



Lifelong resident finds new challenge at Minnehaha Academy

PAGE 2



Hundreds can say, "I painted that" when mural unveiled

PAGE 7



East Lake Open Streets is about making connections

PAGE 8

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One Woman Many Lakes

Mary Gooze swims to raise funds for cancer research



By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Mary Gooze is a retired fourth-grade teacher from Madison, WI. She passed through Minneapolis this week with her husband Rob and, at 9am on July 21st, swam across Lake Nokomis with a small entourage of women.

Triathletes train regularly at Lake Nokomis, but this was no ordinary training session. Gooze has Stage IV metastatic breast cancer (MBC), and the swim across Nokomis was her 14th lake crossing to raise money and awareness for MBC.

"I've always loved being active," said Gooze, a veteran of several triathlons. Diagnosed with breast cancer in 2012, she underwent treatment and when it was over, felt well enough to resume her training. Persistent hip problems brought her in for a bone scan two years later, where she hoped to hear that her pain and stiffness were caused by running. Instead, she learned that the breast cancer had spread (metastasized) to her bones, a condition her doctor called in-

curable.

"Rob and I were going to take a trip to Seattle last summer," Gooze reflected, "and I had planned to swim with my kids in a cancer fundraising event. My doctor didn't see any reason I couldn't participate, so I muscled through radiation treatment with that in mind. The Seattle swim, which turned out to be 2.5 miles in a wind-whipped Lake Washington, was extremely difficult. I did it though, right after the radiation ended, and it gave me a new sense of confidence. I felt like I could do anything, and One Woman Many Lakes started right there..."

Jen Baumgartner, senior director of community engagement for the American Cancer Society of Minnesota, said, "We're here today to support Mary, an amazing woman with a story many people can connect with. People like her will make it possible for us to say, in our lifetimes, that we found a cure for cancer."

The American Cancer Society invests more in breast cancer research than any other type of



Mary and Rob Gooze are a team – both passionately dedicated to the cause of raising money for MBC. Rob organizes all the events, kayaks alongside Mary as she swims, and created their website www.onewomanmanylakes.org where you can get more information or make a donation. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

cancer. However, according to Gooze, "only 2% of those funds are directed toward research for

MBC, considered the final stage of cancer. On average," she continued, "there are 155,000 peo-

Gooze plied the waters of Lake Nokomis on a clear, still morning. She said of the 1.5 mile swim, "It just cleared my head. I got in the water and stopped thinking about cancer. Swimming sets me free." (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

ple living with this disease at any given time and 44,000 will die each year."

"When I learned that funding for research was so limited," continued Gooze, "I got mad. I decided to go jump in a lake, just to see if anyone would notice." People did notice, and they started donating money earmarked for MBC.

Gooze has continued jumping into lakes, one after another. She and her husband will be heading out to Seattle again soon, to take on Lake Washington a second time. Gooze plans to keep swimming and getting the word out -anywhere that people are interested, willing to gather and donate money for much-needed research dollars.

NENA's new director always had yearning to do good work

Becky Timm leaves Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association to lead NENA

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

Becky Timm is the new executive director for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA).

Her first day was July 27, 2015. "I am thrilled to be a part of NENA," stated Timm.

"With a long history of proactive leadership and community involvement," said the NENA Board, "we are confident that Timm will help to further NENA's goals to promote neighborhood improvement and revitalization, and to encourage citizen participation in civic affairs."

Meet Timm during an open house on Thur., Aug. 13 at Town

Hall Lanes (5019 34th Ave. S.) from 7:30-8:30pm. Light appetizers will be provided.

Building trust

Timm comes to NENA from the Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association (PPNA), where she worked as the director for the past four years.

During her last month there, she spent time reflecting on what she'd learned, visiting with those she'd worked with along the way. They told stories, acknowledging the bumps along the way and celebrating how far they came together. (See sidebar on page 6)

She thinks that in many ways, PPNA was in a similar place as NENA when she joined the organization in 2010.

"The organization and community has a strong desire to do good work on behalf of the neighborhoods, but several roadblocks need to be addressed and resolved to make this mission-based work possible," said Timm.

She recognizes that there has been a shake-up at NENA over the past nine months, following the termination of longtime executive director Rita Ulrich and assistant director Doug Walters, and the subsequent resignations of several board members. Timm plans to

address the subsequent trust issues as she begins her time with NENA.

"I plan to do a lot of listening," said Timm. "I will be setting up one-on-ones with board members, NENA staff, community members and partners. I want to hear their stories, and I want to know what their hopes are for NENA. It is important to understand the past when building a successful future."

She believes that the best way to build trust is to do what you say you are going to do.

"We will work hard to share the work and plans for NENA, and

Continued on page 6



Becky Timm. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Lifelong Nokomis resident finds new challenge at Minnehaha Academy

By LINDSAY GROME

Always know where you come from. It's a saying we've heard time and again and something lifelong Nokomis resident Jason Wenschlag has taken to heart.

"I've always wanted to keep home where it is, that's been a real driving force in my decision making," says the 45-year-old school administrator. Wenschlag was recently named the new Minnehaha Academy Upper School principal.

Wenschlag grew up in the

house across the street from his current home on Minnehaha Pkwy. and 30th Ave. S. His parents still live there, and his sister is just a few blocks away. He's occupied the home since 1997, where he lives with his wife.

"The block has been my permanent address—with the exception of short stays in Fargo and Denmark—and I don't see us leaving any time soon," Wenschlag said.

Standing at 6'11" he's a second generation graduate of Roosevelt High School and a former professional basketball player in Denmark. While he prefers consistency and stability, in his professional life, he doesn't shy away from change.

Wenschlag began his career out of North Dakota State as a professional basketball player in Denmark. After a year away, he came back to work for a small human resource company before realizing a calling to teach. He became a business teacher at Bloomington Kennedy while simultaneously coaching basketball and going to the University of Minnesota for his master's degree. It was at that time he realized he had a calling for leadership.

"I like leading things, supporting people and having hands in a lot of things. I thought if I'm going to stay in education, I want to use a broader set of skills and be a leader, so I went into administration," he said.

He has worked 18 years in public education, 14 of those in administration. Until earlier this year, he was principal of

Richfield Senior High. His new stint at Minnehaha Academy—which he began July 1—is the first non-public and independent school system he's worked for.

"My biggest issue was investing 18 years in this pension plan and leaving that system. It took some thinking and faith on my part. In independent education you don't have the long-term financial piece, the 'golden handcuffs,'" he said, "which is fine with me because we're not guaranteed tomorrow."

An active member of River Valley Church in Edina, he says what drew him to Minnehaha Academy was the faith-based component. Established in 1913 on the west bank of the Mississippi River, Minnehaha Academy is a college preparatory school integrating Christian faith and learning for students in preschool through grade twelve.

"For me, that faith component is an interesting piece I want to seek out, learn about, observe, and participate in," he said. "The opportunities are endless and perhaps the challenges are too. I can't think of another school in the metro area that shares the same faith as I do with the mission of integrating faith and learning, quality fine arts, athletics, and academics. It does it all. To be a part of that is a real privilege and opportunity to continue to grow in a way I haven't experienced before."

In fact, Wenschlag said he wasn't even looking to leave his post in Richfield. But, when for-

Continued on page 3



New Minnehaha Academy Upper School Principal Jason Wenschlag talks about how his life as a Nokomis resident has impacted his leadership calling. (Photo by Lindsay Grome)

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New principal at Minnehaha Academy

Continued from page 2

mer Minnehaha Upper School principal Nancy Johnson retired earlier this year after more than 30 years as a teacher and administrator at the school, he was open to the possibility.

"I wasn't looking for just any job. I was in my third year at Richfield and spent eight years there total, so I've experienced different transitions. If it wasn't Minnehaha Academy, I wasn't going to be leaving Richfield. It's that unique and special, and I look forward to being a part of that."

He says he also looks forward to a short commute—just seven minutes if he hits the light on 46th and 46th—and continuing to better integrate his personal and professional lives.

"The fact I've lived on 30th Ave. my entire life speaks to my commitment to this area," he said. "I've always tried to work close to home. The integration of my personal and professional lives is really important to me, and as my career has gone on, I've realized that even more. The opportunity to work in a small setting like Minnehaha Academy, and have an impact on the staff and students and community, ties to my values of being in South Minneapolis and is a great tie to my personal and professional life."

And he says it's that integration—and those deep roots his family has held for generations within the community—that has allowed him to prosper as a leader.

"Leadership at its core is about influencing people. For me, it comes down to character," he said. "Growing up in this community and having personal satisfaction with family and where I live, both reflect and impact character. Character influences your many facets of leadership. From that respect, my childhood and living in this area and sense of loyalty are a reflection and has impacted



The Minnehaha Academy Upper School has roughly 300 students from grades 9-12. (Photo by Lindsay Grome)

my character, which thus impacts how I want to lead."

And he looks forward to a new opportunity to lead.

"For this neighborhood it's unique, and it's a source of pride," he said. "It's a great school whether you send your kids there or not—it's been around for 102 years. To join a school with that kind of tradition, history, and excellence, I'm excited to be a part of that community within the community I live. It's unique and special."

Letters to the Editor Bike lanes?

To the Editor:

In response to your article "Do we need Bike Lanes?"

I am a biker, not a hard core biker, just casual neighborhood biker.

I am all for the bike lanes, BUT. I see it on almost a daily basis. There is a bike lane, and here are 2 bikers. One in the bike lane, the other in the traffic lane so they can chat while they are biking. It pisses me off to no end. So why the hell even have the bike lane.

Gary Riesenber

Five local students to appear in Circus Juventas summer production of "1001 Nights"

Five local students will have roles in "1001 Nights," this year's annual summer production by local performing arts circus school, Circus Juventas. In this tale, legendary storyteller Scheherazade weaves exotic Arabian tales, taking audiences through raucous bazaars, domed palaces, and desert caverns filled with treasure. This story is told through a blending of contemporary circus arts, dance and theater.

Morgan Frober (age 16) is the daughter of Robyne and Mike Frober. She has performed with Circus Juventas for seven years and will be in eleventh grade at Highland Park High School in the fall. Frober will perform in duo trapeze, hoops, dance, theatre and cradle-to-cradle, and is also trained in silks, hammock, triangle and swinging trapeze.

Iain Knopp-Schwyn (age 18) is the son of Elke and Kent Knopp-Schwyn. This is his 11th year with Circus Juventas. Knopp-Schwyn will perform in "1001 Nights" as the Genie and will perform teeter board, Russian cradle, Russian bar and swing, 3-person hand balancing, clowning and theater. He is also trained in juggling and bike.

Sarah Lind-MacMillan (age 15) is the daughter of Thomas and Betsy Lind-MacMillan and has performed with Circus Juventas for ten years. The tenth grader at Highland Park High School in the fall will perform in "1001 Nights" as a hand maiden, and will perform in theatre, high wire and Spanish web.

Lillian Kline (age 15) has performed with Circus Juventas for one year. She is the daughter of Shanan Tolzin and James Kline. Lillian Kline be in tenth grade at Minnehaha Academy and will perform in dance ithe Circus Juventas' summer show as Sinbad's groupie. She has also trained in triple trapeze, contortion and hoops.

Juliette Kline (age 13), the daughter of Tolzin and Kline, has performed with Circus Juventas for 4 years and will be in eighth grade at Minnehaha Academy in the fall. In "1001 Nights" she will perform in team acrobatics and theatre as a thief. She also has has trained in Flamenco dance, clarinet and triple trapeze.

Circus Juventas' summer shows feature a select cast of their most advanced performers and are elaborate spectacles in the tradition of Cirque du Soleil. Circus Juventas productions represent the best of contemporary circus arts, combining evocative music, extraordinary sets and costumes, and stunning theatricality, dance and athletic artistry with a global flair.

Audiences will join love-struck Aladdin on a treacherous journey to find a lamp like no other. Only the all-powerful Genie, held captive within, can help him win the love of the beautiful princess Jasmine. This action-packed adventure begins at the mysterious cave of wonders where jewels come to life in a deadly display of balanced precision, a whirlwind of demonic

Jinns practice their aerial sorcery, and a twisting web of venomous snakes are conjured by the evil vizier Jafar. With the help of Jasmine's gaggle of mischief-making sisters, teen idol Sinbad and his duo of battle-hardened monster killers, along with the reluctant hero Ali Baba and her wall-jumping thieves, Aladdin may finally catch the eye, and the heart, of his beloved.

"1001 Nights is our high-flying interpretation of the Arabian Nights canon told through the lens of circus," said by Circus Juventas co-founder and Artistic Director, Elizabeth Butler. "There are familiar characters, like Aladdin, Sinbad and Scheherazade, but they're seen performing extraordinary feats of strength, balance, contortion and more. Utilizing spectacle, storytelling and a soundtrack sure to evoke Persian palaces and desert vistas, this summer's show will be another sensory blowout!"

There are 23 performances of "1001 Nights" scheduled from July 1 through Aug. 16.

Tickets for all performances will be available through Ticketworks at ticketworks.com or 612-343-3390 or by calling the Circus Juventas box office at 651-699-8229. Box office hours are Mon.-Fri., 11am-7pm and Sat., 9:30am-2pm. Tickets may be purchased through Ticketworks online or via phone 24 hours a day. All seats are reserved and prices range from \$15-\$40. Family 4-packs are available for the Saturday matinee performances on Aug. 1, 8, and 15.

Sheriff's Office institutes "Swap Spots"

The Hennepin County Sheriff's Office is introducing "Swap Spots," a new crime prevention initiative.

Swap Spots are public spaces where community members can go to make their personal online purchase transactions.

Swap Spots are located in the lobby areas of the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office Water Patrol, Enforcement Services Division, and Public Safety Facility. They are only available during normal hours of operation and designated by the logo below.

A deputy is not required to monitor each exchange, will not facilitate the transaction, nor keep a log of transactions made at Swap Spots.

Swap Spots can be used for various situations:

- Child Custody exchanges
- Retrieve property from family members or acquaintances
- Exchange of goods bought online

If anyone would like a deputy present during the exchange, the Sheriff's Office will try to accommodate. Be sure to check the operating hours of your Swap Spot location before making your arrangements. Swap Spots are located in the lobby of three Hennepin County Sheriff's Office facilities:

- Public Safety Facility, 401 S. 4th Ave.
- Sheriff's Water Patrol, 4141 Shoreline Drive, Spring Park

— Enforcement Services Division, 9401 83rd Ave. N., Brooklyn Park

While many people who conduct business online are honest and sincere in buying and selling their items, there are those who use it to facilitate their crimes. Here are some other recommendations to keep you safe whenever you are exchanging goods:

- Deal locally, face-to-face — follow this one rule and avoid 99% of scam attempts.
- Do not extend payment to anyone you have not met in person.
- Beware offers involving shipping - deal with individuals you can meet in person.
- Never wire funds (e.g. Western Union) — anyone who asks you to is a scammer.
- Don't accept cashier/certified checks or money orders - banks cash fakes, then hold you responsible.
- Transactions are between users only; no third party provides a "guarantee".
- Never give out financial info (bank account, social security, PayPal account, etc.).
- Do not rent or purchase sight-unseen—that amazing "deal" may not exist.
- Refuse background/credit checks until you have met landlord/employer in person.



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Leif Wallin to perform at 2015 Fringe Festival

His one-man play "Baby Lost; Family Found" is about adoption and searching for connections to his birth parents

By JAN WILLMS

Longtime Nokomis resident Leif Wallin came to the Minnesota Fringe through a circuitous route. An avid bicyclist, he chose to move to the Nokomis neighborhood because of its proximity to the Minnehaha Pkwy. and the River Rd. He also took up handball.

"But I wore out my body with handball and had to have a hip replacement and had to quit play-

ing," he said. "Then I had a bike accident and suffered a traumatic brain injury. So I needed to get a new hobby. For whatever reason, when I recovered, storytelling became my hobby. You don't have to worry about smashing your head or wearing out your joints or anything like that."

"Once I got back to normal," Wallin continued "I started going to different places around town and

telling stories." He performed at the Moth, based on the NPR story-telling show, held monthly at the Amsterdam (6 W. 6th St., St. Paul). He has also told stories at Kieran's Irish Pub (85 N. 6th St.) and Two Chairs Telling at the Bryant Lake Bowl (810 W. Lake St.).

Over the years, he was aware of the Fringe and wanted to attend, but with small children it was difficult. Eventually, he attended with his wife. "I thought someday I would like to put something together for the Fringe," he noted.

Adopted as a baby, Wallin had not given a lot of thought to finding out more about his biological family. But once he had children, he decided that tracing his roots might be a good idea. And so for the past couple of years Wallin tried to find out more about his biological parents.

"I started getting connections to my birth family, and I told stories in little bits and pieces at storytelling events around town," Wallin explained. "They went over well, and people asked me to tell them more. I thought I could put enough together for a Fringe performance."

Wallin said he is not a comedian, but a lot of stories for the Fringe make people think a little bit or bring a tear to the eye. He said his play has touches of humor. "With almost any play it is nice to have a touch of humor," he noted.

Wallin started investigating



Leif Wallin's one-man play, "Baby Lost; Family Found," will run at the Huge Theater, 3037 S. Lyndale Ave., on July 30, Aug. 1, 3, 7, and 8. (Photo by Jan Willms)



Nokomis resident Lief Wallin will be performing at the Minnesota Fringe Festival. According to Wikipedia, Minnesota Fringe is the third-largest Fringe festival in North America. (Photo by Jan Willms)

his circumstances thoroughly. "My whole search was off and on for a year, looking and finding and sometimes going down the wrong path," he said. His exploration took him from Minot, the North Dakota town where he grew up, to Great Falls, MT.

"I like some of the small world connections I found between those two states," he said. "There were some other connections as I searched for my potential birth father."

The experience proved to be a

positive one for Wallin. "Some people find out some very bad things, but for me it was nice and pleasant," he said. "Maybe it helped because of the age I was when I started this search. Some do it when they are 15 or 16, wondering why they were let go. It has been positive for me."

Loren Niemi, who is one of the first people Wallin met in the storytelling community, is serving as the director of his play. Niemi

Continued on page 5

A decision came out last spring for Minnehaha Academy (MA) to co-op with two struggling private school programs in the Twin Cities for football this fall.

Now, the three Independent Metro Athletic Conference teams have an identity - the St. Paul Academy-Blake-Minnehaha Wolfpack. SBM adopted the Wolfpack as the mascot, which is unique from the three schools.

Only Park of Cottage Grove has that mascot out of all the 300-plus MSHSL (Minnesota State High School League) sanctioned schools in the state.

Moreover, they play in different class sizes with Park being 6A. SBM has the combined enrollment numbers for Class 5A at 1,663 and will play at that level in the postseason.

Class 5A Section 4 will challenge Wolfpack with the depth in talent. Spring Lake Park and Andover play tough schedules in the north suburbs and have taken the past two section titles. Mahtomedi and Robbinsdale Cooper have strong teams as well and have produced Division I football recruits.

Combining the programs at Minnehaha, Blake and St. Paul Academy does bring some solid talent to the table. Minnehaha has some talent among their senior class.

Running back Xavier Ray tore up the field as a junior with 1,351 yards and 19 touchdowns as the Redhawks went 5-3 in 2014. Defensive back Ted Hite had 26 tackles, four interceptions, and two fumble recoveries last season.

Jake Richardson, a defensive lineman, totaled 36 tackles, eight sacks, and one forced fumble last fall. Richardson also contributed in the passing attack with 14.2



In The Zone

By MATTHEW DAVIS

New pack to run in local high school football



yards per reception and three TD catches.

Blake offensive lineman Nick Ciesluowski will help the Wolfpack up front. The Bears went 2-6 in 2014.

While SBM naturally could have moved to a new conference away from the smaller IMAC, it happened by default thanks to the MSHSL's redistricting. SBM plays in the Twin City District

with Minneapolis and St. Paul city schools along with private schools and other smaller public schools. With its combined enrollment, SBM has the largest pool of students to draw from in the district.

Nonetheless, a combined regular season record of 7-16 in 2014 between the three squads indicates that winning as a co-op won't come automatically.

Sarah Kaminski has committed to George Mason

Congratulations to Guard Sarah Kaminski, as she has accepted a Basketball Scholarship offer to NCAA Division I George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. Kaminski will be a 4-year starter and 3-year Captain of the Minnehaha Academy Basketball team. Sarah is known for being a great teammate who will make everyone around her better. In her time at MA, she has scored over 1,000 points and played in two State Tournaments. This last season, she led the team to a 3rd Place Finish and made the All-Tournament team.

(Courtesy of Minnehaha Academy)

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Longfellow resident writes play for the Fringe Festival

Diagnosed with autism at an early age, the main character is a mirror reflection of the author's life

By JAN WILLMS

Dinosaurs, Roman centurions, and Shakespeare are all a part of Longfellow resident Dylan Ward's play "An Autistic Life Through History," scheduled at the Minnesota Fringe.

"The show merges the aspects of a human being who is autistic," said Ward. "It takes his life from the beginning to getting to a certain point, describing his interests, what he loves, what has made him happy and what he would like to focus on."

The main character of the play, Thomas, imagines that he is becoming a legionnaire in the Roman army when seeking a job.

"Because every corporation is in some way a kind of empire with the ultimate financial power, Thomas parallels this with the Romans having great military power at the time," Ward explained.

Ward, diagnosed with autism at an early age, said the character of Thomas is a mirror reflection of himself. "I would always try to do the right thing, and Thomas always tries to do the right thing," he said. "I am also excited about doing things and going on new adventures and trying to find my way in the world, just like Thomas. The difference is that I live in a world that was formed by other forces. Thomas is an emotional and mental aspect of me, the aspect of me that is out to achieve and go out and find his own way."

Ward said Thomas' world is built by the imaginations and the perspectives of others. "Essentially, it is as if your common interest, and the things you would be fascinated by, would shape the world around you."

Recalling his adolescent years, Ward, now 24, said that if you loved dinosaurs a lot during childhood, you were a dinosaur. "It's not that you play with dinosaurs, you are one yourself. And in high school, it's not that you just read books about the Ice Age, you are actually going to school in the Ice Age. When you find a job, and it may be dressing up like a Roman to promote a pizza shop, you are actually a Roman fighting barbarians."

Describing the play, Ward said the big difference between himself and Thomas is that Thomas is a fighter, and he is not. "Thomas finds himself in situations where he would go into combat. I, on the other hand, have always lived in a world that isn't that crazy, it isn't that strange. But in the way that Thomas always has to fight, I would have to fight inside. How I would react to other situations and



The play is being shown at the Minneapolis Theater Garage at 711 W. Franklin Ave. The schedule is July 31 at 10pm; Aug. 3 at 5:30pm; Aug. 5 at 7pm; Aug. 7 at 10pm; and Aug. 8 at 1pm. (Photo by Jan Willms)

how my autism would manifest itself in my behavior," Ward said.

"My imagination is pretty much the most powerful aspect of me," he continued. "I can't really find myself going anywhere in life without it. Most people's imaginations are like little conveniences, like medications that they use to calm down. But my imagination tries to trigger what's going on with me."

As examples, Ward described that as a kid if someone was trying to bully him, it would be like a T-Rex was trying to eat him for lunch. When he was going through the hassles of high school, he would feel like a caveman going out to kill a mastodon. Or with the hassles of a job, he would imagine himself as a legionnaire fighting in the Roman army.

David Ward, Dylan's father who is directing the play, interjected. "Dylan's imagination draws parallels that make it easier for him to cope emotionally with a situation he might be unfamiliar with, and that describes the basic structure of the play."

"He starts out as a dinosaur, and then passes through to a caveman and then to the Renaissance. He meets a young woman, and they have been in a relationship throughout the ages they have passed through. They've kind of forgotten about each other. And then his character becomes an artist and an actor, which is also similar to what Dylan did."

Dylan said he decided to write a play for the Fringe back in November. "I was writing a play for myself, something I would want to read and want to act in," he noted. "For the past four years I had wanted to write a show that I could put on with friends and family—a show that would reflect a certain psychological and emotional aspect of me. I tried to figure out what that show was, and I wrote a lot of crappy, pointless and unfocused scripts. Some of them were ten pages, some were 40, but none

of them could strike the right note until November."

He said he had always been into dinosaurs, the Ice Age, Romans and Shakespeare. Then he looked at the focal points in his life: bullies, finding his way, finding a relationship, doing theater. "These things began to merge, and my imagination always paralleled the two, and that's when I was able to write it out. I wrote it in two nights, and I had it read at the Playwright Center."

Dylan said he also had friends and family read it, and everybody loved it. "The Fringe was coming just around the corner and I figured 'What the heck? I'll take a shot.'"

Dylan said the most difficult part right now is the production itself and making sure everything is together when needed for the festival, which he described as a big, chaotic event. "We only get one tech rehearsal for three hours, so we have to have everything in place by the time that happens."

Besides himself in the role of Thomas, four other actors perform in the play. They are Abigail Swoop, Ben Farrey-Lutz, Jane Steiner and Brian Coffin. Dylan's mom, Faye, is creating costumes.

"Because my dad's directing and my mom's making costumes, if I had a great job out in San Francisco, I would turn it down for this show," Dylan said. "That's kind of reckless, but I can't bring myself to waste this chance."

Dylan's parents have a history in the theater, both in Chicago and Minneapolis. "This is the first show I've directed in several years, so I'm a little rusty," David admitted, "but everyone is very patient."

He said that he got out of theater for a little while when both Dylan and his younger brother, Sean, were diagnosed with autism. Dylan did not speak until age 3, and he was 5 when he first voiced an opinion rather than repeat what someone else had said.

"We were driving, and we almost wrecked the car when he spoke up," David recalled. He said that as Dylan grew, he benefited from some excellent teachers. He graduated from South High, attended Minneapolis Community and Technical College and is getting ready to take some classes at Metro State.

"Every year his cognitive abilities, his abilities to communicate and to understand the world just



Abigail Swoop and Dylan Ward rehearse a scene from Ward's play, "An Autistic Life Through History." Dinosaurs, Roman centurions, and Shakespeare are all a part of Longfellow resident Dylan Ward's play (Photo by Jan Willms)

improved," David said. "It's a nice success story, but a lot of it is Dylan himself."

Regarding the play, David said he does not think of it as about autism itself. "The word autism is only mentioned at the beginning and the very end. It's a trip through the imagination of an autistic person, but autism isn't a major factor. It's sort of a framework."

"My motivation for writing this play, and for keeping the autism theme abstract, is because I

want to put a different kind of angle and perspective on autism awareness," added Dylan. "I feel the best way, and what the autism awareness effort needs the most, is to see the magic and the power and the value that an autistic imagination would have."

The play is being shown at the Minneapolis Theater Garage at 711 W. Franklin Ave. The schedule is July 31 at 10pm; Aug. 3 at 5:30pm; Aug. 5 at 7pm; Aug. 7 at 10pm; and Aug. 8 at 1pm.

Leif Wallin Play

Continued from page 4

conducts the Two Chairs Telling group.

"He's a great coach," Wallin said. "You put the script together, and when we're rehearsing, he might suggest that if that part of the story moved over here, it might be better. And he's right. It's really good to have another point of view."

Wallin has also added music to his production, calling on Wendy Smith, a longtime Longfellow resident who now lives in Northfield. "She plays in a group called the Zillionaires, who perform a lot in local shops," he said.

"For stories with a message, it's nice to break up with music," Wallin explained. "I have the play broken into three parts: the search for my birth father, for my birth mother and then for some siblings." He said Smith provides music between the three parts.

When creating his stories, Wallin said he usually gets on his bike and starts riding, coming up with a tale that has a beginning, middle and end.

"My big fear is that this is something that happened to me, but will it resonate with others? So I try to tell the story in a way that it becomes universal."

Wallin said he practices from what's in his head and later writes it down. "I go for a walk by Lake Hiawatha and go through it in my head," he stated. "I now carry a notebook with me, so that after I have run it through my head I can write it down."

Good stories, according to Wallin, draw people in. He said

that the creators of the Moth, which started 15 years ago, came up with that name because they felt telling stories was like pulling a moth to the flame. Wallin added that listening to a story is completely different from reading it. When reading it, the gestures and tones of the storyteller are missing.

The most challenging part of preparing his story on adoption for the Fringe stage has been putting a big chunk of it together. "I go with the flow and then all of a sudden I have a little mind bump or mental freeze," he explained. He said that if this happens onstage, he figures he can just pause, and the audience will assume he is thinking deeply.

"The main difference is that when I have been telling stories, they usually last five to seven minutes," Wallin said. "The play is nearly an hour." He said he also needs to make sure that other people can relate to what he is telling, and he has found that adoption is something that is relevant to many. "It also seems like more women are interested when I tell them about this. I think it goes back to that connection between mother and child."

Wallin said this is the first time he has worked on a play, but it was a story that fell into his lap. "What am I going to do Aug. 10 when the Fringe is over?"

He said he expects to do some of his more casual storytelling and see what happens.

"I might try writing. Or maybe find another story that clicks and do a Fringe play."

His one-man play, "Baby Lost; Family Found," will run at the Huge Theater (3037 S. Lyndale Ave.) on July 30 at 5:30pm; Aug. 1 at 2:30pm; Aug. 3 at 7pm; Aug. 7 at 10pm and Aug. 8 at 8:30pm.

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New Executive Director

Join the NENA Board in welcoming new Executive Director Becky Timm, at an open house on Thur., Aug. 13 from 7:30-8:30pm at Town Hall Lanes. Becky is an experienced executive director specializing in sustainable organizational development through an asset-based approach. For the past four years, she has been the director at the Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association where she helped reestablish a struggling neighborhood association into a sector leading nonprofit. "Becky is one of the best neighborhood directors in the city and will be a great fit for NENA," said Interim Director Amy Arcand.

Arcand will be leaving NENA on July 31 as planned. "I am proud of the work that NENA has done over the last six months, and I look forward to seeing what's next," Arcand said.

Community Organizer Maria Alcaraz is also leaving for a short time to have her first child. Alcaraz has been with NENA for a year and will be back to work in mid-October. We wish her and her family the best and look forward to meeting the newest NENA resident very soon!

National Night Out

National Night Out is Aug. 4. This annual nationwide event encourages residents to get out in the community, host block parties and get to know their neighbors as a way to encourage crime prevention. It's a great way to promote community/police partnerships and enjoy a Minnesota summer evening surrounded by friends and family! Please feel free to join any block party even if your block is not having one. Go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us to find a list of block parties near you.

A local artist in the Morris

NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

3000 E. 50th St.

New executive director, Monarch Festival, home improvement loans and more

Park neighborhood is hosting a block party and mural painting event for neighborhood children and adults at 5457 43rd Ave. S. from noon to 9pm on National Night Out. All are welcome, just bring some food or drink to share.

Latino residents from Bossen Terrace are also having a block party in the picnic area of 5717 31st Ave. S. from 5-8pm. Just stop by and have fun while you get to know your neighbors better!

Home improvement loans

NENA launched a new housing rehabilitation loan program in June. Owners of 1 to 4 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 2% or 3% depending on income. No income restriction applies. For more information or to request an application, call the Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation's Housing Resource Center 612-722-7141. Or visit www.gmhousing.org. Loan applications are processed on a first-come first served basis.

A limited amount of funds is 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 on the sale of the property or transfer of title. If you have an emergency, contact the

Housing Resource Center at 612-722-7141.

Monarch Festival

The Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board and the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association are pleased to announce the 2015 Minneapolis Monarch Festival will occur on Sat., Sept. 12 from 10am to 4pm. The festival offers everything from food, music, and dance, to monarch and habitat education, to hands-on art and native plant sales. The Festival highlights the Minnesota-Mexico connection and celebrating the Monarch butterfly's amazing 2300 mile migration.

We are looking for volunteers to help with the event. If you are interested in volunteering, please email monarchs@minneapolisparcs.org. For more information about the festival, visit www.monarchfestival.org

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

8/4/15: Housing Committee, NENA office, 6:30pm
8/12/15: Monarch Task Force, TBD, 7pm
8/13/15: Executive Officers Meeting, NENA Office, 7pm
8/16/15: Technology Committee, TBD, 3pm
8/26/15: Monarch Task Force, TBD, 7pm
8/27/15: Board Meeting, Crosstown Covenant Church, 7pm
Web: <http://www.nokomiseast.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Nokomiseast>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NokomisEast>
General Email: NENA@nokomiseast.org
Chair: chair@nokomiseast.org
Phone: 612-724-5652

Thank You

Boss' Pizza & Chicken!

NENA and the children of Bossen Terrace want to thank Kristoff Baseman, a longtime resident of the Nokomis East community and owner of Boss' Pizza & Chicken located at 5501 34th Ave. S. Kristoff donated soccer uniforms for the entire Latino soccer team. The children are having a really good time playing every Saturday this summer, thanks to the support of the Minneapolis Parks and Boss' Pizza.

Blooming Alleys

Lake Nokomis Neighbors for Clean Water is a community-driven project to improve the quality of water in Lake Nokomis and create native habitat by transforming alleyways into pedestrian-friendly community spaces with an ecological function. The project works with entire blocks of residents to install

practices such as raingardens, permeable pavement, and native plantings along alleyways as part of a cost-share program.

Metro Blooms, in partnership with the City of Minneapolis and Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, applied for and received Clean Water funding to install 15 Blooming Alleys around Lake Nokomis over the next three years.

Check out the demonstration Blooming Alley behind 5017 16th Ave. S. on Thur., Aug. 6 from 5:30-7pm. If you're interested in getting your block involved in the project, contact laura@metroblooms.org.

Theft of packages

There have been several thefts of delivered packages in the neighborhood recently.

If you ever have a package stolen, file a report with the police through 311 or online.

Consider these suggestions for preventing losses:

- Make arrangements to have your parcels delivered to or picked up by a trusted neighbor
- Be cautious about spreading the word that you are expecting a delivery
- Require a signature on all package deliveries
- Leave specific instructions for the delivery company on where to leave your package
- Use package tracking if possible or have the package delivered to an address where someone is available to receive it

Nokomis Naturescape

Join volunteers at the Nokomis Naturescape most Tuesdays throughout the summer for group gardening activities. Volunteers meet from 6-8pm at the garden near 50th St. and Lake Nokomis Pkwy. All are welcome!

NENA's New Director

Continued from page 1

always make room for new opinions and ideas," said Timm.

Six months listening

During the interviewing process, the board asked candidates to present a work plan for the first six months.

Timm intends to spend those six months getting to know the community. She will focus on understanding, and then implementing, key focus areas for building a strong organization, such as financial management, fundraising, governance, staff development, program development and communications.

She will also be following the board's goal of creating and implementing a strategic plan. "All organizations need a road map to set the course, allocate resources and evaluate our efforts," said Timm.

Asset-based leadership

She describes her style of leadership as "asset-based."

"My work plan and the strategic plan will shed light on the current capacity of NENA. It will be my job to attract the resources to fill in the gaps and make NENA a well-run and effective organization. I define resources as broadly as

possible to include ideas from the community, board direction, staff input, partnerships, programming, and governance."

Timm says she believes in the importance and value that neighborhood organizations bring to the city of Minneapolis.

"Neighborhoods can be especially effective in amplifying the voices of those community members routinely missed by other outreach efforts," observed Timm. "Neighborhoods work to connect residents and businesses to existing resources. And neighborhoods advocate, with decision-makers, to address unmet needs and challenges."

One example she pointed to is the newly formed Minneapolis Renters Coalition, of which PPNA is a founding member. Timm pointed out that it is made up of neighborhood organizations and other nonprofits and takes a two-pronged approach. These neighborhoods employ community organizers who door-knock at multi-family buildings to meet residents, to connect to resources and to understand the unmet needs. As a coalition, the group works to enact policy changes with the city.

Timm was also part of founding the Southside United Neighborhoods (SUN) Project, a first of its kind working group of seven neighborhood organizations, to create a policy agenda and joint programming.

Drawn to good work

Timm was born and raised in Minnesota. In 2013, she purchased a home in the Victory Neighborhood of North Minneapolis.

She earned her degree in political science and history from Marquette University. She spent a semester in Washington, D.C. and her first years in the workforce were in government affairs.

At age 30, Timm joined the Peace Corps. She served in the small African country of Togo for 27 months and then in the Philippines for six months. "As they say, it is the toughest job you'll ever love," remarked Timm.

When she returned to Minnesota, Timm signed up for AmeriCorps program and worked on the east side of St. Paul for a community development corporation.

In 2011, she was hired by PPNA.

"Since I can remember, I have had this yearning to do good work," said Timm. "I am drawn to working with neighborhood organizations because good work is actually possible."

She added, "I cannot wait to hear about the hopes and visions community members share with me. I find the most satisfying aspect of my work is supporting people to realize their dreams."

Lessons learned

Becky Timm shared some lessons that she learned from being a community leader in the Powderhorn Park neighborhood since 2010:



1) Balance—a neighborhood leader holds two roles that are at times hard to balance. I see the organizational big picture of strategic direction, resources, capacity, and funding. It is my duty to create the framework for the organization to keep us moving in the right direction. And it is my duty to hold space and invite all interested folks to fill in the vision and details. Community work can be slow and frustrating, but what comes out of the collective process is always the best route for the neighborhood.

2) Community work is done in partnership—when I started at PPNA, we did not have much in the way of programming or partnerships. Four years later, the organization is the center of many initiatives and our dynamic programming, based upon ideas from the community, is serving more residents than in the past and attracting the attention of funders. Why duplicate services, when the Twin Cities is flush with potential partners? It is the role of neighborhoods to establish partnerships and best serve our community.

3) Find leaders in all people—everyone has an interest in community work; after all this is the place you call home and that you have chosen to place your business. I was amazed by what a motivated individual or group can accomplish. Leaders come in all shapes and sizes. Someone might have an idea for an alley clean-up, another may want to serve on the Board and yet another wants to start a home-based business. I like hearing these dreams and helping connect the person to resources to make it a reality. A neighborhood is made up of people. By supporting their leadership ideas, the community benefits.

Hundreds can say “I painted that” when mural is unveiled Aug. 20

Unique process allowed people to participate in seven painting parties held throughout neighborhood

By TESHAM. CHRISTENSEN

Over the spring and summer of 2015, hundreds of people of all ages helped create a massive 2,000-square-foot mural on the wall facing the playground at Folwell Performing Arts School (3611 20th Ave. S.).

The mural celebrates connections.

It is the result of a collaboration between Folwell School staff and administration, the Minnesota State Arts Board, Corcoran Neighborhood Association and Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA).

According to artist Greta McLain, the Connections Gallery at Roosevelt High School inspired the mural.

“We want to make visible the connections between the school communities and the school and the community,” said McLain, who has also recently worked on a mural in the Roosevelt entryway. “We also wanted to showcase the fabulous arts programming that makes Folwell a super unique school in the Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) system.”

“Images in the mural speak to how we are all strands in a great braid/community weaving,” she pointed out. “Those strands also represent waterways that connect us back to the land and Minnesota. There are images that flow through the different panels linking them together: images that speak to migrations and transformation (butterflies and flying geese both based on kid drawings); marigolds that are culturally significant in Mexican culture and also grow everywhere here in the summer; and the ribbons/waterways

that weave through the whole piece.”

The main background pattern was created by a Roosevelt High School student and again links the schools. There are multiple references to “home,” kids wearing their “home” on their heads and playing in their neighborhood (houses), as well as in the final panel—a family looking together at a map and pointing to here as home.

“Throughout the work I wanted to make reference to that childlike innocence and openness that kids so easily exhibit that we often lose as we get older; the ability to connect and play together overcoming language/cultural/class/etc. differences,” explained McLain.

“Since this is the ‘Connections’ mural, I wanted to seed that idea throughout the whole work, with the hope that it can grow as a quality both within the school and in its surrounding community.”

McLain has facilitated various projects in the MPS, including murals at Windom, Ramsey IFAC, El Colegio, Andersen Elementary, Green Central and South High School. She has led some graffiti abatement projects and strongly believes in and has been witness to the positive results of providing a productive outlet for youth creativity. McLain was awarded ‘El Fuerte de Barragan’ for artistic and community excellence for the mural Construyendo el Futuro with artist Melina Slobodian in 2009. She was a recent participant in the Bush fellowship program, Creative Community Leadership Institute.

Continued on page 11

Photo right: Nokomis Healthy Seniors and students came together to paint during one of seven painting parties held in the neighborhood throughout the spring and summer of 2015. See more at <https://folwell-connections mural.wordpress.com/>. (Photo submitted)



Photo below: The making of the mural was a several-step process that involved tracing guidelines onto the fabric, painting the undercoating and then painting top layers and details while it was in the studio. Next it was glued to the Folwell wall and touched up. (Photo submitted)



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“It’s not just about selling things – it’s about making connections.”

By MARGIE O’LOUGHLIN

On Sun., Aug. 2 from 11am-5pm, two miles of E. Lake St. will be closed to cars for the first-ever East Lake Open Streets. Beginning at 42nd Ave. in Longfellow and stretching to Elliot Ave. in Powderhorn, people using non-motorized transportation can experience E. Lake St. in a whole new way.

According to Alex Tsatsoulis, communications/development director for the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition (MBC), “We believe the East Lake Open Streets will become one of our many annual events celebrating healthy living and community. Minneapolis Open Streets events grew from one in 2011, to eight this year. Over the course of the summer, we’ll create miles of safe, open streets so residents can walk, bike, shop, play and get to know one another, as well as their local businesses.”

In other words, Open Streets = Happy Streets.

East Lake Open Streets is an

initiative of the Coalition, but it takes a whole lot of cooperation and planning to pull off an event of this size. Partners include the Longfellow Business Association, the Longfellow Community Council, the Lake Street Council and the Blue Cross Blue Shield Center for Prevention. They’re all working closely with local business and community organizations to showcase E. Lake St. to the rest of the Twin Cities.

The idea for Open Streets began in Bogota, Columbia, nearly forty years ago. Every Sunday and public holiday, the densely crowded main streets are closed to cars and buses for seven hours. The idea has spread throughout Central America and Mexico and now is replicated across the United States as well. The event in Spanish-speaking countries is called Cyclovía, which simply means “cycleway.”

Jose Luis Villasenor is a community organizer for the MBC. “I see the East Lake event as symbolizing the rich history of



The staff of weekday morning programming at La Raza radio station includes (L to R) Axel Najera, programming director; Fermin Olmedo, program host; and Juan Gaytan, producer. Their warmth and humor make listening a joy, whether or not you speak Spanish. (Photo by Margie O’Loughlin)

Open Streets in Central America and Mexico,” he said. “We have a strong immigrant community here in Minneapolis, and it has centered on E. Lake St. for decades. I’ve used old-school techniques to recruit business owners to participate on Aug. 2, especially if they don’t speak English as their first language. I go from door to door talking about Open Streets, offering to help people get their permit applications, and explaining how closing the street can make their business stronger by building new connections.”

Many business owners are

Helen Miller of Miller Upholstery outside her shop, which specializes in custom upholstery services and fine fabrics. (Photo by Margie O’Loughlin)

excited about Open Streets and, in addition to bringing their business out onto the street for the day, are adding performances and fun ways to engage with people.

Maya Santamaria, owner of the Mexican restaurant El Nuevo Rodeo at the corner of E. Lake and 27th Ave., has big plans. In addition to being a restaurateur, she is also the first Latina to own a radio station in the Upper Midwest. Her Midtown station simulcasts on 1400 and 1470AM, with Latino programming reaching almost to St. Cloud.

The name of the station is La Raza, which Santamaria translated as, “the Latino people, united and empowered.” La Raza will be broadcasting live all day in front of El Nuevo Rodeo, and

one of their most popular programs, Carne Asada, will be on air from 11am-4pm. The hosts will be grilling (that’s what carne asada is all about) on the sidewalk—selling tacos, margaritas, and other summer fare, dishing up their usual blend of humor and chatting with the audience in Spanish and English. From 4-5pm, host Jimmy Flores will spin a mix of Urban, Central American, and Caribbean music and, as Santamaria promised, “We will entice people to dance with us.”

“We hope every block will have some fun stuff on it,” said Allison Sharkey, executive director of the Lake Street Council. The mission of the Lake Street

Continued on page 9



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Open Streets

Continued from page 8

Council is to engage, serve and advocate for the Lake St. business community, ensuring the vitality and prosperity of whole corridor." She added, "It's already been proven that Open Streets makes people feel better about their community. We're working hard to make sure that it also benefits businesses by bringing in new customers."

Helen Miller, of Miller Upholstery at 3614 E. Lake St., plans to not only welcome visitors and prospective customers—but to seat them in style. She'll be "bringing the parlor to the people!" on Aug. 2, setting up her finest chairs and comfy sofas in the street for some serious lounging. Rebecca Schissel from Beckon, the home furnishings business next door, will be doing the styling with her hallmark good taste.

The jazz band Zinos Music will serenade the parlor crowd from noon until 4pm. At noon, 2pm and 4pm, they'll accompany a game of Musical Chairs and each time, the winner will take home a chair, Miller said,

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"of significance." Miller will also be concocting handmade, organic, gourmet, paisley popsicles for sale. Coconut-Nutella, anyone? Raspberry-beet swirl? Come into the shop with a paisley popsicle stick after Open Streets and receive a 20% discount on any custom upholstery service.

The Hub Bike Cooperative at 3020 Minnehaha Ave. will be bringing their "Bike Rodeo" around the corner onto E. Lake St. for the day. Their store motto is, "All kinds of bikes for all kinds of people," which fits right in with the welcoming concept of Open Streets

Acknowledging that, "most bike accidents happen at the end

of the driveway," worker-owner Chelsea Strate explained the rationale for putting on a bike rodeo. "We'll have several stations for kids to learn safety and skills," she said, "and they'll be going on all day long." Families should come with their kids outfitted for biking. There'll be stations for checking helmet fit ("snug" is the operative word), bike fit, and learning new skills for street riding.

"This is a great chance for us to give back to the community," Strate said. "Our store has been here since 2003, and we've been able to thrive because of neighborhood support."

Le Town Talk Diner, under the new ownership of Emilie Cellai and Ben Johnson, will also be taking it to the streets in front of their restaurant at 2707 E. Lake St. Plans for Aug. 2 include an outdoor food stand selling authentic French crepes with ham and gruyere, and pear and chocolate fillings. Server Kari Maxwell



Chelsea Strate is in charge of marketing and personnel coordination for the Hub, the Twin Cities' only cooperatively owned bike shop. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

will lead passers-by in the timeless tradition of open-air French painting, and a chalk drawing competition will take place right in the middle of Lake St.

"We haven't even been open for a year," Cellai said, "but we already feel right at home here. The urban, multi-culturalism

of Longfellow is very much like where I grew up in Marseilles, France." She continued, "People have responded well to our 'working person's concept' of French food. It isn't fancy, but it provides comfort – and the local brews and craft cocktails don't hurt either."

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In the weeks preceding East Lake Open Streets, Le Town Talk Diner has been a mecca for bike enthusiasts watching and celebrating the Tour de France. Co-owner Emilie Cellai stood in front of two hand-made bicycles that would be raffled off on the last day of the tour. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

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LONGFELLOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

42nd Annual Longfellow Cornfeed

At Longfellow Park
3435-36th Avenue South

Thursday, August 13th

5:30-8:00pm



\$2 HOT & FRESH Roasted Sweet Corn

Entertainment by Rising Star Productions

Wood Fired Pizza from VESUVIOS & Food from Fireroast Cafe

Community Business Resource Fair w/ Informational Booths

Youth Activity Fee: \$5 UNLIMITED Wristband or \$1 per ticket

Face Painting, Bounce Houses, Giant Slide & Obstacle Courses



Minneapolis
Park & Recreation Board

LONGFELLOW
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 4th, is National Night Out! We hope you'll take advantage of this great opportunity to get out and meet your neighbors and have some fun doing it! In support of this event, the Longfellow Community Council is inviting Longfellow residents to make copies at the LCC Office, 2727 26th Avenue S. For more information, email communications@longfellow.org.

Late Summer Birding Hike in the Gorge

Saturday, August 29th, 7-9:30am

Join local birding experts Dave Zumeta and Lee Pfannmuller to explore our world-class flyway in the Longfellow River Gorge and see who's moving in the fall migration. Over 160 species have been observed in this area!

Beginner and experienced birders all welcome. Bring your own binoculars (or borrow a pair from us) and wear sturdy shoes for exploring the river bluffs, forest and banks.

This event is free, but RSVP is required. Email Joe at joe@longfellow.org to reserve a spot, find out where to meet up, and to request binoculars. Participation is limited to 30.

Sponsored by the LCC's River Gorge Committee.

Calling all artists and inspired community members!



Make your mark on Minnehaha Avenue as part of the road reconstruction and new streetscape design.

Longfellow Community Council, in partnership with Hennepin County, is seeking a logo design for approximately 130 new stainless-steel hoop bike racks that will be installed on Minnehaha Avenue between Lake Street and 46th Street. The design will be laser cut into a 10.125" diameter circular metal plate. The winning submission will be awarded \$500.

In order to be considered, submissions must be received by Sunday, August 16th @ 11:59pm in the form of a high resolution jpeg or vector file emailed to Joe at joe@longfellow.org. Please include creator's name, address, phone number and email address.

For full contest description, please visit longfellow.org/minnehahabikeracks

President's Message

Eric Day,
President of the Board

Howdy neighbors! I hope you are all having a great summer. I want to thank everyone that came out to the Longfellow Community Council's Summer Celebration at Fireroast Cafe on June 30th. The weather was perfect and it was a great evening with a wonderful turnout. I also want to personally thank all the local businesses that donated items to the silent auction, as well as those individuals that participated in the auction and helped provide much needed and greatly appreciated support for the LCC.

Between when I write this and when it is published, the Longfellow Community Council's River Gorge Committee will hold what I consider to be one of the best neighborhood events of the year - The River Gorge's Share the River Gorge Ice Cream Social. This year's event, on July 29th, featured free ice cream, as well as guided canoe trips on the Mississippi River and tours of the 36th Street Oak Savannah. If you weren't able to make it to this year's event, we hope you can next July, as this is one of the events that make living in Longfellow special.

Early August will be a great time to



Eric Day

be in Longfellow! I am so excited to see the return of Open Streets to our neighborhood. This year's event will be on East Lake Street on August 2nd from 11 am until 5 pm. This family friendly event is a great opportunity to experience East Lake Street in a unique new way. The Longfellow Community Council plans on having multiple tables along the route so I hope you will stop by one of our tables and say hello, and maybe even purchase a LCC t-shirt, tote bag or Longfellow365 photography book.

Just two days later on Tuesday, August 4th, is National Night Out. This is another great opportunity to get out of the house and meet some of your closest neighbors. If your block is like mine, there is a fair

amount of turnover with people moving in and out of the neighborhood every year. National Night Out is the perfect chance to meet those new neighbors as well as to discuss what you love about living in Longfellow and ideas for making the neighborhood even better. Together we make neighborhoods safer.

Finally, on August 13th from 5:30-8pm is the Longfellow Corn Feed at Longfellow Park. Somehow, I didn't discover this event for the first few years I lived in the neighborhood. I still remember how shocked I was to discover what I had been missing out on. The event includes a business resource fair, bounce houses and games for the kids, and as much corn as you can eat (for \$2 an ear) - as well as other dinner opportunities. The proceeds from this year's event go directly to supporting next year's event, so I hope you can make it out. Once again, the Longfellow Community Council will have a table at the resource fair so I hope you will stop by and say hello.

As always, we welcome your feedback and ideas for improving the neighborhood. The LCC is so grateful for our volunteers and we look forward to all of the great projects and events coming up around the neighborhood. Thanks again for your continued support and I'll see you around the neighborhood!

Calendar of Meetings and Events

AUGUST 2015

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

OPEN STREETS - EAST LAKE STREET

Sunday, August 2
11:00 am - 5:00 pm

ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 5
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Lake Coffee House, 3223 E Lake St
communications@longfellow.org

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Tuesday, August 11
6:30 - 8:00 pm
Longfellow Park, 3435 36th Ave S
joannalund@longfellow.org

RIVER GORGE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 12
6:30 - 8:00 pm
Hiawatha School Park, 4305 42nd St E
joannalund@longfellow.org

LONGFELLOW CORN FEED

Thursday, August 13
5:30 - 8:00 pm
Longfellow Park, 3435 36th Ave
communications@longfellow.org

LONGFELLOW COMMUNITY HAPPY HOUR

Tuesday, August 18
5:30 - 7:30 pm
Peppers & Fries, 3900 E Lake St

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Tuesday, August 11
6:30 - 8:00 pm
Lake Coffee House, 3223 E Lake St
joe@longfellow.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, August 20
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Minnehaha Academy north campus
Anderson Conference room

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Tuesday, August 25
6:30 - 8:00 pm
Lake Coffee House, 3223 E Lake St
joe@longfellow.org

COOPER

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LONGFELLOW



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Longfellow Community Council

2727 26th Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55406

612.722.4529 • www.longfellow.org

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Folwell Mural

Continued from page 7

Student helped design the mural

Folwell students under the direction of art teacher Alex Berry attended design activities, and there was an after school group that met weekly to work on the painting this spring. Four high school students worked as interns on the project, courtesy of the grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. Those students were Larry Whiten (South High), Stephanie Palacios (Roosevelt), Najma Omar (Roosevelt), and Evy Morgan (Roosevelt). Lead Assistant/Project Manager was Claudia Valentino with the help of Assistant Vivi Grieco.

"The fabrication took place in the Folwell Art Room, as well as in seven different locations throughout the neighborhoods, bringing the making of the mural to the streets," said McLain.

'I painted that!'

By using an innovative, indirect mural technique called the para-

chute design process, the mural was painted onto fabric and then assembled into larger panels and attached to the building's south-facing walls. This process preserved the historic masonry brick exterior at Folwell and allowed many people to paint without climbing scaffolding.

Seven painting parties were held between April and June. They were spread out at Corcoran Park, Nokomis Healthy Seniors, Folwell, Roosevelt, Midtown Farmers Market and Sibley Park.

Folwell Fine Arts Coordinator Gabrielle Bliss said she loved the parachute cloth process because everyone could participate.

"Hundreds of people from the greater community painted the mural, and will be able to point up to the mural when completed and say 'I painted that!'" observed SENA Board President Molly McCartney.

Community outreach was used at design events and painting parties. Folwell has a large population of Spanish-speaking students and families, so all information and communications were translated, and bilingual school staff and muralists introduced events and provided painting instruction. There was food and music, and the design and painting work was held in conjunction with other events like school performances. They also incorporated the project into neighborhood events like a soup supper, holiday tree lighting ceremony, and ice cream social.

There were several steps involved in the mural. First, workers projected an image of a piece of the mural onto a sheet of canvas. Once projected, the artists traced guidelines that helped them paint the image. Next, interns worked on the undercoating, which was the base layer of paint. After the undercoating was complete, the canvas went to McLain and her assistants, who painted layers on top of the base coat and added fine details to the mural.

Installation on the wall began on July 13 and lasted three weeks.



Project manager Claudia Valentino (right) and Bernardo Reyes work to install the mural on the wall on Wed., July 15. "The people who get to look at it every day got to be a part of it," remarked Reyes. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Beautiful reminder of connections

McCartney sends her two children to Folwell. "Through design and painting events, I think the mural has already added value to our neighborhoods. It has created spaces and opportunities for us to gather together and imagine the ways in which we are connected," she said.

"The final product—the mural—is going to add a beautiful visual reminder of those connections between the school and community, and that Folwell is once again a vibrant place."

Folwell now a performing arts magnet

"The mural both gave the students a public art making experience and announces to the community and world that we are an arts-focused school," said Bliss. "For many years Folwell was a community middle school, then the school was closed for five years, and now it has reopened as a new school. We want the neighbors to know."

"The mural project is a great way to introduce the school to the neighbors and develop new relationships," observed McCartney.

Folwell Performing Arts Magnet is a K-8 MPS Magnet school

that emphasizes learning in, and through, the arts.

This fall, the program will be starting its fourth year in the Folwell building; prior to that the school was located in the Ramsey School building on Nicollet Ave. and 50th St.

Folwell infuses arts into the curriculum and offers a variety of performing arts opportunities such as band, choir, dance, media, orchestra, theater, and visual arts. The school staff team believes that learning through the arts increases achievement in all areas.

Most Folwell students and families live in south Minneapolis, and the school population is as diverse as the city.

"Folwell is a good fit for our kids because it is a good school—they are happy there and are thriving academically," said McCartney. "The music programs are great, and kids are exposed to so many styles—from mariachi to rock-n-roll!"

She added, "I also like that it is a K-8 campus and has a diverse population of students and staff. Students also wear uniforms, which makes early mornings pretty easy!"

Unveiling Aug. 20

The community is invited to an unveiling of the mural during the back-to-school night on Aug. 20 at Folwell School. A presentation will occur from 4-5pm, and then there will be a dinner.

"I envision this mural will seed connections between the community and the school while showcasing the fabulous students and their art making!" said McLain. "Hopefully it is the beginning of many more collaborations between the school and the neighborhoods!"

You can find more information at <https://folwellconnections-mural.wordpress.com>.

SENA needs to fund raise approximately \$5,000 for matching funds. Find out more at <http://www.standish-ericsson.org> or contact the SENA office at 612-721-1601.



Eamonn McLain, brother to mural artist Greta McLain, pulls out a rolled up canvas before going up on the lift to install it on July 15. Installation began on July 13 and lasted three weeks. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

Bethany Lutheran
3901 36th Ave. S. • 612-729-9376
www.bethanyon36th.com

Pastor Jo Bauman
Sundays:
9:30 am - Worship
10:30 am - Coffee & Fellowship
Saturday, July 18
5 pm - Soul+Food Dinner Church
Kids' Day Camp - Aug. 3-6
Register by July 27

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

Children especially welcome
Contemporary Worship - 9:00 am
Traditional Worship - 10:30 am
VBS - Aug. 10-14 Preschool-5th grade
Register by Aug. 5

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

Rev. Pam Armstrong
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
(Childcare Provided)
(Wheelchair Accessible)

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

Pastors Dan Ankerfelt & Sally Ankerfelt
Sabbatical Support Pastor: (June 21-
October 5, 2015) Dr. Hollie Holt-Woehl
Sunday Worship - 9:45 am
(Handicapped accessible)

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.net

Julie A. Ebbesen, Pastor
Worship: 9 and 10:30 am,
Summer: 9 am only
Education for all: 9 am
(Childcare; Wheelchair Acc., Braille)
Coffee 10 am

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

Pastors Derek Johnson & Matt Oxendale
Sunday Worship 10:00 am
AA Meetings Tuesdays/Sundays 7:00 pm

Projects of the Neighborhood Churches Include:

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

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



The new mural at Folwell Performing Arts School faces the playground. When complete, the 2,000-square-foot mural will cover the majority of the south-facing walls. Overseeing the project was muralist Greta McLain who attended the performing arts school when it was located in the Ramsey school building. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

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 for the online Event Calendar.

Kids Day Camp planned Aug. 3-6

Bethany Lutheran Church (3901 36th Ave. S.) invites all kids from Kindergarten to 6th grade to its Day Camp, Mon.-Thur., Aug. 3-6, from 9am-3pm. The day camp will culminate with a program and ice cream social for families on Thursday evening. The children will enjoy music, crafts, games, and Bible stories. The theme this year is "A Love That Never Ends." \$25 includes all materials, snacks and lunch. Scholarships are available. Please register by July 27 at www.bethanyon36th.com, by calling 612-729-9376, or by emailing office@bethanyon36th.com.

Volunteer visitors needed for seniors

Help seniors stay in their homes and keep socially connected. If you have a heart for seniors, you'll love this volunteer position. We're looking for "Friendly Visitors" to visit isolated seniors in the greater Longfellow and Seward neighborhoods. Call Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 or email info@lshealthyseniors.org for more information.

SS planning session slated Aug. 8 and 13

Join Thrivent Financial representatives, Anne Kersten, FIC, and Chase LaPan on Sat., Aug. 8, 1pm, at the Nokomis Public Library, 5100 34th Ave. S., for "Savvy Social Security Planning - What Baby Boomers need to know to maximize retirement income." The program will also be held at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church, 1620 E. 46th St. on Thur., Aug. 13 at 4pm.

This complimentary presentation will explore the basics of Social Security and strategies for maximizing benefits. Space is limited, so please contact Debby Teske at 952-658-6221 or email debra.teske@thrivent.com to RSVP.

No products will be sold at this event.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and its respective associates and employees have general knowledge of the Social Security tenets; however, they do not have the professional expertise for a complete discussion of the details of your specific situation. For additional information, contact your local Social Security Administration office.

NA meeting open every Friday night

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3430 E. 51st St., hosts

a Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meeting every Friday from 7-9pm. Everyone is welcome.

Vision is topic at meeting Aug. 18

Join the Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Community Education for a presentation on vision loss and strategies for doing things with low vision. The meeting will take place 4 Tues., Aug. 18 at 10:30am at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. Vision loss can be one of the most traumatic experiences a person can face, yet, some simple strategies and a few tools can make a big difference. Lisa Larges with State Services for the Blind will discuss causes of vision loss and strategies for doing things non-visually, plus demonstrate some of the many products now available. If you have macular degeneration, glaucoma or any other vision issues, plan to attend this session.

Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors is now on Social Media! Like us on Facebook and follow us Twitter today, to stay informed on resources, opportunities and upcoming events!

Social and dinner planned Aug. 12

Longfellow Garden Club Social and Dinner in the Garden is planned for Wed., Aug. 12. It's time to spend a late summer evening outdoors talking—and eating—all things garden, and sharing pictures and stories you bring of this gardening season. The location is a nearby member's beautiful garden!

Bring a folding chair (if you care to) and something to share—a dish using your (or other local) produce is the theme. Ice water and tea will be provided. Feel free to bring a plate/utensils—we are trying to achieve close to a zero waste event.

We will start a bit earlier, at 6:30. Directions to the potluck will be available after 6pm at the front door of the Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S. See us at LongfellowGardenClubMail@gmail.com or go to www.facebook.com/LongfellowGardenClub.

Meeting on Snelling Yards project

The city is in the process of issuing a request for proposal (RFP) for the Snelling Yards site (46th and Snelling) to be developed. You are invited to join Council Member Andrew Johnson and City staff to learn about the process and to share your thoughts on draft development objectives for the site. The meeting will take place on Thur., Aug. 6, 6:30pm

at Hiawatha School Park, 4305 E 42nd St.

You can call the 12th Ward office at 612-673-2212 if you have additional questions.

Concert planned at Stevens House

"From Conch Shell Trumpet to Highland Bagpipes, Ten thousand years of music at Minnehaha Falls" will be played and talked by street musician Duke Addicks, Minnehaha Creek Explorer and Historian on Sun., Aug. 2, 2pm. This program was rescheduled from July 12. Addicks will perform at the Historic John H. Stevens House Museum, in Minnehaha Falls Park, across from the 50th St. LRT Station. Admission is free.

Annual Corn Feed planned Aug. 13

The 45th annual Longfellow Corn Feed will be held Thur., Aug. 13 from 5:30-8pm. The event, held at Longfellow Park (3435 36th Ave. S.) features fresh roasted sweet corn for \$2. There will be entertainment by Rising Star Productions. Vesuvios will be there with their wood-fired pizza, and a community business resource fair will be set up with informational booths. For the kids, there will be face painting, bounce houses, giant slide and obstacle courses. The Youth Activity fee is \$1 per tickets, or \$5 for an unlimited wristband. For more information or if you are interested in volunteering, please call 612-370-4957 or email longfellow@minneapolisparcs.org.

Yoga in the park through Oct. 10

Join your neighbors for 12 weeks of Yoga in Longfellow Park, thanks to a small grant from Allina Health. Starts on Sat., July 25 from 10 to noon. Meet at the front door of Longfellow Park. People of all ages and ability levels are welcome for this free program.

"The First Waltz" premieres Aug. 12

Sound Unseen presents the Minnesota premiere of director Justin Kreutzmann, "The First Waltz" (2014, USA, 94 min, HD) on the rock n roll supergroup, Hard Working Americans. The screening is Wed., Aug. 12, 7pm at Trylon microcinema, 3258 Minnehaha Ave., and the cost is \$10.

Mixing intimate concert performances, road scenes, personal tales, and studio footage, "The First Waltz" arrives at a crucial moment to remind us that Jerry Garcia is as important as Ben

Franklin, and that rock 'n' roll is as much a birthright as The Constitution.

Vacation Bible School scheduled

Children in preschool through grade 5 are invited to "Shining Star" Bible School, jointly sponsored by Epworth United Methodist Church and St. James AME. Through music, stories, crafts and games, children will learn to "live a life that shines." Cost is \$5 per person with discounts for large families. VBS is from 9am to 1pm, Aug. 10-14, at Epworth UMC, 3207 37th Ave. S. It includes a light lunch. A celebration worship and picnic is Sun., Aug. 16, 10:30am in Longfellow Park. For information call 612-722-0232 (leave a message) or e-mail, EpworthUMCmplsmn@gmail.com.

Christ & S'Mores planned Aug. 19

All ages are welcome at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church (4101 37th Ave. S.) for "Christ & S'Mores" on Wed., Aug. 19 at 7:30pm on the front lawn of the church. Come and join your neighbors for some great summer fun!

Program on Gaza scheduled Aug. 9

Elaine Bradley, recently returned from 8 months in Gaza and the West Bank, will give a first-hand account of the lives of the 1.8 million people in Gaza one year after Israel's 51-day bombing assault. The program will take place via Skype from Ireland on Sun., Aug. 9, at 4200 Cedar Ave. S. from 1-2pm. The program is sponsored by the Middle East Committee of Women Against Military Madness. It is free and open to the public.

Elaine Bradley is the former CEO of Volunteering Ireland and an organizational consultant who has worked with governments, the UN, and the EU. As a Ph.D. candidate at Trinity College Dublin, Elaine's research topic is "Incremental Genocide: Exploring Israel's Policy towards the Gaza Strip within the Framework of the UN Convention on Genocide."

Career workshop planned for women

Trapped in a job that doesn't pay enough? AmeriCorps VISTA career counselors will help you find ways to increase your income, get a promotion or develop a new career path. Women Achieving New Directions (WAND) offers individual counseling and on-going career development work-

shops. A workshop hosted by Health Partners on "Resumes & Cover Letters" is scheduled to be held on Thur., Aug. 6, from 6-8pm at 2143 Lowry Ave. N. On-site child care and a light meal provided. To RSVP for the workshop call Pat in Minneapolis at 612-752-8554. For more information about WAND go to www.resource-mn.org/employment-services/womens-employment-programs.

Events planned at East Lake Library

Nonfiction Book Club will meet Tue., Aug. 4, 6:30-7:30 pm. They will discuss "Plutocrats: The Rise of the New Global Super-Rich and the Fall of Everyone Else" by Chrystia Freeland. Join the discussion of new and interesting nonfiction titles. Bring along your recommendations for future meetings. Lending copies may be picked up at the information desk prior to meeting. Sept. 1, 6:30pm they will discuss "How We Got to Now: Six Innovations that Made the Modern World" by Steven Johnson.

Group Storytime will meet Wed., Aug. 5, 10:15am. Talk, sing, read, write and play together in a format appropriate for the children in your care. Share books, stories, rhymes, music, and movement.

Teen Geekery Club meets Thur., Aug. 6, 6pm. For students entering grades 6-12 who are an anime and manga fan. Are you a cosplayer? A fan of Doctor Who, Sherlock, Homestuck or Supernatural? If yes to any of these, Teen Geekery Club is for you! Watch anime, share your artwork and discuss your favorite fandoms.

Senior Surf Day is scheduled for Fri., Aug. 14, 9:30-11:30am. Learn computer basics, how to navigate and search the Internet and how to access websites of interest to seniors. Get hands-on computer experience with help from representatives of the Senior LinkAge Line®.

The Adult Book Club will meet Fri., Aug. 14, 10:30-11:30am. They will discuss "The Glass Castle" by Jeannette Walls. Join the discussion of new and interesting titles. Bring along your recommendations for future meetings. Lending copies may be picked up at the information desk prior to meeting.

Weekly programs include Conversation Circles on Sundays, 3-5pm where non-native English speakers can practice English.

Job Search Assistance is every Tuesday from 3-5pm. Get one-to-one assistance with your job search. If you need help filling out job applications, writing your resume, or finding job leads this is your opportunity to speak

Continued on page 13

In Our Community

Continued from page 12

with a job counselor and get some help with your job search, connections to community resources and training programs. No appointment is necessary.

If your schedule is busy, plan ahead to join the Busy People Book Club! Each month they read and discuss a book that is under 200 pages. Bring along your quick read recommendations for future meetings. Pick up a copy of the book at the information desk. On Sept. 14, they will discuss "The Ocean at the End of the Lane" by Neil Gaiman; Oct. 12 the book will be "The Hen Who Dreamed She Could Fly" by Son Mi Hwang; and on Nov. 9 they will discuss "Chronicle of a Death Foretold" by Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

The Community Curious Series will present the Longfellow League of Artists on Aug. 18, 7-8pm. Come hear a TED Talk-style presentation from local organizations and learn about the special ways they connect with the community! All Curious Community sessions feature South Minneapolis organizations - encouraging participants to get curious about the unique spaces, places and faces in the community. Future presentations are Sept. 15 (Hack Factory - Maker Space), Oct. 20 (Ballare Teatro) and Nov. 17 (Migizi Communications).

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.

FrameWorks to feature Jane Weis

The FrameWorks (2022 Ford Pkwy. #A, St. Paul) will feature St. Paul artist Jane Weis in an exhibition from Aug. 15-Sept. 19. "Home and Abroad" is a series of oil paintings Weis created, documenting her surroundings at home, in other states, and overseas.

Please join the artist for the opening Sat., Aug. 15 from 7-9pm. Food, drinks, art and fun are the agenda.

Also on display are works from artists Laura Frykman, Marty Owings, Marjorie Moody, Susan Solomon, and Kathy Litwin. Sculptor Alexander Tylevich will also be debuting some new works you won't want to miss.

MN350 meet scheduled Aug. 11

Interested in climate change and doing something about it? At MN350, so are they! Come to their next Community Meeting, Tue., Aug. 11, 6:30-8:30pm at Gandhi Mahal Community Room, 3009 27th Ave. S. Enjoy some great appetizers and hear what their engaged teams of people are working on! For more information, contact Kathy@MN350.org.

Savers signs regulatory agreement with Attorney General

Editor's Note: The Messenger did a story on Savers being investigated by the Attorney General in our January 2015 issue. The local Savers is at 2124 E. Lake St.

Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson recently announced that retail thrift store chain Savers has signed an agreement with her office to address practices raised in a lawsuit filed by her office against the company in June and in a compliance report issued by her office in 2014.

"Donors need transparency to decide whether and how to donate. This agreement requires enhanced transparency about the role of Savers and the amount that goes to charity. Savers will also credit all donations to the charity to which the donor intends to donate and pay charities

for both clothing and non-clothing donations," said Swanson.

Among other things, the agreement provides for the following:

- Not a non-profit. Savers will disclose that it is a for-profit fundraising company and will not lead donors to believe it is a non-profit organization;
- No co-mingling. Savers will label, track, and segregate donations so that it fully and accurately compensates the charity to which the donor intended to donate the goods. If Savers accepts donations for more than one charity, it will establish effective mechanisms to ensure that all donations are credited to the charity to which the donor intends to donate;
- Payment for non-clothing donations. Savers will not solicit

donations for which it does not compensate the charity on whose behalf the donation was made. If Savers accepts non-clothing donations (e.g., books, toys, furniture, electronics, etc.), it must pay the charity directly for each and every such donation;

—Payment disclosures. Savers will prominently display in each store and disclose in all written solicitations the actual amount it pays the charity for donations;

—Registration. Savers will not resume soliciting donations in Minnesota without first becoming registered as a professional fundraiser with the Minnesota Attorney General's Office for each charity on whose behalf it intends to solicit donations. Among other things, this will require it to file a contract with the charity that discloses the percent-

age of the amount solicited that will be received by the charity. It also must file annual financial reports of the amount generated from the sale of the goods in the thrift stores and the amount paid to charity;

—Tax receipts. Savers will not distribute tax receipts to donors for one charity when a consumer intended to donate to another charity; and

—Payments to charities. Savers will pay \$300,000 each (for a total of \$1.8 million) to True Friends, Courage Kenney Foundation, Lupus Foundation of Minnesota, Disabled American Veterans, District of Minnesota, Inc., Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota, and Vietnam Veterans of America.

Peppers & Fries renovation wins architectural design award

The American Institute of Architects Minneapolis chapter has awarded a Merit Award to CityDeskStudio, for their innovative renovation of an abandoned gas station into a vibrant neighborhood restaurant, Peppers & Fries Burger & Burrito Grill.

The AIA Minneapolis Merit Award recognizes projects that tell a compelling story of excellence beyond the single component of design. It recognizes the variety of components and forces that shape a building and enrich the lives of the users, as well as, the depth of experience, knowledge, and passion that architects bring to their projects.

This project reinvigorated a corner of Lake St. that was an empty building, an unkempt lot, and overgrown vegetation for six years. The site was plagued by squatters, graffiti taggers, and trash dumpers.

According to the architect, Ben Awes, "The greatest challenge was in using an existing Super America building instead of building new. The building is a simple masonry structure with little or no insulation." His firm's approach was "to fit in and stand out" by highlighting and building upon what was already there. Existing materials were used wherever possible, and reclaimed wood was used for tables and bar tops. Concrete floors were simply ground down and finished, which alleviated the need for new flooring materials. Large glass pull-up garage doors were installed to connect the outside patio with the life and energy within, creating a vibrant indoor/outdoor space that Minnesotan's crave.

"It is great to see cars parked in front of what had been a dark and vacant building," says Ruth Romano of the Longfellow Business Association. "A clean and cheerful space and good food at reasonable prices, has attracted a steady stream of repeat customers and young families from the neighborhood and beyond. It adds to the revitalization of a commercial corridor once known more for car dealerships than burgers and burritos."

With Ben Awes' vision and collaboration with the rest of the development team (Denise Fierst Designs, and local general contractor Emerald Builders) Steve Frias and his daughter Marie saw their dream become a reality. Peppers & Fries is an urban restaurant and sports bar that combines a love of authentic scratch-made burgers and

burritos, a passion for baseball, and a commitment to the local neighborhood. Only blocks from the Mississippi River, Peppers & Fries, fills a hole on the east end of Lake

St., and a need in the local community. Becoming a neighborhood gathering spot, and making a positive contribution to the local community, are part of the restaurant's

mission.

An upcoming issue of *Architectural MN* will feature a story and photos on the project.

Local students' project explodes along with the SpaceX's rocket

Students in Minnehaha Academy's Applied Research in Engineering program were especially disappointed to watch the SpaceX's unmanned rocket explode just after takeoff from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida in late June. On board was their biology experiment destined for the International Space Station (ISS).

The students had worked for eight months designing, testing, building, and sterilizing the experiment to measure the effects of microgravity on bacteria growth and using artificial shark skin to inhibit that growth. This experiment is important because bacteria have been shown to be more virulent in space travel. The students hoped the results of their experiment would help protect astronauts from infectious diseases and improve space flight conditions.

Student team members Hazen Mayo and Andrew Johnson were at Cape Canaveral to witness the launch. "It was an incredible disappointment seeing a years' worth of collaboration and research and time and energy come to an abrupt and untimely end," Mayo told KARE 11. "As soon as I saw it, I knew something had gone terribly wrong." Despite the turn of events, Mayo and her fellow teammates have remained positive.

"This is a great teachable moment for our students," said Minnehaha Academy's ISS science teacher Sam Terfa. "Space exploration is tough work, dangerous and disappointing at times. Science and engineering require people to prepare for the worst case scenario and be as thorough as possible."

While the rocket explosion is certainly disappointing to the ISS team and the whole school community, they concur with the statement from NASA: "this is a reminder that spaceflight is an incredible challenge, but we learn from each success and each

setback. This launch attempt will not deter us from our ambitious human spaceflight program."

And it will not deter Minnehaha Academy students; they are planning to design two experiments to launch to the ISS in the 2015-2016 school year.

"Studying the effects of microgravity is frontier science," Terfa said. "Our students have the ability to discover new things that were never known before in science. So many times science classes only cover what has already been discovered. It's rare that students can learn something brand new about the universe. While it's tough developing these experiments, and at times the results never come how they thought they would, it's completely worth it to learn new skills."

City plans more protected bike lanes

More protected bikeways are coming to Minneapolis streets. The City Council recently amended its Bicycle Master Plan to address protected bikeways and recommend streets that would be good candidates for them.

The Minneapolis Bicycle Master Plan approved in 2011 addressed a broad range of bikeway facility types but did not specifically address on-street protected bikeways. This amendment updates the plan to address a near-term network of protected bikeways while also laying out a plan to achieve the creation of 30 miles of new on-street protected bikeways by 2020. The 30-mile goal was a recommendation in the City's Climate Action Plan.

None of the proposed additional protected lanes appears to be in the *Messenger* delivery area.

There's growing interest in Minneapolis and throughout the country to create more protected bikeways, which are areas for bi-

cycles physically separated from motor vehicle traffic. Off-street bike trails are the most common type of protected bikeways. However, protected bikeways may also be located along street corridors as long as they are separated from traffic lanes. This can be done with parked cars, curbs, medians, flexible traffic posts, planters or other vertical features.

The revised Bicycle Master Plan now identifies streets and corridors recommended for protected bikeways in the near future. This includes projects slated to get protected bikeways this construction season.

The amended Bicycle Master Plan can be found on the City's website at www.minneapolismn.gov/bicycles.

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LANDSCAPING

Pangea Theater wins national grant to fund art experiences on Lake St.

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Pangea World Theater has won a \$120,500 grant from ArtPlace America, a national grant-making program that upholds arts and culture as critical pieces of community life. The funds are being used to partner with the Lake Street Council, a cohort of artists, and local businesses to create multi-media installations and build community in a program called Lake Street Arts.

The Lake Street corridor has been steadily improving, thanks in no small part by the success of Latino, East African and other immigrant-owned businesses. While these businesses exist in proximity to one another, they are often quite separate. The goal of Lake Street Arts is to use artist-led experiences as a bridge across ethnic lines.

"Poetry in the Windows" is one of the grant-funded initiatives that will soon start appearing along E. Lake St. For this project, business owners will make window space available to display poems written by local youth ages 16-23 on the subject of home. Pangea's Alejandra Tobar-Alatriz, project coordinator for Lake Street Arts, said, "The intention is to provide a platform for these voices to be heard."

The youth, who identify themselves as indigenous, immigrant and/or people of color, are responding to a call for artists put out by social media, fliers, youth groups, community organizations and mentors in the spoken-word and writing scenes. The poems tell stories of transformation, injustice, loneliness, and family. They'll be printed on plastic clings at least 2' by 3' in size, and will remain up in the windows of host businesses through November.

The question of what is home is very relevant to Lake St. Long considered the main corridor for start-up immigrant businesses, it has seen several waves of immigration since its humble beginnings. In 1885, Lake St. was just a country road—a dividing line between farm sections. Not one business existed on its six-mile stretch across town. The only corner that held even the slightest promise for development was the intersection of

Lake and Nicollet. By the turn of the last century, Minneapolis had drawn a significant Scandinavian immigrant population. German and Latvian immigrants followed and, most recently, large numbers of Latinos and East Africans have put down business and family roots here.



Meena Natarajan, executive/literary director of Pangea World Theater, said that "being an immigrant is about constantly stepping into multiple worlds." The Poetry in the Windows project invites young writers to express how it feels to live in their world, and then to share it in a host business which may be owned by someone of a different ethnicity. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

ferent foods. I started to ask myself very early on, what does it really mean to live and work together across differences?"

Natarajan continued, "At Pangea, we believe that no one needs to be invisible. Our theater has been based on Lake St. for years, and we are excited to continue building more focused and intentional relationships in the community through Lake Street Arts."

Pangea World Theater is located at 711 W. Lake St. Natarajan and her husband, Dipankar Mukherjee, has been making plays there for 20 years about race, gender, ethnicity, human rights, politics and social justice. The scope of what goes on at Pangea is huge: the work illuminates the human condition, celebrates cultural differences and promotes human rights by presenting international, multi-disciplinary theater.

The good news for residents of the E. Lake neighborhood is that Pangea World Theater is in the early stages of relocating to E. Lake St., if a suitable space is found.

Poetry in the Windows will be on view in several business windows along East Lake Street including Elsa's House of Sleep, the Himalaya, Gandhi Mahal, la Alborada Market, Heart of the Beast Puppet Theatre, East Lake Library, Longfellow Market, Lake Coffee House, J-Klips Barber & Beauty Shop, Taco Taxi, Ingebretson's, Mercado Central, Patrick's Cabaret and the Midtown Global Market.

Alejandra Tobar-Alatriz, the project coordinator for Lake Street Arts, is a dancer, actor, director and community organizer. She explained that Pangea World Theater was one of 55 organizations across the country to receive a grant from ArtPlace America. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

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Meena Natarajan is the executive/literary director of the Pangea World Theater. She grew up in Mumbai, the most populous city in India. Natarajan speaks three languages fluently. "In India, I was constantly listening to different languages," she said, "seeing different types of clothing, tasting dif-



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Volunteers needed to raise monarchs

Volunteers are needed to raise adult butterflies for the 7th annual Minneapolis Monarch Festival – Festival de la Monarca™ on Sept. 12.

At the Festival, the University of Minnesota Monarch Lab will release over 100 butterflies marked with a small, weather-proof identification sticker (tag). The tagged adult monarchs, raised from eggs by volunteers, will be part of a large-scale study of the monarch's migration. Monarchs tagged and released at the Festival are raised in small numbers from eggs collected in the wild. These individuals will be physiologically programmed for migration. Also since wild monarch populations are now perilously small, they are particularly vulnerable to disease or genetic adaptations, which can be introduced from large rearing operations.

A one-hour training teaches volunteers about monarch biology and best rearing practices for each stage of the monarch life cycle. Each person will receive three monarch eggs and all equipment needed to raise an adult from an egg and bring it to the Festival. Two trainings will be held, both at Nokomis Community Center:

—Training session 1: Sat., Aug. 15, from 11:30am-12:30pm. (<http://goo.gl/forms/zJmwyb53QC>)

—Training session 2: Mon., Aug. 17, 2015 from 6pm-7pm. (<http://goo.gl/forms/aVDsH1E3e>)

Training costs \$5 per person to cover staff time, rearing supplies, and eggs. Class sizes are



Monarch butterflies raised by volunteers will be tagged with a small sticker and released at the 7th annual Minneapolis Monarch Festival – Festival de la Monarca™ on Sept. 12, at Lake Nokomis.

limited so register soon! Spanish speakers are welcome. Classes will be conducted in English and training materials are available in both languages.

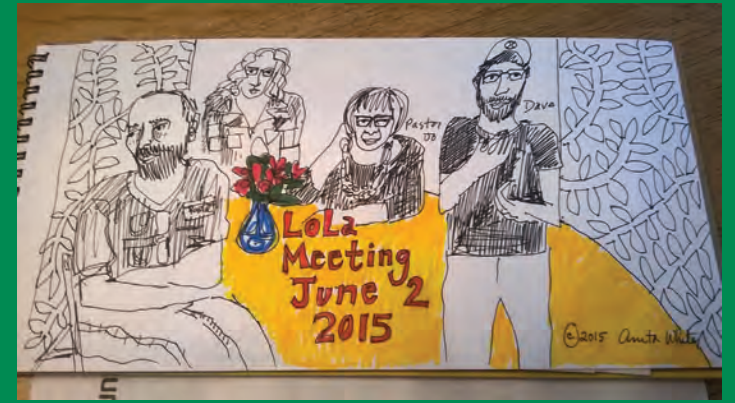
Registration and information can be found at: www.minneapolisparcs.org.

"Anyone can sign up for a session. We welcome those with zero experience wishing to learn, as well as those with years of experience wishing to ask specific questions or just hone their skills," says Dane Elmquist of the Monarch Lab. Kids are especially welcome to participate. However, one requirement for successful rearing is access to a consistent source of non-treated milkweed.

Most tagged butterflies are recovered in Mexico, where local residents are hired to find them.

However, many more monarchs are tagged than found. Data about these butterflies is collected by Monarch Watch and used to learn about monarch orientation and navigation, and estimate their populations.

The Minneapolis Monarch Festival – Festival de la Monarca™ celebrates the 2,300 mile monarch migration from Minnesota to Mexico and will take place at Lake Nokomis on Sept. 12, from 10am to 4pm. This bilingual, family-oriented event features hands-on learning, art activities with local artists, and a musical lineup with Salsa del Sol and The Brass Messengers. The monarch and habitat exhibits offer many ideas for actions that will help preserve the iconic monarch butterfly and its migration.



Local artist chronicles the everyday events of the neighborhood

Local artist Anita White has been avidly documenting Longfellow activities through her art. Little escapes her journal, from a recent meeting of the Longfellow Garden Club to many paintings of the ongoing road construction (below) and League of Longfellow Artists (LoLa) art crawl meetings (above). White co-founded LoLa in 2009 with another local artist, Bob Schmitt.



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