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# Messenger



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## City Hall newcomers will form Council majority in January

Johnson and Cano to be part of the "Minneapolis Seven" on the newly elected Minneapolis City Council

By IRIC NATHANSON

When they take office on January 6, newly-elected Council Members Andrew Johnson and Alondra Cano will be part of the Minneapolis Seven, a caucus of seven City Hall first-termers who will form a majority on the 13 member Minneapolis City Council. Johnson from the 12th Ward and Cano from the 9th Ward will replace two City Hall veterans, Sandy Colvin Roy and Gary Schiff, who opted to give up their Council seats.

While the seven new members may differ in their approach to local issues, their relative youth serves as a common bond between them. Johnson, 29, and Cano, 32, along with their fellow first-termers, will help lower the Council's median age from 53 to 37.

In the 12th Ward, Johnson, who chairs the Longfellow Community Council, launched his campaign when Colvin Roy, a 12 year incumbent, had not yet announced that she was retiring. At a hard-fought 12th Ward DFL convention in April, Johnson succeeded in blocking Colvin Roy's endorsement for a fourth council term. After she dropped out of the race, Johnson faced four opponents in November's ranked choice election, winning 55% of the ward's first choice votes.

Cano made her bid for a council seat when she learned that Schiff intended to run for mayor. She received the DFL's endorsement but went on to face a closely contested city election, where she outpolled her nearest competitor by about 200 votes.

Cano and Johnson know the



When they take office on Jan. 6, newly-elected Council Members Andrew Johnson and Alondra Cano will be part of the Minneapolis Seven, a caucus of seven City Hall first-termers who will form a majority on the 13 member Minneapolis City Council. Johnson will serve the 12th Ward and Cano will serve the 9th Ward.

City Council will face a full range of citywide issues when it convenes in January. But they

both have ward-specific concerns at the top of their personal agendas.

For Johnson, that includes the reconstruction of Minnehaha Ave., slated to begin in 2015. The county-funded project will involve new bike lanes, sidewalk "bumpouts" and realigned intersections along a 2.2 mile stretch of Minnehaha Ave. from Lake St. to East 46th St.

"I want to make sure the project is implemented as smoothly as possible," Johnson said. "There will be disruptions for businesses and residents, so we need to communicate about construction timelines and do whatever needs to be done to minimize disruptions. And that includes supporting businesses along Minnehaha while their customers are facing some access challenges."

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## Nokomis couple performs in Guthrie's "A Christmas Carol"

A Nokomis couple, Kris L. Nelson and Tracey Maloney, are both in this year's Guthrie performance of *A Christmas Carol*. Nelson plays the roles of Bob Cratchit and Donald, while Maloney plays The Ghost of Christmas Past and Jane.

They are both seasoned performers, with Nelson having appeared in over 35 Guthrie productions including *Pride and Prejudice*, *Tales from Hollywood*, and *Arsenic and Old Lace*, while Maloney has appeared in *Tribes*, *God of Carnage*, *The Master Butch-*

*er's Singing Club* and *Circle Mirror Transformation*, to name a few.

With rehearsals and performances, the couple pretty much has given up 3 months of their life to this production. What is it like for a couple to work on the same production? "I love working on a show with Tracey. I married her so I could be around her as much as possible so this works out pretty good," quipped Nelson. Maloney is a bit more practical: "It's really great for a lot of reasons. The schedule is really busy, and it's nice to spend that time with him.

It's also nice to be able to discuss the work day with him and know that he knows exactly what I'm talking about! We are not in a lot of the same scenes together, so it's not overkill, and I love watching Kris work. He brings so much heart and empathy to what he does. Also, it's nice to carpool..."

It does, however, cut into the "extended family" time that is so important to most of us at Christmas time. Maloney reports that "I get to spend so much time with my favorite person in the world on it, and, our two nieces are in it and that is amazing too. My family loves to travel to Minneapolis to see *A Christmas Carol*. It's becoming a bit of a tradition for them too." Nelson emphasizes that it can be difficult not being able to see your family at Christmas, but, luckily, this year, my family is coming out to see us so it's kind of the best of both worlds."

Nelson adds, "I feel so lucky to be a part of—what is to many—a yearly family tradition. Nothing fees better than to bring a little joy and laughter to people's lives. There is a bit of magic to this time of year and I love being able to contribute a little bit to it."

Maloney agrees: "It feels so good. It's an old tale, but still so relevant. One might even argue even more relevant in today's world. I love seeing people walk

out of the building a little happier than when they walked in. Selfishly, it's nice to immerse myself in that story of the power of kindness on a nightly basis."

This is the 39th year that the Guthrie has produced the holiday favorite of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. *A Christmas Carol* opened at the Guthrie Nov. 20 and continues through Dec. 29, on the Wurtele Thrust Stage. Single tickets start at \$28 and are now on sale through the Guthrie Box Office at 612.377.2224, toll-free 877.44.STAGE, 612.225.6244 (Group Sales) and online at [www.guthrietheater.org](http://www.guthrietheater.org).



Nokomis resident Tracey Maloney plays Jane and The Ghost of Christmas Past (pictured) in this year's Guthrie performance of *A Christmas Carol*.



Maloney's husband, Kris L. Nelson, plays Bob Cratchit (far left) and Donald, in the same production as his wife, Tracey Maloney. *A Christmas Carol* is being performed at the Guthrie through Dec. 29.

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- Voting day
- Election results
- Final meeting of Longfellow Garden Club
- South High Student wins national tournament
- Holiday boutique and bake sale at Nokomis Square Senior Coop
- Snow Emergency rules
- Installation of the Hope for Parents forum
- Turkey Bingo at St. Helena
- Messenger deadline notice
- Screening and Awards Ceremony for the 4th Annual City and Neighborhood Film Festival
- Healthy Seniors discuss sleeping problems
- Metro transit hosts open houses on Midtown corridor Alternatives Analysis
- Holiday Boutique at Epworth
- 8th Annual Green Gifts Fair at Midtown Global Market
- "One Minneapolis One Read" event at Nokomis Library
- Open Office meets for new councilmember-elect Andrew Johnson

# Messenger

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## MPS five-year enrollment plan tweaked following community input

By **TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN**

A five-year enrollment plan introduced by Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) intends to address overcrowding at its buildings, an issue MPS School Board Chair and District 5 representative Alberto Monserrate has heard a lot about from both parents and staff in Area B.

"I think in the end this is a positive enrollment plan that will largely allow us to address future enrollment, address overcrowding and improve academic programs," said Monserrate. "The plan isn't perfect, but it has much more good than bad."

MPS has been tweaking its five-year enrollment plan after hearing from residents. Initially, the school board had planned to vote on the changes in mid-November.

But it scheduled another round of meetings in November instead to gather community input, and will vote Dec. 10.

Over 1,100 community members have voiced their opinions on the plan.

"Most residents I've heard from in area B have been from Sanford encouraging us to add classrooms or thanking us for it," said Monserrate. "We also heard from parents and staff worried that we should invest and stabilize current programs before we invest in new ones. We heard that parents feel strongly about keeping current pathways and popular programs as intact as possible and that parents want their students to go to school as close as possible to where they live."



"How are we going to address the racial inequity gap in our schools," questioned one attendee at the Oct. 10, 2013 meeting at Northrup. (Photo by Tessa M. Christensen)

## Enrollment growth by 2017

	K-5	6-8	9-12	TOTAL
<b>Zone 1</b>	397	321	24	<b>742</b>
<b>Zone 2</b>	308	305	292	<b>905</b>
<b>Zone 3</b>	185	589	977	<b>1751</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>1215</b>	<b>1293</b>	<b>3398</b>

Projections through 2017 add 3,400 students to the district, with an estimated 905 new students in Area B. This year, there are 34,000 students attending MPS schools. To comment on the plan, email comments to [enrollmentplan@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:enrollmentplan@mpls.k12.mn.us).

### DUAL IMMERSION AT ROOSEVELT

Parents have questioned why there is not a Spanish dual immersion program for elementary and middle school students in Area B. According to the school district, there is not enough demand at this time to add such a program. However, the district does intend to create a citywide high school dual immersion program at Roosevelt High School beginning next year, which parents have long requested, said Monserrate.

The dual immersion classes will be offered in addition to the regular classes at Roosevelt.

"I am a big fan of dual immersion language programs," said Monserrate. "My worry is that we will be able to find enough licensed multilingual teachers to teach the increase of classes and that we add Hmong, Somali and other language alternatives to the Spanish immersion programs."

### ARTS-BASED HIGH SCHOOL

The idea of creating a small, 500-student audition-based arts high school is one of the most contentious of the district's plans. After hearing from residents, the district is reviewing the idea of placing the arts high

school at South High and then designating Roosevelt High as the community school for all of Area B.

Open enrollment data has shown that some students are leaving the district in search of advanced arts learning experiences, pointed out Area B Associate Principal Stephen Flisk.

### EQUAL TREATMENT?

Is the district treating all three of its zones equitably?

Many have questioned that at the public meetings, particularly when considering the breakdown of spending planned for each zone: \$15.5 million in Area A, \$36.5 million in Area B and \$53.9 million in Area C.

The district's response is that projected enrollment growth varies by zone and previous capital investments also have varied by zone. For example, since the mid-1990s, three new schools were built in Area A and one new school was built in Area C to address enrollment growth. Capital improvements within the preliminary recommendations support programmatic needs and are not determined by equitable distribution between zones.

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# City Hall

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For Cano, finding a permanent home for the Midtown Farmers Market is a top priority. Since it was established in 2003, the seasonal market has used a Lake St. parking lot across from the Midtown YWCA for its twice-a-week set-up. The Minneapolis Board of Education, which owns parking lot and the adjacent office building, is considering options to redevelop the 3.5 acre site next to the Lake St. LRT station.

"While the School Board will make the final decision about the future of the site, I think board members are open to options that will meet multiple community goals," Cano said. "There is a lot of positive momentum around the future of the site, and the potential for a mixed use project that preserves the market and provides eco-

nomie development, cultural amenities and housing. We need to make sure that the right players come together to determine the site's future. The city can be a facilitator by connecting with the right partners and serving as a bridge to the neighborhood. The city may also need to play a role in financing a portion of the project. That is something we will need to consider over the next year."

While it impacts the 9th and 12th wards only indirectly, the stalled Southwest LRT project will be a major priority for the new Council. Minneapolis officials have objected to the Metropolitan Council's current plan to run the light rail line through the Kenilworth Corridor along the city's western edge.

Johnson questions the decision to route the LRT through the park-like corridor, away from areas of the city that are more densely developed. He wants to see more consideration for a different route that will take the LRT

through Uptown. "We have density there, and the need for more transportation services. We need to take a step back and look at that option again. The current plan for shallow tunnels and colocation in Kenilworth are band-aid solutions. We are constantly being asked to stretch our imaginations just a little further to make the Kenilworth route work, when it may not be the best solution."

Cano wants to join Johnson in taking a fresh look at the Southwest LRT route, but she has some reservations about the Uptown option that would use a portion of the Midtown Greenway. "I know that people along the Greenway are interested in having streetcars there. I am not sure we can have both streetcars and LRT."

The two newly-elected council members both see a role for the city in moving an education agenda forward, even with an independently-elected school board. "I respect the board mem-

bers' independence and I will be working with them as a partner," Johnson said. "But education does not just happen in the classroom. It is all around us. It is a holistic issue. When it comes to actions the city can take, it includes things like apprentice programs for young people after school and in the summer. It involves addressing the root causes of the achievement gap that are influenced by broader community problems."

Cano, soon to be the city's first Latina council member, shares a common agenda with Johnson. "I worked in the Minneapolis school system for the past year, and I can see where the city can forge partnerships with the School Board," Cano said. "We can make sure the services we provide for young people are directly aligned with the needs of the Minneapolis public schools. We don't have direct authority over the schools, but we have influence and resources we can provide to help narrow the

achievement gap. We can identify strategies that work and we can partner where it is appropriate to do that."

As they prepare to take office, Cano and Johnson have both been eyeing possible council committee assignments. Cano is interested in serving on the Community Development and the Intergovernmental Relations committees. Johnson is considering the Regulatory, Energy and Environment Committee. With his professional background in information technology, Johnson also wants the Council to establish a subcommittee to deal with technological issues that cut across current committee jurisdictions.

"I am ready to get to work," Johnson says. "I think I can make a difference in the ward and for the city, as a whole." Cano, who has worked as a City Council aide, says her familiarity with City Hall will be a big plus when she takes office. "When January 6 comes, I'll be ready to hit the ground running," she adds.

## Enrollment plan

Continued from page 2

### ENROLLMENT GROWTH

The five-year plan being proposed seeks to address an anticipated 10% enrollment growth in the district. Projections through 2017 add 3,400 students to the district, with an estimated 905 new students in Area B. This year, there are 34,000 students attending MPS schools.

The district anticipates that the number of new kindergarteners will decrease due to a falling birth rate. But the number of students attending MPS high school has increased for the first time in 10 years.

MPS hopes to increase its market share by 10%. Right now, an estimated 38% of Minneapolis students attend charter or suburban schools.

### FUNDING FOR PLAN

How is the district going to pay for these changes?

According to the district, money to support ongoing programming costs is generated by the new students attending the program. One-time programming costs are funded by a variety of sources, such as grants, re-allocations and reserve funds.

The cost of additions and renovations, or capital costs, are considered one-time expenses. This money comes from levies, bonds (or new debt), state allocations and reserve funds, if needed.

"My main questions have been regarding equity in funding in different parts of the district and around how to finance this ambitious expansion," said Monserrate. "I've been assured that all capital funding needs will be addressed in all parts of the city and the debt incurred us well within the district's debt policy, which is fairly conservative."

### COMMENT ON THE PLAN

To share input, email comments to [enrollmentplan@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:enrollmentplan@mpls.k12.mn.us). Learn more about the plan at [http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/five-year\\_enrollment\\_plan.html](http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/five-year_enrollment_plan.html).

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PLAN FOR AREA B

- Early childhood programs at Wilder in 2015-16
- Sanford will use space at Howe in 2015-16, if needed
- 9-classroom building addition at Seward Montessori in 2016-17
- Cooper will reopen as a K-8 school with building addition and renovation planned for 2016-2017
- Spanish dual immersion program at Roosevelt High School 2014-15
- At the Brown Building (225 Lake St.), Transition Plus and Adult Basic Education will partner to support differentiated needs of adults.
- Broadway teen moms program will stay at Longfellow. (The first draft of the plan moved it to North High.)

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### ABOUT THE PLAN

- 1 of 4 students in district affected
- 7 new schools of choice and 2 new community schools
- 1,500 new community school seats and 2,275 new seats of choice
- Total cost of program improvements: \$54 million, with \$6.3 million in Area B
- Total cost of capital building improvements: \$100 million

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# Viewpoints

## Messenger

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

When I began writing for the *Messenger* in 1997, light rail was still just a dream. In fact, the first column I wrote was inspired by Saturday rides on the No. 7 bus, the MTC line between downtown and the airport. Now light rail has replaced the bus line, a second light rail line is being built and a third is being planned.

So many big changes like light rail have occurred in our neighborhoods in the 17 years since I started. Bicycling is another example. When I started writing, it was a challenge to ride your bike from east to west across south Minneapolis. I tried many different routes. But it was not until the Midtown Greenway came along that there was an efficient, predictable way to make the trip.

And there is the transformation of the old Sears store into the Midtown Marketplace. When I first heard Ed Felien describe his vision for the site, it seemed an impossible dream. But there it is, day after day providing a shopping market and more for all of us.

These are just a few of the changes which have made our neighborhoods better places to live. And there is much more to come.

But after next month, I will be looking at these developments through a different lens. My last column for the *Messenger* will be in the next issue. Oh, I'll still be around, catching up with readers on Facebook and other places. And the *Messenger* editor has promised that I can still submit columns now and again.

However, the regular column will come to an end. My last submission will be a new Christmas story next month. Thanks to all the readers who have contributed to the nearly 200 columns I have written. Thanks to the many people who contributed their reminiscences of Casey Jones. Thanks to those who helped with columns about Minneapolis Moline. Thanks to those who shared their memories of Dayton's and other parts of our city's past.

And thanks, also, to those who helped search for the outdoor clock which once stood near the corner of Minnehaha and Lake. We never did find it, but it sure was fun



## Hiawatha Notebook

By TOM GILSEMAN

### Getting ready to say goodbye

looking. If someone does locate the clock, please let me know.

If you'd like to keep up with some of my other writing, look for me on Facebook.

\* \* \* \*

The editor of the *Messenger* once told me that I had written enough holiday stories to fill a book. Many of those stories have appeared in the *Messenger* over the years. By far the most popular has been "Wise Woman with a Mirror." (If you'd like a copy, send me an email to the address below or write to the *Messenger*.) Second most requested has been "Touched by the holiday spirit," which was published several years ago. Here it is again.

### TOUCHED BY THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Each year when I put up the tree, I am flooded with nostalgia. The memories of previous years swirl around as the tree goes up and the decorations go on.

Often the first memory which comes to mind is the year of the switch to an artificial tree. It was a bitterly cold day when we went to look at the trees that year. Standing at the Farmer's Market, we reached the conclusion that this whole tree search was crazy. So we went to Target and got an artificial tree.

While this seemed a sensible decision to us at the time, I recall that daughter Molly was horrified. Her response was something like this: A plastic tree? Dad, how could you? My childhood has been ruined.

I didn't anticipate this response, though thinking back I probably should have. After all, Molly was the

daughter who at a younger age had not been the least bit surprised when someone left a tree at our door one Christmas. It seemed to her just a part of the magic of Christmas.

That "plastic" tree is long gone, as is its successor. I bought a new artificial tree three years ago, the first one I've had with built-in lights. This is a great innovation, I thought.

Remembering that, I thought putting up the tree last year would be a snap. But that isn't what happened. When I set up the tree and plugged it in, only half of the lights went on. The tree looked so sad. My first thought: Not even Charlie Brown would take this one. My second thought: Molly just may have been right.

But I forged ahead, getting out the box of ornaments. I looked through them, recalling the acquisition of this one and that one. Here was one made by daughter Shannon; there was one from friends Mike and Melissa.

Then I came across two bought at Dayton's, the old department store in downtown Minneapolis. One was from a "day after Thanksgiving" adventure the last year the store was called Dayton's. The other was from an after-Christmas sale some years ago. I looked at the ornaments and sighed. Not only is Dayton's gone, I thought, but its successor Marshall Fields is gone, too. Now that store is just one more Macy's, a cog in a chain spread across the country. They might as well call it McMacy's.

As I put the ornaments on the tree, I thought of all the other local names which have disappeared from downtown Minneapolis, Donaldson's, Powers and Young Quinlan among them.

The same is true for nearly every city in the US: Armstrong's in Cedar Rapids; Younker's in Iowa City, Capwell's in Oakland, Emporium in San Francisco. The list goes on and on. We have lost so much.

But it's not only retail stores we have lost. Take local brand names like Cream of Wheat. Now it's just one of hundreds of names owned by the food giant Kraft. How

Continued on page 7

## Night Before New Year's Eve Celebration

NENA and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) are hosting the 14th annual Night Before New Year's Eve Party (NBNYE) on Sun., Dec. 30, 5-8pm.

NBNYE is an evening of free fun for kids and families at the Nokomis Community Center (2401 E. Minnehaha Parkway). It features hayrides, carnival games, music and dance contests by KidsDance, a hot dog bar with all the fixings, crafts, and roasting marshmallows over a bonfire. The entire event is free, including food, but donations are always appreciated.

The fishpond will be stocked with a variety of little critters ready for children to take them home. Kids can make a craft, learn what their future holds from our fortune teller, and you can have a family photo taken in the photo booth.

Games of skill and chance will fill the time before Father Time leads the high decibel countdown to the New Year at 8pm.

Check for more details at [www.nokomiseast.org](http://www.nokomiseast.org) or make sure you are on the NENA E-List (see below). Since parking is limited around the Community Center, Trinity Lutheran of Min-

## NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

BY RITA ULRICH AND DOUG WALTER, NENA STAFF

### Celebrate the New Year Early

nehaha Falls will be running a shuttle bus where you can park/walk and ride to the center. We'll post the route and stops when it is finalized.

### Volunteers are Needed

If you can help with the Night Before New Year's Eve party, please contact the NENA office: [rulrich@nokomiseast.org](mailto:rulrich@nokomiseast.org) or (612) 724-5652. We need about 40 volunteers to work 2 or 3 hour shifts, helping with decorating, food prep and serving, kids games, bonfire and hayride safety (plus roasting marshmallows). If you haven't volunteered before, this is a fun way to get involved in your neighborhood. Kids ages 10-14 can volunteer, provided that a parent is onsite and able to help if needed. Apart from liking children, volunteering for this event doesn't require any special skills, but typically involves standing most of the time.

Team leaders are needed - it's great training for young peo-

ple looking for leadership experience. It involves one planning meeting, some work before the event, and a commitment to work from 4-9pm on Dec. 30. Call the NENA office for information: 612-724-5652.

### Get Connected... Stay Informed

Anyone with access to email can easily keep up on neighborhood news and events. Just sign up for the NENA E-List, and you'll receive updates on meetings and other issues and events. Send an email to [rulrich@nokomiseast.org](mailto:rulrich@nokomiseast.org) with a note to add you to the E-List. We don't send out a lot of email - just a few a month - and we don't give out your email address.

Also, check the NENA website frequently: [www.nokomiseast.org](http://www.nokomiseast.org). It's updated almost daily, and has a wealth of neighborhood information, on events, meetings, crime alerts, NENA programs, and hundreds of links to addi-

tional information. With over 100 pages of information, NENA's website is definitely worth bookmarking!

### Housekeeping Assistance and Snow Removal for Seniors

The Neighborhood Improvement Program offers seniors 65+ assistance with housework including vacuuming, cleaning floors, kitchens and bathrooms. They can also assign a chore worker to shovel snow for the entire season. Clients make a contribution based on the ability to pay. For more information, contact NIP at 612-374-3322.

### 1st Annual Nokomis Tree Lighting

Our friends at the Nokomis East Business Association (NEBA) will be holding a holiday Tree Lighting event on Sat., Nov. 30, from

4-6pm in Oxendale's Market parking lot. The event will feature the tree lighting at 5pm, carolers, a special appearance by Santa Claus and an opportunity to have a free professional photograph taken. Hot chocolate and treats, grab bags, and more will make this a popular stop as people "shop local" that day.

NENA wishes all of our friends, neighbors and volunteers a Happy Holiday Season!

### Upcoming NENA Meetings and Events

**Business Association (NEBA) Tree Lighting** 4-6pm, Sat., Nov. 30, at Oxendale's Market, 5025 34th Ave. S.

**Board of Directors:** 7pm, Thurs., Dec. 12, at NENA.

**NBNYE Planning Group:** 6:30pm, Mon., Dec. 23 at NENA.

**Night Before New Year's Eve Party:** 5-8pm, Mon., Dec. 30, at Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Parkway.

Last-minute schedule changes are posted on our Calendar page at [www.nokomiseast.org](http://www.nokomiseast.org) or you may call (612) 724-5652.

If you would like to join us as a volunteer, contact the NENA Office at (612) 724-5652 or email [nena@nokomiseast.org](mailto:nena@nokomiseast.org).

# Council committee delays approving Minnehaha Avenue road project

By JILL BOOGEN

At City Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy's request, the council's Transportation & Public Works Committee voted to postpone until December approving Hennepin County's recommendations for reconstructing Minnehaha Ave. Colvin Roy made her intent known at the meeting's offset.

One of the reasons she gave was to allow time to talk with the Minneapolis Fire Department about access along the corridor. When asked whether the fire department had been consulted by the county or city, the answer was no. "That isn't comforting," she said.

Colvin Roy also wants to discuss whether the project can be designed with future conversion to a more protected bikeway in mind. "It's the biggest project in wards 12 and 9 since Highway 55," she said. "I'm seeing a lot of listening, but... there hasn't been much tweaking of the cycle track idea." Since this is viewed as a 50-year project, the idea is to see if lanes can be configured to allow future changes - if desired - without having to reconstruct the roadway.

The meeting was open to public comments, with one community member present, Ella Ritzman of E's Emporium, who chose to speak. She said she and many other businesses and residents along Minnehaha oppose the proposed bumpouts - or curb extensions - in part because of the potential for snow pileup in winter.

She showed a picture of one at Lake St. that was covered in snow. "I don't know how pedestrians are supposed to traverse this," Ritzman said. She also wondered how plows would get around. Hennepin County Engineer Nick Peterson said the bumpouts would be designed with a slower taper than the more abrupt ones used on Lake St., which "should



Benjamin Tsai, development coordinator for The Hub Bicycle Co-op, standing approximately where the new sidewalk would extend to in Hennepin County's proposal for reconstructing Minnehaha Ave. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

help snow plows get more snow out."

The county's proposal now reflects a new element, included in the map dated 11/05/13, which removes the extra southbound driving lane on Minnehaha from Lake St., and extends the sidewalk for much of that west side block to a width of more than 20 feet.

This was well received by businesses on that side of the street. "A big sidewalk out front would be great," said Benjamin Tsai, development coordinator for the The Hub Bicycle Co-op, speaking on his own behalf in a separate conversation before the meeting. "It's hard to cross the street now."

Mark Bautch, facilities manager for Patrick's Cabaret, also favors a wider sidewalk. He sees more space for cars to come out of both their parking lot and the police station's, and more places for the snow to go when it's plowed. "We're not gonna have a pile in front of our building," he said. "We're pretty pleased with that."

The plan also puts a bumpout on the corner, which Bautch thinks will be a "great improve-

ment." Right now, he said, it is "absolutely the worst." On the already narrow sidewalk, there's a big lamppost and traffic signal. "It's just dangerous to stand there, there's no place to stand there. You can barely get across. Plus people come flying around that corner."

There is still on-street parking in front of those businesses and a median in the road across from Mosaic Café.

"My sense of all of this, is that we're gonna be the only ones that are happy along Minnehaha," said Bautch. "[Others] don't want those bumpouts... I'm lucky we're getting what we want."

Bautch said Patrick's Cabaret is fortunate, in that it has access from Snelling Ave., which will help considerably during construction.

The project replaces the road surface, gutter and curbs, narrows lanes, realigns intersections, adds bumpouts and turn lanes, and enhances bike lanes. Work would begin in 2015 and take two years.

The matter is expected to come back to the Transportation Public Works Committee at its next meeting Dec. 10.

## Check out the Messenger website for these web-exclusive stories:



Southeast Como residents are being urged to have their homes tested for a potentially harmful vapor.



The popular bar/restaurant Busters on 28th recently announced that they plan to reopen after a fire ravaged the restaurant the evening of the June 21st "solstice storm."

Both stories can be found at [www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com](http://www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com).



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By JILL BOOGRIN

Minnehaha Avenue is quickly becoming a destination for finding vintage, repurposed and second hand goods.

It's no accident that resale shops are cropping up here. Julie Kearns of Junket: Tossed & Found moved in a year ago knowing others were down the road and more were coming. She quickly aligned her dates with E's Emporium.

All but TNT are "occasional shops," usually open first and third weekends (with expanded dates starting Black Friday).

It's a welcome collaboration. "The more the merrier," said Jenny Bader of Tumbleweed, which opened in September. "The more shops here, the more people will make a day of it."

Here they are, from south to north.

# Minnehaha Avenue: SECONDHAND ROW

**Junket: Tossed & Found** (4047 Minnehaha) celebrated its one-year anniversary in November by opening up its basement to Carver Junk Company and expanding into the space next door.

"I'm so excited to be able to bring this to our neighborhood," said Kearns, the shops founder and finder. "Talk about a dream job."

Everything in Junket is second hand or made using second hand elements. Frames of all colors and sizes hang from the ceiling, and there are racks of vintage clothes, and shelves, booths and cabinets which carry a variety of home décor.

Junket also offers supplies for people who want to create: sewing notions, old keys, book pages, little containers, gift wrap and bows "so you don't have to buy it new." You'll also find art pieces made from repurposed materials, like bike prints by Meg Erke and photo slide lamps from a Vintage Parcel.

Kearns is happy to support local artists — and keep things out of the landfill.

Brandy and Chad Dressen say the stone walls of Junket's basement, where they opened their second **Carver Junk Company** shop in November, feel just like their other shop in Carver, MN.

They carry vintage and repurposed furnishings and décor in a simple, shabby chic style: refurbished dressers, tables made from

reclaimed palettes, wall hangings from old barn doors, a wreath from sheet music. "It all has to be old — vintage, antique, or repurposed, saved or recycled," said Brandy.

Going to **E's Emporium** (3911 Minnehaha) is like visiting your favorite aunt's house.

"I like to think of myself as the Aunt Bee of the neighbor-

hood," said owner Ella Ritzman, who'll offer you a snack and make you feel right at home.

E's is a house, where you wander from room to room to browse: the "living room" with a red sofa, vintage pillows and retro lampshades; a "study" with a German mushroom chart on the wall facing the desk; a kitchen, with stacks of dinnerware; and a closet with hats made by Ritzman herself.

It's warm and funky. No wonder the comment Ritzman hears most is "Can I move in?"

Ritzman calls her style "retro quirky" from the 60's, 70's and early 80's and credits her creative director, Libby Hegtvedt, for pulling it together. E's also carries handmade jewelry by Maureen Klehr and original art by Curt Fleck, among others.

Continued on page 7



Julie Kearns poses outside Junket: Tossed & Found, with her dog Nellie. Junket celebrated its one year anniversary in November by opening up its basement to Carver Junk Company and expanding into the space next door. (Photo by Jill Boogren)



Visiting Ella Ritzman at E's Emporium is like traveling back to the sixties or seventies and popping into your favorite aunt's house. (Photo by Jill Boogren)



## Advent - Finding the Sacred in Waiting

December Schedule:  
Sunday Worship 10:30 am  
Education for all ages 9:15 am  
Wednesdays Study Group 10 am

Fireside Theology - thru Dec 18  
6 pm potluck, 6:30 pm discussion  
Sat Dec 7 - 10 am - Creativity & Conversation -  
Cookie Baking  
Christmas Eve Candlelight - 4 pm  
Christmas Day Jazz Service - 10:30 am

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Tuesday, December 24

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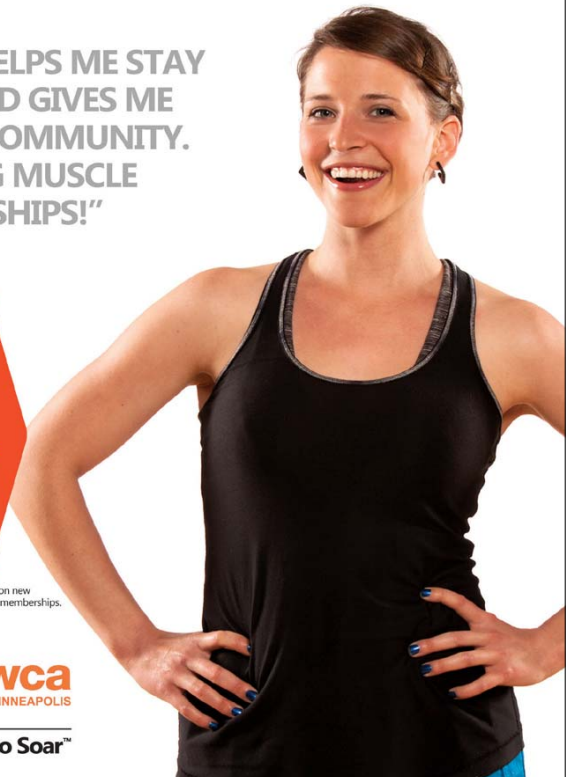
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Michelle Lee of This 'N That poses with Santa in front of the holiday decorations in the store. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

## Secondhand row

Continued from page 6

When Paint Liquidators closed, people would stop in at Number 1 Couriers looking for paint. So co-owners Michelle Lee and Mark Weber decided to open the store next door as TNT This 'N That.

TNT (3869 Minnehaha) provides high-quality recycled paint.

It's also a second hand store with clothing, shoes, jewelry, housewares, games, DVD's, holiday decorations, and more.

"We tried to give the neighborhood what it needed," said Lee, which included easy access for people who don't drive. "We have a lot of foot traffic. People use the bus, light rail, bicycle. We give people what they need, so they don't have to go to Target or other big retail shops."

TNT takes some quality items on consignment and gives tax receipts for donated goods.

In turn, TNT donates to Stepping Stone Farms, which takes in rescue horses and provides at-risk youth, people with disabilities and veterans opportunities to experience horses as a path to healing.

The thing to know about Paris Antiques (3721 Minnehaha) is it neither specializes in French antiques nor even antiques.

Owner Mary Rivers said she started going to estate, moving and garage sales in 1971 when she and her husband purchased a turn-of-the-century home in Longfellow and realized new furnishings wouldn't work.

There were "bargains galore," and she began collecting. "It has now been a 40-year fun search for cool, unique and interesting

bric-a-brac," she said.

After trips to Paris and loving the French style, Rivers began referring to her apartment as her "Paris apartment." Her store became Paris Antiques and its backyard a Paris Courtyard.

Open every weekend, Paris Antiques offers Victorian, mid-century, country and French items and furnishings, as well as toys and vintage and contemporary costume jewelry.

**Tumbleweed** (3456 Minnehaha) carries a mix of upcycled, painted furniture with vintage, retro home décor. Vintage green luggage, a canary yellow ice bucket, and plastic Melmac dishes are displayed atop refinished dressers, buffets, and end tables.

"I'm the upcycler," said Bader, who comes from a family of "junkers." The kitchenware and home décor are her business partner Toni Johnson's domain.

Johnson (self-described dumpster diver and thrifter) has over 300 pieces of Pyrex bakeware and is a chair addict – a love that started because she does



Employee Jared Blesener among the globes at Plum Crabby during its first opening weekend in November. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

photography. "They're a good prop," she said. "I'm a sucker for a good chair."

**Plum Crabby** (3263 Minnehaha) opened in the old Danko Dairy building in November.

As a kid, when owner JoJo Amos's father thought she had a bad attitude, he'd say "JoJo, you are plum crabby."

Here you'll find vintage typewriters, clocks, plaster Madonnas, an owl trivet and bar set, retro

pottery bowls and lamps, a vintage toy xylophone, and – displayed behind the glass doors of the old beverage coolers – globes.

"It's pathological," said Amos, of her globe collection. "Every time someone buys one I pop a new one in its place."

Amos figures people begin selling when their own collections overflow. She thinks of herself as a curator until an item "speaks to the next person."



Collectibles, like these figurines, you will find at Paris Antiques. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

## Hiawatha Notebook

Continued from page 4

about Creamettes macaroni? The pasta brand is now owned by some East Coast company and the manufacturing plant has been turned into condos.

By this point, I had worked myself into quite a snit. And I'd just about finished with the ornaments. There were just two more. One was Oscar the Grouch – a fitting one at that moment considering my state of mind. I put it on.

The final ornament was a small tractor, one I have thought of as the littlest Minneapolis Moline. I remembered buy-

ing it and thinking: It's not quite the right "prairie gold" color of real MM tractors, but it's close enough. I found a spot near the top of the tree for the tractor. I hung it on the short branch I had picked.

Then something remarkable happened. The lights on the top half of the tree came on. I was genuinely surprised, startled enough to let out a "wow."

Now, my practical friends would say that I had merely loosened some kink in the branches of this artificial tree. But I'm not listening to them.

At that moment, it seemed to me that the spirit of the holidays had come into the room and lit the rest of the tree. The same spirit touched me, brushing away my glum mood. It was delightful.

I hope the same spirit touches you this holiday season and brightens your new year, too.

\* \* \* \*

(Tom Gilsenan has been writing for community newspapers since 1973. He welcomes your comments by email (tomgilsenan@gmail.com) or regular mail via the Messenger. You can also call him at (612) 723-0259.)

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# LONGFELLOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Can anyone beat this guy?

Current LCC Board member Mike Linzbach has won our Chili Cook-off in 2012 and 2013. How does he do it you ask? Its almost like he's a magic chili maker. If you've been to an LCC Chili cook-off then you know that there are some awesome chili makers in our community. At this year's cook-off we had delicious vegetarian chili, hot and spicy chili, chili flavored with seasonal pumpkin and brazen tequila chili as well. All of the contestants were amazing chili cooks. Still, Mike Linzbach won with his savory beef chili.



Mike Linzbach

For serious chili aficionados, Mike has had a certain edge every year. Mike is the king of accoutrements. He brings shredded cheese, chopped green onions, Fritos and sour cream. Mike truly recognizes

the importance of dressing up a chili and bringing out layers of flavor. But even with his added toppings, it's Mike's chili that that really wins out.

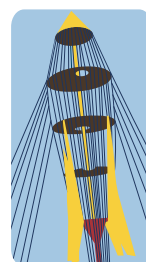
Congratulations are in order to Mike for his outstanding chili and his 2-year run as Chili King of Greater Longfellow. LCC also thanks the seven other terrific cooks who competed for best cook. The clock has started ticking and there are 11 short months ahead for any challenger who wants to take this guy down a peg. But if you dare to try, you better come to the table with an award winning chili and some pretty awesome toppings.

## Onward and Upward

October and November were difficult and exciting months at LCC. Spencer Agnew left his position with LCC to join the City of Plymouth's Housing Redevelopment Authority. LCC's Board President Andrew Johnson was elected as the Councilmember for Ward 12. While the LCC is proud and happy for both Spencer and Andrew, these are two great losses for the organization.

Andrew Johnson has served as the LCC Board President for the last two years. Andrew is incredibly energetic and helpful dedicating countless hours to LCC outside of Board meetings. Andrew created a new website for LCC, started a working group for residents interested in revitalizing East Lake Street and helped to guide LCC through our recent rebranding process. Andrew truly understands the importance of strong neighborhoods and he is going to make an excellent representative of this community as our new councilmember.

Spencer Agnew was with LCC for two years as well. He was beyond competent in his position as the Housing and Environment Coordi-



nator but his skills were much broader than his position. Spencer was a very strong analyst and was able to help the staff and committees of LCC to look deeper at issues and opportunities in the neighborhood. Spencer was excellent at forging relationships with individuals and maximizing their capacity and skills. Spencer also filled many gaps in expertise at LCC including managing our technology. Suffice to say that Spencer will be greatly missed.

Spencer and Andrew have gone on to bigger and hopefully better things. They are both leaders in their own right and it was my pleasure to work with both of them for as long as I did.

Melanie Majors,  
LCC Executive Director

## Congratulations to the winners of the Chili Cook off!



**Vegetarian:** Jeff Fisher / Fireroast Cafe

**Spicy:** Lucas Reid (pictured above)

**Meat and Best Overall:** Mike Linzbach

Thank you to all the Chili Contestants! Please join us again next year!

## We Would Like to Thank the Sponsors of The Best Meeting Ever and the Chili Cook Off!

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- Parkway Pizza
- Mosaic Cafe
- Moon Palace Books
- Minnehaha Academy
- Midori's Floating World Cafe
- Metro Produce
- Merlins Rest
- Longfellow Grill
- Junket:Tossed & Found
- Gandhi Mahal
- Forage Modern Workshop
- Fireroast Cafe
- El Nuevo Rodeo
- Dairy Queen on Minnehaha Ave
- Dairy Queen on Lake Street

Thank you to all of our wonderful and dedicated volunteers! Without your work and dedication no event would be possible!

## Longfellow Swag

Longfellow t-shirts, tote bags, and stickers are available for purchase at the LCC Office (2727 26th Ave S). They are the perfect gift for the Longfellow enthusiast in your life! FFI [jessica@longfellow.org](mailto:jessica@longfellow.org)

- T-shirts \$15 V-neck or crew styles
- Tote bags are \$5
- Stickers and window clings \$2

T-shirt modeled by Spencer



## Calendar of Meetings and Events

# DECEMBER 2013

There are no committee meetings scheduled in December.

**Save the Date!**  
Longfellow Community Council's  
Winter Open House  
Tuesday, January 21st.

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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.

### Events set at East Lake Library

East Lake Library, 2727 E. Lake St., has numerous scheduled events during December. Among them:

- Conversation Circles will meet Dec. 1, 8, and 15, from 1-3pm. Non-native English speakers: practice your English and make new friends in an informal, volunteer-led setting, and learn about the library, too. Call 612-543-5669 for more information in English or, in Hmong, 612-543-8845; in Somali, 612-543-8756; in Spanish, 612-543-8510.

- Job Search Assistance is planned for Dec. 3, 10, 17 and Dec. 31 from 3-5pm. Are you seeking new employment or re-entering the workforce? Do you need help looking for a job, filling out applications or writing your résumé? Stop in for free one-to-one assistance with a job search representative.

- K-12 Homework Help is scheduled on Tues. and Thurs., 3:30-7:30pm; and Wed., 3:30-5:30pm through Dec. 19. Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students. No advance sign-up needed.

- Childcare Group Storytime, Wed., Dec. 4, 10:30am. Talk, sing,

read, write and play together in a format appropriate for the children in your care. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

- Teen Anime Club (for teens) meets Thurs., Dec. 5, 6-7:30pm. Watch anime, discuss manga and share artwork. Something different every time!

- The Brodini Comedy Magic Show is scheduled for Fri., Dec. 27, 10:30am. This program is for the whole family. Magician Graylyn Morris will raise spirits and test kids' powers of concentration as he manipulates ropes, scarves, balls and other magician's props in a perplexing "now-you-see-it, now-you-don't" performance!

### Two-day show looks at Engaged Art

"Objects from Community Engaged Art: A Holiday Show" will open at Third Place Gallery, 3730 Chicago Ave., Studio B, from 11am-5pm, on Nov. 30-Dec. 1. The exhibit will feature physical objects created by eight artists working in various forms of public practice in South Minneapolis. Many of the works featured are the result of

community-based projects - works of art and poetry that have played a supporting role in community building, public art and social engagement. "Objects from Community Engaged Art" puts the focus on the objects themselves. These photographs, prints, drawings and books, which are a part of each artist's broader artistic practice, are works of art in their own right. The artists featured are Michael Hoyt, Wing Young Huie, Andrea Jenkins, Natasha Pestich, Janaki Ranpura, Stephanie L. Rogers, Andy Sturdevant, and Xavier Tavera.

### Advent craft event scheduled at Bethany

Meet Sat., Dec. 7 in the Fireside Room at Bethany Lutheran (3901 36th Ave. S.) from 10am to noon for an Advent-themed craft as we prepare our hearts as well as our homes for Christmas. Everyone is invited to a couple hours of "Creativity & Conversation."

### Reserve now for Holy Trinity Julbord

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church,

2730 E. 31st St., will hold their Julbord on Sat., Dec. 7, from 2-6pm. Tickets are \$18 by reservation only. The Scandinavian dinner includes lutefisk, boiled potatoes, Swedish sausage, Swedish meatballs, lefse, fruit soup, rice pudding and Scandinavian cookies. Call 612-729-8358 for more information.

### Women's Luncheon set at Bethany

The Women's Christmas Luncheon at Bethany Lutheran Church (3901 36th Ave. S.) is scheduled for Sat., Dec. 14, at noon. Kevin Doely, pastor and ventriloquist, will present a highly-recommended program blending comedy, storytelling, music, and audience participation. Warm hats, scarves and mittens will be collected for a mitten tree. Tickets are \$10. Contact the Bethany church office at 612-729-9376 or office@bethanyon36th.com to make reservations. All are welcome!

### Senior holiday party planned December 17

Join Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Comm-

unity Education for our annual holiday party for seniors on Tues., Dec. 17 at 10:30am at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St. Enjoy live music, lunch and door prizes! The event will be held in the basement gymnasium, and doors will open at 10am. All area seniors are welcome to attend this free event. Registration is not required. Call Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for more information.

### Powderhorn Theatre's "A Christmas Carol"

The Powderhorn Theatre Arts program will present its third annual production of "Being a Ghost Story: Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol" for four performances, Fri., Dec. 6 at 7pm, Sat., Dec. 7 at 2pm and 7pm, and Sun., Dec. 8 at 2pm. Adapted for performance by Steven LaVigne, this year's presentation will be directed by Noreen K. Brandt.

Admission is free, however audiences are requested to bring donations to the Minneapolis Food Shelf. Powderhorn Park Recreation Center is located at 3400 15th Ave.

Continued on page 10

### Minnehaha Academy Announces National Achievement and National Merit Recipients

Minnehaha Academy has announced the seniors who achieved National Achievement and National Merit designation from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Minnehaha Academy seniors who qualified for this special designation represent an impressive 10-percent of the senior class.

National Merit Semi-Finalists placed among the top 1% of the students in Minnesota who took the 2012 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Qualifying Test.

National Achievement Outstanding Participants scored in the top 3% of more than 160,000 African-Americans who requested consideration in the 2014 National Achievement Program when they took the 2012 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

National Merit Commended Students placed among the top 5% of more than 1.5 million students who took the 2012 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Qualifying Test.



Minnehaha Academy has announced the seniors who achieved National Achievement and National Merit designation. Pictured front row, L-R: Tiana Briese, National Achievement Scholar; Andrew Hallberg, National Merit Commended Scholar; Hugh Mayo, National Merit Commended Scholar; Madeline Schuster, National Merit Semifinalist. Pictured back row, L-R: Tom Weber, National Merit Semifinalist; Poppy Anema, National Merit Semifinalist; Kiran Goswitz, National Merit Commended Scholar; Aaron Williams, National Achievement Scholar; Zoey Tuyford, National Achievement Scholar; Krista Victorsen, National Merit Commended Scholar.

## Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

**Bethany Lutheran**  
3901 36th Ave S • 612-729-9376  
[www.bethanyon36th.com](http://www.bethanyon36th.com)

Pastor Jo Bauman  
December Schedule:  
Sundays Worship 10:30 am  
Education for all ages 9:15 am  
Wednesdays - Study Group 10 am  
Fireside Theology - thru Dec 18  
6 pm potluck, 6:30 pm discussion  
Sat Dec 7 - 10 am - Creativity & Conversation  
- Cookie Baking  
Christmas Eve Candlelight - 4 pm  
Christmas Day Jazz Service - 10:30 am

**Bethlehem Covenant**  
3141 43rd Ave. S. • 612-721-5768  
[www.bethlehemcov.org](http://www.bethlehemcov.org)

Pastor Ryan Eikenbary-Barber  
(Handicapped accessible)  
Children especially welcome  
Thanksgiving Worship 11/27 at 7 pm  
Contemporary Worship Sun. 12/1, 12/8, 12/15 at 8:30 am  
Sunday School for all ages  
Adult Class: Dickens' "Christmas Carol" on Dec. 8, 15 and 22 at 9:30am  
Traditional Worship Sundays at 11 am, 12/1, 12/8, 12/15  
Wednesday meal and activities for the family at 5:45 pm (except Dec. 25)  
Christmas Pageant at 10:30 am on 12/22  
Christmas Eve Worship at 4:30 pm and 10pm

**Christ Church Lutheran**  
3244 34th Ave. • 612-721-6611  
[www.christchurchluth.org](http://www.christchurchluth.org)

Pastor: Kristine Carlson  
(Children welcome, Childcare available)  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 am  
11:15 am Education  
Pastor: Kristine Carlson  
The Friends of CCL offers free trees of our National Historic Landmark building  
2nd Sunday of each month, 11 am.

**Epworth United Methodist**  
3207 37th Ave. • 612-722-0232

Rev. Pam Armstrong  
Sunday Worship 10:30 am  
Education: Adults at 9:45 am;  
Children and Youth, 10:45 am  
Christmas Eve Worship: 7:00 pm  
(Childcare Provided)  
(Wheelchair Accessible)

**Minnehaha United Methodist**  
3701 E. 50th St. • 612-721-6231  
[www.minnehaha.org](http://www.minnehaha.org)

Traditional Service 9:00 am  
Contemporary Worship 11:00 am  
(Sept.-May) 10:30 am (June-Aug.)  
Education for all ages 10:15 (Sept.-May)  
(Childcare; fully accessible)

**St. Albert the Great Catholic**  
E. 29th St at 32nd Ave. S. • 612-724-3643  
[www.saintalbertthegreat.org](http://www.saintalbertthegreat.org)

Fr. Joe Gillespie, O.P.  
Sunday Mass 9:30 am (Childcare available)  
Saturday Mass 5:00 pm  
M.I. Th. F. Rosary at 8 am, Daily Mass 8:15 am  
Christmas Eve: Family Mass 5:00 pm  
Candlelight Mass 10:00 pm  
Christmas Day Mass: 10:00 am  
New Year's Day Mass: 10:00 am  
(Handicapped accessible)

**St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran**  
4600 E. 42nd St. • 612-722-8000  
[www.stpeders.net](http://www.stpeders.net)

Julie A. Ebesen, Pastor  
Worship 9:00 and 10:30 am,  
Summer - 9:00 only  
Education for all at 9:00 am  
(Childcare, Wheelchair Acc., Braille)  
Coffee 10 am

**Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls**  
5212 41st Ave. S. • 612-724-3691  
[www.trinityfalls.org](http://www.trinityfalls.org)

Pastor Derek Johnson  
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10 am  
Children's Church at 10 am Service  
Dec. 24: 4 pm & 11 pm Services  
Dec. 29: One Service at 10 am  
AA Meetings Tuesdays/Sundays 7 pm

### Projects of the Neighborhood Churches Include:

Minnehaha Food Shelf, Serving People Tuesday 10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Call us at 612-721-6231

Minnehaha United Methodist, 3701 E. 50th St.

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## In our community

Continued from page 9

### Brass band concert set at Christ Church

The Lake Wobegon® Brass Band Benefit Concert will take place on Sat., Dec. 7, from 7-9pm at Christ Church Lutheran Church, 3244 34th Ave. S. Enjoy brass music for the season in the Longfellow neighborhood's landmark Christ Church Lutheran sanctuary. A free will offering will be taken, the proceeds of which will benefit the Lutheran Social Service's Metro Homeless Youth programs.

### Nokomis Tree Lighting planned Nov. 30

Oxendale's Market and the Nokomis East Business Association (NEBA) present the first annual Nokomis Tree Lighting on Sat., Nov. 30, from 4-6pm in Oxendale's Market parking lot (5025 34th Ave. S.).

Surrounded by carolers, a 20-foot tree will light at 5pm, with lights provided by Nokomis Hardware and hot chocolate and treats provided by Berry Sweet Kitchen. Santa Claus will make a special appearance inside the store, hosted by Brushed Monkey, with free pictures taken by professional photographer Pamela Diedrich. Free grab bags are available while supplies last, which will feature special offers and gifts from area businesses. All Nokomis East families and neighbors are invited to kick off the holiday season and support the Nokomis East Business District during this free event on Small Business Saturday.

Neil Oxendale, the president of NEBA and owner of Oxendale's Market, is excited to present this opportunity for the neighborhood. "Pulling together resources from our business partners after the success of our recent Nokomis Block Party in September, this is a wonderful new event just in time for the holidays. Look for additional information at our area businesses and get ready for the first annual Nokomis Tree Lighting."

### LBA holiday social planned for Dec. 12

Longfellow Business Association (LBA) hosts its annual holiday social and networking lunch on Thurs., Dec. 12. Please join them at El Norteño, 4000 E. Lake St., 11:45am -1:30pm, for a buffet of the best Mexican fare this end of Lake Street. Cost is \$12 per person. Please RSVP @ 612.722.4529 x10 or ruth@longfellow.org. New LBA members are especially encouraged to come and introduce their new business.

### Events slated at Roosevelt Library

Roosevelt Library, 4026 28th Ave. S., will hold a sale of children's fiction and nonfiction books in hardcover and paperback on Sat. Dec. 7, 10am-2pm (kids materials only). Most books are withdrawn from the Hennepin County Library system or donated by the public. Funds raised will benefit the library.

The library also has all kinds

of other events during the month of December to keep your family active and engaged. Among them:

- On Thurs., Dec. 5, 6:30pm join the Adult Book Club as they discuss "Animal, vegetable, miracle: a year of food life" by Barbara Kingsolver.

- Celebrate Roosevelt Library's public art by creating paper mosaics of your own on Family Art Day: Mosaic Madness on Sat., Dec. 7, 3:30-5pm. Materials provided.

- The Mystery/Thriller Adult Book Club meets on Sat., Dec. 7, 1pm, this month to discuss "Exit Music" by Ian Rankin.

- Baby Storytime meets at the library on Saturdays Dec. 7, 14, and 21 at 10:30am. This program is for children from birth to 24 months and their parent or caregiver. Talk, sing, read, write and play together in a format designed especially for babies. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

- The Fearless and Friendly Knitting Group will meet Tues., Dec. 10, 2-4pm. This group is for men and women at all skill levels.

### 14th Winter Frolic showcases Dec. 6-8

The Seward Winter Frolic: Art in the Hood celebrates 14 years with a weekend of festivities Dec. 6-8.

The weekend kicks off with

an evening of food, wine and performances including music, poetry and dance at the Playwrights Center (2301 E. Franklin Ave.) on Fri., Dec. 6 from 6:30-9:30pm. Proceeds will benefit The Seward Neighborhood Group.

The Seward Art Crawl will take place on Sat., Dec. 7 from 10am to 5pm and Sun., Dec. 8 from noon to 5pm. More than 60 artists will be displaying and selling their work at local studios, galleries, businesses, churches and home-studios. Art crawlers are invited to frolic at participating businesses by taking advantage of specials and giveaways. All venues are within walking distance throughout the Seward Neighborhood.

Local artist Jim "Marion" Foreman will be presenting Spiritual and Earth based artwork during the Seward Winter Frolic: Art in the neighborhood. He will be located at Bethany Lutheran Church, 2511 E Franklin Ave.

Highlights for the weekend include the unveiling of the Seward Gateway Sculpture at Fire Station #7, an art car parade, various performances at art venues and businesses, a tree lighting event at Triangle Park and local food and beverages to be showcased at various locations. All events are open to the public. Visit [www.sewardarts.org](http://www.sewardarts.org) for more information.

Continued on page 12



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## South High student wins national tourney



Secretary Margaret Spellings, Lillie Ouellette-Howitz and President George W. Bush. Photo by Lisa Trenary/Grant Miller Photography.

Lillie Ouellette-Howitz, a senior at South High, was named debate champion and took first place in public speaking at the George W. Bush Institute's annual national high school economic debate competition in Dallas, Texas.

Former President George W. Bush congratulated Lillie on her win, in which she successfully argued that Mexico would benefit from the privatization of the country's energy sector. Lillie's affirmative position hinged on empirical examples of countries (such as Brazil and Norway) that had successfully privatized energy. According to the Dallas Morning News, President Bush said the subject was "fascinating" and "required a lot of critical thinking." Lillie and her opponent had 30 minutes to prepare for the debate.

"This was the most exciting tournament I have ever won, especially with the scholarship opportunities," said Lillie, who has won numerous local and state public speaking and debate ti-

ties. Lillie, who has been competing in debate since her freshman year at South, said meeting former President Bush was a truly memorable experience.

"It was crazy to meet the former president because he was the president I grew up watching on TV and listening to for eight years," Lillie said. "Then he was there standing in front of me, shaking my hand. It was a really cool, crazy experience."

Lillie's MN Urban Debate League teammates also scored well at the competition. The tournament included more than 100 students from Milwaukee, Baltimore, New England and Dallas. Trace Thompson, a junior at South, was a quarterfinalist in the debate competition. Additionally, Chris Oquist, sophomore at Roosevelt High School was also a quarterfinalist in debate and received a 10th-place speaking award.

All contestants who reached the elimination rounds are eligible for scholarships up to \$20,000.

# Classifieds

## Messenger

Want ads must be in the Messenger before December 16 for the December 26 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, 1885 University Avenue, Ste. #110, St. Paul, MN 55104. Want ads must be mailed to the Messenger before December 16 for the December 26 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to [denis@deruyternelson.com](mailto:denis@deruyternelson.com). Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Messenger's website at [www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com](http://www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com)

### ADDITIONS

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### BATHROOMS

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### CARPET

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### COMPUTER REPAIR/SERVICE

Harmony PC computer repair, service, instruction. Service in your home. 20 years exp. State Courts, Microsoft. Woman-owned. 651-605-5804. [www.harmonyipc.us](http://www.harmonyipc.us) 8-14

### EMPLOYMENT

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

### FLOORING

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### FOR SALE

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

### HALL FOR RENT

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### HANDYMAN

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### HAULING

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### HOUSECLEANING

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### PAINTING

Painter Jim. 25 years experience. Small jobs wanted. 651-698-0840. 3-14

### PAINTING

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### PIANO TUNING

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### REAL ESTATE

Flourish Realty LLC. Full Service Real Estate/Property Management Services. Local Realtor®, Ecobroker®, & Resident, Daniel Schultz: 612-408-0233, [dan@flourishrealty.net](mailto:dan@flourishrealty.net) 7-14

### RENTAL

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### SERVICES

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Continued on page 12

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## In our community

Continued from page 10

### Theology group meets at Bethany

Fireside Theology meets Wednesday evenings through Dec. 18 at Bethany Lutheran Church (3901 36th Ave. S.). There is an optional potluck dinner at 6pm and discussion begins at 6:30pm. Deep issues of faith are tackled using the "Animate Faith" DVD series and journals. All are welcome.

### Taste of the Holidays set at Kowalski's

Kowalski's Parkview Market, 5615 Chicago Ave. S., will present "A Taste of the Holidays" on Sat., Dec. 7, 11am-4pm. Find your holiday inspiration with a day filled with holiday food sampling and plenty of great ideas and recipes for entertaining. In addition to finding unique products and specials throughout the store, you can discover gift giving ideas.

### Vine Art Holiday Sale scheduled Dec. 14-15

The 6th annual Vine Arts Center Holiday Sale will take place Sat., Dec. 14, 10am-5pm, and Sun., Dec. 15, noon-5pm. Discover unique art made by Vine Arts Center members. Come for two days of eclectic shopping and opportunities to chat with the meet the artists. Located in the Ivy Building for the Arts, 2637 27th Ave. S., the Vine Arts Holiday Sale includes an eclectic mix of ceramics, woodworking, painting, fine art collage, fiber arts and clothing, framed prints, cards, calendars, shrines, dolls, sculpture, photography, jewelry, body care products, homemade food goodies, curiosities and more.

### Events planned at Nokomis Library

Nokomis Library, 5100 S 34th Ave., has the following events planned in December:

- Teen Anime Club (for teens) meets Tues., Dec. 3, 4:30-6pm. Watch anime, discuss manga and share artwork. Something different every time!
- K-12 Homework Help is scheduled on Tues. and Thurs., 3:30-7:30pm; Wed., 3:30-5:30pm through Dec. 19. Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students. No advance sign-up needed.
- The Mystery/Thriller Adult Book Club meets on Tue., Dec. 3, 6:30pm, this month to discuss "The Yard" by Alex Grecian.
- The 55+ Book Club meets Wed., Dec. 4 at 3pm to discuss new and interesting titles. Bring along your recommendations for future meetings.
- The Nokomis Library Writing Group meets Thurs., Dec. 5 and Dec. 19, at 6:30pm. Join fellow writers for encouragement, feedback, and to help each other take writing to the next level. Bring works in progress, paper and pen. You will explore different ways to think about writing.
- The Sci-Fi Adult Book Club meets Thurs., Dec. 5 at 6:30pm, this month to discuss

"Watership Down" by Richard Adams.

- The First Friday Diabetes Support Group meets Fri., Dec. 6, 1pm. Share experiences with others living with diabetes and get tips and advice from a health care professional on blood sugar management, diet and exercise. Please call Nokomis Healthy Seniors, 612-729-5499, to make arrangements for free transportation to the program.

- Friday Night Video Gaming (for teens) meets every Friday in December from 4:30-6pm. Join fellow game enthusiasts for Xbox 360 gaming. Games will include Halo, Games of War 3 and more. Game suggestions welcome. Free and open to anyone 16 and over or with parental consent.

- Family Storytime for children of all ages and their parents, meets on Fri., Dec. 6 and 13, at 10:30am.

- Baby Storytime, for children from birth to 24 months (and their parent or caregiver) meets Sat., Dec. 7 and 14, at 10:30am.

- The Fearless and Friendly Knitting Group will meet Tues, Dec. 10, 6-8pm and Wed., Dec. 11, 10am-noon. For men and women at all skill levels. Bring your own needles and yarn, please.

- LEGO Lab meets Sat. Dec. 14 and 28 from 3-5pm. For families. Calling all future engineers and architects! We've got the bricks, but we need you to bring your imagination. No experience necessary. We'll have LEGOS and DUPLOS®, so all ages are welcome.

## Classifieds

Continued from page 11

### SUPPORT GROUP

Holistic Diabetes Support Group at Dancing Dragon Acupuncture & Wellness, www.holisticdiabetessupport.com, 612-437-0707. 6-14

### WANTED

\*\*WANTED\*\* - Old Stereo, HiFi Equipment, HAM, and Cameras. Andy 651-329-0515. 4-14

### WANTED TO BUY

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### WINDOWS

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