

# SOUTHWEST Connector

NEWS FOR EVERYONE, DELIVERED TO EVERYONE • SEPTEMBER 22, 2022 • VOL. 1 • NO. 17

**6** AGING WELL:  
From the 'hood to the woods

**3** Minneapolis considers how  
to calm city streets

**9** What does public safety mean  
at 38th and Chicago?

**11** Development happening  
around West Bde Maka Ska



## WHERE PAST AND PRESENT MEET

Lake Street's Schatzlein Saddle Shop celebrates 115 years in business, announces closure

By **Chloe Peter**

Before Lake Street was a popular hub of Minneapolis, it was a rural area where farming was prevalent. There were rarely any streetcars or buses that rode up and down the street, but rather, horses and buggies.

"Being in business for 115 years is no easy feat," said Joan Schatzlein West, one of the four siblings that work at Schatzlein Saddle Shop (413 W. Lake St.). "If we have learned anything in all these years, it's to be flexible and to change with the times."

On Aug. 28, 2022, Schatzlein announced that, after 115 years in business, they are closing.

Throughout the years, Schatzlein's has remained a family-owned business. In 1927, Emil Schatzlein took a picture of his son, Ed, standing next to a miniature handmade horse, saddle, and bridle and that is still the picture that the shop uses in its advertisements. At one time, six siblings worked in the shop together, but two have since retired.

As the city grew south toward what was once a rural Lake Street, horses were replaced with streetcars and buses. People who rode horses still patronized the store, but to remain in business, the shop added Western and English wear in the 1950s. In 1957, the shop became one of the first in Minnesota to sell original 501 Shrink-to-Fit Levi Jeans. These were incredibly popular at the time as one could shrink raw denim to fit their unique body type.

As the apparel expanded to boots, shirts, Lee, Levi, Wrangler, jeans, and accessories, the store outgrew the space and moved across the alley to the pres-



Gary Schatzlein stands in Schatzlein's Saddle Shop at 413 W Lake St., holding a saddle that needs to be repaired. "It has been hard to compete with online shopping," Gary Schatzlein said. "Brands have made it harder for us to buy from them." The horse behind him is one customers used to sit on and see if their apparel fit right. Now, the horse displays a "Do Not Touch" sign. (Photo by Chloe Peter)

ent location.

"We are a unique business in the city of Minneapolis," Schatzlein West said.

"Our customers are far reaching as to age, hobbies, and careers."



## CARING FOR CAREGIVERS

Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theater Company uses movement to help heal trauma of healthcare workers

By **Chloe Peter**

In 1988, Stuart Pimsler created "Swimming to Cecile," a performance work dedicated to his mother who died in a car accident when he was 15. "Cecile," a lamentation inspired by his own loss, was toured throughout the U.S. This work served as the initial connection from Pimsler to the community of caregivers who experience losses in their own workplace each day.

He founded Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theater (SPDT) in 1979 in NYC, and has been based at 528 Hennepin Ave. since 2001. For over four decades Pimsler's company has toured globally, with international presentations in Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, western Europe, China, Russia, and Israel, as well as engagements in 37 states.

SPDT's program "Caring for the Caregiver" was started in 1992 following a performance of "Swimming to Cecile." A teary-eyed pediatric oncologist knocked on their dressing room door and asked if they would be willing to work with his colleagues. Since that moment, SPDT has worked with thousands of caregivers throughout the world.

"Once introduced to the world of caregivers, I became deeply moved by the courage, compassion, and strength of these individuals who work daily helping others," Pimsler said. "Their resilience in coping with loss, particularly in such areas as hospice and cancer, proved to be inspiring for me."



## NURSES' NEGOTIATIONS HIGHLIGHT STAFFING SHORTAGES



On Sept. 14, 2022, (left to right) Donna Soriano, Nellie Arsenyeva, and Diphina Sang hold signs on the picket line at M Health Fairview Hospital Southdale. "We're out here so it's better inside," Shawna Gebretsadik said. (Photo by Chloe Peter)

Three-day Minnesota Nurses Association strike has ended, but no agreements have been reached for 15,000 nurses

By **Chloe Peter**

Outside of Children's Minnesota Hospital - Minneapolis (2525 Chicago Ave.) and M Health Fairview Southdale Hospital (6401 France Ave. S.), nurses in bright red T-shirts held signs with sayings such as, "Remember when you called us heroes?" "Burnout led to this turnout," and "Fairview broke its nurses, not its budget." Cars driving by honked in support as nurses cheered back, and the picket line was filled with talk of what was going to happen in the upcoming days after the

three-day strike.

On Sept. 1, 2022, nurses with the Minnesota Nurses Association (MNA) announced that 15,000 nurses throughout the state planned to strike for three days beginning Sept. 12. The nurses have negotiated with the hospital executives for more than five months and is the largest private-sector nurses' strike in U.S. history, according to the union.

The MNA press release from Sept. 15, 2022, stated, "Nurses have been bargaining for six months over new contracts, seeking changes to address the crisis of understaffing and retention in our hospitals. There is no shortage of nurses in Minnesota, but deteriorating care and working conditions are driving more nurses to leave the bedside. Recent studies show that more than half of all nurses are considering leaving the profession while adverse events for patients are increasing."





# LIVING SUSTAINABLY ONE SMALL STEP AT A TIME

## Q&A with founder and owner of Zeroish, a sustainable living shop in Fulton

By **Chloe Peter**

According to the Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry, limiting the earth's warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius would require reducing greenhouse gas emissions by a minimum of 45% by 2030 and achieving net zero emissions by 2050. If nations and corporations don't, not only could the warming blow through that 1.5-degree limit, but it is likely not to avoid the worst consequences of the climate crisis.

These numbers are a part of why Kate Marnach started a zero-waste blog intended to help busy families navigate a zero-waste lifestyle. She had three kids of her own and wanted to start something to encourage others to live sustainably even if they couldn't live a fully zero-waste lifestyle. This blog, Zeroish, eventually evolved into a zero-waste shop offering sustainable alternatives to everyday items. She launched the online store in March 2021, and opened the brick-and-mortar store at 2309 W. 50th Street in August 2021. She was also involved in the launch of Tare Market in south Minneapolis in 2019, the state's first zero-waste store.

"I really do think that successfully tackling smaller changes or sustainable habits where you can see the results without it being difficult can be encouraging and make you want to do more and take on larger changes," Marnach said.

### WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT TO MAKE SUSTAINABLE CHANGES?

Marnach: Humans have been over-using the natural resources on our planet and discarding our trash in an irresponsible manner for decades, and we are really starting to see the consequences of this in our daily lives, with climate change, water shortages, trash-infested waters/ecosystems, and more. I believe that collective



Kate Marnach holds a Trick or Trash box, a candy wrapper recycling program that her shop, Zeroish (2309 W 50 S.), takes part in. The program will be back closer to Halloween and community members can drop off wrappers for recycling. (Photo submitted)

small actions really do add up, and our behavior as consumers sends a message to larger companies that we want products and lifestyles that align with our desire to help the planet rather than destroying it.

### WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES TRYING TO STAY ON A BUDGET?

Marnach: I totally get this one as I have three kids and a budget, as well. Some of my tips for living sustainably on a budget are:

1. Compost (the curbside organics bins are included in your trash fees in Minneapolis, or you can have a bin or pile

in your yard).

2. Try out "swaps" with friends or local community groups for things like clothing, household items, kid gear, garden produce, etc.

3. Try alternatives for expensive produce like a local CSA in the summer or growing a garden.

4. Buy secondhand when possible as it's usually cheaper and extends the useful life of items.

5. Purchase higher quality products and fewer of them example: a quality stainless water bottle will last way longer than a cheap plastic one.

6. Use what you have first. In most cases, it's better to use something to the end of its useful life, even if it's not considered "sustainable" than to replace it before it needs replacing.

7. Try "solid" items like shampoo bars or dish blocks that actually last way longer than their liquid counterparts and cost less in the long run.

8. Switch to reusables instead of disposables. I constantly think about how much money we save with three kids now that we don't purchase paper towels, napkins, or tissues anymore since we switched to unpaper towels, cloth napkins, and hankies!

### HOW WOULD YOU ADDRESS GETTING "BOGGED" DOWN BY CLIMATE NEWS?

Marnach: That's a tough one as I even fall victim to it at times. I've learned that sometimes I do just need to turn off the news or stop reading it. I know I will continue fighting for the planet no matter what, so giving my brain a break from the constant negative stream of news isn't going to lessen my resolve.

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR THE COMMUNITY TO HAVE VARIOUS SUSTAINABLE OPTIONS?

Marnach: I think convenience matters a lot in today's world, and the more convenient and easier we can make sustainable living, the more people will participate. A sustainable lifestyle is not a one-size-fits-all kind of thing!

### WHAT WOULD YOU SUGGEST TO PEOPLE WANTING TO TRY OUT MORE SUSTAINABLE OPTIONS A LITTLE AT A TIME OR MAYBE FOR THE FIRST TIME?

Marnach: I always tell people to start with something they feel like they can realistically achieve and something that they will be able to "see" the results of. Whether that means composting and seeing your weekly trash be slashed in half, refilling your containers from our bulk section so you only buy what you need, or even just switching a few of the products you use every single day to a sustainable option, so you are reminded each time you use it that you are making a better choice for the planet!

## WHAT LITTLE FREE LIBRARY IS YOUR FAVORITE?

Send us a photo ([news@swConnector.com](mailto:news@swConnector.com)) and let us know. We're giving away handmade crochet dolls and you might win!



## INFLATION REDUCTION ACT: Get up to 30% or more in solar tax credits!

GET A FREE EVALUATION



651-358-2533



[AllEnergySolar.com/Connector](http://AllEnergySolar.com/Connector)

## Everett & Charlie

a gallery where art meets experience

FEATURING ONLY MINNESOTA ARTISTS



2720 West 43<sup>rd</sup> St, Linden Hills

◇◇◇◇◇ [everettandcharlie.com](http://everettandcharlie.com) ◇◇◇◇◇



## ► CAREGIVER CARE

SPDT also works with many colleges and universities. According to Pimsler, in traditional medical school training, the relational aspect of patient and doctor is often seen as secondary to the scientific aspects of information gathering. SPDT's work leans into the empathic capacity of caregivers, focusing on methods to enhance communication between caregiver and patient.

"Our work integrating movement, literary, visual, vocal, and theatrical techniques invite caregivers to consider and remember their original impulses for becoming healers," Pimsler said. "It holds a mirror to their everyday demeanors and emotional life in relating to their patients while offering feedback about caregivers' empathic capacities."

Beyond self-expression, a growing body of research shows how movement enhances cardiovascular health and brain functioning. According to Harvard Medical School, a study was done showing that dancing was linked to a lower risk of cardiovascular death. The most direct and immediate outcome of SPDT's work is a reduction of stress and a deepening of connections amongst caregivers and colleagues. They also always include suggestions and lively discussions focusing on the importance of self-care.

An issue brief released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services this past May noted, "The COVID-19 pandemic has put extreme stress on the health care workforce in the United States, leading to workforce shortages as well as increased health care worker burnout, exhaustion, and trauma. These pandemic-related challenges have taken place in a con-



Beginning in 1992, "Caring for the Caregiver" has helped thousands of caregivers globally with expression, physical and mental health. Through the integration of movement and voice, memories and stories, participants explore ways to express feelings associated with their profession.

text of significant preexisting workforce shortages and maldistribution, as well as in a workforce where burnout, stress, and mental health problems (including an ongoing risk of post-traumatic stress disorder) were already significant problems."

Pimsler mentioned that during the pandemic, an increase in patient demand, equipment shortages, and yet-to-be-discovered treatments and vaccines were an unprecedented reality for even the most tenured caregivers. He feels that with infections trending upward globally from the new Omicron variant, the effects from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic are con-

tinuing to weigh heavy on caregivers and frontline workers.

"In addition to these more 'traditional,' expected impacts, caregivers found themselves taking care of each other," Pimsler said. "We found ourselves addressing extreme situations where caregivers spoke about substance abuse and attempted suicides by colleagues who were trying to cope with the pandemic's human devastation."

Pimsler's new book, "The Choreography of Care," aims to address more than three decades of working in the field of arts and medicine. While providing a



Stuart Pimsler was deeply moved by the courage, compassion, and strength of healthcare workers. Their resilience is inspiring to him and helps him continue on in his programs helping caregivers through motion. (Photo submitted)

memoirish introduction to Pimsler's unlikely trajectory for entering the field of arts in health, the book also offers insights and guides for the revelatory and healing powers the arts bring to medicine – not only for patients but for those who treat them. It can be found at [www.choreographyofcare.com](http://www.choreographyofcare.com).

His book suggests ways that both the public and caregivers can enhance their communicative rapport while re-considering their power dynamic. Pimsler said others can contribute to this issue by becoming better advocates for their own health through enhanced, healthful activities and better nutrition.

For individuals interested in seeing video examples of their work with caregivers, other community-engaged work or for more information regarding the Caring for Caregivers Program, browse: [www.stuartpimsler.com](http://www.stuartpimsler.com).

# CALMING CITY STREETS

**A new process lays out how citizens can ask for traffic calming improvements in their neighborhood.**

By **Cam Gordon**

This month, the city is starting a new Neighborhood Traffic Calming process intended to make things more transparent and predictable.

According to the report presented to the city council in August, "The new process to intake, review, and implement traffic calming on neighborhood streets will provide a more proactive, data-driven, transparent, and equitable process that is easy for community members, their neighborhood organizations, and city employees that are implementing it."

It is also intended to be a more effective use of limited resources.

"Public works receives approximately 2,500 requests annually for safety and traffic calming," said public works engineer Jennifer Lowry. "To date the process has been very informal." Requests have been taken individually on a case-by-case basis. Of those requests, due to available funding, she estimates that 10 to 20 calming projects are completed each year.

As of Sept. 15, anyone can make traffic calming requests online, or through 311. Those requests made by Nov. 1, 2022, will be considered for construction in 2023.

According to the report this process will help the city "make street changes that support slower and safer traffic speeds and/or discourage cut-through traffic on our urban neighborhood streets," and will support the public works department commitment to "adding more traffic calm-

ing across the city in support of the city's updated speed limits and Vision Zero traffic safety goals.

"The goal of this effort is to create a better process to vet the requests that come into us in a transparent and equitable manner," said Lowry. Going forward all requests will be recorded and shared online and placed on a map that anyone with internet access can view. Ward 12 Council Member Andrew Johnson, who chairs the public works city council committee, said the process "will bring order out of the chaos of the 2,500 requests."

### CHANGES MADE AFTER COMMITTEE INPUT

This new process has been two years in the making. A draft was shared with the council, advisory groups and the public in 2021. The city's pedestrian advisory committee (PAC) reviewed the draft last year and raised concerns they shared in January.

"PAC did review a draft of the neighborhood traffic calming request program," said Peter Vader, the group's chair and a Hale Page Diamond Lake resident. Vader reported that the group felt that traffic calming in general is good, but was concerned about the requirement of neighborhood association approval first and delays that could create. Additionally, he said, "We advised against calming measures that end up diverting even more car pollution onto already-busy streets of dense population (often poor)."

Among other things, the committee's resolution said that the city should "ensure the right of all people – including those who are poor and/or disabled – to move freely and without fear of injury or death," and "ensure that implemented measures do not harm community health by diverting traffic onto dense corridors where the majority of pedestrians severe injuries and deaths occur and are already subjected to higher concentrations of

motor vehicles."

"The updated traffic calming process removes the neighborhood organization requirement, which was a PAC request and a common theme in our engagement," said Public Works Vision Zero Program Coordinator Ethan Fowley. "I will note," he said, "our Vision Zero efforts prioritize safety improvements on high injury streets, which are all busier streets. We are keeping that priority while also making sure we have a way to fairly and equitably address traffic calming and safety needs on neighborhood streets, as well."

### SPEED HUMPS, TRAFFIC CIRCLES AND MORE

Because those streets are already getting attention and resources, the new process will not apply to designated "high injury" streets that are a focus of the Vision Zero program. It will also not apply to municipal state aid (MSA) funded roads, those owned by the county, state or other agency, or those under construction. Still, an estimated 1,100 miles of city streets will qualify as local residential, or neighborhood, streets.

Improvements could include pavement markings, speed humps, raised pedestrian crossings, curb extensions, pinch points, traffic circles, median refuge islands, or the conversion of a street to a one-way or a two-way street. Additional signage or the more temporary installation of posts or bollards could also be used.

Although any community member can fill out a request form, the city will require that all applicants provide signatures from at least five other households or businesses that show support for the application. If an application makes it through a preliminary screening scoring process, the city will then hold a community meeting to get more input and support from the neighborhood on their traffic safety concerns before identifying recommended solutions and final design. These will then be shared at a second community meeting. Without community support at that time, the application will not move forward.

Under the process, all requests that

come in before a September deadline each year will be reviewed for possible action the following year. Staff will screen and score each application to see if the location qualifies and meets a minimum threshold for needing traffic calming. Applications that score highest will move to a data collection and design phase, and be considered for implementation the following year.

The city plans to contact each applicant to let them know the status of their application. Applications that pass the initial screening but are not selected for implementation in their first year will be reconsidered in the following second year.

### \$100,000 SET ASIDE

The number of traffic improvements that could be completed each year will be dependent on costs and funding. "We have committed to dedicating a minimum of \$100,000 of existing operating funds to the 2023 implementation, hopefully more if we are able," said Lowry. "We are also looking into the eligibility and potential of grant funding."

Several council members asked about funding and how the city could increase the number of applications that could be funded. Ward 1 Council Member Elliot Payne asked about increasing the number of calming projects a year. Ward 13 Council Member Linea Palmisano said, "I would support a larger sum for getting to more of the new traffic calming requests that come from the community, which I think has quite a backlog."

Johnson said he is interested in building the "capacity to look proactively at roads without requests."

Lowry said, "This could be a benchmarking year," and that the better data that will be collected this year from requests and results could be used to inform future funding considerations.

"As this body is considering the budget and thinking of future investments, especially as we have biennial budgeting now," Johnson said, "there is strong interest in expanding capacity."



# HOW TO CREATE HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS FOR EVERYONE

## A neighborhood association is rethinking how block clubs work in Minneapolis.

Minneapolis has 83 residential neighborhoods, 70 neighborhood associations, 13 wards, 11 communities and five precincts. If we do a health check based on gun violence, some of these places are not like the others.

According to the city's crime dashboard, there have been 6,711 shots fired calls city-wide (as of this writing) and 408 gunshot wound victims. That's down from the 7,759 and 469 last year at this time. The numbers are a little misleading, though. Or as Mark Twain might say, "Facts are stubborn things, but statistics are pliable."

We could slice and dice the crime data in hundreds of ways. By precinct, ward, neighborhood. Look at the metrics like this. The city's never been more peaceful. Look at them like that. It's a war zone. Numbers are like a gambling junkie. Sometimes they're up, sometimes they're down. But the house always wins. The house, in this case, is reality. And the truth hurts.

A healthy community has access to education, money, career development, and safety net services. By any measure, many Minneapolis communities are not healthy at the moment. There's not enough education, economic opportunities or community services. The only safety nets are riddled with holes, hanging over a pack of angry sharks.

One neighborhood association is



By **Eric Ortiz**

rethinking how block clubs work to see if they can help stop the suffering. Block clubs in Minneapolis have a history of helping local residents be informed, deter crime and build community. But there are limitations to the program. The biggest problem is that it's hard to know which blocks have block clubs and who are all the block leaders.

The crime prevention specialists in the Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations department have access to the contact information about block clubs, including registered block club leaders. But due to data protection rules, crime prevention specialists cannot share the information about block leaders. As a result, block clubs are disconnected.

The Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association (LHENA) wants to change this and plans to start by connecting the blocks in the Wedge. LHENA has developed a "Block by Block Model" based on restorative practices. The goal of restorative practices is to build community and manage conflict by repairing harm and building and strengthening relationships. By using restorative practices and a reimagined block club approach, a LHENA community building team is focused on developing restorative solutions and improving the quality of life for people in the neighborhood. Their ultimate objective is to create healthy communities for all people in Minneapolis.

The fundamental hypothesis of restorative practices is simple.

Human beings are happier, more cooperative and productive, and more likely to make positive changes in their behavior when those in positions of authority do things with them, rather than to them or for them.

Restorative practices get a bad rap and are commonly misunderstood. The



Crixell Shell of the Minnesota Peacebuilding Leadership Institute talks with community members at the Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association's Twin Cities Community Pop-Up Market at Mueller Park on Aug. 20. (Eric Ortiz)

field of restorative practices emerged in the early 2000s from the principles of restorative justice, but restorative practices extend beyond criminal justice. Because the restorative concept has its roots in the field of criminal justice, some people hear the word "restorative" and think restorative practices are reactive, only a response to crime and wrongdoing.

On the contrary, restorative practices are proactive. They restore, build and strengthen new relationships and social capital. They build trust, mutual understanding and shared values. These are the behaviors that bind us together and make cooperative action possible. They also could be the path to building a new reality, based on the "theory of everyone." This is the idea that we get better results in every setting if authorities give more voice and choice to all people, in exchange for

taking more responsibility.

LHENA was chosen as the neighborhood to pilot a community public safety program in Minneapolis. Beginning in January 2022, a six-person LHENA core team comprised of Lowry Hill East residents, LHENA staff and Minneapolis community leaders went through six months of training and mentoring with Restorative Justice Community Action (RJCA), Minnesota Peacebuilding Leadership Institute (Peacebuilding) and community leader Manu Lewis.

I am one of LHENA's team members. Together, we have developed a restorative community building model that promotes healing, restorative practices and mutual aid. This model is centered on neighborhood blocks and provides a general framework for community building with the tools for success. The program has 10 steps and can be customized by any neighborhood to meet the unique needs and cultural specifications of any community.

The health of any community depends on the people who live, work, play and pray there. When community members are connected and help each other, more lives get access to opportunities. When community members care, more lives improve. Communities grow, prosper and get healthy. Everyone in the community benefits when communities are healthy. All of this starts on your block.

If you are interested in learning more about LHENA's community building block program or being involved, let us know at [bit.ly/communityblockprogram](https://bit.ly/communityblockprogram).



**Eric Ortiz** lives in the Wedge with his family. When he's not community building, he's the director of media for Big Edition and writes bilingual children's books with his kids. Their first book, "How the Zookalex Saved the Village," is available in English and Spanish.

## WE SOLDIER ON!

### STORIES & JOURNEYS

Today, right now! It's the first day of the first year without my brother. He died! Myself, my sister-in-law, and my nieces – we continue to mourn. Labor Day week-end of 2021 was the last time I saw my brother alive in person. For Labor Day weekend 2022, I am being transported to Iowa for his military committal service.

Losing my brother, my parents, any of my six companion animals, each day of the first year can be hard to bear. Nonetheless, you and I are taking another plunge into the river of life experiences that is Stories and Journeys with me as writer/reader and you as reader. We soldier on!

### SOME LOSSES ARE LIFE CHANGING

My Peepers experience. It's me trying to help my beloved companion animal, friend, and cat live with a cancer diagnosis. Doing this with help from the holistic



By **Donald L. Hammen**

Uptown Vet. There is me caring deeply. There is me grieving deeply upon his passing. As I grieve, there is me being introduced to Dr. Larry Dossey, M.D., a holistic writer and practitioner. He is speaking at the University of Minnesota Center for Spirituality and Healing. He signs my copy of his latest book, "To Peepers....." My Peepers experience triggers my spirituality and healing journey as it continues to unfold today right now!

There is a person I regard as a spiritual friend and guide among other things. Her name is Amy. Back in the day, she lost her longtime friend, Michelle, in a tragic auto accident. Death and loss can teach gratitude. I am grateful to Amy as she speaks to me through her story and journey. Amy wrote about her tragic loss and its aftermath in her Expressions by Amy blog.

### AMY WRITES

"...Spring of 1986 brought something unexpected. Michelle, my dear friend since seventh grade, close companion on the high school dance line and sorority sister during college, died in a car accident just shy of celebrating her own birthday of 21 years. As difficult as this time was in my life, I mark her passing to be the start of my spiritual journey.

"I began to have vivid dreams, not of

Michelle, but with Michelle. I was speaking to her in my dreams. The next night I would recap of what we had spoken the previous night to confirm our interactions were actually 'real'. Some dreams were like conversations and others more surreal. One late afternoon during my period of grieving, I was concentrating on her essence. I was not asleep, but was in some altered state. I suppose I was meditating, although I was unfamiliar with that practice at the time. In any case, I saw Michelle in my mind's eye, come down and reach out her hand to me. We were to go exploring together, but as I reached for her hand I became scared, for I did not know what the outcome would be. I withdrew my hand and shook myself into a more conscious state.

"Of course, one can argue that these dreams and visions were the result of a grieving heart and mind in search of comfort. This still may be the case. Whatever the belief, they drove me to look further into the idea of life beyond death, the soul and spirit. My curiosity was awoken." From [www.delightfulhealingarts.net](http://www.delightfulhealingarts.net). See Spiritual Awakening-My Back Story, Expressions by Amy posted on 6 April 2014.

I respect Amy, her story and journey as far as I know it and its impact on my story and journey. In fact, she's one of the

most creative writers I have ever read. And one of the most amazing human beings I have ever encountered.

I respect myself, my story and journey as far as I know it. Always curious Always self-aware! One of the most creative writers I have ever read. Also, amazing! We soldier on!

Prior to his passing, my brother shared with me the following story as I understand it. He was coming out of being anesthetized for the surgical removal of a kidney stone. A spirit appeared in his hospital room. The spirit said to him, "I'm finished with you. You can have your body back!"

Increasingly, I am finding more people in my life who are comfortable with sharing – sharing what I call their psychic/soul awareness and experiences.

### AM I MORE PSYCHIC THAN I THINK? ARE YOU?

Tell yourself, tell others or tell me at [news@longfellownokomisemessenger.com](mailto:news@longfellownokomisemessenger.com). What are you curious about? What experiences have triggered spiritual awakening in your life? In gratitude. We soldier on!



**Donald L. Hammen** is a longtime south Minneapolis resident, and serves on the All Elders United for Justice steering committee.

## SOUTHWEST Connector

The Southwest Connector is a twice monthly community publication in Southwest Minneapolis, owned and operated by TMC Publications, CO. Visit our website for our calendar and publication dates.

### Owner & Publisher:

Tesha M. Christensen, 612-345-9998,  
[Tesha@swconnector.com](mailto:Tesha@swconnector.com)  
Editor: Chloe Peter, 612-255-1181,  
[News@swconnector.com](mailto:News@swconnector.com)

### Story ideas always welcome.

Keep in touch with the Connector. Letters to the editor under 200 words and news releases for publication can be sent via e-mail to [news@swconnector.com](mailto:news@swconnector.com).

Unsigned letters will not run.

### Advertising & Marketing:

Suzie Marty, 612-255-1180,  
[ads@swconnector.com](mailto:ads@swconnector.com)

Denise Woulfe, 651-917-4183,  
[denis@LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com](mailto:denis@LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com)

Sandra Mikulsky, 612-260-7967,  
[ads@LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com](mailto:ads@LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com)

Design & Layout: Tesha M. Christensen

Billing: [billing@swconnector.com](mailto:billing@swconnector.com)

### Printing by: ECM/Adams Publishing Group

This issue of the Connector is printed on recycled paper using soy-based ink. Approximately 95-97% of material that enters the print facility is recycled.

Delivery: Bjorn Willms, 612-235-7197,  
[Delivery@swconnector.com](mailto:Delivery@swconnector.com)

Mail subscriptions available at \$80/year.

### Contributing Writers & Photographers:

Abha Karnick, Susan Schaefer, Jan Willms, Jill Boogren, Cam Gordon, Iric Nathanson, Stewart Huntington, and Terry Faust

Member of Minnesota Newspaper Association and Midwest Community Free Papers.

### The Connector is for profit and for a purpose

– and we don't sacrifice one for the other. We consider ourselves a zebra company, one that is both black and white, both/and. As a media company, we work to highlight issues, solve real, meaningful problems, and repair existing social systems. We are working with our readers and advertisers to create a more just and responsible society that hears, helps and heals the customers and communities we serve.

All rights reserved. The contents of the Connector cannot be reproduced without express written permission of the publisher. Copyright © 2022.

Sister publications: Midway Como Frogtown Monitor and Longfellow Nokomis Messenger.



5139 34th Ave. S. #17097, Minneapolis,  
MN 55417 • 612-345-9998  
[SWconnector.com](http://SWconnector.com)  
[www.facebook.com/swconnector/](https://www.facebook.com/swconnector/)  
Instagram: [southwest\\_connector](https://www.instagram.com/southwest_connector)





# OUT AND ABOUT ON THE PAPER ROUTE

I feel a lovely sense of community as I walk along.

There's a 10-year-old in our house now, and he took on a few paper routes this summer. That means, of course, that mom did, too.

I was excited he was interested in the family business and looked forward to the family bonding time.

He wanted to pick up a little spending money (and admits it is fun to do this job together). It turns out, we're not the only parent-child team doing delivery for TMC Publications CO. We're part of a trend in our corner of the world.

The first thing we learned is that it's best for us to split the 400-paper route into two 1-hour or so long sessions. It is more manageable that way right now. We listen to music and audio books as we go, both taking one side of a street.

We definitely got faster as we did the same route more, and worked out our routine for where we parked, picked up more papers, and got water. We also learned why the mail carriers walk across lawns – else a lot of time is eaten up walking up and down front sidewalks. I discovered a new gratitude for those who create pathways in their front gardens to help carriers move between houses. (Little things add up, don't they?)

## POLYBAGS OR RUBBER BANDS?

Our routes this summer became testing grounds for whether we should A) use polybags to keep papers dry, B) fold and set down, or C) use rubber bands.

I started out three years ago using polybags for every delivery. They keep the paper dry unless there is a big rainstorm or really wet snow. We switched to color bags so that folks can see them easier in the snow. However, readers and carriers are asking us to use less plastic, a sentiment I agree with wholeheartedly. Plus, I've noticed that the majority of papers are picked up the same day, so we don't have to plan ahead for whether there will be rain a day or two later in the forecast. And many houses have overhangs that protect something on the front step.

My son and I tried folding papers in half and leaving them on doorsteps for our first route this summer. It was a bit tedious and the papers didn't stay in place well, sometimes falling off the front steps as we walked to the next house. I was amazed at how even the slightest breeze caused the papers to shift.

Next, we tested out two different kinds of rubber bands, one with more rubber in it (the brown ones) versus more filler (the blue ones). This is currently our favorite method. We can roll the papers between houses and then throw it easily right onto the front steps. It doesn't catch in the wind, and is easy to throw. I love an efficient solution. Plus, my aim is getting pretty good! Except for those occasional gusts that take the paper at the last minute and deposit it into the bushes. My apologies if that happened at your house (and your Ring door cam caught my grimace).

I love the pace of a walk through the neighborhood, and how I actually stop to



By **Tesha M. Christensen**



Axel Pettit



Dave Megarry and Rosemary Shetka



Mary McKinley



Norm Champ



John Manders



Larry Witt

smell the roses as I'm delivering papers. It's good exercise, too. I see some folks working on their computers from their covered porches. Others doing yardwork or reading. And we pass a lot of folks walking their dogs. I feel a lovely sense of community as I go from door to door, dropping off papers.

## VITAL CARRIERS

Our carriers are vital members of the TMC Publications team. There aren't a lot of papers still being delivered door-to-door like ours is. In the Twin Cities, more and more are switching to mail (which has its own set of issues), bulk drops (like Southside Pride) or online-only. We believe pretty strongly in the democratic way that door-to-door delivery ensures that everyone get a copy of the paper – old, young, rich and poor. During the first weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic, it became super clear that our "old-fashioned" way of getting the news out to folks had



Mike Palacek with Sophie the dog



Amy Swanson and Eva, age 4



Finn Mason



Donald Anderson



Jeff Mattson and Michael Wefel

some real advantages. Even during the stay-at-home order, we could still keep people connected with each other.

Of course, we also use the Internet for news and updates between the issues, and you can find our entire e-Editions or each individual story on our website. But, there's just something about the feel and smell of a printed paper... We even hear from millennials that they appreciate the screen-free moments they get as they peruse the paper.

We've had a lot of new carriers come aboard this year as we switched from hiring the delivery out to a subcontractor and moving it in-house. Bjorn Willms joined us last fall when we launched the *Southwest Connector* in southwest Minneapolis, and has pulled together a great roster of folks. It can take some time to learn the ropes, and we've had the occasional kerfuffle. One day, a first timer drove down the streets of Nokomis throwing papers out a vehicle window, and Bjorn and I

dashed out early the next morning when we were notified to clean up and redeliver each copy. At other times, a house on a side street gets missed until the resident gives us a call and alerts us.

See a carrier out there? Let them know you're grateful they bring the paper to your front door.

## MEET OUR CARRIERS

We've had a few kiddo-parent teams join our carrier roster this summer. Two homeschool families are doing routes for the *Messenger*.

Over in southwest, Michael Scrivner and his 13-year-old daughter, Lily, signed up for a Kingfield route. It was a first for both of them. Lily likes getting out and the exercise.

It's the same for Jason Walker and his daughter, Nettie, in Linden Hills. Nettie talked up the route so much that her friend, Brittney Keating's child, decided to do a route, too. Mother-son team Christine and Theo Page also took on a route in Linden Hills in August.

The Kenison family has been delivering papers in Linden Hills for years, and the girls have graduated but still like doing the routes when they can.

Amy Swanson used to deliver the *Southwest Journal*, and is joined by four-year-old Eva when she delivers papers in the Kenny neighborhood.

Joining them in the Kenny area is 14-year-old Finn Mason. This is his first job. "It seemed like a good fit," he remarked. He bikes down from his home in Kingfield with papers in a bike carrier, and then walks his 750-paper route.

Mary McKinley calls herself the "mom helper," for her two boys, ages 14 and 16. They deliver 300 papers in Tangletown.

Erin Soderberg Downing's family has delivered in Tangletown for awhile. She's an author who is wrapping up the third book in her Great Peach Experiment series. It's due out in April 2023. ([www.erin-soderberg.com](http://www.erin-soderberg.com))

Mike Palecek has been involved in the newspaper business in various ways for most of his life. He's written for papers and owned one near Rochester with his wife from 1990-93. He's also an author, and has written over 30 books since 1994. His most recent is "Lake Harriet Horror or Love and Bigfoot in the Time of the Covid Plague," and he's hard at work on his next release. (More at [mikepalacek.newdream.us](http://mikepalacek.newdream.us))

Retiree John Manders has three routes and delivers about 1,650 papers in Whittier, East Lowry Hill and Armatage. He used to deliver copies of *City Pages* and other publications. He likes the work because he is outside and is moving his body.

Larry Witt has been delivering the *Star Tribune* every day for 40 years. He wakes up at midnight, picks up papers at 1 a.m., and is finished by 12:30 p.m. "I remember when you had to deliver cereal with the paper. That was a pain," he said. It used to be that nearly every house on a block got a *Star Tribune*, but now he drives the routes and delivers 1-4 papers per block. He covers walking routes for the *Connector* in East Bde Maka Ska and Lynnhurst, delivering 1,800 papers. Jeff Mattson and Lyle James are two other heavy hitters, who manage multiple routes for the *Connector*, *Messenger* and *Monitor*.

Want to put a face to the name? Check out our Instagram and Facebook pages for images of our carriers.

Interested in picking up your own route and making \$11-15 an hour? Email Bjorn at [delivery@swconnector.com](mailto:delivery@swconnector.com).

★★★★★

**NEWSPAPERS:  
YOUR BEST ROUTE  
TO VICTORY**

"We like to say voters read  
and readers vote."



Lake  
Country  
School

MONTESORI

## WE ARE MONTESSORI!

Apply by February 1 for  
priority consideration.  
Schedule an observation or  
apply for admission at  
[lakecountryschool.org!](http://lakecountryschool.org!)





# FROM THE 'HOOD TO THE WOODS



There are easy woodland walks that don't require heavy hiking. (Photo by Susan Schaefer)

By **Susan Schaefer**  
**UNDER THE HOOD**



## Beach to beech

When I arrived in Minnesota as an east coast transplant in the late 1980s, my summer visions were of expanses of New Jersey beaches rather than expansive views of blue beeches, the understory tree of northern pine forests. Finding summer pleasure in a tiny lakeshore cabin nestled in any forest was an entirely alien concept.

East coast childhood summers had been two-month long versions of the Minnesota State Fair wrapped in a sea breeze.

There were bustling boardwalks, vast horizons of deep blue wave-tossed waters, and fine sand strands as far as the eye could see, dotted with colorful beach chairs and umbrellas. Summer sounds were chants of, "Getchur ice-cold fudgy wudgy ice cream," belted out by a phalanx of dudes dressed in white, heavy mini freezers strapped to their shoulders, not the haunting call of a lone loon. Coppertone, hot dogs and pizza were my summer scents, not the clean prick of pungent pine.

But that has changed.

After 34 summers far removed from the throngs of vacationers packing the boardwalks and beaches, I've come to savor the tranquility of the north woods.



View from the dock provides the tranquility of the water, sky and trees and a lone loon in the distance seeking her feathered family. (Photo by Susan Schaefer)



Quietly reading on a deck under whispering pines is a quintessential lake tradition. (Photo by Susan Schaefer)

## From the 'hood to the woods

It's a privilege to be able to access the wilderness. Unlike the seashores in easy reach for most east coast urbanites, finding a way to the immense nature of northern Minnesota and Wisconsin requires ample resources. Generational ownership of private cabins is typical, severely limiting access. And while resorts and small inns dot the northern landscapes, many are inaccessible for numerous metro residents.

This year in late July, our little group of four women hailing from all corners of the metro area, planned a mid-week stay in a private cabin on Lake Nancy, a pristine northern location belonging to a dear, longtime friend.

Key to any cabin trip is good preparation, so ahead of our adventure we met on a sunny café patio for the requisite kickoff strategic meeting. With no supermarkets or restaurants near our destination, we planned our communal meals. All groceries would be hauled in from our respective urban grocery stores. Joint activities, games and puzzles were also coordinated. All aspects of our stay easily came together.

Of course, a trip up north also requires having reliable transportation, which was not a problem for four solidly middle-class women. In fact, we took two cars – the right choice given the hilarious amount of cargo we schlepped. Our mini-SUVs seemed packed for a two-month rather than mid-week stay. Laden with our urban amenities, we headed out at the appointed time.

## GPS won't get you to the door

Unlike some of the longer "Up North" trips, Lake Nancy is a comfortable two-and-a-half-hour commute from the metro. Turning off I35 at the landmark "caloric" café known as Tobies, my companion, Kathy, and I munched donuts and cinnamon buns as we continued along a two-laned local highway. It wasn't long until we left the paved main road onto its graveled country cousin, driving into the deep, silent woods, simultane-

ously exchanging delighted glances and exhaling an identical sigh as our city concerns melted away under the green canopy. Our pleasure on entering untouched nature soared like the first eagles we soon spotted above.

## Little cabin in the woods

Although I had been a regular Lake Nancy guest frequently in the early 1990s, the nearly 20 years since my last visit erased any directional memory. Fortunately, our host had provided a detailed, hand-drawn map for the last part of our journey. Well off the beaten path where our GPS failed us, our only wayfinding devices were the map and modest country-style address placards. After a few wrong turns, we found the golden knotty pine cabin with its signature red garage and reassuring "Lake Nancy Rd" sign.

Like many an original hunting or fishing shack, the cabin has been adorably renovated, featuring a well-stocked kitchen with the necessary appliances. Although the sole bathroom is small (and the shower smaller), everything is updated and practical. The living room with its woodburning stove, two tiny bedrooms and small porch, harkens back to the cabin's 1800s provenance. There is something primal and satisfying about being in such a space.

We enjoyed our meals and each other's company primarily in the cabin's centerpiece, a modern, vaulted-ceiling great room, surrounded by picture windows that bring the pine forest indoors. This room opens onto a large deck with views of the lake, festooned with bird feeders that host a constant show of pileated woodpeckers, ruby-throated hummingbirds, black-capped chickadees, northern cardinals, red-winged blackbirds, blue jays and more. Gathering here was the heart of our stay, filled with the sounds of book pages turning and the welcome conversation of wise women.

## The Benefits of Nature

Whether taking little hikes around the area, lounging in the great room or on the spacious pontoon or deck, or splashing in the lake, the absolute break from city sounds and distractions is healing balm for body, soul and mind. It is a privilege and a pleasure.

Regardless of age or culture, all humans find nature pleasing. Being in, or even viewing scenes of nature, is proven to reduce anger, fear, and stress – feelings that can elevate blood pressure, heart rate, and muscle tension and suppress our immune systems. Research from the Earl E. Bakken Center Spirituality & Healing, a part of the University of Minnesota, offers evidence about how our environments increase or reduce stress.

We are genetically programmed to find trees, plants, water, and other nature elements engrossing, increasing our pleasurable feelings. When we are absorbed by nature scenes, we become distracted from our pain and discomfort. Because humans find nature inherently interesting, time in nature also increases our ability to pay attention, providing a respite for our overactive minds, refreshing us for new tasks.

It is a scientific fact that being in nature contributes to a virtuous cycle of healing and restoration.

## What about access?

Sadly, research also confirms that underserved and communities of color are far less likely to engage in nature-based outdoor recreation activities, with historic discrimination being a large underlying factor.

Our local Twin Cities PBS station (TPT) in conjunction with parent company, PBS, has responded to this situation by launching a six-part primetime series, "America Outdoors With Baratunde Thurston," an outdoor enthusiast and New York Times bestselling author of "How to Be Black."

Thurston is the real deal –



## Now Selling in Apple Valley and Reserving in Corcoran!

Create lifelong friendships with your neighbors and enjoy all the benefits of **home ownership** with a **community-focused, low maintenance** lifestyle.

**Ready to learn more?** Call **952.884.6400** to reserve a spot at one of our monthly informational meetings.



**APPLEWOOD POINTE**  
COOPERATIVE COMMUNITIES

applewoodpointe.com



## ▶ 6 TO THE WOODS

witty, authentic and charming. His personality is infectious. The series follows him on adventure-filled journeys exploring a diverse array of natural regions across the U.S. It focuses on how those landscapes shape the way Americans work, play and interact with the outdoors. The segment on Minnesota's north woods will resonate with local audiences.

The show is for everyone, but there's little doubt that PBS and TPT are wisely responding to the problem of access to natural settings for certain populations. This inaccessibility is as much a central theme of the series as is the twinned message for intensified environmental stewardship.

In a similar vein, at the beginning of August the Minneapolis *Star Tribune* featured Laura Yuen's illuminating article about the 100-year history of Black families getting away to a certain Minnesota lake. Yuen's article reinforces the necessity for nature retreats for everyone. Black families, she writes, "went to the lake to get away from the city, find solace in nature, hear the call of the loon, sip cocktails and play cards, teach their kids how to anchor the boat, pick wild berries, walk the woods under the stars, and tell stories about the colossal fish they almost caught."

My friends and I could do these things without any roadblocks. Shouldn't



Simple pleasures of a homecooked meal and camaraderie contribute to the sense of north woods well-being. (Photo by Susan Schaefer)

everyone be able to access our wild and wonderful nature?

It is in our best interest as a society to do a better job providing equal access to our northern woods and lakes. A website

called Wilderness Inquiry features several options: [https://www.wildernessinquiry.org/about-wilderness-inquiry\\_old/partner-organizations/](https://www.wildernessinquiry.org/about-wilderness-inquiry_old/partner-organizations/)



**Something under the hood** is not immediately apparent or obvious. This column uncovers stories that span the neighborhoods covered by TMC Publications. Susan Schaefer is a widely published independent journalist, creative writer, and poet. Her articles appear in the Minneapolis *Star Tribune*, PBS' online magazine, *Next Avenue*, *Next Tribe*, and *Beyond*. She was columnist and features writer for Minneapolis' *Southwest Journal* and Minnesota *Good Age* magazine.

## Live brilliantly

Accepting  
Medicaid,  
MHCP, and  
Private Pay  
clients

**Providing PCA,  
Homemaking,  
Concierge RN,  
and Private  
Duty Home  
Health Aides**

**HIRING** excellent  
team members



**DIAMONDS**  
HOME HEALTH CARE INC

2740 Minnehaha Ave | Minneapolis  
612-724-4254 | [www.diamonds-pca.com](http://www.diamonds-pca.com)  
Serving the Twin Cities area

## Free Educational Pre-Planning Seminars

*Washburn-McReavy*

Funeral Chapels,  
Cemeteries, and  
Cremation Services

OCTOBER 11, 10 AM | New Brighton Chapel  
OCTOBER 11, 3:30 PM | Northeast Chapel  
OCTOBER 13, 10 AM | Robbinsdale Chapel  
OCTOBER 13, 3:30 PM | Dawn Valley Chapel  
OCTOBER 25, 10 AM | Nokomis Park Chapel  
OCTOBER 25, 3:30 PM | Edina Chapel  
OCTOBER 27, 10 AM | Columbia Heights Chapel  
OCTOBER 27, 3:30 PM | Glen Haven Chapel



## RSVP REQUIRED

Call 612.377.7841 or visit  
[washburn-mcreavy.com/seminars](http://washburn-mcreavy.com/seminars)

**PERSONABLE & EASY PRE-PLANNING**  
Local & Trusted Since 1857

INDEPENDENT SENIOR LIVING | ASSISTED LIVING | MEMORY CARE

# Find Your 'More' At Village Shores

## So Much More At Village Shores!

Village Shores gives you private and beautifully designed living accommodations in an active, vibrant senior community. Residents at Village Shores can choose the level of assistance or care they need at every stage of their life. Our facilities offer healthy dining, life-enriching activities, expertly-trained care teams and engaging programs for the best in 55 and up living. Join our vibrant community, where friends are made, meals are shared, and abundant activities abound.

**Voted the Best Senior Living Community!**

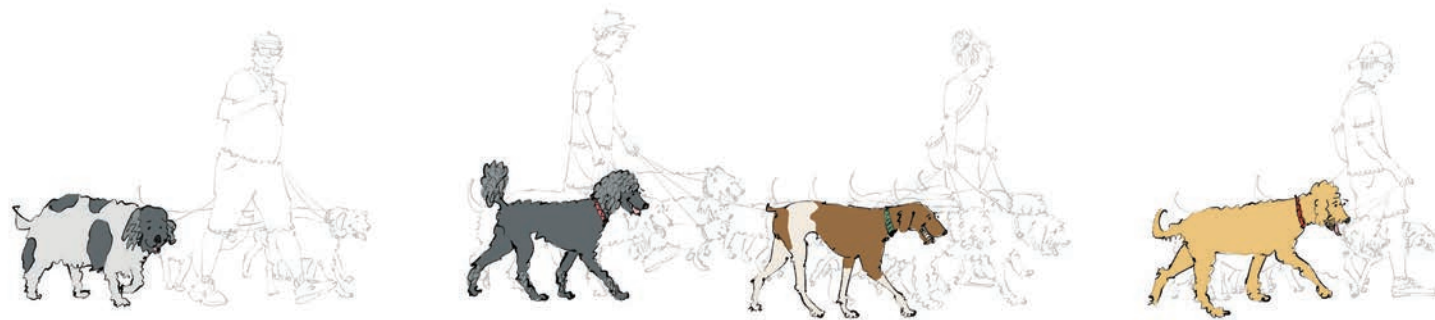
**Move in by October 31, 2022  
and receive your first month rent-free.**



**VILLAGE SHORES**  
A SILVERCREST COMMUNITY

6501 Woodlake Drive, Richfield | [www.villageshores.com](http://www.villageshores.com)  
Contact Judy at 612-746-4711 or [jkoznic@villageshores.com](mailto:jkoznic@villageshores.com)



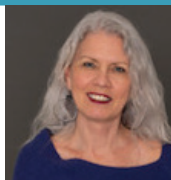


**D**og walking parade. How can you not smile when seeing this many dogs at one time? Anyone else want to jump in the middle of the pile and get a million dog kisses? (Illustration by WACSO)

## MOLTEN BEESWAX, PAINT AND COLLAGE BLUR LINE BETWEEN PAINTING AND SCULPTURE

### THE ART OF...

Jodi Reeb is a visual, fine artist from Minneapolis specializing in fine art abstract, collage, sculptural, contemporary, landscape, acrylic and encaustic paintings (<https://jodi-reeb.com>).



By **Suzie Marty**

The process of change in nature is a constant source of wonder and inspiration that Jodi mimics in her work through the combination of beeswax, acrylic paint and texture. This process of change and transformation is supported by integrating many different media such as collage, encaustic (molten beeswax), printmaking and acrylic paint on various sustainable substrates.

As a mixed-media artist, Jodi creates art on various substrates such as wood, canvas and paper. "Primarily working on commission, I enjoy collaborating with clients to create artwork that leads me to the next step in the progression of my process and development, while complementing an existing space," said Jodi. "The focus of my artwork has always been about the magnificence and beauty of nature and finding inspiration from nature's extraordinary colors and light. As I explore this idea, I have been intrigued with nature's ever-changing seasons and I often try to depict how nature relates to our own cycles of existence."

In her recent series of circular paintings and encaustic with photo collage paintings, she uses contrasting materials and substrates to create works that oscillate between painting and sculpture. She uses solid substrates made of wood and circular acrylic panels using encaustic (beeswax) and acrylic paint, as well



Suzie Marty (left) and Jodi Reeb hold up two of her mixed-media artworks at Everett & Charlie art gallery in Linden Hills. Reeb said, "The focus of my artwork has always been about the magnificence and beauty of nature, and finding inspiration from nature's extraordinary colors and light."

as metallic paints that transform or react when combined. Combinations are discovered, explored, proposed, rejected and accepted as part of the art-making process. Components are moved around in varying compositions. Some paintings are

created to be part of a series and some are partnered through discovery.

"Through this approach, I discover relationships between the elements creating rhythms, patterns and visual textures that are nature-based, as well as abstract.

Over time, contrasting or common elements form connections, which is what I am really hoping to explore through this interaction," said Jodi.

She applies changes in texture and color by painting diverse surfaces with unusual materials such as beeswax and metallic paints that patina when they interact and create something new. She begins with a layer of paint or a structure, and from that point on, it becomes about process – making marks and textures, applying materials, responding to each action with a reaction. In this way, spontaneous connections are valued as highly as are planned compositions. As each work evolves, it gains an identity that eventually solves itself through process, positive and negative space and dimension.

Jodi offers art study coaching and a variety of workshops at her studio. "I've been dubbed the 'Painting Doctor!' I support you to find your unique voice and further your artistic development no matter the medium," she explained.

Jodi received a BFA degree from the Minneapolis College of Art & Design, where she instructed printmaking for over nine years. Her studio is at Traffic Zone Center for Visual Art where she has been a co-op member for 15 years. She is an owner and partner at Kolman & Reeb Gallery in the Northrop King building in northeast Minneapolis (<https://kolman-reebgallery.com>). Her work is also shown at sold at Everett & Charlie gallery in Linden Hills.



**Suzie Marty** is an artist and curator at Everett & Charlie art gallery in Linden Hills. She is also an avid supporter of buying local, and a marketing specialist for the *Southwest Connector*. Contact her at [ads@swconnector.com](mailto:ads@swconnector.com).

### WE'RE SELLING ALL OVER SOUTHWEST!



4444 Lake Harriet Pkwy



5136 Harriet



5413 3rd Ave



3905 Blaisdell



**CALL US!**  
We know the market.

Locally Owned,  
Community Focused.



612-845-5273 | [DianeandLarry.com](mailto:DianeandLarry.com) | [larry@larrylavercombe.com](mailto:larry@larrylavercombe.com)



### NEWSPAPER ADS WORK.

**8** out of **10**

newspaper readers who read a **grocery ad** took action after seeing the ad.\*

#### THE TOP ACTIONS ARE >>>

- >>> Visit the store
- >>> Save the ad for future reference
- >>> Consider purchasing the advertised products

**Newspapers are your best investment.**  
We care about local.



### NEWSPAPER POWER.

Print, Digital & Social Solutions for our advertisers.



# WHAT DOES PUBLIC SAFETY MEAN TO YOU?

Foot traffic, resources, accountability would bring safety to 38th and Chicago Ave., local neighbors say

By **Jill Boogren**

A few dozen residents filed into an upstairs gymnasium at Sabathani Community Center (310 E. 38th St.) on Aug. 29 to talk about public safety – specifically as it relates to planned road reconstruction at 38th and Chicago. Seated three-to-five people to a table with markers and white paper at the ready, neighbors shared their experiences and ideas with each other.

They were asked to respond to three questions: what public safety means, how to achieve it, and how the design of the intersection can facilitate it.

For one group, public safety meant feeling comfortable in the space, a feeling of belonging, with no gunplay or harm to people. For another, public safety meant having freedom of movement, including the right to protest for social justice. Another defined it as the ability to walk through the neighborhood without fear of violence or crime and called for “public safety officers we can trust.”

Accountability of police officers and city leaders was deemed necessary for safety; longtime resident Brett Davis (who incidentally challenged Prince to a game of basketball in the very same building back



Neighbors discuss what public safety at 38th and Chicago means to them. Aug. 29 was the first of 12 “learning tables” to be held every fourth Monday at Sabathani Community Center. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

in the day) said he had been harassed three separate times by police. One resident reported that lack of service was “the flip side” to police brutality; police officers need to be doing what they’re supposed to be doing. Another expressed that “Neighborhood Watch is us looking out for each other.” And another said, “Justice brings safety.”

Resources need to be redeployed to level the playing field, said one group, and provided for people who need help with housing and addiction, said another. There was a call for mental and physical health care and conflict resolution resources.

Hennepin County Commissioner Angela Conley, speaking on behalf of her group, suggested investing in youth, ages 12-24, as a means to prevent future violence.

“If our babies are not okay, that means none of us in this room are gonna be okay,” she said.

One resident said they didn’t want traffic to slow to two miles per hour, while others called for little or no car traffic and a design like Milwaukee Ave. in the Seward neighborhood, which is open only to pedestrians and bicyclists, or Nicollet Mall, which is open to buses.

A number of residents spoke to the international significance of George Floyd Square, where many visitors make a stop during their stay in the Twin Cities. There was a desire for the preservation of sacred space and to respect the culture of what’s been created at the site. There were also calls to create a National Historic Landmark and a Black Wall Street.

Jay “The Gardener” Webb, a “builder and architect” of the roundabout surrounding the fist sculpture in the middle of the intersection, spoke to its significance: “No one can ever pass by it and be the same,” he said. “They come to mourn, and they take away the peace.”

There was a call to maintain services and provide public bathrooms, an assembly space, a garden, plaza and library, as well as deeply affordable housing. A couple of people suggested turning the former gas station, now known as The Peoples’ Way, into a more permanent gathering space.

Written on one piece of paper: “Designers should live in neighborhood.”

This was the first of 12 monthly “Learning Tables” to be held every fourth Monday at the same time and place, 6-8 p.m. at Sabathani, with dinner included (Afro Deli catered this evening’s conversation). The next session will be on Sept. 26. According to facilitator James Trice, of Public Policy Project, participants can expect a different topic each time.

“The world is watching what happens at 38th and Chicago,” said Trice, in closing out the meeting. “So, it’s up to you to create what you wanna see there.”

For more information and to sign up for updates, visit the project website at [minneapolis.mn.gov/government/projects/38th-chicago-ave/](https://minneapolis.mn.gov/government/projects/38th-chicago-ave/)

## 1 NURSES STRIKE

The strike affected 16 hospitals in the Minneapolis-St. Paul and Duluth area. The nurses union has been asking for a solution to short staffing and retention issues, and a wage increase of 27 to 30 percent over the next three years. While wages have been included in the negotiations, the primary concern of nurses on the picket line was staffing and patient care.

“We do not have appropriate staffing,” said Nellie Arsenyeva, a nurse striking outside of Fairview. “We are expected to work double shifts, and may have six to eight patients to care for at one time.”

Not all MNA nurses participated in the strike, and the positions left over during the strike were covered by qualified temporary nurses. Allina Health released a statement reassuring patients that care would go on as normal. No agreements had been reached between executives and the MNA as of press time. However, Alli-



MNA nurses walk the picket line for better staffing and appropriate patient care at Children’s Hospital Minnesota - Minneapolis. More photos at [swConnector.com](https://www.swconnector.com). (Photo by Chloe Peter)

na Health also announced that they are “looking forward to returning to the bargaining table,” and are scheduling a bargaining session this week with the MNA on a contract agreement.

Another nurse on the picket line at M Health Fairview Southdale Hospital, Donna Soriano, said, “[People make] it sound like the strike is all about money but it’s about patient safety, about not

being able to give our patients the care they deserve.”

Nurses on the picket line in front of Children’s Minneapolis played music including “We’re Not Going to Take It” by Twisted Sister. They chanted, “We give great care every day. We need support every day. We need retention every day. We need contracts every day.” Susan Gerome, a nurse outside of Children’s Minneapolis, has worked there her entire career – 37 years. Her husband and daughter were with her in support, and mentioned that they needed safer working conditions for her.

Trisha Ryshkus, a registered nurse at Children’s Minneapolis, said, “In order to protect our patients, we need safe staffing.”

Tracey Dittrich, a nurse who has spent 24 years in the emergency room at Children’s Minneapolis, was voted to be on the negotiating team representing the MNA nurses at Children’s Minneapolis. This job includes attending bargaining

meetings with executives at Allina Health, and advocating for better conditions for nurses at the hospital while negotiating current contracts.

While Allina Health has said they are “disappointed the union continues to demand unsustainable wage increases,” the MNA published information showing that executives are making \$21 to one compared to an average registered nurse. Similarly, M Health Fairview executives are making \$40 to one in their pay ratio. Dittrich also said that, in bargaining, executives have focused on the wage increases and have ignored staffing concerns.

In looking ahead, the MNA press release from Sept. 15, 2022, stated, “As the three-day strike concludes, nurses stand ready to resume negotiations to win fair contracts to protect patient care and the nursing profession at the bedside. Hospital executives with million-dollar salaries can afford to make the changes necessary to protect care and working conditions at the bedside.”

## 1 SCHATZLEIN

### RETIREMENT

On Aug. 28, Schatzlein Saddle Shop posted an announcement to their social media pages that said they would be closing the shop and retiring. They began liquidating the store immediately.

A portion of the post stated, “Schatzlein’s has been doing business on Lake Street for 115 years and now is the time for some of the family members to retire. It’s been an incredible ride. Ultimately, we would love to stay open, but at this time it is not possible. What’s carried us on so long are all of our valued and loyal customers who have shopped at Schatzlein’s for so long.”

Some of their customers have been coming in for years. Parents and grandparents brought them in and now they bring in their own children. Schatzlein West mentioned how fun it was to continue seeing them all and called them “like family.” On Sept. 6, 2022, there were customers in the shop who expressed the same feelings as Schatzlein West. One



Schatzlein announced their closing in late August. While not giving a direct closing date, Gary Schatzlein said that the building at 413 W. Lake St. is set to become a furniture store.

woman had brought in a saddle for repair and didn’t know where she would go for repairs in the future. Another couple stood at the front desk, talking about the times they had visited the store in the past.

### CHANGES IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN

Gary Schatzlein, who has worked at the saddle shop for more than 60 years, expressed how much has changed since he started working.

“I remember when I first started working and Levi’s jeans were just over \$4 a pair, and now they’re \$69.50,” Schatzlein said.

More than that has changed in the past 115 years including online shopping. G. Schatzlein said that they just can’t compete with companies selling their own



products online. While Schatzlein Saddle Shop does have its own online store, it has to pay more for products.

“That’s why we don’t sell Minnetonka Moccasin,” Schatzlein said. “Our prices are higher because we have to pay for shipping to our store, so customers will come in just to try on their size but buy them online at the Minnetonka Moccasin store.”

The supply chain and age are what Schatzlein attributes to being ready to retire. They aren’t hosting a “big sendoff” or retirement party, but rather, having customers come in, share their experiences, and participate in the liquidation sale. Schatzlein did not give a specific date of the store’s closing, but said that it would be soon as the saddle shop was emptied out.



## APARTMENTS RISE IN WEST MAKASKA

Abbott and Chowen avenues are expected to remain dead end streets well into 2023 to allow for work on the West Lake Station and the West Lake Quarter apartment buildings before being re-connected by a new 31st Street.

Although passenger service is not planned to begin on the light rail line until 2027, construction of the station platform and structure is moving along.

The 7-story, 98-unit apartment building at West Lake Quarter along Abbott Avenue, is now open for occupancy. Known as the Mezz, it takes its name from being a mezzanine between another 7-story building, now under construction and called the Gateway, and a planned 26-story Landmark tower. The Gateway will have 152 units and is expected to open in the spring of 2023. The start date for work on the tower remains uncertain, but when West Lake Quarter is completed it will also include a fourth apartment building adjacent to West Lake Station bringing the apartment count to 856 units (and 769 parking stalls), according to plans approved by the Minneapolis Planning Commission. The fourth building is intended to include apartments to enable the developer to meet its affordable housing requirement.

Construction activity is limited by the City to 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. For questions or complaints about light rail construction activity, you can call the 24-hour hotline at 612-373-3933.

### 3012 EXCELSIOR

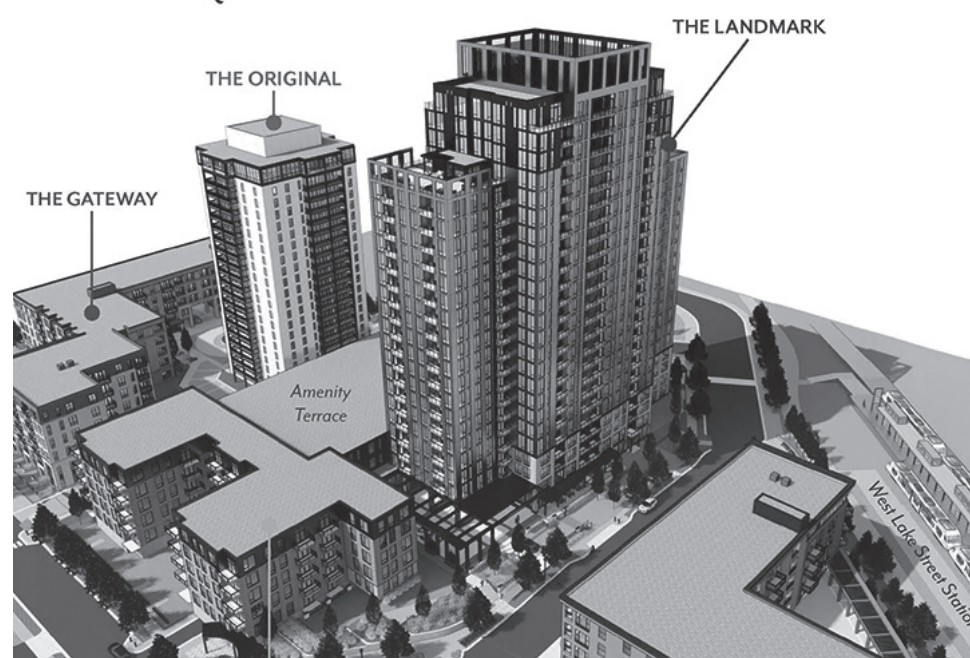
At the site of a former BP gas station on the triangular space at 3012 Excelsior, a nine-story apartment building is going up next to the fire station. Last week, there were road closures for a concrete pour.

In July 2019, the Minneapolis Planning Commission approved a 10-story hotel with 100 hotel rooms and 20 owner-occupied units, plus 11,000 square feet of commercial space.

Elevage Development Group amended that in June 2021, shifting to a 9-story apartment building with 74 units and about 3,000 square feet of commercial space where W. Lake St. and Excelsior meet.

The building will fill nearly all of the 31,047-square-foot site except the front tip. It was designed by ESG Architecture &

## WEST LAKE QUARTER



West Lake Quarter is putting multiple high-density structures near a light rail station.

Design of Minneapolis.

There will be one below ground parking lot, and two at-grade lots for a total of 104 spaces. Vehicles will enter via two curb cuts, one on W. Lake St. and the other on Excelsior. The gas station saw about 700 vehicle trips per day, while the new building is estimated to generate 476 total trips per day.

Upper levels have balconies. There will be a terrace on the ground level, and an expansive outdoor deck with a pool on the top floor with views of Bde Maka Ska. There will be a co-working space and a recreational workshop on the main level.

Other buildings in the vicinity include the 8-story Lakehaus apartments at 3100 West Lake Street, the 20-story Lake Point Condominiums, the 8- to 12-story Calhoun Beach Club mixed-use complex at 2900 Thomas Avenue, the 8-story/100-foot residential development at 2622 West Lake Street, the 5-story Loop Condos residential development at 3104 West Lake Street, the 6-story/70-foot mixed-use development at 3118 West Lake Street, and the 5-story Lake Calhoun Executive Center immediately to the south between the project site and Bde Maka Ska.

The site zoning is 'Transit 30' (Built Form District) which calls for building heights of 10-30 stories with 10 stories being the minimum height. The site is further guided by the city's Midtown Green-



A triangular apartment building is going up at 3012 Excelsior where a gas station used to be. It will open in 2023.

way Land Use Plan, which designates the site under future land use as commercial development with a preference for mixed-use commercial. Specifically, the Midtown Greenway small area plan specifically contemplates redevelopment of this area for medium- or high-density residential use as follows: "If there is a proposal to redevelop this property, the plan suggests that it include medium- or high-density housing along with new commercial space to correspond with the future transit-oriented nature of the area. This could be in the form of residential uses above ground floor commercial businesses in vertical mixed-use buildings." The small area plan also designates the site within a 'Transit-Oriented Development District,' which includes 'Type V Tall Apartments' that exceed 5 stories.

## NEIGHBORHOOD BRIEFS

### POLLINATOR PATHWAY EDUCATION KICK-OFF

Attend the Pollinator Pathway Education Kick-off on Sept. 29 from 6:30-8 p.m. University of Minnesota Extension Master Gardeners and volunteer landscaping experts will present information on how to plan, implement and maintain pollinator habitat for the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee (and its 450+ pollinator friends). The Lynndale, Kingfield, and Tangletown neighborhoods, with funding from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, are helping to rebuild pollinator habitat by creating a pathway of native plant gardens from Lake Street to Minnehaha Creek.

### VISION ZERO PROJECT

Nicollet Avenue from Lake to 46th Street has been designated as a Vision Zero 2022 Project. Each year, about 166 people die or suffer from severe injuries in traffic crashes on Minneapolis streets (average from 2016 to 2019).

### CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

The Caregiver Council is a monthly support group for parents and caregivers of youth affected by a parent's incarceration. The next gathering is on Saturday, Oct. 1 from 3-4:30 p.m. at the Blaisdell YMCA. Men and women are invited. Free childcare is provided. Caregivers who attend the October 1 Council will have the first opportunity to claim free tickets to the Minnesota Children's Museum.

### WALKER ART CENTER - FREE THURSDAYS

The Walker Art Center offers free gallery admission from 5 to 9 p.m. every Thursday night. Tickets can be claimed in advance online. Additional free programming is available through the website.

### WHITTIER ALLIANCE TO DEVELOP 2116 AVE.

The Whittier Alliance is pleased to launch a Request for Proposals for the development of 2116 Nicollet Ave, a vacant lot totaling just over 9,500 square feet just south of the Franklin & Nicollet intersection. As the last remaining vacant lot along Whittier's stretch of this important commercial corridor, Whittier Alliance is seeking proposals from creative real estate professionals who are inspired to implement development aligned with the community priorities. The submission deadline is 11:59 pm on Monday, Nov. 14, 2022. For more information, email [info@whittieralliance.org](mailto:info@whittieralliance.org).

## CITY BRIEFS

### EARLY VOTING

Early voting for the Nov General Election begins on Friday, Sept. 23. Any Minneapolis voter may choose to vote early at the Minneapolis Elections & Voter Services center at 980 E. Hennepin Ave. or at the elections service area in the Hennepin County Government Center, Skyway Level, 300 6th St. S. Except for designated holidays, the Minneapolis Center will be open Monday-Friday, Sept. 23 - Oct. 21 from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Monday-Friday, Oct. 24 - Nov. 4 from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 29 and Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 30 and Nov. 6 from 12-5 p.m. On Monday, Nov. 7 they will be open from 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. and on Election Day, Nov. 8, when all the precinct polling places will be open, they will be closed for voting but open for ballot drop-off open until 3 p.m. Visit the county elections website at <https://www.hennepin.us/residents/elections/absentee-voting> for details about hours, which are different from the city's. To see your sample ballot, visit <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/>.

### NEW CITY ATTORNEY

The City Council has unanimously

approved Mayor Jacob Frey's nomination of Kristyn Anderson for City Attorney. To take the position Anderson will be leaving her job as Minnesota Management and Budget's general counsel, enterprise employment law counsel and state ethics officer. Prior to that she worked at the Minnesota Attorney General's Office for 13 years in civil litigation. She starts officially as City Attorney on Sept. 26.

### GAS LINE WORK

This month CenterPoint Energy is installing natural gas piping to serve the new apartment building at 3050 Abbott Avenue S. To do so they will be working on Lake Street W. at Market Plaza, Market Plaza from Excelsior Boulevard to Lake Street, Excelsior Boulevard from Abbott Avenue S. to Market Plaza and on Abbott Avenue S. from Excelsior Boulevard to 31st Street W. During construction, there will be lane closures on these streets but with the access to local properties maintained.

### PARKING - NOT BIKE LANE - ON FRANCE

Hennepin County Commissioner Marion Greene shared that there will only be minor striping revisions along France Avenue to preserve on-street parking, add some painted medians and include left-turn lanes at key intersections. "Although on-road bike lanes were considered as an

option, width constraints would prevent a continuous bike facility along the corridor," she wrote. "In addition, current use and upcoming transit enhancements with Metro Transit's upcoming E Line Arterial Bus Rapid Transit project led to prioritizing accessibility and mobility for people walking and taking transit along the corridor."

### POLICE CHIEF FINALISTS

The city has announced three finalists for possible appointment to be the next chief of police for Minneapolis. They are Elvin Barren, the chief of police for Southfield, Mich.; RaShall Brackney, a former Chief of Police for Charlottesville, Va. and George Washington University; and Brian O'Hara, who is currently the deputy mayor of Newark, N.J. This is the result of a national search led by the Public Sector Search & Consulting Inc. that started last March. A special mayoral search committee also helped interview candidates and recommended the finalists to the mayor for consideration. The mayor is expected to make his nomination in the coming weeks and is not required to select one of the three. The mayor's nomination then requires the approval of the council. If it not approved, the mayor will need nominate someone else.

### LISTENING SESSIONS ON POLICE CONTRACT

The city held its final community listening session on the next three-year contract with the Minneapolis Police Federation on Wednesday, Sept. 14. The federation is the official labor organization represent all police officers including the rank of Lieutenant and below. The meeting was held at Whittier Park Recreation Center, and was the third meeting the city used to explain the negotiation process and gather ideas from participants related to the contract. Formal negotiations with the police federation are expected to begin this fall.

### LAKE NOKOMIS WATER STUDY

Professor Joe Magner, research scientist Kerry Holmberg and M.S. graduate student Grace Andriacchi, from the University of Minnesota, are researching water and sinking ground issues in the Hale, Page, Diamond Lake, Keewaydin, and Wenonah neighborhoods. As a part of their study, they are having conversations with residents and are asking all residents, whether they have had water issues or not, to complete an online survey.



**STUMP GRINDING**  
**612-724-6045**

**MINNESOTA MADE  
SOAP & CANDLES**

**Bg SC** **BEARDED  
GENTLEMEN  
SOAP  
CO**  
FINE QUALITY SINCE 2019

@BEARDEDGENTLEMENSOAPCO  
BEARDEDGENTLEMENSOAPCO.COM

**TREE TRIMMING,  
REMOVAL & STUMP  
GRINDING**



Matthew Molinaro  
FREE ESTIMATES  
**612.239.2508**  
MolinaroTree.com

lic&Insured | certified arborist MN-4551A

**Home Improvement**

Reach local folks who want  
to hire a local company.

Coming in October.  
Contact us today.

ads@swConnector.com | 612-255-1180

**WACSO** CANVAS PRINTS  
AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY  
THROUGH GALLERY 360.

3011 W 50th St. | 612-925-2400 | gallery360mpls.com

Beautifying the lakes area since 1970

**Greco** Linden Hills

Interior & Exterior Painting  
Wallcovering Installation  
Single Room to Entire Home  
Homes - Condos - Renovations - Additions  
**612-227-1844 grecopainting.com**

Call  
**612.802.7670**  
To Get Things  
Looking  
New Again.

- Deck repair & resurfacing
- Door & window trim repair, and more

**612handyman**  
612handyman@gmail.com

Treating your house like a home.

**Painting by Jerry Wind**

- Interior & Exterior Painting
- Plaster / Sheetrock Repair
- Wood Stripping & Refinishing
- Ceiling Texturing / Repair
- Wallpaper Stripping / Wall Repair / Skim Coating

FREE ESTIMATES  
**(612) 827-6140 or (651) 699-6140**  
**WWW.PAINTINGBYJERRYWIND.COM**

**STEVE'S PAINTING 651-207-2249**  
*Whole House Painting Specialists*  
Interior and Exterior - Repairs done also!  
Professional Preparation and Painting ♦ Ceilings ♦ Brush & Roller ♦ Windows  
Spraying ♦ Trim Work ♦ High Work ♦ Neat, Experienced Crews  
Steve Polta e-mail: [Stevepaintsm@gmail.com](mailto:Stevepaintsm@gmail.com)

"Adin and his team did a great job.  
The result was better than we anticipated." ~ Homeowner

Small, family-run business.  
20+ years experience.

**CB CONCRETE AND MASONRY LLC** **651-583-4713**  
CBCONCRETEANDMASONRY.COM  
ADIN\_BLY@YAHOO.COM

**HAYES WINDOW RESTORATION**

FREE ESTIMATES  
Keep your original windows!  
[hayeswindows.com](http://hayeswindows.com)  
612-259-7855

MN Lic. BC750502

SCAN ME

**SERVICES**

- Sash cord repair and tune-up
- Weatherstripping
- Restoration and refinishing
- Putty and glass repair

LEAD-SAFE  
SEPA  
CERTIFIED FIRM

**BUILDING THE FUTURE  
RESTORING THE PAST**

- Patching
- Window/Stucco repairs
- Stone: new & repair
- New stucco
- Re-Stucco
- Sandblasting

Aaron Cole Lance Smith

**SMITH COLE**  
STUCCO & STONE

612.709.4980 **SMITHCOLE.COM**

Fabulous customer reviews!

**HIRING: CARRIERS FOR WALKING ROUTES**



**Get exercise.  
Work flexible hours.**

Save up for that trip.  
Support democracy.

**Say hi  
to your neighbors.**

ROUTES OPEN IN:

- Kenny
- Lynnhurst
- Bryn Mawr
- Kenwood
- East Isles
- Lowry Hill
- Lowry Hill East
- Linden Hills

Email [Delivery@SWconnector.com](mailto:Delivery@SWconnector.com) or call/text 612-235-7197.

**Get a job delivering newspapers and earn \$11-15/hr**



Family  
Owned  
for Over  
60 Years

Insured | References



*Free Estimates*

**greg@chileen.com** **612-850-0325**

Interior & Exterior Painting  
Insurance Claims • Patching  
Wood Finishing • Carpentry  
• Exterior Wood Restoration  
Water Damage Repair • Enameling



# WOOFSTOCK: THE BEST DOGGONE DOG FEST IN MINNESOTA

## TEAMING UP FOR GOOD

It was sunny and 70 degrees for the 17th Annual Linden Hills Woofstock on Sept. 10, and the pooches were not to be disappointed.

Nor were the fans of The Disappointments, the latest teenage rock group coming from the Linden Hills House of Music.

And if you like good food and good beer, Utepils Brewery was there, along with Rosalia Pizza.

In fact, everything you'd want from a Fantastic Fido Fest was out in force last Saturday in the Village. Dog scarfs, dog pajamas, dog treats, dog rescue organizations, and lots of dogs and dog lovers.

My wife, Diane, and I have been putting on this festival for the last three years, and I have to say, it is more pleasure than work when you have so many people teaming up for good.

And it is a lot of work... Permits for street closures, permits for alcohol, cops for street closures, cops for alcohol, chairs and tables and toilets and garbage cans, permissions from the neighborhood stores and restaurants and bakeries, contributions from the stores and restaurants and bakeries, insurance for beer, insurance for closures, insurance for insurance...!

Plus – someone needs to organize everything!

Here are a couple of my “secrets” for how we threw such a good party this year.

1) We hired an amazing event producer, and then we let him do all the work.

2) We reached out to a couple really generous operations: Linden Hills Den-



By Larry LaVercombe



The fashion show is a highlight of Woofstock. (Photo by Chloe Peter)

See photo gallery online at [www.swConnector.com](http://www.swConnector.com)

tistry and TreHus Builders. When companies like those two step up and make significant financial contributions... Well, let's just say it takes away the pain and makes you want to do it again.

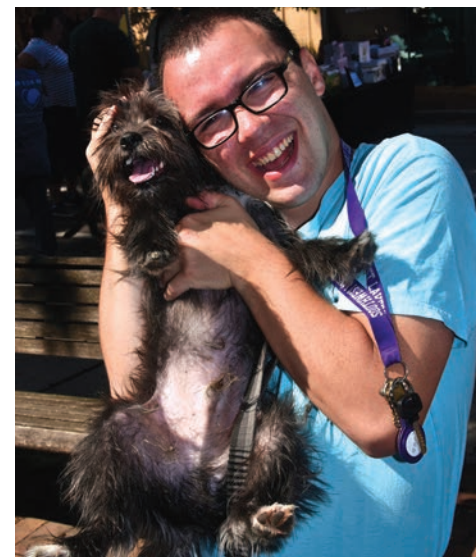
And then – beyond money and skills – it takes a village to put on a village sized event like this. It takes people to do good in the world, and there are a lot of good people in the dog world.

We hosted 14 non-profits at Woofstock this year, including: North Star Therapy Animals, CES Ani-Meals (meals-on-wheels for pets), two humane societies, and seven individual organizations serving individual breeds, such as basset hounds, boston terriers, bulldogs, do-

bermans, German shepherds and greyhounds.

The Linden Hills Village stores and restaurants also stepped up, too. (In fact, it's honestly not always a great day for actual sales in the business district, because everybody has their dog! But that doesn't stop them from contributing and supporting the event.)

The Harriet Brasserie gives free scones to all the vendors. Coffee & Tea Ltd brews free coffee for all the vendors. And Jones Coffee provided the final set of music – capping the series of bands that started with railroad-and-hobo songs from “Cannonball” Paul, continued with The Team Larry House Band, and fol-



Michael McCormick and a pup. (Photo by August Schwerdfeger)

lowed by the sensational teenage Disappointments.

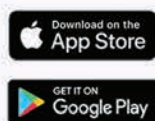
And let us not forget the Annual Woofstock Dog Fashion Show, sponsored by Co-Pilot Outfitters.

Finally, thanks to all our enthusiastic volunteers. We are blessed to have a great community here, with so many people willing to give their time and energy. A special thanks to Co-Pilot and Heartfelt for providing our volunteers with giftbag goodies.

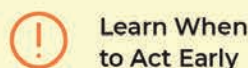
Linden Hills Woofstock happens every year – always the first Saturday after Labor Day. That means next year is September 9. Put it on your calendar and don't miss it!

**Larry LaVercombe** is a writer, filmmaker, and activist, born in Detroit and arrived in Minneapolis in 1975. He lived in a treehouse in San Diego before getting an MFA from the USC Film School. He writes most days, and as Team Larry he has been selling residential real estate in Minneapolis for 26 years.

## Help your child grow and thrive



Download CDC's free  
**Milestone Tracker** app



Learn more at [cdc.gov/MilestoneTracker](http://cdc.gov/MilestoneTracker)



## Gardening Angel Garden Design

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD LANDSCAPER!

Design • Install • Maintain  
Residential & Commercial

Margi MacMurdo 612.206.7089 [gardeningangel612@gmail.com](mailto:gardeningangel612@gmail.com)

