

Hiawatha Heart Warmer, February 11

The Hiawatha Heart Warmer will be on Sat., Feb. 11, from noon to 3:00 p.m., at Lake Hiawatha Park. The Heart Warmer started in 2009 as a way for local businesses to promote themselves in the community. As tough economic times continue, supporting the businesses that keep our neighborhoods vibrant is even more important.

Businesses will have booths inside the park building. There will also be live music, crafts for the children, and games and prizes. Outside (weather permitting), you can ice-skate, make snow people or snow angels, or go on a hayride. There will be free hot dogs and beverages and a bonfire for roasting marshmallows.

Come to the festival for a heart warming winter afternoon!

Precinct Caucuses, February 7

Precinct caucuses will be held on Tues., Feb. 7. Precinct caucuses are meetings held by political parties. They are the first step in selecting candidates for public office (including, in 2012, for U.S. president) and for deciding party platforms. The caucuses are free and open to the public. You are urged to attend. To find the time and location of your caucus, go to www.sos.state.mn.us and click on Caucus Finder.

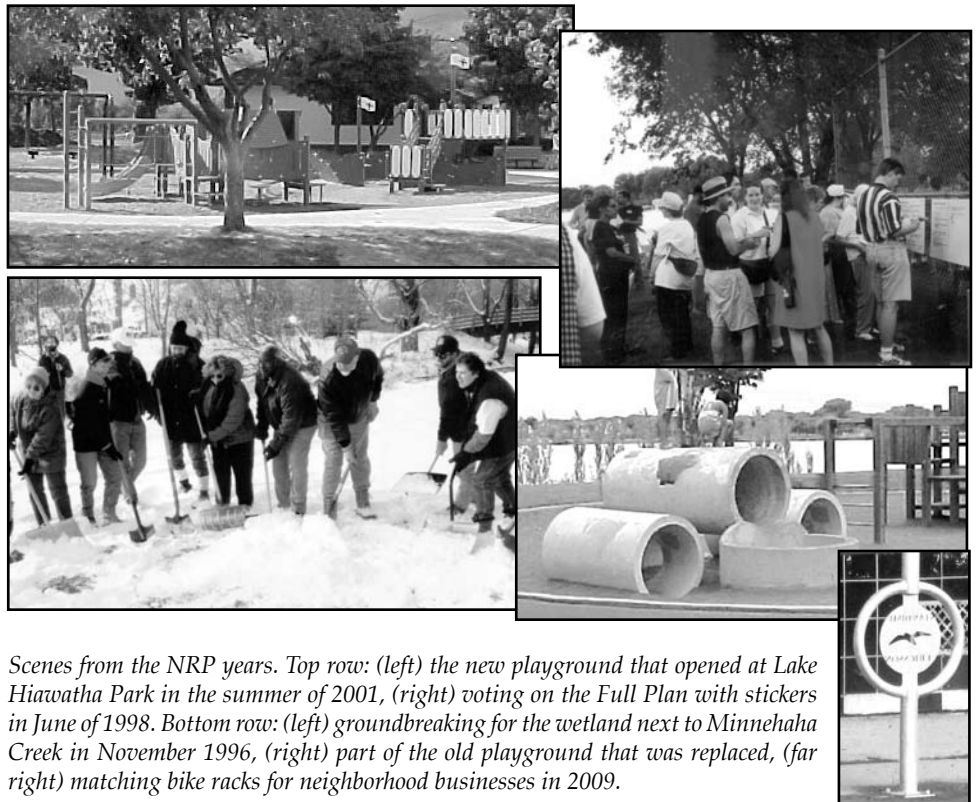
SENA NEWS

The Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Volume 20, Number 1, February/March 2012 • www.standish-ericsson.org

Saying Good-bye to NRP

by Shirley Yeoman, SENA Neighborhood Coordinator



Scenes from the NRP years. Top row: (left) the new playground that opened at Lake Hiawatha Park in the summer of 2001, (right) voting on the Full Plan with stickers in June of 1998. Bottom row: (left) groundbreaking for the wetland next to Minnehaha Creek in November 1996, (right) part of the old playground that was replaced, (far right) matching bike racks for neighborhood businesses in 2009.

In 1991, representatives of the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, the Minneapolis Public School district, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, and the Minneapolis Library Board signed an agreement that created the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) and the NRP Policy Board. During the next 20 years, the NRP became a nationally recognized program that provided Minneapolis neighborhoods with project funding and organizational support. In fact, it became internationally recognized when, in June 2000, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements placed the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program on its elite Global 100 Best Practices List.

The original program was created with an "expiration date" of Dec. 31, 2011. Although many neighborhood representatives worked with state legislators and through other channels to try to find a way to extend the program, that did not happen, and the NRP office officially closed at the end of 2011. Neighborhood organization support will now be handled through the City's Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) Department, and funding (after 2013) will be part of the City budget, rather than a separate designated source. It is unclear at this point whether there will be additional funds for special projects or programs.

In December 2010, the Minneapolis City Council voted to freeze NRP Phase II funds at 50% of the original allotment for neighborhoods. SENA was well into its Phase II Plan (approved by the Standish and Ericsson neighborhoods in 2005) and had already contracted more than 50% of its funds, so the amount of designated funds lost was just under \$200,000. Those dollars held back from the NRP Phase II program will be used to fund

— Continued on page 3 —

Where Is It? (No. 32)



Where is this blue-and-black (with a little yellow) object located? The answer is on page 7.

An Ice Fishing Adventure!

Sat., Feb. 18, is "Take a Kid Ice Fishing Day" in Minnesota, and Cub Scout Pack 38 is celebrating by hosting an urban ice fishing event on Lake Nokomis from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. All ages/genders are invited.

Adults do not need a fishing license if they are fishing with their youth.

Come and learn about ice fishing. Build your own "jiggle stick," string and bait it, and see a demonstration on how to clean and cook a fish fresh from the lake. The cost is free, but the memories will be priceless. Contact Dan Fehler at 724-6284 or e-mail cubmaster38@gmail.com to register.

SENA NEWS

The Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association Newsletter

SENA News is a bimonthly publication of the Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA). It is made possible by funds from the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), Minneapolis Community Participation Program (CPP), and individual donations. Copyright ©2012 by SENA.

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SENA News is available in alternative formats (e.g., large type) upon request.

Community Events Calendar

February

- 2 Congregate dining and blood pressure checks, Holy Cross Lutheran Church (1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.), 12:00 noon. Call 729-6668 three days ahead. \$3.50.
- 7 Senior congregare dining, Sibley Park, (19th Ave. S. and E. 40th St.), 11:30 a.m. (See p. 7.) Attend your precinct caucus. (See p. 1.)
- 9 Low Vision Support Group, Nokomis Square Cooperative (5015 35th Ave. S.), 10:00 a.m.
- 11 Hiawatha Heart Warmer, Lake Hiawatha Park (27th Ave. S. and E. 44th St.), noon to 3:00 p.m. (See p. 1.)
- 13 SENA Board meeting, 1830 E. 42nd St., 7:00 p.m., handicapped accessible
- 18 "Take a Kid Ice Fishing Day," Lake Nokomis, 1:00-4:00 p.m. (See this page.)
- 25 Winter Wonderland Open House at The Waters of Minnehaha (3717 23rd Ave. S.), 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- 28 Senior blood pressure checks, Standish Green (2210 E. 40th St.), 12:00 noon
- 23 Caregiver Support Group, Bethel Lutheran Church (4120 17th Ave. S.), 1:00 p.m.
- 29 Nokomis Healthy Seniors Health Program: "Affirming Your Gifts," Faith Lutheran Church (3430 E. 51st St.), 1:30 p.m.

March

- 1 Congregate dining and blood pressure checks, Holy Cross Lutheran Church (1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.), 12:00 noon. Call 729-6668 three days ahead. \$3.50.
- 6 Senior congregare dining, Sibley Park (19th Ave. S. and E. 40th St.), 11:30 a.m. (See p. 7.)
- 8 Low Vision Support Group, Nokomis Square Cooperative (5015 35th Ave. S.), 10:00 a.m.
- 10 South Minneapolis Housing and Home Improvement Fair, South High School (3131 19th Ave. S.), 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (See p. 3.)
- 12 SENA Board meeting, 1830 E. 42nd St., 7:00 p.m., handicapped accessible
- 27 Senior blood pressure checks, Standish Green (2210 E. 40th St.), 12:00 noon
- 28 Nokomis Healthy Seniors Health Program: "Health Care Directive/Senior Emergency Kit," Faith Lutheran Church (3430 E. 51st St.), 1:30 p.m.
- 29 Caregiver Support Group, Bethel Lutheran Church (4120 17th Ave. S.), 1:00 p.m.

Neighbor to Neighbor

- John says thank you to the 20+ anonymous and random neighbors who stopped at his house on Dec. 18 to sing (quite joyously) two Christmas carols. He had just finished the last of his law school exams for the semester and really needed the pick-me-up! He says, "I love this neighborhood!"
- Heather, from the 4400 block of 31st Ave. S., would like to thank the baristas at Angry Catfish and at Wonderland Park (in the Longfellow Neighborhood) for saving their used coffee grounds for her garden.
- Bob and Francy note that a lot of people in the neighborhood complain about crime but then do nothing else. However, Cindy, from the 3800 block of 28th Ave. S., generously donated several hours of her time last year to help with a graffiti prevention project by walking in the neighborhood. Her community involvement is an inspiration to others.

If you would like to recognize the thoughtfulness of a neighbor, send an e-mail to office@standish-ericsson.org with "Thank You" in the subject line.



West of the Rail Business Association (WRBA)

This is the WRBA member logo. Look for it at your local businesses. Please join WRBA members at the Hiawatha Heart Warmer on Feb. 11. Get to know local business owners while you enjoy winter outdoor activities. Check out our newly revised website at www.westoftherail.org.

Saying Good-bye to NRP

— Continued from page 1 —

the next two years of neighborhood organization support through the NCR's Community Participation Program. Since those dollars still have NRP guidelines attached, the city has created a new NRP Policy Board to oversee contracts and the distribution of the dollars. The money is distributed to all city neighborhoods, rather than to the neighborhoods to which they were originally allotted, based on a newly developed formula. The SENA staff anticipates that SENA's allotment will be approximately \$50,000 to \$60,000 annually.

Since Standish and Ericsson residents approved the SENA NRP Full Plan in September 1998, NRP funds have provided nearly \$5 million (\$3.5 million from the Full Plan; \$1.4 million from the Phase II plan) to a wide variety of community projects, including:

- Improvements to the playground and park building at Lake Hiawatha Park,
- Creation and distribution of a neighborhood business directory,
- Home improvement grant and loan programs—providing over \$1.5 million in home improvement assistance to hundreds of residents,
- Installation of bike racks throughout the neighborhood,
- Installation of traffic calming devices at several locations in the neighborhoods,
- A water-filtering wetland near Lake Hiawatha,
- Support for the production and distribution of *SENA News*, and
- Organizational support for SENA, including staff and administrative support.

This list doesn't include many other projects, too numerous to list here.

Many details about the future of neighborhood and neighborhood-organization support are unknown at this point. The NCR office has been assigned the task of helping neighborhoods through this transition to the new system. Please stay tuned.

Special "Thank You" to Joe Horan

Joe Horan, one of the first neighborhood specialists hired by NRP more than 20 years ago, was assigned to work with SENA at the very beginning of our NRP "adventure" and has been our liaison with NRP throughout that time. Joe helped us through the NRP First Step, NRP Full Plan, and NRP Phase II processes. He assisted with creating neighborhood surveys, identifying priorities, conducting neighborhood votes, writing NRP plans, and amending those plans. He also monitored our contracts and helped us through the bureaucratic maze that was sometimes part of the NRP process.

Joe encouraged us when we needed encouragement, prodded us when we needed prodding, and celebrated with us when we were successful. We are better and stronger because of his consistent work over the last 20 years.

Thank you, Joe!



Committee UPDATES

The Business, Development, and Transportation Committee meets the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Meetings are held as needed for the Communications Committee, Newsletter Subcommittee, Graffiti Task Force, Housing Committee, and Quality of Life Committee. Call the office (721-1601) for more information.

Meetings are generally held at the SENA Office, 1830 E. 42nd St.

south minneapolis



housing & home improvement fair

South Minneapolis Housing and Home Improvement Fair Saturday, March 10

Whether you are giving a room a "makeover," or starting from the ground up, you'll find answers to all of your questions at the 18th annual South Minneapolis Housing Fair. This event is *free* and open to the public. It will be held Sat., Mar. 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., in the commons area of South High School (3131 19th Ave. S.).

The event, which draws approximately 2,000 people every year, offers attendees a chance to participate in educational workshops and visit with exhibitors. Workshops are taught by local professionals on home improvement, home security, renovation, decorating, and financing. Exhibitors include local contractors, financial institutions, real estate agents, neighborhood associations, and nonprofit and government agencies. There will be activities for children, hourly door prizes, and food for sale.

For up-to-date information, visit the website at www.housing-fair.org or search for "South Minneapolis Housing & Home Improvement Fair" on Facebook.

Did You Know?

- The Roosevelt Community Library (4026 28th Ave. S.) will close for remodeling on Feb. 11 and reopen in the spring of 2013.

SENA News gratefully acknowledges a donation from:

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Airport Noise

by Ann King

Have you heard an airplane go by recently? Many Standish and Ericsson residents have been hearing multiple flights overhead. What's more, the flights are extremely loud. Airplanes can be heard from inside the house and are particularly nerve-wracking when people are working or playing outside. Since September, a long conversation on this topic has been taking place (228 postings as of mid-December on the neighborhood online forum). People report flights as often as one a minute at certain times of day (usually around 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.).

Airport noise was a problem in the 1990s, and, after many neighborhood complaints and help from government leaders, the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) agreed to a program of noise mitigation in the neighborhoods near the airport. Homes in the noisiest area received new doors, windows, central air, vent baffles, and other changes to decrease the noise level indoors. Some homes in Bloomington and Richfield and a few in South Minneapolis are still in line to receive benefits, thanks to a City lawsuit against MAC in 2007. Mitigation resulting from the lawsuit is taking place in phases, with some homes getting the full package and others getting improvements of a lesser dollar value, depending on how much noise they are projected to receive.

Meanwhile, new areas north and east of where the original problem occurred have reported increased flights and noise. When 200 residents of South Minneapolis attended meetings of MAC's Noise Oversight Committee last fall, they came from the Standish, Ericsson, and Nokomis neighborhoods but also from the Powderhorn Neighborhood, which stretches north to Lake St.

The new situation results, in part, from a change in flight plans that took place in May 2010. North- and east-bound flights were relegated to only one runway (runway 30R, the north parallel), as a safety measure after a near-collision in early 2010. The flight pattern requires a plane to make an immediate turn, which increases the noise. It also positions the flight to go over new parts of the city, which are the neighborhoods hearing more planes.

The people protesting the increased noise point out that the flight changes were made without announcement or neighborhood input. Most of them bought their homes specifically because they were outside the areas known to be affected by airport noise.

In November, FAA Control Tower Manager Carl Rydeen spoke at a meeting of the Noise Oversight Committee, explaining the change in operations. Later, he met with City Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy. "When I first heard Mr. Rydeen's report on the increased noise," said Colvin Roy, "I was certain that the change in operations couldn't be the whole answer. Turns out the increase in the number of regional jets to 54% of all flights in 2011 was also a big factor because they turn off the runway sooner, and that point on the north parallel runway is much closer to homes than the end of the runway, so they are closer to the ground when they are over the houses."

The noise issue has now attracted the attention of many people. The January meeting of the Noise Oversight Committee reviewed the problem; the council members from the affected wards have called for answers; and residents have shown their willingness to attend meetings and ask questions. How much the residents' concerns will be acted upon by airport officials and the Federal Aviation Administration is something to watch in the coming months.



Garden Withdrawal

Going through garden withdrawal? This time of year, gardeners long for the green and sunny days of summer, when they spent their time playing in the dirt. To keep yourself from taking a pickaxe to the frozen Minnesota ground, try these garden-related activities for February and March.

- **Planning:** This is the best time of year to get organized for the upcoming season. It can be a frustrating delay to create a plan when the weather is warm and the sun is shining but a lot of fun to do indoors out of the snow and wind. Measure your gardening spaces; create a map on graph paper; make a list of what you want to plant; research your plants; and place them in your written garden where they will get what they need—or whatever planning method works for you. It will save you time and headaches when it's time to plant.
- **Planting:** This may not be the time to put things out in the ground, but you can start some seeds indoors as early as the end of February. Pull out your seed catalogs or go online and get some seeds for the spring. Get your seedling containers out; clean them up; and get some good, clean, new potting soil. Make sure to place your seedlings close to a light source.

And finally, remember to salt and sand your sidewalks only *after* shoveling them. As the snow melts, salt and sand work their way through the snow and into your soil and can change your soil conditions, poisoning your perennial plants.

March Is Food Shelf Month

Minnesota FoodShare's March Campaign, the state's largest food drive, will help to restock local food shelves such as the one at Minnehaha United Methodist Church (3701 E. 50th St.).

The Minnehaha Food Shelf serves the area between the Crosstown and Lake St., Cedar Ave., and the river. Each month, it helps more than 600 households—about 1,500 men, women, and children—and distributes approximately 28,500 pounds of food.

With today's economy, many more people need food assistance. Over the past couple of years, for example, the number of people served at the Minnehaha location has increased 250%.

If you're in need of food assistance, please stop by the Minnehaha Food Shelf. It's open Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Bring a photo ID with your current address (you must reside within the area served). No appointments are necessary, and you can be served one time each month.

If you're able to donate, please bring nonperishable items or cash to the church office. To help with sorting and distributing the food, contact the church office at 721-6231. The Minnehaha Food Shelf relies on volunteers in order to operate.

Maud Hart Lovelace Book Award

During the month of February, kids in grades 3 through 6 can vote at any Hennepin County Library for their favorite nominees for the Maud Hart Lovelace Book Award. You must have read at least three titles to be eligible to vote.

Miss Daisy's Place: There's Hope Outreach

by Judy Peacock



Daisy Moore

Miss Daisy's Place at 2818 E. 38th St. is the neighborhood dollar store. Every item in the store—men's, women's, and children's clothing, jewelry, and books—sells for one dollar.

When Daisy Moore opened her store eight years ago, she operated it as a free store. She has since decided to charge for items to help pay her rent and utilities.

All the merchandise at Miss Daisy's Place is donated. Much of it comes from people living and working nearby. Volunteers help Daisy sort through and fold the clothes. She washes the non-drycleanable garments and salvages material from non-saleable items for pillow covers, quilts, and other sewing projects.

Miss Daisy's Place also offers alterations: shortening pants legs (\$5 per pair), repairing zippers (price depends on the length of the zipper), and altering hemlines.

Daisy believes she has a mission to help people in need. She was inspired to open her store when she saw how the simple gift of a bar of soap made a difference in a man's life. The store's original name—There's Hope Outreach—underscores her personal ministry.

Many of the store's customers are women who have been released from incarceration and need clothes for work. Daisy also receives referrals from Eden House, a men's and women's residential treatment center in downtown Minneapolis.

Besides clothing, Daisy offers encouragement and support to her customers. Many come back to tell her how things are going.

Everyone is welcome to shop at Miss Daisy's Place. Most likely, you'll be invited to pull up a chair, sit down, and visit. Winter hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. Phone: 462-0936.



Miss Daisy's
Place, 2818 E.
38th St.

A Winter Visit with Local Artists

by John Clay

The League of Longfellow Artists (LoLa) is best known for its annual summer art crawl—a self-guided art tour throughout the Greater Longfellow Neighborhood of South Minneapolis (which includes the Standish and Ericsson neighborhoods). But the artists who opened their homes and studios to art lovers when the sunflowers and black-eyed susans bloomed are still hard at work even as the snowflakes fly. Let's check in with a few of them and see what they're up to.

Anita White, one of LoLa's founders, paints and sketches every day and is working on a series of waterlily paintings based on photographs. "I find winter harsh and difficult and do not usually paint it." Instead she revives the summer with paint on canvas.

Artist Harley Pierce is known for his masterful hand-carved wooden boxes. "I happily get more time to carve in the winter months," says Pierce, who has lived in the Greater Longfellow Neighborhood for 52 years.

For Megan Moore, an original LoLa member whose colorful floral still lifes are a staple at Corazon on E. Lake St., winter means fewer shows and more artmaking. "I have more time to focus on creating new work before the art fair season starts up again."

Graduate studies take time from Chris Miller's mosaic art, but he still keeps producing. Recent projects include a glass mosaic map of the world commissioned by a geography teacher.

Farrah Fossum joined LoLa two years ago. She is working on her photography website and her www.etsy.com vintage jewelry website. As for the art itself, she says, "My pace of work stays about the same through all seasons."

Jim Foreman, a newcomer to Minnesota whose distinctive paintings consist of one painted canvas affixed to another, is shifting his subject matter from outdoor scenes to dancers and musicians and is developing more freedom in his brushwork.

Bob Schmitt, another of LoLa's founders and a 10-year resident of the Ericsson Neighborhood, says, "Winter can be quite productive for me. In the tradition of Chinese landscape painting, though based in nature, the actual painting is done in one's studio. I think of it as painting the memories of places."

Beginning in 2009 as a small grassroots effort, LoLa now features 102 artists showing at 60 neighborhood sites, with support from the Longfellow Community Council and local businesses. What are the other 95 LoLa artists working on? We'll check in with some of them in the spring.



Learn more about LoLa at www.lolaartcrawl.com. (See also the August/September 2011 issue of *SENA News*.)

Woodcarver Harley Pierce
working in wintertime.

Neighborhood Feature

Keeping Your Home Safe from Thieves

by Nykol Eystad

In 2010, the Standish and Ericsson neighborhoods had a total of 206 burglaries. From January 2011 to November 2011, there were a total of 177 burglaries.* While it appears that the number of burglaries has remained about the same, this is little consolation to neighbors who have had their homes broken into, their possessions stolen, and their sense of security taken away. The Minneapolis Police Department's Third Precinct reminds homeowners to take some simple, inexpensive steps to reduce their chances of becoming victims of a home burglary.

The easiest thing to do won't cost a dime! Make sure your doors and windows are locked! As we approach nicer weather and begin enjoying the outdoors again, this is especially important. You can continue to enjoy all that fresh air by purchasing a special window lock that will prevent the window from opening beyond six inches.

Deadbolts are investments that are worth the cost. If you have doors with glass in them, you should have a deadbolt that is keyed on both sides. If it is keyed on the outside only, thieves can break the glass, reach in, and unlock the door. Don't leave the key in the interior lock for the same reason. If the key is in the lock, would-be thieves can easily unlock the door and enter your home.

Make sure that thieves can't see all the great stuff you own. Close your curtains or window shades in the evening. It's easy to see what's in a home from the streets at night. Garage windows can also be covered with shades—but paint or cardboard can work just as well.

Your home will be less of a target if potential entries are lit. Installing motion lights near your home's doorways and garage will help discourage thieves. They don't want to be seen breaking into homes. If you're away from home for an evening or a few days, put a couple of lights on timers so your home is lit inside as well.

Another free or low-cost tip: Keep the shrubs around your home trimmed to three feet so thieves don't have hiding places near windows and doors.

Finally, form a block club. A block club will allow you to meet neighbors, make friends, and keep informed of what's happening on your block.

If you would like other tips or information about how to protect yourself or your property, contact your neighborhood crime prevention specialist. Standish residents can contact Karen Notsch, karen.notsch@ci.minneapolis.mn.us or 673-2856, and Ericsson residents can contact Sue Roethele, sue.roethele@ci.minneapolis.mn.us or 673-2839.

*http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/statistics/crime-statistics_codefor_statistics. Statistics not available for December 2011 at the time this issue of *SENA News* went to press.

Did You Know?

- If you donate \$1 to a food shelf, it will generate at least \$9 worth of food and possibly much more. This is because food shelves engage in cooperative bulk purchasing where the more they purchase the lower the price.



Minneapolis 2011 National Night Out Named First in Nation

The National Association of Town Watch has recognized the city of Minneapolis for its 2011 National Night Out (NNO) celebration. Minneapolis placed first in the nation among cities with populations over 300,000. The city had 1,173 confirmed NNO events on 2,470 blocks. Nearly 60,500 people and 100% of the city's 83 neighborhoods participated.

Minneapolis has been celebrating National Night Out on the second Tuesday of August for 28 years. Each year NNO gives neighbors an opportunity to get together and become better acquainted. The impact of NNO lasts throughout the year. Neighbors who know and care about each other do a better job of watching out for one another and reporting crime and suspicious behavior to police.

Folwell Building to Be Used Again

The former Folwell Middle School building (3611 20th Ave. S.) will reopen for the 2012-13 school year as the new home of the program currently known as the Ramsey Performing Arts Magnet. Its new name will be Folwell School, Performing Arts Magnet, and it will serve kindergarten through eighth-grade students in Zones 2 and 3. The Ramsey arts program won an Excellence in Arts Integration Award from the National Arts School Network this year. Families interested can call 668-4040 for more information.

Station 38 Apartments



The Station 38 Apartments, as seen from the corner of 29th Ave. S. and E. 37th St. The exterior of the building is complete. Leasing has begun (722-9600) for its 64 apartments, with one or two bedrooms.

SENA News gratefully acknowledges a donation from:

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Events at the Parks

Lake Hiawatha Park (27th Ave. S. and E. 44th St., 370-4930)

For preschoolers. Little Lakers classes, Mondays and Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m., Jan. 9–Mar. 26.

For children. Kids Night Out, 6:00–9:00 p.m., every Friday year around.

For adults. Yoga, 10:45–11:45 a.m., every Saturday year around.

Sibley Park (19th Ave. S. and E. 40th St., 370-4954)

Senior luncheons. Join your friends on Tuesdays, Feb. 7 and Mar. 6, at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$6.

Spring sports registration. Sign up on Mar. 1 for baseball and softball. Options are available for players from kindergarten to 12th grade. Volunteer coaches are needed; apply in the park building.

Ice skating. The last day for the warming room and ice rink is Feb. 20, pending weather conditions for ice skating and hockey. Take advantage of the free skate rental!

Answer to Where Is It? (No. 32)

This Batman bench is on the west side of DreamHaven Books and Comics (2301 E. 38th St.).

Nokomis Healthy Seniors Is Growing

Nokomis Healthy Seniors (NHS) recently added the Bryant Neighborhood to its service area. This brings the total number of neighborhoods served to 15 (including the Standish and Ericsson neighborhoods). NHS, established in 1994, offers a variety of programs that enable seniors in the Greater Nokomis area to live independently in their homes. Call 729-5499 for information.

Did You Know?

- A full-service hair salon called salon38 is located in The Waters of Minnehaha building (at the corner of 23rd Ave. S. and E. 38th St.) and is open to the public. Owner Nancy Root and stylist Karissa Lash were both stylists at E. 42nd Street Salon (formerly located in the Standish Neighborhood). The salon is open Wednesday through Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday by appointment 238-2710. Nancy says, "Please ring the doorbell when you come."
- Construction Manager John Hott of Southside Housing Resource Center (3749 Cedar Ave. S.) is available to any resident in Standish or Ericsson to do a general assessment of potential projects or repairs and to offer advice on order of repairs, severity of issues, and estimates on likely costs. There is no charge or obligation. You can reach John at 722-7141 to set up a visit.

Choose Northrop— Your Community School

by Sam Ridenour

If your child(ren) will be entering kindergarten or changing schools this fall, here is your reminder that school choice requests for Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) are due Feb. 29. If, as the deadline approaches, you are still searching for a great neighborhood elementary school (kindergarten through 5th grade) with high educational standards and a strong environmental focus, look no further than Northrop Urban Environmental Learning Center (4315 31st Ave. S.).

Come visit Northrop School to see just what a community gem it is. Northrop offers three all-day kindergarten classrooms, a Hi-5 half-day preschool program, MPLS Kids before- and after-school programming, and an experienced, diverse staff dedicated to providing every student with a rock-solid elementary education. Beyond that, Northrop's environmental focus offers students an impressive array of practical and engaging hands-on learning opportunities, from the lunchroom waste recycling program to the school plot at the nearby Southside Star Community Garden.

Tour times are still available before the Feb. 29 deadline, but only a few weeks remain, so hurry! Scheduled dates are Tues., Feb. 7; Thurs., Feb. 16; Fri., Feb. 24; and Tues., Feb. 28. All tours begin at 10:00 a.m. and last about one hour. You do not need to make an appointment for regularly scheduled tours, but if these dates and times do not work for you, please contact Family Liaison Brenda Hennen to arrange another tour time (668-4546).

For more information about the Hi-5 preschool program, contact Emily Martin at 668-9437 or visit the school office. For more information about school choice requests, call MPS Student Placement Services at 668-1840 or visit www.mpls.k12.mn.us and look under the "School Choice" heading.

President's Corner

by Sam Newberg

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when a brewmaster, Jamie Robinson, came to a SENA meeting to explain his plans for a brewpub one block from my house, I listened. He was there with the new owner of the building, Andy Root, and a big fat business plan. I was all ears. Jamie and his business partners were proposing to open a brewpub, but they were short \$160,000. Would the neighborhood be interested in investing as individuals, he asked? Absolutely, I thought. He thought so, too, and his hunch was a good one. Within weeks, he had raised \$200,000 from individuals, neighbors, and beer lovers who wanted to have a little say in what they ate and drank and where they did it.

So you may find me and any number of the other "founding members" at the brewpub when the weather is a little warmer. We'll be seeking a pint (and a fine one at that!) and possibly a meal. But we'll also be seeking a commercial node with a little less vacancy and a few more eyes on the street. We'll be seeking a few more neighborly bonds, and one more place to be a community. Hopefully, just hopefully, you'll join us. After all, the founding members' pints are already paid for. Perhaps, if you make our acquaintance, we'll buy *you* one!



SENA

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President's Corner

Sam Newberg

"Free beer for life? Wow, that is awesome!" That's what my friends and family typically say when they find out I "invested" in the Smokehouse Brewpub, due to open this spring at the corner of 28th Ave. S. and E. 38th St. Yes, for \$1,000 I get

free beer for life at the pub, *my* pub. I reckon if I visit my pub just once a week for a pint, my investment will have paid off within three years. Of course, I could have chosen to *not* spend the money on beer in the first place, and I'd have a grand to spend in some other way.

But let's back up for a second. Yes, I like beer, and no, I'm not drinking while I write this. There's nothing like a good winter spiced ale at this time of year or a refreshing lager in the summer, but I don't want to become a "Norm," the character on *Cheers*. I don't like beer that much. I remember Norm's line, "Women, you can't live with them, pass the beer nuts." I'm not that kind of guy. A regular, perhaps, but not *that* regular. In fact, I will probably bring my wife and children to the pub more often than not.

I have at reverie—at times hazy—of time spent in pubs in the British Isles, Belgium, and the Memorial Union Terrace in Madison, WI. My first jetlagged pint in London was a Tetley's Bitter at the Taylor Walker Pub in Soho. On a London walking tour of Southwark, we stopped at The George Inn near the Thames,

where the tour guide explained that Shakespeare and Dickens drank here. Okay, I thought, now *I'm* going to drink here! (Now that's marketing!) At O'Neill's, an Irish pub in Covent Garden, the old bartender, Jimmy (think Coach from *Cheers* but with an Irish accent), would stand at the bar at last call and sing "Her eyes they shone like diamonds." Or I remember stumbling upon Sean Doherty's Tavern in the Wicklow Hills, south of Dublin, as the sun emerged after a day of hiking in the rain—a pint of Guinness at the end of the rainbow! I don't expect the serendipity of finding a quaint pub a block from my home. It doesn't work that way. But I do expect a nice addition to our neighborhood, and that makes me very excited.

What all of these pubs of my memory overseas offered, and what other pubs in Minneapolis share (The Local, Brits, Merlin's Rest, and Busters, to name but a few), is community. People have been going to these places—places not home nor work—for years to share a pint and some camaraderie with others. But the Smokehouse Brewpub will be *my* pub. I helped make it happen, and I certainly intend to drink there!

So why did I do it? In a word, community. I'm putting my money where my mouth is. I already keep my own house in good repair, and I figure if there is a way to help improve a commercial building nearby, that may also help improve my neighborhood. So

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