



Yoga in Our Own Back Yard

BY STEVE PAQUIN

While the rest of her Kenny neighbors were huddled indoors waiting for a blast of icy January weather, Sharon Hills-Bonczyk was on the shores of a Guatemalan lake, leading a group of Kenny residents in the exploration of a tropical paradise, an historical artisan culture, and their own spirituality. Although that sounds like a daunting expedition, to Sharon it was a way for people to experience the deeper aspects of yoga away from their day-to-day lives. The combination of yoga, art, and Mayan culture was inspirational and compelling. In 2009, after 15 years in health care management and more than 30 years practicing yoga, Sharon felt it was time to give back to the neighborhood and share her love of yoga with the community. All of her children grew up in her Kenny home, and she feels strongly anchored here.

The idea to teach yoga right in her home was literally an impulse in the middle of the night. "I woke up and came downstairs, looked around and realized 'Wow, this could make a really sweet yoga studio!' And I just started moving furniture out."

Of course, that's not a decision a wife and mother of three gets to make in a vacuum. Although her children are grown, they all return to her home regularly and she didn't want to disrupt the environment. When Sharon asked for



Sharon Hills-Bonczyk at the Villa Sumaya yoga temple in Guatemala.

feedback on her plan, the response was a resounding "Wow! That's fantastic! Go for it, mom!" And so began 5809 Yoga,

therefore does not charge for classes, instead she accepts only donations. "Yoga can help you to navigate the challenges of your life with grace and with ease. 'You can't stop the waves, but you can learn to surf.' That's what yoga brings to me, and I want to share it."

Sharon began the process of certification as an instructor, choosing to center her practice in the Kripalu style of yoga, which is a lifestyle-based, therapeutic approach. "I'm interested in how yoga can deepen the experience of living, regardless of ones spiritual inclinations. It can also grow community and address specific health issues. Yoga is so much more than sculpting ones body."

Sharon entered an immersion program at the Kripalu Center for Yoga & Health in the Berkshire Mountains of western Massachusetts, and "loved it so much I just kept training." She spent three months of a 10-month period at the center, emerging with the highest certification

"I want to help people improve physical issues they may have, rather than simply sculpt their bodies."

located at 5809 Emerson Avenue South. "My goal is to make yoga accessible to everyone, including those who might not find themselves in a yoga studio." Sharon

available. Although she had practiced Iyengar yoga for over 30 years, she chose

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Kenny Neighborhood Association

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KNA Meetings

All Neighbors Welcome!

7 p.m. on the third Tuesday each month
 at the Kenny Park Building,
 1328 W. 58th St.

Contact us:

- For interpreters, listening devices and/or readers
- To place an item on the agenda
- For further information

Call 612-392-4477 or write to
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Kenny Neighborhood Boundary Map

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Letter from the Chair

BY BRYAN SIMMONS
KNA Chairperson

Bridge Closed – Open for Business!

As you all probably know, the project to replace the Lyndale Avenue bridge began on January 17th with the closure of the roadway over Minnehaha Creek. The bridge will remain closed until sometime in mid October when the new span will be completed.

As you can imagine, 10 months without the Lyndale bridge will mean longer commute times and general headaches with increased traffic along the detours and through the neighborhoods as residents take alternate routes. Keep in mind, the detours are minor and temporary inconveniences that the residents of southwest Minneapolis will live with. What is important, however, is the continued support of our local businesses at 54th and Lyndale and all the businesses throughout southwest Minneapolis.

I can't stress enough how vitally important it is to continue to support our neighborhood businesses during this period. Not too long ago, back in 2007 and 2008, the businesses at Nicollet and Diamond Lake Road went through a similar stretch when the Diamond Lake bridge over 35W was closed during the

Crosstown/35 project. Several great businesses did not survive, including Betsy's Back Porch Coffee, which eventually closed its doors in December of 2008. The site is still vacant today.

I was fortunate enough to attend a meeting of the 54th and Lyndale business owners the day after the bridge closure and I will tell you, they are concerned about the impact the bridge closure will have on their businesses. While the Kenny neighborhood does not have the entire business node within our boundary, we do look at the storefronts at 54th and Lyndale as our neighborhood shopping district. My comments to the business owners at the meeting were that Kenny Neighborhood Association (KNA) will continue to promote "shop local" and remind residents that the stores are "open for business" at 54th and Lyndale.

One of the things that make southwest Minneapolis a great place to live is the ability to walk to our neighborhood "downtown" areas that are bustling with businesses, friends and neighbors. It would be a great loss to our neighbor-

hood or any neighborhood if these little "downtown" areas disappear. So please, continue to "shop local" and make the extra effort to support the businesses at 54th and Lyndale and throughout southwest Minneapolis during the Lyndale construction.

To keep yourself updated on the construction progress but also neighborhood businesses and special events, check out these websites:

- www.kennyneighborhood.org
- www.NEHBA.org
- www.experiencesouthwest.com
- www.hennepin.us/lyndale

Nicollet East Harriet Business Association (NEHBA), KNA and Experience Southwest can also be found on Facebook, so be sure to "Like" these pages.

As always, if you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me or any of the KNA Board members. Our contact information is listed page 2 of this newsletter.

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Cover Story *continued from page 1*

to become certified to teach Kripalu yoga classes which provide strengthening and toning, increased flexibility, relaxation, meditation, breathing, and customized attention.

An amazing thing happened along the way – yoga became a family affair. Sharon’s husband, Steve, began attending her classes as a way to strengthen his back, and achieved such great results that he became a regular practitioner. Eventually, he realized that Sharon might occasionally need a substitute teacher, so he spent a month at the Kripalu center and became a certified instructor.

Sharon’s son Zac, a local musician and sound engineer, became so engrossed in his yoga practice that he’s now experimenting with new ways to fuse yoga with hip-hop music (though Sharon doesn’t envision offering that approach in her studio’s class schedule anytime soon).

Sharon’s most yoga-centric family member is her daughter Summer, a ceramic artist. Summer also went to Kripalu to become a certified instructor and now teaches regular classes at her mom’s studio and includes yoga in her performance art.

It was in part because of Summer that the 5809 Yoga retreat to Guatemala took shape. Summer works as a Spanish interpreter, and lived for a year and a half in Argentina. When Sharon first began considering the idea of taking students on



Seven Kenny residents who went on the yoga retreat are (from left) Shannon Drew, Kathleen Fluegel, Lynda Griebenow, Summer Hill-Bonczyk, Sharon Hill-Bonczyk, Mary Arneson and Steve Bonczyk.

world-class yoga retreat center called Villa Sumaya in Guatemala. We knew we needed an awesome destination for our first retreat and this location sounded ideal.”

With no idea whether anyone would be interested in registering for the trip, Sharon planned an itinerary and presented it to her classes at 5809 Yoga and The Marsh in Minnetonka, where she also teaches. The response was surprising. Although she had anticipated bringing only 12 people, she ended up with 22 people and others on a waiting list.

So, in early January, Sharon, Summer, Steve and their yoga students set out on a Guatemalan adventure. The first two days were spent in the charming

and deep listening, participants also took excursions into Mayan villages, visited Mayan ruins, met local residents, kayaked, climbed a volcano, and participated in healing arts. Summer’s experience as an artist and her Spanish fluency helped with communication and cultural connections.

“I think everyone enjoyed the trip and some might say it was a transformative experience,” says Sharon. “It’s hard to effectively describe the impact of sitting in a paradise setting, taking pause from your daily life to sink into the moment, to envision your next steps and what your gifts are to the world. The group grew close and I think everyone was affected by the experience.”

One of the challenges stemming from such an experience is transitioning back to busy lives and the struggles of everyday life. “While ‘re-entry’ can be hard, remembering to ‘take pause’ can help,” Sharon says. “My hope is that they will integrate some of what they learned and will share the gift of themselves with others. There is certainly a lot of love in this group. They are amazing and beautiful people.”

What’s next for 5809 Yoga? Sharon would like to journey back to Guatemala next January with perhaps another group. She’s lived around the world and may add other destinations. If there are folks in the neighborhood searching for a healthy lifestyle, some self-reflection, and maybe a paradise getaway, it seems a safe bet that Sharon will be there to assist.

If you are interested in learning more about yoga and Sharon Hills-Bonczyk, please visit www.5809yoga.com.

“My hope is that they will integrate some of what they learned and will share the gift of themselves with others.”

a retreat, she realized that her daughter’s language skills and love of art and Latin culture could be a major benefit if they went to a Spanish-speaking country. Sharon had planned a lot of retreats for health care professionals during her time at Children’s Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, but she had never participated in or led a yoga retreat. “I wanted to take people outside of their everyday life into a paradise setting where they could simply dive deep and play, and really reconnect to their true self.

“We chose this site because one of our teachers at Kripalu takes groups to a

colonial town of Antigua, a UNESCO world heritage site, exploring historical landmarks and art museums. Revitalized by the gorgeous climate and majestic natural setting, they then set out for their ultimate destination, Villa Sumaya.

Accessible only by boat, the yoga center is situated on the shores of Lake Atitlán with a rising backdrop of three volcanoes. It’s a breathtakingly beautiful and spiritual location, considered sacred by Mayans. For six days the group immersed themselves in yoga, art and Mayan culture. Although the retreat’s focus was on meditation, yoga, relaxation,



NRP Update

BY RUTH OLSON
Neighborhood Revitalization
Program Coordinator

NRP Office Closed on December 31, 2011

After more than 20 years of investing in the improvement of Minneapolis neighborhoods and empowering residents to make a difference, the City of Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) officially closed its doors on December 31, 2011.

KNA received more than \$850,000 in funding from NRP over the past 20 years. This funding has been used to increase the quality of life for residents in Kenny Neighborhood. Sometimes, KNA was the sole supporter for a project; other times, KNA NRP funds were used to leverage funds from other sources to complete a desired project. Some of the major highlights accomplished by KNA and NRP include installation of a new playground at Kenny Park; several housing rebate and loan programs, a wetlands management plan

at Grass Lake, improvements at Kenny and Anthony schools, improvements at Kenny Park, façade and landscaping improvements for Kenny businesses, sponsorship of the annual neighborhood festival, continued communications with residents through the use of a newsletter and website and use of a part-time staff person to coordinate all the workings and projects of KNA. We also have further funding set aside for the redevelopment of Lyndale Avenue South and Highway 121.

With the closure of NRP, the City of Minneapolis has launched a new department, Neighborhood and Community Relations. This new department will provide funding to neighborhood groups, albeit at a much-reduced rate. The goal of this new program is to allow neighborhoods to continue operating

and engage its residents, but it does not provide funding for the type of projects and programs listed above.

Several people have asked where we go from here and if KNA will be able to continue operating. The answer is a resounding... YES! KNA has been fiscally conservative and has been making plans for the past several years on how to keep operating in the face of such drastic reductions in funding. KNA will continue to be the voice of the neighborhood at City Hall. We will advocate for the neighborhood regarding any needs or problems. We will continue to host the annual SummerFest and publish the *Kenny Neighborhood Newsletter*. We will continue looking for outside sources of funding in order to maintain Kenny's status as one of the best neighborhoods in Minneapolis.

Last Chance for \$30 Home Energy Visit!

The cost for Community Energy Services (CES), Minneapolis' premier residential energy efficiency program, will be increasing in March 2012. To sign up for just \$30, you must attend a presentation and schedule your home visit before March 31, 2012. Don't miss out – join the 112 homeowners in Kenny who have already participated!

Attending a FREE CES presentation qualifies you for a home energy visit from a team of energy pros who will install energy savings materials and identify opportunities for insulation and mechanical upgrades. Of homeowners

who attend a presentation, 98% schedule a home energy visit because of the remarkable service and value. Homeowners have been amazed at all the practical and easy ways to make their home much more energy efficient and comfortable.

CES has helped more than 4,000 Minneapolis homeowners fight ice dam problems, make home energy improvements, and save energy and money in their home while staying comfortable. It also helps homeowners with the next steps including: finding qualified contractors, applying for utility rebates and accessing low-interest financing.

Take advantage of this great program at this great price before it's too late! To register for a presentation, visit mnces.org or call 612-335-5869.

Our Next Presentations

February 23, 6:30 p.m. Southwest High School, 3414 47th Street West

March 20, 6:30 p.m. Clara Barton Open School, 4237 Colfax Avenue South

For a list of additional presentations, visit mnces.org.

Mark your
calendars!

Kenny Neighborhood Annual Celebration

April 17, 7 p.m.
at Anthony
School Cafeteria

Celebrate the Kenny
Treasures and learn about
what's happening in the
neighborhood.

Nominate a Treasure by
filling out the form on the
page 11.



Earth Day Events at Kenny Park, Saturday, April 21, at 9:00 a.m.



Anthony and Armatage Community Education programs, Kenny Neighborhood Association and Kenny Park partner for an Earth Day clean-up and fun family event. Neighbors, families and friends will meet at Kenny Park to pick up litter at Grass Lake and the surrounding neighborhood. Immediately following the clean-up, participants are invited to return to the park for more Earth Day fun, featuring live music, a family wood-working project and refreshments. FREE ~ Everyone is Welcome! Clean-up begins at 9; bags & gloves will be provided.



Kenny Community School Plant Sale

Spring is in the air at Kenny Community School!

Kenny School will be holding its Annual Spring Plant Sale offering a variety of annuals, perennials, planters, hanging baskets, herbs, and vegetables from Holasek Greenhouse.

Stop by the Kenny School office after February 22 to pick up an order form and support Kenny School!

For more information or to request an order form via e-mail contact jjmclawhorn@gmail.com.

The Kenny Foundation cordially invites you to our spring fundraising event benefitting Kenny Community School

March Magic



Friday March 9, 2012

7:00 p.m. - Midnight

\$40 per Person includes food and drinks

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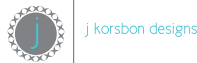
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Thanks to the following Kenny neighbors who have generously contributed to our 2011 winter fund drive! Your donations will help fund important neighborhood activities, including the Kenny SummerFest and this quarterly newsletter.

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Gang Activity on Route 156!

BY ED HUERTA

Join us, dear reader, for a tale of wanton revelry, of cheap, sordid gossip, of cat fighting, of... no, actually it's simply a tale of new friendships, ribald humor and even a Happy Hour or two (or three or four) thrown in for good measure. The common bond: Bus Route 156.

In September 2007, my partner, Dick, and I moved into the Kenny Neighborhood. I work downtown and we're a one-car family (actually, I don't have a driver's license, but that's a tale for another time), so I take the bus to work. I usually catch the 156 express bus, at the corner of 58th and Emerson. It affords me a nice commute toward Xerxes, to 56th, on to Lyndale and 54th, to 35W, and then on to downtown. And it gives me time to get to know people. A lot of people.

In Chicago — we moved here 5 years ago — a person typically did not have any type of conversation on the public transit system. Trust me — you just didn't. But here in Minneapolis, and specifically in the Kenny Neighborhood, that approach to public ridership was about to change.

One morning, a charming, friendly woman introduced herself to me as I waited for the bus. I can't recall the exact words, but Janice and I met and began our initial Bus Buddy relationship. Janice had been taking the bus for a number of years and knew just about every regular passenger. And she began to introduce me to each one of them: Peter, Andrew, Beth and Kate. Our morning and evening commutes were filled with animated conversation, which in turn would sometimes lead to laughing so hard that tears would come to our eyes (and a few disparaging looks from other passengers—who obviously weren't from Kenny!). Contrary to statements otherwise, we were never asked to get off the bus. Close, but never actually asked.



Some of the 156 Bus Buddy Rabble Rousers.

The ability to reach out and communicate is always a gift for any intelligent being. And that gift began to grow and so did our group: Dale, Jeff, Carlos, Marc and Gillian. We sometimes would even “take over” the back of the bus with laughter, conversation and tales of plans for the weekends, vacations, etc. We shared successes (Kate's and my new jobs), we shared concerns (my partner's chemotherapy, Dale's company moving to St. Paul, an unfortunate passing of someone near and dear) and more. But most importantly, we shared each other's company. Cold winter nights on the way home were truly a bit warmer with this group.

Warm summer days weren't as horribly hot with... Wait—who am I kidding? They were still pretty darned cold and hot, but the point is, we shared it all and sharing made the ride that much more delightful.

We enjoyed each other so much we decided (I think it was Kate who first suggested it) to start a semiregular Happy Hour (timed so that we could each catch the “last” route to our 156 bus). Typically, we met at the 8th

Street Grill downtown. A boisterous bunch we were. And that ride home after Happy Hour never seemed as long. We've even had a Happy Hour with families (husbands, wives, partners and children) at Prima. All the while, just growing closer and sharing our lives.

Times and jobs change (we had a “going away” Happy Hour for Dale when his company moved to St. Paul and he no longer took the 156) and schedules change (as to when we each take the bus route in the morning), but regardless, we all try to take the same bus headed back to our respective neighborhoods and are able to catch up on the week's activities, successes and trials.

We'll keep growing and adding new friends, and the Happy Hours may even begin to move to one or two of our homes. And pretty soon, we'll literally fill the entire back of the bus! But please know that we're an inclusive group—meaning, Join us! Introduce yourself and join in the merriment and camaraderie that happen on Route 156. You'd be more than welcome to become a part of the “gang.”

Help with Chores for Seniors and Disabled Persons

The TRUST Chore Program provides household chore and maintenance services to seniors (over 60) and disabled persons of all ages living in South and Southwest Minneapolis. The project uses a neighborhood skills bank to match workers having the necessary skills with those needing assistance. The goal of the project is to help seniors and disabled persons continue living safely and independently in their own homes and apartments at a reduced cost.

The volunteer and independent contractors listed in the skills bank include retired people, students, and other neighborhood residents. All have completed applications, had references checked and been interviewed by the Chore Program staff before being listed and assigned tasks.

The TRUST Chore Program and Kenny Neighborhood Association (KNA) have been in collaboration since January 1, 2004. It has been a great partnership

and very helpful for the TRUST clients that live in the Kenny Neighborhood. KNA has supported TRUST through use of its Neighborhood Revitalization Program funding source. These funds are used to partially offset the cost of the maintenance service to Kenny residents. It has, indeed, been a big asset for those TRUST clients that live in the Kenny area.

An example of jobs with which we may be able to help you are yard maintenance, shoveling, window washing, gutters, small painting jobs, minor plumbing, electrical and carpentry jobs. We also do household chores such as routine cleaning, laundry and many others.

If you would like more information on TRUST or a brochure and list of the jobs our program can perform, please call the TRUST Chore Program at 612-827-6150. You can also check out our website at www.trustinc.org.

Safety Update

Last fall, Kenny Neighborhood was in jeopardy of losing our Crime Prevention Specialist, Amy Lavender, from the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD). Amy serves as the main point of contact and information for several southwest neighborhoods. Whenever we have had any crime/safety-related questions or concerns, Amy has been a constant source of information and support. In the initial City Budget, funding for two of the City's Crime Prevention Specialists was cut and Kenny would have lost its established connection with the MPD. However, Mayor Rybak and the MPD were able to find funding for these two positions in the 2012 budget and the Chief of Police has been instructed to come up with a way to fund these positions beyond 2012. This is good news for the continued safety of the residents of Kenny!

KNA Housing Funds Available

Kenny Neighborhood Association (KNA) has made additional funding available for home improvement projects through its Neighborhood Revitalization Program money. The original loan pool of money was completely used up and KNA dedicated additional funds to this important program. Exterior, interior and energy efficiency projects are all eligible. Residents can borrow up to \$10,000 at a 4% interest rate, with matching dollars required for those households with incomes over the Minneapolis median income. Now is the time to put in those new windows or finish off that basement!

KNA also has an Emergency Repair Fund available to be used in the case of catastrophic incidents that may make a home unlivable. Income limits apply.

Please contact Jim at Center for Energy and Environment at 612-335-5885 for further information on either of these programs.



Kenny Neighborhood Treasures Nomination Form

Our Kenny Neighborhood Treasures will be honored again this spring. A Kenny Neighborhood Treasure is an individual, group or business that has given selflessly time, energy, spirit and commitment to make Kenny Neighborhood an even better place to live—maybe the neighborhood as a whole, maybe the block you live on.

The KNA Board will pick this year's recipients from nominations from YOU! Please complete this nomination form and mail it to Kenny Neighborhood Treasures, 5516 Lyndale Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55419. Nominations received by April 6, 2012, will be considered. You may nominate more than one person, group or business. Treasures will be honored at the annual KNA Celebration and meeting on the evening of Tuesday, April 17 at Anthony Middle School. Questions? Call the KNA MessageLine at 612-392-4477. You may also nominate a Treasure at our website: www.kennyneighborhood.org.

I nominate _____ (name of person/group/business) as a Kenny Neighborhood Treasure!

(If you wish to list the names in a group, please do so on an attached page.)

Nominee's address _____ Nominee's phone number _____

Your name _____ Your phone number _____

Your e-mail address _____ Your address _____

Please describe why you feel this person, group or business should be recognized (add your own paper if needed): _____

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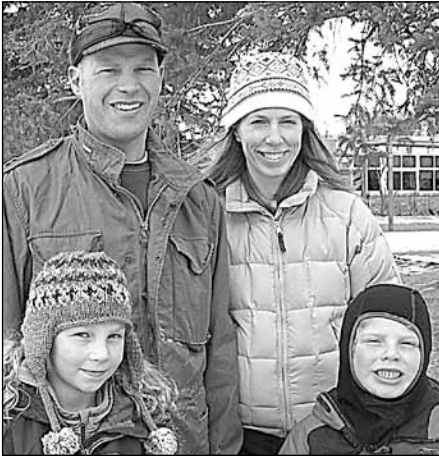
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Man on the Street



Jen, Dave, Emma and Viggo

We have been outside as much as in the past, but we have not been able to enjoy winter activities as much as in the past. Overall, we have enjoyed the warm weather more and the children have been able to play football and kickball outside until January. Today, the family is enjoying a nice day ice skating in the Kenny park.



Angela , Brian, Landon , Ada and Emilia (Will still out skating)

We are at the park today skating with the children. The kids are anxious to be outside. Usually by this time they are done with winter. The kids enjoy the park.



Our Man on the Street, Pat Hagan, asked Kenny neighbors,

“How has the warmer winter weather changed your outdoor activities?”



Linda and Esther

With the warmer weather, we are out walking more and finding it easier to get out to do more things. It is easier to get to the mall for walks and shop with less snow. We love the quiet Kenny Neighborhood and the people wholive here.

I am here [visiting from Chicago] to enjoy the the better weather you're having and spending time visiting my sister in Minneapolis.

Autumn

I love the warmer winter this year. I live on a corner property and it has taken a lot less time to clear the sidewalks with less snow this year.

Since there is a hill, the sidewalks have not been as icy and it's easier for people to walk down. Cars also have an easier time going up the hill next to my home.

The kids want to go outside more when it is nice out, although the kids do want more snow.



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KENNY

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Sample photos from Kenny365...check them all out at www.kennyneighborhood.org/

Clockwise from right:

1-13-12 Winter Bicyclist (by Mark Noble)
This bicyclist braved the elements and provided a burst of color on an otherwise gray winter day.

1-30-12 Still (by Kaia Kegley)
The Kenny ice is quiet tonight.

1-26-12 Owl Student Art Display at Kenny School (by Lauren Damman)

1-8-12 Winter Cancelled! (by Scott St. Aubin)
This year the winter party would have required skateboards and bikes.



Kenny Park News

BY KRISTOPHER STEVENS

Recreation Specialist

Kenny Park Neighborhood Center

1328 West 58th Street

kstevens@minneapolisparcs.org

612-370-4901

Jerry Peterson

CSA Lead Armatage/Kenny/Lynhurst/
Windom South



Skating Rink Hours

Monday-Friday 3-9 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Sunday 12-6 p.m.

Winter/Spring Hours

Monday - Thursday 3-9 p.m.

Friday 3-6 p.m.

Closed Weekends

Hours will start after the last warming room days.

Upcoming Field Trips

Tubing at Buck Hill, March 2nd (K-3rd grade)

Riverview Theater, April 3rd (Ages 6-12)

Shoreview Water Park, March 30th (Ages 6-12)

Skiing at Buck Hill, March 2nd (4th-6th grade)



Spring Programs

Adult Kick Fit (M and Th 6:30-7:30 p.m.)

Now Offering Kids Kick Fit (Th 5:30-6:30 p.m.)

Kenny Kids Play Group (Th and F 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.) Ages 3 - 6

Spring Egg Hunt

TBD either 2nd or 3rd week in April

Caricature, Arts & Crafts

Egg Hunt/Candy

Spring Program Registration

Monday, March 5, 2012 at 6 p.m.

Summer Program Registration

Saturday, April 14, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

Schools Update

What's Innovative at Anthony Middle School?

BY JACKIE HANSON AND DAWN LUCKEN HILLS

It's 2012 and we have innovation at Anthony to keep us inspired. Our batteries are recharged and the weather is keeping our outlook sunny.

Student Leadership

Many schools talk about student leadership, but here at Anthony, we match our words with action. Student leadership is a passion of mine. Our student ambassadors, student council, peer mediators and panther pals are a few groups from the student body who are coached in leadership through staff efforts and example. Sports at Anthony is also considered a leadership opportunity. We expect student examples that project the characteristics of an Anthony international baccalaureate (IB) leader wherever our students represent our untarnished name. The Music Department contribution to creating music leaders for the next generation is second to none. Were you here for the winter performances? We have a talented group of students, again, coached by excellent staff. The Science Fair produced proud winners, and this experience will propel students into an academic passion.

In addition to organized groups, it is a simple expectation at Anthony that all students reflect the student leader that is within each person. Ready for High School, Ready for College, Ready for

Life... It's what we say here and how we do business. In the first week in 2012, we were engaged in a Spelling Bee and a Geography Bee...History Day was coming soon. This is real student leadership—led by excellent staff. Academic pursuit doesn't come easy for all. Students may have talents in some areas and not so much in others. We believe here that effort improves intelligence. Homework follow-up, diligence, and attention to academics are what we ask our parents to engage in with the students. It is our innovative partnership that makes Anthony students achieve at high levels and display talents that we are all a proud part of.

Our innovation will keep us inspired. Our innovation is found in our students and in their pursuits for excellence.

Middle Years Programme at Anthony

As we continue our journey toward becoming an authorized IB/Middle Years Programme (MYP) school, we have more good news to share. The IB has set the dates for our verification visit for May 21 and 22. This is a packed two days when a team of three or four people will come to Anthony to see how our programme is progressing. The team is comprised of teachers, coordinators and administrators who are trained extensively to offer feedback to schools pursuing authorization. While the team

is here, they will tour our building, visit classrooms, look at student work, speak to teachers, students and families, and examine the paperwork we have compiled for them over the past two years.

We're preparing for our visit in many different ways. Each quarter, teacher teams meet to talk about curriculum and collaborate on units of study. These retreats are an amazing opportunity to strengthen our programme. Teachers are being more intentional in how they use the IB language with Anthony students, and you're likely hearing your students talk about the units, Areas of Interaction, and the IB Learner Profile at home. If you would like more information on the IB, please visit their website at ibo.org. You're also welcome to contact Dawn Lucken Hills, Anthony MYP coordinator, at dawn.lucken-hills@mpls.k12.mn.us with any questions you have. There is much work to be done as we prepare for our visit in May. We're up for the challenge and encourage our families to talk about how school is different this year from other years. These conversations are vital to a successful programme because they really put at the forefront the importance of what we do in school. As things change, we hope our students feel challenged and empowered to ask questions and have the tools to find answers.

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Kenny Garden Club

Contact Bridget Johnston at
bridgetrandy@comcast.net or
Ann Davenport at
afdavenport@gmail.com to get
involved next spring.

Kenny Board Members Needed

Make a difference in your
neighborhood's future by joining the
Kenny Board. It's a great way to meet
your neighbors and be part of the
community. For further information,
contact any of the board members
listed on page 2.



Volunteers Needed for Kenny SummerFest

Want to be part of the festival plan-
ning or coordinate children's game
activities? The planning starts in
March! The date of the festival is the
first Saturday in August. It's a great
way to meet your neighbors. Contact
any of the board members on page 2.

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