dollar table that helps too.

Clothes should always be hung up on hangers, ironed and laundered. Do not sell items with holes, dirty or stained unless you are giving away a rag bag and who does that?

The NENA community-wide garage sale brings in savvy bargain hunters from all over the metro area. One year when I did not have a sale of my own, I went around the neighborhood to some of the sales (I didn't make the over 100 that are out there), but I met some great people, media celebrities, writers, musicians, lawyers, business owners

and just some very nice people along the way.

NENA puts out a map of all the garage sales that bothered to sign up, but sign up or not, this is by far the best time to have a sale because you will never get as big an audience for your show of wares or buyers willing to give you money.

NENA Garage Sale Day is on Sat., June 16, 8am to 4pm. Printed maps will be available the week of the sale at the NENA office, on the website, or at select businesses.

Editor's Note: Ruth Denny is a freelance writer and is a new member of the NENA Board of Directors.

Six educators retiring from Hiawatha/Howe after combined 205 years

By TANI CHRISTINA and KELLEY MCMURCHIE

This year the Hiawatha/Howe Community Schools will be losing educators with 205 years of combined experience to retirement. Five teachers and one principal are hanging up their rulers and chalk and moving on to a new phase of life.

Kris Halverson has been a teacher for 42 years! She will especially miss interacting with students and staff around learning new ideas. She plans on doing full-time daycare for her brand-new grandson. She will continue being active in her church and leading Bible study groups. When asked for words of advice for teachers Halverson said, "All work and no play makes you frazzled. Take the weekends off—at least until 4pm on Sunday! Also, don't do it alone. Find peers to share the good, the frustrating, and the exhausting."

Patricia Kremer has been a teacher for 34 1/2 years—the last 33 at Hiawatha and Howe. She has loved many parts of her job: working with her colleagues, working with student teachers guiding them on the path to finding themselves as teachers, and of course, she has loved how the kids could make her day no matter what was going on. Her plans for the future include sleeping in on weekdays: she lives in Wisconsin and has had a hefty commute. Kremer also looks forward to skiing, biking, and taking road trips with her husband to explore the U.S. Her words of advice for teachers: "This is one of the most rewarding jobs, but it can be exhausting. Draw definite boundaries between school and home life, and you can go the distance!"

Jay McGowan has been a teacher for 33 years, all of them at Hiawatha and Howe. Students will miss his enthusiastic guidance at the annual fifth-grade camping trip to Camp Audubon. He will miss the curiosity, creativity, kindness, humor, and ambition that he's been getting in daily doses from his students for more than three decades. Plans for retirement include activities like traveling, biking, and kayaking as well as meeting more people, volunteering, and reading books. McGowan is very excited to meet his new granddaughter due to be born in July. His words of wisdom are, "Be good to each other and remember that being interested is just as important as being interesting."



Howe retirees (l to r) are Mary Roffers, Jay McGowan, Patti Kremer. (Photo submitted)

Mary Roffers has been a teacher in Minneapolis for 33 years and in the Hiawatha/Howe community for 11 years. Mary has spent most of her time working with students in the Developmentally, Cognitively Delayed program. She is going to miss the delight in her students' eyes when they accomplish something. It always gives her a feeling of euphoria. Roffers is excited at the prospect of working for her favorite clothing store, spending more time with her parents, volunteering at places she's interested in such as animal shelters, and traveling all over the world. She's already researching places to snowbird! Her advice is: "If you focus on who you are and what you can do, you can achieve almost anything. Just NEVER, NEVER, NEVER give up!"

Joy Chasensky has been a special education teacher for 25 years. Her first classroom was next to the cafeteria. Every day she heard the theme song from Frozen sung very dramatically at each lunch hour. She will miss her students and the challenge involved in helping each student reach their full potential. She's also going to miss the camaraderie with the fantastic Hiawatha staff. Chasensky looks forward to lots of travel—no longer planned around the academic calendar. She also wants to learn to play piano again. Her first vacation will be a canoe/camping trip in the BWCA.

Deb Regnier has been a principal at Hiawatha/Howe for the last eight years, having been a principal for four years before that and a teacher for 22 years before that. Students, staff, and families will miss her 100% effort, her infectious enthusiasm, and her care and concern. Regnier will miss all of the amazing students. She'll miss the hugs and air hugs. She'll

also miss seeing all the progress that our students make from the start of the year to the end of the year. She is looking forward to traveling whenever she wants.



Hiawatha retirees (l to r) are Kris Halverson, Principal Deb Regnier, Joy Chasensky. (Photo submitted)

Having just gone on a cruise during spring break, she thinks another cruise is on the horizon. Regnier's words of advice are to "always BE and DO your best!! Be

kind—keep filling buckets!" The Hiawatha/Howe community will miss these amazing educators. We wish them all the best in their post-school reality.

Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

Bethlehem Covenant Church
3141 43rd Ave. S. • 612-721-5768
www.bethlehemcov.org
Pastor Matt Kennedy
Contemporary Worship – 9:00 am
Traditional Worship – 10:30 am
Español – 1:30pm
(Handicapped Accessible)

Epworth United Methodist
3207 37th Ave. • 612-722-0232
www.epworthumcmpls.org
Pastor Steven Reiser
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
(Childcare Provided)
(Wheelchair Accessible)

Upcoming:
June 10 - Epworth Gardens Kickoff Party, 12:30 p.m., Epworth UMC
June 13 - Beer & Bible, 6:30 p.m., Merlin's Restaurant
June 13-August 26 - Epworth Gardens Weeding Wednesdays for Kids, 9-11:30 a.m.
Fun Adult Fridays, 9-11:30 a.m.
Sunshining Sundays for all, 12-1:30 p.m.

PROJECTS OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCHES:

Minnehaha Food Shelf,
Serving People Tuesday,
10:30 am - 3 pm

Call us at 612-721-6231
Minnehaha United Methodist
3701 E. 50th St.

Living Table United Church of Christ

Where there is a place set for you!
3805 40th St. E. • 612-729-7556
www.livingtable.org

Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Adult Education 9:30 am Sunday and 6:30 pm Wednesday

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Rachael Keefe
Minister of Music: Kevin Werner Hohlstein
Choir rehearsals at 7:30 pm Wednesday – Join us!
Open and Affirming

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

Pastors Dan and Sally Ankerfelt
Sunday Worship – 9:45 am
June 13 - 6 p.m. Healing and Recovery BBQ, 7 p.m. Healing and Recovery Meeting
(Wheelchair Accessible)

Spirit Garage
The Hook & Ladder Theater & Lounge
3010 Minnehaha Ave. • 612-827-1074
www.spiritgarage.org

Worship: Sundays at 10:30
3rd Thursday Theology on Tap:
Sisters' Sludge Wine and Coffee bar
June 21, 7-8:30 PM
Pastor: Holly Johnson
Music: John Kerns and bands

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

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

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

Julie A. Ebbesen, Pastor
Sundays: 9 am Worship (childcare available)
10 am Coffee & Fellowship
Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month.
June 17th Courtyard Worship Service (Handicap acc., Braille)

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

Pastor Matt Oxendale
Sunday Worship 10:00 am
AA Sun & Tues 7:00 pm
Sign up for VBS - June 11-15 and July camps on website

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.

Shear Art schedules their grand opening

Shear Art Hair Studio will celebrate the Grand Opening of their new location at 2806 E 42nd St. on Sat., June 23, 5-8pm. Shear Arts is a Paul Mitchell Focus Salon and services include cut and color, nails, and waxing and tinting. You can reach Shear Art by telephone at 612-729-1125, or online at www.sheararthairstudio.com.

Special boat launch set for Lake Nokomis

On Fri., June 1 at 10am at Lake Nokomis' Main Beach, over fifty students from Focus Beyond will launch boats that a small group of twenty students built by hand in a partnership with Urban Boatbuilders.

Focus Beyond is a St. Paul-based special education program that works with young adults aged 18-21 with unmet special education needs. Students are placed in a community partnership to improve their independence and confidence so that they can be active members of society; the students working with St. Paul Urban Boatbuilders self-selected the trades and construction track as their main point of interest. Working with instructors two days a week, the groups were able to build two urban traveler canoes as well as individually carved paddles for each participant.

At the launch on June 1, the young adults involved will celebrate their success with Focus Beyond peers as they learn paddle strokes and put their hand-crafted skin-on-frame canoes into the water for the first time. Urban Boatbuilders staff and volunteers will help take students on small trips around the river, helping students understand the natural history of the area.

Senior Health Fair scheduled June 12

Minnehaha Senior Living, 3733 23rd Ave. S., will host a Senior Health Fair on Tues., June 12, 11am -2pm. Enjoy educational booths, free health screenings, refreshments and light lunch.

Garden Kick-Off starts the season

Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S., will hold an Epworth Gardens Kick-Off Party on Sun., June 10, 12:30-2pm. Join in as they kick off their Epworth Gardens summer program with snacks, games and a ribbon cutting for their new garden. There will be fun for all ages to celebrate the

ANCI Concert captured by local artist



Area resident and artist Anita White submitted a documentary painting of the free ANCI saxophone concert at Nokomis Library in early May.

beginning of a summer of learning more about gardening and maintaining our Earth. Learn how you can get involved with Epworth Gardens this summer at EpworthMPLS.org/Garden.

Also, Epworth Gardens Weeding Wednesdays for Kids is planned for every Wednesday from June 13-Aug. 22, 9:30-11:30am. School-aged kids are invited to join in the watering and weeding the gardens, plus a story, craft, games, and a snack! Children ages 3-10 are required to bring a caring adult to help and watch over them.

Epworth Gardens Fun Adult Fridays are planned for every Friday from June 15-Aug. 24, 9:30-11:30am. Adult Fridays are all about learning more about maintaining the garden this summer! Adults will water and weed, as well as do special projects to maintain the garden. Occasionally there may be a speaker or discussion included. Coffee will be provided.

Epworth Gardens Sunshining Sundays are scheduled every Sunday from June 17- Aug. 26, 12-1:30pm. All ages are welcome to water and weed the gardens and enjoy a snack - occasionally there will be a special speaker or project during these sessions.

Learn more about Epworth Gardens at EpworthMPLS.org/Garden.

Rummage sale planned June 21-23

St. Albert the Great Catholic Church, 2836 33rd Ave. S., will hold their Annual rummage sale June 21-23. This sale is so huge it is held rain or shine in both the Social Hall and gym. Items include clothing; housewares; linens; furniture and decor; yard and garden; collectibles; designer clothes and antiques; jewelry and accessories; toys and sporting goods; bikes; books; DVDs and CDs.

Open Thur.-Fri., June 21-22, 9am to 6:30pm and Sat., June 23, 9am-noon. Saturday is also Bargain Bag Day with \$5 per bag / \$1 for books. Bargain Bag excludes items from the gym, jewelry, and the Oval Room. There will also be a cafe with treats and beverages while you shop. Handicap accessible entrance behind the statue of St. Albert and the frog. For more information go to www.saintalbertthegreat.org.

Neighborhood sale planned June 8-9

The Greater Longfellow Neighborhood Garage Sale will be held Fri.-Sat., June 8-9, from 9am-3pm. Mark your calendars for a weekend of garage-sale-fun! A free neighborhood map will be available after June 7 at Fireroast Café: 3800 37th Ave. S.; Gandhi Mahal: 3009 27th Ave. S.; Merlin's Rest Pub: 3601 E. Lake St.; Moon Palace Books: 3032 Minnehaha Ave.; Savory Bake House: 3008 36th Ave. S.; or Tim Horton's: 3600 E. Lake St.

Bach Day concerts scheduled June 2-3

Mount Olive Music and Fine Arts presents two public events in association with its Twelfth Annual "Bach Tage," or "Bach day." Every year during a two-day convocation, singers (and listeners) from anywhere and of any age gather to explore, rehearse, hear, and learn about the music of Lutheranism's greatest composer, Johann Sebastian Bach. Performances are Sat., June 2, 4pm and Sun., June 3, 5pm.

On Saturday evening, Mount Olive offers an all-Bach recital of two solo cantatas: #82, *Ich habe genug*, and #202, *Weichet nur, betrübte Schatten*.

For Sunday, participants will perform *Bach's Cantata 161, Komm, du süsse Todesstunde*, as

well as *Andreas Hammerschmidt's Schaffe in mir, Gott, ein reines Herz*, both of which will be incorporated into the service.

Both events take place at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 3045 Chicago Ave. S. A reception in the Chapel Lounge follows Evening Prayer. Both events are free and open to the public.

Float Fridays start June 15 at Rick's

Rick's Place, 4307 E. 54th St., will sponsor Float Fridays from June 15-early Oct. (except July 6th). Get \$2 ice cream floats (root beer, coke, cherry coke) every Friday, 5-9pm, June 15th-Early October (except July 6th) with all proceeds going to Every Third Saturday and help support veterans and their families. Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy a sweet treat to beat the summer heat. For more information about Every Third Saturday and what they do, visit www.everythirdsaturday.com.

Park solar projects garner award

Five solar projects, including the final solar installation at Lake Nokomis Main Beach during summer 2017, has garnered Xcel Energy and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board the Clean Energy State Alliance's "State Leadership in Clean Energy" award. The project is one of six programs nationwide recognized with a 2018 "SLICE" Award for its outstanding accomplishments.

A nearly \$1 million grant from the Xcel Energy Renewable Development Fund and \$150,000 in matching funds from the MPRB made the project possible.

"This is a wonderful project that demonstrates the enormous potential for solar energy in our parks - at the beach, pool, ice arena or recreation center," said Mary Merrill, superintendent, Minneapolis Park, and Recreation Board. "We're proud of the project's thorough community engagement process, creative planning and beautiful result, and thrilled to be recognized by the distinguished experts at the Clean Energy States Alliance."

Ice Cream Social scheduled June 21

The Diamond Lake Community Alliance will hold their 6th Annual Ice Cream Social and Sidewalk Sale on Thur., June 21, from 4-7pm at the 5600 block of Chicago Ave. S.

Gather the family and join neighbors on a warm summer afternoon for a refreshing ice cream treat, entertainment, and shopping. Sponsored by The Di-

amond Lake Community Business Alliance, this event will feature a wide variety of community storefront and home-based businesses. There will be music and fun for the kids as well as door prizes! Remember to bring your pocket money for ice cream, hot dogs, and pickles! You might even find a bargain on books, spices, essential oils, cookies and more.

For more info and a list of vendors (more than 30 at last count) visit www.DiamondLakeCommunityAlliance.com.

Coffee and Crafts planned June 3

Coffee and Mason Jars will be featured at the Sun., June 3, Coffee and Crafts event at Faith Ev. Lutheran, 3430 E. 51st St. Time will be from 1-3pm, and a donation of \$10 is requested. Come for crafts and fellowship.

4th Annual Car Show slated June 27

Minnehaha Senior Living and Providence Place will host their 4th Annual Car Show on Wed., June 27, 5-8pm at 3733 23rd Ave. S. The streets will be closed for participant cars. The Restorers will be performing 50's and 60's music. And, there will be free hot dogs, chips, and beverages.

34th Ave. bridge reopening delayed

MnDOT closed the 34th Ave. bridge over Highway 62 on May 16. It was originally expected to reopen on May 23. However, some unexpected issues were discovered, and the bridge will have to remain closed until June 15. The detours are signed, and walkers can use the 40th Ave. pedestrian bridge. Westbound Highway 62 traffic will remain a single lane at 34th Ave. until June 15.

Academy students take top honors

Minnehaha Academy students were in the news this month at several state competitions.

Aaron Arnold received a top rating after competing with over 1,400 hundred French students from around the state at *A Vous la Parole*, the state oral French contest held at the University of Minnesota.

Students from Minnehaha Academy took home Best in Site awards at this year's Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) State Solo and Ensemble Contest. Area students who received awards were Evalin

Continued on page 16

In Our Community

Continued from page 15

Olson for her cello duet, Evelyn Ramgren for her vocal solo, and Greta Hallberg for her flute solo.

Minnehaha Academy seventh-grader Molly DiNardo created a work that took first place in the State Fish-Art Program's annual contest. The contest seeks to create awareness and inspire students to become stewards of local resources.

Mobile Market to stop in Nokomis East

The Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) is teaming up with the Minneapolis Health Department to meet a community goal for improved access to fresh, affordable produce and healthy foods.

The Twin Cities Mobile Market (TCMM), a program of the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, is a grocery store on wheels that brings affordable, healthy food directly into under-resourced neighborhoods. It provides a wide selection of fresh foods below market prices in areas where access to healthy food is limited.

The stop in the NENA neighborhood will be at Bossen Terrace Apartments, 5710 S. 31st Ave. every other Wed., 4-5pm, in the parking lot. Upcoming dates are June 6 and June 20. The TCMM accepts cash, credit, debit and SNAP/EBT and the stops are open to everyone.

"Through many conversations with local families and surveying, our neighbors said they want to eat healthily and be active," said Becky Timm, NENA Executive Director. "However, getting to the grocery store and the cost of fresh foods is a budgetary burden for many families. This new program will help by bringing the fresh food to where people live."

"We offer a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products, lean meats, and basic dry goods. During the growing season, we will have seasonal produce from local farmers," said Leah Porter, TCMM Director.

NA group meets twice weekly

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

Healing Waters meets Wednesdays

The Healing Waters Qigong Practice Group meets every Wednesday year round, from 3:30-4:30pm, at the Lake Hiawatha Recreation Center, 2701 E. 44th St. Healing by the water, through the water, and for the water, learn simple Spring Forest Qigong healing movements, and guided meditations for health. Every week they practice sending their healing to the world and blessing Lake Hiawatha. There is a suggested donation of \$5 per meeting.

Greenway Coalition raises study funds

Midtown Greenway Coalition has raised \$45,694 in its effort to raise \$45,000 for a study to extend the greenway over the river through St. Paul. The fundraising campaign is still active, and you can make a tax-deductible donation at www.youcaring.com/extendthegreenway.

According to the Greenway Coalition, "The funds raised will pay for a new engineering study of the Short Line Bridge—the one that crosses the Mississippi River. A study done more than ten years ago concluded that the bridge was old and not safe for bikes and pedestrians. That was the answer to the wrong question! We want to know how much it would cost to repair the bridge to make it safe for biking and walking. Then we can engage the railroad and government agencies and work to get it done."

Blind Ministry meets

The Blind Outreach fellowship will meet on Sat., June 9, at Faith Ev. Lutheran Church, 3430 E. 51st St., from 12-2pm. Lunch is served at noon followed by a Bible study and fellowship.

Parks to replace poor sidewalks

Smooth concrete will replace cracked, patched, pitted and crumbling sections of sidewalks at up to 23 neighborhood parks in 2018. Among them are four south Minneapolis parks: Diamond Lake, Hiawatha School, Morris, Phillips Community Center.

The parks were prioritized based on the "fair" or "poor" condition of their sidewalks, determined as part of a 2017 assessment of pavement conditions in all Minneapolis neighborhood parks.

This work is part of an ongoing project to upgrade sidewalk conditions and accessibility in neighborhood parks throughout the city. Replacement of concrete sidewalk segments at 31 other neighborhood parks will take place in coming years, along with ongoing minor repairs to concrete and asphalt paths. (Note: Repairs and replacements for asphalt paths will be done as a separate project.)

Funding for the project comes from the 20-Year Neighborhood Park Plan (NPP20), a long-term initiative that reverses years of underfunding in neighborhood parks. More information is below and at www.minneapolisparkevents.org/NPP20.

Nokomis seniors plan upcoming events

Nokomis Healthy Seniors (NHS) would like to invite the public to the following programs and events in upcoming weeks. Unless otherwise noted, all events are held at Nokomis Healthy Seniors, 4120 17th Ave. S., in the Bethel Evangelical Church building. Unless otherwise noted events are also free, with no reservation required.

Get your blood pressure checked, socialize with your neighbors, and enjoy a treat

Area students volunteer for Days for Girls



Sixth graders Lily Callanan (St. Paul) and Jade Hennessy (Longfellow) were among the one hundred student volunteers from Visitation School and the national nonprofit organization Days for Girls who gathered at Visitation in late April to cut, sew and assemble reusable feminine hygiene products and education kits for girls in developing nations. These simple kits help provide a woman or girl with dignity, health and the opportunity to continue school or participate in their community without taking time off during her monthly menstrual flow. Without the kit, many girls in developing countries fall behind in school and are unable to work or participate in community activities. The event was sponsored by Visitation's Upper School Student Council and the Women Activists student group.

and coffee at Nokomis Healthy Seniors' "Nurse is In" drop-in Blood Pressure Clinic on Thursdays, 9:30-11:30am. This free clinic is held every Thursday morning (June 7, 14, 21, 28) and all are welcome.

Join Nokomis Healthy Seniors on Fri., June 1, 1-3 pm for a free Diabetes support group. No RSVPs needed. This group meets at Nokomis Library, 5100 34th Ave. S. Call NHS at 612-729-5499 for more information.

Upcoming in June, NHS will host a Health and Enrichment program, "Senior Oral Care," presented by Adam Podratz, DDS, of Hale Family Dental on June 7, 11 am-Noon. It will be held at Nokomis Healthy Seniors, so mark your calendars.

Trinity VBS slates "Shipwrecked"

Children ages 4 years old through the 5th grade are invited to a vibrant kids' time at Morris Park, sponsored by Trinity of Minnehaha Falls. This year's vacation Bible school theme is "Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus." The program runs Mon.-Fri., June 11-15, from 9:30am-noon. To register and see a video clip, visit www.trinityfalls.org or call Trinity at 612-724-3691 for more information.

LGBTQ support group meets Saturdays

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

Gamblers Anonymous meets Wednesdays

Gamblers Anonymous meets Wednesdays from 6-7pm in

the Hope Room at Living Table Church, 3805 E. 40th St. Anyone with a desire to stop gambling is welcome.

Vacation Bible School set at Faith

"Sharing the Good News of Jesus" is the theme of this year's Vacation Bible School at Faith Ev. Lutheran, 3430 E. 51st St., Tues.-Thur., June 19-21, 5:30-8pm. A light meal will be served at 5:30 pm followed by God's Word, games, crafts, music, and snacks. Children from ages 4-11 are invited to participate.

AA and NA meets

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

Senior Exercise scheduled Mondays

Nokomis Healthy Seniors sponsor an exercise class at Faith Ev. Lutheran Church, 3430 E. 51st St., every Monday at 10am. Seniors are invited to come for exercise and fellowship.

June Events at LS Healthy Seniors

Join Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Community Education for a monthly Senior Social/Health Talk on Tues., June 19 at 10:30am at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. The presentation is entitled "All Stressed Out and Nowhere to Go: Creating Healthy Self Care." They'll look at various stressors in our lives and how they affect our physical and emotional health. Then healthy and positive ways of dealing with stress and caring for ourselves will be explored. The program will be presented by Tony Del

Percio, Grief Counselor.

"Coloring Jam" is a senior adult open coloring session that will be held Tues., June 12 from 1-3pm at Trinity Apartments, 2800 E. 31st St. Spend time coloring and relaxing with the group. Healthy Seniors will provide a variety of coloring books, markers, crayons and pencils for you to try something new. You do not need to be a resident of Trinity Apartments to attend. The class fee of \$4 covers all supplies (Trinity residents get a reduced fee of \$3). Registration is required by Fri., June 8. To register, contact Julia at 612-729-5799 or info@LShealthyseniors.org.

Tai Chi Easy exercise classes are held on Mondays through June 25, from 10:30-11:30am at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, and cost \$5/class. Discounts are available for lower-income seniors.

A monthly Diabetes Support Group for adults will be held on June 13 from 6:30-8pm at Hiawatha School Park Recreation Center, 4305 E. 42nd St. Call the Healthy Seniors office at 612-729-5799 for more information.

Additionally, LS Healthy Seniors is looking for "Friendly Visitor" volunteers and volunteer drivers to help seniors live independently. Call Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 or email us at info@LShealthyseniors.org for more information on our activities, services or volunteer opportunities.

Faith Book Club meets June 2

The Faith Ev. Lutheran Book Club meets the first Saturday of every month from 10-11:30am at the church, 3430 E. 51st St. The book for June 2 is "Cutting for Stone" by Abraham Verghese. Join the group for coffee, treats, and conversation in the basement fellowship room.

2018 garden tour scheduled July 14

Get up close with nine gorgeous gardens at the 2018 Hennepin County Master Gardener Learning Garden Tour on Sat., July 14, 9am-4pm. The gardens are located in South Minneapolis and Richfield. Coordinated by volunteers with the University of Minnesota Extension Master Gardener Program-Hennepin County, the tour showcases nine gardens with on-site gardening advice from dozens of trained Master Gardener Volunteers.

The annual event features unique home gardens designed and tended by Master Gardener Volunteers who live in Hennepin County, as well as a community garden that began as a Victory Garden in 1943.

This year's self-guided tour includes food trucks at select stops, a Book Nook with a variety of books for kids and adults, and the Garden Shed, which offers fun and useful gardening accessories. Master Gardener Volunteers will be on hand at each garden, conducting demonstrations at various education stations covering topics such as hydroponics, na-

Continued on page 17

In Our Community

Continued from page 16

tive plants and composting.

Last year, a record-breaking 800-plus people attended the tour, which is accessible to visitors who arrive on foot or by bike or car.

The tour is held rain, or shine. Single tickets are \$15 in advance; \$20 on the day of the tour. Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more. Children under 12 get in free when accompanied by a paying adult. All proceeds help support the University of Minnesota Extension Master Gardener Program – Hennepin County community programs.

Admission includes entry to all nine gardens and a booklet with garden descriptions, on-site demonstration details, and driving directions. To buy tickets and learn more about the Learning Garden Tour, visit <https://hennepinmastergardeners.org/events/hcmg-learning-garden-tour/> or stop by the Extension Master Gardener Hennepin County office at 479 Prairie Center Dr., Eden Prairie. For details about the Hennepin County Master Gardener Program, call 612-596-2130 or email hcmg@umn.edu.

Area students garner history awards

At the Minnesota State History Day competition at the University of Minnesota in May, several local History Day students received topical awards, internships with MNHS History Day staff, or college scholarship for their exhibits, documentaries, papers, websites, and performances:

- Sandy Bolton, "Women in the Black Panthers," senior individual exhibit, Roosevelt High School, in the Afro-American History category.
- Sofia Fish and Azalea Rohr, "Great Lakes, Great Legacy?: The Compromise of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement," junior group website, Sanford Middle School, in the Environmental History category.
- Also in Environmental History, Neil Grube from Roosevelt High School received an award for "Conflicted Chemist: The Nobel Laureate Who Pioneered Chemical Warfare," senior individual documentary.

- Rudy Werle and Gus LaFave, "An Urgent Need to Act: A Global Compromise to End the Cambodian Refugee Crisis," junior group website, Sanford Middle School, in the category Global Studies.
- In the History of Africa category, Erika Peterson and Gwen McMahon for "A Failure to Protect: UN Intervention and The Rwandan Genocide," junior group documentary, Sanford Middle School.
- Isaiah Bischoff, "Drawing Boundaries: The Fight Over the Boundary Waters," senior individual documentary, South High School, in the category Minnesota's Laws and Courts.
- Elise Legler, "The Anti-Drug Abuse Act: Legislative Compromise that Created a Legal Conflict," junior individual exhibit, Keewaydin Community School, in the Quantitative History category.
- Josiah Misselt, "An Unlikely Partnership: How Railroads and Conservationists Joined Forces to Create America's National Parks," senior paper, South High School, in the category U.S. Business History.

Local students take History Day honors

In late April nearly 1,300 middle and high school students from across Minnesota gathered at the University of Minnesota for the 2018 State History Day competition. The following students received top honors at the competition, and first and second place winners will move on to the National History Day competition in Washington, D.C., June 10-14. Area honorees included:

- 1st in the Senior Individual Exhibit went to Kathleen Grube, "The Tuskegee Syphilis Study: How Compromised Health Created an Ethical Conflict," Roosevelt High School
- 1st place in Junior Group Documentary: Erika Peterson and Gwen McMahon, "A Failure to Protect: UN Intervention and The Rwandan Genocide," Sanford Middle School
- 1st in Senior Individual Documentary: Neil Grube, "Conflicted Chemist: The Nobel Laureate Who Pioneered Chemical Warfare," Roosevelt High School
- 1st, Junior Individual Website: Ella Hoch-Robinson, "A Duty to Starve: An Ethical Conflict, An Unethical Compromise?," Sanford Middle School

- 2nd, Junior Individual Website: Anna Olivarez, "You are Crossing the 38th Parallel: The Truce That Wasn't," Sanford Middle School
- 1st, Junior Group Website: Sofia Fish and Azalea Rohr, "Great Lakes, Great Legacy?: The Compromise of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement," Sanford Middle School

Tapestry names new Executive Director

Tapestry Folkdance Center, 3748 Minnehaha Ave., has promoted Dana Hoeschen to the position of Executive Director. Following a six-month tenure as Interim Executive Director, Tapestry's Board of Directors determined to appoint her permanently.

Submit your news

If you are an organization located in the *Longfellow Nokomis Messenger* delivery area, you can submit your event, special program, or noteworthy news to us for consideration. Submit your item by email to editorial@deruyternelson.com. The deadline for the next issue is Mon., June 18 for the June 28 issue.

Patrick's Cabaret

Continued from page 7

conversations monthly since February about what can be done to create an environment where artists who are on the edge of culture can thrive. "These conversations have been beautiful and truthful. We have our last one in mid-June."

Artley said things are being done to move the legacy of Patrick's Cabaret forward. The Controlled Burn program has been transferred to the 20% Theatre. Programs are moving forward with Soo VAC, an agency that has been a partner in artist education and professional development. Patrick's Cabaret is creating a toolkit for Lightning Rod with Springboard for the Arts so that anybody can create their own version of that program. And, archives from Patrick's Cabaret are being donated to the University of Minnesota.

"It has been a really exciting and challenging time to lead this organization, and I'm proud of the work we have done. I wish we could keep going. We are not closing because we want to, but

A Message from Patrick Scully about the closing of Patrick's Cabaret

Thirty-two years ago I organized a performance in the vast, airy gym on the first floor of St Stephen's School in Whittier. It began with an idea, fueled only by passion and talent.

That event grew into Patrick's Cabaret. In hundreds of shows since then, serving thousands of artists, observed by myriads of audience members, there is much to celebrate. Creating and sharing art is humanity at its best. It builds community. It reminds us of our common humanity. It celebrates our differences. I believe Patrick's Cabaret helped to promote the democratization of our cultural community locally. That I cherish.

Patrick's Cabaret spent a decade in a storefront (now Open Eye Theatre) on 24th St. in the Philips Neighborhood. There it evolved from an off-the-radar cultural renegade to an essential part of the Twin Cities arts ecosystem.

The arrival of Patrick's Cabaret on Minnehaha Ave. just off E. Lake St. in Longfellow in 1999 was an important part of the renewal of that neighborhood. Now bustling, that intersection used to be so quiet on a Friday evening, that you would not have been surprised to see a ball of sagebrush roll down the road. After we arrived, things took off.

I am indebted to the neighborhood groups, both the Longfellow Neighborhood Association and the Longfellow Business Association for their support. I am glad to see the Hook & Ladder Theater continuing the tradition of performances in the old firehouse.

It saddens me that Patrick's Cabaret is being closed.

because there is no other way forward that we think really honors the history of Patrick's Cabaret," said Artley. "I am grateful to everyone who has made this

organization happen so far, to all the people who have made this platform exist for the last three decades."



Kat Purcell & Marcel Michelle-Mobama, co-producers of "Lightning Rod" 2018 at the Phoenix Theater. (Photo by Ari Newman)



Symone Smash-It in "Controlled Burn: queer performance for a world on fire" in 2016 at Intermedia Arts. (Photo by Ari Newman)



Participants of "Lightning Rod" in 2017 at Intermedia Arts. (Photo by Ari Newman)

Metro Blooms' permeable alley opening celebration planned June 19

Metro Blooms is proud to celebrate the installation of one of the first permeable alleys in Minneapolis on Tues., June 19, 5:30-7pm, in the alley behind 3853 21st Ave. S.

The alley project was a partnership between Metro Blooms, a group of residents in the Standish-Ericsson neighborhood, Hennepin County, and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District.

Metro Blooms and residents will be on hand to answer questions about the attractive, eco-friendly alley, from conception to costs, installation, and maintenance. Please RSVP at permeablealley.eventbrite.com.

The privately-owned alley is an example of permeable hard-

scape, surfaces such as driveways and sidewalks designed for water to drain through them rather than running off. Similar to what happens in a rain garden, the water seeps into the earth, getting cleaned as it filters through the soil. In contrast, stormwater in urban areas typically runs into storm drains, collecting pollutants along the way, and eventually ends up in our lakes and streams.

This innovative approach is uncommon in the Twin Cities. It has been used more in other cities, notably Chicago, which started installing permeable alleys more than a decade ago.

Goals of the permeable alley project include:

- reducing flooding and ice

Photo right: The permeable alley behind 3853 21st Ave. S. is one of the first of its kind in Minneapolis. (Photo submitted)

problems

- making the alley and adjacent driveways more attractive
- improving water quality by capturing runoff
- collecting data that compares water flow on the alley before and after installation

Metro Blooms, a local non-profit organization, works to strengthen communities by promoting environmentally-sound landscaping that beautifies neighborhoods and protects our environment.



Classifieds

Messenger

Want ads must be received by the Messenger by June 18 for the June 28 issue. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

Messenger Want Ads are \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to *Messenger Classifieds*, PO Box 168, Osseo, MN 55369. Want ads must be mailed to the *Messenger* before **June 18 for the June 28 issue**. Ad copy can be e-mailed to denis@deruyternelson.com. Call 651-917-4183 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the *Messenger's* website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

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In Longfellow for the last 19 years

Tapestry Folkdance Center plans a 35th-anniversary celebration

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Tapestry Folkdance Center is a non-profit venue located in the Longfellow neighborhood. Founded in 1983, Tapestry inhabited a series of rental spaces for 16 years, existing variously in Dinkytown, on the West Bank of the University Campus, and deep in South Minneapolis at the Sabathani Community Center. Its first permanent home, 3748 Minnehaha Ave., was purchased in 1999 and, just a few months ago, the organization paid off their mortgage.

To celebrate that achievement, along with the occasion of their 35th-anniversary celebration, Tapestry is throwing a four-day-long party on June 14-17. Check the website at www.tapestryfolkdance.org for last minute details, but the schedule is likely to be:

Thurs., June 14

• 7-8:30pm—Bollywood Dance is a stylized freestyle dance form based on India's Bollywood films. It is energetic, lyrical, and aerobic, modeled on classical and folk dance, and influenced by Western hip-hop.

Fri., June 15

• 7:30-11pm—International folk dance teaches ethnic dances from around the world including Eastern Europe, Greece, Israel, Turkey, Armenia, Scandinavia, Brittany, East Asia and a little English Country.

Sat., June 16

• 9am and 10am—Zumba is an exhilarating dance fitness class for all ages and levels. It combines Latin and international rhythms in a one hour class of fun dancing with a party-like atmosphere. Ditch the workout and join the Zumba party, with instructor Sadie Jelinek.
• 12-3pm—Dance demonstrations will include Morris dance, a form of English folk dance based on rhythmic stepping. Dancers wear bell pads on their shins;



Photo above: Family folk dancers will demonstrate simple line and circle dances on Saturday afternoon, June 15th, at Tapestry Folkdance Center. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

Photo right: A Contra dance is held most Saturday nights at Tapestry. On Sat., June 15, experienced and new dancers are welcome to hit the dance floor as part of the 35th birthday weekend celebration. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)



sticks, swords and handkerchiefs may also be used by the dancers. Ballroom or Latin style dance including the foxtrot, cha-cha, salsa, waltz, American tango, west coast swing, east coast swing and/or the rumba.

• 1-3pm—Articulture will be offering art activities for kids in the parking lot if weather permits; indoors if it does not.

• 3-5pm—Family folk dance (ages 3+). The family folk dance tradition focuses on simple, easy-to-learn dances that everyone can enjoy. A caller teaches dances from the British Isles and America, including group circle and line dances, and dance games with singing.

• 5:30-6:30pm—Soup/Bread/Bars with speakers and a special program. City officials have been invited to attend.

• 7:30-11pm—Contra Dance with live music by Contratopia and caller David Kirschner. Based on New England barn dancing, a caller leads dancers through movements done in a line with a partner (you don't need to bring a one). Live music is played from different traditions including old time, Irish, Cajun, and French Canadian.

Sun., June 17

• 9am—Zumba.
• 11am-1pm—Dance Church is a non-denominational movement inspired gathering with free dance for all ages.
• 4:30-6pm—The "Mostly" Waltz Afternoon. The waltz is one of the world's most popular couple dances. It is both accessible for beginners and challenging for ex-

perienced dancers. The variety of live waltz music is both beautiful and diverse.

• 7-9pm—English Country Dances are elegant social dances from the 17th and 18th centuries, danced to recorded baroque music and led by a teacher.

Costs for dances held throughout the weekend will be the same as Tapestry's usual admission charges; remember to wear low heel, comfortable shoes with clean bottoms (to protect the dance floor). There will be no charge for any of the demonstrations.

Event organizer, Lydia McAnerney, said, "The members of Tapestry hope that this long weekend will serve as a time of reunion for people who danced here over the years and fell away for one reason or another. It'll be a great chance to come back and see old friends. On the other hand, we actively seek and wel-

come new dancers! Tapestry loves being part of the Longfellow Community. Come and see what's happening right here in the neighborhood and if you've never tried folk dancing before—so much the better. These styles of dancing are accessible across the whole spectrum of age and ability."

Inside the warm brick façade of Tapestry Folkdance Center, there are different dance and movement gatherings every night of the week. Take advantage of the 35th anniversary party weekend to see what keeps people lacing up their dance shoes year after year.

"There's just something about the music and the movement," said longtime dancer John Orrison. "From the first time I stepped onto the dance floor more than 30 years ago, it wasn't like anything I'd ever done before. I loved folk dancing back then, and I still do."

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Longfellow resident plants more than 10,000 seedlings and tubers

By WILL ASHENMACHER

Molly Gaeckle might be the only Longfellow resident for whom spring came early.

When her neighbors were shoveling out from 15 inches of snow, Gaeckle, 30, was watering and misting some 10,000 seedlings in the basement of her home in the 3800 block of 42nd Ave. S.

Those seedlings, which Gaeckle planted in late February, will eventually be moved to an 8,000 square-foot outdoor plot a block away from Gaeckle's home. In time, they'll become the bouquets she sells to subscribers to Northerly Flora, her community supported agriculture (CSA) flower program.

Gaeckle, who has lived in Longfellow for three years, became interested in food and agriculture when she traveled to New Zealand, Germany, Argentina and Chile during and after college.

"My parents actually laugh knowing that I am doing this now because growing up, they had a big flower and vegetable garden and I would have a lot of teenage angst because they'd make me do chores," Gaeckle said with a laugh.

Gaeckle, who was a horticulture minor at the University of Minnesota, thought vegetables might not work for a novice grower in an urban setting, so she looked to flowers instead.

"People are on board for local food, and now, there's growing demand for local flowers," she said. "I thought it was



Molly Gaeckle harvests snapdragons from her garden plot. The wire over the top encourages straight stem growth. (Photo by Tom Schmidt)

something I could do myself and on a small scale. In this area, there aren't many flower growers, so I thought it was a niche I could get into."

Gaeckle estimates she grows 40 distinct varieties of flowers. All but lisianthus, a delicate variety she ordered in seedling form, and dahlias, which are planted directly as a bulb-like tuber, begin in her basement.

"We can't grow some of the things they grow in California, but really it's surprising how much we can grow, and that's been amazing for me to learn," Gaeckle said.

This year, Northerly Flora sold out with 70 subscribers.

Last year, it had 40.

Karina Hill is in her second year as a subscriber to the Northerly Flora. "I love flowers, and I would love to be able to grow lots of flowers in my own yard and cut my own fresh bouquets, but I am not quite there yet," she said. "(Molly) grows a really wide variety of flowers, and the fact that they are locally grown is very important to me."

Jess Hopeman, another second-year Northerly Flora client, called her weekly bouquet "an infusion of happy."

"I love anything that can be local, and this ended up being the best thing I did for myself last year, bar none," she said.

Gaeckle has expanded

Northerly Flora to include a satellite plot in Seward, which will bring her growing space up to a total of about a quarter of an acre. She's also selling flowers on Tuesday nights at the Mill City Farmer's Market. She does occasional events—including her own Sept. 22 wedding—but isn't sure how much a focus they will be in the future.

"What I want is to build a sustainable business," she said. "I want to feel proud of what I'm doing, and I want it to make a positive impact on people. What that looks like, I don't know, but I'm excited to see where it goes."

And yes, even after all the work she puts into Northerly Flora, she still likes flowers.

"I keep liking them more and more as I learn more about them," she said.



Molly Gaeckle holds an armload of China Aster she gathered from her plot in the 3900 block of 42nd Ave. S. (Photo by Tom Schmidt)



SAINT PAUL COLLEGE
A Community & Technical College

2018 program INFORMATION sessions

all sessions begin at 6pm

June 5 - Wellness & Service

June 6 - Culinary Arts & Wine Professional

June 12 - Make It Count Night
FREE Tuition for First-Time College Students 24+



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