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Home fair section

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Board hopes to give high schools later start without using city buses

by Sandra Smith

It started simply enough. The St. Paul School Board held an informational meeting on March 30 to discuss the possibility of letting senior high school students sleep in an extra hour before classes.

The board presented a summary of nine options for transporting students to school if starting times were changed for the 1998-99 school year. Most of the options had high school students attending class from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., though some had them in class as late as 4:00 p.m.

Board members had hoped to get feedback

on the options, which ranged in cost from a \$5 million budget increase to a \$1.9 million savings to the district.

However, as soon as the more than 50 parents at the meeting learned that three of the options involved students taking city buses to school, the focus of the meeting switched from sleeping in to getting off Metro Transit.

In the end, the board bowed to parental wishes and voted to drop the transportation options that involved city buses. All three options would have resulted in increased costs to the district.

School start/see page 5

Zoning Committee approves plan for new Summit Hill townhouses

Planning Commission to rule on permit request April 10

by Jane McClure

A narrow alley proved not enough to block a controversial Summit Hill townhouse development.

The St. Paul Planning Commission's Zoning Committee went against a city staff recommendation and voted unanimously on April 2 in favor of a special condition use permit for Lexington Commons. The full commission will act on the permit request on April 10.

Public Works traffic engineer Al Shetka's had recommended against using an alley as the primary access to the 10-unit townhouse development, which has been proposed for a vacant 3-acre tract southwest of Lexington Parkway and St. Clair Avenue. The alley is about 20 feet wide where it exits onto St. Clair

just west of Lexington. According to Shetka, the alley would have to be at least 24 feet wide for the first 30 feet to safely accommodate two-way traffic. Widening the alley would require taking private property on both sides of it.

Under the current proposal, the alley would connect to a private street off of Lexington to provide access to the townhouses. Some neighborhood residents expressed concern that motorists would use the alley to avoid the stoplight at Lexington and St. Clair.

Shetka's recommendation prompted the city's Department of Planning and Economic Development staff to recommend denial of the permit.

In rejecting that recommendation, the

Zoning/see page 2



Running with the rodents. With help from the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater, students last week took on the roles of hibernating creatures who awake to the warmth of the returning sun. The drama of spring played out last Friday at St. Mark's Elementary School. Photo by Kristine Heykants.

Villager inside

Board to reconsider its stand on sibling preference, other pressing issues 4

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 Communities urged to enlist youths in planning

by Kirsten Hornseth versity of Minnesota's Center for Urban and that the west of the Minnesota's Center for Urban and that the west of the Minnesota's Center for Urban and the table west of the Minnesota's Center for Urban and the table west of the Minnesota's Center for Urban and the table west of the Minnesota's Center for Urban and the table west of the Minnesota's Center for Urban and the table west of the Minnesota's Center for Urban and the table west of the Minnesota's Center for Urban and the table west of the Minnesota's Center for Urban and the table west of the Minnesota's Center for Urban and the Minnesota's C

Community organizers in Highland and Macalester-Groveland have a new resource to consult when planning programs for adolescent youths, thanks to a recently completed study of 12- to 15-year-olds in those neighborhoods.

Highland and Mac-Groveland teamed up with Summit-University and Frogtown last fall to conduct the study to find ways of enticing teen-agers off the street and into more constructive activities. The study was a spin-off of the St. Paul Inter-Campus Community Effort (SPICE) initiated by the same community councils to provide service opportunities for college students.

Jessica Bakkene, a senior philosophy major at Hamline University, was hired to conduct the study with the aid of a grant from the University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs. Bakkene surveyed teenagers who she found hanging out in public places after school to discover how they spent their free time. The result is a report entitled "What Twelve to Fifteen Year Olds Want: A Reference for After School Youth Programmers."

The report showed that what youths enjoy doing after school varied among neighborhoods and by race. Teens in Highland and Mac-Groveland tended to prefer skateboarding and snowboarding, while most of the Frogtown and Summit-University teens preferred basketball and break dancing.

The findings suggested that despite the differences in ethnic and economic backgrounds, youths respond best to activities that they were involved in planning.

"The biggest thing I got out of the report is

that the most effective tool in youth programming is youth involvement," said Macalester-Groveland youth program coordinator Lee Wallace. "Giving youths the power to make decisions seems really logical, but it doesn't happen that often."

Too frequently, Wallace said, adults see unoccupied teens as a problem and look for solutions without consulting the kids. "The kids will tell you what they want and what they need," she said. "The best thing an adult can do then is to facilitate. That also puts the adult more in a mentorship role."

Wallace said Mac-Groveland has focused on arts-related programs in the past, mainly to balance the school-sponsored sports programs that are available for youths. The only gap discovered in the survey was a facility for

Study/see page 5

Experts tie city's growth to building of many more homes

In the next 25

years, the

Metropolitan

Council is hoping

to focus as much

as two-thirds

of the region's

population growth

in urban areas to

avoid the high cost

of urban sprawl.

by Jane McClure

The St. Paul City Council sat down with a panel of housing experts last week to figure out how the city can reap the benefits of some of the expected growth in the metropolitan area's population in the next 22 years.

The Metropolitan Council has projected an increase of 330,000 households, or about 650,000 people, in the region by 2020. If 10,000 of those households were to be developed in St. Paul, it would mean adding about 500 new homes each year to the city's housing stock.

City Council members learned that St. Paul has added about 600 housing units since 1990. Exact figures on the number of housing units lost in the city during the last eight years were not available. However, a recent housing study by the St. Paul Department of Planning and Economic Development shows that close to 440 homes were demolished between 1991 and 1995.

Retaining residents and attracting new residents, the council was told, will require more private and public investments in housing, more housing options for an aging population and a willingness to increase housing density in parts of the city.

The City Council and the St. Paul Department of Planning and Economic Development (PED) are currently drafting a citywide housing plan that council members hope to adopt by year's end.

The growth in metropolitan population in the next quarter century will be comparable to the growth experienced over the previous 25 years, according to Jim Solem, a regional administrator with the Metropolitan Council. What will change between now and 2020, he said, is where that growth occurs.

All of the population growth over the past 25 years has occurred in the suburbs, Solem said. However, in the next 25 years, the Metropolitan Council is hoping to focus as much as two-thirds of the growth in urban areas to avoid the high cost of urban sprawl.

Solem said city officials can encourage population growth by catering to the housing needs of the aging Baby Boom population—people now between the ages of 34 and 52—

and the growing number of "empty nesters," parents whose children have grown and moved away from

These demographic trends are spurring a demand for more townhouses and condominiums, and those types of housing can be hard to find in older cities. Older home buyers are looking for large kitchens, plentiful closets and the single-level homes that are not in great supply in older urban neighborhoods.

"People like the idea of central-city living, but it can

be difficult to find a house with all of the features they want," said Solem, who is a former chair of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency.

Housing developer and Highland Park resident Dick Brustad agreed. Brustad, who has lived on St. Paul Avenue since 1970, said, "Virtually all of my neighbors have reluctantly moved to Mendota Heights or Eagan. People want to stay in the city, but they can't find the housing options they need."

A growing number of people are interested in living in a city where they can be within walking distance of stores and restaurants, according to housing consultant Joe Gibbs.

The challenge for urban developers, according to Brustad, is finding the land to build the kind of housing people want.

Brustad is now serving as a consultant for River Bluff Village, a 500-unit housing development that has been proposed for a 65-acre

site overlooking the Mississippi River near Otto Avenue and West 7th Street. A joint project of the West 7th/Fort Road Federation and Brighton Development, River Bluff Village would include single-family homes, townhouses, rental apartments and assisted-living units.

The \$90 million development would be built on the site of the former Koch and Mobil Oil fuel tank farms. Project planners are currently awaiting the results of tests to determine the extent of soil contamination on the site.

Brustad called River Bluff Village "the best site I've seen during all of my years of work in the housing field." The project has been delayed by pollution concerns and the difficulty of working with multiple owners, Brustad said. However, construction could start as early as the fall of 1999, according to Ed Johnson, director of the West 7th/Fort Road Federation.

Regional planners have been looking at ways that mass transit can promote housing

in urban areas. One proposed route for mass transit, the Riverview Corridor between downtown St. Paul and Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, would run near River Bluff Village.

West 7th Street, the I-35E Parkway, Shepard Road and the railroad right-of-way alongside it are all being studied as possible routes for the Riverview Corridor. Options on the table include dedicated bus lanes as well as lightrail transit.

According to Solem, any discussion of new transit routes, whether in the form of dedicated bus routes or light-rail transit, should include a discussion of housing. "We should not make major investments in mass transit if we're not going to think about how communities can relate to that investment," he said.

Gibbs encouraged the City Council to find ways to avoid the conflicts that seem to inevitably arise whenever new housing is planned in an already developed neighborhood. The neighborhood disputes can create costly delays for developers, he said.

In the past year, Ramsey Hill and Summit Hill residents have wrangled at length with the developers of small parcels in those neighborhoods—the eight-unit Pineview Homes on Laurel Avenue and Mackubin Street and the 10-unit Lexington Commons townhouse development off St. Clair Avenue and Lexington Parkway.

In both cases, the design of the housing units was criticized by neighbors as being "too suburban" in appearance.

Some cities use zoning districts to dictate the type and appearance of new housing in an area, according to Gibbs. "When you have agreed-upon design standards for a community," he said, "that can save a lot of time and hassle for a developer."

Zoning Committee recommends Summit Hill townhouses/from page 1

Zoning Committee added stipulations that the private road be widened to 24 feet at Lexington, that the road and the portion of alley abutting Lexington Commons' property also be 24 feet wide, that the narrow northern section of the alley be paved to a 20-foot width and that there be a 24-foot-wide outlet between the St. Clair sidewalk and the street. The committee also wants the developer to pay the costs of removing and relocating a Northern States Power pole near the alley.

Developers John and Erin Mathern of Mendota Homes have wrangled with neighbors over the project since last summer. The Matherns want to build five two-unit town-houses on the site. The townhouses would be one and two stories tall with exteriors of vinyl siding or stucco. One townhouse would face Lexington Parkway and the other four would be clustered on the western end of the site to preserve as much open space as possible.

Cluster developments such as Lexington Commons require a special condition use permit from the city. The units would range in price from \$129,900 to \$179,000.

This is the Matherns' second try for a per-

mit. Neighbors successfully appealed a previous permit that the Planning Commission approved in November. The City Council upheld the appeal and denied the permit in January. Design of the townhouses and concerns about using Lexington Parkway as the only access route for the townhouses prompted the City Council decision. Neighbors say they plan to wait and see what the Planning Commission does before deciding if they will appeal the new permit.

Lexington Parkway resident Pat Byrne said the alley, even at its current width, encroaches on his diveway. He said the alley should not be the main access to Lexington Commons.

"Nowhere else in this city is there primary access to a development through a 20-foot or smaller alley," he said. "Housing in St. Paul is supposed to be developed on city streets. You can't take my alley and call it a street without designing it to proper standards.

Byrne was the only neighbor testifying against the permit request on April 2, but eight others sent letters opposing the project and 18 people signed a petition in opposition. Only one neighbor sent a letter of support.







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Mary Hardy

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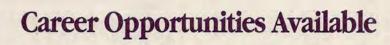
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to rethink attendance policies, other issues by Jane McClure ment capacity." It calls for a

City asks School Board

As the search for a new St. Paul school superintendent intensifies, the St. Paul City Council is weighing in with its own concerns about the city's public schools.

On March 25 the City Council adopted a resolution addressing the St. Paul School Board's sibling preference policy, school attendance boundaries, the DARE (Drug Awareness Resistance Education) program, sitebased management of public schools and preschool education. The resolution also calls for the School Board to establish expectations for student achievement, attendance and test results, and to outline methods for measuring student progress.

Schools where students fail to meet expectations should face "clear consequences," according to the resolution.

Council members planned to send the resolution to the School Board along with an invitation to meet with the council to discuss the issues.

One concern raised by the council is the need to better prepare St. Paul preschoolers for Capitol Hill School, the district's gifted-and-talented elementary magnet school and the only city public school that requires an en-

trance test. Another issue concerns the district's school attendance policies, especially those that concern sibling and neighborhood preferences. The resolution states that parents and students in St. Paul should have the "absolute right to choose their neighborhood school for attendance, subject to enroll-

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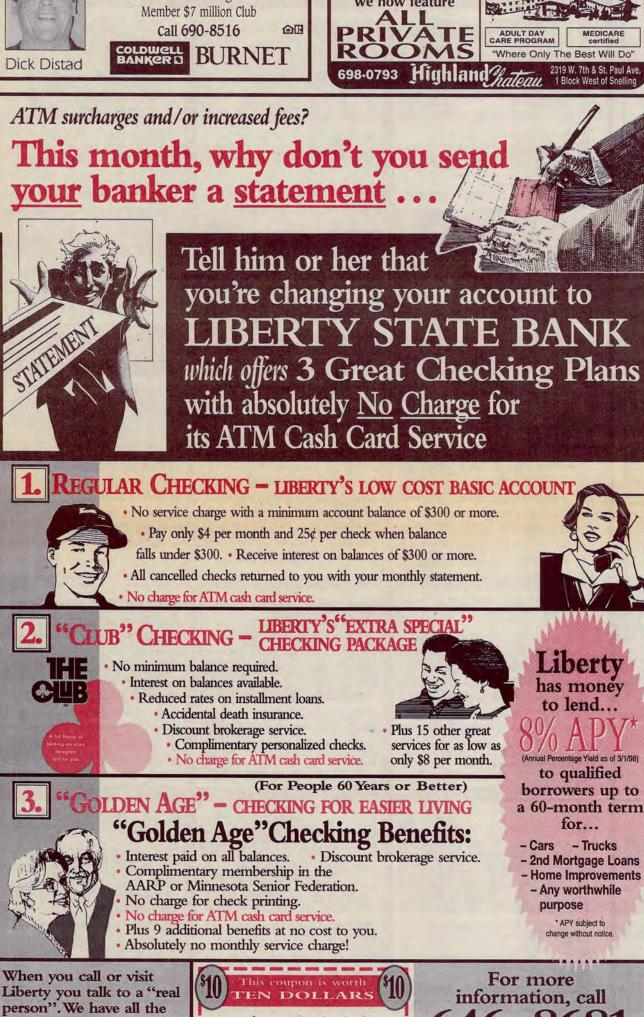
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sibling preference policy for all public schools and for parents to be able to send their children to the school closest to home. According to the resolution, current school attendance areas encourage busing.

Sibling preference gives priority to families that want to enroll a child in the same school that a brother or sister is attending. Neighborhood preference gives priority to children who live near a school, so long as their attendance does not skew federmandated racial balances. Although every home in St. Paul is in a designated neighborhood attendance area, not all schools have a neighborhood preference zone.

School Board member Greg Filice has asked the City Council to hold off on acting on attendance issues until the two bodies can meet. According to him, the council needs more information on attendance policies before passing resolutions calling for changing them. He said that sibling preference "is a hot issue" and that public meetings on the district's attendance policies will be held this spring.

Adams Spanish Immersion and Four Seasons are the only St. Paul public schools that have sibling preference. Adams has sibling preference because the immersion method of learning Spanish encourages entire families to speak Spanish. Four Seasons, the city's only year-round school, has sibling preference so families can coordinate vacation schedules.



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School start times/from page 1

Most of those who spoke at the meeting opposed using Metro Transit. Many parents said they didn't feel comfortable putting their teen-agers on a city bus. Some said their children would have to get up earlier than they do now to make the several transfers required to get to school.

One person in favor of using Metro Transit was state Senator Sandy Pappas. "I believe the later start to a school day reduces the chance of teens getting into trouble," she said. "It also will get kids accustomed to using the Metro Transit system and increase ridership in the future. I believe the public perception of the safety of Metro Transit buses is real, but statistics don't show it's any more dangerous than riding the school bus or walking to school."

Pappas was the co-author of a state law passed last spring requiring the St. Paul and Minneapolis public schools to develop a plan for using Metro Transit to transport at least 75 percent of high school students beginning with the 1998-99 school year. Many parents and staff denounced the plan, primarily because of safety concerns.

Many of the parents at the March 30 meeting did not like the idea of flip-flopping school starting times between elementary and high school students. Most of the district's high schools now start at 7:30 a.m., and elementary schools at 9:00 a.m. In some of the options presented, elementary students would have begun class at 7:30 a.m. Parents said the change would mean young children would be walking to bus stops in the dark in the winter.

Some of the same issues were raised in the fall of 1996 when school district officials drew up proposals to change the high school starting times from 7:30 a.m. to as late as 9:45 a.m. At the time, school officials cited health studies that suggested teen-agers are naturally inclined to be sleepy in the early morning and more alert later in the day. The studies led some school officials to surmise that the district's early high school starting times

were detracting from student performance.

St. Paul School Board members decided not to take any action at that time, but some said they still believed that later starting times would reduce absenteeism and tardiness.

The options now being considered include the following:

- High schools and combined secondary complexes would go to an 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. schedule. There would be no change in schedule for junior high and elementary schools. Cost: \$5 million.
- High schools and combined secondary complexes would go to an 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. schedule, and junior highs to an 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. schedule. There would be no change for elementary schools. Cost: \$3.9 million.
- High schools and combined secondary complexes would go to a 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. schedule, and junior highs to an 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. schedule. Elementary schools would go to 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. or 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost: \$1.97 million.
- High schools and combined secondary complexes would go to a 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. schedule, and junior highs to a 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. schedule. Elementary schools would go to 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. or 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost: \$1.4 million.
- High schools and combined secondary complexes would go to an 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. schedule, and junior highs to a 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. schedule. Elementary school would go to 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. or 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Cost: a \$1.9 million savings.
- High schools and combined secondary complexes would go to a 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. schedule, and junior highs to an 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. schedule. Elementary schools would go to 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. or 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Cost: a \$1.9 million savings.

Board members now plan to discuss the issues among themselves before opening up the dialogue



These area kids thrilled to the challenge of a pickup game of basketball two weeks ago on the outdoor court at Linwood Playground. Here, Danny Buron, 9, finishes off a drive to the basket with a perfectly placed skyhook. Photo by Mike Long.

Study urges new youth programs/from page 1

skateboarding. Some teens indicated they were interested in rendering graffiti art, but Wallace said that would never be endorsed by the community council.

Directing youths away from graffiti and other forms of vandalism and into more constructive activities was one of the reasons for conducting the study. Last spring business owners on the western end of Grand Avenue sought additional police coverage because of the large number of students from Ramsey Junior High and other schools who were congregating in the area after

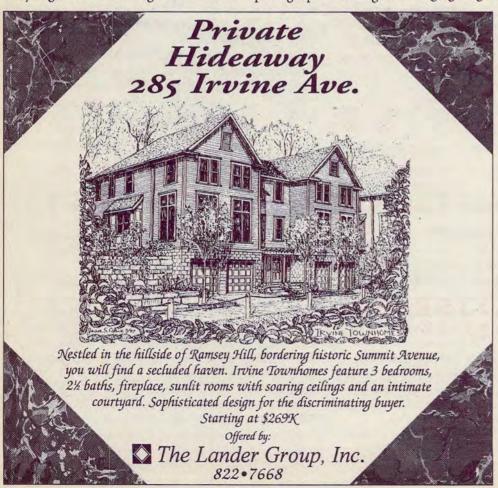
school. Store owners complained about shoplifting, graffiti and the fact that some of their customers felt threatened because of the number of teens loitering in the area.

Highland Park also has had its share of graffiti and other forms of vandalism caused by youths who hang out at the Hillcrest Recreation Center and at the Treasure Island Playground behind Expo School.

Wallace said information from the survey will come in handy when planning youth programs. One of the first steps she wants to take is to resurrect the Mac-Groveland Teen Council, which sponsored dances and other artrelated events in the past.

Though the Highland Area Community Council does not provide the same range of youth programs that Mac-Groveland's does, community organizer Gayle Summers said she also plans to draw on the study when determining future activities for area teens.

"There weren't a whole lot of surprises about the kids in Highland and how they use their time," she said. "Certainly there's more we can do."





VIEWPOINT

MISCH-MASCH

MICHAEL MISCHKE

No such thing as free checking

of the degree to which the economics of professional sports in this country has warped the economics of publicly owned sports facilities. So, unlike normal people, rather than spend a beautiful spring day out in the yard or out on the golf course, I was hunched over my desk in the office, reading the riveting 112-page "Arena Lease Among the City of St. Paul, Civic Center Authority and Minnesota Hockey Ventures Group, LP." Let's just say it wasn't the quickest read I've ever come across.

As you're probably aware, city and/or state taxpayers are now on the line to back three-quarters of the \$130 million cost of demolishing the old and constructing the new Center Formerly Known as Civic. How much the state chips in, if anything, and what form that contribution will take, if any, is still unknown. What is known is that if the state places any impositions on financing, including any taxes, the city is expected to cover them. In lieu of state support, St. Paul taxpayers are on the hook for \$95 million.

The city will attempt to recoup its costs with a tax on arena tickets, the city's half-percent sales tax, expansion of the tax increment financing district that was set up to help pay for the demolition and construction of the Lawson Software block, and an annual fee of \$385,000 to be paid by Minnesota Hockey Ventures in return for the city's ceding to the team the exclusive right to sell advertising on all outdoor marquees. The city will retain ownership of the arena and rent-free use of the facility for up to 10 days a year, including time for set-up and break-down. However, the city will give the hockey team half the net gate on those 10 dates.

Minnesota Hockey Ventures will pay \$35 million toward construction and will cover any cost overruns. In return, the hockey team will reap all arena revenues except on the 10 dates alluded to above, including ticket sales (less the ticket tax), luxury suite and club seat sales, all advertising and promotional revenue including arena naming rights, all concession and restaurant sales, merchandising revenue from all events and from the hockey team's retail store, all publication revenue, all broadcast revenue, merchandising and other revenue from the NHL, "and all other revenue derived from Tenant's business outside of the Arena."

In addition, the hockey team will be paid the net parking revenue realized for all hockey games from the city-owned 1,730-space Civic Center ramp, the 430 spaces in the underground lot at the Civic Center, and the 235 spaces on city-owned surface lots contiguous to the arena.

But that's just the beginning. The city has agreed that grant money for the abatement of hazardous substances at the existing arena is a priority for 1998. (It's well known that there is an asbestos problem at the arena.) The polluted brownfields at the Maxson Steel, MTO bus barn and Koch-Mobil sites just got put on the back burner.

The city has agreed to construct, at its expense, any and all required "off-site improvements." It's not known what those improvements would be nor how much they would cost.

The city has agreed to "use its best efforts" to get legislation enacted by the State Legislature that would grant a waiver from public bidding for construction, and a sales tax exemption during construction. In other words, the hockey team is demanding no impositions on public financing, but no financial encumbrances in the form of public bidding on construction contracts or sales taxes on construction equipment and materials.

The city has agreed to "use its best efforts" to replace any parking spaces lost to future development. Presumably, that means if any of the vacant city-owned acreage around the arena is ever developed—and there's a lot of it—city taxpayers are on the hook to put up another parking ramp.

Finally, the city and hockey team have agreed to "collaborate" on the construction and operation of a new practice facility. In the meantime, I would imagine that the Highland-Central Hockey Association ought to watch out.

Tell you what. If this deal with Minnesota Hockey Ventures can actually cover all the costs that St. Paul has agreed to pick up, I say the city should go for broke. Let's get the Twins, too!



DARE we do better? Studies suggest we can

by Dr. Mark Willenbring

ost people agree that the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs by adolescents is potentially harmful. Most people also agree that minimizing drug and alcohol use and its associated harms, such as driving under the influence, is a desirable goal. Where disagreement occurs is in how to achieve that goal.

The St. Paul School Board is currently reviewing its drug prevention programs, including its Drug Awareness and Resistance Education (DARE) program, with the intention of deciding on a future direction.

Research has shown that family environment and the social skills of children are important predictors of drug use. Programs that enhance parenting skills and a child's social skills offer protection, especially for youths already beginning to experiment with these substances. The most effective approach to drug prevention among young people involves a comprehensive effort in which school-based programs are only one part of a larger community-wide strategy.

Effective programs have common characteristics, including the teaching of social and drug-resistance skills and the promotion of positive peer influence and antidrug norms. They include 10 to 15 sessions in the first year followed by another 10 to 15 "booster" sessions. Research

also suggests that peers and classroom teachers may be more effective than outsiders in delivering the message.

The Life Skills Program has the best evidence supporting its effectiveness. This three-year middle school program has produced 59 to 75 percent reductions in tobacco, alcohol and marijuana use. Project STAR involves not only the school but the entire community in prevention efforts. Research has shown a 20 to 30 percent reduction in tobacco, alcohol and marijuana use among high school seniors who took that two-year program in junior high. Project Northland, a community-wide effort to reduce underage drinking, is now being tested by researchers at the University of Minnesota. This ongoing project has shown significant reductions in underage drinking.

DARE has not fared as well when its effectiveness was measured. The Institute of Medicine in 1998 concluded that the "evaluations of (DARE) programs consistently show they have no long-term effects." Another authoritative review of drug prevention programs noted that evidence of DARE's effectiveness is inconclusive.

Supporters of DARE have criticized these studies, maintaining that the program has been improved since the studies were done. However, Dr. Dennis Rosenbaum of the University of Illinois recently concluded a six-year study of DARE using techniques endorsed by DARE itself. The

Willenbring/see next page

Villager was all wet and its editor a bit red

by Dale Mischke

felt a little like the Dutch boy of lore who happened upon a hole in the dike and stuck his finger into it to hold back the waters. The situation was just as desperate—only, far from being the hero, I was the goat who had punched the hole in the dike, threatening the community with a flood of misinformation.

No, there will be no household hazardous waste collection at the Highland Ice Arena in April despite what you may have read in the last *Villager*. Somehow a press release from a year ago landed on my desk and, not seeing the "1997" in small print, we ran it like it was news.

The Highland arena's parking lot hasn't been available for waste collection since work began on the expansion of the arena last fall. Ramsey County is now working with the

Summit Hill Association on replacing the Highland site with a seasonal collection site in the parking lot of the Pleasant Avenue arena.

In the meantime, my apologies to those of you who may have loaded up your old paint thinner, oil filters and fluorescent bulbs and headed over to the Highland arena on April 3 and 4. And my apologies to the Ramsey County administrators, who were generous enough to station an employee at the site to inform people of my mistake and direct them to the county's year-round household hazardous waste collection site on the North End.

That site is located at the Ramsey County Recycling Center, 775 N. Rice St. It is open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. every Saturday except holidays. For information on other, seasonal household hazardous waste collection sites, call the Neighborhood Energy Consortium at 633-EASY.

Every adult can and must play a role in preventing child abuse

by Susan Carlson

ore than 10,200 children were abused and neglected in Minnesota in 1996. Sixty-five percent of these children were neglected, 32 percent were physically abused, 8 percent were sexually abused and 2 percent were emotionally abused. As the percentages indicate, sadly, some children suffered multiple forms of abuse and neglect. Each and every one of them is the responsibility of each and every one of us.

Children are vital members of our communities, and each time a child is hurt in any way, our communities suffer. That's why entire communities must address this abhorrent problem. Every day in Minnesota, almost 28 children are abused or neglected. That's 28 children too many. Child abuse and neglect is everyone's problem and together we must work to prevent it.

Through my work as a district court referee, I have seen too many victims of child abuse and neglect. The cases that actually get to court are the worst cases. Many of these children can tell stories that most of us would consider to be our most horrific nightmares. I try to explain to these kids that it does not have to be scary to be a child. But fear is what they know best.

We have part of the answer in some of the services

government and communities already provide. We have 14 crisis nurseries in the state where parents can seek immediate temporary care for their children to ensure they are safe, and access counseling and long-term services for themselves. Last year 5,600 Minnesota children received care in crisis nurseries, but that is not enough to solve this monumental problem.

We have foster homes and adoption services to provide children with safe, nurturing environments, but all too often only after they have suffered abuse and neglect. More than 1,800 children are under the state's guardianship, waiting to be adopted because the courts revoked their parents' rights to care for them. Many loving, giving families have opened their hearts and their homes to these children, but that is not enough either.

We have counseling services, parenting classes, support groups and chemical dependency services—all to help families in crisis. We have communities, counties and nonprofit organizations investing in early intervention and child abuse and neglect prevention services, but that's still not enough. Nothing we do will be ever enough until we all get involved, until each and every one of us does our share to reverse this trend and protect our children. We all can—and must—do something.

As parents, we must listen to and talk with our children rather than yell, hit or demean them. We must praise and

encourage them every day.

As communities, we must help keep children safe and promote healthy families by supporting and linking families to the resources they need in times of crisis. We must learn about the signs of abuse and neglect to prevent children from getting hurt. As difficult as it may be, we must confront and report parents who we suspect of harming children. At the same time, we must help abusive parents get the help they need. We must counsel and educate each other on the horrendous, long-term effects of child abuse to prevent it from occurring time and time again.

As a society, we have an obligation to decide how best to spend our community resources, how to educate our children and how to organize our workplaces so that they are family-friendly. As schools, businesses, religious organizations, social service agencies and law enforcement agencies, we must all become more involved in preventing child abuse and neglect.

Not until we do all this and more will we ensure the safe, healthy, productive future of our children. We can only plant the seeds of success for tomorrow by protecting and nurturing our children today.

Editor's note: Susan Carlson, the wife of Governor Arne Carlson and mother of Jessica, 14, is an attorney and district court referee in Hennepin and Ramsey counties.

Willenbring: Our schools can do more to discourage drug abuse/from previous page

findings? Not only was DARE ineffective, but suburban children exposed to DARE had significantly *more* drug use than those who were not exposed to it.

Other researchers are beginning to question whether we are using the wrong approach overall. Marianne D'Emidio-Caston and Joel Brown, for example, recently published a study showing that the "just say no" abstinence approach common to most drug prevention programs is rejected by many kids. Young people appear to be capable of drawing their own conclusions based not only on what they are told in the classroom, but on what they observe and experience. These students are asking for accurate and complete information so they can make their own decisions.

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If the results are clear, what is so controversial? Why not simply use the program that has been shown to be most effective? One answer is that this is a highly symbolic issue and there may be unstated goals other than reducing teen drug use and abuse. DARE, which is conducted by uniformed police officers, may be seen by some as symbolizing the current political approach to drugs, which relies heavily on criminal sanctions for drug users. Others may see the message of abstinence as being more important than the results. As a physician and scientist as well as a parent of two teen-age boys, I would advocate for the singular goal of minimizing drug use and its related harms, and I support using the most effective means of achieving that outcome

based on the best available research.

Those who wish to pursue other goals need to state them clearly and defend them, particularly if the pursuit of those other goals leads to the use of less effective programs.

Editor's note: Dr. Willenbring, a Highland Park resident, served on the citizens advisory task force appointed by the St. Paul School Board to examine drug prevention programs. He is an associate professor of psychiatry at the University of Minnesota School of Medicine, is chief of the Addictive Disorders Section at the VA Medical Center, and is affiliated with the Open Debate Project, which is dedicated to providing accurate drug policy information.



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Refuse of winter will melt away with warmth of many volunteers

To the editor:

It's that time of year when you see an accumulation of litter in our parks and along our walking paths. For me, these eyesores spoil my enjoyment of the coming of spring and being outside.

With the help of the Highland Area Community Council and the St. Paul Division of Parks and Recreation, I have organized the fourth annual cleanup of several littered areas in Highland. Volunteers are needed from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 18, to pick up trash from the wooded bluff just north of West 7th Street between St. Paul and Montreal avenues, along the Shepard Road walking path and at Crosby Park. Little was done in Crosby last year because of the flood, but volunteers of all ages still collected dozens of bags of trash and many large items, such as old tires and furniture.

Please join us in celebrating Earth Week by making a positive difference in your neighborhood. Volunteers are asked to meet at Dakota Bank on West 7th Street, at the main entrance to Crosby Park on Shepard Road and Davern Street, and at the Crosby Park pavilion. For more information, call me at 690-1717. Hope to see you there.

Larry Hampel Highland Park

Authority questioned

Dear editor:

In Tom Conlon's op-ed article on the DARE program (Villager, February 25), he described those who question the appropriateness of having police officers teach class as "resenting authority." I can see where maybe Mr. Conlon thinks police may represent the ultimate authority for him, but I feel Mr. Conlon has sidestepped the issue of who should have the authority to teach in classrooms. Are we properly respecting the teachers' authority in that category?

I wish Mr. Conlon would stay away from inference and innuendo to make his point.

Bill Mears Snelling-Hamline

Arms and the child

To the editor:

No matter how astutely the psychologists and sociologists analyze the lives of the young Jonesboro criminals, the bottom line is, if there were no guns available to these young boys, the Jonesboro incident could not have happened.

The Center for Disease Control in Atlanta reports that nearly 1.2 million children return from school to a home with no adult supervision but with a loaded and unlocked firearm. Children and teen-agers cause over 10,000 shootings every year. America has the highest rate of children killed by firearms in the world. In fact, America's rate is 12 times higher than the total rate of children killed in 25 industrialized countries.

We should ask our members of Congress to support the forthcoming Child Access Protection Bill, which will

VILLAGE POST

mandate locked storage or trigger locks for firearms.

We Americans must stop wringing our hands and instead take action to moderate the gun culture that is so prevalent in our country.

Lorraine Hertz Highland Park

Disregard for the other parent

Dear editor:

For several years I have been the noncustodial parent of two children in the St. Paul Public Schools. Even though I am legally entitled to receive the same information about school activities and events as the boys' father, with whom they reside, I have been continually overlooked and neglected by teachers and administrators. The result is that I have repeatedly missed out on events like concerts and parent-teacher conferences.

If other parents in my situation have experienced this same disregard, I would like to hear from them and see if there is something that can be done to alleviate this frustrating and painful situation. Please write to me at 453 S. Pascal St., St. Paul, MN 55105. Let's see what can be done to let those in charge of our children's education know that we want and need to be involved too.

Mary A. Landreman Macalester-Groveland

Support drivers licensing bill

Dear editor

The Minnesota Safety Council strongly supports the graduated drivers licensing bill currently moving through the Legislature. The bill would establish a three-stage process to ease young, inexperienced drivers onto the road.

As a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing injuries on the road, at home, at work and at play, we know that traffic crashes are overwhelmingly predictable and preventable. We also know that our current system of licensing doesn't provide the support that young people need to become safe drivers.

Teen-agers, who make up 7½ percent of licensed drivers in Minnesota, are involved in almost 16 percent of fatal crashes. More than 9,000 Minnesota teen-agers are injured or killed in traffic crashes each year. The factors cited in most teen crashes are speeding, inattention and inexperience. Most young drivers do not intend to put themselves and others at risk. However, they lack the experience behind the wheel to understand the potential consequences of their behavior. Teens simply cannot imagine they could be injured or killed.

The graduated licensing bill provides additional behind-

the-wheel experience, allowing teens to gain the skills they need to recognize and respond to road hazards. Though some people are concerned that this legislation discriminates against young people, in reality it helps protect them. This legislation is about saving young people's lives. It's about protecting them from injuries and disabilities. It's about providing an effective learning process for our most vulnerable drivers.

Carol A. Bufton, President Minnesota Safety Council

Elderly drivers should be tested

To the editor:

Last year my fiancé was in a car accident. The cause: an elderly motorist made a wrong decision. This year my fiancé's new car was dinged up. The cause: an elderly motorist. While state legislators are deciding about making stricter laws for younger drivers—which I support 100 percent—they should also start discussing new laws for older drivers.

Don't get me wrong; I have a lot of respect for the elderly. But when it comes to driving, very few should be on the road because of the usual loss of hearing and eyesight and the slow reaction time that comes with aging. But instead of penalizing all older drivers, once you reach a certain age you should have to take your drivers test again and keep taking it every few years.

I hope this is taken into consideration before another life is lost to elderly drivers. I would rather they be alive and safe than the alternative.

Melissa Stein Highland Park

One scrap at a time

Dear editor:

Do you enjoy the park along Mississippi River Boulevard? A few neighbors, as they walk, run, bike or drive along the park, stop occasionally to pick up litter and carry it to the next trash receptacle. Thanking them would be nice and joining them, even better.

John Kaplan Highland Park

Thanks for the coverage

Dear editor:

Your article on the Charter Commission hearings (Villager, March 25) was very well done. It was interesting and informative and fairly represented the different points of view. It's obvious that writer Chris Smith took some pains in preparing it. Thanks to him and to the Villager for the excellent coverage.

Robert D. Butterbrodt Macalester-Groveland



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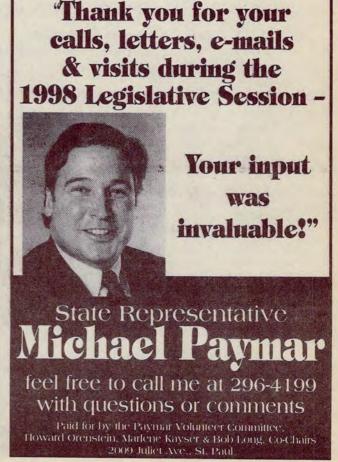
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Owner Henry Barksdale adjusts the gears of a bicycle in the repair area of his new St. Paul Cycles store in Highland Village. Photo by Kristine Heykants.

Highland has a new bike shop at its hub

by Dave Page

Henry Barksdale is enthusiastic about the business climate in Highland Village.

"This has to be the nicest neighborhood shopping area in the Twin Cities," said the 43-year-old South Minneapolis resident who last week opened St. Paul Cycles at 2024 Ford Pkwy.

A long-time biking enthusiast, Barksdale recently left a job at NordicTrack. "I got tired of the corporate rat race," he said. Highland was in need of a bicycle shop, he said, and getting a retail shop up and running is second nature to him. At NordicTrack he oversaw the establishment of 100 new outlet stores.

'We plan to offer affordable prices and excellent service, a sort of mom and pop store in a different form," he said of his new venture."We want to make St. Paul Cycles a bright, friendly place to shop?

St. Paul Cycles takes over the space in the Highland Shopping Center formerly occupied by B. Dalton Bookseller, which closed several weeks ago. B. Dalton's parent company is Barnes & Noble. which opened a much larger

bookstore in Highland Village two years ago.

According to Teri Eberhardt, community relations manager for Barnes & Noble, the company had felt there was room for both stores in Highland.

St. Paul Cycles sells a dozen or so styles of bikes for under \$300 and the vast majority for under \$500. It stocks both upright and recumbent models and lightweight aluminum and steel frames.

St. Paul Cycles also offers full-service bicycle repair in the adjacent space formerly occupied by Mail Bag Etc. Barksdale said he is mostly self-taught when it comes to bike repair, though he did attend a bike service school in Chicago.

Jake Olson, the other bike mechanic, hails from Roseville, and store manager Charley Bach is from Crystal. Barksdale currently employs two other people, but expects to hire another four staff members soon.

St. Paul Cycles also offers a full line of biking helmets, biking clothes and bike trailers for kids. Barksdale plans to sell swimwear a well.

"Many people who bike also like to swim," he said.

Benefit set for Buron family

The friends and family of John Buron will hold a benefit for the Macalester-Groveland native on Saturday, April 18, at Nativity School, 1900 Stanford Ave.

Buron, 39, a graduate of Nativity and Cretin High School, has been diagnosed with malignant mesothelioma, a rare cancer of the digestive tract. According to friends, the prognosis for the father of four childen is not good.

"Dance for My Daddy" will run from 5:00 p.m. to midnight. The benefit will include live music, a silent auction, a raffle, a three-on-three basketball tournament, children's activities, food and beverages. Admission is \$10 for adults and free for children. All proceeds will go to the John Buron Cancer Fund in care of Norwest Bank.



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Touched by a therapist

Power of compassion reaches a new level in the hands of Grace McDonald

One technique is

called "unruffling."

The practitioner

appears to be

stroking the air

several inches

above the patient

and at the end of

each stroke shakes

off his or her hands.

by Janet Lunder Hanafin

Grace McDonald knows how powerful human touch can be. As a nurse and owner of Quiet Moments Healing Center, the Highland Park resident specializes in the practice and teaching of therapeutic touch.

Touching is among the most ancient of the healing arts, McDonald said. It is based on the idea that all human beings have an energy field. In a healthy person, the energy is freely flowing and balanced. In a sick person, the energy is in a state of disorder. McDonald said

her job is to even out a sick person's energy field in order to facilitate the body's natural healing properties.

"The goal is to strengthen a client's healing capacity through balancing and restoring the person's energy field," she said. "Research has shown that therapeutic touch is effective."

Therapeutic touch was pioneered in the United States about 25 years ago by Dolores Krieger, a nurse and professor at New York University, and Dora Kunz,

a healer. The two women set out to teach graduate students in Krieger's nursing program to do the procedure. Krieger went one step further and began to conduct research to prove scientifically that therapeutic touch was beneficial

In the past two decades, studies conducted by scientists in the health care field have demonstrated that therapeutic touch relieves pain, promotes relaxation, reduces anxiety, lowers blood pressure and accelerates healing. Therapeutic touch is now taught in more than 80 universities and is practiced by more than 30,000 professionals around the world.

"Therapeutic touch is a scientifically based practice," said McDonald, who taught nursing

for 25 years at the College of St. Catherine. "I think it should be the first course in nursing."

A therapeutic touch treatment usually takes less than half an hour. A client remains fully clothed and may either sit or lie down. McDonald said the person providing the treatment first must become calm and meditative. The practitioner then assesses the patient's energy field by running his or her hands over the patient's body without touching it.

"If you can get into this quiet state and have the intention to help, it changes your energy

field," McDonald said. "Your energy field interacts with the other person's to boost it, balance it, strengthen it."

The practitioner may then use sweeping motions to smooth out the patient's energy field. One technique is called "unruffling." The practitioner appears to be stroking the air several inches above the patient and at the end of each stroke shakes off his or her hands. The technique can be used in crisis situations and has been known to

calm frantic people in a matter of moments. "You can see their body let go of the tension," McDonald said.

McDonald said hospital personnel are especially open to the idea of therapeutic touch, particularly in easing the pain of burn victims and others who cannot be touched.

The response of patients is affected by their lifestyle, general health and how long they have been ill, McDonald said. But according to her, even if the patient is skeptical, therapeutic touch works. In fact, McDonald said skeptics who come with a "show me" attitude are the most fun to work with.

The response to the rapeutic touch may be immediate or it may occur hours or even days



Therapeutic touch practitioner Grace McDonald smoothes out disruptions in the energy field of a client, Nancy McNeff, at her home-based clinic. *Photo by Kristine Heykants*.

later, McDonald said. She is quick to add that therapeutic touch cannot replace medication or surgery, but rather should be used in conjunction with all the healing arts.

McDonald and others came to the defense of therapeutic touch when an article published last week in the Journal of the American Medical Association questioned its effectiveness. The article described a science fair experiment carried out two years ago by a 9-year-old girl from Colorado. She tested the ability of therapeutic touch practitioners to sense the presence of a human energy field sight unseen, and found that it was no better than chance.

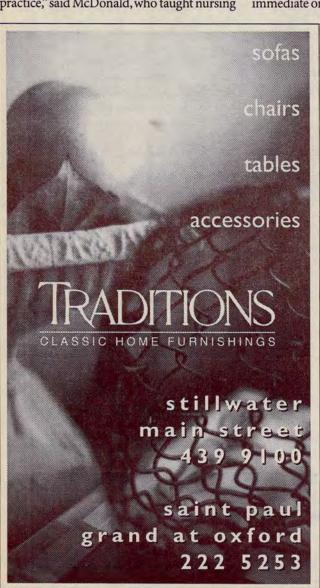
"The researcher did not measure whether or not therapeutic touch is effective," McDonald said. "She only measured whether or not the practitioner could feel another person's energy field. When the practitioner gets into a

quiet state and has the intention to help, it changes your energy field."

Studies have shown that patients who receive therapeutic touch heal more quickly than those who do not, McDonald said. Those studies also have shown that patients can get by with taking smaller and less frequent doses of medication when receiving therapeutic touch.

McDonald offers two-day workshops that teach practitioners how to achieve a meditative state and how to assess and restructure a patient's energy field. "I teach how important the intention is, to open yourself up to be an instrument of healing," she said.

McDonald said one of her goals is to get people to be open to the possibility that therapeutic touch can provide them with some comfort when they're ill. "Therapeutic touch is an exercise in compassion," she said.







NEWS BRIEFLY

Mac-Groveland residents weigh in on Ayd Mill Road's future at April 19 meeting

As a study of options for the future of Ayd Mill Road Task Force begins to wind down, public interest in the future of the roadway is beginning to pick up. In the weeks ahead, organizations representing residents and businesses along the 2-mile route that lies between interstates 35E and 94 are expected to take formal positions on the future use of the road.

The next group to weigh in will be the Macalester-Groveland Community Council, which will hold a town hall meeting on Ayd Mill Road at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, April 19, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 104 S. Snelling Ave. Macalester-Groveland residents are being invited to review the various options that are now on the table for Ayd Mill Road and indicate their preferences.

Alternatives range from leaving the roadway as it is, to replacing it with a linear park, to reconstructing it as a new two-lane or fourlane thoroughfare. Under the latter alternative, the south end of Ayd Mill Road would be connected directly to the I-35E Parkway near Randolph Avenue. The task force has already voted to connect the north end of Ayd Mill Road only indirectly to I-94 by way of its frontage roads east of Pascal Street.

By fall, the draft of an environmental impact statement (EIS) outlining the environmental effects of various Ayd Mill Road options will be completed. Once the task force makes its recommendation, the St. Paul City Council will decide which option or options should be studied as part of a final EIS.

Of all the community groups represented on the Ayd Mill Road Task Force, only the Summit Hill Association has taken a formal position on a preferred option. That position, which the association has maintained since 1994, is to rebuild Ayd Mill Road as a city street or parkway fully connected to the interstates but with a maximum speed limit of 35 miles per hour.

Yellow bikes to get rolling again from Grand and Selby Avenue hubs this month

A ceremony will be held at noon on Saturday, April 18, at Macalester College to mark the return of yellow bikes to Grand Avenue. The festivities will include old-time music and refreshments catered by Whole Foods

The Yellow Bike Coalition, a nonprofit organization, was founded in 1995 by a group of people who were interested in transforming unwanted bicycles into an economical and environmentally friendly transportation alternative for the Twin Cities. Last year, the coalition had more than 1,000 bikes at its dis-

The yellow bikes first appeared on Grand Avenue last August. At the time, a handful of area businesses agreed to become hubs where bikes could be checked out for free by anyone who had made a one-time, refundable deposit of \$10.

That will be the case again this year. Those who enroll in the program will receive a card and be able to check out a bike, lock and key much as they would a library book. Cardholders can ride the bikes-which are painted bright yellow to distinguish them from other bicycles on the street—wherever they want as long as they return them to the point at which they were checked out by the end of the business day.

The bikes will be available for checkout on Grand Avenue at Grand Performance, Whole Foods and the Hungry Mind. The bikes will also be available for checkout on Selby Avenue this year at Cahoots Coffee Bar near Snelling Avenue and Pangaea Coffee & Tea House at Fairview Avenue. Other hubs that will open in St. Paul on April 18 include the Tenth Street Coffee House in downtown and the No Wake Cafe on Harriet Island.

The Yellow Bike Coalition also is making its first foray into Minneapolis this year. A ceremony was held on March 21 to promote the opening of a bike hub at the ReUse Center in the Hi-Lake Shopping Center on Lake Street.

For more information, call the Yellow Bike Coalition at 222-2080.

Summer to bring permanent close to dangerous West 7th and Wheeler intersection

One of West 7th Street's most dangerous intersections, temporarily closed since last summer by cement barricades, will be permanently closed this summer. On April 1 the St. Paul City Council approved plans to reconstruct the right-of-way where West 7th Street meets both Wheeler Street and Munster Avenue.

Initially proposed by the Highland Area Community Council's Transportation Committee, the reconstruction will involve closing Wheeler Street south of West 7th with a culde-sac, closing off Wheeler and Munster north of West 7th Street with a landscaped berm, and allowing only right turns to and from Munster south of West 7th Street.

The changes were prompted by the high rate of accidents at the intersection. Between June 29, 1989, and January 23, 1997, there were 49 accidents reported there. Twenty people were injured in those accidents and one person was killed. The accidents have been attributed to traffic speed and poor sight lines. Twenty-two of the accidents involved turning vehicles.

The \$145,000 cost of the project will be split between the city of St. Paul and the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Public meeting set on plans to replace the I-35E bridge over the Mississippi River

Plans to replace the aging I-35E bridge over the Mississippi River will be outlined at a meeting from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. Thursday, April 16, at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. The public can view various plans for the bridge's reconstruction and hear a brief presentation at 4:30 p.m.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is hosting the meeting, which is the second of two. The first was held on April 7 in Mendota Heights, after this issue of the Villager went to press.

MnDOT has prepared half a dozen plans for a new bridge, ranging in width from 81 to 164 feet and ranging in cost from \$17 million to \$27 million.

The St. Paul City Council is pressing for as narrow a bridge as possible. Dakota County officials say they want a bridge wide enough to handle increasing traffic demands from suburban residents who use the overpass to get to work. The bridge now carries 72,000 vehicles a day. The daily traffic count is expected to rise to 115,000 by 2015 and 131,000

The bridge's existing northbound and southbound lanes are actually two separate structures. That two-girder bridge design was popular when the bridge was built in 1965, but is no longer used in Minnesota because it does not hold up well to winter weather conditions. MnDOT hopes to select a new bridge design this year and have final plans drawn up by late 2000. Bridge construction would take place between 2001 and 2003.

News briefs were compiled by Jane McClure and John Wadell.



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Here's an offer that's perfect for the way you live your life today. Right now, when you buy one pair of prescription glasses at regular price, you can choose a second pair of reading glasses, sunglasses, or even a spare pair, free. So if you're a book lover, sun worshipper, or just have a habit of misplacing your regular glasses, this offer is perfect for you.

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on any complete pair of eyeglasses (frames and lenses).

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MOF

Coupon expires 5/23/98 For greater savings, take an additional

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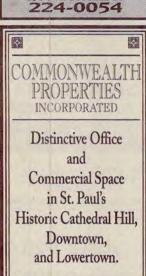
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PEARLE VISION

TRA



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224-5845



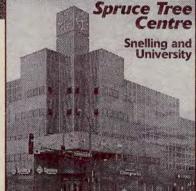
Bigelow's no more. The Cities Grill recently opened in the Sheraton Midway Hotel, 400 N. Hamline Ave. Billed as an "American statement of simplicity and taste," the upscale eatery offers a full menu of soups, salads, pastas, sandwiches and "wraps" that put the emphasis on taste. Restaurant manager Craig Richgruber and food and beverage director Steve Tachney (above), seated before some of the original art that graces the dining room, believe their patrons will find it a welcome departure from the former Bigelow's restaurant. *Photo by Brad Stauffer*.

A FASCINATING ARRAY...



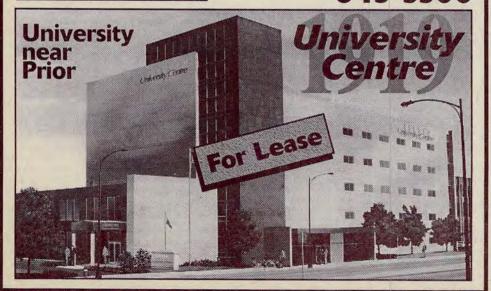
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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Neil Kulevsky of Merriam Park and Don Feige of Highland Park have joined the staff of Rose Technology Group, an Arden Hills software developer. Kulevsky was previously a consultant for Deloitte & Touche. Feige was a financial analyst for Ehlers and Associates. Both men are Macalester College graduates.

Nancy Feldman of South Minneapolis has been named chair of the board of the Minnesota Council of Health Plans. Feldman is the CEO of UCare Minnesota, a 60,000-member nonprofit health maintenance organization that serves low-income people and those with special needs. She previously was director of state public programs for Medica.

The YWCA of St. Paul will mark the sixth annual Take Our Daughters to Work Day on Thursday, April 23. Girls between the ages of 9 and 14 will visit women on the job and experience a variety of work-related activities that day. To register, call Diana Rodriguez at 222-3741.

Great Harvest Bread Company, 1049 Grand Ave., will be taken over by Target Stores from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 19. Bakery staff members and Target volunteers will be running the store that day to raise money for Catholic Charities. Great Harvest has conducted an annual "Baker for the Day" event for nonprofit groups for the past several years. This is the first time it has broken bread with a for-profit organization.

Business Network International is now meeting from 7:00 to 8:30 a.m. every Thursday at the Grandview Grill, 1818 Grand Ave. The group's purpose is to help

business people set up a network of referrals. For information, call Bev at 330-9152 or Nancy at 925-9850.

Greg Fenton of Highland Park has been named an associate with BWBR Architects. He specializes in medical, recreational and corporate architecture. Fenton has a BA in architecture from Iowa State University and an MA from Rice University.

Dr. Rosa Garcia-Peltoniemi, director of client and psychological services at the Center for Victims of Torture, 717 E. River Road, Minneapolis, recently received the Health Leadership Award sponsored by Insight News Group, McFarland Media Interests in partnership with HealthPartners. She was honored for providing mental health services to communities of color and for spending the past 10 years working with more than 600 torture victims and their families.

Bloomington Lake Clinic Ltd. opened a new health care facility last week at 1150 Centre Pointe Curve in Mendota Heights. The 10,000square-foot clinic includes 13 exam rooms, two special procedure rooms for office surgeries and a cast room. It will be staffed initially by three physicians - Drs. Linda Ferrario, Walter Hinck and Timothy Komoto-and will provide a full range of health care services, including obstetrics, gynecology, pediatric care, adult medicine, geriatric care and occupational health services.

J.D. Crafts has moved from its Randolph Avenue home of the past five years to a larger location at 274 N. Snelling Ave. By nearly doubling its space, the store has been able to expand its Beanie Baby, Fireside Coffees and Camille Beckman bath and body lines as well as add several new products, including handcrafted clocks, wire accessories and baskets. Prize drawings and other grand opening events will run through April 11.

Teri Walker McLaughlin has been appointed executive director of Children's Safety Centers. She previously served as interim director of the centers, which provide supervised visitation and exchange services to more than 2,700 families in transition. McLaughlin ran unsuccessfully for the St. Paul City Council in 1993 and '95, and managed Mayor Norm Coleman's re-election campaign in '97.

The Crossroads Shoppe recently opened at 619 Grand Ave. The shop offers handcrafted Amish quilts and furniture, wallhangings, table runners, rugs, baskets, hats and faceless dolls. Many of the items that the store sells are signed and dated by the craftsperson.

George Carroll, general manager of the Town and Country Club, has been elected to the board of the Club Managers Association of America. Carroll, a Macalester-Groveland resident, has been a member of the association for nearly 20 years and served as its president in 1996. He is a graduate of the University of St. Thomas and currently serves as secretary of its alumni board.

Zone 4 Landscape Services has opened at 1311 St. Clair Ave. The home-based landscaping company is owned by Tom Christ and specializes in computer-aided design techniques.

Lexington concord

The more things change, the more things stay the same as Tom Scallen prepares to buy the venerable Lex

by Dick Gordon

Tom Scallen plans to employ two business axioms as the new owner of the Lexington Restaurant: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it" and "The customer is always right."

Thus, the legions of Lexington faithful need not worry about any radical upheaval at the venerable Grand Avenue restaurant later this month when Scallen's acquisition from current owner Rick Webb is expected to be final.

"We plan to keep the staff, the menu and the methods of operation," said Scallen, who also owns Chanhassen Dinner Theatres. "The Lexington has a wonderful following and reputation. When a place has been successful this long, why change things?"

One difference that patrons will notice is that Scallen or his wife will be out on the floor greeting customers and making sure that the food is to their liking. "Either Bille Jo or I will be on hand all the time," he said.

In that approach, Scallen is borrowing a page from Don Ryan, a Lexington fixture for more than half a century. When Ryan was the manager, he personally greeted every man, woman and child who passed through the doors. In Scallen's opinion, Ryan personified the Lexington, both in its atmosphere and its personality.

In fact, it was his admiration for Ryan that

actually delayed Scallen's bid to buy the restaurant, which was founded by the McLean family 63 years ago. When Veronica McLean and her son, Robert, decided to sell the business in 1990, Scallen said he heard rumors that Ryan was a possible purchaser. "I didn't want to bid against Don," Scallen said. "When it turned out that Rick Webb had bought the place, I was disappointed."

Since the announcement of the impending purchase, Scallen, 71, has been asked by many of his friends why he would want to take on an additional headache at his age. He answers that staying busy is what keeps him young. "I'd wither away if I didn't work," he said. "But I wouldn't have bought any other restaurant. The Lexington is special."

The St. Paul landmark opened as a beer, popcorn and pretzel joint at the corner of Lexington and Grand in 1935, just a year after gangster John Dillinger had machine-gunned his way out of an apartment a block to the south. Ryan was a student at Cretin High School at the time and worked as a handyman and under-age bartender at the tiny bistro. Hamburgers were added to the bill of fare in the early 1940s, which is when Scallen became a regular customer.

Though Scallen lives and works in Minneapolis, he is quick to stress his St. Paul roots. He was born in the Capital City and attended



Those who have come to know and love the Lex won't find a lot of changes when Tom Scallen takes over as the new owner. *Photo by Mike Long.*

St. Thomas Academy and what is now the University of St. Thomas, as did his father and his three sons.

After earning a law degree at Denver University in 1950, Scallen served as assistant to Minnesota Attorney General J.A.A. Burnquist before going into private practice. His friendship with Oscar Johnson led to his involvement with the Minneapolis-based Ice Follies. He later became part owner of the Ice Capades, the Harlem Globetrotters and the Vancouver Canucks of the National Hockey League. He has owned Chanhassen Dinner Theatres for the past 10 years.

Webb, who has owned the Lexington for

the past eight years, decided to sell off his St. Paul holdings, which include some 10,000 square feet of building space, in order to devote his resources to his new upscale Italian restaurant, Ciao Bella, in Bloomington. "That was one of the attractions for me—I'll own the building," Scallen said.

The restaurant's sale will not be final until all the paperwork is signed. In the meantime, Scallen is biding his time.

He still laughs about one of the presents he received last Christmas. It was a gift certificate for the Lexington from Mark Ryan, Don's cousin. He's going to have to use it quickly or it'll cost him.

Easter Services at Area Churches

CATHOLIC

Highland Catholic Community

St. Gregory the Great: Easter Vigil (Sat.) 8:00 p.m.; Easter Masses 7:30, 8:30, 10:45

St. Leo the Great: Easter Vigil (Sat.) 5:00 p.m.; Easter Masses 9:00 & 10:30

St. Therese's: Easter Vigil (Sat.) 7:00 p.m.; Easter Mass 9:30

Holy Spirit: Easter Vigil (Sat.) 8:00 p.m.; Easter Masses 8:30 & 10:30

Immaculate Heart of Mary: Easter Vigil (Sat.) 8:00 p.m.; Easter Masses 9:00 & 11:00

Nativity of Our Lord: Easter Vigil (Sat.) 7:30 p.m.; Easter Masses 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 10:30 & noon

St. Luke's: Easter Vigil (Sat.) 8:00 p.m.; Easter Masses 9:00 & 11:00

St. Mark's: Easter Vigil (Sat.) 8:00 p.m.; Easter Masses 8:00, 9:30 & 11:30

9 Halloran & Murphy

575 S. SNELLING AVE.

EPISCOPAL

St. John the Evangelist: Vigil (Sat.) 8:00 p.m.; Sunday Services 8:00 a.m. (Holy Eucharist), 10:00 a.m. (Festival Choral Eucharist)

LUTHERAN

Gloria Dei: Easter Vigil (Sat.) 7:00; Easter Services 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 with Holy Communion; Emmaus Vespers 7:00 p.m.

St. Luke: Sunrise Service with Holy Communion 6:30; Pancake Breakfast 7:30 a.m.; Festival Service with Holy Communion 9:00

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

St. Paul's: Worship in Chapel (Sat.) 4:00 p.m.; Easter Festival Worship 8:15 & 10:30 with Holy Communion; Breakfast 9:00 to 10:30



Happy Easter from the John D. O'Halloran family



Family politics

Parental rights can only ease the pain brought on by a son's political wrongs

"We only knew

Mordechai Vanunu

through letters, and

now that we were

seeing him for the

first time, I wanted

to embrace him.

But of course, I

couldn't, so I stuck

my fingers through

the grate and

touched his."

by Bob Gilbert

In February Nick and Mary Eoloff found themselves face to face with an armed guard outside Israel's Ashkelon Prison. When they inadvertently stepped across a white line on the sidewalk, the guard ordered them to retreat. But when they asked for permission to see their imprisoned son, Mordechai Vanunu, the guard was dumbstruck.

Vanunu, 43, had been in solitary confinement at the prison for the past 11 years. A for-

mer technician at the underground nuclear weapons facility in Dimona, Israel, he was branded a traitor when he gave photographs of the nuclear arsenal to the Sunday Times of London. The newspaper published the photos with an article in 1986. Shortly afterward, Vanunu was tricked by Israeli intelligence agents into traveling from London to Rome. There he was kidnapped, taken back to Israel, tried and convicted of espionage.

The Eoloffs, who live on Goodrich Avenue, are part

of a worldwide campaign to get Vanunu released from prison. They consider him an international hero. The information Vanunu divulged led experts to conclude that Israel had more than 200 atomic bombs—the sixth largest nuclear arsenal in the world.

"He was a whistleblower who took pictures and gave them to the newspaper," Mary Eoloff said. "He wasn't trying to undermine Israeli security and he didn't ask for money. He just wanted to reveal what was going on because the deployment and use of nuclear weapons are wrong."

Last year Nick Eoloff, a retired editor for West Publishing, made headlines when he persuaded Ramsey County District Judge John Connolly to allow him and his wife to adopt Vanunu. This winter, as Vanunu's legal parents, they flew to Israel to lobby for his re-

Before they made the trip, the Eoloffs, who are members of Pax Christi, a Catholic peace organization, petitioned the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., the Israeli Consulate in Chicago and the U.S. State Department for permission to see Vanunu. No one responded. That Israeli authorities would honor the Minnesota adoption decree and al-

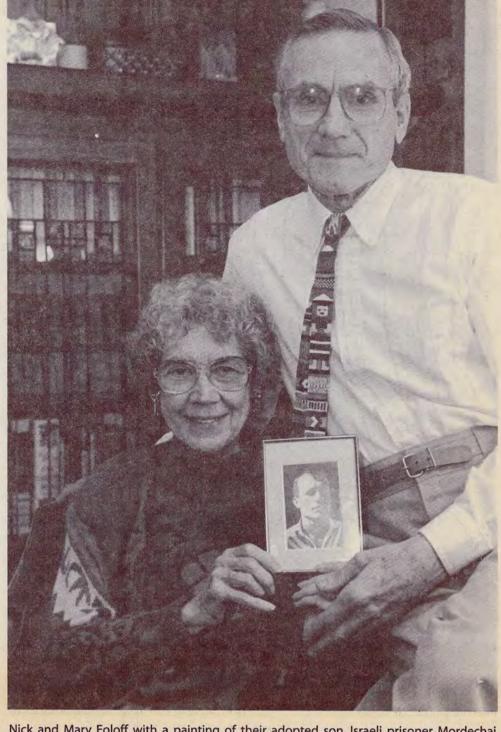
low them to assert their parental visitation rights was a long shot, but they went anyway.

Armed with affidavits, adoption papers and a bouquet of daffodils, the Eoloffs met with the warden, Commander Itzhak Gobai, who told them that a higher authority would have to rule on their request. After four days, permission was granted but with a stipulation. The couple could not talk about the nuclear weapons facility at Dimona, how Vanunu was kidnapped, or the closed trial that sentenced him to

18 years of solitary confinement. They agreed.

Several days later, the Eoloffs were led into a sterile prison room furnished with cement benches and divided by a steel-grate wall with holes the size of a finger. They had brought books and toiletries for Vanunupresents from their St. Paul friends and neighbors. Asher and Meyer Vanunu, the prisoner's brothers, were at the Eoloffs' side. When Vanunu entered the room on the other side of the grate accompanied by an armed guard, he smiled at the couple who had come so far to see him. The Eoloffs cried.

"Here was a person we had corresponded with for three years," said Mary Eoloff. "We



Nick and Mary Eoloff with a painting of their adopted son, Israeli prisoner Mordechai Vanunu. Photo by Kristine Heykants.

only knew him through letters, and now that we were seeing him for the first time—a person whose life had been so painful—I wanted to embrace him. But of course, I couldn't, so I stuck my fingers through the grate and touched his.

"He spoke good English and he looked healthy," she said, "but he is a very intense person. After being in solitary confinement for 111/2 years, I was worried about his emotional stability. He said the lights in his cell are always on and he is under constant surveillance. He claims he read the Bible every day for five years but it didn't help. Now he gets his

Eoloffs/see next page



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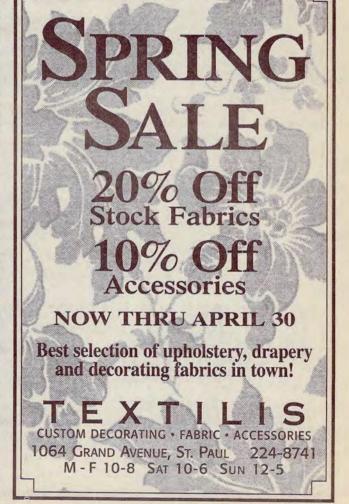


Brick 2-story home boasts main floor family room, large kitchen with new Pergo floor, formal dining room, hard-wood floors, security system. Double tuck-under garage. Price reduced!

\$199,900 699-6666

13

Les



Eoloffs meet adopted son/from previous page

strength from within."

Though the Eoloffs agreed not to discuss the forbidden topics, Vanunu had no such intentions. When he uttered the words "when I was kidnapped," Mary quickly changed the subject. An English-speaking guard was standing beside her taking notes. Vanunu, however, wanted to talk about his capture and was not going to remain silent.

The second time he said "when I was kidnapped," the guard abruptly terminated the meeting. A shouting match ensued between the three Vanunu brothers and the prison guards. The warden was summoned, and the visit was over 20 minutes after it had begun.

Yedioth Ahronoth, one of the largest daily newspapers in Israel, asked to interview the Eoloffs. The couple welcomed the publicity the article would give to the Vanunu case, but the prospect disturbed Vanunu's brothers. Mordechai had renounced his Israeli citizenship and his Jewish faith. His adoption by the Eoloffs had only further embarrassed the Vanunu family, Asher and Meyer said. "But we had to do the interview anyway because publicity for the campaign is important," Nick Eoloff said. When the article appeared, it featured a photo of the Eoloffs and a headline that translated from the Hebrew read, "Taming the Wayward Son."

After the article appeared, Vanunu's status was changed from security prisoner in isolation to a security prisoner. He is now allowed to mix with other prisoners.

The Eoloffs are keeping their fingers crossed that Vanunu might soon be paroled. In Israel, a prisoner is eligible for parole after two-thirds of his sentence is served. A hearing on his parole is scheduled for April 24. Israeli activists working for Vanunu's release have told the Eoloffs that his chances are 50-

Now that the Israeli government has recognized their parental rights, the Eoloffs are circulating a petition in the United States asking the president of Israel to release Vanunu as a gesture of goodwill in conjunction with his country's upcoming 50th anniversary celebration. Similar petitions are being circulated in Britain, Norway and Israel.

The Eoloffs also have written President Clinton and South African President Nelson Mandela asking them to use their influence to secure Vanunu's release. If he is freed, the Eoloffs say, they will work to get Vanunu an American visa and bring him to Minnesota.

In the meantime, a play about Vanunu, Mr. V. - Searching for Mordechai Vanunu, is being performed by an Israeli troupe. The play has already been presented in Israel, Britain and Scotland. As part of a nine-city U.S. tour, the troupe will present the play at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church, 511 Groveland Ave., Minneapolis. For ticket information, call 698-1493.

20% Discount The Golden Comb Family Hairstyling 714 So. Cleveland Ave. 698-8880 Open Wed. Eves. 'til 8pm





SENIOR NEWS

Senior citizen discount golf tickets are now on sale at the Highland, Como Park and Phalen 18-hole pro shops. Golfers must be 62 or older and retired to get the discount. For information, call 266-6445.

The Highland Senior Golf League is seeking players for its men's, women's and mixed leagues. An informational meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. Monday, April 13, in the Highland 18-hole clubhouse at Montreal and Hamline avenues. Play starts on May 4. For more information, call Marlane Gallagher at 698-3246 or Mariann Mersch at 228-0394.

Defensive driving courses for those 55 and older will be offered from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday, April 13, at Montcalm Estates, 535 S. Lexington Ave. (To register, call 1-888-234-1294.) The course also will be taught from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, and from noon to 4:00 p.m. Thursday, April 23, at the Linwood Community Center, 860 St. Clair Ave. (To register, call the Summit Hill Association at 222-1222.) Another session of the course will be offered from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. (For information, call 698-0751.) The course is intended for those who have already taken the eight-hour course for senior drivers and need the four-hour refresher to maintain their auto insurance premium discount.

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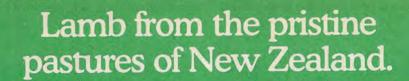
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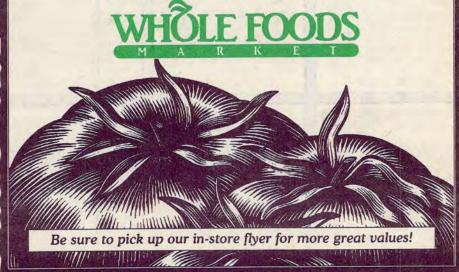
The Recipe: Greek Arni me Yaourti (Roasted Lamb)

(3/4 pound boneless leg of lamb per person)

~ Please Clip This Coupon ~

Season boneless leg of lamb with garlic and rosemary (for this recipe, make sure to lay the branches across the meat, so they are easy to remove). Sear the meat in a 425° oven for 15 minutes. Reduce the temperature to 300° until done. Estimate 30 minutes per pound to achieve a perfect medium roast. For the last 15 minutes of roasting, remove the rosemary sprigs and coat lamb with a mixture of 12 ounces plain yogurt seasoned with salt and pepper and one teaspoon ground cinnamon. Bake until the coating sets. Menu suggestion: Serve with roasted potatoes (cut medium potatoes into eighths lengthwise and toss with a mixture of olive oil and lemon juice, roast in a 450° oven for 30-40 minutes) and a green salad with plenty of olives, beets and feta cheese.

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Cultivating a bi-coastal health trend

Crazy Carrot is firmly rooted in a nutritional phenomenon that has swept both coasts—the fruit and vegetable juice bar



The Crazy Carrot's Tony Barranco (right) and Dave Kurt toast their health with wheat grass. Photo by Kristine Heykants.

by Dave Page

The green plants sprouting behind the glass counter at the Crazy Carrot may look like a family of overgrown Chia Pets, but it's really wheat grass.

Tony Barranco, co-owner of the new juice bar that just opened up at 1577 Grand Ave., slices a few dozen blades of the wheat grass and puts them through what looks like an electric meat grinder with two spouts. A rich, frothy green liquid comes out one spout, the mashed pulp out of the other.

"We recycle all our pulps and rinds," Barranco says as he presents a plastic jigger of the wheat grass extract."It either goes into compost or feeds hogs," he explains, referring to

Wheat grass juice is a favorite of the healthconscious inhabitants of the East and West Coasts, Barranco says. According to him, it cleanses the colon and contains vitamins, minerals, enzymes and amino acids.

reading about healthy diets, and he is able to offer customers a crash course in nutrition and in the bi-coastal phenomenon of juice

Bridget Fonda's personal attendant picked up a single shot of the Crazy Carrot's wheat juice—along with a combination of carrot, apple and beet juice-every day she was filming A Simple Plan in the Twin Cities last month, he says. Her photo now graces the counter next to the wheat grass. She signed it, "To Crazy Carrot, Thanks for keeping me

Barranco figures that Fonda and members of the film crew were attracted to the Crazy Carrot because it strives to be a true California-style juice bar-one that features blended fruit smoothies and fresh-squeezed fruit and vegetable juices as opposed to the East Coast variety of juice bars, which emphasize wrap sandwiches as much as the

Barranco compares the taste of wheat grass Barranco has wholeheartedly taken up to that of sugar snap peas, though at least one new customer thought it tasted more like grass pulled fresh from a field—a little sweet with a long, earthy aftertaste.

Barranco recommends that customers drink no more than four ounces of wheat grass juice a day, and even then beginners should work up to that amount gradually. Otherwise, it may cleanse the colon "a little too well," he says.

Barranco, 23, and co-owner Eric Strauss, 26, opened the Crazy Carrot two months ago in a space formerly occupied by an office supply store that was renovated by the building's owner, Macalester College. The two owners met several years ago at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management.

About 18 months ago, Strauss approached Barranco about establishing a juice bar similar to those they had seen while traveling on the East and West Coasts for U.S. Satellite Broadcasting.

The two of them experimented with recipes in Strauss' kitchen, and tested their products with the help of family and friends. They put together focus groups, applied for trademarks and found investors. They now have 18 employees and are hoping to expand to Minneapolis and eventually to other states.

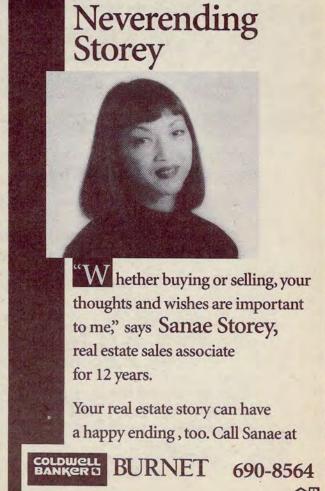
Finding their new digs on Grand was "just luck," Barranco says. He and Strauss had decided to take what Barranco calls "a Dunn Brothers approach" to picking a site, holding out for "a place that has some character."

The clean and well-lit shop gives them everything they wanted, Barranco sayseven a Dunn Brothers coffee shop practically right next door.

Dunn Brothers and other specialty beverage shops are now offering juices and smoothies bottled at Crazy Carrot. And soon, fans of the Crazy Carrot's Papango, Strawberry Fields and Very Berry Becca smoothies will be able to purchase them at select grocery

But to get a shot of pure wheat grass or a smoothie with such additions as soy milk or ginseng root, they'll still need to stop by the Crazy Carrot.





Snelling-Hamline COUNCIL CAPSULE

GRAFFITI BUSTERS

The Metro Graffiti Task Force has been keeping its eyes on about 30 graffiti artists who are moving from city to city to "tag" private properties. The task force has made a few arrests and is close to arresting another. The city of St. Paul now has a graffiti police officer in all three police districts who is working on the problem.

Liberty State Bank has offered a \$100 award for anyone whose call to the police about graffiti in progress results in an arrest. Anyone who sees graffiti on public or private property is asked to call the Citizen Service Office at 266-8989 or send an e-mail message to graffiti@stpaul.gov.

AYD MILL UPDATE

At its March 17 meeting, the Ayd Mill Road Coalition came to the conclusion that transit alternatives need to be explored throughout the environmental impact process for Ayd Mill Road. An environmental impact statement will be completed this fall. Citizens will have an opportunity to comment on the draft of the report in July or August. For more information, call Beth Bartz at the St. Paul Department of Planning and Economic Development at 266-6580.

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

The council's Community Safety Committee met in March to review a new block leader guide, create a format for the recent block leader survey and discuss plans for this summer's National Night Out. The Snelling-Hamline Community Council is asking the city of St. Paul to pick up the tab for blocking off streets in the neighborhood for a National Night Out event on August 3.

RECLAIM THE COMMUNITY MONTH

The Snelling-Hamline neighborhood will join the Thomas-Dale neighborhood in celebrating Reclaim the Community Month in May. The two neighborhoods have joined each other for the past three years to march for peace and healthy communities during that month. For information, call crime prevention coordinator Christine Yanchar at 644-1085.

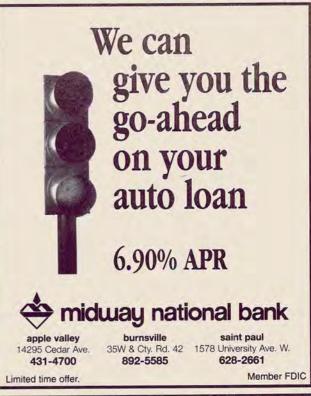
ANNUAL GARDEN GAIT

For the past three years, the community council has sponsored a tour of homeowners' gardens in the Snelling-Hamline neighborhood. Nearly 800 people turned out for last year's Garden Gait to take in a wide range of gardening and greening efforts.

The Garden Gait Committee will be meeting soon to plan this year's event. The tentative date is July 12. Those who are interested in helping plan the event or host a garden tour are invited to call Sherilyn Young at 644-1085.







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City grants permit for new Highland home for the elderly

by Jane McClure

The St. Paul Planning Commission voted unanimously on March 27 to permit the old Bremer family house at 15 Montcalm Court to become a home for up to 21 elderly residents with Alzheimer's disease or dementia.

Developer Peter Keely is buying the 14,000square-foot home and will contract with Franciscan Health Care, which owns and operates St. Mary's Home for the elderly in Highland Park, to operate the facility.

The Planning Commission's approval is final unless an appeal is filed with the City Council. Keely has been working with local residents on plans for the property since last October. Several neighbors continue to oppose those plans despite numerous conditions that have been negotiated with Keely. The Zoning Committee postponed a hearing on the permit earlier this month after five pages of suggested conditions were presented by neighbors.

Nearly two dozen neighbors attended the March 19 public hearing on Keely's request for a special condition use permit. The permit is needed because the property is zoned for single-family use. One neighbor spoke in favor and three neighbors spoke against the

permit. Seven neighbors wrote letters of opposition to the commission.

"You're changing the character of our neighborhood," said John Kinkead.

"This is fundamentally and historically a pristine residential neighborhood," said Mike Murphy, who argued that the facility would be more of a business than a residence.

Planning commissioner Mark Vaught on March 19 said Keely's facility was the wrong use for the property. "It will substantially diminish the neighborhood and upset people who live near there," he said. However, a week later Vaught voted to support it.

Other commissioners cited the growing

need for such a facility. Commissioner Steve Gordon pointed out that the residents of the home are likely to come from the surrounding neighborhood.

Neighbors who support the facility have argued that Keely's home for the elderly will bring a new use to a property that has been vacant for more than a year. That argument was echoed by members of the Highland Area Community Council when it voted to support Keely's proposal.

The difficulty of enforcing all of the development and operating conditions worked out

Montcalm/see next page

Highland Area Community COUNCIL CAPSULE

ANNUAL MEETING SET APRIL 23

The Highland Area Community Council will hold its annual meeting at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, April 23, at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Elections will be held at that time to fill the board seats from all even-numbered grid areas (see map) as well as two at-large positions.

Those who attend the meeting will be able to vote on two proposed amendments to the community council's by-laws. The first would add a representative to the board from the West End Business and Professional Association. The second would change the name of the organization to the Highland Park District Council.

Also during the meeting, representatives of the Metropolitan Airports Commission will discuss the planned extension of the runway at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport that directs traffic over Highland. For more information, call the council office at 298-5138.

SPRING NEWSLETTER

The Highland Area Community Council's spring newsletter should be delivered to the homes of area residents in the next week. Those who don't receive one may call the council office at 298-5138.

SIGN VARIANCE

The council's Community Development Committee will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 13, to discuss a variance being sought by Talmud Torah School for a sign identifying the school at 768 S. Hamline Ave. A 30-square-foot sign is



allowed and a 110-square-foot sign is being proposed. The meeting will be held at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. For details, call the council office at 298-5138.

FAIRVIEW RESTRIPING

The community council's Transportation Committee will meet at 7:00 p.m. Monday, April 13, to discuss the restriping of Fairview Avenue from Highland Parkway to Randolph Avenue. The new configuration will result in parking on both sides of the street, a bicycle lane and a center left turn lane. The meeting will be held at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. For details, call the council office at 298-5138.

RECYCLING BINS STOLEN

In the last month, 30 recycling bins have disappeared from apartment buildings in Highland. The replacement cost for the apartment owners is \$60 per 90-gallon container. Most of the thefts have occurred at night. Renters who have had a theft

at their building are being asked to call the St. Paul Police Department at 291-1111 and the St. Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium at 644-7678.

SPRING PARKS CLEANUP

Highland will conduct its annual parks and river cleanup from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 18. Volunteers will be cleaning up winter debris that has accumulated along the bluff on West 7th Street from Montreal to St. Paul avenues, at Crosby Farm Park, at Hidden Falls Park and along the Shepard Road walking path.

Volunteers are asked to meet at Dakota Bank on West 7th Street, at the main entrance to Crosby Park on Shepard Road and Davern Street, or at the Crosby Park pavilion. City parks personnel will pick up the filled bags. For information, call Larry Hampel at 690-1717.

SENIOR CRIME PREVENTION TRAINING

The Highland and Macalester-Groveland community councils are looking for senior citizens interested in volunteering to help develop a new crime prevention program. Three training sessions will be held in late April with the assistance of the St. Paul Police Department. After graduating from the course, seniors will be asked to lead future training sessions for their peers. For information, call 298-5138.

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 13: Recycling pickup, 7:00 a.m.

April 13: Transportation Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m., Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy.

April 18: Highland/Macalester-Groveland Home Improvement Fair, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Cretin-Derham Hall, 550 S. Albert St.

April 18: Spring parks cleanup, 9:00 a.m. to noon.

April 23: HACC annual meeting, 7:00 p.m., Hillcrest.





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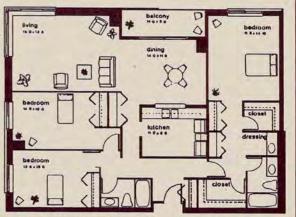
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Arts benefit for youth program is long on talent

An arts benefit for Longfellow United Youth and Families featuring folk musician Larry Long, Long's rock band Planet Melvin and a 125-member choir from Minneapolis' Ramsey International Fine Arts School will be held on Sunday, April 19. The program will run from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Riverview Theater, 38th Street and 42nd Avenue South in Minneapolis.

In addition to music, the benefit will feature works by South Minneapolis filmmaker Barry Kimm. Kimm's short films take a whimsical look at the texture and rhythms of small-town life in Minnesota and Iowa.

Longfellow United Youth and Families (LUYF) is a 3-year-old nonprofit organization that conducts tutoring and mentoring programs at schools and churches in Minneapolis' Longfellow neighborhood. It also provides a youth employment service and a theater arts program.

A Longfellow resident, Long has been invited to perform this summer at the 50th anniversary of the Smithsonian Institution's Folkways Records in Washington, D.C. He has earned national acclaim over the last two decades for taking up the causes of farmers, laborers and Native Americans from International Falls to Alabama. At the Riverview, he will be accompanied by Van Nixon, lead singer of the Minneapolis reggae band the Maroons, and bass player Larry Dalton.

Tickets for the benefit are \$12 at the door or \$10 in advance at the Blue Moon Coffee Cafe, the Lake Street Garage and other Longfellow businesses. For more information, call LUYF at 721-7811.

Montcalm/from previous page

with Keely troubles some neighbors. Conditions in any agreement separate from the special condition use permit can only be enforced through the courts.

The City Council can enforce the conditions within the permit, which concern operations, off-street parking, landscaping, fencing, exterior lighting, exterior signs and the placement of air conditioning equipment.

The permit also prohibits commercial deliveries between 7:30 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. and stipulates that the facility must provide seven off-street parking spaces in the rear. Thirteen are required under the city's zoning code.

The residence will have three full-time employees and an unspecified number of part-time employees. Keely has agreed to prohibit residents from keeping motor vehicles. However, some neighbors continue to be the Upper Midwe Education Associate the house as the House, a synagogy treat center. Effort then to sell the house as the Education Associate the house, a synagogy treat center. Effort the to sell the house as the Education Associate the house, a synagogy treat center. Effort the house as the Education Associate the house, a synagogy treat center. Effort the house as the Education Associate the house, a synagogy treat center. Effort the house as the Education Associate the house, a synagogy treat center. Effort the house as the Education Associate the house, a synagogy treat center. Effort the house as the Education Associate the house as the House Associate the house as the House Associate the house as the House Associ

concerned about parking, especially during visiting hours on Sundays and holidays.

"I honestly believe that we're going to create such a parking problem that it will be horrible," said planning commissioner Carole Faricy on March 19. Faricy also voted to support the facility when it came up for a vote a week later.

The house at 15 Montcalm Court was built in 1947 as a single-family home by the Bremers, who were the owners of the former Schmidt Brewery (now Minnesota Brewing.) The property was operated by the Catholic Order of Oblate Fathers as a residence for priests from 1962 to 1970. From 1970 to 1997, the Upper Midwest Jewish Education Association used the house as the Lubavitch House, a synagogue and retreat center. Efforts since then to sell the house as a single-family residence have







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The way the standards are currently written, potentially dangerous practices like genetic engineering, toxic sewage sludge, antibiotics, hormones, and irradiation may be allowed in organic food production. These practices have never been a part of organic food production and would severely compromise the existing high standards that organic producers have taken pride in creating.

Keep "Organic" Organic! Write the USDA and ask them to withdraw the proposed National Organic Standards as written, and resubmit them based on comments that have been submitted by consumers and the organic community.

Be sure to include the docket number in your comments: Docket #TMD - 94 - 00 - 2.

Send a letter today to:

USDA – National Organic Standards USDA, AMS, Room 4007-S AgStop 0275, P.O. Box 96456 Washington, D.C. 20090-6456 or send comments via the Internet through the National Organic Program Homepage at:

http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop

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Ms. Green Jeans

Dayton Ave. woman plows headfirst into her dream of running a farm

Although she has

worked on farms for

four seasons, Jensen

admits that starting

her own spread is a

big step. She plans to

plant, weed, harvest

and deliver up to 40

kinds of fruits and

vegetables for 20

shareholders this

summer.

by Kate Havelin

Erika Jensen doesn't mind getting a little dirt under her fingernails. In fact, it's her

A 30-year-old single woman, Jensen left her Dayton Avenue apartment last week and moved 80 miles northeast of the Twin Cities to Prairie Farm, Wisconsin, where she intends to do something she has worked toward for years-run her own farm.

Jensen's Plowshare Community Farm is the latest example of a growing trend-community supported agriculture (CSA). The farm relies on members who buy shares-in Jensen's case, \$400 a popin exchange for fresh fruits and vegetables picked daily.

Jensen said she became interested in growing things as a teen-ager. "In high school, some people got into drugs," she said. "I got into vegetable garden-

She majored in English literature at Bates College in Maine and worked on

farms in the summer. After college, she decided farming wasn't practical for her, so she tried landscaping and horticulture and became a master gardener. And still, life on a farm kept calling her. Last year, she left her job as a program coordinator for the Minnesota State Horticultural Society to work on another CSA farm. This year, she'll be running

"I'm not exactly petrified, but I am apprehensive," Jensen said. Although she has worked on farms for four seasons, she admits that starting her own spread is a big step. She plans to plant, weed, harvest and deliver up to 40 kinds of fruits and vegetables for 20 shareholders this summer. "I may be small, but I'm scrappy," she said with a smile.

Her farm will start small. She plans to plant 2 to 3 acres that she has rented this year. "I'm

not buying land, and I'm not buying a tractor, but I am buying small equipment," she said. "Everything's on a shoestring budget." She has already made deals to swap work for tractors and other equipment that she'll need to use occasionally.

Jensen isn't planning to hire any help this summer. Instead, she hopes some shareholders will come visit the farm and lend a hand with the chores. "I figure I can do 20 shares by myself," she said. "At least that's what they

tell me."

Janice Miller of Merriam Park, one of the shareholders, said she is confident Jensen can make the farm go. "She's strong and good at getting people to volunteer," said Miller, who is the marketing and communications director for the horticultural society.

Miller said she is excited to be part of a CSA farm. "It's important to me to know how my food is grown," she said. "This will be fresher and better quality than what we get at the farmer's market or grocery store. It works out to \$22 a

week. I think that's very reasonable."

Miller said she is already planning on bringing her 8-year-old son, Andrew, and his Waldorf School classmates to the farm to help and see how their food is grown.

"The farm visits are as much about education and customer service as they are about helping me with chores," Jensen said. "When people come out, they feel more connected to the farm. That's what CSAs are all about. They're about cooperation and communitybuilding, whereas farmers markets are all about competition."

Like farmers everywhere, Jensen will be at the mercy of weather and other factors beyond her control. "I suppose there's a chance things could go wrong," she said. "But more likely, there'll be weather conditions that favor one vegetable over another." She recalled last

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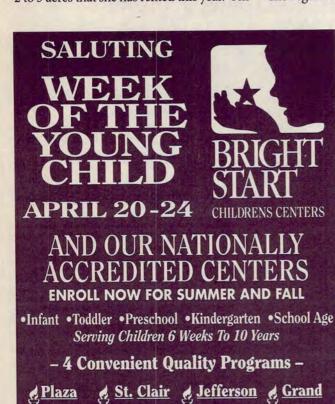
Erika Jensen has left behind the bustle of the city to run a community supported farm. She is offering people a chance to buy shares in her farm in exchange for a summer-long supply of fresh flowers and vegetables. Photo by Kristine Heykants.

summer's cool temperatures, which produced great broccoli but was tough on toma-

Jensen plans to grow everything from spinach to tomatoes, garlic, sweet corn and cantaloupe. She is still figuring out how much produce members will want. Whatever the amount, from mid-June to mid-October Jensen will truck the produce once a week from the farm to several Twin Cities drop-off sites. Each site will have an extra box where members can trade items they don't want. Extra vegetables will go to local food shelves.

Jensen has signed up 10 shareholders so far, but is working to double that number. People also can pay \$35 to become supporting members and get the farm's newsletter. For information about the Plowshare Community Farm, call Jensen at 1-715-455-1569.

Those interested in CSA farms will find more information during a community farm festival that is being sponsored by the Sustainable Resource Center. The festival will be held from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Sunday, April 19, in the Bush Student Center at Hamline University. For information, call 872-3299.



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"The Day He Wore My Crown," a resurrection musical with a cast and choir of 50, will be performed at 7:00 p.m. Friday, April 10, at Bethesda Church, 2600 E. 38th St., Minneapolis. Admission is free. For information, call 722-6651.

"One Voice," an Easter musical, will be performed twice in the coming week at the Assembly of God, 845 Summit Ave. The drama will be performed at 7:00 p.m. Friday, April 10, and at 6:00 p.m. Sunday, April 12. Admission is free, though donations will be accepted. For information, call 228-0811.

The Temple of Aaron, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd., will offer a Women's Passover Seder at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, and a Young Family Sabbath and Passover Dinner at 5:45 p.m. Friday, April 17. For more information, call 698-8874.

"Saints: The First and Last Defense of Catholicism" will be discussed on Thursday, April 16, by Douglas Bushman, director of the Institute for Religious and Pastoral Studies at the

RELIGIOUS NOTES

University of Dallas. The free program begins at 7:00 p.m. in Rowan Hall at the Church of St. Helena, 3204 E. 43rd St., Minneapolis. For information, call 729-7321.

Bethany Lutheran Church will mark its 90th year at 36th Avenue South and 39th Street in Minneapolis on Sunday, April 19. Former Bethany pastors William Bohline and Ken Kotzer will speak at the adult forum at 9:45 a.m., and Pastor Peter Geisendorfer-Lindgren, who grew up at Bethany, will speak at the 11:00 a.m. service. A dinner will follow in Fellow-

"American Catholic Spirituality: What Practices Tell Us

About the Church" will be addressed on Monday, April 20, by the Reverend Joseph Chinnici, professor of church history at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. Free and open to the public, Chinnici's talk will begin at 7:00 p.m. in Ireland Library at the University of St. Thomas.

Jehovah Lutheran Church's 75th anniversary celebration continues on Sunday, April 26. Dr. Wong Ji, assistant pastor of Jehovah in 1958, will preach at the 10:30 a.m. service. Dinner will follow in the Fellowship Hall of the church at Snelling and Thomas avenues. Ji, now retired, taught for many years at a seminary in St. Louis. He is the author of many books, including a translation of the Bible into Korean.

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3430 E. 51st St., Minneapolis, will offer an Easter breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Sunday, April 12. The breakfast will be served by the youth fellowship. For information, call 729-5463.









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District's 'Wave One' schools find way to shore up standardized test scores

by Elizabeth O'Sullivan

A couple of years ago, the St. Paul School Board informed 10 schools that they had two years to improve their students' standardized

Well, the test results are now in and the principals and teachers of those "Wave One" schools, as they are called, can breathe a little easier. Students at those schools showed a much better improvement on the standardized MAT-7 tests last fall than most other schools did in the district, according to the results that were presented to the School Board last month.

"Having done what they've done in such a short amount of time is pretty impressive," said Reggie Robinson, head of the district's accountability program.

St. Paul students in grades 2-10 took the national standardized MAT-7 test in October to measure their reading and math skills. The year before, 46.2 percent of the students in St. Paul's Wave One schools scored below average on the tests. This year, the figure dropped to 40.1 percent. In the rest of the schools in the district, the number of students scoring below average increased from 36.3 percent in 1996 to 37.2 percent in 1997.

According to the MAT-7 testing company, only 23 percent of students should be in the below-average category, Robinson said. Almost all St. Paul schools fall short of that figure. In the school district's defense, Robinson said the St. Paul public schools have more students who have limited English skills and are living in poverty than the national average.

The Wave One schools, which included Highland Junior High and Webster Magnet, were not told how they should raise their test scores."They were just told to do it," Robinson said. Failure to improve would mean that their programs might be "reconstructed," implying sweeping changes.

"It's been an attempt, a trial if you will, to see how individual schools can develop accountability," said Cy Yusten, assistant superintendent of teaching and learning.

The Wave One schools were offered extra money to help pay for whatever they determined necessary to raise their test scores. Highland spent the money on extra teacher training, according to principal Gene Janicke. The staff brainstormed at the beginning of the year to establish uniform policies that would promote learning. One policy that was implemented this year at Highland was to start every class with an activity to help students settle down and get ready for learning.

"We've found that teachers who have the best instructional management skills have the best learners," Janicke said.

Highland 8th-graders scored 4 to 5 percentage points higher on this year's tests than they did last year. The school's 7th-graders scored 10 to 11 points higher than last year's

The teachers at Webster created individual learning plans for every student who scored below expectations on the MAT-7 test during the previous year. The number of students falling into that category fell by about 4 percent over the last year.

The school district plans to select a group of 16 schools to improve test scores in the next two years. Those Wave Two schools will include Expo Middle School and Benjamin E. Mays Magnet. Robinson said it is likely that the district will establish a list of Wave Three schools after that.

School Board members are hoping that some of the methods that were used to improve test scores will be implemented districtwide."We hope to translate the successes we've seen in the Wave One schools to other schools in the district very soon," said board member Greg Filice.

MAT-7 test results will be available to teachers in all St. Paul public schools so they can tailor their instructional methods to cover areas where their students did not score

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The second in a series of public forums on improving the livability and marketability of St. Paul will be held at 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, at Landmark Center.

Sponsored by the Wilder Foundation, "The Transformation of the Workplace: Implications for Education" will feature a presentation by economist and author Jeremy Rifkin

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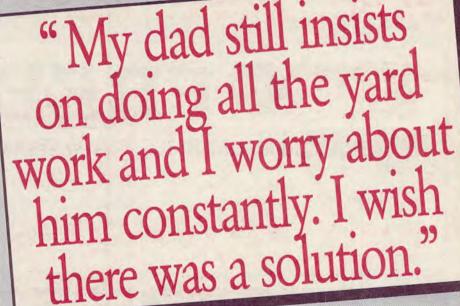
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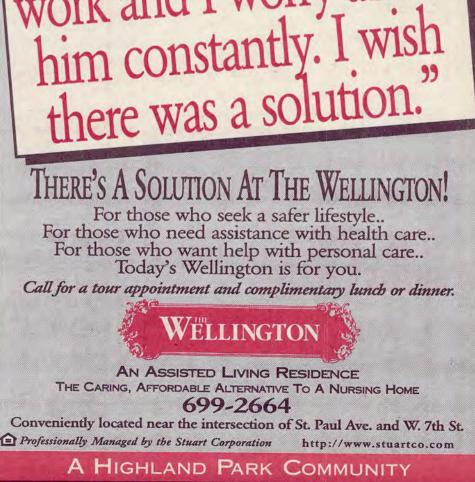
Duluth

on the societal changes that are being brought about by the shift from an industrial to an information economy.

Other forums in the series will address "Housing: A Roof for Everyone" on Tuesday, April 28, and "Transportation Systems that Work: Solutions for St. Paul Neighborhoods" on Tuesday, May 19. For details, call 642-2083.







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VOLUNTEERS

People who would like to knit or crochet infant caps and booties to be given to area families are now being sought by the Highland Mac-Groveland Family Center. Volunteers may work in a group at the center or at home on their own. For information, call 690-1645.

Volunteers are being sought to inform the mothers of newborn babies of the importance of childhood immunizations. They are asked to commit two hours a week to visit mothers following delivery at Regions Hospital and enroll them in a reminder program administered by the St. Paul Immunization Action Plan. For more information, call Penny at 221-2822.

The Volunteer Center of St. Paul recently honored Dee O'Brien of Highland Park for her many hours of service. In addition to her office duties, O'Brien spends several hours a week using the center's computer system to match potential volunteers with the hundreds of opportunities available. The Volunteer Center has been operating for over 50 years.

Mark Regnier of Highland Park recently marked a year of service as a volunteer at Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (Our Little Brothers) orphanage in Mexico. Located in Miacatlan, 77 miles south of Mexico City, the orphanage is home to 1,000 boys and girls. Regnier, 24, plans to continue volunteering at the orphanage until July. Other volunteers also are needed. For information, call Friends of the Orphans at 482-1703.

Ramsey Action Programs is seeking volunteers to serve as mentors, Head Start helpers, food distributors and meals-onwheels drivers among other positions. For information, call

The Minnesota Zoo is looking for adults to lead tours, work in the Zoolab and help with classes, animal demonstrations and exhibits. A 32-hour training class will begin the first week of April. For information, call 431-9202.

Families are needed to host students from around the world for an academic year or semester through the ASPECT Foundation. Students are fully insured and bring their own spending money. For information, call Shandel Schellinger at 469-7728.

Compost sites set spring hours

Ramsey County's yard waste sites are now open for the season, including the Summit Hill site adjacent to the Pleasant Avenue arena and the Midway site at Pierce Butler Route and Prior Avenue. The sites are open from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday; from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday; and from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. They are closed on holidays.

Leaves, grass clippings and other soft-bodied plant material may be dropped off at the sites or bagged separately and thrown out with the trash. Brush and other woody material will not be accepted.

Finished compost and wood chip mulch, when available, may be picked up free of charge at the compost sites. For information on brush disposal, call 633-3279.

Great Harvest Bread Co. will be open Sunday April 19, 8 am ~ 4 pm!

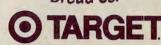
Knead ~ A ~ Thon

Join Target Stores and Great Harvest Bread Co. on Sunday, April 19 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Knead-a-Thon. All proceeds to benefit Catholic Charities.

221-1057

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Macalester-Groveland DUNCIL CAPSULE

ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 16

The Macalester-Groveland Community Council will hold its annual meeting and elections at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, April 16, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 104 S. Snelling Ave. Board seats from all even-numbered grid areas (see map) will be filled, as will the seats of three at-large residents and representatives of the area's businesses, schools and religious institutions. Up for election this year are the seats currently held by residents Marvin Sinykin, Deb Alper, Michael Danielson, John Steiner-Manning, John Halla, Charles Helsell, Chris Macgowan, Bill Connors, Andrea Casselton, Kate Harvath and Henry Retka, and the seats held by David Erickson of Highland Repair and Donna Kelly of Macalester College.

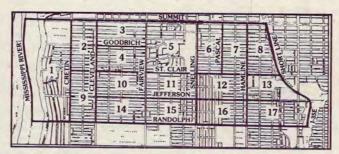
In addition to the election, there will be a town meeting on Ayd Mill Road. The community council's delegates to the Ayd Mill Task Force—Jane Jenkins, Kate McGough, Doug Zang and George Socha-will discuss roadway options still being studied and will make their recommendations on a preferred alternative. Residents also will have an opportunity to ask questions of the city engineer who is responsible for drafting the roadway's environmental impact statement. The community council will take its position on Ayd Mill at its May 21 meeting. For information, call the council office at 698-7973.

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP

The Macalester-Groveland and Highland community councils will conduct a joint neighborhood cleanup from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 2, at Highland Park Senior High School, 1015 S. Snelling Ave.

The cost to drop off items at the cleanup site will be \$5.00 per car, \$10 per pickup or trailer, and \$25 per large truck. Only household quantities will be accepted. Brush and branches no greater than 10 inches in diameter may be dropped off that day in the parking lot near the Highland Water Tower.

Volunteers are needed. They will be treated to lunch and be allowed to drop off materials without charge. For more information, call Scott Foss at the council office at 698-7973.



Macalester-Groveland neighborhood grid areas

BOULEVARD TREES

Boulevard trees are now available through a grant from the Minnesota ReLeaf program. A 1-inch caliper bare-root sugar maple costs \$20, a 10-gallon potted bicolor oak costs \$35, a 4foot bare-root single stem serviceberry costs \$10 and a 31/2foot balled-and-burlapped Black Hills spruce costs \$30.

The trees will be available for pickup at Mattocks Park on Saturday, April 25. Trees are limited and will be sold on a firstcome, first-served basis. To participate, send a check payable to the Macalester-Groveland Community Council to 320 S. Griggs St., St. Paul, MN 55105.

KIDSPARK REDUCES FEE

The membership fee for KidsPark has been reduced to \$15 for the rest of the 1998-99 school year. Operating out of the former warming house at the Groveland Recreation Center, KidsPark provides licensed drop-in child care at \$10 per morning for infants and \$2.75 an hour for children 16 months

The teacher-to-child ratio is 1:3 for infants and 1:7 for older children. KidsPark is open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on weekdays during the school year. Use of KidsPark is open to the community. Reservations may be made up to one week in advance by calling 698-7841.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The community council's Transportation Committee will meet at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, April 26, at the Edgcumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St. The committee, which is studying traffic calming techniques, will be discussing ways to address traffic problems identified by Nativity and Groveland schools. For more information, call Kathie Tarnowski at the community council office at 698-7973.

TAKING THE LEAD

The community council is trying to gauge the neighborhood's interest in organizing a group plumbing contract to replace the lead pipes that carry water into residents' homes. More than 2,000 homes in the Macalester-Groveland area have lead pipes. Replacing them removes a source of lead in residents' drinking water and improves water pressure.

Those who would like to learn whether their home has lead service pipes may call the St. Paul Water Utility at 266-6350. Area residents who are interested in a reduced rate for home water testing may call the community council office at

NAMES in the NEWS

Susan Cole, a Summit-University resident and president of Metropolitan State University, has been elected chair of the board of the St. Paul Riverfront Corporation. Cole joined the board in 1994 and was elected vice chair earlier this year. She also is a trustee of the St. Paul Foundation, the Science Museum of Minnesota and Twin Cities Public Television.

Melissa Trebesch of Summit Hill has returned from Ostuni, Italy, where she spent two weeks teaching conversational English to people in that Adriatic seaside town. A computer consultant and artist, Trebesch arranged the

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trip through St. Paul-based Global Volunteers. In Ostuni, she said,"I was reminded of how much we need one another-and how much more willing Italians are to acknowledge and live from that perspective."

Margaret Olson of Macalester-Groveland was presented with Camp Fire's Sebago award at the Minnesota Council's 75th annual meeting. The award is given for outstanding contributions in outdoor programming. Olson has been a member of Camp Fire for 39 years. She is on the board of the Minnesota Council and volunteers much of her time

at Camp Ojiketa.

Linda A. Miller of Snelling-Hamline, executive director of Civic Pride Inc., is one of seven women selected by the Minnesota Women's Consortium for a Marvelous Minnesota Woman award. Civic Pride, a non-profit organization that was founded by Miller in 1996, provides avenues for the legal community to work for social change. It sponsors legal education programs for disadvantaged people and has established a service whereby anyone may obtain expert legal advice for \$100 an hour and have the money donated to charity. A 1976 graduate of William

Tilsen announces bid for Ramsey County judge

Judith Meridel Tilsen of 1989. She served as acting Merriam Park has announced her candidacy for Ramsey County judge in District 2. Tilsen joined the Hennepin County Attorney's Office as a juvenile crime prosecutor after graduating from the University of Minnesota Law School in

assistant Ramsey County public defender for one year and is now a member of the county's gang prosecution office. Tilsen is the daughter of Kenneth and Rachel Tilsen and granddaughter of poet Meridel LeSueur.



Judith Meridel Tilsen

Mitchell College of Law, Miller is also developing a program that offers emergency legal services to those who are endangered for speaking out against crime.

Andrew Koppi and Andrew Nordstrom, both of Mendota Heights, have received the Eagle Scout Award as members of Troop 264 of St. Peter's Parish. Both Sibley High School seniors achieved scouting's highest rank by earning 21 merit badges and completing a public service project. Koppi organized the planting of 800 trees on 50

acres south of the Twin Cities as part of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' Reinvest Minnesota program. Nordstrom designed and built an outdoor classroom at Pilot Knob Elementary School in

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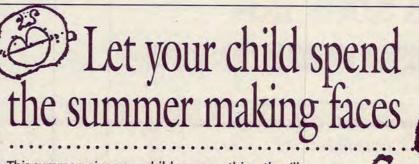
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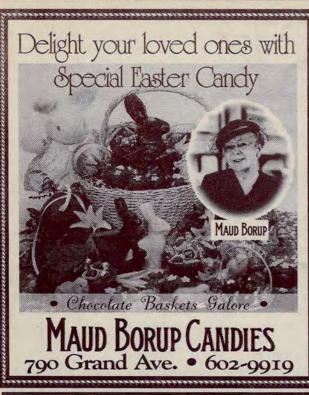
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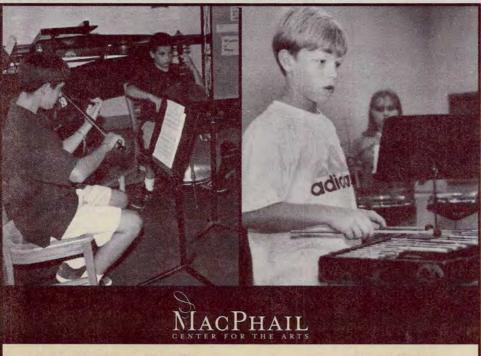




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SCHOOL NOTES

The Central High School math team placed second in the Minnesota High School Math League tournament on March 30 with a score of 87. Central, which had won the math league's regular season title for the second consecutive year, fell one point short of tourney winner Irondale High School. David Freeman of Blake School was the individual winner, while Jon Moon of Central and John Gregg and Matt Craighead of St. Paul Academy tied for second. Gregg and Moon placed second and third behind Freeman when the individual tournament and season scores were combined. They won \$500 and \$300 scholarships, respectively, from Unisys. Teams from 51 schools competed in the state tournament. The SPA team placed fourth overall with a score of 77. Also competing were Highland Park, which had a 62, and St. Thomas Academy/Visitation, which had a 56.

The College of St. Catherine will host its second annual Women's College Fair from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Sunday, April 26, in the Butler Center for Sports and Fitness. The fair will feature women's college representatives from across the country and informational sessions on the college selection process and financing a college education. Admission is free. For information, call 690-6936.

Teams from three area junior high schools placed among the top 10 in the recent state Mathcounts competition. Capitol Hill's Michel D'sa, Kenny Hu, Max Rudolph and Ben Peterson finished fourth. Ramsey's Casey Christenson, Greg Ducker, William Geng and Arthur Schwab placed sixth, followed by St. Paul Academy's Sara Radosevich, Max Schwartz, Diana Walter and Hannah Wright in ninth place.

The first African-American Education Conference, "Celebrating Successes for Educating African-American Children," will be held on Friday and Saturday, April 17-18, at Augsburg College in Minneapolis. The conference is a collaboration among African-American Academy of Accelerated Learning, the Minneapolis and St. Paul public schools, Right Step Academy and other groups. It will kick off with a dinner and keynote address by Asa Hillard of Georgia State University, and continue with workshops, a panel discussion by Minneapolis and St. Paul public school superintendents Carol Johnson and Curman Gaines, and more. For information, call Katie Sample at 827-3727.

Monroe Community School, 810 Palace Ave., will hold a kindergarten roundup at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16. The parents of next year's kindergarten are invited to meet the teachers and the staff and learn about the Achievement Plus program. For information,

A team of seven Highland Park Elementary School students proved the most adept at solving the Morph Magic problem at the East Metro Regional Odyssey of the Mind Tournament. Coached by Eileen Cotter, the team includes 6th-graders Maima Cooke and Amelia Dasovich, 5th-graders Thomas Schneider and Ernest Walker, and 4thgraders Ben Garske, Tom Garske and Shoua Thao. Their first-place finish ensures them a trip to the state tournament on April 25.

Homecroft Elementary School 6th-grader Dung Tran took first prize in her age group in a regional writing contest sponsored by the Ordway Music Theatre's Circle of Stars. The contest asked students to draw their inspiration from a performance by Ladysmith Black Mambazo. Dung (pronounced "young"), the daughter of Vietnamese immigrants now living in Highland Park, wrote:

At the Ordway

The lights went down And I heard a beautiful sound. I looked up to see what it would bring, And there they were, ready to sing.

I loved the beat

And started tapping my feet

A South African flag red, black and yellow Hung above and made me feel mellow. Sounds of freedom and happiness filled

And made me want to shed some tears.



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THEKIOSK

Wednesday, April 8

THE MERRIAM PARK LIBRARY will celebrate its fifth anniversary with a party and silent auction beginning at 6:00 this evening in the auditorium of the library at Marshall and Fairview avenues.

Entertainment will be provided by comedian Spencer Dobson and the local guitar trio Taluqua. Bidding will close at 8:00 p.m., although the party will continue until 8:30. For information, call 647-1643.

THE LONGFELLOW GARDEN CLUB will meet at 7:00 this evening at the Longfellow Community Center, 3435 S. 36th Ave., Minneapolis. The topic of this month's meeting will be creating garden objects from twigs, branches and vines. There also will be a silent auction.

A MEDIEVAL HAPPY HOUR to kick off the Times Theatre Company's fourth season and upcoming production of *The Canterbury Tales* will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 this evening in Courtroom 317 at Landmark Center. There will be refreshments, a silent auction and entertainment, including snippets from *The Canterbury Tales*. For information, call 292-3390.

Thursday/April 9

"WORM COMPOSTING," a free class sponsored by the Sustainable Resources Center's Urban Lands program, will be offered from 7:00 to 9:00 this evening at the Longfellow Community Center, 3435 S. 36th Ave., Minneapolis. To register, please call 872-3291.

A WORLD WAR II ROUNDTABLE discussion will be held at 7:00 this evening at Historic Fort Snelling. The speaker will be Donald Williams who will recall the incidents at Slapton Sands. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted. For information, call 726-1171.

Saturday/April 11

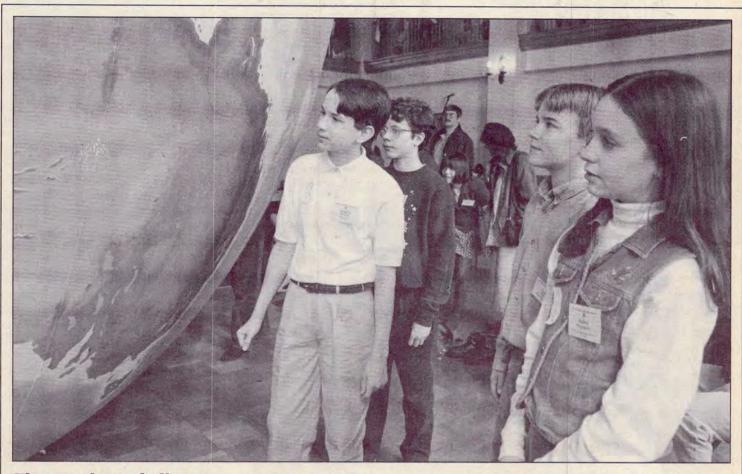
A CONFERENCE on "Native Women on the Cusp of the Year 2000" will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. today in the gymnasium at Macalester College. The variety of issues and concerns facing indigenous people around the world will be discussed. For information, call 696-7159.

AN ART TREASURES HUNT will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. today at the state Capitol. Participants may purchase a brochure for \$1.00 to help guide them to the various treasures. Guided tours of the quadriga also will be offered. For information, call 296-2881.

Tuesday/April 14

THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB will meet at 7:30 this evening at Linwood Recreation Center, 860 St. Clair Ave., for a walk around the neighborhood. For information, call Chuck at 644-7502.

A SPEECH on "Love and Race: The Enforcement of Antimiscegenation Laws" will be given by Randall Kennedy, a nationally known writer and professor at Harvard Law School, at 8:00 this evening in



The mother of all tests. After two hours of grueling geography questions, a giant reproduction of the planet Earth still held some fascination for these four area youngsters who were among the 100 students statewide to qualify for the Minnesota Geography Bee April 3 at Macalester College. The students—(from left) Gregory Ducker, grade 8, of Ramsey Junior High, Daniel Herriges, grade 7, of Capitol Hill Magnet School, Charles Sawyer, grade 6, of Randolph Heights Elementary, and Sophie Rapoport, grade 6, of Talmud Torah Day School—were not among the dozen to make the final round. If they're not quite smiling, they may have been a bit shell-shocked after fielding such questions as, "Name the mountain system created by the subduction of the Nazca plate." *Photo by Kristine Heykants.*

Weyerhaeuser Memorial Chapel at Macalester College. Kennedy will take a probing look at the interesting legal history of interracial relationships. Admission is free. For information, call 696-6332.

A "NEW MOTHERS AND BABIES" group will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 this morning at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. The topic of the meeting will be building self-esteem. To register, call 698-0751.

"MAGIC AND MORE" will be offered by Homeward Bound Theatre Company from 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. beginning today for 1st- to 3rd-graders and from 3:45 to 5:00 p.m. for kindergarten to 3rd-graders at the Rondo Education Center, 560 Concordia Ave. Classes will take place on Tuesdays through May 19. To register, call 293-5321.

A TRAVELOGUE and slide presentation will be presented at 7:30 this evening at Books for Travel, Etc., 857 Grand Ave. Jon Otto will show his slides of cycling through the western part of the Silk Road in China and into Pakistan. Admission is free. For information, call 225-8006.

Thursday/April 16

A LECTURE on "Twin Cities Then and Now" will be given by Larry Millet, author and architecture critic, at 7:00 this evening at Landmark Center, downtown St. Paul. Millet will outline the dramatic evolution of landscapes in Minneapolis and St. Paul by comparing historic photos from the 1880s to the 1950s with new photos.

THE 1998 LINDBERGH LECTURE will be given by potter Richard Bresnahan, the artist-in-residence at St. John's University, at

7:00 this evening at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. He will speak on the interrelationships between art and the environment. Admission is free. For information, call 296-6126.

THE MIDWAY-HIGHLAND CHAPTER of the American Association of Retired Persons will meet at 1:00 this afternoon at the Lyngblomsten Senior Center, 1298 Pascal Ave. There will be a social hour and refreshments.

A TRAVEL SEMINAR on Europe and the British Isles will be held at 7:00 this evening at Barnes & Noble Highland, 2080 Ford Pkwy. Admission is free. For information, call 690-9443.

JEWISH SURVIVORS of the Holocaust who now make their homes in the Twin Cities area will tell their stories in a seven-week series beginning today. The programs will run from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall on the University of Minnesota's West Bank. The series continues on Thursdays, April 30-May 28. Admission is by donation.

Friday/April 17

"FAMILY NIGHT" will be held at 7:00 this evening at St. Thomas Academy in Mendota Heights. There will be games and prizes, a silent auction, a performance by the St. Thomas Academy Band, birds from the Rain Forest Cafe and raffle tickets for various items will be sold. The following evening the 33rd annual gala dinner and live auction will be held at 5:30 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the educational and scholarship programs at the academy. Family night is free. For tickets, priced at \$125 for the dinner and auction, call Janice at 683-1590.

Saturday/April 18

A NEIGHBORHOOD OPEN HOUSE to bring City Hall to Ward 4 will be held by council member Jay Benanav from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. today at the Hamline Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave. For information, call 266-8640.

GUIDED TOURS of the state Capitol to examine the structure's paintings will be given from 1:30 to 3:00 this afternoon. The cost is \$4.00 for adults, \$3.00 for seniors and \$2.00 for children. For reservations, call 296-2881.

A SILENT AUCTION and Spaghetti Supper will be held today at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 104 S. Snelling Ave. Bidding for the auction items will open at 4:00 p.m. Dinner will be served starting at 5:00 p.m. with entertainment and announcement of winning bids following at 6:15 p.m. The cost of the dinner is \$4.00, or \$12 per family. Children under 5 are free.

AN ANIMAL ADOPTION DAY will be held by Second Chance Animal Rescue from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. today at Petco, 2277 Ford Pkwy. For information, call 771=5662.

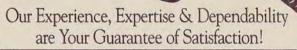
A USED BOOK FAIR, sponsored by the St. Gregory Guild, will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. today and from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. tomorrow in Quinn Hall at the Church of St. Gregory, 1668 Montreal Ave. Tom Donovan, illustrator of the Billy Bear books, will show some of his drawings and Emily Crofford will read from her children's books. For information, call Jan at 405-8454.

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Sunday/April 19

A COMMUNITY FARM FESTIVAL will be held from 1:00 to 5:00 this afternoon in the Bush Student Center at Hamline University. The festival will include music, cooking demonstrations, storytelling, kids' activities and talks on sustainable agriculture and buying locally grown food. For information, call 872-3299.

EARTH DAY will be celebrated from noon to 4:00 this afternoon at Minnehaha Park. There will be a performance by Heart of the Beast Puppet Theater. Admission is free. For information, call 822-1580.

Monday/April 20

THE GARDEN CLUB of Ramsey County will meet at 7:15 this evening at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Noted St. Paul gardener Lee Halgren will give an illustrated talk on "Garden Design."

Tuesday/April 21

A GATHERING for the religious community, labor and community organizations will be held from 1:30 to 3:30 this afternoon at Minnehaha United Church of Christ, 4001 S. 38th Ave. The topic of discussion will be "Organizing for Economic Justice: A Dialogue for Action Between the Labor and Religious Communities." For information, call 729-7556.

A FAMILY ISSUES PARENTING

group will meet from 7:00 to 8:30 this evening at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. This month's meeting will focus on the importance of fathers in the lives of their children.

The cost is \$12, or \$18 per couple. To register, call 698-0751.

A BOOK SALE will be held from noon to 6:00 p.m. beginning today and continuing through April 24 in Room 102 of the O'Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center at the University of St. Thomas. For information, call Julie at 962-5014.

Wednesday/April 22

A LUNCHEON benefitting St. Helena's School will be served at noon today in Rowan Hall at St. Helena's Church, 32nd Avenue S. and 43rd Street E., Minneapolis. The cost is \$5.00.

THE RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE will be at Mount Zion Temple, 1300 Summit Ave. from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. today. For information or to make an appointment, call 457-1126.

Titanic folklore will surface at April 14 presentations

"The Titanic Mystique" will be presented by Joan Daniels of Mahtomedi, one of America's foremost experts on Titanic folklore, on Tuesday, April 14, at the University Club in downtown St. Paul.

Daniels, a member of the Titanic Society of America, has traveled with other Titanic aficionados to England and Ireland. She has stood on the Southampton dock from where the Titanic sailed, has visited the Belfast shipyard where the Titanic was built and

has met many survivors of the disaster.

The program will include an elaborate exhibition of Titanic memorabilia, including books, pictures, artifacts, copies of letters from passengers and families, SOS messages from the ship to rescue vehicles and stories of those who survived. Lunch or dinner will be served from menus similar to those used by the ship on its last day and Daniels will talk about her years of research on the topic.

The lunchtime presentation will be-

gin at 11:00 a.m. and the dinner presentation at 6:45 p.m. The cost is \$50 for lunch and \$140 for dinner, with all proceeds benefitting the North Star Opera.

Reservations may be made by calling Irma Wachtler at 698-6386.

The exhibition also will be open to the public at 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 17, and at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, April 19. The cost is \$12.50 for adults, \$10 for seniors, \$8.00 for students and \$5.00 for children.



ONTHETOWN

Almost like being in love

Brigadoon is the latest conquest for professional leading lady Peggy Joyce

by Bob Gilbert

eggy Joyce has made her career as a professional lover. That's in spite of the fact that the Highland Park actress was married for the first time last July.

Over the course of her 15-year theatrical career, Joyce has been the leading lady in countless musicals in which consummating her love with the male protagonist completes the story.

Joyce is now starring at Chanhassen Dinner Theatres as Fiona MacLaren in Lerner and Loew's musical *Brigadoon*, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

Singing on stage has been Joyce's ambition ever since she was a child listening to Barbara Cook and Shirley Jones sing in such classics as Oklahoma and The Music Man. She said the musical is one of America's great contributions to the performing arts. Almost every one of them also is a love story.

As Fiona MacLaren, Joyce plays a 19-year-old maiden who lives with her father in the village of Brigadoon and is fast approaching old maid status by 17th-century Scottish standards. However, in one of her songs, "Waiting For My Deary," she makes it clear that she

won't settle for anything less in a marriage than true love.

Two New Yorkers, Tommy
Albright and Jeff Douglas, have
come to Scotland to hunt. One day
while they are out stalking in the
heath, the mythical Brigadoon
rises out of mist, just as it has done
every 100 years. The two friends
enter the village and mingle with
its inhabitants. When Albright
meets Fiona, he is smitten with her.

However, he has another girlfriend in New York, whom Joyce refers to as the "smart choice." The story revolves around his decision whether to go back to the life he knows in New York and marry a girl that he's not sure he really loves or to stay in Brigadoon with Fiona.

Joyce said to find out what happens, a person could rent the video. But while she would never want to be disrespectful to Gene Kelly and Cyd Charisse who starred in the 1954 movie version, she said the truth is that director Vincente Minnelli turned Brigadoon into a dance show to highlight Kelly's talent instead of the musical it was written as. She claims the Chanhassen production is much more satisfying.

Joyce's show-business career includes several credits with the Minnesota Opera. She played Mabel in the *Pirates of Penzance*,



The beautiful Fiona MacLaren, played by Peggy Joyce, captivates Tommy Albright (Keith Rice), who offers to gather heather on the hillside for her in Chanhassen Dinner Theatres' production of *Brigadoon*.

Barbarina in the *Marriage of Figaro* and a less virtuous woman in Bizet's *Carmen*. She calls herself a lyric soprano, but also has the ability to reach the vocal heights of a coloratura soprano.

Joyce began her theatrical training at the age of 17 during two summer sessions with the Children's Theatre Company. She made her acting debut as the lead in CTC's production of Equinox. From there, she earned a degree in voice at the University of Minnesota and found parts in smaller venues such as Chimera Theater.

Brigadoon is her 11th show at Chanhassen. Since it opened in January, she has played the role of Fiona six nights a week, in addition to Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. Because ticket sales have been better than any show in the theater's history, *Brigadoon* may run until next January, and eight shows a week is a rigorous schedule for any professional.

"Anyone can sing, but if you want to have a career in it, you need to know how to do it in the most healthy way possible," Joyce said. "When I first started singing, I found a teacher who taught me that singing starts in your gut. Your vocal chords are just two little pieces of gristle that flutter," she said, "but it's your stomach that actually helps conduct the sound. You have tons of muscles in your stomach and they never get tired. Once you build them up, you can

sing all night."

Brigadoon has been reviewed favorably except by one Twin Cities weekly, which took the show to task for being chauvinistic. Joyce said she finds it ironic that while she considers herself a feminist, she has devoted her career to American musicals, where women typically play traditional roles, and opera, where the heroine is often abused or murdered.

"Tommy's friend in the show,
Jeff, is a real pig and makes a lot of
cynical remarks about women,"
Joyce said. "He gets tons of laughs.
While I don't support sexism, its
existence in theatrical productions
is part of our cultural history.
Sometimes love grows out of it and
heals. It would be worse to deny it."

Herriges comes of age with national release of second CD

by Jan Shaw-Flamm

n 1986, armed with a degree in business management from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Chris Herriges took a job selling office coffee service. Life can be tough for someone aspiring to make it as a singer and songwriter, but Herriges quit his job after six months to embark on a career in music.

Twelve years later, with the national release of his second full-length CD, "Four Thousand Fears," on the Angel Beach/Oarfin label, Herriges is using his business acumen to market his creation from Roanoke to Sun Valley.

"I really only back up the work of my national record rep and my publicist," said Herriges, a Summit Avenue resident.

It was not always thus. "When I started after college, vinyl was still around," he said. "I made all the demos and sent them to stations myself."

Herriges, 34, now enjoys the luxury of concentrating on finding the perfect melody to accompany the precise word. "I feel I've graduated into an adult," he said. "I've stayed with it long enough that I don't chase the wrong things anymore. It's satisfying, having

the rewards of entertaining people."

Herriges has been writing songs since he was 7 years old. "My first one was a folk ditty about a plane made of diamonds, a plane so hard it could smash into anything," he said with a smile.

He began taking guitar lessons at age 11 and played percussion in high school. After college, he added voice lessons.

Today, Herriges can be found playing regularly at several local venues, including O'Gara's Garage in St. Paul and the Cabooze and Fine Line in Minneapolis. Radio listeners also can hear him frequently on the Cities '97.

Over the years, Herriges has developed a rich musical style that was inspired by a variety of musicians whom he is quick to credit. "The guitar style of Van Halen, the power chords of Boston, the Beatles, George Gershwin, Simon and Garfunkel, Michael Jackson. The creative process is everything you hear—sounds on the street, a chamber orchestra. It tumbles around in your head and reconnects itself in a mutated form, and then you begin to hear a melody."

Album Network called Herriges' new CD "reminiscent of Animals-era Pink Floyd. Its melodies bubble and glow like a lava lamp."

Of an earlier release, Larry Flick of



Chris Herriges

Billboard Magazine wrote, "Herriges continues to be among the most resilient and focused new singer-songwriters to hit the boards in the past year or two. After a few regionally embraced releases, he is poised for a national breakthrough."

The "Four Thousand Fears" CD and the

band to which he lends his name, The Chris Herriges Project, were touted on a billboard near Snelling and Ashland avenues. The band is composed of Herriges, lead vocals, guitar and keyboards; Chris Shaw, bass; Chris Weinberger, drums; and Pete McCauley, guitar and backup vocals.

The cover photo for the CD—a young schoolgirl standing in the rain at the corner of Selby and Dale—fits the somber lines from the album's title cut:

Now I'm walking onward down the sidewalks wet with rain, feel the wind 'neath my umbrella, hear its whispers call my name.

The location for the photo shoot was no accident. "This area of St. Paul is full of history," Herriges said. "It's a couple of blocks from where August Wilson wrote. I find this area the most enchanting in St. Paul. To me it has a European feeling.

"I feel connected here, I have a place in the community and I'm proud of the area," he said. "However much success I have in other markets, I'd like to bring that back here in some way. I'd always like to be known as an artist from St. Paul."

Books

"Poetry and the Sacred," a five-week discussion series exploring the religious themes in the works of four modern American poets, will continue every Thursday throughout April at the St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave. Poet and scholar Patricia Kirkpatrick will moderate the series. Admission is free, but registration is required. To register, call 222-3242.

The Hungry Mind Bookstore, 1648 Grand Ave., will host the following readings at 8:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted): Diane Glancy will read from her new novel Flutie on Thursday, April 9; Orhan Pamuk will read from his novels The New Life and The White Castle on Monday, April 13; Robert Hedin will read from his new book The Old Liberators: New and Selected Poems and Translations on Tuesday, April 14; Colum Mc-Cann will read from his new novel This Side of Brightness on Wednesday, April 15; Janet Holmes will read from her new book of poems The Green Tuxedo on Friday, April 17; Clare Rossini will read from her book Winter Morning With Crow at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, April 18; and A. Manette Ansay will read from her new novel River Angel on Tuesday, April 21. Admission is free. For details, call 699-0587

Dorothy Allison will read from her new novel *Cavedweller* at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, April 11, in the Weyerhaeuser Chapel at Macalester College. For ticket information, call 699-0587.

The Minnesota Book Awards will be presented at 7:00 p.m. Friday, April 17, at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Also 10 of the authors nominated for the Minnesota Book Awards will read from their works beginning at 4:00 p.m. Saturday, April 18, at the History Center.

"Poetry in the Afternoon" will be held at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, April 19, at Barnes & Noble Highland, 2080 Ford Pkwy. The featured poet for April will be Linda Beck McKay, author of Those Girls Are Always Dancing. Admission is free. For information, call 690-9443.

Jeremy Rifkin will discuss his new book *The Biotech Century:* Harnessing the Gene and Remaking the World at 8:00 p.m. Monday, April 20, in the Weyerhaeuser Chapel at Macalester College. For free tickets, call 699-0587.

Kathleen Norris will read from her new book *Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith* at 7:00 p.m. Monday, April 20, at Central Presbyterian Church, 500 Cedar St. Admission is free. For information, call 699-0587.

Music



The Minnesota Orchestra will perform the music of Mozart, Mahler and Sibelius at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, April 9, and at 8:00 p.m. Friday, April 10, at Orchestra Hall. For tickets, priced from \$16.75 to \$58.50, call 371-5656.

Laura Caviani, a Grand Avenue pianist and composer, will celebrate the release of her second CD, "As One," with concerts at 8:00 and 10:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, at the Dakota Bar and Grill in Bandana Square. Special guests will include vocalist Karrin Allyson, bassist Bob Bowman, drummer Todd Strait and guitarist Rod Fleeman. For tickets, priced at \$12 and \$10, call 642-1442.

A Clarinet Fête will be held at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, in the Brady Educational Center auditorium at the University of St. Thomas. The music of Mozart, Vaughan-Williams, Weber and Ippolitov-Ivanov will be performed.

Joan Baez will perform as part

ON THE TOWN briefly



Martin Zellar will celebrate the release of his latest CD, "The Many Moods of Martin Zellar and the Hardways," with performances at 10:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 10-11, at O'Gara's Bar and Grill, 164 N. Snelling Ave. This is the third solo effort for the singer-songwriter and the first release under his own label, Owen/Lee Recordings. He and his band will embark on a five-month national concert tour in support of the album.

of the "Women of Substance" series at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 9, in the O'Shaughnessy at the College of St. Catherine. For tickets, priced from \$20.50 to \$25, call 690-6700.

"Circlesongs," a concert by Bobby McFerrin and his a cappella group Voicestra, will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 9, at Orchestra Hall. For tickets, priced from \$17 to \$47.50, call 291-1144.

The St. Paul Chamber Orchestra will perform the music of Copland, Crumb and Mozart at 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 10 and 11, at the Ordway Music Theatre. For tickets, priced from \$17 to \$47.50, call 291-1144.

Belladonna will perform "Sacred and Profane," a concert of music of the 17th century, at 8:00 p.m. Friday, April 17, at St. Clement's Episcopal Church, 901 Portland Ave. Admission is \$15, or \$8.00 for students and seniors. For information, call 699-1808.

The Flying Karamazov Brothers will perform with the Minnesota Orchestra at 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 17-18, at Orchestra Hall. For tickets, priced from \$17.75 to \$33.75, call 371-5656.

The Lyra Concert will perform "King of Instruments" by Bach, Handel, Soler and Vivaldi at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, April 18, at Luther Seminary's Olson Campus Center. Admission is \$15, or \$13 for seniors and \$6.00 for students. For information, call 404-9632.

The Macalester Festival

Chorale will perform "Voices of the Americas" at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, April 18, in the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center at Macalester College and at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, April 19, at St. Luke's Catholic Church, 1079 Summit Ave. For ticket information, call 696-6520.

A concert of the complete works of Aaron Copland for violin and piano will be performed at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, April 19, in Ferguson Recital Hall on the West Bank of the University of Minnesota. Admission is free.

Dare to Breathe will perform traditional folk, jazz and classical works at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, April 19, at St. Paul's Church onthe-Hill, 1524 Summit Ave. The cost is \$10, or \$6.00 for seniors and students. For information, call 698-0371.

Shawn Colvin will perform as part of the "Women of Substance" series at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 19, in the O'Shaughnessy at the College of St. Catherine. For tickets, priced from \$15 to \$22.50, call 690-6700.

The Chamber Music Society of Minnesota will perform the music of Mozart, Faure and Shostakovich at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, April 19, at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. The cost is \$15, or \$10 for seniors and students. For information, call 339-2264.

"Exultate, Jubilate," a concert of music for voices and brass instruments, will be performed at 8:00 p.m. Sunday, April 19, at the Cathedral of St. Paul. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted. For information, call 228-1766.

The Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies will present Julia and Irina Elkina in concert at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 19, in the Ted Mann Concert Hall at the University of Minnesota. For tickets, priced at \$9.00 for adults and \$6.00 for students and seniors, call 624-2345.

Vida will perform at 7:30 and 9:00 p.m. Monday, April 20, at the Dakota Bar and Grill in Bandana Square. The cost is \$5.00 at the door or \$15 for reserved table seating by calling 227-6041.

The Jazz Messengers will perform a special tribute to drummer Art Blakey at 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 21, in the Ted
Mann Concert Hall at the University of Minnesota. For tickets, call 624-2345.

Family

The Hungry Mind Bookstore, 1648 Grand Ave., will offer the following programs for children at 11:00 a.m. on Saturdays: Isabel Monk on April 11; and Larissa Kokernot on April 18. Admission is free. For information, call 699-0587.

History HiJinx programs for children ages 3-11 will be offered from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sundays at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. The line-up includes the following: children can view Bill Johnson's insect collection and make their own creepy, crawly bug on April 12; and families can learn about Japanese gardens and create their own scene on April 19. Admission is free. For details, call 296-6126.

The Red Balloon Bookshop, 891 Grand Ave., will offer the following storytime activities at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays: Debra Frasier will present an ocean workshop based on her new book *Out of the Ocean* on Saturday, April 11; and Susan Marie Swanson will introduce her first picture book *Letter to the Lake* on Saturday, April 18. Admission is free. For information, call 224-8320.

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cert especially for children in grades 5-8, will be performed by the Minnesota Orchestra at 10:00 and 11:30 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday, April 14-16, at Orchestra Hall. For tickets, priced from \$5.75 to \$7.75, call 371-5656.

"Guitar Talk," an introduction to acoustic guitar and classical chamber music, will be presented by the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet at 6:15 and 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 17, at St. Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Ave. Admission is \$6.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children at the door or \$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children in advance by calling 646-5266.

ArtScraps, 1459 St. Clair Ave., will offer the following Super Scrapper Saturdays from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m: "Earth Mobile," a program to learn about the importance of recycling while creating your own mobile out of scraps, will be held on April 18. The cost is \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. For information, call 698-2787.

"Creative Writing for Families" will be taught by Margie Adler, author of Young Readers Journal and Keith Davis, at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, April 18, at Barnes & Noble Highland, 2080 Ford Pkwy. Admission is free. For information, call 690-9443.

"Sundays at Landmark," a family-oriented event series, will present the following family programs on Sundays at Landmark Center: the community orchestra Allegro Sinfonia will perform at 2:00 p.m. on April 19. Admission is free. For information, call 292-3225.

Dance



The O'Shaughnessy Dance! Series will continue with the Ragamala Music and Dance Theater performing "Chaturam" at 8:00 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, April 16-18, in the O'Shaughnessy at the College of St. Catherine. For tickets, priced from \$13 to \$18, call 690-6700.





"Cinema With Passion," a festival of Hong Kong films, will take place on weekends at the Riverview Theatre, 3800 S. 42nd Ave., Minneapolis. The festival will include the following: Passion 1995 at midnight Friday, April 10, at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, April 11, and at midnight Saturday, April 18; and



Jeanne Englemann of Highland Park won three cash awards in the competitive exhibit "Photography Here & Now '98". She received a \$100 award of excellence for "Hamlet at Versailles" and a \$50 award of merit for "Kayak Paddle" (pictured), which also earned her the \$100 People's Choice Award voted on by those attending the opening of the exhibit at the Edina Art Center, 4701 W. 64th St. The competition was open to members of all Twin Cities photo clubs. The exhibit will remain on view through April 24.

The Naked Killer at midnight Friday, April 17, and at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, April 18. Admission is \$6.00. For information, call 376-7715.

Theater_

Performances will continue through May 10. For tickets, priced from \$14 to \$18, call 292-4323.

Shakespeare's comedy Much Ado About Nothing will open at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, at the Guthrie Theater. Performances will continue through May 17. For tickets, priced from \$15 to \$36, call 377-2224.

The Refreshment Committee Theatre Company will open Tartuffe on Friday, April 17, at the Minneapolis Theatre Garage. Performances will be given at 8:00 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and at 3:00 p.m. on Sundays until May 3. For tickets, priced from \$10 to \$16, call 690-9987.

The Macalester College Dramatic Arts and Dance Department will present a contemporary version of Clifford Odets' classic play Waiting for Lefty at 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 17-18, at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, April 19, and at 8:00 p.m. Thursday and Friday, April 23-24, in the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center. For ticket information, call 696-6359.

Theater Mu will open the world premiere of Maria Cheng's Wok-up American Dream, a dramatic comedy about finding success and heart in the land of opportunity, on Friday, April 17, at the Hennepin Center for the Arts in Minneapolis. Performances will take place at 8:00 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and at 2:00 p.m. Sundays through May 3. For tickets, priced from \$9.00 to \$14, call 824-4804.

Teatro Latino de Minnesota will present Rosita's Jalapeno Kitchen, a humorous, yet poignant, play questioning the often detrimental effects of urban development on ethnic neighborhoods, at 7:00 p.m. Friday, April 17, in the Jeanne d'Arc Auditorium at the College of St. Catherine. Admission is free. For details, call 690-6821.

The Great American History Theatre, 30 E. 10th St., will open Marcie Rendon's Song Catcher at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, April 18.

The Minnesota Opera will perform George Antheil's Transatlantic, the 1930s satire about the buying and selling of the American presidency, at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, April 18; at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 21; at 8:00 p.m. Thursday, April 23; at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, April 25; and at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, April 26, at the Ordway Music Theater. For tickets, priced from \$20 to \$69, call 224-4222.

Etc.



The St. Anthony Park Community Band is looking for new members interested in playing a challenging musical repertoire. Rehearsals will be held from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesdays during April and May at Como Senior High School with a full schedule of concerts throughout the summer. For information, call 642-1559.

Old Town Artists will present their 25th anniversary show and sale from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. Thursday, April 16; from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. Friday, April 17; and from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. Saturday, April 18; in their studios at 9th and Jackson, downtown St.

The American Craft Council will present its 12th annual craft show from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Friday, April 17; from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday, April 18; and from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 19, at RiverCentre. There will be more than 250 of the nation's finest craft artisans showcasing their pieces. Admission is \$6.00 and free for children ages 11 and under. For information, call 491-2099.

"Music and Film: A Community Celebration," a benefit for Longfellow United for Youth and Families, will be held at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, April 19, at the Riverview Theatre, 3800 S. 42nd Ave., Minneapolis. For information, call 721-7811.

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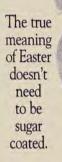


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MONDAY - TUESDAY - WEDNESDAY Devotional Services at 6:30 a.m., 12:30 and 6:30 p.m.

MAUNDY THURSDAY — April 9

Holy Communion 4:00 and 7:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY — April 10 Good Friday Liturgy (with Tenebrae) 7:00 p.m.



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HOLY WEEK

de

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All are Welcome!

Vespers: Wednesday April 8, 7:00 p.m. Short contemplative prayer at Vespers, "the last light of the day", held by Candlelight. Come early for Tai Chi and Lenten meditation at 6:15 p.m.

Maundy Thursday: April 9, 7:00 p.m.*
Holy Communion commemorating the last supper, the Gospel of John. with washing of feet (with options for the foot-conscious!), Reading of Psalm 22, Stripping of the altar, Voluntary silent prayer watch at the Side Altar

Good Friday, April 10, noon - 3 p.m.*

Open service of readings, prayers, homilies, and meditation. (Stay as long as you like; come and go at any point in the afternoon.)

The Great Vigil of Easter
Saturday April 11, 8:00 p.m.*
Dramatic, ancient liturgy begins in darkness;
The new light is kindled with flint and steel.
Plainsong, chant, and choir
The beginning of Easter, the first Alleluia

EASTER Sunday, April 12*
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:00 a.m. Festival Choral Eucharist

* Denotes nursery care care provided

5

For a complete listing of services and events, call the church office at 228-1172

PILGRIM





Thursday 7:00pm Good Friday

Friday 7:00pm

The Passion According to St. Luke

7:30am & 10:00am

Welcome to a neighborhood church terim Pastor Tom Schult:

Interim Pastor Tom Schultz Thomas R. Bartsch, Organist - Choir Master 699-6886

St. Paul's-on-the Hill Episcopal Church

7:00 p.m.

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HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Palm Sunday 8:00 am Low Mass, 10:00 am Solemn High Mass, 7:30 pm Tenebrae

Holy Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 5:30 pm Low Mass Maundy Thursday 7:30 pm Solemn High Mass (bilingual)

Good Friday

3:30 pm Stations of the Cross, Litany,
Evensong; 6:30 pm Proper Liturgy

Holy Saturday 8:00 pm Great Vigil of Easter (bilingual)

Easter Sunday 8:00 am Low Mass, 10:00 am Solemn High Mass

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Maundy Thursday Apr 9
Tenebrae

7:00 pm

Good Friday

Apr 10

German Language 10:00 am English Service 1:00 pm

Easter Saturday

Apr 11

4:00 pm

Easter

Apr 12 8:15/10:30 am

Continental Breakfast Easter Egg Hunt

9:00 - 10:30 am 9:00 - 10:30 am

TODDLER AND NURSERY CARE

SPORTS

CODY'S CORNER

TOM CODY



Bumper crop of taters in store for '98

t just wasn't the same this year. A baseball opener without Harry Caray's seventh-inning stretch at Wrigley Field. A Twins road opener without Herb Carneal at the microphone. The Milwaukee Brewers playing in the National League.

Major League Baseball threw out the first pitch on a new season last week and it was big business as usual. Once again success will come down to pitching, and there the margin between the haves and have-nots has grown ever wider. Two new expansion teams have made room for 20 new hurlers who'd still be in the minors otherwise.

Pitching in the majors was atrocious in 1997; it'll be even worse in '98. Expect tons of taters to be hit this summer. Nobody is going to break Roger Maris' record of 61 in a season, but there'll be many players in the 40 to 50 range.

FORECASTING THE RACES

The New York Yankees will win the '98 World Series when it ends sometime around Thanksgiving Day. They'll whip the Braves in six.

Atlanta has its usual star-studded staff in Maddux, Smoltz, Glavine and Neagle. Chipper Jones is a prime-timer at third, and Andres Galarraga will do just fine in the cleanup spot. So why won't the Braves win it all? There's still one hard and fast rule in Major League Baseball: You cannot win a world championship with Walt Weiss at shortstop.

The Dodgers will face the Braves in the NLCS. Their United Nations rotation of Nomo, Valdez, Park and Martinez will keep them in the pennant hunt, and they'll get all the offense they need from Mike Piazza, Raul Mondesi and Eric Karros. But having no closer will kill L.A. in postseason play.

New bullpen stopper Armando Benitez will be the key to Baltimore's pennant run. The Birds' starters are good enough to keep the team in most every game. If the pen can hold, the O's will be there in October. Age is a concern, however. New cleanup hitter Joe Carter is older than my first photo album. Brady Anderson, B.J. Surhoff, Eric Davis and Rafael Palmeiro? Cal Ripken is a junior among these graybeards. Put a fork in catcher Chris Hoiles; he's done.

(Editor's note: Yankee haters, skip to the next section.)

Chuck Knoblauch was the missing piece to the Pinstripers' championship puzzle. Now Derek Jeter can hit in his natural, second position, with Tino Martinez, Paul O'Neill and Bernie Williams lurking close behind. Even ancient DH Chili Davis should get 90 RBIs in this line-up. Third base is the Yankees' only weak link. With Pettitte, Cone and Wells on the hill and Stanton and Nelson setting up Rivera in the bullpen, it'll take nothing less than Steinbrenner to screw this thing up.

THE ENVELOPE, PLEASE

Ken Griffey Jr. will win the American League MVP award—a prognostication that is about as daring as forecasting rain in Seattle this spring. Griff will fall short of Maris' mark, but he'll put 50-plus into the cheap seats while

Cody's Corner/see next page

Prep baseball preview

Area teams make their pitch for successful seasons

by Tom Cody

Spring must be here. The birds are chirping, the flowers are budding and high school baseball coaches are talking about pitching. As in past years, the fortunes of area high school teams will rest largely on the arms of the youngsters on the mound.

"You can't walk people and give away runs," said Central coach Jeff Plaschko. "High school baseball is more about losing games than winning them."

The Minutemen won't lose many when senior pitcher Adam Hunkins takes the hill. Cretin-Derham Hall also has a strong pitching corps with its top two starting pitchers and closer back from last year's state championship team.

St. Thomas Academy has five decent pitchers on its staff this season and Minnehaha Academy has six, including Josh Willett, who threw for the Tri-City Legion team that went to nationals last summer.

But no matter who's on the rubber, there'll be plenty of good reasons to take in local high school baseball games this spring. Here's a look at what you can expect from the eight clubs in the Villager area:

CENTRAL

League: St. Paul City Conference 1997 record: 8-12 Coach: Jeff Plaschko

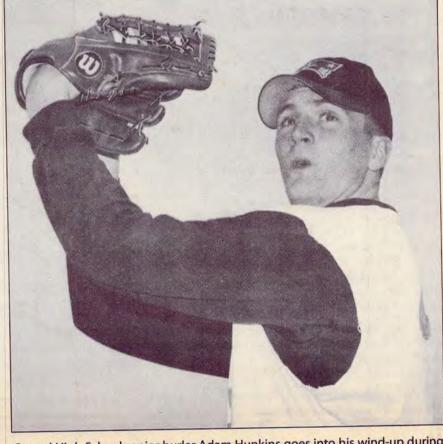
Key players and their strengths:

- · Adam Hunkins (senior P/SS). Has
- good control and a microscopic ERA.

 Tarek Elmasry (senior OF). A contact hitter who'll bat second. Hit over .300 in '97.
- Damian Allen (senior OF). Leadoff hitter who also went over .300 last season.
- Justin Clegg (senior P). Throws hard with good location.

Team strengths/weaknesses: "We'll move the ball on offense," Plaschko said. "We've got some power." Central has some talented players off a summer VFW team who'll provide spirited competition for many of the open positions. However, defense remains a concern.

Outlook for 1998: "I'm not sure even I can screw this up," Plaschko said with a laugh. "We have some talent and should



Central High School senior hurler Adam Hunkins goes into his wind-up during practice. Photo by Terry Faust.

be competitive with everybody. Other years, we were just hoping. This time, we think we're there." Plaschko picks Johnson and Cretin to provide the most competition for his club.

CRETIN-DERHAM HALL

League: St. Paul City Conference 1997 record: 26-2, conference, Twin Cities and state Class AA champions Coach: Jim O'Neill

Key players and their strengths:

- Brian Gornick (senior OF). Power hitter who can drive in runs.
- Jack Hannahan (senior P/3B). A closer who can strike people out, and a power hitting lefty who has signed with the Gophers.
- Luke Vogel (senior 1B). Collected 10 home runs and 44 RBIs as a junior.
- Brian Whinnery (senior P). Aggressive lefty who won last year's state title game with a shutout.
- Keith Arnold (senior P). Crafty righty who went 8-0 as a junior.

Team strengths/weaknesses: The Raiders have a senior-laden club with great power and pitching. "We'll hit the ball," said O'Neill, whose club is seeking its third consecutive Class AA state title. "We've got some speed and we should score some runs. But we're moving some people around on defense, especially in the outfield."

Outlook for 1998: "It's a tough conference," O'Neill said. Johnson and Central have top-notch hurlers and should give the Raiders some competition. "Hastings should be very good (in the sections)," O'Neill said. "It won the VFW sophomore state title last summer. South St. Paul should be good, too."

HIGHLAND PARK

League: St. Paul City Conference 1997 record: 7-10 Coach: Lynn Nelson

Key players and their strengths:
• Anthony LeMay (senior 1B). A left-

Prep baseball/see next page



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Prep baseball preview: the boys of spring take the field/from previous page

handed hitter who batted .370 as a junior.

- · Gabe Mueller (senior LF/C). Another good hitter and competitive athlete.
- · Nick Gillespie (senior OF). A hard working, versatile player.

Team strengths/weaknesses: Highland only had 24 players out for varsity and junior varsity this year. "We're going to have to rebuild quite a bit," Nelson said. "We have a few question marks. Our pitching is untested and so is our infield. We could start as many as three freshmen."

Outlook for 1998: Nelson said the Scots' season will depend on how fast the younger players develop." I like the usual teams to finish near the top: Cretin, Johnson, Central," he said. "Like every other sport, if you've got the numbers you'll find the players."

ST. THOMAS ACADEMY

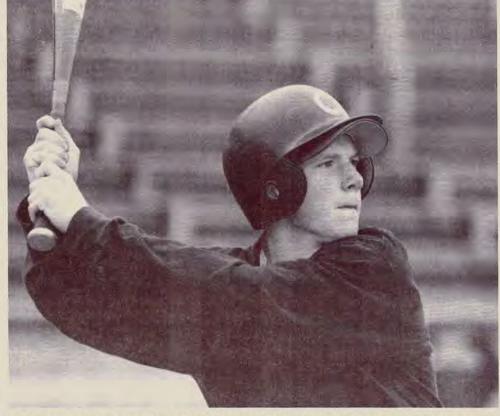
League: St. Paul Suburban Conference 1997 record: 8-13 Coach: Steve LeDuc

Key players and their strengths:

- · Bob Fenlon (senior SS). All-conference hitter and smoothy at short.
- Damon Laliberte (senior P/C). A very good catcher and hitter who'll also pitch some.
- Ben Pearson (senior 1B). Good hitter and a 6-foot-7 target at first.
- · Mike Reif (senior 2B/C). A great arm. Will catch for Laliberte.
- Dusty Wilhelmy (junior RF). The team's No. 3 hitter and greatest offensive threat.

Team strengths/weaknesses: Laliberte is a Junior Olympic hopeful and an enormous asset. STA should be quite good defensively. "It all comes down to scoring runs," LeDuc said. "We have to replace Todd Spicer's bat."

Outlook for 1998: The Suburban Conference is tough as usual. Tartan, North St. Paul,



Central senior outfielder Tarek Elmasry concentrates on the pitch during practice. He hit over .300 for the Minutemen last season. Photo by Terry Faust.

Woodbury, Hastings and Park could all take the title. "The rest of us have a shot," LeDuc said, "but things have to go right for us to contend." A .500 season is probably a legitimate goal for the Cadets.

SIBLEY

League: St. Paul Suburban Conference 1997 record: 13-10 Coach: Greg Fehrman

Key players and their strengths:

 Bob Tallarico (senior SS). A left-handed hitter who has one of the greatest gloves in the metro area.

- Eric Scheurer (senior 2B). Another very smooth infielder.
- · Bryan Smolik (senior CF). A three-year starter who'll bat third.

Team strengths/weaknesses: Sibley has a solid middle defense with Scheurer, Tallarico and Smolik, but the team has untested pitchers. "We'll be down this year," Fehrman said. "We're short on pitching, our outfield is brand new and we'll have to scratch to score

Outlook for 1998: Fehrman picks South St.

Paul, Tartan and Park as the conference favorites. "We'll have to play well to finish at .500," he said.

MINNEHAHA ACADEMY

League: Tri-Metro Conference 1997 record: 9-12 Coach: Dave Glenn

Key players and their strengths:

- Colin Pedersen (senior 3B/P). Cleanup hitter and hot hand at the hot corner.
- · Nat Kretzman (senior 2B). Bats second and knows what to do with a glove.
- Mike Killeen (senior LF/P). Will probably be the Hawks' closer.
- Josh Willett (junior P). Starting pitcher with good control.
- Tim Hamburge (sophomore P/SS). A curve ball specialist. No. 2 in the rotation.

Team strengths/weaknesses: "We have six pitchers back, and two of them (Willett and Hamburge) are proven starters," Glenn said. "Our defense should be solid—we have experience and depth. We have decent hitters, but not much power, and our team speed is average. We'll have to put doubles and singles together to score runs."

Outlook for 1998: St. Agnes, which returns its whole team, rates as the Tri-Metro favorite. Blake has a good hitting team back. Minnehaha might finish third. Its offensive punch will be the determining factor.

ROOSEVELT

League: Minneapolis City Conference 1997 record: 6-15 Coach: John DePerry

Key players and their strengths:

· Eric Carlson (junior 1B). A third-year vet who can drive the ball. Will hit in the middle of the order.

Baseball/see next page

Cody's Corner: 'Aguilera will be as busy as a Maytag repairman' /from previous page

posting 130 RBIs and a .310 average. Teammate Randy Johnson will take home the Cy Young Award. The Big Unit will shift into high gear for this, his pre-free-agent season. Oakland's Ben Grieve should lap the field in the A.L. Rookie of the Year voting. This big kid can't miss.

The only thing that could stop Mark McGwire's National League MVP march is his chronic back problem. If this behemoth stays off the D.L., he'll park 50 and keep the otherwise punchless Cardinals in the race. Greg Maddux (what's new?) will coast to another Cy Young. He wins as many games as he walks batters most seasons. Travis Lee (remember him, Terry Ryan?) of the new Arizona Diamondbacks will be the N.L. Rookie of the Year.

HUSTLING UP SOME FANS

The Twins' marketing department has been busier than Bill Clinton's public relations people this winter. The team has devised a host of promotional packages for 1998—the Molitor Saturday Family Pack, the Sunday Knothole Games, the Friday "Bring a Bud, Get a Bud" deal, the Tires Plus Senior

Day package, the \$83 season ticket and Double Play Mondays. That's on top of the usual cap, helmet, magnet schedule and fishing rod giveaways.

But the best promotion of all is still a winning streak, and I don't see many of those happening this summer. Another sure-fire ticket-seller is a marquee player, but I don't see Otis Nixon generating many walk-up sales. A team built around young prospects will draw fans, and 22-year-old hurler Eric Milton may create some interest if he gets out of the gate fast. But my guess is that closer Rick Aguilera will be as busy as a Maytag repairman this summer and the Metrodome will be a great place to read a book.

HERE AND THERE

 The Kodiaks are back for their 18th season in the Armchair Managers Baseball League. My American League fantasy team has languished in the second division for the past couple of years. I fear more of the same for '98. I've got far too much of my \$60 salary cap tied up in sluggers Mo Vaughn and Frank Thomas. Sentimentality just won't let me

part with either of them. I do have a few bargain-basement studs in Darrin Erstad, Mariano Rivera and Derek Jeter. I got Ben Grieve for \$3.25, but I took a beating with Todd Walker last year. I'm banking on the Twins' second baseman to get it together this season.

 I loved seeing Rick Majerus and Utah make their run through the NCAA playoffs, even though they eliminated UNC, a team that I had a small financial interest in. Utah has about as much basketball tradition as Alabama does hockey, but I loved Majerus' gimmick defenses. That's what makes college hoops more entertaining than the NBA; coaching still matters at this level. Team play can overcome superior talent.

· I'm going to take in the Masters this weekend from a variety of vantage points. The first round will find me in a Paris bistro, and I'll be watching the final rounds in London watering holes (sports pubs?). Tiger Woods is going to run away from the field and repeat his green-jacket performance of 1997. Unless the Augusta greenskeeper narrows the par-5 fairways to hallway proportions, the rest of the PGA doesn't stand a chance against Tiger.

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SPORTS SHORTS

Clauson makes clean sweep at state meet

Becca Clauson was as good as gold at the USA Gymnastics girls state championship meet on March 28 at St. Cloud State High School.

The 14-year-old Highland Park resident placed first in every event on her way to the Junior A allaround title in Level 10 competition with a combined score of 36.55. It was the seventh consecutive year that she has won the state title for her skill level. She earned an 8.725 for her piked Tsukahara vault, an 8.975 for her revamped set on the uneven bars, a 9.40 on the balance beam and a 9.45 on the floor.



Becca Clauson

Clauson is an 8th-grader at Nativity School and a member of the Thompson Academy of Gymnastics South (TAGS). She will represent Minnesota in the Region 4 championships April 16-19 in Minot, North Dakota. She is ranked fifth overall in the seven-state region. Other TAGS Level 9 and 10 gymnasts also qualified for the regional meet. The top 14 girls in the region will advance to nationals May 6-11 in Seattle, Washington.

This is the second year that Clauson has competed in Level 10. Last year, she was one of the top gymnasts in the region and advanced to the national competition in Florida. She has been training with TAGS South since she was 2 years old.

Mal Scanlan, former head football coach at Cretin-Derham Hall and the University of St. Thomas, will be toasted by former players, co-workers, family and friends during an informal retirement party on Monday, April 13, at the Wild Onion, 788 Grand Ave. The event will run from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. A \$10 donation will be collected at the door to cover hors d'oeuvres and a gift. For more information, call Al Rosinski at 483-0127.

The Highland Senior Golf League is signing up players for its men's, women's and mixed leagues. An informational meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. Monday, April 13, in the Highland 18-hole clubhouse at Montreal and Hamline avenues. Play starts on May 4. Prospective golfers who cannot attend the meeting may call Marlane Gallagher at 698-3246 or Mariann Mersch at 228-0394 for information or to register.

The St. Paul Midway Little League will register boys and girls ages 8-12 for the new season between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays, April 18 and 25, at Dunning Field. The fee is \$30. Players 10 to 12 years old should bring their gloves and athletic shoes. If it rains, registration will be held on Sundays, April 19 and 26. For details, call 659-1391.

St. Paul Academy senior Packy Flanagan captured his fourth straight boys state foil championship at the recent state high school fencing tournament. Flanagan also won the

boys epee championship at the Midwest High School Fencing Tournament in South Bend,

Bob Blat, Sarah Cathey and Scott Rostal, all members of the Twin Cities Fencing Club and students at the University of St. Thomas, have been named to the U.S. National Fencing Team. Blat competes in men's epee, Cathey in women's epee and Rostal in junior men's epee. Rostal will represent the United States at the Junior World Championships in Venezuela in

The Highland Park Men's Golf Club will hold its annual spring mixer at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16, at the 18-hole clubhouse, 1403 Montreal Ave. Returning and prospective members are invited. Dinner will be served. The dues for 1998 are \$80, which entitles members to a USGA handicap, preferred Sunday tee times and club tournaments. For details, call John Landy at 917-3752.

The 11th annual MS Walk to benefit the fight against multiple sclerosis, will step out from the state Capitol on Sunday, April 19. Participants may check in between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. and choose either a 7.5- or 15-mile route. Breakfast will be provided at the Capitol and lunch will be served near Minnehaha Falls with entertainment by the Rockin' Hollywoods. Buses will return walkers to the Capitol. Registration forms are available at all Brauns locations or by calling 870-1500.

Baseball preview/from previous page

- · Lavar Hampton (junior 2B). A solid defensive infielder and a rabbit on the base-
- · Steve Henderson (junior P/CF). A fastball pitcher. Has good range in center.
- · Chris Nelson (freshman C/P). A big (6-foot-5), quick, talented youngster.

Team strengths/weaknesses: Roosevelt has no seniors and only six juniors, so depth and inexperience could pose problems for the Teds' chances this year. Hitting should be good, but only through the fifth or sixth spot in the order. Henderson and Nelson will do most of the hurling.

Outlook for 1998: Minneapolis South has dominated the conference for the past few years and returns enough talent to get the nod again in '98. The Teds will have to scratch out their victories.

ST. PAUL ACADEMY League: Tri-Valley Conference 1997 record: 14-9 Coach: Mike Brown

Key players and their strengths:

- John Brody (senior C). Hits and throws well. A strong presence behind the plate.
- · Josh Rucker (senior 3B). Team captain who can field and throw.
- · Adam Witt (senior LF). Another good defensive player. Has a gun from the outfield.
- · Nathan Gin (senior SS). Good glove man who'll pitch as well.
- T.J. Prunty (sophomore P/1B). Will bat third and handle most of the pitching chores in the big games.

Team strengths/weaknesses: SPA has a solid battery with Prunty and Brody. The infield will be good defensively, but the outfield is a question mark. "Our No. 2 and 3 pitchers are undetermined as of yet," Brown said. "We don't have much speed, so our offense will have to come from hitting the ball."

Outlook for 1998: "We might compete in our division of the Tri-Valley," Brown said. "St. Bernard and Concordia will be good. If we make the routine plays, we'll do OK. Our pitchers will throw strikes."



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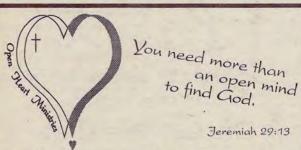


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The Highland Central girls 12U and 15U hockey teams both reached the state tournament on March 13-15. Members of the 12U team, pictured above from the left are (front row) Caroline Blodgett, Amanda Colaizy and Caroline Jeffery; (middle row) Brigid Sullivan, Sophie Thornton, Lizzy Vanney, Kate Cromett and Laurel Koller; and (back row) coach Nick Schneeman, Shannon Schneeman, coach Bob Vanney, Tricia Runyon, Sara Robertson, Anna Goski, Sarah Poeschl and coach Paul Koller. Not pictured is Caitlin Daly. Members of the 15U team pictured below from the left are (front row) Claire LeDuc, Alicia Morrison and Sarah Bramen; (middle row) Katie King, Ashley Berglund, Bridget O'Brien, Emily Babcock and Laura Mueller; and (back row) Kate Mitchell, Asha Shoffner, Meredith Kessler, Beth Woodward, Sibby Mackenzie, Maria Laine and Kelly Hogberg. The coaches are Jeff Lanz and Neal Horn.



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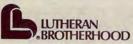
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AMWAY PRODUCTS; complete inventory; free delivery; 735-5468.

RED WORMS, bins, books, demos. Indoor compost supply. Mary, 378-9234.

HUGE FURNITURE sale. Bed sets: king Sye; full \$59 & \$69; exc. cond.; frames \$25/up; bedspreads \$15; chairs \$10/up; carpet 12 x 17 \$49 & up/roll, drapes \$5 ea.; lamps \$15/up; artwork from \$15; wood desks \$69; round tables \$39; nightstands \$49; framed mirrors \$29; hide-a-beds \$149. New sofas, living room and bedroom sets. New mattresses: king & queen, \$149. Hundreds of other items, new & used. Hundreds of other items, new & used. Hundreds of other items, the Hotel Furniture Liquidators. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 10-7, Sat., 10-6; St. Paul: 1800 University Ave. 645-9929; 927 Payne Ave., 771-9981. Mpls.: 2726 E. Lake St., 721-1899.

Deliveries available. HOME DÉCOR. Your new store for home accents and furnishings. 695-9379.gv ALWAYS A FINE selection of used musical instruments. Buy, sell & trade. Music Go Round, 2032 Ford Parkway;

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MEDICI BICYCLE 52-52 Prestige tubes Dura Ace group SUP wheels; 690-3564. \$1,400.

MARY KAY SKIN CARE products available; home delivery; Meredith,

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BEAUTIFUL HOME FURNISHING CON-SIGNMENTS arriving daily and deliciously displayed. Quality con-signments welcome. A Carousel Consignment Parlor, 1338 Randolph at Hamline; 699-5416.

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GORGEOUS KEYBOARD, futon and frame, ten-speed, small table; Stefan,

BEDROOM SET, full-size, with like new mattresses; 2 dressers, excellent condition; \$575/BO; 690-3533.

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FREE ESTIMATES · INSURED, BONDED

☐ Garage/Misc. Sales

☐ Housecleaning

☐ Lawn & Snow

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All Roof Repairs

For Sale

TEAKWOOD FURNITURE, breakfront, 54" x 76", credenza, 54", bookcases; call 698-9497.

BEAUTIFUL, TRADITIONAL cherry desk/chair, custom glass top, \$400; FUTON, full-size, ash frame, brand new, \$450; NORDICTRACK Walk-Fit treadmill, \$250; beveled dressing MIRRORS, \$35; 699-8889, leave

CONTEMPORARY OAK entertainment center, excellent condition, \$300, paid \$1,000; holds TV, stereo, storage, 57" high, 55" wide, 22" deep; call

DESIGNER WEDDING DRESS, ivory, size 14, off-shoulder; long veil included; \$300; 699-5619.

BEDROOM SET, 1920's, walnut, 6 pieces, hand-painted flowers, exquisite! Must sell, \$3,900/BO; 739-9786.

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SUPER SALE!!! St. Paul Academy, 1712 Randolph Ave. Household goods, bikes, athletic equipment, toys, chil-dren's and adult clothing, SPA pottery. Great stuff. Sat., Apr. 18, 9-4 and Sun. Apr. 19, bag sale 12-3.

ESTATE SALE. April 17, 18, 19; 8-3; 2088 Randolph Ave. LR, DR & patio furniture, rugs, appliances.

RUMMAGE SALE. St. Mark's Auditorium. Dayton & Moore Avenues; Apr. 24-26; FRI. & SAT., 9-4; Sun., 9-12.

Autos/Boats/Mtrcycles

1990 TOYOTA TERCEL. 100,000+ miles. Ideal for college-bound person or first car. Excellent condition inside/ out. Some rust, new brakes and exhaust. 35-40 miles/gallon. \$2,400/BO. Christine, 917-3689.

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All real estate or rental advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, re-ligion, sex, handicap, familial status or ligion, sex, nanoicap, raminal status, national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Equal housing opportunity. gv
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DIAMONDS, FINE ESTATE & ANTIQUE JEWELRY. We know and appreciate the value of your jewelry. R. F. Moeller Jeweler, 2073 Ford Parkway, 698-6321; Certified Gemologist. gv

Next Issue: April 22 Deadline: April 15

Classified Ad Rates 75 cents per word (\$7.50 minimum per ad)

5% discount for prepayment of 3 months 10% discount for prepayment of 6 months

A discount is also available on the identical ad run in the Grand Gazette (our sister paper) when the ad is placed within 10 days of its Villager insertion, before or after.

All classified ads are payable in advance by cash, check or credit card and cannot be taken over the phone. Please mail or deliver your ad with payment to the Villager, 757 Snelling Ave. S., St. Paul, MN 55116-2296 or fax it with your credit card information to 699-6501.

For more information, call 699-1462.

Classified ads appearing in the *Villager* are coded with a "v" in the ad. Those in the *Grand Gazette* and *Villager* are coded with a "gv."

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YES, WE'RE BUYING!!! Older Rugs, Lamps, Pictures; FURNITURE (All Types); Toys, Glassware, Tools, Crocks; "ANYTHING OLD!" Call 227-2469 anytime. TOP CASH PAID.v

AMERICAN FLYER, Lionel, European trains & old toys wanted; 738-9734.v I BUY VIOLINS, Violas and Cellos; call 698-4692 afternoons.

OLD BOOKS, sheet music, postcards, Valentines, magazines; call Paul,

CASH FOR OLD GLASSWARE, china, fur-niture, linens; Esther, 690-1140. WE MAKE HOUSE CALLS. V I BUY ANTIQUES, handle consignments, conduct estate sales. Fair prices. I de-pend on repeat customers & referrals. Planning a sale? Call me first. I may

pay you more. 224-7552. CASH FOR CARS. CALL 645-0177.

Home Improvements

REMODELING, ALL TYPES: carpentry and home repairs; Kitchen Specialist, references; licensed, bonded, insured; Mark, 488-6625.

THOMAS LANG/DENNIS WAGNER
Home improvements Home improvements, building, remodeling, reconstruction. Kitchens, bathrooms, basements, interior, exterior finish work; free estimates; Tom, Dennis, 645-1762.

WALLPAPER HANGING; painting & pre-paration. D. J. Bellandi, 483-0419. gv

Home Improvements

PAINTING, PLASTER REPAIR, SKIM-COAT, KNOCKDOWN FINISH, CEILING TEXTURE, EXPERT WORK, 37 YEARS; BONDED AND INSURED. KEN, 434-3645

LARRY'S PAINTING Exterior-Interior, spray painting, ceilings textured, paper hanging, dry wall; free estimates; licensed, bonded, insured; 222-4227.

SPRAY TEXTURED CEILINGS Patching, taping, water damage; interior/ exterior painting; hydro-spray painting; all work guaranteed, free estimates; Scott, 724-4119. gv

LES OLESEN PAINTING, since 1960, (interiors plus), patching, taping, drywall, repairs, exterior trim; 698-0531. gv

MIKE FOX PAINTING, interior/exterior, faux painting; licensed, insured; free estimates; 636-4144. gv

ELECTRICAL. Quality work, reasonable rates, free estimates, complete rewires or small jobs; telephone jacks, smoke detectors, ceiling fans, service calls. Residential Electric, Inc. 645-6462, 427-4951.

IN-HOME WOOD restoration, kitchen cabinet/furniture refinishing; floor sanding; references; free estimates; John, Old World Restoration; 227-4235.

COMPLETE CERAMIC TILE service, 17 years' experience; call Mark, 439-0946.

Home Improvements

ROGER'S PAINTING Service. licensed, bonded, insured; interior, exterior; free estimates; 699-4119. PAUL HUNT CONSTRUCTION. Remodel-

ing, finishing, all types, basements, attics, kitchens, bathrooms; licensed, insured; 222-5467.

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Plastering, texturing, wallpaper removal; water damage repair, timely quality work; Conrad, 292-1307. ROOFING, NEW/OLD; tuckpointing,

chimneys & foundations, etc.; free es-timates; licensed, bonded; 642-5484; GARAGE DEMOLITION, concrete re-moval, bobcat and loader work; haul-

ing; 454-5904. ***CERAMIC TILE*** Kitchen, bathroom remodeling; local resident; 699-1820.

ALL TYPES of concrete work; free estimates; licensed, bonded; 642-5484;

EXTERIOR PAINTING. Spring specials; free estimates; licensed, bonded; 642-5484; 462-4462. gv

ALL-HOME REPAIR. Affordable & reliable. Roofs, vinyl siding, windows, aluminum trim, carpentry, plumbing, plaster/water damage, power wash ing, deck refurb/sealing; 20 years' ex-perience; licensed, bonded, insured; free estimates; Jeff, 391-2134. gv

PLASTER REPAIR/CERAMIC Tile, custom plaster and texturing, ceramic tile bath, kitchen and entry; total kitchen, bathroom, basement and attic remodel; B. Witte, 644-9177.

SCHUFMAN BROS. QUALITY painting, interior/exterior, textured ceilings and water damage repairs, professional service at affordable rates, local references, free estimates, insured; Jonathan, 645-5119; 481-0402. v

HOME REPAIRS, painting, plumbing, carpentry, misc. repairs, reasonable; free estimates; Dave, 722-7965.

PROFESSIONAL EXTERIOR/INTERIOR PAINTING, CEILING TEXTURING, WALLPAPER HANGING, MODERATE PRICES; FREE ESTIMATES; LICENSED, BONDED, INSURED; MERRIAM PARK PAINTING. ED, 224-3660; "A NEIGH-BOR YOU CAN TRUST." ***POWELL PAINTING***

Interior/Exterior; 18 years' experience;

Jim, 653-9155. CARPENTRY, general repairs, decks,

porches, fences, new and rebuilt; painting, interior and exterior; Ron, 753-6974. SHEETROCK, TAPE, texture, plaster,

water repair, paint, free estimate; Dick, 888-0600; 721-4645.

O'BRIEN PAINTS, interior/exterior, dry-wall, stripping, carpentry; Pat O'Brien,

Home improvements

HARDWOOD FLOORS professionally installed, sanded & finished; free esti-mates; licensed/insured. Great Scott's Hardwood Floor Service, 674-4529. v
QUALITY PAINTING

Personal service; since 1984; bonded/ insured. Mark Moreau, painter,

MASTER PLUMBER, \$44/hr.; small/ large project; 690-2782, Joe. Lic. 2398. COMPLETE DRYWALL, textured ceilings, free estimates; call after 5; Gary,

789-2888. PAINT, WALLPAPER specialist, winter rates, 20% off; Gary, Jason, 299-9662.v AFFORDABLE PLUMBING; bathroom/

kitchen remodeling, pressure loss, water heaters, boilers, fixture repair, sewer/drain cleaning, basement bathroom specialist; John, 772-1546; free estimates.

REMODELING, ADDITIONS, bathrooms, drywall, roofing, windows, doors, cement, blue print drawing, free esti-mates; Mike Foster, Foster and Associates; 665-9368.

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WE DO OUR OWN WORK. General Remodeling. Decks and Porches. Portfolio and References. Mn. Lic.

#20068296; Erik, 598-1411. V
CABINETS, CARPENTRY. In home or my shop; furniture repairs, refinishing. Small jobs welcome. John, 659-8926.v PRO-PAINTER. Interior painting; exterior (one story); wall washing. Honest, neat, free estimates; experienced;

Ron Theriault, 699-7202. V
BASEMENT EGRESS window specialist, free estimates, landscaping, paver patios; 777-5044.

TILE, MARBLE, GRANITE bathrooms, kitchens and more. Complete. Detailed installation. Free estimates. References. Insured. Local. Call C. J., 647-6747; 680-7473.

HANDYMAN HANK. Home repairs, plumbing, electrical, carpentry; insured; references available; reasonable rates; 722-4087, Henry. RE-ROOF, TEAR OFF, gutter cleaning

and repair; senior discount; licensed, bonded, insured; 724-3934.

WE SPECIALIZE in trim painting. Bob Finn & Son, 488-2761.

RENT A HUSBAND. Make list. I'll fix it. Carpentry, painting, bathrooms, kitchens, etc. Carpenter, 35 years; John, 699-7077.

HARDWOOD FLOORS. Sanding, refinishing, installation. Highland Hardwood Floors, 980-0816.

Home Services

KEN BRISSON SEWING Machine Repair; home services, free estimates, work guaranteed; 464-3702.

BURTON'S RAIN GUTTER Service. Install, clean, repair, rainleader disconnects; chimney caps; since 1973, licensed, insured; #20126373; Burton Johnson, 699-8900.

Treasure House Sales Estate Sales

Antiques

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Jean Mergens Jensen

457-3320

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All Types Of ROOFING **Vons Construction**

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All types, Licensed & Insured.
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24 Hour Service / Free Estimates Residential — Commercial 227-1432 · Pager 660-0353

1128 West 7th Street

9.00

12.00

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Here's a handy form for

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CLASSIFICATIONS (CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX) ☐ Wanted to Rent ☐ Music Inst./Repair ☐ Computer ☐ For Sale ☐ Instruction

☐ For Rent Commercial

☐ Garage/Storage

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8.25 7.50 minimum 11.25 10.50 9.75 14.25 13.50 12.75 17.25 16.50 15.75

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Discover **Expiration Date**

☐ Entertainment

□ Sewing

☐ Insurance

EMPLOYMENT

Looking for uncommonly qualified employees?

The smart employer looks for a highly educated pool of labor.

If you had a hunch that the best place to look for good employees was in your own back yard, here's proof you were right. The 65,593 adults who receive the Highland Villager on their doorsteps represent a highly educated labor pool you'd be smart to tap to fill your next job opening.

	ık																					

Less than 9th grade	2.7%
9th - 12th grade (no diploma)	3 5.1%
High school graduate	
Some college, no degree	5 25.3%
Associate degree	6.1%
Bachelor's degree17,49	26.7%
Graduate or professional degree <u>10.17</u>	75 15.5%
Total	100%
*Individuals who receive the Villager age 18 and over. Source: 1990	U.S. Census

LEGAL ASSISTANT Part time opening for a legal assistant in a small immigration firm located on Grand Avenue. Flexible Hours. Prior experience beneficial. Starting salary is \$10.00 per hour. Please contact

Kathleen A. Moccio, Moccio Law Firm, 952 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55105. 292-9849

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You must be a "roll-up your sleeves" person, pleasant, thrive in a fun & casual environment, have business casual environment, have business school or work experience, type, & have computer experience. We offer growth, benefits, & competitive pay. Mail or fax resume to:

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Become part of a growing and unique specialty retailer at the Mpls/St. Paul Int'l. Airport. We are currently seeking FT/PT Sales Consultants and Stock Associates.

If you are positive and energetic, and want to work in a fun atmosphere, please call Louanne at 726-9191.

MINNESOTA! TOUCH THE EARTH

CBR Incorporated Companies



RECEPTIONIST

PT front desk position in Grand Avenue chiropractic clinic. 1:30 - 6:30 pm M - F Call Barb 690-9366

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Mon. - FRI. 8AM - 4:30PM Reliable, out-going. Some sewing experience preferred. Excellent wages & benefits. Ask for Bob: Hlawatha Cleaners 50th St. & Hlawatha Ave., Mpls. 724-3603



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Edgcumbe Montessori is seeking persons to work with all age group children.

Oualifications: college (4 year degree), preferably with child care and music background. Foreign language a plus. Benefits. Salary commensurate with qualifications.

> **Contact Indrance** 905-9303

Secretary (Part-time)

Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare, has an opening for a half-time entry-level Secretary in our Human Resources Department. Responsibilities include data entry, word processing, filing, and general clerical duties. The qualified individual must possess strong PC skills using Microsoft Office, type 45 wpm, have excellent communication and organizational skills, and have the ability to work with sensitive data. H.R. experience a plus. This position is benefit eligible and work days will be M-F. On-Call clerical positions also available.

GCSH offers competitive wages and an excellent benefits package. Interested candidates send resume and salary requirements to:

Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare Attn: Human Resources 200 E. University Ave. St. Paul, MN 55101 Job line 229-1728

Mac-Groveland salon, newly remodeled, good working conditions. Prefer full-time.



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Do you have strong interpersonal skills, entrepreneurial spirit, and seek a career with challenge and income based on your effort? Tremendous growth potential. We will train the right person. Now hiring. For a confidential interview call Kathie Phillips at 690-8595 Coldwell Banker Burnet

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Metro Work Center is looking for creative and energetic individuals for full-time, part-time, summer, and subsitute staff openings work-ing with adults with developmental disabilities at our Minneapolis and Richfield sites. Please send resume indicating preferred position to 7145 Harriet Ave. So., #401, Richfield, MN 55423. EGE

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Highland Park Dental Office P/T office duties. Friendly & energetic with great verbal skills. Mon, Tues, Thurs 12:00 to 6:00 PM \$9/Hour Call Sakeena at Cleveland Dental Care 698-5543.

Midway larget

1300 University Ave. 642-1146 NOW HIRING

Starting Pay \$6.00 After 30 Days

Flexible Hours

Positions Available: Cashiers Evenings & Weekends Sales Floor Employees **Overnight Stock**

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WILLIE'S RUBBISH HAULING and small demolition and garage and base ment cleaning; 825-6511; 650-7695 pager; licensed.

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ping/errand needs; 699-4564. gv NEW! IN-HOME laundry; folding only optional. Good references. Marie, 644-5407.

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SASH CORDS REPLACED Len, 698-6434

WINDOW CLEANING. Gutter cleaning. C-View, 489-5168

FURNITURE REPAIR. All types; nicks, gouges, scratches, buttons, springs & things; complete antique restoration; 482-9386. We also buy antiques.

HAULING, REASONABLE rates; free estimates, demolition, etc.; 869-8697; 722-0292

SEWING MACHINE & Serger: service, sales, rentals; in-home, economical, 30 years' experience. Truman, 699-0436.

HANDYMAN, 20 years' experience, big or small jobs; 482-9386. v

CLOCKS REPAIRED, experienced craftsman, reasonable rates; all work guaranteed; 698-9698.

ANTIQUE CLOCK REPAIR (and others); Grandfather service; local moving;

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UPHOLSTERY. Labor starting at chairs, \$225; loveseats, \$275; couches, \$375; Orb Upholstery, 25 years; Dave 721-5105.

CARPET CLEANING, two average-size rooms, \$35.00; 10% off upholstery cleaning; Dave, 721-5105. ***I DO WINDOWS!**

722-3147. Call Chris. Insured ***I CLEAN GUTTERS**

722-3147. Call Chris. Insured. RAIN GUTTER CLEANING. Window washing. Free estimates. References. 722-6039, Mike.

Housecleaning

PROFESSIONAL CLEANING COUPLE 15 years; housekeeping, office cleaning; window washing, carpet cleaning move in/move out cleaning; insured, bonded; William, 823-2590.

BLADE'S CLEANING Service is 100% guaranteed. For excellent cleaning, Letia, 522-1285; 801-7820, cell gv

PLACES TO GO. People to see. Things to do. That's why Merry Maids cleans our house. Since 1980, bonded, insured. 552-4979.

UFF-DA MAIDA. Professional cleaning with a Norwegian touch. References 455-5478.

QUALITY CLEANING. Serving Highland area for 15 years. Rita, 699-7022. v

TWO HONEST cleaning ladies; mature; fast; free estimates; 724-4314, lve.

EXPERIENCED, RELIABLE woman will do home and office cleaning. Free esti-mates. References. 224-4830. v

DEPENDABLE, EXPERIENCED, reasonable housecleaning; St. Kates' student; days or evenings; 699-6809.

Housecleaning

HOUSECLEANING, 25 years/Highland; excellent references, honest, mature, fast; phone estimates; Betty 690-1599, message. v

A GRANDE SOLUTION. Professional homecleaning services personalized to your needs. Insured. Free esti-

PROFESSIONAL CLEANER seeking new clients. Homes, offices, etc. Contact

EXPERIENCED, REASONABLE rates; weekly, bi-monthly, one-time only, St. Kate's student; 792-2207.

THOROUGH, RELIABLE housekeeper looking for work; Gerry, 724-5868. v GENERAL HOUSECLEANING. Very thor-

ough. Great references. Available

weeknights. Call Debbie, 487-2715.v HOUSECLEANING, honest, experienced, free estimate, discount on first cleaning; Barbra, 644-3287.

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HODGES CLEANING CO. Complete office, business, home cleaning 698-7149; pager 637-8317. gv

BLOCK JANITORIAL Service. Building maintenance. Full service. 588-2166 (office); 522-9444 (fax).

Lawn/Landscape/Snow

MURPHY'S LAWN MAINTENANCE and landscaping. SPRING SPECIAL. Schedule landscaping projects now, 5% discount. New clients, 20% off first month lawn service on full-season contract. Commercial and residential lawn and snow service; fully insured;

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PROFESSIONAL HEDGE TRIMMING. FULL SERVICE LAWN MAINTENANCE. AERATION. 699-1169. gv

SPRING CLEANING, dethatching, fertilizing; gutter cleaning, repair, replace ment; tree/bush work; 699-2832. gv

THE BEST YARD service. Spring cleanups, leaf disposal. Weekly grass cutting. Landscaping, wood chips, rock beds, planting, sodding, bobcat work, retaining walls. Tree trimming and removal. All weekly services arranged on seasonal contract. Bluhm Brothers, Inc. 227-2584. gv

TIM'S GRASS CUTTING, spring cleanups; free estimates; call now, 690-1284. gv PRANTNER LAWN CARE. Residential, commercial. Low monthly rates, Free estimates. Pat Prantner, 414-3053 224-8359.

TOM GALLAGHER Lawn Services. SPRING CLEANUPS, fertilizing, weekly mowing, AERATION, landscaping, sodding, bush & shrub trimming. Years of experience. Licensed & insured. For free estimate, call Tom at 293-9462.

COLLEGE LAWN SERVICE. Weekly cutting & trimming; dependable service senior discounts; 224-0630.

SPRING YARD CLEANUP. Weekly lawn service. Twin City Lawn. 571-4154.gv LANDSCAPE DESIGN/Installation, New homes, renovations, problem solv ing. High quality, reasonable and guaranteed. Greenleaf Design,

ROTO-TILLING, most small gardens, \$12-\$15. Free estimates. Jim, 699-8077. gv

Lawn/Landscape/Snow

ROGER'S TREE SERVICE. TREES & SHRUBS trimmed, removed; serving Highland 25 years. Licensed/insured; Roger Gatz, 699-7022.

EARLY BIRD LAWNSCAPES. All landscaping, lawn service & cleanups; spring aerations; 645-6050.

LAWN MOWING; hedge trimming, edg-ing. Call for estimates. HRS Lawn Care; days, 699-1388; message,

DEW LAWN Service. Landscaping. Special services; quality, experienced; free estimates: 698-6148.

BOECK TREE SERVICE. Remove, trim, stumps; senior discounts; cheap firewood; 772-2168.

GARDENING. SPRING cleanup, planting, pruning, maintenance. Have professional and personal experience; Annette, 291-5279.

WESTLUND TREE SERVICE. Professional tree and shrub maintenance, stump and brush removal: insured and free estimates; immediate response; Larry, 459-7552.

CALL KEN'S LAWN Service: 696-1027. Free estimates. Please leave message.

LAWN MOWING. Landscaping; other yard work; reliable, affordable, experienced; north of Grand Ave. only; 645-6178.

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1998 PUBLICATION DATES

Villager Date

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 29 30

Gazette Date

27 28 29 30 31

(21) 22 23 24 | 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 | 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

VILLAGER DEADLINES

News items — Tuesday (8 days prior) Classified ads — Wednesday (7 days prior) Employment and Service Directory — Thursday at noon Display ads — Thursday at 5:00 p.m. Display ads (camera-ready) — Friday at noon

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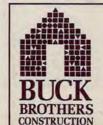
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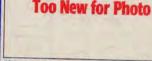


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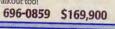
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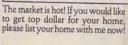
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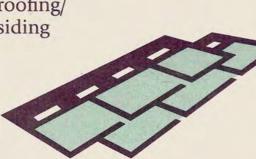


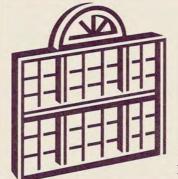
lighting/ electrical







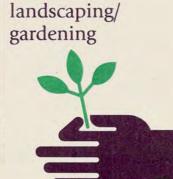


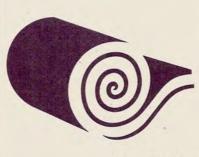


window repairing/ replacing

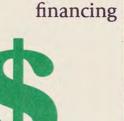


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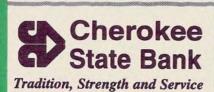
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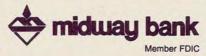














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There's no place like it

Exhibitors, banks again join forces for annual Home Improvement Fair

by Chris Smith

The problem: Two desirable, middle-income St. Paul neighborhoods with rising property values, but with many 40- to 100-year-old homes in need of updating.

The solution: A combined home improvement fair featuring everything from seminars on affordable kitchen remodeling to the latest in landscaping techniques, plus everything a person needs to know about financing the work.

Say hello to the 1998 Highland/Macalester-Groveland Home Improvement Fair, which is scheduled for Saturday, April 18, at Cretin-Derham Hall, 550 S. Albert St. The sixth annual fair is sponsored by the community councils of Macalester-Groveland and Highland Park and the Twin Cities Housing Fair Partnership. The cost to put on the fair is being underwritten by eight local financial institutions, including Cherokee State Bank, Firstar, Highgrove Community Federal Credit Union, HighlandBank, Liberty State Bank, Midway Bank, Norwest Bank and TCF Bank Minnesota.

The fair, which will run from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., is perhaps best summed up by its tag line: "Creating a solid foundation of fixup information."

"The goal is to give our neighbors a base from which to make good home improvement decisions," said Kate Schultz, housing coordinator for the Macalester-Groveland Community Council. "The event got started because we felt it was important for local homeowners to learn about all the resources available to them and to become better informed about remodeling issues. The idea was to help make it easy for people to improve their homes and stay in the neighborhood."

The cafeteria at Cretin-Derham will be filled with the booths of more than 50 exhibitors who will be displaying their products and services. The exhibitors will range from Abbott Paint and Carpet to Wichser & Her-

reid Architects. Some of the more unusual booths will feature Finnish saunas and antique hardware and lighting.

Remodeling industry experts will lead seminars on such topics as planning a patio, finding the best contractor and incorporating native plants in outdoor gardens. The workshops will be held from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

"There's no advance registration, but some of the workshops can end up being standing-room only, so it's best to get there early," Schultz said. "Having talked with all of these home improvement experts about the seminars they plan to present, I wish I could go to every single one of them."

Organizers of the fair expect between 1,500 and 2,000 visitors. Lunch, bakery items and refreshments will be sold as a fund-raiser for KidsPark, a drop-in child care center operated by the Macalester-Groveland Community Council.

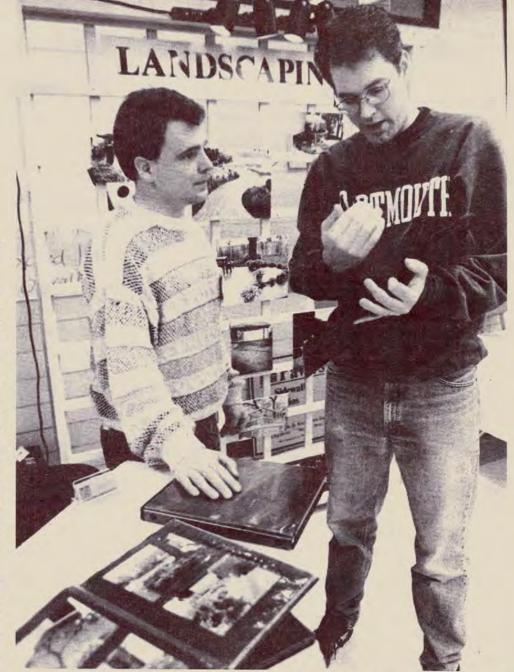
"The crowds at the fair keep increasing every year, so we must be doing something right," said Gayle Summers, community organizer for the Highland Community Council. "The quality and quantity of exhibitors also keeps getting better and better. At some home improvement fairs you go to, every other exhibitor seems to be selling hot tubs. We always try to provide a good mix of products and services. A lot of our exhibitors are people who work in the neighborhood. And best of all, we don't charge anything to get in."

The line-up of workshops and vendors reflects both current industry trends and the needs of Highland and Macalester-Groveland neighbors. "We talk with people in the industry and with local residents," Schultz said. "Just answering the phone here I get a pretty good idea about what kinds of projects residents are looking into."

Weather-related home improvements also play a factor in what is exhibited. "With all the ice dams the last two winters, there's a lot of interest right now in roofing and gutter re-

So.

Mpls.



Paul Werni of Werni, Timm and Associates discussed landscaping techniques with Marshal Urbanz during last year's Highland/Macalester-Groveland Home Improvement Fair. More than 50 exhibitors will be displaying their products and services during this year's fair, which will be held on Saturday, April 18, at Cretin-Derham Hall. *Photos by Mike Long*.

placement," Schultz said. "And with the wet summer we had last year, there are a lot of people who put off landscaping projects or who need to do regrading."

One need that never changes is getting information about how to finance remodeling projects. Each of the eight financial institutions sponsoring the fair will have an informational booth. "There's always great interest in financing," Schultz said.

Dave Junker, regional vice president of Firstar Bank, said he received a lot of financing inquiries from those attending last year's fair. "We were very pleased with the turnout," he said. "A lot of people get cabin fever over the winter months and dream up home improvement ideas that they want to implement in the spring. We'll be talking a lot about Macalester-Groveland's Middle Income Fix-Up Program, but there are a lot of different financing options out there."

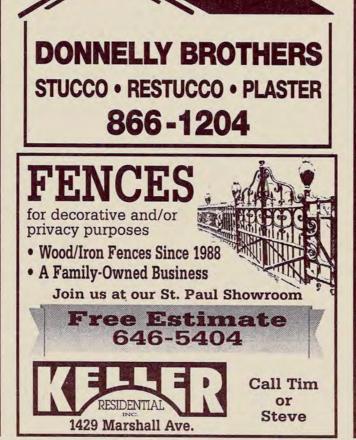
Schultz said the fair has proven to be a

Home fair/see next page



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Home fair exhibitors

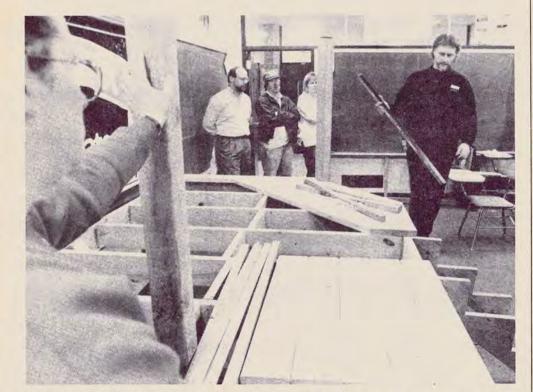
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- · Floyd Total Security
- Gerten Greenhouses
- Grand Avenue Ace Hardware
- · Great Garage Products Inc.
- · Hiawatha Reddy Rents
- · Highgrove Community Federal Credit
- · Highland Area Community Council
- · HighlandBank
- · Holm & Olson
- · Keller Residential (wood and iron fences)
- · Kitchen Wizards
- · Kreuser and Sons Window, Awning and Siding Co.
- Landscape Alternatives
- · Leitner's Garden Center
- · Liberty State Bank

- · Living at Home/Block Nurse Programs
- · Macalester-Groveland Community Council
- · Master Remodeling Inc.
- · Master's Touch Painting
- · Midway National Bank
- · Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance
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- Twin Cities Seamless Gutters & Siding
- Twin City Roofing
- · Vito Mechanical Inc.
- · Werni, Timm and Associates Inc.
- · Wet Paint
- · Wichser & Herreid Architects

Take steps to improve home comfort level

It's hard to think of sealing gaps and making other energy-efficient home improvements when spring winds are blowing and most people are dreaming about letting those warm breezes indoors. But there are several steps that people can take now to make their homes more comfortable to live in this sum-

- · Shade windows from direct sun with awnings and trees.
- · Apply tinted plastic film to windows. It reduces solar heat and makes lighter work for the air conditioner.
- · Keep the cooling system clean, including the filters, fans, ducts, vents and thermostats. Clean or change the furnace filter monthly during the heating and cooling seasons. Keep the condensation drain open.
- · Adjust registers to promote upward air
- · Keep the outdoor cooling unit clean. Remove leaves and debris and clean exposed coils with a garden hose.
- · Do not block the circulation of air from vents or cold-air returns with furniture or



Dan Larson of Knox Lumber gave a demonstration on deck layout and construction during a workshop at last year's Home Improvement Fair.

Home fair/from previous page

good marketing tool for local businesses that may not have the resources or the desire to exhibit at big regional home improvement shows. The smaller size can be an advantage for the residents who attend as well.

"A bigger fair can be overwhelming and overcrowded," Schultz said. "Here, a resident can come with a list of questions and spend plenty of time with the businesses. You can get all the answers for your specific situation."

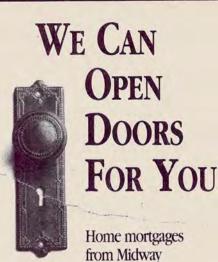
Several public agencies also will be represented at this year's fair, including the Ramsey County assessor's office, the city of St. Paul's inspections office and the state of Minnesota's environmental assistance office. "This is a true community event," Schultz

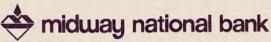
Admission to the fair is free. Visitors can park in the lot on the Albert Street side of Cretin-Derham Hall and enter through the west doors. For more information, call the Macalester-Groveland Community Council office at 698-7973.

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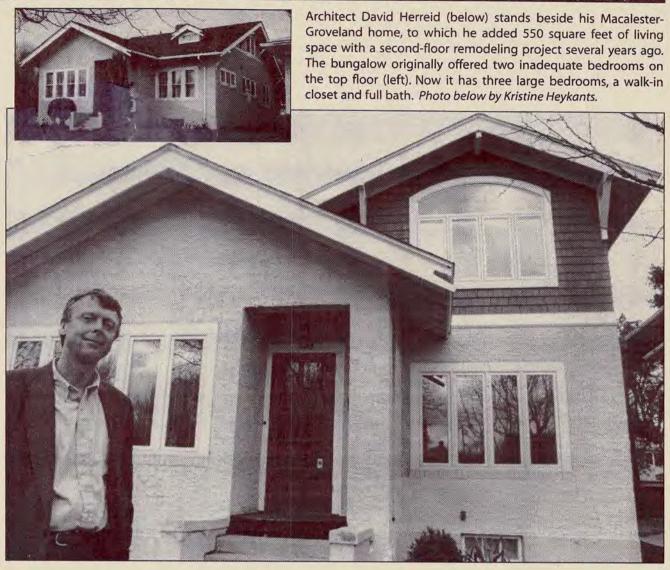
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If the house doesn't fit...

Remodel it, if you will, but not without a well-thought-out project that maintains the integrity of the home and the sanity of the homeowner



Christy Rain

To move or not to move but remodel? That is the question faced every year by scores of homeowners in the Macalester-Groveland and Highland neighborhoods.

It is also one of the questions that will be addressed in "Designing your Remodeling Project: Quality Living at an Affordable Price"—one of nine free seminars that will be offered as part of the sixth annual Highland/Macalester-Groveland Home Improvement Fair on Saturday, April 18.

Macalester-Groveland architect David Herreid of Wichser & Herreid Architects will conduct the hour-long program, which will focus on how remodeling can affect the structure, function and design integrity of a home.

According to Herreid, the Highland and Macalester-Groveland neighborhoods have a preponderance of bungalow-style homes that offer loads of charm, but comparatively little space.

As a result, one of the most popular remodeling projects in those neighborhoods is the creation of a bedroom suite, including a large closet and a private bath. Kitchen remodeling, four-season porches and home offices

are also commonplace, Herreid said.

"The houses in Macalester-Groveland and Highland Park are, for the most part, wellbuilt," Herreid said. "They were constructed using modern techniques and were designed to offer quality and to look unique."

According to Herreid, it is important to fit a remodeling project to the unique style of the house. Of course, that can make a remodeling project more expensive, he said. A homeowner may have to decide whether it makes more sense financially to remodel or move. With the rising value of homes in the area and the current sellers' market, either decision may be the right one, according to Andrea Burmeister of Edina Realty, a real estate agent for the past 12 years.

Highland and Macalester-Groveland homes have always sold quickly, but since January the market has been "amazing," Burmeister said. "More than 100 people went through one of my open houses last Sunday," she said. "Another client received two written offers above the list price. The house was only on the market for one day, and that hasn't been uncommon."

The rising interest in homes in the area may reflect what Herreid calls "the new urbanism." That trend in new housing develop-

ments is to try to "re-create the feeling of a Macalester-Groveland or Highland Park with their small shops and high neighborhood activity," he said.

While increased resale value may make remodeling an easier financial decision, Herreid cautions homeowners to also consider the psychological costs of remodeling, especially if the family plans to live in the house during the project.

"Remodeling is stressful and intrusive," he said. "But I've heard that it's kind of like child-birth; the pain is forgotten once it's all done.

"Expect surprises during remodeling," he said, "but anything can be solved with money and flexibility. I took off the top floor of my own house at the start of winter. We improved three bedrooms and updated the electrical and plumbing. My marriage survived and the kids are thriving."

According to Herreid, a homeowner should treat a remodeling project as a process, one that takes at least five months from planning to completion. "It's important to have a road map, to do things in phases and to have a vision so that you don't need to redo something later," he said.

"Start by determining what you're trying to achieve. Is the goal to add more room, to up-

date or to make the space more functional?"

The next step is to hire a professional to determine the viability of the project, he said. An architect may perform only the most basic design services or participate through the end of construction.

"I recommend that homeowners ask for referrals and view other work the architect has done," Herreid said. "Make sure you're comfortable with the person."

A written contract also is important, he said. Architects usually work on an hourly basis and the fee is typically 6 percent of a small project like a backyard deck and 3 to 4 percent of a larger project like a remodeled kitchen.

Herreid suggests that homeowners keep a journal or diary of the remodeling project, including before and after photographs which, among other things, can record the location of wiring behind the walls.

Before beginning a remodeling project, Herreid said, a homeowner should consider seven issues: scheduling, budget, existing conditions, design, construction, and zoning and building codes.

Herreid will address all of those issues during the seminar as well as new products and common concerns.

Fair's seminars open the door to home improvements April 18

10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Plan a Patio You Can Really Live With (Room 164)

Jeff Timm, a designer with Werni, Timm & Associates, a Macalester-Groveland-based landscape and "hardscape" contractor, will address such issues as privacy, upkeep, utility and budget when it comes to selecting a patio design.

Finding the Right Loan (Room 168)

Representatives from three area financial institutions will describe the various loan programs that are now available, and guidelines for selecting the most workable options for paying for home improvement projects. Presenters will include Dave Junker of Firstar, Dawn Staples of TCF, and Brian Peppmeier and Kathy McNamar of Norwest.

Annual "Gems" in Your Garden: Things Are Going to be Different (Room 161)

Ann Pink, head of the Landscape
Department at Gerten Greenhouses of Inver
Grove Heights and contributing author of a
new national guide on annuals, will talk
about why gardeners are rediscovering these
high-performance, hard-working beauties.
She also will describe new varieties and
planting techniques.

Building a Dream Kitchen Without Going Broke (Room 166)

Lynn Striker, a Macalester-Groveland resident and designer for Kitchen Wizards of St. Louis Park, will describe a multitude of kitchen refacing, recoloring and other revitalization techniques for homeowners who are on a budget.

1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

The Practical Route to Finding the Best Contractor (Room 168)

Allan Rossman of Macalester-Groveland will lead a discussion about how to confidently select the best contractor for the job. Rossman learned the hard way—from his own painful experiences as a homeowner— and has since written a book on the subject.

Designing Your Remodeling Project: Quality Living at an Affordable Price (Room 161)

Macalester-Groveland resident Dave Herreid of Wichser & Herreid Architects will approach remodeling from an architect's point of view. He will describe how remodeling affects a home's structure, function and design integrity, how to estimate costs and how to avoid common remodeling pitfalls.

Doing It Yourself: The Smart Way (Room 166)

Tom Searing of Inver Grove Heights, a popular community education speaker, will take a broad look at home repairs, from electrical to plumbing and sheetrock.

TLC for Stucco (Room 163)

Merriam Park resident Jim McFadden of Donnelly Stucco will discuss the care and repair of stuccoed surfaces.

Gardening with Low Maintenance Plants (Room 164)

Roy Robison of Landscape Alternatives of Roseville will offer ideas on how to use a wide variety of natural plants to create a landscape design that requires little upkeep.

These old houses

Prime-rate loan program helps Macalester-Groveland maintain the value of its grand old homes

by Leslie Walters

When Chris and Sandra Rulff finally decided how they wanted to improve the kitchen of their Grand Avenue home, they wanted to get started right away.

"After all the time you spend researching, you need a loan program that's quick, easy and will keep you motivated," Sandra Rulff said.

They secured a \$10,000 loan the next day

through the Macalester-Groveland Middle Income Fix-Up Program and immediately got to work with their plans for new flooring, appliances, countertops, fixtures and lighting. Within two months, the transformation of their kitchen was complete.

The Rulffs are among dozens of middle- income homeowners in the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood who have taken ad-

vantage of the fix-up program since its inception in 1996. The loan program is part of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council's larger home improvement initiative, which has helped finance nearly \$1 million in improvements in the neighborhood over the last two years. "The effort has made a significant contribution to this neighborhood's housing stock," said community organizer Kathie

Tarnowski.

The Macalester-

Groveland

initiative has

helped finance

nearly \$1 million

in home improve-

ments over the

last two years.

Forty-two percent of the loan program's participants have opted for roof repair or replacement. Another 10 percent undertook kitchen rehabbing. Other popular projects have included new windows, sidewalks, plumbing and electrical service. The average loan ranges from \$3,000 to \$6,000.

Though Macalester-Groveland is rated among St. Paul's most desirable neighborhoods, many of its houses date from the

1920s and earlier and are beginning to show their age. Homeowners are faced with antiquated plumbing and heating systems, aging foundations and roofs in need of replacement. Most of the problems were the result of deferred maintenance.

Tarnowski said that many homeowners, especially first-time homebuyers, were finding it difficult to afford both their mort-

gage payments and the cost of home maintenance. As a result, many necessary repairs were being postponed.

The Middle Income Fix-Up Program was conceived as an affordable way to give residents the resources they need to make those essential home repairs. The owners of single-family homes and owner-occupied duplexes in the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood



Sandra Rulff pages through a cookbook in the center of the kitchen which she and husband Chris remodeled with a \$10,000 loan through the Macalester-Groveland Middle Income Fix-Up Program. *Photo by Brad Stauffer*.

can borrow up to \$10,000 through the program. There is no household income limit. Those who receive the loans must have an acceptable credit record and a debt-to-income ratio of no more than 45 percent.

The loans are offered at the prime interest rate, which was at 8.5 percent last week, and are available for terms of up to five years. The program is funded through proceeds from the city of St. Paul's half-percent sales tax. Neither Firstar Bank, which manages the loans, nor the community council will secure a lien on the home.

Bill Vanderwall said he applied for a fix-up loan because of the competitive interest rate. The \$10,000 loan he received paid for roof repair, upgraded electrical service and a basement egress window for his home on Sargent Avenue. Vanderwall, who is the director of housing for Lutheran Social Services, was particularly impressed with the program's processing procedure. "It was very easy," he

said. "I made a couple of phone calls, set up an appointment and had my loan in 24 hours."

Money is still available for Macalester-Groveland residents who want to make exterior and interior home repairs. "In fact, we'd like to see the program even more heavily utilized," said Mary Ann Sudeith, vice president of community investment for Firstar Bank. "We'd love to make more loans."

Vanderwall said he would like to spread the word about the loan program as well. "I'd definitely recommend the program to my neighbors," he said. "It's benefiting us all by maintaining our community."

Information on the fix-up program will be available at the Highland/Macalester-Groveland Home Improvement Fair on Saturday, April 18, at Cretin-Derham Hall, 550 S. Albert St. Information also is available by calling Macalester-Groveland housing coordinator Kate Schultz at 698-7973, or Firstar Highland loan officer Darcy Whitcomb at 698-7400.

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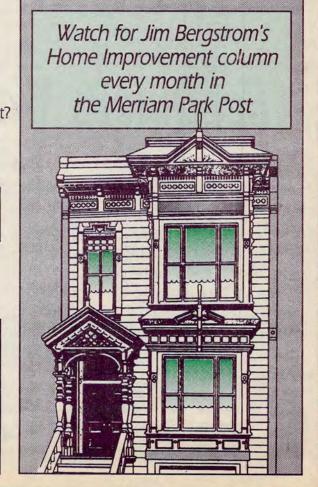


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Horror story inspires creation of guide for choosing contractor with confidence

A lot of people can tell horror stories about their home improvement projects, but Allan Rossman has written the book on the subject.

After being duped by an unethical contractor he hired to renovate the kitchen of his Macalester-Groveland home, Rossman sat down and wrote a 30-page book to help others avoid the same pitfalls that he encountered. Called Choosing Home Improvement Contractors with Confidence, the book is chock-full of practical suggestions for how to find the best contractor for the job.

-Homeowners can hear from Rossman himself at the Highland/Macalester-Groveland Home Improvement Fair on Saturday, April 18, at Cretin-Derham Hall. His 1:00 p.m. seminar will cover the simple steps that people can take to avoid what befell him.

In 1991, Rossman and his wife decided to remodel their kitchen. Their aim was twofold: to create a more efficient kitchen and increase the value of their home. They hired a contractor and plunked down a \$4,000 deposit. They never saw the contractor again. Later they learned he had gone bankrupt after taking money from 80 other Twin Cities families, including \$15,000 from one couple whose kitchen he gutted and then abandoned. "We weren't hurt that badly financially," Rossman said, "but ethically it bothered me what he had done."

It took a while, but the contractor was eventually found guilty of fraud and those who lost money are being repaid. The ordeal made Rossman realize that homeowners have few channels available to them if they are cheated by a contractor. "It made me so angry," he said. "Homeowners have no power. That's why I wrote the book."

In the three months he spent writing the book, Rossman embarked on a personal campaign. He wrote to "60 Minutes" and local news stations. His story appeared on KSTP-TV and WCCO radio. "I learned so much in the process of doing this book," he said. "What does a homeowner have to do to choose a proper contractor? If you follow through the points in the book, you can eliminate the probability of getting stung by a contractor. I give a step-by-step process for making a decision."

Rossman finally got his kitchen remodeled after spending six months looking at contractors. "It was frustrating," he said. "Most of them didn't really care about the project. They'd give me a bid without even measuring. That didn't show credibility to me."

The bids he got ranged from \$10,000 to \$21,000. He chose a local builder's supply company that came in with a conservative bid. The result was a bright, spacious room with parquet floors, a pass-through to the dining room, a backsplash with Mexican tile and white laminate cabinets.

Here is some of Rossman's advice for those who are looking to undertake their own home improvement projects:

- · Know what you want. Be specific as to the kinds of features, cabinets, appliances, etc., that you prefer.
- Get multiple bids from contractors.
- · Visit other homes to look at remodeling



Allan Rossman will lead a discussion about how to select a contractor during this year's Home Improvement Fair. This photo was taken in 1993, when his Macalester-Groveland kitchen was finally completed after a run-in with a bad contractor. Photo by Mike Long.

projects the contractor has done and find out if the contractor completed the project to specifications, stayed within budget and was responsive to the customer's needs.

· Ask for the name of the contractor's banker and find out if there have been defaults or late payments, and how long the contractor has been doing business with the

· Check out the contractor's license to do business. Call the city's licensing department to see if it has any information about the contractor. Verify that the contractor has insurance to cover liability for accidents.

Doing these things puts homeowners in a position of power, Rossman said, and helps ensure that their choice of a contractor is a sound one.

Rossman's book also discusses making advance payments to a contractor, reviewing contracts and keeping photos of all the work done. That way, if problems are encountered, the homeowner has a record.

Rossman is quick to point out that many contractors are legitimate businesspeople who do good work. "Not all of them are crooks," he said. "And many problems that homeowners have with a contractor are the homeowner's fault for not thinking out the project well enough. If something isn't done right, they blame the contractor. Contractors often complain that homeowners don't know what they want."

Rossman has received many calls and letters of thanks from people who have followed the advice in his book. "Some have called to tell me how they were ripped off," he said, "and how they wouldn't have been if they'd read my book."

Maintaining gas appliances is first line of defense against CO poisoning

Consumers should not be lulled into a false sense of security by purchasing carbon monoxide detectors, according to officials of the Minnesota Mechanical Contractors Association.

"The best protection against carbon monoxide poisoning is proper installation and maintenance of all gas appliances in your home," said Steve Petersen, executive vice president of the MMCA. "We've all heard the news stories of the tragedies surrounding carbon monoxide poisoning and the ensuing rush to purchase CO detectors. While CO detectors are a good tool in the fight against carbon monoxide poisoning, the first line of defense should be properly functioning heating and cooking appliances."

The MMCA recommends that homeowners, apartment owners and commercial building owners have their heating and cooking appliances checked every year by a licensed firm and have them repaired or replaced if they are not functioning properly. The association also recommends being alert to the following danger signs that signal a carbon monoxide problem:

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· Streaks of carbon or soot around the service door of the appliance.

· Excessive rust on flue pipes or appliance

· Moisture on the windows and walls of the

 Rust on the portion of the vent pipe visible from outside the home.

• The absence of a draft in the chimney.

Fallen soot from the fireplace.

· Water leaking from the base of the chimney, vent or flue pipe.

· Damaged or discolored bricks at the top

Home Improvement

Fair!

of the chimney.

Carbon monoxide is an odorless and colorless gas. Those who are exposed to it can develop flu-like symptoms, including nausea, fatigue, headaches, dizziness, confusion and breathing difficulty. The skin also may take on a pink or red cast because carbon monoxide causes a victim's blood pressure to rise.

Carbon monoxide poisoning may be the cause when household members suffer from flu-like symptoms that do not disappear but improve when they leave home for extended periods of time.

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Make sure to do your homework before hiring a home inspector

Purchasing a home is the largest financial transaction most individuals will ever make. So it's not surprising that more and more homebuyers are protecting their investment by securing a pre-sale home inspection.

In many parts of the country, a pre-purchase evaluation of a home's condition has become routine, providing buyers with the information they need to make a sound purchasing decision.

However, because the profession is relatively young, it is also critical for buyers to learn something about home inspection services so they will understand what may-and what may not-be expected from their chosen home inspector.

What to expect

Professional standards—While there are no state or federal guidelines, home inspectors throughout the country are generally expected to follow the standards established by the American Society of Home Inspectors. ASHI membership requires experience prior to admission as well as continuing education annually after admission in order to keep current with new technology and building practices. Free copies of the inspection standards and names of members may be obtained by calling 1-800-743-2744.

Ethics—To be sure that a home inspector is ethical and professional, ASHI recommends that consumers ascertain before the inspection that the inspector will not offer to do any repairs on the property, and that the firm has no financial interest in the transaction or in the real estate agent's commission.

Written report—Consumers should expect a written report describing the actual condition of the home at the time of the inspection based on the inspector's visual observation and outlining any needs for major

What not to expect

Home inspectors do not do any destructive testing, so consumers should not expect their reports to include the condition of every nail, wire or pipe in the home. Inspectors are primarily concerned with pointing out large expenses and safety-related concerns, rather than small or cosmetic items that are readily apparent to buyers themselves.

Finally, homebuyers should not expect the inspector's report to serve as a guarantee that the home's components will not ever fail or need repair at some point in the future. No house is perfect and they all need regular maintenance and repair.

What to ask

ASHI recommends that homebuyers call several inspectors and interview them in advance of selecting one to do the work. Here are some questions to ask:

- · Is the inspector a certified member of
- · How long has the company been in business as a home inspection firm?
- · Is the inspector specifically experienced in residential inspection?
- Does the company offer to do any repairs or improvements based on its inspection?
- How long will the inspection take? (The average is two to three hours.)
- What will it include? (Get the specifics.)
- · How much will it cost? (The national average is \$250.)
- · Does the inspector supply a written re-
- Does the inspector encourage the client to attend the inspection? (He should welcome the client along.)
- · Can the inspector supply a list of past clients you can contact for references?

Courtesy of Article Resource Association.

For a healthy lawn, prevention is worth more than a pound of cure

Local homeowners can have an attractive lawn that is nontoxic and easy to maintain by following a preventive program that works with Mother Nature to keep their lawns

A healthy lawn needs little help in fighting weeds, insects and fungi. It requires only minimal applications of fertilizers or pesticides. Besides being attractive, a healthy lawn also prevents soil erosion, absorbs airborne pollutants and filters contaminants from rainwater.

The first step in growing a healthy lawn is to know the composition and nutrient content of the soil. A soil test will provide this information.

Knowing the dominant type of grass also is important. A lawn that requires a lot of fertilizer and watering is most likely composed of improved varieties of Kentucky bluegrass. By introducing grass that requires lower levels of water and fertilizer, homeowners can save themselves a lot of work and expense. Fineleaved fescue varieties of grass, for example, need less sunlight than bluegrass and less fertilizer when grown in the shade.

Proper watering will help grass develop deep roots and increase its tolerance to drought. Overwatering, conversely, will leave a lawn susceptible to drought and will create conditions favorable to fungal growth.

Most lawns require 1 to 11/2 inches of water per week during the growing season, either through rainfall or watering. In sandy soil, lawns do best when a half inch of water is applied two to three times each week. For soil that is loamy or has lots of clay, 1 inch of water a week is usually sufficient.

Leaving grass clippings on the lawn after mowing is also beneficial in growing a healthy lawn. Clippings decompose quickly and return nutrients to the soil. If the clippings are too long, however, they take longer to decompose and may kill the grass under-

Grass clippings should never be left on a street or driveway where they can be washed into the storm sewer and eventually into the Mississippi River. Over time, that will harm the quality of the water.

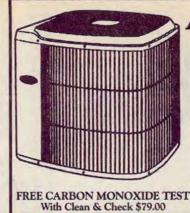
Nitrogen, phosphorous and potassiumlisted as N-P-K on fertilizer bags—are the major nutrients in fertilizers. Too much nitrogen added to the soil will cause rapid leaf growth at the expense of the roots, and shorter roots decrease the ability of grass to survive the stress of a hot, dry summer.

It usually is best to stick to organic fertilizers. Many nonorganic chemical fertilizers can be too effective, promoting fast growth at the expense of healthy soil.

Fertilizer can also pollute rivers and lakes. To avoid adding excessive nutrients to water, a slow-release nitrogen fertilizer should be used and any fertilizer that spills onto driveways, sidewalks and streets should be cleaned up to prevent it from washing down the storm sewers.

Getting by without applying pesticides to lawns is the safest option. However, for those homeowners who must apply pesticides, the following precautions are recommended:

- 1) Read the entire label and follow the instructions
- 2) Wear any recommended protective equipment.
- 3) Keep children and pets away from the area for the time specified on the label.
- 4) Remember to post signs indicating that your lawn has been treated to protect other people's children and pets from exposure.



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