



Michelle Hensley writes book about theater

Page 3



The happiness that comes with cupcakes

Page 8



Nokomis Craft and Arts Fair scheduled May 2

Page 13

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Access to be maintained along Minnehaha during reconstruction

Local business owners want the public to know they're still open and accessible during this major construction period

By TESSA M. CHRISTENSEN

Signs are up and road construction has begun on Minnehaha Ave.

While it may not be a paved surface, a travel route through the area will be maintained.

"You will be able to get in and get out," promised project manager Daniel Lonnes of Bolton & Menck, Inc.

Minnehaha Falls Nursery and Landscaping owner Bob Lindgren wants his customers to know that he's open and they can get through to purchase plants.

The other day he got a call asking if they were closed. "I want to let people know we're here, we're open for business, and once you get in here you'll still be able to get everything you've gotten previous years," he assured.

The nursery has opened an entrance off 40th Ave., and staff will be helping people out to



Charleen Zimmer will be managing the communication efforts between residents and businesses during the reconstruction. Prior to construction in an area, businesses are queried regarding business hours, peak times, mail, trash and deliveries. This pre-planning will minimize problems during the work. (Photo by Tessa M. Christensen)

their cars as needed. "We want to make it as easy as possible to shop here," said Lindgren.

Lindgren is particularly con-

cerned about how the project timing affects his business, which is busiest in the spring. "The timing couldn't be worse," he stat-

ed. He is hoping that the road in front of his business, at 4461 Minnehaha Ave. S., isn't torn up until mid-May.

As soon as the orange construction signs went up on Apr. 13, he noticed that the road emptied.

"It's one season, and we just have to do our best to cope with it," said Lindgren.

Dairy Queen owner Paul Ferguson noticed a drop in business right away, which he estimated at 20%.

"It's going to be a tough three months for me," observed Ferguson, "but it's a little better than I thought it would be."

So far, Ferguson has been glad to see that while access from Minnehaha is limited, people can use the Parkway to get to him. When the Parkway is blocked, people will be able to come in through Minnehaha.

He also faces the challenge of keeping staff when business is slow, but being ready when the construction in front of the Dairy Queen ends mid-summer.

Ferguson acknowledged that people don't like going out of their way and will avoid a business if the road is under construction.

"Come on, get a Dairy Queen!" Ferguson encourages. "Drive around, go through the hassle and get down here."

"We're coming into your living room"

The final pre-construction meeting hosted by the Longfellow

Business Association (LBA) was held on Mar. 26, at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church.

"We encourage people to shop Minnehaha," said LBA Co-Chair Kathy Nelson. She added that ad campaigns will help that effort.

Council member Andrew Johnson encouraged people, "Don't hesitate to reach out to my office."

"We understand the sensitivity of construction," observed Hennepin County senior construction engineer Paul Backer. "We're coming into your living room. You're trying to get business done."

Road construction will be staged so that only four blocks of the corridor will be torn up at any one time over the next two years. However, the roadway will also be affected by a gas pipeline replacement that will go up to E. 32nd St. this year.

Bicycles are encouraged



Paul Backer, the county's senior construction engineer on the Minnehaha Ave. project assured business owners, "We understand the sensitivity of construction." (Photo by Tessa M. Christensen)

to use Snelling Ave. one block over, and buses will be detoured around the construction zone. Non-local traffic is being detoured to Hiawatha Ave.

"The project was specifically staged to minimize disruptions to business," noted Lonnes. He added that one of the key principals of the project is accessibility. "A lot of thought has gone into trying to minimize impact to business," said Lonnes.

Lonnes affirmed that project communications is a top priority. "We don't want to just

Continued on page 5

Local artist wins prestigious illustration award

Taylor Payton honored as one of 12 illustrators from around the world to be named Illustrator of the Future

By JAN WILLMS

A very old soul lives within the body of artist Taylor Payton. The 24-year-old Longfellow resident speaks with a maturity that exceeds his chronological age as he describes his philosophy of art, his work and his hopes for the future.

Returning from a recent trip to Hollywood, where he was one of 12 illustrators from around the globe honored by

the L. Ron Hubbard Achievement Awards as an Illustrator of the Future, he talked about his experiences there as well as the art he creates in Minneapolis.

"I don't believe I truly became aware of wanting to pursue illustration professionally until I was about 21," Payton said. "I liked to animate when I was 14, and I ended up going to college for that when I was 18. But during college I had this

shift, and I realized I really enjoyed the old master painters, particularly those of the 18th and 19th centuries, as well as those in the golden age of illustration. There was something about their imagery that captivated me so much that I knew I couldn't ignore it."

Payton said he began vying for a similar degree of cre-

Continued on page 4



Taylor Payton was honored by the L. Ron Hubbard Achievement Awards as an Illustrator of the Future. (Photo by Jan Willms)

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

Publishers:

Calvin deRuyter, Tim Nelson

Managing Editor:

Calvin deRuyter, editorial@deruyternelson.com

Advertising:

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

Production:

Tim Nelson

Contributing Writers:

Tesha M. Christensen, Jan Willms, Jill Boogren,
 Matthew Davis, Margie O'Loughlin, Loren Green

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Farmers Market opens for season on May 2

At last! Spring is here and with it, the beginning of the Midtown Farmers Market season! On May 2, 9am-1pm, come check out the Opening Day Food Truck Fest at the market to taste some of the first fresh produce of the year, and graze through the delicious offerings of some of the Twin Cities' best food trucks. Come early to hear music by the Wailing Loons and stay for the Roe Family Singers.

The market is located at the southwest corner of the intersection of East Lake St. and Hiawatha Ave., at 2225 E. Lake St. This year, to accommodate construction of Hennepin County's Family Service Center along with Phase 1 of the L&H Station development, the market will be operating just around the corner from where it has previously been. A Public Plaza to accommodate the Midtown Farmers Market and other public activities will be built during Phase 2 of the development.

The Midtown Farmers Market will be open from 8am to 1pm every Saturday from May 2 through Oct. 24. Starting June 2, the market will also be open every Tuesday from 3pm to 7pm through Oct. 27.

And, being right next to the light rail line, you can ride the Blue Line to the market for FREE on the first Saturday of every month? Thanks go to our partners at MetroTransit for this opportunity!

Stay tuned and visit the Midtown Farmers Market website in the coming weeks for more details and to download your free pass.

Come to the market hungry because the all these amazing food trucks and ready-to-eat food vendors will be onsite serving delectable dishes: Kabomelette, The Moral Ominvore, Peep's Hot Box, Firetoast Cafe, Wild Earth Wood Fired Pizza and more!

Once you've had something delicious to eat, please stop by the Memorial Blood Centers donation bus to donate blood and save lives! Then treat yourself to a happy spring gift or find the perfect gift for the mothers in your life.

The location of the farmers market this season offers new opportunities to engage more fully with our surroundings. This summer, they will partner with the placemaking firm The Musicant Group to transform underused portions of the new space into active places for people to enjoy. Visitors will be treated to outdoor ping pong, sloped seating and a giant skeeball game on the grassy knoll fronting the LRT station. These installations will not only improve the market experience, but help guide the eventual design and programming of the permanent plaza to be built as part of phase 2 of the L&H Station development.



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"All The Lights On"

Longfellow resident writes book on high-impact theater

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Michelle Hensley is a Longfellow resident and founder/artistic director of the theater group Ten Thousand Things (TTT). She's also a newly published author and her book, "All the Lights on: Reimagining Theater with Ten Thousand Things," is a terrific read for anyone interested in the power of human connection.

According to Hensley, Ten Thousand Things "refers to the overabundance of material things in the world."

"When I was in my early twenties," she said, "I knew I loved theater and thought it might be what I wanted to do with my life, but something about it made me uncomfortable. Looking around at the well-dressed audience before the lights went down, I saw mostly upper-middle class, white people. So many others were being left out. Our American theater experience is impoverished be-

cause our audience is so narrow."

Hensley, an Iowa native, grew up in a family where justice and politics were conversation topics at the dinner table. Educated at Princeton University and the UCLA School of Directing, her guiding principle since starting TTT more than 20 years ago has been that theater is essential to all our lives.

TTT performs three plays annually, doing 15 or so performances of each play in non-traditional venues, and the same number in traditional ones. Non-traditional venues include homeless shelters, correctional facilities, low-income housing, nursing homes and community centers. Traditional venues for the troupe include The Open Book, Bedlam Theater and Plymouth Congregational Church.

TTT actors never perform on a stage. They use the floor, putting performers and audience

members on the same level. A circle of chairs no more than three rows deep provides the seating. All the lights are left on, so everybody can see everybody else. The music, created and played by music director Peter Vitale, is live and original. Sets, props and costumes are kept to a minimum, and what remains is pure theater.

This way of working is not the norm, but Hensley believes it goes a long way toward breaking down barriers. "Traditional audiences have just as many barriers to overcome as non-traditional audiences—they're just different barriers," she noted. "While a non-traditional audience may think, this is going to be so boring or, theater is just for rich people, traditional audiences tend to view a play from a critical, aesthetic distance because they've seen so much theater."

Hensley is passionate about finding audiences that really care about the plays, and are impacted in significant ways by the timeless power of great stories.

Hensley said TTT audiences respond to "stories with revenge, greed, lust and love. They are easy to connect with because they're universal challenges. Anything that takes the viewer to another place outside their own world is worth considering. Fairy tales, for instance, engage the imagination without hitting too close to home. In a fairy tale, anyone can be anything. I also like plays that have a big cast of characters, with people from all walks of life."

TTT's repertory has lots of Shakespeare in it. To his credit, the Bard figured out 500 years ago how to write for all people.



Michelle Hensley, founder and artistic director of Ten Thousand Things (TTT). (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

"Groundlings" were viewers who paid a penny for their tickets, and stood on the ground directly in front of the stage. They were known for shouting their responses to the actors, providing a lively interaction similar to what drives TTT's performances on the best days.

"We have learned so many things from having everyone in the audience," Hensley said.

TTT attracts some of the Twin Cities' finest actors to their productions, and Hens-

ley cares deeply about paying them well. Toward that end, each cast member is likely to be double or triple cast in a production. To paraphrase a famous line from Shakespeare's play As You Like It, "All the world's a stage, and all the people merely players. They have their exits and their entrances and each, in their own time, will play many roles." Audience members across the board seem to resonate with this idea, acknowledging that all of us in the course of our lives will play many roles - and some are certainly more flattering than others.

Several theaters around the country have expressed interest in the TTT model of inclusiveness. Hensley recently worked with the Public Theater of New York to prepare a tour of Shakespeare plays in non-traditional venues. The California Shakespeare Theater in Berkeley and the Old Globe Theater in San Diego are getting ready to do the same.

Hensley's hope for "All The Lights On" is that it will provoke and inspire other theater artists and readers. The book, like the plays Hensley directs, doesn't preach easy answers to life's difficulties. Through theater, there are lessons to be learned about who we are, and ways to move beyond the perceptions of race, class, education and life experience that often divide us. In this way," Hensley writes, "each of us becomes a little bigger."

Copies of "All The Lights On" can be purchased at www.tenthousandthings.org/lightson.

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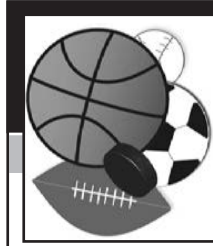


Athena award winners from Roosevelt High, South High and Minnehaha Academy will receive recognition at the upcoming Minneapolis Athena Awards Banquet on May 1.

The award goes to a senior female athlete at each school who excels on the field, in the classroom, and serves elsewhere in the school and community. Jennifer Mrozek, a softball and tennis standout, won it at Minnehaha. Kirsten Kamrath, who has captained three different varsity teams, won Roosevelt's Athena. Becky Moore, an adapted sports star, earned South's Athena.

Moore has been the team captain for South's physically impaired adapted soccer, floor hockey and softball teams for the past three years. She also doubles up on adapted sports in the spring and competes with the bowling team.

In soccer, Moore earned



In The Zone

By MATTHEW DAVIS

Area Athena athletes to be honored on May 1

All-Conference honors twice and helped the Tigers reach the state tournament. She made the All-Tournament team a couple of times with her stellar play in goal.

Beside athletics, Moore volunteers in many ways with serving at a veteran's home, a children's hospital and singing in her church's choir. She also sings in the choir at South and has been in a couple of musicals.

Moore intends to continue her education at Transitions Plus and Minneapolis Technical Col-

lege. She then hopes to attend either Augsburg College or the University of Minnesota.

Similar to Moore, Kamrath served as a team captain for two or more seasons at Roosevelt in three different girls sports. Kamrath won All-Minneapolis City Conference honors twice in softball and girls soccer with the Teddies.

Since her ninth-grade season, Kamrath has been the team captain for Teddies softball. She served as team captain for the girls basketball team for two seasons and soccer for three.

Outside of athletics, Kamrath has been involved with youth groups and mission trips. She also taught fifth-graders with the DARE program and helped with College Possible.

Kamrath plans to attend St. Scholastica studying physical therapy.

Mrozek also has a stand-out softball career going in her final season at Minnehaha. She surpassed 100 career hits and already has four All-Conference awards. The Redhawks senior also made the all-metro teams for both the *Star Tribune* and *Pioneer Press* in 2013.

Mrozek did well in girls tennis too with three All-Conference awards and team MVP twice. She also lettered in girls basketball twice and played for the Redhawks' state tournament team in 2014.

Outside of athletics, Mrozek serves as the co-president for the Spanish National Honor Society at Minnehaha. She also does peer tutoring.

After high school, Mrozek plans to study at the University of Minnesota in the College of Liberal Arts honors program.

Minneapolis boys lacrosse players part of history

The Minneapolis Warriors, a co-op made of the Minneapolis schools including South and Roosevelt, dominated the MSHSL newcomer St. Paul Bobcats 15-2 on Apr. 11. It meant much more than just a early-season non-conference game.

Once a rivalry in the 1800s and early 1900s according to the *Star Tribune*, Minneapolis and St. Paul met for the first time in an organized competitive lacrosse game at the high school level or higher since 1912. Both Minneapolis and St. Paul had club teams at the time.

Lacrosse made a resurgence in the past decade for high schools, and Minneapolis Public Schools jumped on board. The Warriors have a 2-2 start to the season through Apr. 18.

Wagner standing out for South boys golf

Cullen Wagner shot a 36 and 39 nine-hole courses for South in victories over Southwest and Washburn this season. Wagner serves as the team's captain and is an honors student outside of golf.



Becky Moore



Jennifer Mrozek



Kirsten Kamrath

Local illustrator wins award

Continued from page 1

ative expression in the medium of illustration or painting and fine art.

"I kind of hopped and skipped around, but then I made a solid choice," he said. He completed his media arts and animation degree, but soon was working with digital paintbrushes.

"I primarily do illustration and concept art for a lot of game publishers, typically analog or card games," Payton explained. "I'm working with some publishers in the UK. I also do some educational tutorials that are recorded and voiced over for the School of International Design. So my work shifts from illustrative fantasy and science fiction to more of the educational aspect of recording tutorials for people who are trying to get into the craft."

Payton entered the competition for Illustrators of the Future on a whim. He said he was on Facebook when somebody said he had won the year before, and encouraged others to try out for it. "It didn't require me to create any new art, so I could keep to my schedule," Payton said. "I sent in one of my best works at the time, and I was fortunate to get a phone call back a couple of months later."

He said it was his first time on a plane in over a decade, and the trip was a phenomenal experience. The competition honored both illustrators and writers, and Payton said the whole week was very busy.

"The creative energy and the kindness of the staff was something I'll never forget," he said. "A lot of people I networked with were at different points, but we were all dealing with the same issues. That feeling of aloneness that sometimes creeps up was decimated. I also got to meet some living masters, which I feel considerably privileged to have done. That was a huge part of it

for me, because they commented on all my work and gave me tips on how to go forward with my craft."

Payton said he had the opportunity to meet Larry Elmore, one of the original artists of Dungeons and Dragons, and Dave Dorman, most notably known for his work on Star Wars. "Nathan Fowkes was also there," Payton added. "He works predominantly in animation and is an instructor and lecturer as well. He has been in this field for about two decades and has some of the most phenomenal understanding of light and color. It was really a joy to watch them present and speak."

Payton said his freelance work in Minneapolis keeps him busy full time. "I've always been very good at hunting down work and networking with people and that has served me well in that regard," he noted. He said he worked on Committee Films as an independent contractor for about four months as an in-house illustrator. "They work on things like documentary television, and that was my biggest foray outside of my internship at Fantasy Flight Games," he explained. "So I do have some studio experience, I would say collectively it's been about a year. I do enjoy it once it comes about. Sometimes they will give you projects for a year, so it's nice to have work."

Payton admitted that he was a bit fearful of freelancing when he first graduated. "I didn't have the means to support myself fully

from art," he said. "I was actually doing modeling and acting as well, so it was still freelance, but it wasn't completely the direction I wanted to go."

He said he has learned that the longer one takes to make a decision on life style choices, the more time there is to pontificate on how things could be catastrophic. "A good plan is very necessary, but also being decisive is a very good trait to have."

His schedule can vary from month to month. "Many publishers set monthly deadlines, so I'll wake up and check my email, read any new prompts that have come in, whether that is to sign the contract and send it back, or plan for one of the illustrations I've undertaken. I like to work anywhere from six to twelve hours a day, and that varies based on how many pieces I have in the hopper as well as how close the deadline is," Payton said.

"Typically I'm able to plan the pieces as I go," he continued. "Sometimes when I'm waiting on client feedback I will work on personal stuff. Otherwise, I like to take just one day a week for my own work, for three or four hours."

"I actually consider it more important at this point to study, which I consider a benefit both for myself and my clients," Payton stated.

Payton noted that his client work has a fairly strict prompt or style. "When I like to get away from that, my art is typically based more on abstraction or

surrealism, but still very figurative," he said, "such as maybe a portrait where there are various shapes and forms flowing out of the face. The creative expression feels very nice to play with. Other than that, I like to write and see if I can bring some narrative to my illustrations."

Payton said he believes that an artist can find lots of opportunities in the Twin Cities Metro. "It varies a bit, depending on where someone would like to take their work, but I do know that for an illustrator there is work nearly everywhere you go. Minneapolis is one of those big hubs that has many commercial and advertising agencies, and they are typically always looking for illustrations."

He said it is easier to find a job here if one is well versed in digital animation as well as editing and compositing footage. "If illustration can't be your sole bread and butter, be more of a media artist," he advised.

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Minnehaha Construction

Continued on page 1

stand in front of you and tell you what's going on," Lonnes stated. Instead, they want to know the needs of businesses to avoid problems before they happen.

Prior to construction in an area, businesses are queried regarding business hours, peak times, mail, trash and deliveries. Both Lindgren and Ferguson have appreciated the communication they've had with project managers thus far.

"This road is ultimately serving you," Lonnes acknowledged. "At the end of the day, it is for you and your users."

A special hotline and email address have been created for the project, and people are encouraged to subscribe via text or email for weekly project updates.

Street won't be dramatically different when it is done

The road construction will begin on the south side and progress north over the next two years.

The stages of construction include:

- Stage #1 - Apr. to Aug. 2015: Nawadaha Blvd. to 42nd
- Stage #2 - Aug. to Nov. 2015: 42nd to 38th
- Stage #3 - Apr. to Aug. 2016: 38th to 34th
- Stage #4 - Aug. to Nov. 2016: 34th to Lake

When the road is redone, there will be an 11-foot motor vehicle lane, six-foot bike lane with a 1.5-foot striped buffer, and 8-foot parking on both sides.

The county initially studied design concepts for buffered bike lanes, one-way cycle tracks, and two-way cycle tracks on Minnehaha Ave., but recommended the buffered bike lane option.

"It's not dramatically different from what you see out there today," said Lonnes.

The roadway will be concrete under the bike lanes and parking

lanes to help distinguish these spaces. The concrete will require time to cure, and that has been built in to the project timeline.

Bumpouts will be added at intersections.

"When you narrow a roadway, people tend to be more alert," stated Lonnes.

Designated left turn lanes will be added at 46th, 38th, 32nd, 31st and Lake streets, and a right turn lane on the southbound side created at 42nd.

Closures up to 10 days will be required at cross streets, with the exceptions of 46th and Lake St.

CenterPoint Energy will be progressing down the street ahead of the county crew to replace the cast iron pipeline from 1915.

And while the county crews will only be going up to 38th this year, CenterPoint will be going up to 32nd because of where their stations are located.

There are a few other projects that will be going on at the same time as the Minnehaha reconstruction.

Hennepin County will be



Minneapolis Public Works employee Chris Engelmann chats with local business owners about the Minnehaha project during the final pre-construction meeting on Mar. 26, 2015. Work on the road will be done in four stages—the first, from Nawadaha Ave. to 42nd, started on Apr. 13. (Photo by Tessa M. Christensen)

doing some streetscaping improvements along Minnehaha, which include benches, planting boxes and trash receptacles.

The Met Council will be tun-

neling along 46th St.

Metro Transit will be constructing shelters along 46th as part of the new A Line bus rapid transit project.

NENA Board of Directors

The NENA board of directors participated in a board retreat on Sat., Apr. 11 to review current plans and funding sources and discuss available funds. NENA has over \$1.8 million of contracted and allocated funds from the Neighborhood Revitalization Program and Community Participation Program. Board members began work on an emerging vision and plan for the organization.

The NENA board met on Thur., Apr. 2. Highlights include: passing a 2015 budget; donating \$500 to support the Keewaydin/Morris Park summer festival; directing the Housing, Commercial, and Streetscape Committee to work with the Nokomis East Business Association to develop a plan for how to best use \$81,000 that is allocated to commercial development; approving a new conflict of interest policy and a procedure for setting board agendas; and establishing a hiring task force for a permanent executive director.

Grow Monarch Habitat Workshop scheduled

A Grow Monarch Habitat Work-

NENA

(Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

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Grow Monarch Habitat Workshop, garage sale and more

shop has been scheduled for Sat., May 16, 9:30am, at the Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.

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- Resources for learning more about native plants and monarchs

*The kits feature 12 native plants - milkweeds, nectar and grasses. Pre-registration and \$25 fee for kit (\$36 value) required. Attendance is free!

For more information or to register email monarch@nokomiseast.org

Nokomis Naturescape

Join volunteers at the Nokomis Naturescape most Tuesdays throughout the summer for group gardening activities (not May 19). Volunteers meet from 6-8pm at the garden near 50th St. and Lake Nokomis Pkwy. All are welcome!

Nokomis East Neighborhood Garage Sale planned

Mark your calendars for the 2015 Nokomis East Neighborhood Garage Sale on Sat., June 20 from 8am to 4pm. Last year over 100 households participated. It is a great way to get rid of unused

clutter, connect with neighbors, and make a little money. If you plan to have a sale, be sure to register at <http://nokomiseast.org/garagesale-2015/signup> by June 7 to be included on the map. For more questions, email garagesale@nokomiseast.org.

Spring cleanup at Gateway Garden May 9

Join us May 9 from 9:30 to 11:30am to get the garden ready for the season. Nokomis East Gateway Garden is located at the corner of E. 50th St. and Old Hiawatha in Minneapolis. The Gateway Garden was designed to resemble a Monarch butterfly wing when seen from an aerial view! Planted in October of 2010 using

all native plants, the garden includes a Burl Oak to represent the Oak Savannah found in this area centuries ago. Gateway Garden is sponsored by NENA in partnership with Metro Transit and maintained by neighborhood volunteers. Everyone is welcome to volunteer!

Aztec dance at Keewaydin Recreation Center

Keewaydin Park, in collaboration with NENA and Familias Latinas of Wenonah, is offering free classes to anyone interested in learning traditional Aztec dance. Everyone is welcome, so bring the whole family. Practice is from 10:30am-12:30pm, Sat., May 2, 9, and 16.

Housing, Commercial & Streetscape Committee

The committee will work to maintain and improve the housing stock in the neighborhood, advocate for housing and commercial development, provide input on zoning and variance requests, and ensure that neighborhood voices are represented in residential and commercial developments. They will also work with Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation (GMHC) to develop and evaluate housing programs for neighborhood residents and recommend policies related to housing and land use to the board of directors. If you are interested in joining this important committee or would like more information, please send an email to housing@nokomiseast.org.

Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC)

The City of Minneapolis is accepting candidate applications for the NCEC through May 8. For more information or to apply, go to the City's website at www.minneapolis.gov/ncr/boards/ncec. The NENA board will be appointing one elector and one alternate from each neighborhood at the May 28 NENA board meeting for the NCEC election on June 11. If you are interested, please contact the NENA office.

Upcoming Meetings:

- 5/5/15: Housing Committee, NENA office, 6:30pm
 - 5/13/15: Monarch Task Force, NENA Office, 7pm
 - 5/14/15: Executive Officers Meeting, NENA Office, 7pm
 - 5/16/15: Grow Monarch Habitat Workshop, Nokomis Community Center, 9:30am
 - 5/17/15: Technology Committee, NENA Office, 3pm
 - 5/28/15: Board Meeting, TBD, 7pm
- Web: <http://www.nokomiseast.org>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Nokomiseast>
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 General Email: NENA@nokomiseast.org
 Chair: chair@nokomiseast.org
 Phone: 612-724-5652

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In Our Community

Messenger

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

Youth and family camp program

Campers in grades 2-12, and families of all ages and stages, are invited to enjoy overnight camp in July at Camp Patmos in Hackensack, MN. Sponsored by Trinity of Minnehaha Falls, these camps include boating, canoeing, fishing, tubing, playing crazy games, getting to know new friends, and enjoying the beauty of northern Minnesota. Each week features Bible study and worship, including campfire time. For more information, visit www.trinityfalls.org/summer-camp or call 612-724-3691.

Local author writes book on gardening

Millbrook Press has published a new book by Longfellow author Kari Cornell titled "The Nitty-Gritty Gardening Book: Fun Projects for All Seasons." The book of projects is for grades 4-8, and is also available as an e-book. Cornell will be signing hardcover books at the Dowling Community Garden plant sale on May 16 from 10am until 1pm. Mother Earth Gardens and the Seward Co-op are planning to stock the book. You can also purchase the book online through <https://www.lernerbooks.com>.

Next seniors meeting all about scams

Join Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Community Education for a presentation on common scams on Tues., May 19 at 10:30am at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. This presentation will cover common scams targeted at seniors and how to avoid being a victim. Learn about the "too good to be true" concepts along with other information and tips. The presenter is Debra Budinger, Senior Fraud Investigator with U.S. Bank Corporate Security. For questions, call Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799.

Kids Summer Club set in June

Kids from preschool through fifth grade are invited to a neighborhood Vacation Bible School at Morris Park, June 15-19 from 9:30am to noon. This free day camp, sponsored by Trinity of Minnehaha Falls, features songs, games, snacks and crafts as students learn about God's love. Morris Park is located at 5531 39th Ave. S. To register, visit www.trinityfalls.org/kids or call 612-724-3691.



The "And the World Goes 'Round" cast features (L-R: front) Therese Walth, Emily Rose Skinner, Jon Whittier; (back, standing) William Gilness, Bradley Greenwald, Betti Battocletti and Tiffany Seymour. (Photo by Michal Daniel)

Local woman featured in Jungle Theater production

Betti Battocletti, Wenonah Neighborhood resident, is featured in the current Jungle Theater production of "And the World Goes 'Round" through May 14. This high-styling Kander and Ebb musical revue "takes off like a shot and rarely descends to earth thereafter!" It features some of Kander and Ebb's most recognizable tunes, including "All That Jazz," "Mr. Cellophane," "Money, Money," "Cabaret" and "Theme from 'New York, New York'." The original 1991 Broadway production collected three Drama Desk Awards.

Performances are at the Jungle Theater, 2951 Lyndale Av. S. and tickets are available at 612-822-7063 or online at www.jungltheater.com.

Adoption support group meets monthly

The Adoption Support Network holds monthly support groups at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church (4101 37th Ave. S.) for parents and teens who have been adopted. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month (May 5) at 6:30pm. Adoptive parents are provided with a confidential, non-judgmental environment where they can support each other and share resources. Teens are invited to meet other teens who understand what it's like to be adopted. The teen group is not a drop-off group - parent(s) must attend the parent support group. For more info and to RSVP, contact Ginny Blade at 651-646-5082 or ginnyblade@nacac.org (parents); or Christina Romo at 651-644-3036, ext. 17, or christinaromo@nacac.org (teens).

St. Albert High Tea scheduled for May 3

St. Albert's High Tea is planned for Sun., May 3 at 2pm. Wear your fancy hats, gloves and gowns, or come as you are. Teas and delectable goodies, along with a fashion show of excellent items that will be in the May 28-31 Re-Use Recycle Rummage

Sale. Reserve your spot by calling 612-724-3643 by April 30. The cost is \$10 adults, \$5 under 12. St. Albert's is on the corner of E. 29th St. at 32nd Ave. S.

Crafting for kids topic May 20

Warmer weather is finally here! Join the Holistic Moms Network for a fun evening of creating several homemade art and craft activities for your kids! We will create both indoor and outdoor varieties including bubbles, sidewalk chalk, finger paint, and play dough. We will supply the materials and recipes for you to take home. Please bring \$4 to cover the cost of supplies (fee waived for members).

Holistic Moms Network is a non-profit national organization that connects parents who are passionate about holistic health and green living. The Twin Cities Chapter holds monthly meetings the third Wednesday (May 20) of each month, 7-9pm, at Fuller Park Recreation Center, 4800 Grand Ave. S.

No matter where you are on your parenting or holistic journey, you are welcome! Children are welcome. To contact the Twin Cities Chapter, or for more info, an event calendar, and a map to meeting location, visit <http://twincitiesmn.holisticmoms.org>

oms.org or e-mail tcholicmoms@gmail.com or visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/HMNTwinCitiesMN.

Summer jazz concerts begin

Local jazz and R&B vocalist Katia Cardenas kicks off a concert series called "She Swings!" on Sun., May 17, 1pm, at St. Albert the Great Catholic Church, E. 29th St. at 32nd Ave. S. Piano legend Bill Duna accompanies on the Steinway concert grand. Tickets are \$15 at the door. Visit www.saintalbertthegreat.org for information on all four concerts in the series.

Urban Harvest event planned at Nokomis

Hennepin County libraries are offering Urban Harvest events about local and sustainable food practices starting this spring. Free events for adults and families at Hosmer, Nokomis and Northeast libraries in Minneapolis March through May will introduce morel mushroom hunting and heirloom seed preservation.

"Urban Harvest: Start Seeing Mushrooms" is planned for adults on Thur., May 21, 6:30pm, also at the Nokomis Library. Morel mushrooms are prized for their delicious, nutty flavor and can be found all around the Twin Cities. Kathy Yerich, co-author of "Mushrooms of the Upper Midwest," will share tips on identifying and locating morels, as well as many other species found in the area.

The Library's Urban Harvest series will continue this summer and fall with events at additional libraries on seasonally appropriate topics. Register online now for spring events at www.hclib.org/events or call the Nokomis Library at 612-543-6800.

Semi-annual sale scheduled May 2

Join your neighborhood friends for a great sale at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church on Sat., May 2, 9am-1pm! They will have clothing, household items, jewelry, toys, books and many miscellaneous items. Come early! They will also have BBQ's available for purchase along with an assortment of homemade bars available for purchase. Stop by and check out what we have. Their address is 4101 37th Ave. S.

Re-Use, Recycle, Rummage! planned

St. Albert the Great's annual Re-Use, Recycle, and Rummage sale, is scheduled for May 28-May 31. The sale's preview night is

Thur., May 28, 5-8 pm, where for a \$5 entry fee, you can shop while the huge selection is best. On Fri. and Sat., May 29-30, 9am-7pm the sale is in full swing, and on Sun., May 31, 9am-noon is Bargain Bag Day: stuff a tall kitchen bag for \$3, or a 55 gallon trash bag for just \$5. Clothing, shoes, household items, linens, furniture, books/CDs/DVDs, jewelry, toys, craft supplies and a special area of better items and collectibles. Hot dogs and other treats also are for sale. St. Albert's is on E. 29th St. at 32nd Ave. S., one block north of E. Lake Street, in Minneapolis. Call 612-724-3643 for more information.

AA and NA meetings

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.

LBA meeting focus on Open Streets 2015

Open Streets 2015 is coming to Lake Street on Sun., Aug. 2! Learn about the ways your business can participate in Open Streets at the next Longfellow Business Association meeting on Thur., May 14, 9:30am at 3400 E. Lake St. A representative from Open Streets will provide ideas on how your business can make the most of the foot and bicycle traffic. Lake St. will be closed to motorized traffic for the day. Sponsorship information will also be available. FFI: Ruth 612.722.4529 x10 or ruth@longfellow.org.

LoLa art crawl meeting planned

There will be a meeting of people who are interested in discussing the possibility of a 2015 LoLa art crawl on May 5, 7-8:30pm at Bethany Lutheran Church (3901 36th Ave. S.). They will also discuss the future of LoLa (League Of Longfellow Artists). Anyone interested in the organization or continuing the art crawl are urged to attend.

Silent auction scheduled May 2

Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church will hold their 6th annual silent auction, "Return to the Wild Wild West," on Sat., May 2, 6-8:30pm, at 5011 31st Ave. S. Tickets are \$15 at the door, with all proceeds supporting children, youth and adults attending this year's Lake Wapogasset Bible

Continued on page 12

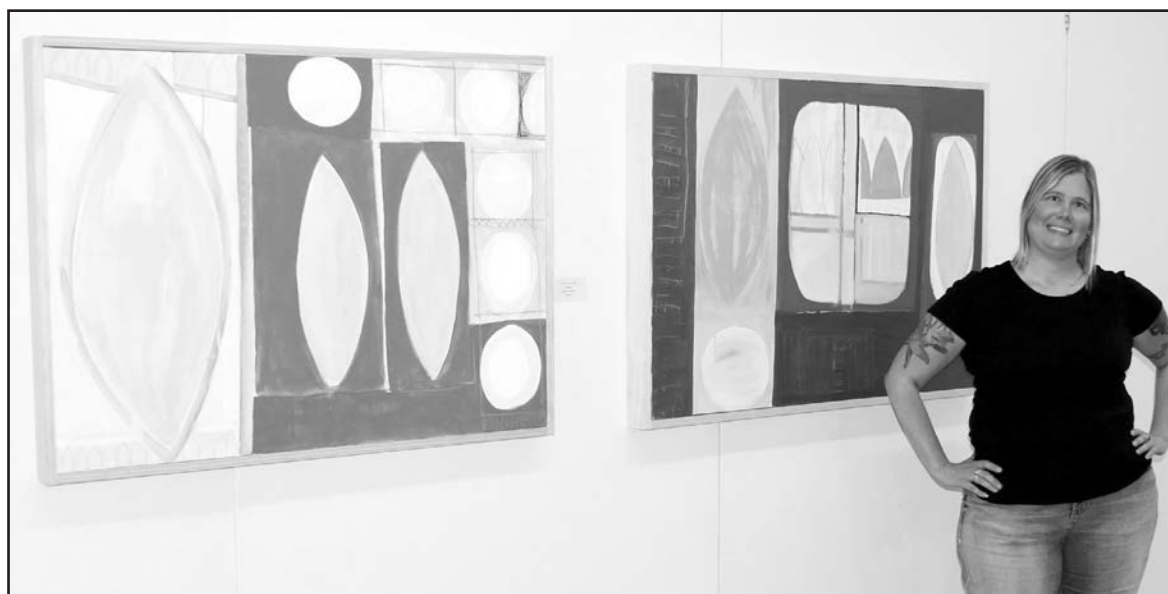
Local artist to have solo show in Burnsville

Abstract painter and Longfellow resident, Lisa Anderson, experiences many emotions when she creates a new piece of work. "As layers, colors, and shapes take form, I experience love, hate, awe, frustration, anxiety, obsession, and finally, satisfaction and completion."

Anderson, who is preparing for her largest exhibit (40 to 50 paintings) to date, will be showing her work at the Ames Center in Burnsville, beginning on Wed., May 13 and running through Sun., June 14. The show,

titled "Committed," will feature many of Anderson's most recent works. The gallery will be closed May 14-16. An artist's reception will be held on Sat., June 6, 6-8pm at the Ames Center.

Anderson talks with enthusiasm about her passion for painting, "I am happiest when standing in my studio, brush in hand about to start a new piece," she said, "those first few brush strokes are so exciting and full of hope." She readily admits to not loving everything she paints but describes it this way, "sometimes



Longfellow resident and abstract artist Lisa Anderson is preparing for her solo exhibition May 13-June 14 at the Ames Center in Burnsville. Including 40-50 paintings, an exhibition reception will be held on June 6.

it seems I've simply liberated an idea, the resulting paintings, are for me, symbols of life's elements."

Since earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting and sculpture from Minnesota State University in Mankato, Anderson has exhibited her work at numerous Minnesota venues including the Conkling Gallery and Carnegie Art Center in Mankato. More re-

cently, she has had shows at Gallery 360 in Minneapolis, Paradise Center for the Arts in Faribault and the Owatonna and Waseca Art Centers. Anderson also teaches abstract painting classes at the Bloomington Theatre and Art Center.

Anderson's painting style has been greatly influenced by the likes of mid-twentieth century painters such as Mark Rothko,

Robert Rauschenberg and Helen Frankenthaler. "My primary medium is acrylic paint on canvas, accented with oil pastels and the occasional strip of masking tape or whatever else I find that has an interesting texture," Anderson said. She describes her personal style this way, "I'm very interested in color relationships, implied texture and ambiguity of layers, I have always paid attention to the mechanics of putting paint onto canvas and it has been of great interest to me."

The Ames Center is open Mon.-Fri. from 9am-5pm, Sat. from 10am-2pm and Sun. noon to 4pm. The gallery is located at 12600 Nicollet Ave. in Burnsville.

Follow Anderson on the web at: www.lisaandersonpaintings.com and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LisaAndersonPaintings.



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A Cupcake Social

The neighborhood feel of the storefront adds to the happiness that comes naturally with cupcakes



By LOREN GREEN

"People always seem to be happy coming up to a truck that's serving cupcakes," says Suzette Herr, owner of A Cupcake Social. That positivity continues to motivate as the food truck and catering business added a storefront in Standish.

A Cupcake Social expanded to a storefront at 3800 28th Ave. S. in Dec. 2013. While they still cater, they've found that having a steady location day after day brings in a different crowd. "A good portion of our customers are right here in the neighborhood," says owner Suzette Herr. "It's been a really

The menu features at least seven cupcake varieties, always keeping a few regulars on hand while rotating additional flavors.

A Cupcake Social bakes for weddings, corporate events, and parties, and the truck still heads out for festivals and other selective fare. (All photos by Loren Green)

nice reception."

The company was founded as a food truck to establish a strong customer base while scouting the perfect location for a brick and mortar shop. They chose their location, cornered between Northbound Smokehouse Brewpub and Keen Eye Coffee, in part because of its accessibility to nearby highways, which helps in their delivery business. The storefront adds a stable component—and a large kitchen to work in—but the business remains as focused on catering as ever.

A Cupcake Social bakes for weddings, corporate events, and parties, and the truck still heads out for festivals and other selective fare. However, the truck always has to risk the elements and parking restrictions. With a storefront addition, they can be open year round.

"People can come directly to us," Herr adds, instead of the rigmaroles of customers tracking the truck's daily location. The larger kitchen also makes catering easier, as they previously shared commercial prep space with other food trucks, creating scheduling conflicts that limited production.

Besides having more space to work in, having a storefront also allows the business to forge a more distinct identity. A living room atmosphere mingles with an old-time diner counter that displays the many wonders of A Cupcake Social's menu.

3800 28th Ave. S. was previously a barber shop and print shop that was quietly tucked into the urban landscape. In an extensive remodel, A Cupcake Social enlarged the windows and painted the interior and exterior with bright and inviting colors that made it stand out. That visibility has helped to add

to the walk-up charm.

The menu features at least seven cupcake varieties, always keeping a few regulars on hand while rotating additional flavors. "My favorite part about baking is coming up with new flavors and experimenting," says Herr, and the variety offered by a rotation works well with customers. Their Death by Chocolate is the most popular cupcake, she notes, because "you can't go wrong with chocolate."

The food truck served only cupcakes and vanilla ice cream, but in the store they now serve croissants, multiple flavors of handmade ice cream, and hot and cold beverages. Adults can relax on the couches or visit with peers at a table, and there is a kitchen play area along the wall to entertain children.

The neighborhood has been a great fit, Herr notes, because there's something for everyone at the busy corner. Brides-to-be can explore flower options next door at Studio Emme and come into the shop for cakes. Others might visit while waiting for a table at Northbound Smokehouse across the street, or to complement a coffee from Keen Eye.

"We always joke that when the guys stay across the street too long they better stop over here and get flowers and cupcakes before they go home in case they get in trouble."



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By JAN WILLMS

That lettuce that got stuck in the back of the fridge and went bad. The peaches that needed to ripen, but now are soft and mushy. The milk that just doesn't smell right.

These products that can no longer be used add up. The average American family wastes between \$70-107 worth of food per month.

Eureka Recycling, a non-profit zero waste organization, is doing its best to provide Twin Cities residents with ideas to prevent food waste.

"We do recycling in St. Paul but have a lot of programs Minneapolis residents can access," said Lynn Hoffman, director of community development for Eureka.

"We received a grant through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to study preventing waste of food," explained Lynn Hoffman, director of community development for Eureka. "We did a pilot program in St. Paul centered on collecting compost. When people started participating and all their food waste was in a separate container, they saw how much that food waste could be prevented."

Hoffman said that from farm fields to grocery to con-

Solutions to food waste



are not complicated

sumer, there has been a lot more attention paid to this nationally as well as locally. "The focus of our work has really been on the consumer," she said.

Hoffman said the food waste is accidental. "Nobody buys food with the intention of throwing it away," she said. "People tend to waste produce, meat and dairy. But meat not so much; it is primarily fruits, vegetables and dairy."

The solutions to food waste are not very complicated, according to Hoffman, who has been with Eureka for 11 years. "We have been talking to lots and lots of people over the years, gathering information."

She said that as well as experts in the field, everyone else has tips, also. "You may have learned from Grandma the best way to store celery," she noted.

She said some of the tools for food waste prevention revolve around storage. "Often the containers the food comes from in the store are not the best things to store the food in," Hoffman said.

She also claimed that menu

planning is a positive tool that can save on food waste. "Think before you go to the store. Check your fridge—you may already have a jar of mustard in there." She suggested considering who will be home during the week to eat the meals.

"That's always my problem," Hoffman admitted. "I find a recipe that looks great, I get the ingredients, and then I realize I am not going to be home for four nights."

Another way of eliminating food waste is to do an inventory of the cupboards and pantry. "People are always shocked at how many condiments they have, or how many things get hidden."

She said there is A to Z tips on food storage on Eureka's website, makedirtnotwaste.org.

"Everybody can find something useful in this," she said. "I think as Minneapolis rolls out its organic composting program, it will become apparent to people, as they separate out the food waste from the rest of the trash, what's in there."

Hoffman said composting

is much more environmentally beneficial than tossing food or burning it in the incinerator. She emphasized that composting is good for things like banana peels or apple cores. But preventing food waste is the best solution of all.

"When you look at the impact of our food system, what people call the environmental footprint is huge," Hoffman said. "Think of all the resources it takes to grow a carrot, water it, harvest it, package it and take it to the store, and then you have to drive to the store to purchase it—all of that just to get it into your fridge. So if you waste that carrot, you're not just wasting the few dollars spent on a package of carrots, you're wasting all of those inputs."

Hoffman added that as a zero waste organization, Eureka is trying to find alternatives to using plastics for storage. "Disposing of plastics in the incinerator causes carcinogens," she noted. "It doesn't make sense to create one kind of waste to prevent another kind of waste." She said Eureka suggests alternatives such as waxed paper or glass jars for storage, which are useful because you can see the ingredients inside.

"Another useful tip is making a box or shelf in your fridge called the use-it-up box or shelf," she said. "Put in items that are moving toward an expiration date, and everyone can use these items first for a snack or in preparing dinner."

Regarding expiration dates, Hoffman said there are various dates listed on products: best if used by a certain date, or sold by a certain date.

"A lot of food is wasted just because an item reaches a particular date, and consumers think its fate is inevitable. We certainly want people to be safe, but you've kind of got to use your nose and trust your common sense. Often those dates don't



Lynn Hoffman, director of community development for Eureka. (Photo by Jan Willms)

mean anything about safety; they're just guide plans for the stores," Hoffman explained.

She said Eureka offers workshops on helping people with buying the food they think they can use. "Buying from bulk bins can actually be a good idea and save you money, but are you really going to prepare the food or use it or store it? It's all about having a plan before you come home with 20 pounds of strawberries."

If someone has questions about recycling, compost or preventing food waste, extensive information is available on the website (<http://www.eurekarecycling.org>) or at the hotline, 612-669-2783.

She said that when Eureka started its food waste program, it followed some tips from a huge campaign in Ireland and England called Love Food, Hate Waste.

Hoffman stressed the importance of the zero waste approach to compost and preventing as much food waste as possible.

"There is a difference between food waste and wasted food," she emphasized.

(See sidebar on organic recycling on bottom of page 11)



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LONGFELLOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Bike Rack Program open for Business!



The Longfellow Community Council's Environment and Transportation committee has created the 2015 Longfellow

Bike Rack Program to allow businesses and organizations to obtain bike racks for only a 25% cost share. If interested complete the online application at longfellow.org/bikeracks. Please contact Joe Sturm with any questions at 612.722.4529 ext. 13 or joe@longfellow.org

Save the Date! 11th Annual Share the River Gorge Canoe Paddle and Ice Cream Social

Join us on Wednesday, July 29 from 6-8pm for the 11th Annual Share the River Gorge Canoe Paddle and Ice Cream Social to celebrate our neighborhood's stretch

of the Mississippi! Hosted by the River Gorge Committee, this event will include free ice cream (thanks to East Lake Dairy Queen), free canoe rides with the National Park Service and Wilderness In-

quiry, and guided tours of the oak savanna restoration area. Free will donations accepted to defray event costs. Main event at 35th Street and West River Parkway.

See you soon Jessica

Jessica Buchberger, LCC's Communications and Events Coordinator is leaving LCC at the end of April. Jessica is leaving LCC but she is not leaving neighborhood work. Jessica has been part-time staff at both LCC and Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association (PPER-RIA), and has recently accepted a full-time position with PPER-RIA. The bad news is that we lose Jessica but the good news is that Minneapolis is a small town and our paths will cross from time to time. Jessica did some great work with LCC planning and implementing community events and advancing our communications. She did it with gusto and enthusiasm and brought a very creative aspect to our work. The staff and Board



of LCC wish Jessica the best of luck in her position with PPER-RIA. While it is difficult to lose a part of the "family" we recognize the importance of growth and change. Instead of saying goodbye to Jessica we will instead say CONGRATULATIONS and see you around.

Longfellow Neighborhood Garage Sale Friday June 12 and Saturday June 13

Time to clean out your garage and sell all that stuff at the Longfellow Neighborhood Garage Sale Friday June 12 and Saturday June 13.



Registered sales will have their address published on a neighborhood garage sale map with detailed directory. The Longfellow Neighborhood Garage Sale will be advertised in a variety of print and digital media, including Craigslist, Star Tribune, Longfellow-Nokomis Messenger, Twitter, Facebook, LCC Website and Mailing Lists. To have your sale listed on the map register here www.longfellow.org/sale.

Register your sale by Wednesday, June 10 to be included on the sale map. The \$ 10.00 fee covers printing and promotional costs.

Calendar of Meetings and Events

MAY 2015

Meetings are free and open to the public, and are accessible.

Check the calendar on our website www.longfellow.org

ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 6
7:00 - 8:30 pm
LCC Office, 2727 26th Ave S

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Tuesday, May 12
6:30 - 8:00 pm
Longfellow Park, 3435 36th Ave S
FFI: joannalund@longfellow.org

RIVER GORGE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 13
6:30 - 8:00 pm
Hiawatha School Park, 4305 42nd St. E
FFI: joannalund@longfellow.org

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Wednesday, May 20
6:30 - 8:00 pm
Lake Coffee House, 3223 E Lake St
FFI: joe@longfellow.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, May 21
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Brackett Park, 2728 39th Ave S
FFI: melanie@longfellow.org

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Tuesday, May 26
6:30 - 8:00 pm
Lake Coffee House, 3223 E Lake St
FFI: joe@longfellow.org

President's Message

Eric Day,
President of the Board

A big thank you to everyone who came out to the "No Pie Charts! Only Pies! General Membership Meeting" on April 21st! It was great to see so many engaged community members - not to mention so many delicious types of pie. My wife, Patty, prepared a pumpkin pie to share at the meeting with pumpkins grown in our backyard garden last year. This got me thinking about the small seeds we plant and the long term rewards of that planning and hard work. Like so many of you in the community, my family plants a garden. This month is the time when we put our plans into action and dig into the thawed earth and plant the small seeds or starter plants that we hope will turn into an abundant harvest in the fall. The same principle holds true for the work done by the



Longfellow Community Council. Each year at the General Membership Meeting, new community members join the board and bring new perspective and ideas, ultimately enriching the neighborhood and the lives of everyone in the community. The ideas and aspirations of the new board members, as well as those of the returning members of the board and committees, slowly begin to grow and take

shape, nurtured and encouraged by the committees, other board members and the community. What starts as possibilities become programs, events and initiatives that make the Greater Longfellow neighborhood a great place to live, work and play. I have seen this cycle of new ideas and new results over the last three years, each time building on the strength of what came before, much like a gardener learns and improves their methods and techniques each growing season. In that time I've served with dozens of different people on the board, and I'm thankful for each individual willing to donate their time and energy to our neighborhood. This is going to be a great year and I'm looking forward to seeing the fruits of the labor of this new board. As always, 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!

COOPER HOWE

LONGFELLOW



HIAWATHA

Longfellow Community Council

2727 26th Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55406

612.722.4529 • www.longfellow.org

Melanie Majors, Executive Director
Ruth Romano, Office Staff
JoAnna Lund, Community Engagement Coordinator
Joe Sturm, Housing & Environment Coordinator

melanie@longfellow.org
ruth@longfellow.org
joannalund@longfellow.org
joe@longfellow.org

Sanford Middle School expansion underway

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

What do you do with a 91 year old public school building that's busting at the seams? In the case of Sanford Middle School, 3524 - 42nd Ave. S., you tear down the NE wing, build an inspiring and workable addition, and reposition the school for the 21st century.

Principal Dr. Emily Palmer explained, "Middle school is for students grades 6-8, and provides a smooth transition between elementary and high school. There are five schools (grades K-5) which feed into Sanford: Pratt, Bancroft, Howe, Dowling and

Northrop. The school district predicted that there would be far more students in these feeder schools than Sanford could absorb going forward."

Community parents wanted a middle school that could provide a top-notch education for their kids, and they had a strong voice in securing the expansion at Sanford. The expansion planning team consisted of five parents, a liaison from Minneapolis Public Schools, nine Sanford staff, architects Paul May and Alicia Skow of Miller Dunwiddie Architecture (the firm which won the contract), the assistant prin-



Construction of the new wing in full-swing. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)



Principal at Sanford, Vernon Rowe, and Palmer.

The planning process was collaborative, and took about a year to complete.

Construction on Sanford's expansion began last December, and is expected to wrap up in September 2016. When all is said and done, it'll take nearly two full school years before the 48,000 square foot addition is complete. The price tag is \$19

million. The addition will create a high school quality gymnasium with bleacher seating for 300, 12 new classrooms, three new science labs, three upgraded science labs, a larger cafeteria, a well-lit staircase, and an exterior aesthetic that marks the school as being environmentally conscious – from the boulder seating on the 35th St. side to the restored and improved pollinator-friendly perennial gardens.

Paul May, lead designer and educational planner for the project, said, "The first step in sustainability is sometimes making the decision to stay put. Sustainable strategies are embedded into the project from its initial concept through construction. We believe sustainability is a basic value to the school. Some of these sustainable elements include LED lighting, improved thermal qualities of walls and roofs, and mechanical and electrical fixtures to reduce energy use. We've also tried to minimize waste. The parts of the building that were removed were from the 1960's addition, and didn't contribute to the educational plans for the school. This expansion will allow enrollment to grow, which is a critical need for Sanford."

Principal Dr. Emily Palmer in front of one of many transitional walls which separate the old part of the building from the new. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)



The finished exterior, with new classroom section in the middle and gymnasium to the right, as it will appear in September 2016. (Illustration courtesy of Miller Dunwiddie Architecture.)

we, Spanish, ESL, three levels of band, choir, drama, visual arts, design and engineering."

While everyone is excited for the final product, getting there has required more than minor inconveniences. "It's not exactly easy," Palmer continued, "tearing down and reconstructing half a school while classes are in session." She added, "Westin Construction has been fantastic, keeping noise and dust manageable and safety standards high."

Currently, Palmer uses an office the size of a storage closet. She gave her more spacious surroundings to the school nurse, who lost her office to demolition. "We have 13 teachers working from carts right now, because they don't have permanent classrooms. All of this space-sharing requires everyone to be flexible," Palmer noted.

"The project has been going very well," May said. "Minneapolis Public Schools has been proactive in understanding the changing educational methods and growth issues at Sanford, and we believe this enhanced school building will serve the Longfellow neighborhood for decades to come."

Sanford Middle School is proud to celebrate more than nine decades of history in our lively and ever-changing river community. Palmer encourages community members, not just attending families, to check the website regularly for construction updates and to feel welcome at open houses and, of course, the grand opening.

"This school belongs to the community, and everyone is welcome here," Palmer concluded.

Take your family's food waste out of the landfill!



So, you have cut down on your food waste at home, but we all still have waste. What can you do with what is left?

Although there is no comprehensive food waste program in Minneapolis, you can still participate in taking that waste out of the landfill even if you don't compost at home!

First get some compostable bags (biodegradable plastic) which can be purchased at many grocery stores or at Target. Fill the bag with compostable materials which include vegetables, fruits, meats (including fats, oils and grease), poultry, fish, bones, grains, dairy, coffee grounds and filters, tea bags etc. You can also

include in the bag compostable cups, plates, utensils, bags etc.— check that each of them has the "Compostable" logo on the item or packaging to ensure it is compostable. In addition, you can add these items that are not recyclable: greasy pizza boxes, paper towels, tissues, wrapping paper, paper freezer boxes, soda and beer boxes, and dirty paper bags.

Minneapolis residents can drop off residential organics at five locations around the city:

- Armatage Park, 2500 W. 57th St.;
- Audubon Park, 1320 29th Ave. NE;
- Pearl Park, 414 E. Diamond Lake Rd;

- Van Cleve Park, 901 15th Ave. SE; and
- South Transfer Station, 2850 20th Ave. S.

A drop-off at Martin Luther King Jr. Park at 4055 Nicollet Ave. S. opens May 12. An educational meeting will be held from 6-7:30pm on that date to provide answers to any questions. More locations may be added later.

Check at <http://www.minneapolis.gov/solid-waste/organics> and look under organics recycling for residents. The website will offer details on hours.

Remember, food waste and compostable materials are to always be separated from any yard waste.

In Our Community

Continued from page 6

Camp, Boundary Waters canoe trips and a high school Kentucky mission trip.

Food will be served, created by Edina Country Club executive chef, Rick Kimmes.

Raffle prizes include first place - \$100, second place - \$100 and third place - \$75.

Reservations and questions can be directed to auction coordinator Erica Larson, 612-729-2323, or email elaron@lakenokomis.org.

Improvement award winners announced

By Margie O'Loughlin

The Longfellow Business Association (LBA) recognized two neighborhood business owners at their annual meeting on Thur., Apr. 9. Two businesses shared the honor of being this year's Diane Radtke Community Improvement Award winners.

The award recognizes a business (or in this case, two businesses) that have greatly improved their property or facade. Fireoast Cafe, located at 3800 37th Ave. S., is sporting a cheerful paint color, outdoor seating and a naturalized boulevard garden. The Longfellow Market, located at 3815 E. Lake St., is a renovation of the former Peterson's Machinery building.

LBA began sponsoring the award in 2000, and it was given out each year until 2005. It was revived this year, to draw attention to the many business improvements that have been made throughout the area.

The two winners were chosen from an impressive list of nominees. The other nominees were:

— Miller Upholstery, 3614 E. Lake St.
— Lowbrow Saints Tattoo, 3500

Minnehaha Ave.

— Jakubas Dental, 4554 Minnehaha Ave.

— Sonora Grill, 3300 E. Lake St.

— Merlin's Rest, 3601 E. Lake St.

— MN School of Barbering, 3615 E. Lake St.

— Northwest Graphics, 4200 E. Lake St.

— Rail Station Bar & Grill, 3675 Minnehaha Ave.

— Parkway Pizza, 4359 Minnehaha Ave.

The award is named for Diane Radtke, owner of the former Lake Street Garage, who led by example in her efforts to improve the neighborhood. In addition to being a charter member of LBA and the owner of a successful restaurant, Radtke was a tireless advocate for clean streets and vitality in greater Longfellow.

Davnie attempt at accuracy ruled out of order by GOP

After comments by House Tax Committee Chair Rep. Greg Davids (GOP-Preston) that Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth "are getting so much more than other cities across the state per capita" in Local Government Aid (LGA), Rep. Jim Davnie (DFL - Minneapolis) attempted to recite the names of all 449 of the 770 cities and towns in Minnesota that receive more LGA money per person than Minneapolis.

Rep. Davnie attempted to correct the inaccuracy under rules of House floor debate but was repeatedly interrupted by GOP members and eventually ruled out of order.

Rep. Davnie's attempt to correct the inaccuracy came as House Republicans have advanced proposals to entirely cut LGA money to three of the four so-called "cities of the first class" under Minnesota law. Rochester is the only city of the first class not to have its LGA cut under the proposal and is represented in the State Senate by Republicans.

Minneapolis, St. Paul, and

Duluth are solely represented by DFLers in both the House and Senate.

"It's important that our debates here are factually accurate. LGA exists to provide aid to local governments so that all Minnesotans can enjoy affordable basic services, no matter what town you live in, or whether you live in a small town or a big city," said Davnie. "It appears that House Republicans care more about who you vote for."

Garden Club plans annual plant swap

The Longfellow Garden Club Plant Swap will be held, rain or shine, or snow, Sat., May 30 in a new location. Look for the red balloons at the north end of Longfellow Park, near the intersection of 34th St. and 36th Ave. Beginning at 11am, you are welcome to bring plants. Swapping plants starts at noon. (Note: plants are mostly gone by 12:30.) All traces of the Swap will disappear by 1pm. Swap rules: label what you bring; donate a few dollars if you take plants but don't bring any; take home any of yours that are left. You can find more at: <https://sites.google.com/site/longfellowgardenclub-minnesota>.

Annual Mother's Day Brunch set May 10

On Sunday, May 10 from 9:30am to 12:30pm, the Danish American Fellowship will be holding their annual Mother's Day Brunch. The breakfast includes an egg dish, aebleskiver (Danish pancake balls), Danish pastries and pumpnickel with cheese and salami, fruit, coffee and juice. The cost is \$11 for adults and \$5 for children 5-12 (under 4 are free). No reservations are required. The Danish Center is

located at 3030 W. River Pkwy. For more information, call DAC office at 612-729-3800.

Clearwater sewer project vote delayed

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) permit coordinator, Thomas Dietrich, announced that the vote on the sewer project near Coldwater Springs has been postponed.

"The consideration of the Met Council permit for the tunnel improvements project has been postponed for several months so that additional analysis and outreach can be conducted by the applicant. The Met Council project manager had indicated that the additional analysis would likely be complete in late summer or early fall," Dietrich said.

There has been a concerted effort by people who are concerned about the flow from Coldwater Springs being affected by the sewer project. The group points out that a previous project did have serious consequences on the water flow at the springs.

A 2001 Minnesota statute protected Coldwater Springs by mandating "no loss of flow" from the springs is to be allowed. Opponents point out that since the Highway 55 reconstruction project in 2002 there has been a 35% drop in the flow at the springs.

New packaging rules are in effect in city

New rules on environmentally acceptable food packaging took effect in Minneapolis on Earth Day, Apr. 22. The ordinance requires food and beverages prepared for immediate consumption, or for takeout, be placed in reusable, recyclable or compostable packaging. The rules

cover things like plates, serving boats and to-go containers. (Cups and bowls may be made of plastic-lined paper, which is not recyclable or compostable, until Apr. 22, 2017.)

The rules apply to all food establishments that sell or give away food prepared onsite for immediate consumption. This includes all restaurants; grocery store deli cases; food trucks and other mobile vendors; and temporary, short-term and seasonal food vendors.

Recyclable materials used onsite must be recycled, and compostable materials used onsite must be composted.

Consumers must scrape food off recyclable packaging before they put it in the recycling, or it will be treated as garbage and not recycled.

Exempted items, that are not considered "packaging," include plastic utensils, straws, or prepackaged foods from a manufacturer or producer. Hospitals and nursing homes are exempt from the ordinance.


Businesses aren't being asked to throw away unused noncompliant packaging they already have; they are allowed to use it up since it will end up in the trash either way.

If you notice that your favorite restaurant isn't using compliant packaging, talk to the manager or call 311 so the City can follow up.

Artists' Eye on Coldwater Spring

See Coldwater Spring the way artists do. On Sat., May 9, 10am-noon, two local artists will be at the park, working on "plein air" painting and talking about how they make landscape art. Try your hand at an art scavenger hunt, or use our crayons and markers to make your own art in

Continued on page 14




NOKOMIS EAST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

7th Grow Monarch Habitat Workshop

SATURDAY, MAY 16TH, 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Nokomis Community Center
2401 East Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis 55417



Learn how to invite MONARCHS to your yard and keep the beloved butterfly soaring. Monarch numbers are down 90% and MILKWEED habitat is critical.



Workshop features the Monarch Garden-to-Go (a pre-registration fee of \$25 required). Monarch preferred native plants including a variety of milkweeds, will be available.

Attendance is Free. Kid Friendly Event!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
612.724.5652
monarch@nokomiseast.org • www.nokomiseast.org

 Nokomiseast •  NokomisEast

Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

Bethany Lutheran
3901 36th Ave. S. • 612-729-9376
www.bethanyon36th.com
Pastor Jo Bauman
Sundays:
9:15 am - Generations in Faith Together
10:30 am - Worship
Sundays beginning May 24:
9:30 am - Worship
10:30 am - Coffee Hour
Saturdays May 2 & 16
5 pm - Soul+Food Dinner Church

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran
4101 37th Ave. S. • 612-722-9527
www.minnehahacommunion.com
Pastors Dan Ankerfelt & Sally Ankerfelt
Sunday Worship - 9:45 am
Sunday School - 9:45 am
(Child Care Available)
(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

Bethlehem Covenant
3141 43rd Ave. S. • 612-721-5768
www.bethlehemcov.org
Pastor Ryan Eikenbary-Barber
Children especially welcome
Contemporary Worship - 8:45 am
Sunday School for all ages - 10:00 am
Traditional Worship - 11:00 am;
Wednesdays meals thru May 17 at 5:45 pm
Meal and activities for the family
Sunday Schedule begins 5/26 with 9:00 & 10:30 Worship

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)

Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls
5212 41st Ave. S. • 612-724-3691
www.trinityfalls.org
Pastors Derek Johnson & Matt Oxendale
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:30 am
Summer Schedule (beg. 5/24) 10 am only
AA Meetings Tuesdays/Sundays 7:00 pm

Epworth United Methodist
3207 37th Ave. • 612-722-0232
www.epworthumcmpls.org
Rev. Pam Armstrong
Adult Classes: 9:45 am
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
Sunday School (children): 10:45 am
(Childcare Provided)
(Wheelchair Accessible)

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.

Flourish members help organize Nokomis Craft and Arts Fair

Event, to benefit park programs, slated for May 2 at Lake Nokomis Community Center

By TESSA M. CHRISTENSEN

Have you added the first annual spring Nokomis Craft and Art Fair to your calendar yet?

"With 48 vendors, a huge variety of product and terrific events for the kids, it's going to be a fantastic event," promised Kate Hepp of Whoville Creations.

"The range of products at the sale is huge," she added. "From dog coats to jewelry, to ceramics, children's toys and clothing, to amazing art. The show will truly have everything one needs for wedding gifts, graduation gifts, teacher gifts, home decor.... The variety is fantastic and all so well made.

"I'm blown away by the vendors and their talent."

The Sat., May 2, event will be held at the Lake Nokomis Community Center (2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.) from 9:30am to 4pm. Admission is free. Be one of the first 50 shoppers and enjoy vendor specials.

Kids activities include make-and-take Monarch Habitat Seed Packets, and an activity sponsored by the Minneapolis Institute of Arts (MIA). There will also be a scavenger hunt with donated product from the vendor as prizes.

You are invited to create crochet coral to contribute to the Minneapolis Satellite Reef. Part of the Worldwide Crochet Coral Reef project, the effort is being organized locally by the MIA. Don't know how to crochet? Learn at the art fair.

Event benefits park programs

Hepp is one of the Flourish members who are helping to organize the show, which will benefit park programs.

She became involved at last year's fall show. She began talking to Nokomis Park Recreation Supervisor Maggie Mercil, who organized it, and one thing led to another. "The center has so many wonderful activities for kids and the community in general, we thought: how great would it be to raise additional monies for these activities by throwing a spring show? So we did," said Hepp.

Flourish helping artists grow

Flourish is a group of diverse Minnesota crafters that was started just over a year ago by a few local artists who sell on Etsy.

"The group's purpose is to join together to present our talents and grow as artists, so we each can flourish in our respective crafts," explained Nokomis East artist Mary E. Pow. "Our group is now over 30 local artisans strong!"

Rebecca Grothe of relaine has been a member of Flourish from the beginning. "Flourish is an amazing group of talented people, and every get-together — be it a casual meet-up at a coffee shop or a structured meeting with an agenda and education — leave me feeling so inspired and lucky to have met these other creative people!" said Grothe.

Local artist Megan Moore Smith added, "It is a great, sup-

portive group of independent artists and I am excited to be showing my work alongside many of them."

Shoppers makes it exciting

Grothe participated in the Nokomis art show for the first time last fall.

"It's hard to describe, but there is an energy to the shoppers at the Nokomis show that makes it really exciting to be a vendor," observed Grothe. "People are genuinely enthusiastic about the art and craft that is on display. And even though I no longer live in Minneapolis, I still love Minneapolis and am thrilled to be part of a

show that supports the community and the parks."

"I'm a huge fan of supporting all things local and it's especially exciting to have such a high-caliber show in my own neighborhood," pointed out Pow.

Follow along on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook via the tag #urbancraftmn

Meet some of the Flourish artists and crafters

MARY E. POW

www.minnebitess.com

Mary E. Pow of MinneBites lives in the Nokomis East neighborhood and works out of a home studio.

Throughout her childhood she was drawn to a variety of creative activities. In college she earned a master's of architecture at the University of Washington. After working at an architecture firm for several years, she left her job in order to stay home with her young children.

Eventually, she started to sew and create her own designs, and four years ago she began MinneBites. Last year she joined Flourish, a group of diverse crafters who sell on Etsy.

"I work with natural-fiber fabrics and zippers to create unique, bright and modern, and frequently whimsical bags," noted Pow. "I have a lot of fun creating pencil cases and purses in animal shapes.

One of my popular designs is a



"It's always my goal to create something that isn't already out on the marketplace," observed Nokomis East resident Mary E. Pow. "I also like to make people smile, and I think a little whimsy and color can bring a bit of happiness to anyone!"

pencil case shaped like a shark, with a zipper for a mouth."

She also designs purses for women.

"I find inspiration in so many places: my children, colors and fabrics, fashion and architecture, to name a few," said Pow.

Her items begin at \$12 and range up to \$100.

"It's always my goal to create something that isn't already out on the marketplace," observed Pow. "My aesthetic leans towards clean, modern lines with pops of bright color. I strive to create an exceptional product that people can't find anywhere else."

"I also like to make people smile, and I think a little whimsy and color can bring a bit of happiness to anyone!"

MEGAN MOORE SMITH

MeganMoore.com

FoxFactoryDesign.com

Megan Moore Smith has lived in Longfellow since 2009.

She studied illustration at the Savannah College of Art and Design. As she worked on developing her career, she found local art fairs to be a

Continued on page 15

A new season of Minneapolis walking tours begins

Sponsored by Preserve Minneapolis

May is Preservation Month! What is "preservation" ...? More than saving old buildings, historic preservation champions and protects places that tell the stories of our past.

It strengthens our sense of community and brings people closer together, helping people get involved in preserving our

past...everything from the common, everyday neighborhoods where we live our lives, to landmarks and landscapes, to national monuments.

Just in time for Preservation Month, Preserve Minneapolis launches its brand-new website and announces the line-up of the latest season of its popular Walking Tours of the city's historic neighborhoods.

During the summer of 2015, Preserve Minneapolis will offer over 20 unique tours that highlight the built, natural, and cultural treasures found throughout the City. The 2015 schedule runs from May 9 through Sept. 19.

The year kicks off with a brand-new tour for Preserve Minneapolis, one highlighting T.P. Healy. An immigrant from Nova Scotia, Healy made his home in

Minneapolis and was a significant contributor to the architectural heritage of the city. He built a prolific number of homes in Lowry Hill East/Wedge. The tour will feature 21 of them, including two interiors.

Other new topics include: • The Pillsbury A Mill, built in 1881 as the largest and most advanced flour mill in the world, and currently being developed

into affordable housing for artists;

• Wirth Park Golf Course, the first public golf course in the state, and its unique Swiss-style clubhouse, built in 1922;

• Prospect Park, the eclectic academic enclave largely designed by denizens of the UofM School of Architecture;

• The Hennepin Ave. Cultural District, stretching from the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden to the Mississippi Riverfront.

Returning also are several popular tours from the past, including visits to Park Ave.; Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery; and the once-derelict Gateway area.

On each tour, guides with experience in fields like architecture, history, and preservation will tell the "stories behind the stories" and give participants a greater understanding of the area's social and built history... with fun and a sense of humor. We leave the lecture hall behind and delve into the human stories that made, and make, Minneapolis neighborhoods real.

Most tours are \$9 per person. Participants will need to pre-register and pay for tickets on-line. Tours fill up fast; last year, over 80% of Preserve Minneapolis tours sold out!

Pre-payment/registration and more information is available at www.preserveminneapolis.org/wpfile/tours.

U.S. Cleaners given Minneapolis Green Business Award

U.S. Cleaners has been presented a 2015 Minneapolis Green Business Award for Pollution Reduction by the City of Minneapolis. The City recognizes businesses for their investments in the health of their workers, customers and neighbors by converting to cleaner technology, and making investments with help from the City's Green Business Matching Grant Program.

The City of Minneapolis offers grants of up to \$30,000 each to help dry cleaners reduce pollution by switching their processes from perchloroethylene to clean solvents. Perchloroethylene is the main chemical solvent used in dry cleaning and is a neurotoxin that causes kidney damage and is listed by the Environmental Protection Agency as a likely carcinogen.

U.S. Cleaners switched its dry



It was a really tight fit last year as U.S. Cleaners moved the new equipment into their location. They have now received a Green Business Award from the city of Minneapolis. (Photo by Jan Willms)

cleaning process when testing by the Minnesota Pollution Control

Agency found levels of perchloroethylene in the air at 87,000 mi-

In Our Community

Continued from page 12

the park. All welcome! For more information, contact khavelin@missriverfund.org, 651-291-8164.

The IRS wants to alert against scams

The IRS wants to alert both busi-

nesses and individuals about scam artists operating in Minnesota. The IRS sends letters and notices by mail. The IRS does not contact people by email or social media to ask for personal or financial information. And, a typical IRS notice will be in writing and will about your federal tax return or tax account and will be about a specific issue, such as changes to your account. It may ask you for more information. It could also explain that you owe tax and that you need to pay the amount that is due. And, each notice has specific instructions, so read it careful-

ly. It will tell you what you need to do.

If you have been contacted by a spammer please call your local IRS office to report it, 651-312-8082.

MN350 network to meet on May 12

Join with folks from the MN350 network on May 12 at 6:30pm in the Gandhi Mahal Community Room (3009 27th Ave. S.) to talk about climate change, why we care about it, and what actions we are taking to address it! This is

a great opportunity to meet other concerned Minnesotans, learn about MN350, and get involved. Appetizers from Gandhi Mahal will be provided. Bring a friend! RSVP and spread the word! Find them on Facebook at: Mn350: Building a Climate Movement in Minnesota.

Roosevelt plans final art crawl May 29

Roosevelt High School, 4029 28th Ave. S., is hosting its final art crawl of the year and fusing it with its long-running cultural

celebration, Mosaic. Art Crawl III: Mosaic will be held outdoors at Roosevelt High School on Fri., May 29 from 5-7pm. Come for art, music, dance, theater, cultural exploration and more. Food from many cultures will be for sale, but all other activities will be free. Fun and interactive activities for all ages! Financial support provided by SENA.

For a more complete listing of neighborhood events go to the messenger website at www.longfellowNokomisMessenger.com/events.

Classifieds

Messenger

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

Messenger Want Ads are \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to Messenger Classifieds, 125 1st Ave. NW, PO Box 168, Minneapolis, MN 55369. Want ads must be mailed to the Messenger before May 18 for the May 28 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to denis@deruyternelson.com. Call 651-917-4183 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com

ADDITIONS

Martin Dynneson & Son. Kustom Building and Remodeling - Kustom additions. Roofing, siding, exterior/interior painting. Metal roofs, guaranteed for 100 years. Marty 612-724-8819. B-15

BATHROOMS

Bathroom/kitchen!! Basement finishing. Bad water pressure? Sinks, Toilets and tub/surrounds. etc. Ceramic tile. Basement bathrooms installed Call 612-275-9815. 5-15

CAREER COUNSELING

Affordable resumes and career counseling by an experienced career counselor. Visit www.vocationpartner.com for details. 5-15

CARPET CLEANING

Two rooms starting at \$59, owner operator, 45 years experience. Dave. 612-721-5105, Cell 612-636-3073. 6-15

COMPUTER REPAIR/SERVICE

Harmony PC computer repair, service, instruction. Service in your home. 20 years exp. State Courts, Microsoft. Woman-owned. www.harmonypc.us 651-605-5804. 4-16

FOR RENT

Office building for rent. 34th Ave. S. & 50th St. E. Mpls. Contact Rent3319@comcast.net. 5-15

FUNERAL ATTENDANT

PT Funeral Home Attendant - Bradshaw Funeral Home. Req: excellent people & hospitality skills, service oriented, discreet, professional appearance, able to

work as part of a team. Duties: greet & assist at visitations, lunches & other events; answer phones; set-up & clean; light office duties. Hours: alternate Saturdays 9 am-3 pm, and as needed days/eves for visitations & events. Interested? Call Roxie (Mon-Fri, 10 am-4 pm) 612-724-3621. 5-15

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HANDYMAN

Carpentry handyman services. Rotten wood repair, door replacements, trim projects, shelving and more. Licensed, bonded and insured. 30+ years experience. Call Mike 612-382-4322. 5-15

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1988. Robin. 612-724-0817. 5-15
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MISC. SERVICES

Painting, lawn mowing, furniture refurbishing, Jim. 612-202-5514. B-15

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Painting, wallpaper removal, 30 years experience. Small jobs wanted. 612-202-5514. 9-15

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John's Pet Services - Daily dog walks, boarding and in home pet visits. 15 years experience, Insured and Bonded. 612-825-9019. www.facebook.com/johnpetservice 4-15

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SERVICES

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YARD SALE

Sale May 7th and 8th, 9 - 4, Mondamin Street, 3131 Mondamin Street, Minneapolis. Lots of misc. 5-15

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Nokomis Craft and Arts Fair

Continued from page 13

great venue for her work. While she still does periodic illustration work, she mostly does personal and commissioned paintings, in addition to selling prints and cards.

Moore Smith is also preparing for her first art show next spring at the Phipps Center for the Arts in Hudson, WI.

"As a student in illustration, it was emphasized that having a unique style was important," said Moore Smith. "While my work shares similarities with many artists, it can't be described with a one-word established style (like impressionism or realism)."

She is inspired by nature, organic forms, and traveling.

"My work is a study of form, color and composition. Painting primarily in oil, I create images with a sense of balance and calm," observed Moore Smith. "Art Nouveau and the Arts and Crafts Movement, which is sometimes cited as a prelude to Modernism, influence my style. Nature and organic forms inspire my compositions. I explore pattern, light and shadow, and color in my paintings."

"My background in illustration manifests in many of my works, lending a narrative nature to the compositions."

She will be selling note cards, prints, and books ("Antler, A Cabin ABC Book," written by local author Hadley Barrows, il-



Longfellow artist Megan Moore Smith is inspired by nature, organic forms, and traveling. She will be selling note cards, prints, and books at the Nokomis Craft and Art Fair on May 2.

lustrated by Moore Smith) and small original paintings. Cards start at \$3 and the largest prints are \$150.

REBECCA GROTHE
<http://www.relaine.com>

Former Minneapolis resident Rebecca Grothe of Lauderdale runs her Relaine business in her free time.

Her grandma, great aunt and mom all sewed. "I don't remember ever actually learning to sew. I just watched these women sew while I was growing up and somehow absorbed their knowledge," said Grothe.



"My mom made all of my Halloween costumes, so it just seemed natural that after my son was born I would make his costumes, despite not having created anything in years."

After designing and constructing one bat costume, she was hooked.

"Sewing provided a calm in the midst of the busy years of

parenting and working full-time," said Grothe. "No matter how crazy life seemed, I could always take raw materials and turn them into something beautiful and useful."

Sewing also makes her feel connected to the talented women in her family. In Grothe's studio are her grandma's sewing table and her great aunt's vintage Singer (which she says still sews better than any other machine she has ever owned!).

Grothe is inspired by beautiful fabric. "I adore shopping for fabric. Whenever my mom and I get together or travel we always find a fabric store nearby!" said Grothe. "Our house is old and built before closets were invented, but the one real closet we do have is filled with fabric! So whether this is an inspiration or perhaps an addiction, I guess I'm not sure."

She sells the World's Greatest Wallets, Shopsacks, TuneTubes, card holders, zipper pulls, keychains, and customized fabric fortune cookies, that range in price from \$2 to \$46. "The TuneTube is a long fabric tube with a Velcro wraparound. Once you thread



This dragon costume for her son propelled Rebecca Grothe back into sewing. Now she runs relaine in her free time.

One of Rebecca Grothe's most popular items is a cloth fortune cookie. "Most of my items are things that people will need to use every day, and I want to make them as functional and beautiful as possible," she said.

your earbud cords through the tube, they will never get tangled again!" promised Grothe.

She added, "Most of my items are things that people will need to use every day, and I want to make them as functional and beautiful as possible."

KATE HEPP
[etsy.com/shop/WhovilleCreations](https://www.etsy.com/shop/WhovilleCreations)

Kate Hepp lives in the neighborhood and works in northeast Minneapolis. "I'm a 'crafter,' not an artist, and started to create wood story and art blocks about a year and a half ago," she said.

"With a full time job that isn't creative, I needed to do something that was! I've always had a love for all things wood, paper and illustration, so it was just a natural progression."

Hepp creates story and art blocks, framed children's illustrations, hand-sewn elves, and small bound books with children's themes, ranging in price from \$7 to \$48.

The blocks are made from hand cut poplar wood, sanded and then covered with images from popular children's storybooks (story blocks) or modern illustration (art blocks). "Initially, I wanted kids to play with these as an introduction to early reading," explained Hepp. "Early engagement with characters they are familiar with can help them jump into reading. Story blocks help young children develop important matching and assembling processes, hand/eye coordination, and sequencing and critical thinking skills. This is what motivates me!"



Neighborhood resident Kate Hepp creates story and art blocks, framed children's illustration, handsewn elves and small bound books with children's themes. She is motivated by how the blocks help young children develop important matching and assembling processes, hand/eye coordination, and sequencing and critical thinking skills.

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LANDSCAPING

Grow Monarch Habitat Workshop scheduled for May 16

Nokomis East Neighborhood Association is offering its 7th Annual "Grow Monarch Habitat" workshop on Sat., May 16, 9:30-11am at the Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy. This kid-friendly session offers a wealth of information for both beginning and advanced gardeners.

As the number of monarch butterflies has plummeted in the last few years, researchers and naturalists are urging people to create monarch habitat in urban and suburban areas throughout the Midwest Corn Belt, to replace lost agricultural habitat, especial-

ly milkweed. This how-to workshop will provide the information and essential plants to get started.

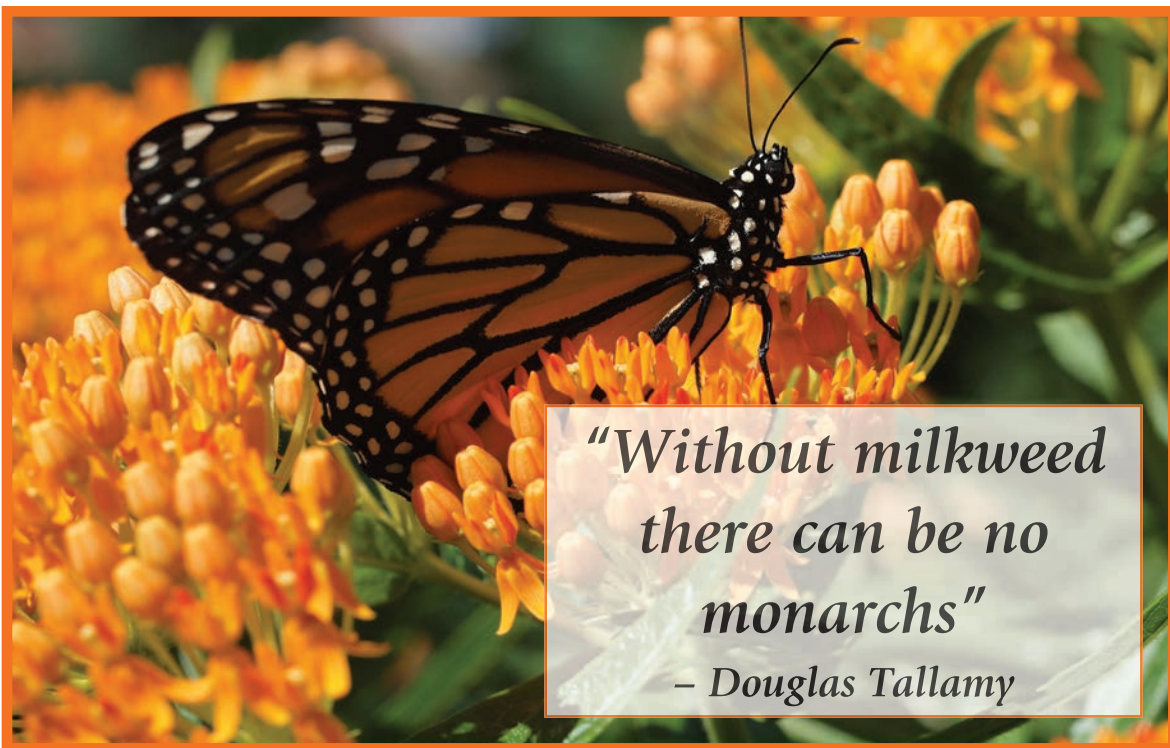
The presentation covers the monarch life cycle, habitat needs, the role of milkweed, the annual migration and an introduction to the plants in the "Monarch Garden-to-Go." The kit is available in 2 soil type choices and contains 12 local native host, nectar and shelter plants to get you started. There is a \$25 (\$36 value) registration fee for the kits, with a May 8 deadline. Registration forms with plant kit information are available at www.nokomiseast.org or by calling 612-724-5652. Attendance is free for participants who do not want the kit.

The workshop is presented by Vicki Joy Bonk, who has served as the Nokomis Naturescape park stewardship leader for 19 years and regularly speaks about the benefits of native plant gardening. The Nokomis Naturescape is a 4-acre native planting at Lake Nokomis, created by a partnership of Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. The project was the impetus for the

Growing Monarch Habitat program and the Minneapolis Monarch Festival www.monarchfestival.org.

For information on the Grow Monarch Habitat work-

shop, the Minneapolis Monarch Festival or the Nokomis Naturescape, please call 612-724-5652 or email monarch@nokomiseast.org.



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