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Longfellow  
Nokomis

# Messenger

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## Athletic fields designed near Nokomis, urban ag proposed near Hiawatha

Open house held as changes require modification of Nokomis-Hiawatha Regional Park by park board

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

With the focus of nearby Bossen Park on softball, some residents feel that leaves room for other sports such as Australian Football and soccer at Nokomis Park.

The current project at Bossen is placing four premier baseball/softball fields in a pinwheel formation looking out, with another two fields on the south side and two large open field areas on the north.

When the Nokomis-Hiawatha Regional Park master plan was approved in March 2015, it didn't include a specific layout for the athletic fields, in part because planners knew that the Bossen Field project was about to get underway, pointed out MPRB Director of Strategic Planning Adam Arvidson.

However, the fields at Nokomis are currently in very poor condition, and MPRB held an open house on May 25 to ask for community input on the athletic fields as it prepares to fix them.

The two proposed plans for Nokomis aim to preserve large open spaces for a variety of sports, remarked Arvidson.

Concept A includes seven adult-size softball fields of which two are in the far south of the parcel, three high-school-sized soccer fields, and an Australian football field in the center.

Concept B configures the fields differently and has six softball fields, three soccer fields and an Australian football field in the center. Both include a 60-space parking area and trail cutting across the center of the area.

Citizens asked if there could be a storage shed for groups that play there, as well as a place for bathrooms and drinking fountains.



Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board employee Siciid Ali (left) discusses possible changes to the Nokomis-Hiawatha Master Plan with Nokomis resident Alan Schneider, who has helped with the Naturescape Gardens over the years. He is concerned that park staff is mowing too much of the natural gardens near the trails. He also hopes that planners continue to leave space for pick-up soccer games in the park. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Others asked for lighting on the fields. Additional input was taken through an online survey that was open through June 23.

### Football players hope to use the fields more

A group of Minnesota Freeze Australian Football, Gaelic football, and hurling players attended the open house on May 25 to learn about the two proposals. The men's Minnesota Freeze teams currently hold its Wednesday night weekly practices and Saturday morning games at Lake Nokomis, and the women's team would like to be

there as well.

"It would be great to have the men's and women's teams practice together," noted Freeze Captain Andrew Werner, a Nokomis resident, but it is difficult to do now because of how the fields are arranged. "The sport is community-based," he observed. "A lot of families come out and watch, too." Plus, they'd like to see the club grow.

The groups need fields that are larger than soccer fields, such as two soccer fields side-by-side, to play a game. The Gaelic team can't use the fields as they are now due to the number of potholes, unlevel surfaces, and gopher holes.

### Urban ag area at Hiawatha

Another change being considered to the master plan was driven by a community desire to be able to harvest fruit in the park, explained Arvidson.

The current plan calls for naturalizing the landscape along the east side of Lake Hiawatha and eliminating much of the grassy lawn. The proposed change would replace the naturalized landscape with an urban agriculture area that would include foraging in a woodland environment.

If this is approved, citizens would still be prohibited from harvesting at the site until the park board changes its anti-foraging ordinance, which was recommended in the Urban Agriculture Plan approved in 2014. The park board is currently working on modifying the Vegetation Molestation Ordinance to allow for harvesting within designated areas, according to Arvidson. In the future, the MPRB intends to include a list online with an interactive map showing people where they can harvest food.

Some residents are also pushing MPRB to create a food forest at the Hiawatha Golf Course site, which would not be mutually exclusive from an urban agricultural area on the east side of Lake Hiawatha, said Arvidson. The golf course property is not included within the Nokomis-Hiawatha Master Plan.

### Funding tricky

The financing of the fields will be tricky, as regional park dollars can't be spent on athletic fields, which are considered as neighborhood park amenities, explained Arvidson. Regional park systems tend to be nature-based recreational systems. Neighborhood parks, in contrast, can't get state or regional funding or access Clean Water, Land and Lega-



Minnesota Freeze men's team captain Andrew Werner discusses athletic field configurations with fellow football and hurling players during an open house on Thursday, May 25, 2017. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

cy Amendment funds. Meanwhile, Minneapolis seeks to avoid using neighborhood tax dollars for capital improvements in the 19 regional park facilities within the city.

Arvidson observed that 47 million people a year use the metro-area regional parks, while 10 million visit state parks. The second most popular regional park in Minnesota is the Chain of Lakes Park in Minneapolis with 5.5 million visitors each year.

"Four of the top five most visited parks in the regional park system are in Minneapolis," said Arvidson. He's frustrated that the state legislature has excluded these popular areas from bonding bills.

MPRB will likely consider the changes to the Nokomis-Hiawatha Regional Park plan and public comments at its July 19 meeting, which will begin at 5pm at 2117 W. River Rd. N.

### 2017 Nokomis-Hiawatha Master Plan (Athletic Fields)



Concept A is one of two concepts MPRB asked the public for input on.



A group of Minnesota Freeze Australian Football, Gaelic football, and hurling players attended the open house on May 25 to learn about the two proposals. The men's Minnesota Freeze teams currently hold its Wednesday night weekly practices and Saturday morning games at Lake Nokomis, and the women's team would like to be there, as well. (Photo submitted by Minnesota Freeze)



Transition Longfellow is an all-volunteer group of Longfellow/South Minneapolis neighbors who create activities to engage the community in reducing energy use, growing (and learning to grow) more local food, preparing for extreme weather, and helping neighbors get to know one another. Anyone can participate, and most activities are free. For more information, visit [www.transitionlongfellow.org](http://www.transitionlongfellow.org).

### Preparedness Book Group

The Preparedness Book Group meets Wed., July 5, 6:30pm, at Moon Palace Books (3260 Minnehaha Ave.) and Wed., July 19, 6:30pm, at Lake Coffee House (3223 E. Lake St.).

The group is reading "Making Home: Adapting Our Homes and Lives to Settle in Place" by Sharon Astyk. On July 5 the group will read out loud Chapter 8 on growing food, and on July 19, Chapter 9, keeping meat animals. While the greater Longfellow community is blessed with many grocery store options, price, not availability, is the big-

# Transition Longfellow

By LESLIE MACKENZIE

## Transition Longfellow July activities

gest barrier to healthy eating for most low and moderate-income households (Wilder Foundation, 2016). Many families would be vulnerable to food insecurity should someone lose a job or experience large medical bills. Learning food growing and food storage skills can be one step toward greater food resilience.

### Series: When Climate Change Comes Home

Part 3 of the Series: When Climate Change Comes Home – "The Heat is On in Minnesota: Caring for Vulnerable People, Plants and Wildlife" is planned for Thur., July 20, 6:30pm, at the Longfellow Park Building (3435 36th Ave. S.).

Minnesota is the third fastest

warming state. Warming is happening twice as fast in the winter, which means more disease-carrying insects can survive. And warming is happening during summer evenings, which don't cool down the way they used to. That can pose serious health risks—people and animals need cooler night temperatures to recover. Hot nights increase death rates.

Do you know how to care for yourself and your family in extreme heat? Do you have a plan if the air conditioning goes off in a heatwave? What about your food garden? How do you protect your plants? July's speakers include:

- Brenda Hoppe, Sr. Epidemiologist, Minnesota Department of Health, what we're facing with extreme weather;
- Pam Blixt, Public Health Preparedness Manager at City of Minneapolis, how the city is preparing; and
- Theresa Rooney, Hennepin County Master Gardener, protecting plants and wildlife.

This series looks at both personal preparedness and how to build a more caring and prepared Longfellow community. Attendees will be talking about what assets we have and what we need to handle heat stresses. The event is free and co-sponsored by the Longfellow Community Council Environment Committee.

### Movie Night planned July 21

Movie Night is scheduled for Fri., July 21, with a 6:30pm potluck and a 7:15 movie, at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran (4101 37th Ave. S.—Note: this is a new location)

Meet new friends and neighbors and share a meal while learning more about the themes of Transition: food resilience,

renewable energy, climate preparedness, community building, and more. The National Transition Gathering will begin July 27. July's movie night will feature videos from some of the speakers and subjects at that event. The group will talk about the state of Transition in the Twin Cities, where it is, where it could be.

### Transition National Gathering planned July 27-30

With the theme "Growing a Movement for Resilient Communities," the 1st National Transition Gathering is taking place at Macalester College. With more than 70 presenters from Minnesota, across the nation, and the globe, it will bring information and inspiration to anyone working on community-based projects to build vibrant, economically and environmentally sustainable communities. There will be skill-building workshops of interest to a wide range of community volunteers—neighborhood council members, environmental group volunteers, church care teams, and business green teams.

The event kicks off Thurs., July 27, with two days of intensive workshops featuring nationally known trainers on topics of building local economic resilience, community rights, inner resilience, shaping local policy and techniques for effective collaboration for working groups.

(Intensive workshops are \$75 for one day; \$150 for two days.) Thursday evening features a screening of the award-winning French documentary, "Demain" (Tomorrow), which showcases what communities around the world are doing to meet environmental and social challenges (\$11, tickets can be purchased separately for the film).

Friday, July 28 features keynote speaker Richard Heinberg, a senior fellow at the Post Carbon Institute, speaking on "Transition in the Age of Denial." The federal government may have stepped away from the Paris agreement on climate, local governments, community members, and businesses are looking, and working, to achieve a more sustainable, fossil fuel free future.

The main gathering, on Sat., July 29 and Sun., July 30, includes 39 concurrent workshops with experts and community members from around the U.S. sharing stories of success and skills for building resilience and sustainability at all levels—individual, household, neighborhood, and city. Saturday evening features keynote speaker Phyllis Young, Standing Rock Elder and Water Protector, followed by music.

To learn more about the National Gathering, or to buy tickets, please see [www.transitiongathering.org](http://www.transitiongathering.org). There are work-trade opportunities available for residents who would like to help at the event for reduced entry free.

### Garden Skillshare Day, July 22

Plans are underway for two longer skillshare activities. Please see the website: [www.transitionlongfellow.org](http://www.transitionlongfellow.org) for more details.

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## Letters to the Editor

### Legislators need to protect public health

Dear Editor,

This spring's measles outbreak should concern all of us,

but especially our state lawmakers. For several years, Rep. Freiberg and Sen. Eaton have tried to prevent this outbreak, authoring a bill that would require parents to talk to a doctor before getting an exemption to school vaccine requirements. Despite being warned that inaction would cause an outbreak like the measles outbreak Minnesota is currently experiencing, our lawmakers did nothing.

This outbreak is not just a concern for Hennepin County or our Somali-American neighbors. Our community is at risk. All of our children are at risk. To prevent a measles outbreak in our schools, they need to have 95% of their students immunized. The Anishinabe Academy is one of many schools in Minneapolis, and really within the Longfellow and Nokomis neighborhoods, that falls below this threshold with only 64% vaccinated for measles. I call upon Rep. Jim Davnie and Sen. Patricia Torres Ray to take up this cause at the opening of the next legislative session, and I call upon my neighbors to contact them (and any of their state representatives) and encourage them to do so.

Niki Garrett  
Longfellow Resident



Nokomis East  
Neighborhood Association



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## Accepting applications

NENA is seeking applicants for the vacant Board seat from the Wenonah neighborhood. The Wenonah neighborhood is bordered by 54th St. on the north; 34th Ave. on the east; Cedar Ave. on the west; and the southern boundary of the City of Minneapolis on the south.

If you live in the Wenonah neighborhood as a homeowner or renter, you can nominate yourself. Any NENA member can also nominate a Wenonah neighborhood resident as an applicant for the Board. Completed nomination forms for the Wenonah seat are due July 6. More information and the Board application is available on the NENA site, [www.nokomiseast.org](http://www.nokomiseast.org).

## Monarch Magic! workshops

Monarch Magic! is a free activity program offered by Wavelets Creative Arts in partnership with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and NENA.

Monarch Magic! activities are led by Lake Nokomis Artist-in-Residence James Everest, with Naturalist Jenny Winkelman and several guest teaching artists. All activities take place outdoors

# NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

4313 54th St. E.

## Applications sought for Wenonah neighborhood board member

### Upcoming Meetings and Events:

07/05/17: NENA Housing, Commercial and Streetscape Committee, NENA Office, 6:30pm

07/08/17: Friends of Lake Nokomis Yoga and Mindfulness, Lake Nokomis Beach, 8am

07/11/17: VA Center Farmer's Market, Minneapolis VA Medical Center, 2pm

07/12/17: NENA Green Initiatives Committee, NENA Office, 6:30pm

07/27/17: NENA Board Meeting, NENA Office, 7pm

Web: [www.nokomiseast.org](http://www.nokomiseast.org) • Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Nokomiseast](http://www.facebook.com/Nokomiseast)  
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at Lake Nokomis Park and are free and open to people of all ages and abilities.

Participants will learn about various aspects of monarch butterfly life cycles and habitat and then work together on various creative arts projects for the Monarch Magic! community performance installation at the annual Monarch Festival. The Monarch Magic! installation serves as an immersive entryway from Lake Nokomis and nearby neighborhoods into the Festival on Sat., Sept. 9.

Workshops run from June 25 until Sept. 9. For more information or to sign up for a workshop, go to [www.monarchfestival.org](http://www.monarchfestival.org).

## Monarch Mile Coming to Nokomis East in August

This summer Nokomis East will be adding another project that expands the number of pollinator-friendly gardens in our neighborhood. The Monarch Mile is a pathway of native plants along E. 50th St. from

the Nokomis Naturescape to the Gateway Gardens. In partnership with Metro Blooms, NENA will be installing 17 pollinator gardens in the boulevards to attract butterflies, bees, and birds, and to add natural beauty to our neighborhood. The boulevard gardens will be installed by Minnesota Conservation Corps members in late July and early August.

## Curb Appeal Matching Grant Lottery

The first year of the Curb Ap-

peal Matching Grant Lottery was a success, with 52 Nokomis East residents registering for the reimbursement funds. The lottery drawing at the May 23 Night Out With NENA event randomly selected 16 grant recipients. Of the 16 winners, five were from Keewaydin, five from Minnehaha, three from Morris Park, and three from Wenonah. The funded projects include house painting, step repair, hardscaping, and new roofing.

Due to the interest in the first round of grants, the Curb Appeal Grant Lottery will return next year! Subscribe to our online newsletter, NENA News, on the NENA website for future announcements on the next registration period and other neighborhood information.

## Sign up for NENA News

NENA News is your guide to news, events, and resources! Get your neighborhood news delivered to your inbox every other Wednesday. Sign up today at [www.nokomiseast.org](http://www.nokomiseast.org). Once you sign up, you'll receive updates on news and happenings for your neighborhood.

Minnehaha Academy sophomore pitcher Bennett Theisen changed roles at the Class 2A state baseball tournament, and it paid off in a second-straight championship.

A starter all season, Theisen didn't get to open any game on the mound at state. Instead, he came in as a closer for the June 19 championship game and struck out seven batters over the final three innings. It secured a 6-4 win for the Redhawks over Pierz.

"He's a real power pitcher, and he can definitely throw some guys off when we go to him at the end," Redhawks coach Scott Glenn said. "He's really excelled in that role. He's just gone out there and blown guys away."

Minnehaha Academy needed someone to stop Pierz. After the Redhawks had jumped out to a 4-0 lead through three innings, Pierz rallied with four unanswered, including three in the fifth inning, to tie the game.

"They had all the momentum going," Glenn said.

Besides striking out seven, Theisen got the Redhawks out of the final inning with two Pierz base runners in scoring position. He also stepped up earlier as the third baseman in the fourth inning when he turned a double play to end an inning when the Pioneers threatened with the bases loaded.



# In The Zone

By MATTHEW DAVIS

## Role change boosts Minnehaha Academy in baseball championship repeat



Minnehaha Academy repeated as Class 2A state baseball champions June 19 in a 6-4 victory over Pierz at Target Field. (Photo submitted)

Though Theisen shined on the mound, starting sophomore pitcher Brock Brumley allowed one earned run on six hits in four innings. Brumley left the mound with the Redhawks ahead 4-2.

"Brock pitched really well, and I probably could have gone a little bit longer with him, but they [Pierz] had some momentum going, and I thought a change might do us some good." Theisen's relief role came

about with Brumley and senior Alex Evenson getting the starts in the first two state tournament games in St. Cloud June 15-16. With a two-day break between the semifinals and championship, having Theisen wait for later innings made sense to Glenn and company.

Minnehaha Academy (26-2) didn't have a cakewalk to the title game either with two five-run wins. It started with a 10-5

quarterfinal win over Warroad June 15.

Glenn said he "figured with their hockey tradition" that the Warriors "would be a team with a lot of really good athletes."

The Warriors had been a hard-hitting team with five players who hit two or more home runs going into the tournament.

"The first inning, they came out and they were smacking the ball all over the field," Glenn said.

Warroad went up 1-0 after a three-hit top of the first inning. The top-seeded Redhawks answered with a four-run bottom of the first. The Warriors closed the gap to two runs, 5-3, in the third before the Redhawks piled on five more runs over the next three innings.

Evenson and Justin Evenson each had three RBI for the Redhawks. Brumley fanned five batters for the win.

Alex Evenson, who came back from injury for the state tournament, pitched the

Redhawks to victory in the semifinals against Maple Lake June 16. He struck out 11 batters in the 8-3 win. Theisen and Kenny Kiratli drove in two runs apiece as the Redhawks from a 2-0 hole after two innings and outscored the Irish 8-1.

Similar to Theisen, Alex Evenson came up big in the title game but with his bat. Evenson sealed the win against Pierz in the seventh with a RBI, his lone hit of the day, for a 6-4. Noah Dehne had just Redhawks ahead to stay with a RBI single.

"We got a pretty lucky break in the top of the seventh with a pretty routine ground ball hit a base and hopped over the first [Redhawks] base runner and actually got to second," Glenn said of the play that set up Dehne's tie-breaking RBI.

Minnehaha Academy got some bounces along the way in a run to repeat as state champions, but the senior-heavy group had a lot of experience coming back. The Redhawks lost just four players, though that Division I college-level talent, but simply reloaded.

"Going from four seniors last year to 10 seniors this year, the senior leadership was huge this year," Glenn said. "We had a lot of guys who played big roles last year, and they built on that."

Another championship season that is.

## Golf Course

Continued from page 2

might come with increasing wetland restoration.

## Users estimated to jump if land is used for other things

Attendees also considered how many people currently use the property versus how many might if there were other amenities there. Currently, there are 10,500 golfers, and that number is estimated to rise to 146,000 if the event center is updated. However, if the range of uses at the site was diversified, that number is estimated to be 522,462.

For comparison purposes, Minnehaha Regional Park has 1,717,600 users each year, Minneapolis Chain of Lakes Regional Park 5,101,700 (the highest in the state) and Theodore Wirth Regional Park 570,200, according to a Met Council report.

"The neighborhood has been wanting to get access to his park for years," observed Burt. He recalls the "fence wars" that have occurred as neighbors cut the golf course fence in order to walk around inside. He mentioned how nice Wood Lake Nature Center is, and supports something similar here. "I think that anything that opens people up to nature in the city is a good

thing," said Burt.

Willie Gregg is in favor of using the land for something other than a golf course. "It feels more open and inviting for a variety of users in a wider variety of ways," he remarked.

Meeting attendees expressed concern about a possible increase in users and the additional traffic and parking issues that would bring. Some stressed that there should not be any additional paved parking lots, while others didn't want to see street parking problems such as those near Minnehaha Park. Some residents didn't feel that the infrastructure was in place to handle 500,000 users at Hiawatha.

There were two competing interests: continuing the peace and quiet of the area versus maximum usage of the space.

Others expressed support for the use of solar power and renewable energy at the site, the return of wild rice, the continuation of cross country skiing, an edible food forest, prairie restoration, and increased programming for kids. If the golf course is changed, some are concerned that the property will sit empty and look badly for years during the transition period.

"If we're going to lose our golf course," said one commenter, "let's make it something special."

## Future meetings

A final meeting with the public was held June 21 when there was little public comment in comparison to the past two meetings that were primarily focused on soliciting stakeholder opinions.

Schroeder pointed out that any changes at the course wouldn't happen this year, or likely even next. "When we get to the Park and Recreation Board, we still have years," he said.

MPRB will discuss the issue at its July 12 board meeting and select a direction to pursue at its Aug. 9 meeting. Comments are being collected via an online survey available on the MPRB Hiawatha Golf Course project page.

# New name and new route for East Lake Open Streets July 23

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Open Streets Minneapolis is a summer-long series of festivals taking place all across the city on different weekends. An initiative of Our Streets Minneapolis (formerly the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition), it's being presented by the Center for Prevention at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and co-sponsored by the City of Minneapolis.

The East Lake Open Streets has been renamed and rerouted this year. Redubbed the "Lake + Minnehaha Open Streets," the festival will begin at Lake St. and Elliot Ave., continue east to Minnehaha Ave., and meander toward Minnehaha Falls on Sun., July 23 from 11am to 5pm.

Why the change? Ales Tsatsoulis, communications manager for Our Streets Minneapolis, said, "After a successful event last year, we reached out to neighborhood stakeholders asking what they wanted to do going forward. There was a lot of interest in highlighting the great businesses, road recon-



Enjoy the Lake + Minnehaha Open Streets on Sun., July 23, from 11am-5pm: the only day of the year when the streetscape won't look like this. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

struction, and many improvements along Minnehaha Ave. It wasn't feasible to do two events so close together, so we decided to combine the two streets into one event."

"Minnehaha Ave. was part of the East Lake Open Streets experience back in 2013," Tsatsoulis continued. "It's great

to be coming back to a street that's been reimagined and is now so much friendlier to bikers, pedestrians, and motorists. Many of the improvements that came out of the last two summers of construction were discussed at the Open Streets three years ago. Open Streets events are more than just a chance to come out and have fun for a day. We believe that people want to be able to shape the communities they live in. These celebrations are a chance to add your voice to the collective voice that makes change happen."

Many of the details of participating businesses and non-profits have yet to be worked out. A full schedule will be available closer to the event date at [www.ourstreets.org](http://www.ourstreets.org). In the meantime, a few teasers include the following:

First-time participant Minnehaha Lake Liquor (2613 E. Lake St.) will be partnering with Gandhi Mahal to offer Indian food and all manner of

drinks in their parking lot. Jason Krause, a member of the family that has owned Minnehaha Lake Liquor for three generations, said, "We also have a cool vintage bicycle that we plan to auction off to benefit a local charity."

The HUB Bicycle Co-op

across the street (3020 Minnehaha Ave.) will be displaying 3-4 models of e-bikes on their newly created front lawn, one of the many improvements of the Minnehaha Ave. reconstruction. "We see this as a good chance to explain e-bikes to the public," Chelsea Strate, HUB marketing coordinator and worker-owner, said. "These are an interesting new option for people who either have a very long commute or for whom fitness is an issue. The battery-assisted bikes make it possible for cyclists to go faster and farther than they might under their own steam. And because they're battery powered, they don't contribute to emissions as motorcycles do."

Further down the road, Peace Coffee (3262 Minnehaha Ave.) will be serving root beer and cold press floats all afternoon.

Near Minnehaha Communion Church (4101 37th Ave. S.), hip-hop artist AGAPE will have performances starting at 1pm. AGAPE, also known as Dave Scherer, has inspired listeners from Bosnia to Brooklyn with his outreach ministry. Combining rap, dance, and storytelling in English and Spanish, AGAPE connects with audiences in a big way. His hip-hop ministry includes the hard work of addressing social injustice. The well-established recording artist has ten albums to his credit and a recently published book.

The fruit trees of the nearby Adams Grove Orchard will be setting fruit by late July, and are well worth stopping to admire.

Tsatsoulis concluded, saying, "Our Streets Minneapolis will have a pop-up protected bikeway and bump-out somewhere along the route. We'll have staff people on hand to talk about bicycle and pedestrian safety, and to gather people's comments about ways to improve their neighborhood. Lake + Minnehaha Open Streets is a chance to promote healthy living, local business, sustainable transportation, and civic pride in South Minneapolis. We'll be creating safe, car-free streets so that residents of all ages can walk, bike, shop, eat, participate in play activities, and get to know one another."



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# East Lake Library jumps into its third year of Curious Community

By JAN WILLMS

Over the years, the 100-year-old building at 3016 Lake St. has been home to a barber shop, beauty salon, pawn shop, jewelry store, machine shop and even a church. But now it is occupied by Urban Forage Winery and Cider House, owned by Jeff and Gita Zeitler.

"A lot of people are very curious about what we are doing here," Zeitler said, as he took some time off from his remodeling work on the main floor of the building to chat about his business.

The uniqueness of the shop led Anna Sheppard, the adult services librarian at East Lake Library, 2727 E. Lake St., to select Urban Forage as the first business this summer to be part of the "Curious Community" series. In explaining the program, Sheppard said she has been a Longfellow resident since 2010. "One of the reasons I love the neighborhood is because it has all these wonderful local businesses to support," she said. "I got the job at East Lake Library in 2014 and one of my tasks there was to highlight the local businesses that are in the area, and create a ripple effect for the library and the businesses."

She approached Longfellow Community Council about this idea, and they worked together to come up with a name for the program. Sheppard said they landed on "Curious Community" because many people who live in the community get curious about things and then explore them and spread the word.

This is the third year of the three-part series, and it kicked off June 26 with an event that began at the library with Zeitler talking about the winery and the process of foraging. Once he described what he does at his new business, participants were invited to head over to Urban Forage Winery and Cider House for a tour.

"The first year we started the series we attempted to offer five



For the third year, East Lake Library is sponsoring "Curious Community" in the summer. This year features three businesses: Urban Forage Winery and Cider House; Belle's Toolbox; and Laughing Waters Studio. (Photo provided)

different programs," Sheppard recalled. "We realized doing five was tricky. The next year we highlighted three programs and had it more interactive and had question and answer sessions."

She said that part of what she gets to do as an organizer for the series is to go and ask questions of the business and gather information. "A lot of time people are nervous about going into a new business, but if I'm at the library and I say 'You know, if you're really interested in distilling, I know someone who could help you out,' that removes some of those barriers."

"This year we are highlighting Urban Forage with Jeff, and Lucy from Belle's Toolbox on her space for kids. It's a clever space, and she will let people know about her experiences as an educator that let her create it. And finally we have Bill from Laughing Water Studio presenting the art form of the brush stroke, so some people will be able to create some art of their own and learn about his studio, and hopefully, oth-

ers will be able to create art there in the future as well."

Sheppard said the goal of "Curious Community" is to have people come into the library space. "We know there are opportunity gaps for kids, but we encounter lots of adults who have had opportunity gaps their whole life. If somebody meets somebody in a place where they feel safe, like the library, they might be more willing to go out to their location. So we really love that piece. And it's good because sometimes business owners themselves might not have recently explored our library. Many times we see a drop-off in the use of the library with adults, and it's so good for them to reconnect with space and have them do that same kind of promotion for the library while promoting their

businesses."

Sheppard said she has tried to keep the businesses the library reaches out to in Longfellow. "That way it's easier for us to get to them. The series takes place in June, July, and August. That's nice because then we can get out of the building and move to spaces more easily than we can in the winter. Summer is always a great time to connect with local businesses and show support."

The library's "Curious Community" series has in 2015 highlighted Migizi Communications, Hack Factory, Ballare Teatro, Longfellow League of Artists, Patrick's Cabaret. In 2016 the businesses were Du Nord, Brownsmith Restoration (Forage, Hi-Lo Diner) and Gandhi Mahal.

"The 'Curious Community' series will continue every summer," Sheppard added. She said East Lake Library tries to do a lot of programs through-

out the year that highlight Minneapolis. "In the fall, there is "Museum in the Library" program that centers on museums," she stated. "They will bring elements of the museum to the library space."

She added that in winter, East Lake Library focuses more locally with a "Winter Wellness" series. "We have had Big River Yoga and some of the chiropractic and health programs. We are partnering with Minnehaha Yoga."

Sheppard said the library had its first cultural dance series this spring with Ballare Teatro, Zorunda Flamenco, and Cassandra. "We love to have people participate, and we invite local dance studios in the area."

The remaining "Curious Community" events are Belle's Toolbox on July 24, and Laughing Waters Studio on Aug. 28. Both programs are 6:30-8pm beginning at the library.

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# Unique Longfellow business makes cider out of fruit foraging

By JAN WILLMS

While getting his degree in journalism with a minor in geography from the University of Minnesota, Jeff Zeitler was also indulging in a favorite pastime—making wine in his dorm room.

“That was probably about 25 years ago now, and this is the outgrowth of many years of amateur winemaking,” he noted, as he glanced around at Urban Forage Winery and Cider House at 3016 Lake St.

He is in the midst of finishing renovating the main floor of the building, which was originally built in 1916 and has housed a variety of businesses over the years, ranging from a barber shop to a pawn shop. “It’s a nondescript building, but it has a juicy history,” he said with a smile.

Zeitler also completed a master’s in landscape architecture. “I have degrees all over the place that have nothing to do with what I am currently doing,” he noted. “Although I will say my experience as a landscape architect led me to this path of foraging fruit.”

His work took him to many places where people had planted



Jeff Zeitler checks on his fermenting equipment in the basement of his business location. (Photo by Jan Willms)

trees, but they did not want the fruit and never used it.

“This planted a seed in my brain,” Zeitler said. “There was a huge opportunity with this problem. I had no problem asking people if they would like me to remove their fruit. I would go in and forage the fruit, clean the yard up carefully afterward and leave them a bottle of cider. People were thrilled I was taking away their fruit, and I was

thrilled to be getting it.”

In 2014 Zeitler, with the help of his wife Gita, started foraging in earnest. They stored apples in their garage and also were able to find many other fruits, including cherries and apricots. They have a yard full of rhubarb, and so do their neighbors.

“My wife and I started looking at foreclosed buildings, and we had some savings. With the recession, we found a lot of vacant buildings,” Zeitler explained. He had been working at an office job as a landscape architect, but business was slowing down.

“I never thought until recently that the winemaking could be any more than a hobby,” he recalled. But one day I was making wine in the kitchen, and my four-year-old daughter looked at me. “Daddy, you love making wine, and you hate your job. Why don’t you become a winemaker?”

I started thinking about it, and then we found this building. My wife looked at the basement and said I could have the winery down here. And I thought I actually could.”

After purchasing the building, the Zeitlers fixed the upstairs up to office standards and leased it out for two and a half years to a company that provided personal care assistance. That company used the space for its main office.

In December 2015 Urban Forage Winery and Cider House opened for limited business on Fridays and Saturdays, selling ciders and wines in the basement quarters, where several fermenters are used for making the wine. In August, Zeitler hopes to open the up-

stairs for sales, where people can come in and purchase a glass of wine or cider.

“We will keep the basement as the winemaking and storage area,” he explained. “Ninety-nine percent of the action will happen upstairs, regarding the general public.” The business currently has seven products on the market, with some available in liquor stores, such as Gin Botanical and Semi-sweet Cider. Products at the Urban Forage location include pear cider, cherry apple cider, rhubarb wine and dandelion wine.

“This year we foraged everything,” Zeitler said. “We got apples, spices for the Gin Botanical, pears, dandelions, rhubarb and cherries from Minneapolis trees.”

He said his favorite part of the operation is the foraging. “I love picking fruit, interacting with people.”

He said the challenging parts of the business are the required permits, although he credits the City of Minneapolis with being fair, and Council member Cam Gordon with helping them work through any problems. “Our current build-

ing inspector is tough but fair, and he points out ways we can improve things,” he added. Zeitler said the winemaking is also a challenge. “I enjoy it, but on a larger scale it becomes a lot more work,” he said. He said that his wife has been a big help, but she also works a full-time job and he finds it hard sometimes to make the cider and the wine, do the construction and the marketing. “We do have some volunteer help here and there, but it has been mostly me,” he noted.

As well as the “Curious Community” program they did with the East Lake Library June 26, Urban Forage Winery and Cider House is doing a kickoff July 7 for Cider for Life, a program in which a person can pay \$1000 and get two glasses of cider every day for as long as the business is open, for the rest of their life.

Zeitler said the winemaking from the college days has grown in scope quite rapidly, but he still enjoys the process of foraging for the ingredients and making the wines and ciders. And so far as he knows, the business is unique and the only one of its kind in the Twin Cities.



Jeff Zeitler displays the products he has created from foraged fruits. (Photo by Jan Willms)

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# Riverview Theater hosts premiere of All in the Circle documentary

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

All in the Circle is a creative arts and nature camp for youth that was started seven years ago by educator and environmentalist AJ Pratt.

On May 18, the Riverview Theater hosted the premiere of a documentary about All in the Circle, made and directed by long-time camper and South High School student Isaiah Bischoff. Bischoff already had three films to his credit when he was approached to make the film by a local broadcast producer and a member of the All in the Circle family, David Howell.

"We started working together more than two years ago," Howell said, "and Isaiah has really grown as a director in that time. The biggest thing I wanted to teach him was how to work with other creative professionals. He's a pretty incredible kid; he goes to school all day, is active on the track team, has tons of homework, and works on film projects in his 'spare time.'"

Founder AJ Pratt co-directs the camp with her daughter Erin Pratt, in partnership with an organization called Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light. AJ Pratt said, "The idea for All in the Circle Creative Arts and Na-



All in the Circle Creative Arts and Nature Camp co-director Erin Pratt, pictured left. The camp is made possible by Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light, whose belief is that active care of the earth is integral to spiritual life and social justice. Their work brings Minnesota's faith communities together and provides opportunities for congregations to join the climate justice movement. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

ture Camp grew from my belief that children's natural passions are for exploration. I was lucky in that my own childhood was filled with unstructured play in nature. I always dreaded the sound of the dinner bell, because I didn't want to go inside."

In her opening words at the Riverview, camp co-director Erin Pratt said, "The mission of our camp is to create an environment where campers learn to connect deeply with the earth. All in the Circle teaches that each one of us is part of the earth and that we're

all in this together. The issue of climate change is at our core. We believe that all ages of people will naturally care for what they learn to love."

Other participants in the evening's premiere at the Riverview were staff member Fatawu Say-

iby and his Ghanaian dance and drumming troupe. Sayiby brings music, movement and Ghanaian culture to every All in the Circle session. Dakota elder Bob Klanderud is also an integral part of the All in the Circle staff. He serves as a cultural leader and naturalist; Klanderud gave the program's opening invocation.

All in the Circle Nature camp for 1-6 graders will take place this year July 10-14 at Theodore Wirth Park. The focus of the session will be to dive deep into the natural world through sensory awareness exercises, nature scavenger hunts, and teachings about belonging, cooperation, and kindness. Story-telling, art-making, drumming, and dance will all be woven in.

Two other sessions of All in the Circle have already taken place this summer: a two-day camp for families, and a leadership development camp for middle and high schoolers. For information about camp this summer or in the future, contact Erin Pratt at erin@mnipl.org.

Film director Isaiah Bischoff closed the evening by saying, "This film documents how All in the Circle combines story, song, and metaphor to teach kids about their connection to the earth, and their need to protect it."

# Canadian franchise remodels and opens in White Castle's old location

Tim Hortons serves breakfast and lunch, as well as coffee shop fare of pastry and muffins

By JAN WILLMS

It has been about three months since the Canadian-based Tim Hortons opened its doors at 3600 Lake St. The restaurant took over the building that had been occupied by White Castle for many years.

"The transition was seamless," said Paul Durigon, chief executive officer of Restaurant Development Partners from his office in Canada. "We closed on the sale and started renovating immediately."

"We demolished the interior and refurbished the exterior of the building," he noted.

The cheerful coffee shop and restaurant is open seven days a week, from 6am until 10pm.

"We want to emphasize that the store is so much more than just coffee and donuts," Durigon said. "We serve breakfasts and lunches, with a daily homemade soup. We bake our bread every day, and everything is freshly made."

He said Tim Hortons offers cappuccinos, lattes, and espressos that are as good as any on the market, as well as a broad range of food. Teas, hot choco-

late, frozen lemonade, and fruit smoothies are also part of the liquid items offered. The menu is rounded out with paninis, sandwiches, and wrap offerings, chili, mac and cheese, and a soup

of the day. Top it off with Cold Stone Creamery ice cream.

The store is named after its founder, hockey great Tim Horton, who was a Canadian professional ice hockey player, a defen-

seman for 24 seasons in the National Hockey League. He played for the Toronto Maple Leafs, New York Rangers, Pittsburgh Penguins, and Buffalo Sabres.

Continued on page 11



Muriel is enjoying coffee at the Tim Hortons on Lake St. (Photo by Jan Willms)



Tim Hortons opened its doors at 3600 Lake St, on the spot that had been occupied by White Castle for over 60 years. (Photo by Jan Willms)

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[www.bethlehemcov.org](http://www.bethlehemcov.org)

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Traditional Worship - 10:30am  
Español - 1:30pm

July 2 - One service at 10:30am  
July 16 - Worship at Minnehaha Falls  
Band Shell with picnic lunch afterwards  
10:30 worship, 11:30 picnic

**Epworth United Methodist**  
3207 37th Ave. • 612-722-0232  
[www.epworthumcmpls.org](http://www.epworthumcmpls.org)

Pastor Steven Reiser  
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**Jesus In The City Fellowship,**  
3249-30th Av. S. • 612-730-3390  
[www.JesusInTheCityFellowship.org](http://www.JesusInTheCityFellowship.org)

Pastor Michael Pilla  
Sunday 10 am Coffee and Fellowship  
Sunday 10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship  
Monday, 6:30 pm Bible Study - Book of John  
July 2 - Picnic at church. All are welcome.  
Handicapped Accessible

**Living Table United Church of Christ**  
3805 40th St. E. • 612-729-7556  
[www.livingtable.org](http://www.livingtable.org)

Pastor Rachael Keefe  
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Community Sing  
Sunday 8/6 at 10:30 am - Worship in the  
Park (meet at pavilion)

**Minnehaha Communion Lutheran**  
4101 37th Ave. S. • 612-722-9527  
[www.minnehahacommunion.com](http://www.minnehahacommunion.com)

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

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4th Sunday Special Summer Worship  
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July 16: Party in the Parking Lot (Hook & Ladder), 3010 Minnehaha Ave, 10:30am  
July 23: Open Streets Lake St/ Minnehaha Ave, 3010 Minnehaha Ave  
August 27: Minnehaha Falls Bandstand, 10:30am  
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# In Our Community

Messenger

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

## River Gorge party scheduled July 26

Share the River Gorge, a family event with free ice cream, free canoe rides, walking tours of the oak savanna restoration area, and more will be held at 35th and W. River Pkwy. on Wed, July 26, 6-8pm. The canoe rides—provided by Wilderness Inquiry and the National Park Service—will be staged from the sand flats below the stone steps at 34th and W. River Pkwy. The event is sponsored by the Longfellow Community Council (LCC) and its River Gorge Committee. Ice cream is provided by East Lake Dairy Queen. Expect to see lots of friends and neighbors, and join them in celebrating the river and national park in our neighborhood! For further information contact Ashleigh at LCC at 612-722-4529 ashleigh@longfellow.org.

## Heatwaves focus of July 20 program

Transition Longfellow is planning a program called "Heatwaves" on Thur., July 20, 6:30-8:30pm at the Longfellow Park Multi-Purpose Room, 3435 36th Ave. S.

Minnesotans are used to preparing for cold, but not for extreme heat. You'll hear from Brenda Hoppe, Sr. Epidemiologist, Minnesota Department of Health, on what we're facing with extreme weather. Pam Blixt from the City of Minneapolis and someone from the MN Health Department will talk about the effects of heat and who is vulnerable. There will also be a medical professional to talk about how to treat heat-related illnesses. Hennepin County master gardener Theresa Rooney will talk about caring for plants and animals during heatwaves.

The group will then break into small groups to discuss how we can support people, plants, and animals, vulnerability to blackouts and brownouts, and how to cool without electricity, and what assets we have or need in our community.

## Open house on the Gorge set July 13

A Restore the Gorge Open House will be held on Thur., July 13, 6:30-8pm at St. Peder's Church, 4600 E. 42nd St.

The Army Corps of Engineers is proposing to conduct a study of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock, Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1 (Ford Dam) to determine if the Federal government should continue to operate these three dams and maintain the river channel in between. Come to this meeting to learn more about the proposed study, the Mississippi River Gorge history,

## Community gathering planned July 4



"This Is America: Christians, Jews and Muslims Celebrating Independence Day" is planned for Tues., July 4. There will be activities for the whole family, community building and fellowship, food trucks and more. Guest appearances are scheduled by Regina Marie Williams, Brother Ali, Mark Bloom and Ali Gray. This free event is planned from 1-4pm at the Episcopal Church of St. James, 3225 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.

dam removal precedents, restoration possibilities, and invasive species. Afterward, there will be an opportunity to share your ideas for the future of the Mississippi River Gorge and Lock and Dam No. 1.

The meeting is hosted by the Longfellow Community Council and American Rivers.

## Ice Cream Social scheduled July 20

The Diamond Lake Community Alliance will hold their 5th Annual Ice Cream Social and Sidewalk Sale on Thur., July 20, from 4-7pm at the 5600 block of Chicago Ave.

Gather the family and join neighbors on a warm summer afternoon for a refreshing ice cream treat, entertainment, and shopping. Sponsored by The Diamond Lake Community Business Alliance, this event will feature a wide variety of community storefront and home-based businesses. There will be music and fun for the kids as well as door prizes! Remember to bring your pocket money for ice cream, hot dogs, and pickles! You might even find a great bargain on books, spices, essential oils, cookies and more.

For more info and a list of vendors (more than 20 at last count), visit their website at [www.DiamondLakeCommunityAlliance.com](http://www.DiamondLakeCommunityAlliance.com).

## Babysitting Clinic returns July 10-13

The Babysitting Clinic returns July 10-13, 6-8pm at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37th Ave. S. Minnehaha Communion is offering neighborhood youth, ages 11-16, the on-line Red Cross Babysitting Clinic.

The certification does not include infant CPR.

In addition to learning babysitting fundamentals, the students will learn about fun games and healthy snacks for youngsters. Babysitting kits and business cards will be created during the week. The students also will have a paid opportunity to staff a play area during a local July 23 event.

The cost is \$10 per student with scholarships available upon request. Call 612-722-9527 to register your child.

## Faith Bible School scheduled July 11-13

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3430 E. 51st St., will hold their Vacation Bible School July 11-13, 5:30-8pm. A light meal will be served at 5:30pm followed by crafts, music, and games. The theme this year is "Do You Know Who Jesus Is?" Call the church office at 612-721-2537 for more information and to register.

## Last Rites exhibit scheduled July 14

Strange Boutique, 3458 Minnehaha Ave., will hold an opening reception for its exhibition "Last Rites: Assembled Curiosities," on Fri., July 14, 5-8pm. The items are described as "a requiem for found objects, summoned to voice their final statements through oddities." Items on display will include a bedside electroshock therapy kit, Hyacinth's altar, an Egyptian death kit, among others.

## Nokomis nature play area still closed

The nature play area at Lake Nokomis Community Center closed May 31 to allow for improvements that set the stage for permanent nature play structures. The "Evos" equipment will remain open throughout the majority of the construction period

except for a few days when new ground surfacing is installed.

Construction of the new playground will continue through early July. It's expected to open the week of July 10. Stay tuned for an announcement regarding a Grand Opening celebration.

## Garden Club sponsors tour July 12

This year's Longfellow Garden Club Tour showcases even more interesting gardens in Longfellow! The tour will showcase the variety of gardens that can be found throughout Longfellow. From long-established plantings to spaces introducing native plants, to green and low-maintenance boulevards and well-tended perennial beds strong on color, you will find new ideas and inspiration.

The tour is free and open to everyone. Pick up the tour map from 6-6:30pm, Wed., July 12, at Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S. Plan to carpool from the church.

You can find out more about the Longfellow Garden Club by visiting [www.facebook.com/LongfellowGardenClub](http://www.facebook.com/LongfellowGardenClub) or by visiting [www.sites.google.com/site/longfellowgardenclubminnesota](http://www.sites.google.com/site/longfellowgardenclubminnesota).

## Fundraiser Garage Sale set July 15

A one-day-only Fundraiser Garage Sale to raise money for future productions of Classics Lost N Found Theater, will be held on Sat., July 15, 8am-4pm, at 5321 43rd Ave. S. Classics Lost N Found is a community theater based in south Minneapolis. For further info or to check on dropping off donations, call 612-724-4539.

## Block Club training set for July 6

Have you ever wondered who's behind your neighborhood's annual block party? Are you looking for a way to build community on your block or help deter criminal activity? Consider attending a training session to learn about Minneapolis Block and Apartment Clubs and how you can get involved.

The event is planned for Thur., July 6, 6-7:30pm at the Minneapolis Police Third Precinct, 3000 Minnehaha Ave.

There will be light refreshments available, resources for planning your block's annual National Night Out event, and representatives from LCC's Community Connections Committee available to talk about ways to get involved with LCC.

The event is free and RSVP is not required.

## Faith Book Club meets July 1

The Faith Evangelical Lutheran Book Club meets the first Saturday of every month from 10-11am at the church, 3430 E. 51st St. The book being discussed July 1 will be the "Orphan Train" by Christina Baker Kline.

## AA and NA meets

Every Monday night there is an AA meeting at 7pm at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church (4101 37th Ave. S.), and every Tuesday and Wednesday night there is an AA meeting at 7:30pm. On Thursday night, there is an NA meeting at 7:30pm. All are welcome to attend. (Please note that the AA group WILL meet on July 4.)

## Healthy seniors plan monthly events

Nokomis Healthy Seniors (NHS) will hold a Health and Enrichment Program on Personal Safety on Thur., July 6, 11-11:30am at Bethel Lutheran Church, 4120 17th Ave. S. Karen Notsch, Crime Prevention Specialist for the City of Minneapolis, will be the featured speaker.

On Wed., July 12, 1:30-2pm, the Health and Enrichment Program topic will be "Russian Art." Learn about Russian Art, presented by a staff member of The Museum of Russian Art. The meeting will be held at the Nokomis Square Cooperative, 5015 35th Ave. S.

Future Health and Enrichment programs include "Understanding Medicare" on Sept. 7 presented by the Metro Area Agency on Aging (MAAA) at Bethel Lutheran, and "Taking Care of Your Mental Health" on Aug. 9, with Natalie McNall from Fairview Health Systems, to be held at Nokomis Square Cooperative.

NHS will feature Lunch and Bingo—where you can enjoy a delicious lunch and then stay for some Bingo—on Thur., July 13, 11:15am-1pm, at Bethel Lutheran Church. It is also planned for Thur., Sept. 14, same time.

On Thur., Aug. 3, 11am, the NHS Book Club will meet to discuss "Memories Before and After the Sound of Music," by Agathe Von Trapp, the oldest Von Trapp daughter. The club meets at Bethel Lutheran Church. Then return on Thur., Aug. 10, when Lunch & a Movie will feature "The Sound of Music" from 11:15am-1:30pm.

Continued on page 10

## In Our Community

Continued from page 9

### Gamblers Anonymous meets Wednesdays

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

### July events at LS Healthy Seniors

Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors' monthly Senior Social/Health Talk will be held on Tues., July 18 at 10:30am at Holy Trini-

ty Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. The presentation is entitled "Assisted Living Options." Learn about eligibility for assisted living; how the rent is paid; what services are paid by Medicare and Medicaid; the different types of assisted living; and who can perform assisted living services. Presented by a representative of Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid.

A monthly Diabetes Support Group for adults of all ages will be held Wed., July 12 from 6:30-8pm at Hiawatha School Park Recreation Center, 4305 E. 42nd St.

Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors is looking for "Friendly Visitor" volunteers and volunteer drivers to help seniors live independently.

Call Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799

or email [info@lshealthyseniors.org](mailto:info@lshealthyseniors.org) for more information on activities, services or volunteer opportunities.

### Hiawatha Academies seeks Shasta site redevelopment

As the *Messenger* was headed to press, the Minneapolis Planning Commission held a public hearing on June 26 on a proposed redevelopment of the Shasta building/site on 3th Ave. and 28th St. The development proposal, submitted by Hiawatha Academies, asks for the current building to be demolished.

Hilary Dvorak, Principal City Planner for the City of Minneapolis, stated that a Travel Demand

Management Plan had been reviewed by Public Works.

Dvorak said that the redevelopment would be three stories high (46 feet) and would house up to 788 students, and that the building would have 112 parking spaces, which is similar to other Minneapolis high schools.

### Adoption support group meets July 11

The Adoption Support Network holds monthly support groups at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church (4101 37th Ave. S.), for parents with adopted teens. Next meeting will be held on Tues., July 11 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 [g61-646-5082](mailto:g61-646-5082) or [g61-644-3036](mailto:g61-644-3036), ext. 17, or [christinaromo@nacac.org](mailto:christinaromo@nacac.org) (teens).

### Blind Ministry Outreach July 15

The Blind Ministry Outreach meets at Faith Ev. Lutheran, 3430 E. 51st St., the second Saturday of the month. You are invited to join

Continued on page 11

# Classifieds

## Messenger

Want ads must be received by the Messenger by July 17 for the July 27 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](http://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 July 17 for the July 27 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to [denis@deruyternelson.com](mailto: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](http://www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com).

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## Tim Hortons

Continued from page 8

Horton's death in a car accident in 1974 came ten years after he opened his first restaurant in Hamilton, Ontario, with partner Ron Joyce. He was still playing hockey at age 44 with the Buffalo Sabres while being an entrepreneur. At the time of his death, there were 50 Tim Hortons in Canada. Today, according to Durigon, there are over 4500 worldwide.

"We currently have 800 open in the United States, mostly in the eastern seaboard states," he continued. "We hope to have 17 open in Minnesota by the end of the year." There are already Tim Hortons in the Mall of America, Dinkytown, Brainerd, International Falls and Brooklyn Park. Another is opening in Savage.

A unique aspect of Tim Hortons is the Tim Hortons Children's Foundation. This foundation was started by Joyce after Horton's death in 1974 to honor his memory and keep alive his love for helping those less fortunate. The Foundation has several camps across the United States and Canada that are designed to provide an enriching and memorable camp experience for children and youth living in economically disadvantaged homes.

The restaurant is also dedicated to providing nutritional as well as tasty food items to its customers and strives to be an environmental steward by reducing waste, recycling, reducing litter and focusing on green building design.

Durigon said that each store employs about 25 people.

Besides sending kids to camp, Tim Hortons is initiating a cookie program. "If you buy a

cookie, we will donate the proceeds to a charity in the area," he explained.

Durigon said the restaurant wants very much to be a part of the community it serves. "We want to be involved in area sports, such as hockey, baseball, and soccer," he stated.

"Probably our greatest challenge has been getting our name out there, with limited marketing," Durigon continued. "And letting people know that we are so much more than a coffee shop, with the breakfasts and lunches we offer."

The prices are reasonable, with a coffee and a frosted donut with sprinkles for as little as \$2.

Durigon said he is not sure if Tim Hortons has gotten all the old White Castle crowd, but the store's experience in Minnesota has been great so far, with the Canadian-based company getting a warm welcome.



Chris Smith, one of the employees at Tim Hortons on Lake St., is ready to take your order for breakfast, lunch, coffee, donut, or any of the wide-ranging menu items that they offer. (Photo by Jan Willms)

## In Our Community

Continued from page 10

them on Sat., July 15, from noon-2pm for lunch, Bible study, and fellowship. Volunteers to assist are also welcome. Call 612-729-5463 for more information.

## Free remodeling classes scheduled

Castle Building & Remodeling and The Natural Built Home Store are offering two free educational remodeling classes this summer. At these classes, community members can learn about

how to plan for, budget, and get the best value from the most common remodeling projects. During the classes, the group will discuss the design process, typical project budgets, cost savings ideas, homeowner participation in the remodel, rebates and incentives, time lines, and affordable design tips. Designers will lead each class and answer questions about your remodeling project. All attendees will receive a certificate for \$100 off design and planning services. To attend one of these classes, please sign up in advance on our website, [www.castlebri.com/education-class-schedule-sign-sheet](http://www.castlebri.com/education-class-schedule-sign-sheet).

Classes will be held at The Natural Built Home Store, 4020 Minnehaha Ave. S., on Sat., July 22, 10am ("Planning a Green Kitchen Remodel") and Sat., Aug. 12, 10am ("1/2 Story Green Remodel").

## Bible School scheduled Aug. 14-18

Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S., will sponsor Vacation Bible School on Mon.-Fri., Aug. 14-18, 9am-12:30pm. "Hero Central" Bible School will let participants play, eat and discover their strength in God! There will be singing, crafts, science experiments, games, and a lunch. We will learn how to be Heros in our world today-- do good, seek peace and go after it! The cost is \$5 per child or \$20 for a family of 4 or more. For further questions please contact [epworthumcplsmn@gmail.com](mailto:epworthumcplsmn@gmail.com) or 612-722-0232.

## NA group meets every Friday

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

year more 1,500 events were registered with the City. It is free to participate in National Night Out.

Registering a National Night Out event and applying to close a street or alley is a single online process. Or they can register their events and apply for street closure by calling 311. Registration also places events on the official list of National Night Out events that gets distributed to police and other departments. (There's no guarantee police will be able to visit each event.)

Deadlines to apply for street or alley closure are:

- By July 18: free
- July 19-July 26: \$100
- July 26 is the last day to apply for street closure.

Please note that not every street can be blocked off. Generally, bus routes and high traffic streets cannot be used for block events. Street closure requires the permission of 75 percent of neighbors; applicants should keep their names and addresses handy in case the permit application needs to be reviewed. Signatures are not required.

Rain plans are encouraged; organizers should decide if their event will go forward if it rains or be rescheduled. Anyone applying to close the street will have a rain date of Wed., Aug. 2, unless they decline it during the application. If they aren't closing the street, they can choose any rain date that works for their group.

National Night Out is an annual nationwide event that encourages residents to get out in the community, holding block parties and getting to know their neighbors as a way to prevent crime.

Find out more about National Night Out at [www.minneapolis.gov/nno](http://www.minneapolis.gov/nno).

## NEBA plans summer concert series

The Nokomis East Business Association, continues their Summer Concert Series with two upcoming concerts.

"Bob! (the music of Dylan)," is scheduled for Sun., July 23, 2-4pm at Nokomis Beach Coffee, 4956 S. 28th Ave.

"Princeton & Symone," with its focus on reggae, pop, and R&B, will take place Sun., Aug. 27, 2-4pm at Wendy's Doghouse, 4207 E. 54th St.



## 'Tucker's Robot' scheduled July 30

The Northrop PTA invites the community to a puppet show on the Northrop playground for Open Eye Figure Theater's production of "Tucker's Robot." The performance is planned for Sun., July 30 at Northrop Community School, 435 31st Ave. S., at 4pm.

"Tucker is a young boy who needs to go back in time to face a neighborhood bully. How do you go back in time? With a time traveling robot of course! Together Tucker and his robot discover the importance of friendship and the courage to face a bully."

The PTA is providing lemonade, water, and popcorn. This event is and hosted by the Northrop PTA, is free, but Open Eye will be "passing the hat" for donations.

## Get your permit for National Night Out

This year, National Night Out is planned Tues., Aug. 1. For people planning a neighborhood gathering, there are important deadlines for registering their events with the City and for blocking off their streets or alleys. Last

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# Eagle Scout celebrated at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

An Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held for Longfellow resident Danya Werth on May 20 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The rank of Eagle Scout is the highest level of achievement in the Boy Scouts of America, and one that only about 6% of scouts achieve nationally.

A recent graduate of South High School, Danya's journey toward this day of celebration started when he joined Troop #38 in third grade. He attended weekly den meetings with his family. Former den mother Karen Kemp, said, "The family was notable from the beginning because they always came together on their bikes: Danya; his younger brother, Anton; his mother, Karen Vierstraete Werth; and his father, Gerry Werth."

Danya remembered, "When I started thinking about my Eagle Scout project, I asked the administrators at Holy Trinity if there were any jobs on the drawing board that just weren't getting done. The idea for the community oven came up, and I thought, 'I can do that.'" Little did I know what I had signed on for."

The Eagle Scout ceremony was a time for remembering not just the labors of the final project, but all of the love and hard work that guided Danya to its completion. Tragically, one week after finishing the community oven, Danya's father Gerry died of a heart attack on Oct. 31, 2016.

"Gerry was such a big part of this whole thing," Danya's mother Karen, said. "Danya needed a lot of motivation from the people around him because this project was so huge. At the end of the Eagle Scout ceremony, when the mentor pins were given out, I was glad that Danya was able to lay a pin on the altar where Gerry's photo stood."



Danya pinned a mentor pin on his mother as well, and the six adult leaders whom, he said, "helped to make me a better scout, and a better person." He thanked

his fellow scouts and scout leaders, church members, and friends. Of his parents, he said, "Without your motivation, determination, and love, this project would not have



The new community oven at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church was fired up to almost 900 degrees in its inaugural run on May 20. Constructing the oven was the project of Eagle Scout Danya Werth. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

Photo left: Danya Werth (pictured right) in front of the community oven he built to earn his Eagle Scout award. His mother, Karen Vierstraete Werth, is pictured at left. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

been possible."

Minnesota Senators Al Franken and Amy Klobuchar both sent letters of congratulations, along with other politicians and dignitaries.

The court of honor was followed by the unveiling of Danya's Eagle Scout project: the community oven that he, along with a legion of helpers, built in the garden of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Pastor Ingrid Rasmussen said, "Not only did Danya earn his badge in a big way, but with this project, he gave us a tool for connecting with our neighbors for years to come."

Larry Vaker, the owner of Think Stucco, was among the more than 100 people who came to celebrate. He volunteered three days of his time to help Danya stucco the shell of the oven last

fall. "I was in scouting when I was a boy too," Vaker said. "When Danya contacted me, I was very impressed by the scope of his project. To complete the eagle scout badge, you have to master a lot of skills like project management, communication, and the ability to delegate. You have to learn how to be a leader—and to be humble."

According to Lynda Norholm of the Minneapolis Area Synod, which gave Danya a grant for his project, "Today was the first time the community oven was fired up. Because it was completed the week before his father died, it's been standing silently—almost like a monument. But today, fired up to 900 degrees and baking all of those delicious pizzas, the community oven was brought to life."

In the fall, Danya will be heading to the University of North Dakota, where he plans to study to become a pilot. Appropriately, the closing words of his Eagle Scout Court of Honor were, "Go now with eagle's wings."

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