

Longfellow/Nokomis

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AUGUST 2009

Your Neighborhood Newspaper For Over Twenty Years

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Nokomis Library closes for work

Hamoudi Sabri: Minneapolis developer a lightning rod for Lake St.

From his office on the top floor of the Oddfellow's Building, at 27th Avenue and Lake Street, developer Hamoudi Sabri can see a sampling of the many Lake Street properties that he's purchased and redeveloped over the last few years. (Photo by Liberty Willms)

By JAN WILLMS

Mention the name Hamoudi Sabri on Lake Street and you might get two very different opinions of the man. To some, he is a progressive developer who has cleaned up a lot of tough corners on the street, improving buildings and providing space for new immigrants to open their businesses. To others, he is an aggressive operator who tries to evade city license requirements and sometimes leaves his tenants facing insurmountable problems with the

The truth might be a combination of the two opposing descriptions. But one thing is certain: When Sabri works on a new development, drama is sure to fol-

Sabri's latest project has been a Somali mall on the corner of Cedar and Lake, a building that has been freshly renovated and houses a grocery, restaurant, coffee shop, clothing stores, a hair salon and cell phone store among other businesses. But what has drawn the attention of the city has been a part of that building, at 3015 Cedar, that has been used for community meetings, weddings and for a memorial service honoring a Somali dignitary.

Sabri does not hold a rental hall license for this space. He was issued a citation for violating a city ordinance that prohibits the operation of a meeting hall without a license, and fined \$250.

According to Sabri, the City's moratorium on meeting halls prohibits him from obtaining a license so he donates the use of the room for political and religious events without charge. Women of Middle East for Peace, an organization founded by Sabri and his daughter to promote peaceful solutions to the region's problems, held the memorial service in January of this year.

This is a classic Catch-22 situation," Sabri said. "The City says

that you can't have a meeting

room without a license, but you

can't apply for a license because

rooms for City officials at my

property in the past without any

problems. Why do I suddenly re-

ceive a citation when my guests

are Somali immigrants?" asked

Sabri. He added that he feels his

Constitutional right to freedom

of association has been violated.

"I have donated meeting

of the moratorium."

A hearing on the matter was held April 28. The City indicated that Sabri did not possess a rental hall license and that he received \$300 in rent from a group of Somali-American immigrants for the use of the hall. Sabri denies that he received any payment. Police who came to the memorial said participants were calm and orderly and were not asked to leave. They said the reason for the citation was for the health and safety of the citizens of Min-

tablished to determine the possible impacts of such spaces on neighborhood livability. According to Eric Gustafson, assistant director of the Corcoran Neighborhood Organization, the space at 3015 Cedar has held a number of events without proper

City statute states that mora-

toriums on meeting halls are es-

the City Attorney.

'My understanding is that the City Licensing Department has penalized the owner (Sabri) for these events," he said. "It's too bad for the folks trying to have the events. Can you imagine organizing a wedding for your child, for example, and in the middle of it the City comes along and says it is not authorized. I would get mad at the landlord."

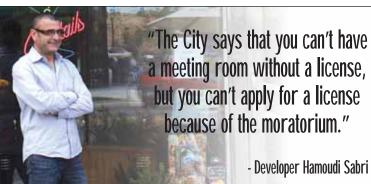
Gustafson said Corcoran Neighborhood Association does not have a lot of concerns right now about the use of the building, but residents in the neighborhood have been expressing concerns about the continual use of the banquet hall space.

There have been noise issues, cars parked along the whole north side of Cedar and parking in the alley," he said. "Parking was an issue at the complex long before it opened." He did say that a parking lot being built along the side of the building will alleviate some of the parking issues.

neapolis in general and the participants of the memorial service in particular.

On June 22 Hamoudi and Women of Middle East for Peace filed a federal lawsuit in US District Court, District of Minnesota, to strike the meeting hall moratorium ordinance on Constitutional grounds. Sabri is also challenging the entire administrative hearing because the administrative law judge is appointed and hired by

Continued on page 7



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Youth group transforms neighborhood trouble spot into work of art

By IRIC NATHANSON

With the backing of a grass roots community partnership, Longfellow area middle schoolers spent the last two weeks in June transforming a neighborhood trouble spot into a colorful work of art.

The area young people designed and installed a mural on the east side of a building at 35th and Minnehaha that has been a major graffiti target.

The property's owner, Doug Thompson, told the Messenger's Jan Willms in July that he was forced to contend with graffiti for years on his building. "I am tired of going out there and painting over it," he said.

But now, Thompson is hopeful that the new mural will help resolve his on-going struggle with property defacement. "This is a win for everyone," Thompson said. It helps us solve a serious problem here at 35th Street, it gives the kids a worthwhile project that they can do during summer vacation, and it adds a real amenity to the neighborhood."

The 35th Street mural is the third such project that Longfellow Community Council has sponsored over the past two years, with support from the city's graffiti abatement program.

"Last year, we did two murals, one on 33rd and Minnehaha and another on 39th, said Joanna Solotaroff, a community organizer with LCC. "The second year of the program will help us assesses the effectiveness of this technique for graffiti prevention. So far, we have gotten good reports from the murals that we did in 2008. At one site, no tagging at all was reported, and at the second site, we received only two reports, which is way down from the previous year. We put a clear coat of acrylic over the façade of the building, which makes the graffiti much easier to remove if it does get tagged.'

This year, Solotaroff and LCC connected with a Sanford Middle School summer program known as Everyday Leaders. "The program gives middle school kids an oppor-

tunity to do community service during the summer months," explained Vicki Jones, the Sanford teacher who oversees the project. "This summer, we wanted to do something different so the mural gave us a chance to expand the scope of our program."

Everyday Leader's art teacher, Faith Farrell, worked with the student group to come up with a design that would discourage tagging. Students drew a variety of shapes that they wanted to incorporate in the mural. They picked the shapes they liked best and then they made stencils from those shapes that they used to apply the mural on the east side of the 35th Street building.

"Other murals in the neighborhood are more representational, they incorporate designs that are easily recognized, but this one is more abstract—almost like music in a visual form," explained Farrell. "When we looked around the neighborhood, we saw a lot of earth tones, so we decided to use those colors in the mural. Doug liked our reddish brown so much that he is planning to paint the back of his building the same color."

"The design really came from the kids," Farrell added. "I helped guide them but it was really their creation."

"Faith helped us understand that we needed a lot of individual sections with no white space in between to keep people from writing all over the wall with their spray guns," said Addie Welch, one of the members of the Everyday Lead-

The mainly abstract design has a rising sun motif at its center with a poem written by group member Ryan Kane with help from other Everyday Leaders. "The sun coming up in is the theme of the poem, but it is very early in the morning so the stars are still out," Ryan said.

"We all enjoyed working on the mural," Ryan said. "It was a lot of fun and we hope it will help eliminate graffiti. I hope I can do this again next summer."









Area young people designed and installed a mural on the east side of a building at 35th and Minnehaha that has been a major graffiti target. (Photos by Andrew Fossbinder)

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Parkway path to be rebuilt this summer

By IRIC NATHANSON

Sections of the West River Parkway bike and walking path will be closed this summer while the Minneapolis Park Board rebuilds the popular pathway that runs along the top of the Mississippi River bluffs.

While some repairs have been made over the year, the path has not had a major upgrade since it was initially installed in the 1970s.

The 3.5 mile recreation route will be rebuilt in two phases, starting with the south segment between Lake Street and Godfrey Road. When that segment is completed, the Park Board will move on to the north phase between Franklin Avenue and Lake Street.

Initially, the Board had planned to repave the pathway in concrete in order to minimize maintenance costs, but community concerns prompted the Board to opt for a more natural look using asphalt.

The new pathway will resemble the current one, according to Nick Eoloff, a Park Board coordinator, who is overseeing the project. "The separation between the walking and biking lanes will be maintained wherever possible, and the path will be widened from eight to ten feet in some

place," Eoloff said. "We'll have to take down eight trees to make room for the reconstruction but we will plant 20 new ones for a net gain of twelve." he added.

The Park Board project coordinator estimated that the full project will take about three months to complete. "We will open the south segment when it is finished, but it is difficult to predict an exact reopening date. That will depend in large part on construction conditions over the next few months," Eoloff said.

As bicycle commuting has gained popularity in recent years, commuters who bike along the West River Parkway occasionally clash with motorists who use the same narrow roadway. Eoloff said that the intent of the pathway reconstruction project was not to encourage more experienced bikers to move from the roadway on to the path. "We are just trying to improve the path and make it available to all bikers regardless of their ability level," he said.

Dave Sheppard is an avid biker who lives two blocks from the Parkway. Sheppard says he would prefer to bike on the path but he will use the roadway when the path is crowded on weekends. "Right now the bike path is filled



Sections of the West River Parkway bike and walking path will be closed this summer while the Minneapolis Park Board rebuilds the popular pathway that runs along the top of the Mississippi River bluffs. (Photo by Andrew Fossbinder)

with cracks and bumps that are dangerous for people with narrow tires. I am very pleased that the path is going to be rebuilt, even if means that I won't be able to use it for a few months.

Tom Burke concurs. "We are lucky that we have an excellent

bike trail system here in Minneapolis, but the parkway trail is too congested with walkers, runners and bikers, and now we have those four wheel surreys from Minnehaha Park that add to the congestion on weekends. That's why I bike on the road."

The \$1.8 million trail reconstruction project is funded by a variety of public agencies including the Minneapolis Park Board, the U.S. Department of Transportation, Hennepin County and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

15th Annual Latino Family Resource Fair held Aug. 8

The 15th Annual Latino Family Resource Fair will be held on Saturday, August 8, 2009 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Midtown Farmer's Market at the intersection of East Lake Street and 22nd Avenue South. La Oportunidad and Metropolitan Health Plan in collaboration the Midtown Farmers' Market are pleased to once again host this fun and informative event for Latino families living in the Minneapolis community and the greater metropolitan area. In a familyfriendly environment, approximately 2,000 community members will gather to receive information about education, health care resources, social services, and more.

La Feria will feature a wide range of useful information targeting families in search of community resources. Fairgoers can expect to find free health screenings, information about healthy lifestyles and health insurance, information about higher education, as well as legal and social service resources.

Family entertainment, music, clowns and children's activities will contribute to community members enjoying a fun and information-filled Saturday.

The event will be FREE and Open to the Public.

To find out more about the Latino Family Resource Fair, please contact: Haley Buenzli or AdriánAndrés La Oportunidad, Inc. Metropolitan Health Plan (612) 872-6165 (612) 596-0721





Minnehaha Falls is one of my favorite places anywhere. It's the last place I stop when leaving Minneapolis and the first place I stop when I return. I love hearing the roar of the water as I approach and then getting close enough to feel the mist scattered by the falling water. When friends come to town, I always take them to see this natural wonder.

But this summer I haven't been able to actually show people the Falls. There isn't any water going over the Falls and almost none in Minnehaha Creek above or below the Falls. Instead I am reduced to telling them what the Falls

I was thinking about this one recent Sunday afternoon while showing Leah Arnold, a friend from South Dakota, around Minnehaha Park. We visited the Stevens House first and I told the story about its origin. I also mentioned that when I was teaching high school students were intrigued by the fact all schools were closed for a day so young people could help move the house to the

Then we looked at the spot where a number of Shakespeare troupes have performed over the years. "Actors come out with bug spray before each performance," I

Then Leah spotted the partially hidden statue of Little Crow, the Dakota leader who struggled to find peace between Native Americans and the European settlers during the middle third of the 19th century. "His life mirrored a tragic period in Minnesota history," I said.

We walked down the many stairs to the bridge over Minnehaha Creek. There was no water. Below us people were walking in the creek. "It really is spectacular," I said. "Oh, and it freezes over in the water which is spectacular,



Can't we turn on the Falls?

too. I'll send you a picture."

We walked up the stairs on the other side and stood near the utility pole where lights illuminate the Falls at night. "I love to walk down here after dark," I said. I pointed out spots where couples like to have their wedding pictures taken. I told stories about the history of the park, including the zoo and the Longfellow House which was once the branch library. I mentioned composer Antonin Dvorak writing music on his cuff because he didn't have paper when he visited.

We stopped at the statue of Hiawatha and Minnehaha and I told the story about of children collecting pennies to help raise funds for it. I noted that once I'd written a column in which it appeared that Minnehaha carried Hiawatha across the creek and not the other way around. I quoted daughter Shannon saying: "She could have done that, you know. She was a pretty strong

But I am afraid this wasn't enough. All of the stories in the world can't make up for the fact that the main event — the Falls — was missing.

I have an idea, though. Remember the story about President Lyndon Johnson's visit in 1964. There wasn't much to the Falls that summer either. So local public officials arranged for water from fire hydrants to be pumped into the creek when the president stopped in Minnehaha Park. Presto, the Falls were running for a few hours.

So why can't we do something like that in other dry summers like this one. We don't have to have to Falls running every day. But why not have the Falls running for certain hours on weekends, and maybe a couple of weeknights. Then Leah Arnold, and all of our other visitors, would get a chance to see what we're talking about.

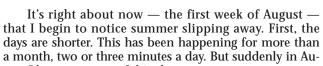












gust I become aware of this change. The Aquatennial is now over for another year and the State Fair lies just a few weeks ahead. And most summers, the Twins have now settled into the place where they will spend the rest of the season.

Perhaps you have noticed these changes, too.

Still, there is plenty of time left to enjoy the summer. It's in August that I most enjoy walking on the paths along the Mississippi River. I usually enter from a spot near 41st St. And I love walking around Lake Nokomis early in the day. And this year, I'm going to get out the ice cream maker a lot more August evenings.











volunteers working with the Park

Board. Volunteers from Nokomis

East and the Twin Cities chapter

of the Wild Ones have tended

and cared for the gardens under

the guidance of Park Board staff

ever since. Their work is the rea-

son we are able to bring you this

first annual Monarch Festival.

(Tom Gilsenan has been writing for community newspapers for over 30 years. His column has appeared in the Messenger since 1997. You can write to him at tomgilsenan@gmail.com. On Twitter: @tomgilsenan. For more columns and some other writings, see the Coffee and Community Weblog at http://coffeeandcommunity.blogpost. com. You can also write to him in care of the Messenger.)

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 4, is National Night Out. We hope that many of you will be attending a block party, getting to know your neighbors, welcoming newcomers, sharing your thoughts and stories, and generally having a good time.

Although the period for closing your street has passed, you can still have a successful event. Many

groups meet in someone's garage, a park or in backyards. The point is to get to know your neighbors better, and know what's going on in your neighborhood.

Research has shown that neighbors who know each other care more about their neighborhoods and do a better job of watching out and reporting crime and suspicious behavior to police. That makes for a safer neighborhood, not to mention a friendlier place to live.

If you haven't heard about a party on your block, perhaps you and a neighbor could organize one. It doesn't have to be big. And you can find a lot of "how to" information and ideas for a block party on the City's website (www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/nno). You can also call the NENA office (724-5652) and we'll print copies of the information. We'll also copy handouts and other materials for block club leaders, free of charge.

Monarch Festival - Sept 12

Plans for Minneapolis' first-ever Monarch Festival are well underway, with performers being booked, activities planned, and the kids "Butterfly Fun Run" and the 5K "Run for the Monarchs" taking shape. The Monarch Festival is being organized by NENA and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board in collaboration with Danza Mexica Cuauhtemoc and Community Celebration of

Celebrate the start of the monarchs' 2300 mile migration from Minnesota to the foggy mountains of central Mexico with music, dance, storytelling and more. There'll be good food, a native plant sale, prairie garden tours and art-making activities – monarch mandalas, milkweed seed mudballs and more. Help conservationists and researchers learn more about the monarchs' migratory path by tagging and releasing butterflies.

NENA (Nokomis East Neighborhood Association)

By Rita Ulrich and Doug Walter, NENA Staff

Have a Party!

The kids Fun Run will start at 8:45 a.m., and the 5k Run will start at 9 a.m. near the Nokomis Naturescape. Music, dance, and storytelling will run from 9:30 – 3:00. The line up includes Larry Long performing with Fiddling Pete Watercott and Joe Savage; Danza Mexica Cuauhtemoc celebrating the Monarchs' winter destination with Aztec dance and music; the story telling of Mitch Walking Elk, Tonia Hughes, Martial Besombes, and Kip Peltoniemi. It's an eclectic line up, and you'll hear peddle steel, piano, accordion, and much more by day's end. The final lineup, schedule, and more information are on the festival's website: http://www.monarchfesti-

The Nokomis Naturescape Gardens are located on Lake Nokomis near the intersection of 50th Street and Lake Nokomis Parkway. A variety of native wildflowers and grasses are featured in the gardens which have been certified as a Monarch Waystation by the conservation and research organization Monarch Watch. Monarch Waystations contain annual and perennial plants that provide habitat and food sources that are essential to the survival of monarch butterflies.

The Naturescape was created 10 years ago by NENA

http://www.monarchfestival.org **Upcoming NENA** Meetings and Events

National Night Out: Evening, Tuesday, August 4, your

Phase II Steering Committee: 7 PM, Tuesday, August 18, at NENA.

Planning & Development: 7 PM, Wednesday, August 19, at NENA.

NENA Board: 7 PM, Thursday, August 27, at NENA.

Monarch Festival: 9 AM - 3 PM, Saturday, September 12, Nokomis Community Center.

Last-minute schedule changes are posted on our Calendar page at www.nokomiseast.org or you can call (612)

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

Longfellow Business Association gears up for Longfellow Directory

Longfellow Business Association staff is collecting information for the 2010 Business Directory to be published late this year. If your business has not been contacted for updated business information please contact Ruth at the Business Association office at 612-722-4529 ext. 1. If you would like information about advertising in the Directory contact Denis Woulfe at 651-917-4183.

Keep in mind that the Directory, a joint project be-

tween the Longfellow Nokomis Messenger and the Longfellow Business Association, is only published once every two years, which means that you want to make sure that your business' contact information is current and up to date. You also want to make sure that you don't miss this special advertising opportunity for a Directory that is a constant reference tool for businesses and residents alike in Longfellow.

Traditional real estate market remains strong in Longfellow and Nokomis

By IRIC NATHANSON

While distressed sales continue to pull down average home sales prices throughout the Twin Cities, the traditional real estate market for non-distressed properties remains strong in Longfellow and Nokomis according to statistics provided by the Minneapolis Board of Realtors.

Realtors use the term "lender mediated" for distressed sales where the property has been repossessed by a financial institution for non-payment of a mortgage or where the institution allows a homeowner to sell his or her property for less than the outstanding balance on the mortgage in order to head off a foreclosure.

In the Longfellow district, which includes Seward, total home sales increased by 13% during the first six months of 2009 over the same period in 2008, but the average sales price, which included lender mediated as well as traditional sales, declined by 11.8%. In the Nokomis district, which extends west to I 35W, total homes sales dipped by 2% be-

from \$210,000 to \$202,000. Nokomis saw 477 traditional sales during this same period, with the median price dipping by less than 4% from to \$229,900 to \$221,500.

In both communities, traditional home sellers, on average, received about 95% of their original asking price. In Longfellow, traditional homes remained on the market for less than three months before selling, while similar homes stayed on the market for just over three months in Nokomis. In both communities, the traditional home inventory declined sharply between 2009 and 2008, indicating that the real estate market in these areas was returning to a more even balance between supply and demand.

Ben Trudeau, a realtor with Edina Realty, said that this summer has been a very active time for homes sales in Longfellow and Nokomis – particularly to first-time home buyers.

"The \$8000 government tax rebate has substantially boosted the number of first time buyers," Trudeau said. "But there has not



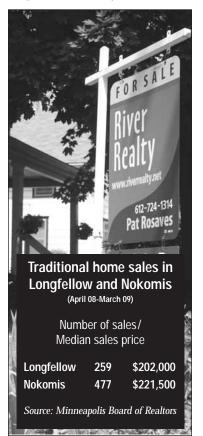
While distressed sales continue to pull down average home sales prices throughout the Twin Cities, the traditional real estate market for non-distressed properties remains strong in Longfellow and Nokomis according to statistics provided by the Minneapolis Board of Realtors. (Photo by Andrew Fossbinder)

"Buyers in this market are very savvy."

- Ben Trudeau, Edina Realty

tween the 2009 and 2008, while the average sales price declined by 13.5%

For traditional sales in both communities, prices declined only slightly during the 12 month period from April 2008 through March 2009 as compared to the previous 12 months. In Longfellow, a total of 259 traditional home sales occurred during the 08-09 time period, and the median price declined by less than 4%,



been a corresponding increase in the number of interested sellers. With prices still down from the last couple of years, there is a limited number of homeowners whose homes are in selling condition, have equity in their homes, and are priced in the first-time buyer price range. This has encouraged multiple offers and, in some case, sales prices above the asking price.

"On the other hand, buyers are leery of paying too much or buying a home that could be hard to resell later," Trudeau noted. "Many sellers of nice-enough homes priced around \$200,000 might be wondering where their multiple offers are. And if you're priced above \$220,000, first-time buyers may have to tighten their budgets too far to consider your home."

The Edina realtor said that almost all first-time buyers are using federally-guarantied FHA financing, which has strict property condition standards. "Homes that don't meet FHA standards face a significantly smaller pool of potential buyers," he explained.

"Buyers in this market are very savvy," Trudeau added. "If they think a home is worth \$200,000 after seeing 50 homes on the market, they are only going to pay \$200,000 even if the appraisal comes in a higher number. But a home in good condition that is priced right for this market will sell here. That's the good news for sellers."

Real Estate Advice

Welcome to the Fair Market

Dear Pat,

We're starting to look at houses in Longfellow but we're surprised that the ones we like are selling so fast. What happened to the "buyer's market" that we've been hearing about? From here it looks like we

— Missed the Boat

Dear Boat Missers,

Although some would argue that a "buyer's market" is defined by lower prices than we've seen in the past, I'd have to say your boat has indeed sailed if you're expecting to find a huge inventory of nice houses waiting for you. The inventory in Longfellow never did swell to any level a TV news watcher might have expected over the past two years (the period known to Realtors as the "Dark Ages"). Certainly the seller's market of 1998-2005 is long gone and we're not likely to see a return of double-digit appreciation anytime in the foreseeable future, nor are sellers able to market just any house, in any condition, and expect a quick But it's not really a buyer's market, either: buyers are finding better prices than they did three years ago, but they often find themselves in the surprising position of having to compete for the relatively small inventory of nice houses in good condition.

Many buyers have given up trying to buy lender-mediated properties because they don't have the time or patience to wait for the bank to decide to accept their offer on a short sale (it can take weeks or even months), or compete with cash offers (often five or more at a time) on bank-owned foreclosures.

If it's not a seller's market or a buyer's market, then what is it? At least as it regards the traditional homeowner sale, let's say we're in a "fair market" these days: it's liquid (not locked up by high interest rates or unaffordable prices or too-stringent lending practices), it's evenly matched (buyers and sellers in about the same numbers) and it's brisk, with sales increasing monthly over last year. Government incentives have contributed strongly to the current activity, with an \$8000 first-time homebuyer tax credit and the \$1500 energy tax credit available to all homeowners (including new buyers) who make energy-saving improvements, and interest rates kept at nearhistoric lows. It's a great time to sell, while buyers search more urgently for a bigger supply of nice houses. Yet it's a good time to buy, while prices remain well off the 2005 highs, allowing buyers to take the plunge with-



Pat Rosaves

out taking a chance, and with government incentives to help make it all possible.

So don't wait for the next boat, Missers. Today's traditional market, with many houses already priced very well, offers the best opportunity for you to locate that gem. Since neither buyer nor seller has the upper hand, negotiation is now a two-way street—so you can expect to bargain, but don't push it if you're afraid to lose the house. Now, take the plunge. Good luck!

Pat Rosaves is broker/owner of River Realty. She has over 30 years experience helping people with their real estate needs. Questions may be sent to her at River Realty, 2543 38th Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN 55406. She can also be reached at 612-724-1314, or at www.riverrealty.net



Longfellow Art Crawl savors artistic delights of neighborhood's most talented artists

By ANITA WHITE

Our Longfellow neighborhood is named for a poet. A famous waterfall and creek run to the south of our neighborhood. The lyrical and creative gifts flow richly through our neighborhood as well. Soon the residents of the Longfellow neighborhood will be able to see those gifts in an upcoming Art Crawl Saturday, August 29 and Sunday, August 30 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The League of Longfellow Artists (LOLA) will be hosting the event that will allow the public to do a self-guided tour of the neighborhood. Artists will have their studios and work spaces open for the public to see their artwork. This self guided tour will give many artists a chance to share their artwork directly with an admiring public. This is the first Inaugural LOLA art crawl and it promises to be a fun, family-friendly event.

The impetus for the Art Crawl came from a casual conversation between Bob Schmitt and Anita White. Simultaneously, Shirley Neilson was approaching the Longfellow Community Council with her proposal to create a local Art Crawl.

White's small notice in the Longfellow/Nokomis Messenger several months ago brought a great response from artists and people willing to help out in every way. Longfellow's artistic talent base is quite deep.

Neilson creates Native American style beadwork and an eclectic mix of other creative projects. Neilson's reaction to the first artist meeting was that "When the artists gathered, I was so humbled by their work. This is the best kept secret of the Twin



Artist Jean Shannon has been fascinated by Hiroshigi prints since she was 5 years old.

Cities!"

Minnehaha Creek runs near Bob Schmitt's house and is a catalyst for his creative work in Chinese Brush Painting. Schmitt is an accomplished artist and images of Minnehaha Falls fill his home. He teaches classes from his home and also has a graphic design business. Schmitt designed the Logo for the Long fellow Art Crawl. (www.laughingwatersstudio.com)

Schmitt says: "This neighborhood has many hidden treasures. It's time to let people see how many artists are living in the neighborhoods around the Falls."

As one wanders the streets of the Longfellow neighborhood there are rich treasures to be found in the creative activities of the artists who live and work here. Just off of Lake Street, down from Merlin's Pub is the green awning that provides an entrance to an art gallery run by Ed and Marge Bohlander. They have had this space since 1997. Their gallery is a large airy space for the shows that Marge and Ed host here. Their cat Rudy presides over the premises.

In July there was an evocative show of encaustic paintings by a South American artist Silvana LaCreta Ravena. Ed's lovely cast silver and gold jewelry fill two cases. Marge will be showing her work in August during the Art Crawl. Marge's work is rich in contrasts. Animals and pictographs are featured in deep rich colors in many of her paintings. Her abstract paintings are vigorous and expressive as well. The support of art and artists is evident in their gallery. As Marge explains:" We are artists and we try to support other artists. We try to help other artists because it is not easy being an artist.'

Animals and birds figure in the work of another Longfellow artist Gordon Coons. Black crows swoop in a symmetrical hand pulled print. Bright colors are wonderfully balanced in this evocative piece. When one has the opportunity to look at Coons' work one can feel his "landscape of my inner voice."

Coons is a prolific artist who has shown widely. His heritage is Ojibwe from Lake Superior Chippewa Band of Wisconsin (from his father) and Ottawa from Michigan (from his mother) He is a self taught artist creating in a variety of mediums including linoleum block prints, paintings, pen and ink, carvings in stone and wood. Each piece portrays a unique view of traditional native

stories, incorporating strong family influences into the image. He has won numerous recognition awards in graphics/prints categories and his work is in several permanent collections of institutions such as Minneapolis American Indian Business Development Corporation, Red Cloud Indian School Heritage in Pine Ridge and other places.

Artistic gardens blossom all around our Longfellow neighborhood. This is evident when one enters the pottery filled porch of printer Jean Shannon and potter Lee Love. These are two artists who have both had in depth experience with Japanese woodblock print and Traditional Japanese pottery. They have lived in Japan for over nine years and their work reflects a wonderful aesthetic gleaned from their studies so far away from the

Midwest. Love's inner musings from a Facebook essay reveal how he came to become a potter when his zen teacher Katagiri Roshi had died. Lee was able to develop his craft after starting his studies at the University of Minnesota. He studied in a rigorous manner in Japan and received several grants to aide his work and is also a McKnight grant recipient.

Shannon has been fascinated with Hiroshigi prints since she was 5. She studied lithography but was not able to study woodblock printing until she came to the tiny village of Mashiko in Japan. She says, "I prefer printmaking to painting because it is full of more surprises!" Her beautiful colorful prints have a lively whimsical quality.

Continued on page 8



This painting is by Kat Corrigan and is titled "Shatzie."

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Sabri

Continued from page 1

Gustafson said the owner of a building has a number of potential uses for a space, such as restaurants and coffee shops and stores, and the number of off-street parking spaces required is determined based on square footage.

"There have been bait and switch concerns over Hamoudi's development," Gustafson said. "A lot of residents on Cedar and Lake feel this is what is happening." He said there are concerns that Sabri may make a proposal for a complex with a grocery, restaurant or coffee shop. He is told he needs 150 parking spaces or he needs to reduce the intensity of use.

"He comes back with a different configuration with less of a parking requirement, and he gets approved. Then he goes back to what he originally proposed," Gustafson said.

He said that when Sabri needed to rezone to build a parking lot south of his building, he had to petition neighbors.

"He and his associate knocked on doors, and I was disappointed by some of the tactics allegedly used," he said. "Residents described it as harassment, aggression and intimidation. He hasn't been a good neighbor in the eyes of those who live on the

"Maybe that's just the way he does business, but why doesn't he try a friendly approach?"

He said the application for 24-7 conditional use of the banquet hall met with concerns from the neighbors.

"A banquet hall, great. Standard hours, great. More parking, great. But open 24-7? After the noise and congestion, that just wasn't going to fly," he said.

For Osman Ali, the owner of the Bright Moon Coffee Shop and Bright Moon Restaurant at the mall, the main thing is that he was finally able to open. The restaurant and coffee shop, painted in warm colors and offering Somalian food, is now drawing both Americans and Somalis.

But Ali's path to entrepreneurship was not easy. He had worked two jobs for years, saving his money for a business of his own, and was ready to open a catering service. He was shut down in November because the building did not have enough parking spaces. In May he bought the kitchen and

"I started the licensing and zoning from scratch. I remodeled the whole place," Ali said. "I hired cooks. I tried to open in June, and everything was good with the zoning and health department. But there was a list of things Hamoudi had to do in the building. I went to the planning department and told them my situation.

'It went back and forth, and finally they said Hamoudi did what was needed. I opened the place July 4," Ali continued. "I don't know the problem exactly, but the City was helping me and at the same time putting me on hold. But then everything was processed in a day."

Some say that Sabri's battles with the city over licensure are shared by others on Lake Street. His decision to fight some of the policies, be cited and pay fines in

order to move on with his developments at a faster pace, is seen by some as a way of getting things

Sabri, who said he has been in development since arriving in the United States from Palestine at the age of 16, has his supporters as well as detractors.

Joyce Wisdom, executive director of Lake Street Council, said some of his tenants have been with him for years, with multiple

'We try to encourage tenants and landlords to negotiate for a win-win situation. We get complaints whether it is Hamoudi or the Neighborhood Development Center," Wisdom said.

"For the most part, Hamoudi has done all his developing with no public funding," Wisdom said. "Look at the Coliseum, with hundreds of thousands in public funds, and it's now in foreclo-

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She said he makes great improvements on the sites he does develop.

"He has a different way of dealing with people," admitted Wisdom. "It may be a cultural thing. He is pretty gruff, and he is almost never politically correct. We live in a society that is, and that makes it difficult."

She said she admired the way he had fixed up 27th and Lake, and said he puts sweat equity into his projects.

"I have seen him working, early and late, dirty and sweaty. Most developers on Lake Street write checks; they don't like to get dirty," Wisdom said.

Sabri himself credits his success in the developments he has reaching from Park and Lake to 40th Avenue with his hard work.

"The only way I could do this is by being there working 24-7," he

He vows to continue to fight City Hall. He said he could pay the \$250 fine, rather than the thousands the lawsuit will cost him, but he believes he is in the

"I am not paying a bond when I know I can use my place as a meeting Hall," Sabri said. "They wanted me to pay \$250, and that would have been cheaper than the cost of an attorney and lawsuit expenses. I will pay thousands to exercise my rights.'

Although there are those who will argue whether Sabri is exercising his rights or trying to skirt license regulations, no one can argue that Sabri hasn't left his mark on Lake Street.



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We are again hosting a resource fair for all neighborhood businesses and organizations to advertise for your cause and/or services for a small donation. If you or your organization are interested in having a table at the event this year please contact Joanna at Joanna@longfellow.org or call 612-

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Nokomis Library to close in mid-September as preparations begin for renovation project

The renovation of Hennepin County Library - Nokomis will soon be underway! The library, 5100 34TH Ave. S., Minneapolis, is scheduled to close at the end of the business day (6 p.m.) on Saturday, Sept. 12, with renovations to begin the end of October. Expected completion and reopening closed, customers are encouraged to visit any of the nearby Hennepin County libraries, including East Lake (2727 E. Lake St., Minneapolis), Roosevelt (4026 28th Ave. S., Minneapolis), Southdale (7001 York Ave. S., Edina), and Washburn (5244 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis).

"This is a once-in-a-generation renewal of our neighborhood library."

- Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin

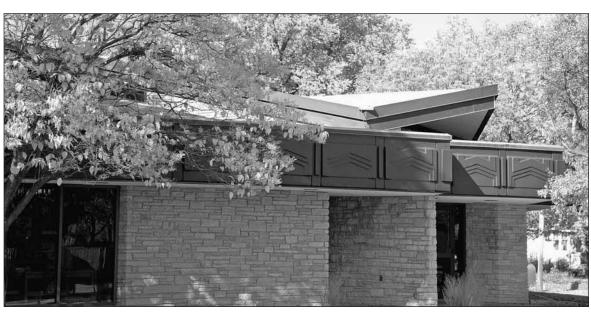
date of the renovated library is

"This is a once-in-ageneration renewal of our neighborhood library," said Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin, 4th District. "When construction is completed, we will all be able to use a new, upto-date, environmentally-sensitive facility that will be a refuge and a resource for kids and seniors and everybody in between.

While the Nokomis Library is

In planning for the renovated library, the Nokomis Library Advisory Team, which consists of members of the community, provided essential feedback on what the community wants in a library.

More than 4,300 square feet will be added to the library's main level. There will be a multipurpose space on the main level for storytimes, library programs, community meetings, and other needs. Customers will see a refreshed collection and will have



The Nokomis Library, 5100 34TH Ave. S., Minneapolis, is scheduled to close at the end of the business day (6 p.m.) on Saturday, Sept. 12, with renovations to begin the end of October. Expected completion and reopening date of the renovated library is fall 2010.

access to more public computers in the renovated library.

Energy conservation and sustainable features will be at the forefront of this green design development. Sustainable features will include maximizing daylight with window design, building a geothermal well for heating and cooling the library, and creating a rainwater garden with native plantings.

Also integral to the design are walking and biking paths and bike racks to give neighbors easy access to the library.

An open house to kick off the renovation is planned sometime this fall — details will be available later this summer.

The Nokomis Library was built in 1968 to serve the Nokomis East neighborhoods of Minneapolis. It currently is 13,326 square feet on two levels. Architect for the renovation project is KKE Architects, Inc.

If you have questions about the Nokomis Library construction project, contact Capital Projects Manager Lois Lenroot-Ernt at 952-847-8628 llenroot@hclib.org





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Nokomis East Neighborhood Association 612-724-5652 www.nokomiseast.org

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board 612-230-6400 www.minneapolisparks.org

Art Crawl

Continued from page 6

There will be something for everyone to see in the Longfellow neighborhood at the Art Crawl. Found Art Sculpture by Al Wadzinski, Tiny Acrylic Paintings by Ed Wronski, Handpainted and collaged pendants by Christy Binoniemi, Sunflower Paintings by Wallace White, Vehicular Car Satire by Joshuwa Bialik, Mandalas by Vera Kovacovic and much more.

Maps for the LOLA ART CRAWL will be available by mid-August. They will be at various community locations. Maps can also be found and printed out from the LOLA Art Crawl web site: www.lolaartcrawl.com Also, look for the LOLA information table at the Longfellow Corn Feed on Thursday, August 6.

(Editor's note: Anita White is a local artist and art teacher. She will be participating in the LOLA art crawl with a self-guided art tour of her garden featuring the paintings she has done of flowers through the seasons.)



Marge Bohlander

Lake Street's new look touted by old, new 'avenues'



Lake Street has been transformed. Not only the obvious cosmetic transformation that came with the retrofit of the street, including the new streetlights, new sidewalk, public art, and larger green areas, but also with aggressive promoting of itself through the Lake Street Council.

By RYAN NORTH

Lake Street has been transformed. Not only the obvious cosmetic transformation that came with the retrofit of the street, including the new streetlights, new sidewalk, public art, and larger green areas, but also with aggressive promoting of itself through the Lake Street Council.

With the Lake Street Council as the driver, by utilizing standard media, and the internet, Lake Street has found new and creative ways to get the message out that despite the down economy businesses along the corridor have plenty of variety to offer.

"With the road construction in 2005 we were worried about losing businesses. Then the bills for the construction came due, and the economy turned in 2008, and we began losing more [businesses] than we brought in the previous decade," explained Joyce Wisdom, executive director of the Lake Street Council.

The Lake Street Council, funded by members, including Hennepin County, Metro transit, and the McKnight Foundation, is run by volunteer businesses owners working together to solve problems and promote the corridor. This year the council launched a major campaign to bring customers to Lake Street businesses.

For starters, the council purchased a year long, six station radio campaign to lure residents throughout the Twin Cities, including six remote broadcasts through the year, from promoting the Uptown Art Fair, to the celebration of the Mercado Central's 10 year anniversary on July 25th.

In addition to radio, promoting businesses on local tele-

vision shows has brought attention to shops on Lake Street such as local personalities on WCCO having lunch at Glaciers Café.

Using print, the council has created banners to be hung along the Midtown Greenway just north of Lake Street, and has distributed the ever reliable promotional brochure, "We've created a brochure covering all of Lake Street. It is available at the convention center, the Sheraton Hotel, the Ivy hotel, the public library, and the government center," said Wisdom.

The council has also turned to the internet to get the message out. Using the promotional tagline "Visit Lake Street," originally created by local artists Wing Young Huie and Ricardo Levins Morales, both of whom have created separate art projects focused on Lake Street. The council purchased advertisement space on electronic billboards at the baggage claim in the airport utilizing Morales' art. Since the campaign began, hits to the site www.visitlakestreet.com, have grown substantially. In addition, Google searches for "Visit Lake Street" have grown suggesting that the advertisements are working.

In addition to the website, the council has taken full advantage of resources available online. A video, entitled "A driving tour of Lake Street – West Lake", was posted on YouTube consisting of simply a video camera and a car, and narration. "It was low budget, but it was great fun," said Wisdom.

They have also taken advantage of the social networking sites with a "Visit Lake Street" page on Facebook currently with over one thousand fans and growing, and ongoing conversations on Twitter.

It doesn't stop there, with photos on Flickr, and a weekly enews available to subscribers via email or online at www.lakestreetcouncil.org.

While the retrofit of Lake Street has not been the business savior that some may have hoped with the turnover of a variety of businesses, and the constant challenge of attracting customers to shopping within the inner city, it has contributed to the present feel of the ever changing face of the street, and in the long run may prove to have been the catalyst for converting Lake Street from a spotty shopping opportunity to a full corridor destination.

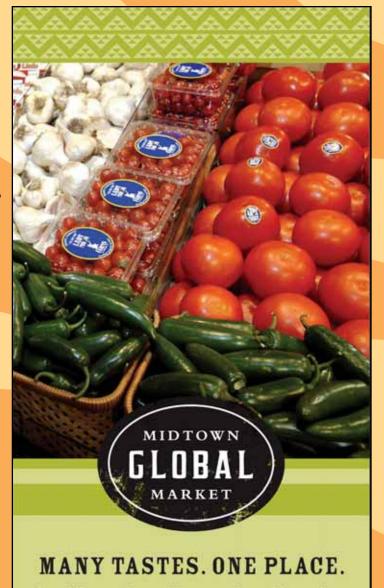
"One of the positives of the road construction is that it enabled us to build synergy. Before, businesses thought of themselves as pretty separate. This four year project has brought them together," said Wisdom.

In addition to the pressures that the construction has brought, the length of Lake Street is the border to many neighborhoods, yet none can claim ownership, leaving Lake Street on its own to define itself. "There are thirteen different neighborhoods that run along the corridor. Longfellow is the only neighborhood that Lake Street is 'in'. So we never assume we have full support of our communities, we are always trying to reach out to them."

The retrofit and conversion to a full length destination may be complete, but the tight competition for customers remains a constant, and the ongoing effort to remind city goers, suburbanites and tourists of what Lake Street has to offer continues. And the Lake Street Council will lead the charge.



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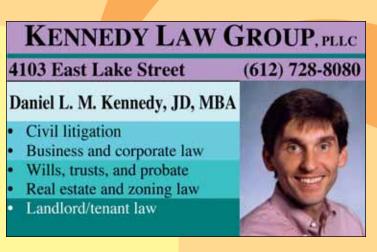
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Page 11





The school district has partnered with Wilderness Inquiry and the National Park System in providing the opportunity for the students to canoe the Mississippi and learn about its natural resources. (Photos by Liberty Willms)

By JAN WILLMS

Although heavy showers poured down early on the morning of July 21, by 9:30 am the rain had stopped and some rays of sunshine poked through the clouds.

Good luck with the weather had again prevailed for the Minneapolis Public School (MPS) students who are canoeing the Mississippi River as part of a summer school program.

"We've been so lucky with the weather," said Daren Johnson, who is on the MPS District staff, working with the extended year program for summer school.

The students making the trip on the 21st were from Dowling Elementary's summer school program. Folwell Middle School and Minneapolis public high school students have also been a part of the program.

The school district has partnered with Wilderness Inquiry and the National Park System in providing the opportunity for the students to canoe the Mississippi and learn about its natural resources. Folwell Middle School is aligned with the Urban Water Canoe Area

Initiative, in which community partners strive to provide 10,000 students with this opportunity.

The canoe trip for the Dowling students began at East River Flats, with the groups paddling to the dam, through the locks and finishing at Hidden Falls.

"The goal is to get 10,000 kids out on the water in national parks," Johnson said. "Instead of No Child Left Behind, it's No Child Left Inside."

He said the Wilderness Inquiry has covered a lot of the cost.

"It's a very hands-on experience," he said. The program started this year on July 7 and will run through July 30.

"We have 10 people per canoe," Johnson said. "There are two staff members and eight students."

Besides staff from the Wilderness Inquiry, National Park System and MPS District, Johnson said there have been countless volunteers

"If it rains, we'll have to see if they show up," he chuckled.

For Amanda Terwey, who will be in sixth grade at Longfellow next

year, this was her first canoe trip.

When asked what she was most impressed with on the trip, she replied "My paddling."

The youngsters are given a brief lesson on how to paddle a canoe before they go out on the water, learning how to keep the paddle flat when it is out of the water. Terwey thought she performed very well for her first canoe experience.

Terwey said she was most impacted by the variety of birds she saw, and all the litter. She kept a journal of the trip.

"There were lots of different birds," she said. "We played a game in my canoe, trying to find a bird that matched every letter of the alphabet. We did, too."

Although Alexis Kretz, 11, who will be a sixth grader at Sanford next year, had previously been in a canoe, she said she learned new things from this trip.

"If you litter too much, it runs down the drain into the Mississippi River," she said. "I also learned about the lock, and that the river is 38 feet deep."

Kretz said she really enjoyed

the paddling. "I like to drive in a car, and so I like to paddle in a canoe, too," she said. "I liked the way it felt."

She recalled seeing hawks, eagles, blackbirds and crows.

"We stopped by some woods for lunch," Kretz added. "It was a pretty area."

Johnson said that while several high school students participating had been on canoes before, for many of the middle school and elementary students it was their first time

"A couple were tearful when they started the trip, but by the end they felt like expert canoeists," he said.

According to the school district, some students are mapping their own neighborhoods in relation to the Mississippi River on community maps provided by the National Parks Service. Students will use their observations and notes on the trip to complete a final project identifying an environmental problem and developing a campaign to promote a solution to the problem.

"They have been seeing

wildlife, learning about the history of the river, a little about who first lived here and who is still here," Johnson said.

He said that while some students kept journals, others took photos. All did garbage cleanup.

"Each group goes out once, about 9:30 a.m. and stays out for a good four hours," he said. "The water is down, so they have to paddle pretty hard."

He said the students are given life jackets to wear, and make sure they are zipped and clicked as needed.

"Three groups are doing overnights at Ft. Snelling," Johnson said, "two high schools and a K-8 school. High school students get credit recovery for doing different work with this project."

He said all the students have been kept safe. A few have gotten wet and muddy shoes and socks.

"This whole project would not be possible without the support from families, staff, the school board and administration," Johnson noted. "We're attempting to try to close the achievement gap by going outside of the box."





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Ash borer summer may spread to Minneapolis

By JANE MCCLURE 2009 will be remembered throughout Minneapolis and St. Paul as the summer of the emerald ash borer. Discovery of the pests in St. Paul this spring has city and state officials scrambling to track and monitor the insects' spread. The discovery of diseased trees in St. Paul marked the first infestation found in Minnesota.

Many trees in both cities are sporting purple cardboard traps. The traps began going up in early June. Crews from both cities and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture began hanging the traps in ash trees in several neighborhoods.

The Department of Agriculture is working with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the cities to track and monitor the pests. According to the DNR, the traps are sticky and smell like a diseased ash tree. The insects are attracted by the smell and by the color purple, which they also like. The traps will be removed in the fall. Trees with traps hung have information posted on each tree. Residents are asked to not disturb the traps or take down the posted information.

Discovery of the ash borers in St. Paul's Hampden Park neighborhood in May has sparked a surge of activity to slow the disease and track the insects. Hampden Park is in St. Anthony Park neighborhood. It is near Highway 280 and the border with Minneapolis.

The emerald ash borer is an



Many trees in both cities are sporting purple cardboard traps. The traps began going up in early June. Crews from both cities and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture began hanging the traps in ash trees in several neighborhoods. (Photo by Andrew Fossbinder)

invasive pest that attacks ash trees and could cause serious damage to Minneapolis' urban forest. It has already killed more than 40 million ash trees nation-

wide, primarily in southeast Michigan. Minnesota has the potential to lose 867 million trees, because it has one of the nation's highest volumes of forestland ash on public property.

According to the Minneapolis Park Board, the borers' impact to the total urban forest canopy would be significant because 21 percent of all trees in the city, both public and private, are ash. This is more than 200,000 trees.

On public property, Minneapolis would lose approximately 38,000 ash trees growing on boulevards. The cost of removal, stump grinding and replanting of these trees would exceed \$26 million. This does not include the tens of thousands of ash trees growing in parks and natural areas such as along the Mississippi River corridor.

Minneapolis city officials are urging everyone to do what they can to slow the spread of emerald ash borers. The insects largely travel by people moving ash logs, ash firewood or infested ash trees from nurseries. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture has issued a state quarantine on firewood, ash trees, and ash tree products in Hennepin and Ramsey counties. The measure is designed to slow the spread of the borers. The quarantine prohibits the movement of the following items out of Ramsey and Hennepin counties:

Firewood from hardwood (nonconiferous) species

Entire ash trees

Ash limbs and branches

Ash logs or untreated ash lumber with bark attached, and

Un-composted ash chips and

un-composted ash bark chips larger than two inches in diameter.

Take steps to keep this pest from spreading:

Don't transport firewood, even within Minnesota. Don't bring firewood along on a camping trip. Buy or harvest your wood near the area where you are going to burn the wood. If you are buying firewood, ask where it came from. Avoid moving firewood from its area of origination; don't bring extra wood home with you. In Minneapolis, firewood dealers are required to be licensed by the City, so ask firewood peddlers for their City license.

Don't buy or move firewood from outside your area. If someone comes to your door selling firewood, ask them about the source of the wood.

Watch for signs of infestation in your ash trees. The earlier that it is found, the sooner it can be addressed. Emerald ash borer kills trees over a period of one to four years.

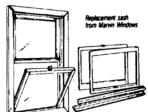
Residents should also examine ash trees in their neighborhood for tree canopy thinning or small "D" shaped exit holes left in the bark.

Emerald ash borers are an invasive pest from Asia. They began appearing in the United States in 2002, with the first pests found in Michigan. The St. Paul infestation was the first found in Minnesota.

Continued on page 17









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In Our Community

Longfellow Garden Club August Meeting

Longfellow Garden Club meets Wednesday, August 12, 7-9 p.m. at Epworth United Methodist Church (3207 37th Ave. S.).

Invasive Plants 101: Weed invasion tactics and strategies used to combat them. You'll learn about the 'most wanted' invasives, how weeds disguise themselves as desirable species and new invaders to look for.

Our speaker Simba Blood is Natural Resources Technician with the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District, assisting with restoration projects, non-native species management and aquatic plant surveys.

Club meetings are free and open to the public.

Hospice & end of life issues

Join Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors and Minneapolis Community Education for a presentation on Hospice and end of life issues on Tuesday, August 18 at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St., Minneapolis. Bring your questions. Presenter is Judy Green, R. N., parish nurse and former hospice nurse. Free and open to the public.

Caregiver Support Group on Tues., August 11

Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors' monthly caregiver support group meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month, and has recently relocated to Becketwood (senior housing cooperative) at 4300 W. River Road in Minneapolis. If you are caring for a loved one and want to share with other caregivers, come join us. This month's meeting is August 11 at 10:30 a.m. at Becketwood. Contact Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors at 612-729-5799 for more information.

Night Out/Health Fair at Minnehaha Communion

National Night Out and Health Fair at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church 4101 37th Ave. So. August 4 from 6-8 p.m. Come for food, fun, prizes, lots of health informational tips, and conversations with the neighbors! For more information call 612-722-9527.

Minnehaha Communion holds meal August 12

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran, 4101 37th Ave. So. will

LBA sponsors Market Day Saturday, August 29

Longfellow Business Association sponsors Market Day at Midtown Farmers Market, Saturday, August 29 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. LBA members who would like promotional information displayed at the LBA booth can drop materials at the LCC/LBA office or better yet! Come to the Market and get some veggies!

The Midtown Farmers Market is located at 22nd and E. Lake Street across from the YWCA. FFI Ruth 722-4529 x1.



Longfellow Business Association sponsors Market Day at Midtown Farmers Market, Saturday, August 29 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

be having a Community Meal on August 12 at 5:30 p.m. This is a free meal. Come and get acquainted with all your neighbors. For more information call 612-722-9527.

as

One of the pieces of art on the Art Crawl, created by artist Jean Shannon.

Longfellow Community (LOLA) Art Crawl

The Longfellow Community Art Crawl (LOLA) will be held Saturday and Sunday, August 29th, and 30th, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Maps with participant artist listings available Mid-August on Website: www.lolaartcrawl.com or at various community locations.

American Girl Book Club meets August 8

Come along with the American Girl book club for a fun summer camp activity with Molly! We'll be making s'mores, doing a fun camp craft, and reading stories! August 8th from 11 a.m -12 p.m. @ Nokomis Community Library 5100 34th Ave. S. Questions? Call 612-630-6700.

Christ Church offers Preschool this fall

A great experience awaits your child at Christ Church Preschool this fall. Offering classes for ages three to pre-kindergarten, your child will thrive in our safe and exciting environment—-holding baby chicks, building an igloo from milk jugs, gardening, playing in our full-size gym. Experienced staff and state licensed since 1972. Visit Christ Church Lutheran at 3244-34th Avenue South. Contact the church at 612-721-6611 or mail@christchurchluth.org.

The 18th Annual Powderhorn Art Fair Blossoms Again

Powderhorn Art Fair, 3400 15th Av. S., is a unique collaboration between the Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. The art fair profits are used to pay for programs at Powderhorn Park, such as a new teen center, a pottery kiln, a photography lab and a sound recording studio.

Set in this pastoral, 66 acre city park, one hundred eighty Main Exhibitors of varied disciplines and styles from across the country circle around the treelined, picturesque Powderhorn Lake. Other exhibitors include a Community Showcase and Group Exhibitors from the Powderhorn area.

Powderhorn Art Fair is also

part of Minneapolis Arts Weekend. Powderhorn Art Fair, the Metris Uptown Art Fair and Loring Park Art Fair all exhibit simultaneously and will be connected with the Target Art Hop, a free bus service, for art lovers to enjoy a variety of artists, locations and cultures that nourish Minneapolis neighborhoods.

In addition Powderhorn Art Fair has acoustic music, good food and fun children's activities all weekend. This is truly a multi-cultural and family friendly event.

See the Blind Play Baseball at the Powderhorn Art Fair

Invented in the early 70's, beep ball or baseball for the blind, has amazed spectators for years. Dependent totally on hearing, the players rely on beeping "kitten" balls and buzzing bases. The game provides exercise, recreation and comraderie for its players, and the St. Paul Midway Lions are proud to have a team that has played in town for the past six years.

The Powderhorn Art Fair on Saturday, Aug. 8th, will be your chance to see the game played and talk to players, coaches and other fans. The game will be on the North Field just a few steps away from the Art Fair, and will start at 1 p.m.

You can learn more about beep ball at www.nbba.org. If you have questions, please email DennisStern@comcast.net

Hiawatha School Sale set September 19

Please join us for our annual garage sale Saturday, September 19, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. No prices on the items - just give us a fair price (per item or bags) and it's yours! The fundraiser is for the the 5th grade class. All the proceeds from this sale will go directly to their camp Audubon field trip. Look for information on our school sign located in front of the school. Donations accepted September 14-17. No computers, monitors or TVs, please.

Summer Day Camp held at Bethany Lutheran Church

Bethany Lutheran Church, 3901 36th Avenue South, will be sponsoring "Summer Day Camp in the City" August 3-6, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Day Camp is "bringing a little of camp into your own backyard." It provides a diverse experience for a congregation and community. The Luther Park Camp, staff brings to the week leadership, knowledge of activities, enthusiasm and a variety of methods of hands-on learning. The result is a high sensitive, high quality time of creative expression

and Christian fellowship for all. Join us for four days to learn, do arts and crafts, listen to Bible stories, sing, play games and eat lunch and snacks.

Trained counselors from Luther Bible Camp, Danbury, Wisconsin, will be leading the week. The cost is \$20 per week, which includes material, crafts, snacks and lunches (scholarships available). On Thursday, August 6th, 7 p.m. a program and free ice cream social will be held. Please call 612-729-9376 for a registration form and information.

Annual Lake Hiawatha Festival held August 5

The 14th annual Lake Hiawatha Neighborhood Festival will be held on Wednesday, August 5, 2009 5-8:30 p.m. at Lake Hiawatha Park, located at 2701 E. 44th St. in Minneapolis. The festival is free to attend but most activities require a specific number of tickets. Each ticket is 25 cents.

Because the wading pool has been closed we will be bringing in an inflatable water game. So kids remember to bring your swimming suits.

Other activities include pony rides for kids up to 10 years old from 6-8 p.m. New this year will be the health fair. Come and check out the health booths and perhaps receive a mini-massage. Go see the caricaturist and have your picture drawn from 6-8 p.m. We also have the return of canoe rides on the lake for free. As always we have kids' games, hair painting, face painting, 5-in-1 inflatable game and the pre-schooler sandcastle building. Remember to preregister for the talent contest and the family fitness challenge. The family fitness winners will each receive a trophy and there is a cash prize for the top three talent content winners.

Food will be sold by vendors which include an ice cream vendor, walleye vendor, pizza vendor and one vendor who will serve a variety of different foods. For more information contact lhfest@yahoo.com or call Lake Hiawatha Park at (612) 370-4930. More information can also be found at http://www.lhrc.freeservers.com/festival.htm

Eagles #34 to Hold Benefit

Eagles Aerie #34 will be holding a fundraiser on Saturday and Sunday, August 1 and 2, at the Eagles Aerie, 2507 E. 25th Street, Minneapolis. There will be a Craft and Bake Sale from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. on both days and a Flea Market and Silent Auction on Saturday. A Steak and Egg Breakfast will be held from 9 a.m.-noon on Sunday. There will be food and live music on both days. The Eagles Club is open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

Continued on page 17



Longfellow Community Council

Serving Longfellow, Hiawatha, Cooper, and Howe neighborhoods

Graffiti Removal Kits Available!

The Longfellow Community Council has graffiti removal kits available for check out to all Longfellow residents and business owners. The kits include everything one needs to remove graffiti including three types of solvents, rags, paper towels, breathing masks, plastic gloves, and scrub brushes. The kits can be checked out for up to one week and are for use on private residential property and Minneapolis city property only. All kits include written instructions on how to remove graffiti from your property. Call or email Joanna for more information - (612) 722-4529 or email joanna@longfellow.org



(Photo by Sara Johnson and Joanna Solotaroff)

35th Annual Corn Feed

Thursday, August 6th 5:30 - 8:00 PM Longfellow Park

Food, activities, and entertainment for the entire family! There will also be a community resource fair and a health care with free health screenings and prizes! Join us for one of Longfellow's best celebrations!

Visit LCC at the Market!

The Longfellow Community Council will be sponsoring the Midtown Farmer's Market on Saturday, August 1st from 8 am - 1 pm. All food and goods at the Midtown Farmer's Market are grown locally. Be sure to stop by and say hello. The market is located at 22nd Avenue and East Lake Street.

Healthy Sustainable Homes Forums: Coming this September

LCC will host a series of workshops to help you make sustainable improvements to your home. The workshops will cover topics such as Green Remodeling, Winterizing and Low Cost Strategies for Energy Efficiency. Longfellow residents will be able to receive prizes, such as programmable thermostats, free in-home energy consultations, window kits, and MORE! Thursday, September 24th and Saturday, September 26th. Time and location details TBD. Mark your calendars!

Don't Forget: National Night Out is Tuesday, August 4th.

Do you have questions about if your block has a block club leader or how to have a block club party? Contact Joanna for more information - joanna@longfellow.org or call (612) 722-4529.



Resident rides the smoothie bike provided by the Hub Bike Co-op. (Photo by Joanna Solotaroff)

River Gorge Ice Cream Social



(Photo by Hillary Oppmann)

Monday, August 3 6:00 - 8:00 pm 36th Street and West River Parkway

The River Gorge Committee invites all Longfellow residents to enjoy a sundae at the 5th annual Ice Cream Social. Take a tour of the rare oak savanna and prairie at the

Giggly Hills. Get a free map of the river gorge and learn about the Gorge Stewards program.

Bike, walk or drive to 36th Street and West River Parkway. Contact Hillary at 722-4529 or hillary@longfellow.org for more details.

Calendar of Meetings and Events

August 2009

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

Neighborhood Development Caucus

Monday, August 10 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Hiawatha School Park, 4305 E. 42nd St.

Influence the process of housing and development in greater Longfellow. FFI Kim at kim@longfellow.org or 722-4529.

Community Connections

Tuesday, August 11 6:30 - 8:30 pm Longfellow Community Council Office 2727 26th Avenue South FFI Joanna at 722-4529 or joanna@longfellow.org

Board of Directors

Thursday, August 20
7:00 – 9:00 pm
Minnehaha Academy North Campus
Anderson conference room
FFI Melanie at 722-4529 or melanie@longfellow.org

Environment and Transportation Committee

Tuesday, August 25 7:00 - 9:00 pm Longfellow Community Council Office 2727 26th Avenue South FFI Joanna at 722-4529 or joanna@longfellow.org

Share the Road Recap!

LCC had a very successful evening at Share the Road with over 75 attendees and an evening of food, prizes and transit oriented fun! We would like to extend a huge thank you to the following for helping make this event a success:

Minnehaha Coffee
Minnehaha Yoga
Pizza Luce
The Hub Bike Co-op
Commissioner Peter
McLaughlin and Hennepin
County
Robert Lilligren
Steve Clark
Transit For Livable
Communities
The Bike Ambassador
Program

And last but not least - to all of the incredible volunteers who put this event together - Thank you for your dedication to make Longfellow safe for all travelers!

Still want to show your support in sharing the road? We have free "Share the Road"

bumper stickers, posters and pamphlets available at the LCC office.



Simon and Lucy PalmerErickson make signs to remind everyone to drive carefully. (Photo by Sara Johnson)

Longfellow Community Council 2727 26th Avenue So., Minneapolis, MN 55406 Phone: 612-722-4529 • Fax: 612-724-1024

www.longfellow.org

Melanie Majors Hillary Oppma Ruth Romano Joanna Solotaro

Executive Director
Community Organizer
Communications Coordinator
Community Organizer
Housing Coordinator

nelanie@longfellow.org nillary@longfellow.org uth@longfellow.org oanna@longfellow.org sim@longfellow.org



Seniors Aging in Place program celebrates first year:

available to kick off the second!



June Clark stands by the new iron railing on her back steps that was in-

\$1,000 grants

stalled as part of a \$1,000 grant available to Longfellow Seniors.

By KIM JAKUS

June Clark has been a Longfellow resident for 59 years. When she bought her home in 1950, it cost a mere \$7,000. Clark raised her two sons in her home and has seen neighbors come and go, but she's staying put. With great neighbors that shovel her sidewalk in the winter and mow her lawn in the summer, she feels no need to move. Her hope is that she can stay in her home until she goes "upstairs" to be with the rest of her family members that have passed on. Of her desire to stay in her home, Clark states, "I pray they'll take me out feet first.'

June is one of 25 Longfellow seniors that received a \$1,000 grant this past year to make modifications to their homes that enable them to live in their homes for as long as possible. The grants are part of the Seniors Aging in Place program run through the Longfellow Community Council (LCC). LCC partners with the staff at Access Solutions, a branch of Augustana Care Therapy, who provide in home assessments for seniors.

At 83 years old, June Clark says she's proud to be a senior citizen. She remains active in the community through groups such as Longfellow Healthy seniors and Bethany Lutheran's quilting group. When she read the article in the Messenger last August advertising \$1,000 grants for seniors, June immediately had some ideas of improvements that would make her home more accessible. She thought first of the lack of railings throughout her house. Clark doesn't mind the stairs in her home; she says it is good therapy. However, she often felt uneasy on the stairs would have to hug the walls or grab onto random posts on her way down to the basement or up to the second floor.

After calling about the grant, Access Solutions staff Alissa Boroff came to Clark's home to provide an assessment. Boroff is

trained as a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist and helps residents identify small and large changes that make getting around the home a little easier. Boroff agreed with Clark's need for more railings throughout the house. And although Clark's son had already installed a simple grab bar on the tub, Boroff recommended installing another larger bar and a swivel seat that would help Clark get in and out with more ease in the future. Other suggestions included simple changes that Clark hadn't thought about, such as replacing throw rugs with rubber-backed rugs to avoid slipping.

The \$1,000 grant paid for all of these improvements. Boroff assisted Clark with choosing a qualified contractor and was also present at the time of installation. LCC also offers seniors and those with disabilities a deferred Adaptability Loan at 0% interest to make larger modifications. For instance, Clark pointed out a small pantry off of the kitchen that could be converted into a bathroom if she were unable to use the stairs in the future.

June Clark said that she wouldn't hesitate to recommend the Seniors Aging in Place program to others. Luckily, the funding for the program has been extended for a second year. We'll be gathering together to celebrate all of the residents that have participated in the program and to kick off a new round. Light Refreshments will be served and all are welcome. Please join us on:

Tuesday, August 18th 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Church of St. Albert the Great (2836 33rd Ave S) **Social Hall** (located in Basement)

If you are interested in applying or learning more about the program, please contact Alissa Boroff at Access Solutions: 612-238-5429.





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Emerald Ash

Continued from page 13

Ash trees have been popular especially since Dutch elm disease eradicated many trees starting in the 1970s. Ash trees grow quickly, are attractive and were considered to be tough. Their lifespan, if not affected by disease, can be hundreds of years. But now many cities are considering banning them. The DNR and Minnesota League of Cities are working on model tree ordinances. St. Paul hasn't planted ash trees on boulevards and in parks for several years; Minneapolis stopped planting ash a few years ago.

Although various chemicals and natural methods of control have been tried, forestry experts say there is no method to eradicate the disease. Its possible Minnesota could lose many of its black, white and green ash trees.

By June 8 68 trees had been

removed in St. Paul, with half on private property and half on public property. That marked the end of the city's initial removal plan, according to Parks and Recreation. The trees in the Hampden Park area were cut down by city crews. State workers collected samples from the trees to continue their research.

In Minneapolis, city officials have identified several trees they suspect as being infected by emerald ash borers. Those trees are being monitored.

Crews are also girdling or removing bark from some unhealthy trees on public property for use as "trap trees" near the purple traps. According to the Department of Agriculture, injured trees are a strong attraction for borers in an immediate area.

Officials are asking the public to join the effort by watching their trees for signs of infestation. They should contact their city or work with tree services on private property. City and county officials can answer questions about disposal of infested ash materials.

The Department of Agricul-

"Our goal is to make it as tough as possible for this pest to become a Minnesota resident."

 Geir Friisoe, plant protection division director for the Department of Agriculture.

ture is telling property owners that it is not necessary to remove healthy ash trees but to watch for symptoms of leaf and branch dieback or bark damage on the trees.

"Our goal is to make it as tough as possible for this pest to become a Minnesota resident," said Geir Friisoe, plant protection division director for the Department of Agriculture. "We know from other states how difficult it can be to eradicate emerald ash borer but we are encouraged that infested trees have only been found within a half-mile radius of the (original Hampden Park) site."

Next steps for the control and removal plans will be announced

soon. This will include information on trees on public and private properties.

One huge challenge in dealing with the emerald ash borer is how difficult it is to detect.

The pests start their life cycle as flat, rust-colored eggs, according to the DNR. The eggs are about the size of a period in this article. A single female can lay about 80 eggs at a time on the bark of a tree during the summer. The eggs produce white lava that burrows into the tree bark and begins to eat the tree's woody trunk. That in turn cuts off the tree's circulatory system, which carries water and nutrients from the

tree's roots to the trunk and branches.

In the spring the larva becomes a pupa and the pupa grows into an adult beetle. In a few weeks the grown ash borer burrows out of the bark. The insects fly away, mate and start the whole cycle over again. It usually takes a couple of years for trees to show the effects of emerald ash borer. Unless a person looks for tiny D-shaped holes in tree bark it's difficult to see an infestation without peeling away tree bark. That in turn further stresses trees.

If you suspect your ash tree could be infested, visit the Department of Agriculture Web site and use the "Do I Have Emerald Ash Borer?" checklist. Residents who suspect that a tree is infested can also contact the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's "Arrest the Pest" Hotline at 651-201-6684 for the Metro Area or 1-888-545-6684 for Greater Minnesota. In Minneapolis, call the Park Board Forestry office at 612-370-4900 or check www.minneapolisparks.org for more information.

In Our Community

Continued from page 14

Scout Troop goes to Many Point Camp

Last January, Boy Scout Troop 185 was chartered by Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church, 5011 – 31st Avenue South. The new Troop, with fourteen boys ages eleven to fourteen, made its first trip to Many Point Scout Camp. Many Point is the Northern Star Council's legendary camp northwest of Park Rapids to which Minneapolis area Boy Scouts have been going since 1946.

The long trip up north was uneventful. The Troop got a bit of a late start, pulling into the administration building at about 2:00 p.m. But that worked well the rush of people who arrived when the gates opened at 1:00 p.m. were processed and Troop 185 sailed through registration. They also could have sailed through setting up their campsite if they had sailboats because it started to rain just as registration was completed. That made setup a wet proposition. But it stopped and dried out, making the Sunday evening camp tour a slightly wet affair.

The routine of the week was morning assembly, Indian Lore merit badge for all Scouts, First Class Adventure for the Scorpion Patrol (the first-year Scouts), and merit badges for the Viking Patrol (second and third-year Scouts) including Cooking, First Aid, Photography, and Sailing. The afternoon was Troop time and included archery, the Aquatramp, the rifle range, sailing, our Super Troop service project (scooping up pea gravel from the volleyball court), swimming, the large Voyageur canoes, with the last hour being First Class Aquatics for the Scorpions and a merit session for the Vikings. Evening was free time with Scouts spreading out to the sailing beach, the swimming beach, and the rifle range.

Wednesday night was everyone's night off – almost. The adults were treated to a fabulous dinner at the Buckskin dining hall, the Vikings were at the swimming beach for riblets and a game-filled beach bash, but the hard-working Scorpions took their First Class-required five-mile hike to Family Camp and back with a picnic supper. As if that wasn't enough activity for the evening, it was Troop sauna night in the lakeside wood-fired

sauna.

On Thursday evening, those who wanted to canoed to the camp's remote yurt and spent the night there, dining on pizzas cooked in pie irons. But the commissary didn't send dessert! Fortunately, the yurt contingent commandeered zebra cakes from the main camp's supplies for a "reverse dessert!"

The weather was warm and sunny most of the week with some humidity creeping in. Only one brief downpour around lunchtime on Tuesday. At the closing campfire, a cool front came in – a harbinger of things to come. The Troop made camp in the rain and, thanks to the driving rain that started at about 3 a.m. on Saturday, the Troop broke camp in the rain. With breaking camp in the rain, it was a challenging and fun week up till the end. The Scouts did great – they had fun and worked really hard on cooking, cleanup, coop-

eration, leadership, and their First Class Adventure and merit badge classes. Although it was hard work and everyone was ready to go home, it was a great week.

For more information about Boy Scout Troop 185, please visit us online at www.troop185.org or contact Scoutmaster Daniel Amyx at danieljamyx@aol.com or 612-724-8016.



On Thursday evening, those who wanted to canoed to the camp's remote yurt and spent the night there, dining on pizzas cooked in pie irons.

Neighborhood Churches Welcome You!

Bethany Lutheran 3901 36th Ave. • 612-729-9376

Educational Hour 9:15 am Worship Service 10:30 am with nursery available Pastor: Bruce Nelson

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

www.bethlehemcov.org Sunday Worship 10:00 am (Childcare provided) (Handicapped accessible) Pastor Ryan Eikenbary-Barber

Christ Church Lutheran 3244 34th Ave. • 612-721-6611

Sunday Worship at 9:30 am Childcare Provided Education Hour at 11:00 am Pastor: Kristine Carlson A welcoming congregation www.christchurchluth.org

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

Sunday Worship 10:30 am Sun. School 9:15 am-all ages (Childcare Provided) (Wheelchair Accessible) Rev. Brian Manly

Faith Evangelical Lutheran (LC-MS) 3430 E. 51st St. • 612-729-5463

Worship 9 am
Fellowship Hour 10:00 am
Education Hour 10:30 am
Pastor Michael Middaugh

Holy Trinity Lutheran 2730 E. 31st • 612-729-8358 www.htlcmpls.org

Worship 8:45 & 11:00 am
Church school for all ages 9:45 am
Traditional Worship – Contemporary Message
– A Call to Social Justice – All are welcome –
No exceptions

Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church 5011 31st Ave. S. • 612-729-2323 www.lakenokomis.org

Sunday Worship at 8:00 am & 10:30 am Education Hour at 9:15 am (nursery; fully accessible)

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran 4101 37th Ave. S. • 612-722-9527 Sunday Worship at 9:45 am Pastor Dan Ankerfelt Pastor Sally Ankerfelt

Minnehaha United Church of Christ 4001 38th Ave. S. • 612-729-7556 www.MinnehahaUCC.org

Sunday Worship 10:30 am Michael Owens, Sr., Pastor Nursery Care, Handicap Access Wed. 6:00-7:30 pm Ed. for all ages An Anti-Racist, Just Peace, Open & Affirming Church

(Handicapped accessible)

Minnehaha United Methodist 3701 E. 50th St. • 612-721-6231 www.minnehaha.org

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

10:30 am (June-Aug.) Education for all ages 10:15 (Sept.-May) (Childcare; fully accessible)

St. Albert the Great Catholic 2836 33rd Ave. S. • 612-724-3643 Sunday Mass 9:30 am (Childcare available) Saturday Mass 5 pm Daily Mass 8:15 am M,T, Th, F

(Handicapped accessible)
Fr. Joe Gillespie, O.P.
www.saintalbertthegreat.org

St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran 4600 E. 42nd St. • 612-722-8000 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 Julie A. Ebbesen, Pastor

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

www.trinityfalls.org Sunday Worship 8:30 am & 11:00 am Summer Schedule 8:30 am & 10:30 am (eff. 5/24)

Lenten Conversations - Wed. 6:45 pm AA Meetings Tuesdays & Sundays - 7:00 pm

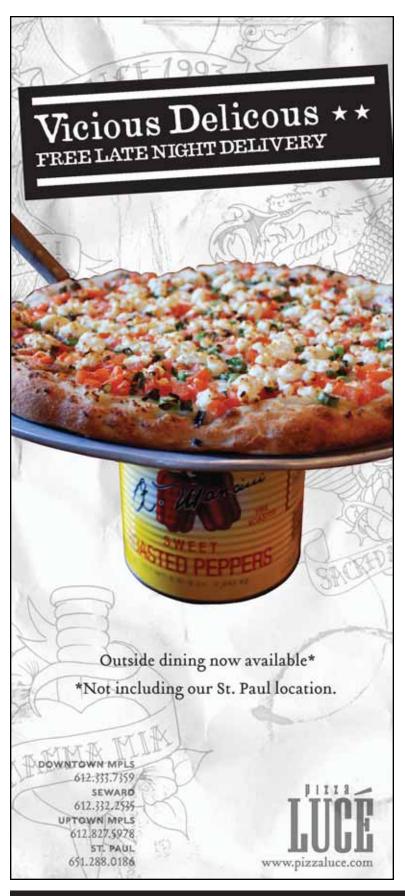
Projects of the Neighborhood Churches Include:

Minnehaha Food Shelf,

Serving People Tues. -Thurs. 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Call us at 612-721-6231

Minnehaha United Methodist, 3701 E. 50th St.

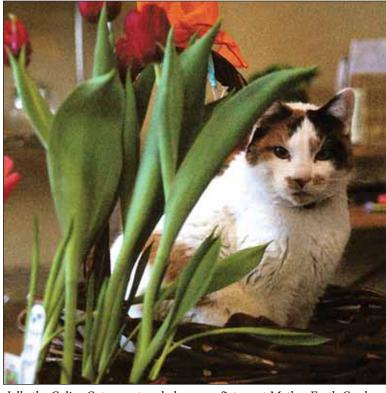


Jolly The Calico Cat retires from Mother Earth Gardens

By MARIA LIDSTONE Summer has arrived in South Minneapolis and this can only mean one thing. A trip to my favorite garden store Mother Earth Gardens. As I walk through the array of plants, shrubs, small trees, rose bushes, herbs, tomato plants, and the colossal amount of vibrant flowers and flowering basket, I am renewed and rejuvenate. Filling my senses up with glorious joy, I feel like I need to exhale! The harsh and brutal winter is a distance memory and here we are. Summer has descended and with it the hope for warm weather which remains eternal in Minnesota.

Mother Earth Gardens is a lively place with friendly and interesting people who work there. With my steaming hot coffee mocha in one hand and purse in the other I am ready to do some serious damage. Quaint is this garden store along with its many trinkets on the outside of as well as on the inside. Beautiful bird baths, bird houses, bird feeders, pottery pots, paving stones, rod iron trellises as well as wood ones, wind chimes different in every shape, size as well as style, that all seem to be chi mining from every where. There is mulch, hay, straw and grass seed, plant spray, bug spray, fruit and vegetable spray. There are a variety of hoses, nozzles, small metal fences in every style and color, and chicken wire to keep those pesky rabbits from eating the fruits of your labor. Outdoor furniture to rest upon, in bright powered blue and lime green benches along with chartreuse umbrellas to shade you. This is complete eye candy for any gardener who walks through this oasis and discovers its splendor.

Yet as I peered from one end of the garden store to other, I



Jolly the Calico Cat. a mature lady, was a fixture at Mother Earth Gardens.

feel uneasy. Something wasn't right; something is definitely missing that made my trips to Mother Earth Gardens so memorable. Then I remembered the greeter as I had so fondly called her, was no where to be found. The greeter would meet me at the entrance of the store waiting patiently for me to scratch her behind her ears and pet her head, while her tail wrapped around my legs, purring her purr song of delight.

Jolly the Calico Cat a mature lady was a fixture at Mother Earth Gardens and who I had the good fortune of meeting. Her emerald eyes would stare straight at you from behind whatever plant she was hiding. I had asked Paige one of the owners of Mother Earth Gardens

where Jolly had disappeared too? Paige replied, "Well she retired to a wonderful home with caring and loving people where she can lay on the couch all day and watch the world go by." Oh, I said a little disappointed. Although, I was glad to know Jolly will be well taken care of in her old age; still, a little sadness washed over me, knowing that I will not see that cute calico cat sitting on one of her usual perches or sleeping curled up in her basket on the counter. Jolly's impact on the world may have been slight but her impact on me was enormous.

Happy trails to you, Jolly the Calico Cat.

(Maria Lidstone is a resident of the Longfellow neighborhood.)

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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 August 17 for the August 27 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to denisw@aplacetoremember.com. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on Messenger's website at www.LongfellowNokomisMesse nger.com

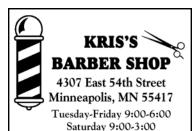
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Hiawatha Community School Annual Garage Sale set Sept. 19. Please join us for our annual garage sale Saturday, September 19, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. No prices on the items - just give us a fair price (per item or bags) and it's yours! The fundraiser is for the the 5th grade class. All the





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proceeds from this sale will go directly to their camp Audubon field trip. Look for information on our school sign located in front of the school. Donations accepted September 14 - 17. No computers, monitors or TVs, please. 8-09

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Continued on page 20

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Continued from page 19

GARAGE SALE

Hiawatha Community School Fundraising Garage Sale (has moved to the fall) on Saturday, September 19, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. – 3 p.m. No prices on the items - just give us a fair price (per item or bags) and it's yours! Donations accepted September 14 -17. Accepting gently used clean clothing, HH, furniture, tools, collectibles, toys, etc. No computers, monitors or TVs, please. 8-09

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Visit Longfellow Community Gardens on August 22 for the Parade of Gardens!

Minnehaha Avenue Community Garden at 3128 Minnehaha Ave. S. will be featured as part of the Gardening Matters Parade of Gardens on Saturday, August 22nd from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At 10 a.m. learn about bee pollination and how to make bee houses. At noon, sample fresh food from the garden and enjoy free vegetarian food from the Gandhi Mahal Restaurant. (Note: food available while supplies last!)

Dowling Community Garden at 46th Ave. S. and 39th St. E will host their Garden Festival as another highlight of the Parade of Gardens. The tomato tasting begins at 11 a.m. and will include a variety of delicious produce grown on site.

There will be face painting for children, great gardening tips and demonstrations from friendly and experienced gardeners, and a food drive to support local food shelves as well, so please bring a non-perishable item or two to donate. More information about Dowling Community Garden and the festival is available at www.dowlingcommunitygarden.org.

For more information and a complete list and map of participating Community Gardens in St. Paul, Minneapolis, and other cities, go to www.gardeningmatters.org and download the brochure.

For more information contact: Ginny Zawistowski (Co-coordinator for MAC Garden) at ginny.zawistowski@gmail.com, Eric Hands (Dowling Community Garden Festival coordinator) at eh.dowling@gmail.com or 651-255-6607, or Gardening Matters at 612-492-8964.



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SATURDAY 9:30am • Juniors

- All Ages [4 to a team]

7:00pm • Mixed Every Other Week [4 to a team] (Opposite Saturday Nights open for New League)

SUNDAY 6:15pm • Mixed [4 to a team]