**SEPTEMBER 26 - OCTOBER 9, 2018** 

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#### Master plan in works for Hidden Falls, **Crosby parks**

By Jane McClure

Trosby Farm and Hidden Falls, two of this area's largest regional parks, are the focus of a new master plan to better manage their natural resources and guide future improvements. The St. Paul Department of Parks and Recreation is seeking comments in an online survey through October, and the West Seventh/Fort Road Federation and Highland District Council have appointed representatives to a master plan advisory committee.

The committee will meet twice this fall to discuss the two parks, which abut the Mississippi River. Public comments will be collected for the next several weeks, with a public open house to weigh initial ideas to be held in November or December. A draft plan will be submitted to the Metropolitan Council in January, and the St. Paul Parks

CROSBY-HIDDEN FALLS ▶2



Yelps through the Alps. Peggy Moore holds on tight beside grandaughter Kendra, 8, while enjoying the Himalaya Ride at the Nativity County Fair on September 15. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

#### Wage debate seems to favor adjustment for tipped workers

By Jane McClure

s St. Paul officials begin work on drafting an ordinance to raise the minimum wage to as much as \$15 per hour in the city, the issue of whether or not to include a tip adjustment appears to be the most controversial. Bar and restaurant workers on both sides of the question rallied outside of City Hall on September 17. More than 100 called for the tip adjustment and a much smaller group spoke out against it. The tip issue also dominated the debate at a September 12 public hearing on the minimum wage before the City Council.

Mayor Melvin Carter and City Council members have vowed to pass a minimum wage increase by the end of this year. Ward 3 City Council member Chris Tolbert is taking the lead on drafting the ordinance.

The city has held four neighborhood listening sessions on the minimum wage, the last one on

MINIMUM WAGE ▶2

# Ford site's new street grid, traffic impacts discussed

By Jane McClure

lthough the master plan is still being developed for the 135-acre site of Ford Motor Company's former assembly plant in Highland Park, lead developer Ryan Companies will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, September 26, to present information on the proposed streets, traffic impacts, environmental cleanup and other issues. The meeting will run from 7-9 p.m. in the auditorium of Highland Park Middle School, 975 S. Snelling Ave.

"We're not ready to submit a master plan yet," said Tony Barranco, Ryan's senior vice president of real estate development who met with the Highland District Council (HDC) Community Development Committee on September 18. "We don't have the comfort level that we're there yet."

Ryan has about 75 employees working on a package of amendments to the 134-page master plan for the Ford site approved by the City Council last year. The Minneapolis-based developer won master developer rights for the property in June. Since then, the company has met with Highland businesses and neighborhood groups and has discussed its planning process at several large public meetings.

The submission of an amended master plan to city officials is still a few weeks away, Barranco said. That plan will be reviewed by the HDC, its development committee and local residents and business people at a public meeting in November before it is submitted to city staff for review. It will then be reviewed by the St. Paul Planning Commission and City Council.

outlined in the city's master plan. However, ment of Public Works. Discussions are ongoing Ryan's development team is not planning any 10-story buildings as provided in the city's plan,

Barranco said. The total number of new housing units will be fewer than 4,000, according to him, and the amount of new commercial space will be on the "lighter" side with no plans for large-scale retail or office developments.

"We had hoped to be further along (with the master plan amendments at this point), but we want to get this right," Barranco said. Many aspects of the city's master plan merit further scrutiny, he added, and Ryan's team has been busy working out the details

Ryan has also had several meetings with city staff to discuss the master plan, Barranco said. Much of the focus has been on the street grid, parks and other open spaces, and the individual No major changes are expected to the street parcels for development. Street and traffic issues nd park layout or to the zoning designations continue to be reviewed with the city's Depart-

FORD REDEVELOPMENT ▶3



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Tuesday, October 23, 2018, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Sunday, November 11, 2018, 1-3 p.m.

Middle/Upper School (6-12) Open Houses 1712 Randolph Avenue, St. Paul

Thursday, October 25, 2018, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Sunday, November 11, 2018, 3-5 p.m.

# School tax levy to increase 4.4% or 16.4%—voters will decide

By Jane McClure

The St. Paul School Board was poised to adopt the school district's maximum levy for 2019 on September 25, after this issue of the *Villager* went to press. As of last week, a 4.4 percent increase was being contemplated. However, if St. Paul voters on November 6 approve the district's proposed excess levy, the school district's levy increase will be 16.4 percent.

School Board members reviewed the levy numbers at a September 11 board workshop and at the September 18 board meeting. Under state law, the School Board, St. Paul City Council and Ramsey County Board have until September 30 to adopt their respective maximum property tax levies for 2019. After that date, they may lower their levies but not raise them.

The school district's levy in 2018 was \$155.4

million. That makes up about one-fifth of the annual budget, according to Marie Schrul, the district's chief financial officer. If the 4.4 percent levy increase is adopted and the November 6 excess levy referendum fails, the district's 2019 maximum levy would be \$162.3 million, a \$6.98 million increase. If the 4.4 percent increase is adopted and the referendum passes, the district's 2019 levy would be \$189.9 million, an increase of almost \$25.5 million.

For the owner of a median-value \$186,200 home, a 4.4 percent levy increase would raise the school district's portion of his or her property tax bill by \$49.47. If the referendum passes, the 16.4 percent levy increase would raise the school district's portion of his or her property tax bill by \$184.76.

Minnesota school districts rely on calculations from the state Department of Education to set their maximum levies. School levies are affected by several factors, including leg-

islative changes to the education formulas, pupil counts, inflationary adjustments, pension and benefit changes required by law, and capital bonding. Those numbers continued to change in September, according to Schrul, and that caused the delay in setting the maximum levy.

The school district's levy is broken into four categories to cover the costs of operations, facilities, pensions and contractual needs, and community service programs. With the 4.4 percent or \$6.98 million levy increase contemplated by the School Board last week, the largest increase would be for operations, which would rise about \$3.7 million, from \$50.2 million to almost \$54 million. Facilities costs would increase about \$2.9 million, from \$62.6 million to \$65.5 million. The pensions and other contractual costs would increase just over \$600,000, from \$38.9 million to \$39.5 million. Community services would

decrease almost \$400,000, from \$3.6 million to \$3.2 million.

The excess levy referendum would provide an additional \$18.6 million annually, or about \$475 per student. That money would go to the operating budget, which would increase to \$72.5 million in 2019.

The fiscal year for the St. Paul Public Schools begins on July 1, so work on the school district's 2019-20 budget is just getting underway. The district is always the last of the three taxing jurisdictions in St. Paul to adopt its maximum levy.

Ramsey County's 2019 levy is poised for a maximum 4.3 percent increase in 2019. St. Paul officials are considering a maximum 11.5 percent increase in the city's levy for 2019. Without factoring in the school district's levy, the proposed city and county levies would bring about a \$129 increase in the property tax bill of a median-value home.

#### **1** ■ MINIMUM WAGE

September 20 at the Palace Community Center. Tolbert said it has been valuable to hear the range of viewpoints. However, he added, more input is needed from several constituencies, including employers of people with disabilities, youth employers, colleges that offer financial aid through work-study programs, and the owners of "micro" businesses with one or two employees.

The City Council is also drawing from a recently completed report by a Citizens League committee that presented three scenarios for phasing in a minimum wage increase. Only one scenario included a tip adjustment—also known as a tip credit or tip penalty—and then only for full-service restaurants that have a full liquor license. That scenario also recommended that the tip adjustment be tried for a time and then reevaluated before being adopted permanently. The other two scenarios called for no tip adjustment. However, all three scenarios recommended raising the minimum wage to \$15 per hour in phases with longer phase-in times for small businesses.

The City Council hearing drew about 100 people, almost 50 of whom testified. Several tipped employees spoke for the tip adjustment. They said their tips made it possible for them to support their families while working part-time waiting on tables or bartending. That would not be possible with a wage of \$15 per hour alone, they said. Servers and bartenders also warned of how the restaurant industry could change with a higher minimum wage and no tip adjustment, with higher prices for patrons and the loss of table service in favor of counter service.

An "overwhelming majority" of the hospitality industry supports some sort of minimum wage policy that includes tips, according to Jennifer Schellenberg of the Restaurant Workers Association. She said the city needs to define who a tipped worker is and have restaurant owners apply to have their employees classified as tipped workers.

Matt Gray, a member of the Citizens League task force and a longtime server at W.A. Frost and Company, 374 Selby Ave., said a citywide minimum wage with no tip adjustment would greatly reduce the income of tipped workers.

However, several other bar and restaurant

employees disagreed, saying the \$15 per hour minimum wage should be enacted without the tip adjustment. A few of these speakers, even though they appeared on camera and on a city podcast, refused to give their last names because they feared retaliation.

Several people said that tipped servers and bartenders put up with sexual harassment and other abuse from customers because they do not want to lose tips. Others said their income from tips varies greatly from day to day due to bad weather, slow business or being called away to train in new employees.

Several opponents of the tip adjustment testified that tips can drive a wedge between the front and back of the house at a restaurant, and that everyone needs to be treated equally. They said the claims of tip-adjustment supporters that full-service restaurants would close or switch to counter service are exaggerated. "A tip penalty is bad for workers in any form," said server and community organizer Eli Stein Olson.

The restaurant owners who testified were also split over the issue. John Rupp, who owns W.A. Frost and the Commodore restaurants, said the city risks losing more full-service restaurants if a tip adjustment is not included in the minimum wage ordinance. Alicia Hinze, who owns and operates the Buttered Tin in Lowertown, said a tip adjustment would "hinder workers and not help them." According to her, restaurant workers need to have the same rate of pay.

Central High School teacher Joe Hesla spoke against having a lower training wage for students. "Students need \$15 per hour as much as adults do," he said. "Instead of a youth carve-out, we need a corporation carve-out. McDonald's could pay \$15 right now."

Bob Brick, the head of ALLY People Solutions, a St. Paul nonprofit that helps people with disabilities find and maintain jobs, is concerned that if the minimum wage is raised to \$15 per hour, people with disabilities will be among the first to lose their jobs.

Tolbert said he will convene a group of disability advocates and employees with disabilities to further discuss the minimum wage. Ward 7 City Council member Jane Prince said she will reach out to micro businesses for their views on the matter. Many of these micro businesses are immigrant-owned, she said, "and that's a group we haven't heard from."

#### **1 <** CROSBY-HIDDEN FALLS

and Recreation Commission and City Council will discuss the plan this spring. The final master plan is expected to be adopted by the Met Council in June.

Since Crosby and Hidden Falls are regional parks, the Met Council and city share responsibility for their operation and upkeep. Liz Hixson, a landscape architect with St. Paul Parks and Recreation, said the parks are overdue for a study. The Met Council requires all regional parks in the seven-county area to have master plans. "Crosby Farm-Hidden Falls doesn't have a plan," Hixson said.

Several issues will be considered during the park planning process, she said. One involves changes in the adjacent neighborhoods, including proposed mixed-use redevelopment of the Ford site and future residential development in the Shepard-Davern area.

Other concerns include invasive plant species and the destructive emerald ash borers that have been found in the parks. The study will also look at ways to better connect the parks to adjacent neighborhoods and enhance the park experience for visitors with limited mobility.

The two district councils will bring their own issues to the discussion. One big concern is access across busy Shepard Road, said West Seventh Federation board president Becky Yust. "People may be close to a park, but they can't get to it because we have such issues with Shepard Road traffic," she said.

Hixson said regional parks are a popular asset, with Crosby Farm and Hidden Falls getting about 382,000 visitors per year.



A master plan is being envisioned for Hidden Falls and Crosby Farm parks in Highland.

The two parks have a long history. Hidden Falls, which is located just below Lock and Dam No. 1, dates back to 1887. It was part of noted landscape architect Horace W. Cleveland's vision for four major parks in St. Paul. Cleveland envisioned Hidden Falls as a place where distinctive landscaping features could be preserved for the public to enjoy.

However, the 131-acre park was largely ignored for years. Part of it was used as a tree nursery for a time. In 1936-37, the federal Works Progress Administration made sev-

eral improvements to Hidden Falls, including the steps that remain there today. The work helped to highlight the spring-fed waterfall that gives the park its name.

In the mid-1960s, four major areas were developed or delineated at Hidden Falls. They included the falls, boat launch, primitive and general picnic areas. Some work has been done there since then, but the picnic pavilion and other facilities are showing their age. The park has a popular fishing area and beach, and a well-used trail system, but has been

criticized as being difficult to access.

Hidden Falls improvements were suggested six years ago during the Great River Passage planning and while laying the groundwork for redevelopment of the former Ford property. One idea for the Ford site calls for a stormwater drainage feature in the form of a stream that could flow into Hidden Falls.

The 480-acre Crosby Farm Park is named after English immigrant Thomas Crosby, who claimed 160 acres to farm in 1858 southwest of where I-35E and Shepard Road meet today.

Crosby died in 1886, but the farm continued operating under different owners until 1962. The St. Paul Port Authority purchased the land in the early '60s and leased it to the city for a park. Crosby has fishing spots, picnic areas, a 50-person shelter, about 6.7 miles of trails and other amenities. The park surrounds Watergate Marina, a once-private facility that is now owned by the city and leased to a private operator. The master planning does not include the marina.

Crosby has been the focus of tree planting efforts by the Conservation Corps, and has had ongoing prairie restoration. For almost two decades it has been eyed as a site for an environmental learning center, which years ago got pushback from some park advocates as well as the Highland District Council. One concern was that Crosby has migratory bird and wildlife corridors that could be disrupted by any new facilities.

The online survey regarding Crosby and Hidden Falls parks can be found at survey-monkey.com/r/KLPNN2R. For more information on the master plan, visit stpaul.gov/hidden-falls-crosby-farm-master.

## **Council sets conditions on reuse** of St. Paul's Church as arts venue

By Jane McClure

The St. Paul City Council approved a historic use variance on September 12 that will allow the former St. Paul's on the Hill Episcopal Church, 1524 Summit Ave., to become the Summit Center for Arts and Innovation.

Ward 3 council member Chris Tolbert had requested a one-week layover after a September 5 public hearing to clarify the center's operating hours. The city's Planning Commission and Heritage Preservation Commission recommended approval of the variance over

Building permits have been pulled and much work is already completed on developer John Rupp's plans to convert the church into an arts center. Conditions placed on the approval of the variance limit the center's uses to public performances and events, music and art-related education, and spiritual and church-related services and receptions.

Outdoor events will only be allowed in a fenced garden area, cannot be amplified and must end at 9 p.m. every day.

Indoor events that are not receptions must end by 9:30 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays and by 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. The

building must be cleared and the doors locked by 10:30 p.m. and 11 p.m., respectively.

For indoor receptions, attendees must be out and the doors locked by 10 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays, and by midnight Fridays and Saturdays.

Yet another condition allows the Macalester-Groveland Community Council to request a parking study if a need is seen in the future. The community council recommended approval of the variance this summer, but was concerned about parking and noise. The study request would have to go before the Planning Commission to determine if it is

Rupp said permission has already been obtained to share parking with the adjacent Laura Jeffrey Academy, with the Lincoln Commons and Sherwin-Williams lots on Snelling Avenue, and with a Macalester College lot on Grand Avenue. Those lots all have time restrictions on when the center can use them.

Rupp said the center will meet city noise regulations and decibel meters will be kept on site at all times.

"It's a beautiful church and it's worth saving," Tolbert said. Other council members agreed, noting that churches all over the city are sitting vacant and in need of new uses.



The previously vacant St. Paul's on the Hill Episcopal Church, 1524 Summit Ave., is getting new life as the Summit Center for Arts and Innovation. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

This was only the second time St. Paul has approved a historic use variance. The first was for the Waldmann Brewery & Wurstery on Smith Avenue. The variance allows a historic property to be used in a new way, even if it does not meet the city's current zoning.

Rupp said the use of the 104-year-old church building will not be much different than it was in the past. The church sanctuary, which is widely known for its high-quality acoustics, was previously used for many concerts and other musical events. Cities Church is also leasing the space for its worship

Earlier this year, the Planning Commission approved a conditional use permit for the church's former education building to become the new home of the St. Paul Conservatory of Music. The conservatory also plans to use the church as a performance space.

# St. Paul may spend \$8.5M on arterial, downtown streets in '19

By Jane McClure

Tt. Paul's streets have been targeted for \$8.5 million in improvements in 2019, part of a three-year street improvement program proposed by Mayor Melvin Carter and the Department of Public Works.

The program calls for spending \$3.5 million in 2019 to mill and overlay downtown streets with \$500,000 from the city's general fund, \$1 million from the Municipal-State Aid program and \$2 million from assessments to abutting property owners. The city's newly created Downtown Alliance is looking at creating a special assessment district to collect that \$2 million. The intent is to resurface about 38 percent of downtown's streets in 2019, with the rest in 2020 and 2021.

Some downtown streets have waited for years for major work. One ongoing problem is potholes, according to Kathy Lantry, the city's director of Public Works. On Sixth Street between St. Peter and Seventh streets alone, the city spent almost \$20,000 on pothole patching in the first six months of 2018, Lantry said. "Pothole patching downtown in the middle of a workday is particular disruptive," she said, and it can be hazardous for workers.

Mill and overlay work, which costs about \$100,000 per block, involves removing the street surface and replacing it with fresh asphalt. A street that has been milled and overlaid will typically hold up for five or more years before there are pothole issues.

Another goal of the downtown street work is to get rid of the pesky pavers, the red concrete blocks that are supposed to look like bricks. The city began using them on downtown streets in the 1990s to delineate crosswalks, intersections and parking lanes. However, the freeze-thaw cycles of spring have caused the pavers to heave out of place. Other pavers are broken or missing, creating a hazard for pedestrians.

"We spend about \$60,000 per year to keep the pavers sort of in good shape," Lantry said. "They just don't hold up."

The paver removal does not include the brick streets around Rice Park. Those streets will be discussed in the future, Lantry said. She noted that while the old clay pavers used around Rice Park have lasted longer than the newer concrete ones, the granite curbs and other street features around Rice Park have

not held up as well.

"Improving the condition of our downtown streets and sidewalks will be a good step in boosting the way new businesses and employees perceive our downtown," said Joe Spencer, president of the Downtown Alliance. "I've heard folks express a need for investment in our infrastructure."

St. Paul currently spends about \$2.5 million per year for mill and overlay work on arterial streets outside of downtown. That has not been enough to keep up with the need, so next year the city's maintenance budget for neighborhood streets will increase to \$5 million. In 2018 the city expects to mill and overlay almost 40 blocks of neighborhood streets. That will increase to almost 80 blocks in 2019 and more than 70 blocks in 2020.

#### **1 ◄** FORD REDEVELOPMENT

with city and Capitol Region Watershed District staff on stormwater management and a large water feature that would extend through the middle of the site.

"We're not yet at the stage of building design," Barranco said.

Meeting attendees can expect more discussion on September 26 of key issues and a time to ask questions. People have been clamoring for an open question-and-answer session, and while Ryan Companies will accommodate that request, "we're also leery that the meeting could be six hours long," Barranco said.

The HDC committee has reviewed several

other facets of the development with Barranco, including ways to generate renewable energy on the site or to develop a district energy system. Renewable energy systems, including solar and hydro power, are also being discussed with city staff, District Energy St. Paul and the University of Minnesota.

Ryan is now wrapping up its environmental due diligence on the Ford plant property, Barranco said. Soil borings and samplings were done to assess the thoroughness of pollution cleanup. According to Barranco, Ford and its environmental consultants have done a "phenomenal" job of cleaning up the site.

In September, Canadian Pacific Railroad announced the beginning of soil remediation on a portion of its former 13-acre rail yard at Ford. Soil excavation and pollution cleanup on the railroad property is being handled by Bolander, a St. Paul-based contractor. Its trucks will use the same routes and hours of operation as trucks did during the Ford site's soil remediation. The railyard area targeted for cleanup is southwest of Highland Ball's diamonds. Tracks, ties and other materials will be removed, and the work is expected to be completed by December 1.

The CP Rail property, the Ford property between Mississippi River Boulevard and the river, and the Highland Village Center property are not part of the master plan being drawn up by Ryan Companies. However,

the developer has talked to CP Rail and Ford about purchasing those properties, and ultimately could include them in the redevelopment plans. The riverfront property is in need of environmental cleanup, Barranco said, "but we'd love to buy that at a future time."

Another issue that was discussed with the HDC committee is the name of the new development. "We don't want to call it the Ford site forever," Barranco said.

Ryan has offered to include the HDC in the naming process, an opportunity that was embraced by the committee. Some names were even suggested. One suggestion that was discarded following a round of laughter was So Hi, for South Highland.

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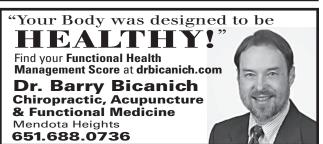
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# **Commission grants permit for reuse** of former Fire Station 10 on Randolph

#### But mayor's office puts sale on hold

By Jane McClure

conditional use permit to convert former Fire Station 10 at 754 Randolph Ave. into a restaurant, taproom, coffee bar and microbrewery was approved by the St. Paul Planning Commission on September 21. However, the sale of the city-owned, two-story brick building was pulled from the City Council's agenda two days earlier at the request of Mayor Melvin Carter's administration.

Deputy Mayor Jamie Tincher wanted to assess the project as a whole, according to Liz Xiong, the mayor's press secretary. No new hearing date or further action on the sale has been announced.

The city's Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) board voted on September 12 to enter into a development agreement to proceed with selling the property to 754 Randolph LLC. However, the city must first convey the property to the HRA.

The sale and the conditional use permit are the final steps before the project can move ahead. Developer Travis Temke has been working with city officials on the project since he received tentative developer status from the HRA

The project has an estimated cost of \$2.9 million. Temke offered the city \$220,000 for the property last year. The development costs would be covered through a combination of a mortgage, historic tax credits, the developer's equity and Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization funding.

However, an HRA staff report indicated that, after further review, the developer had determined that bringing the building up to code and within historic guidelines would be "substantially more costly" than originally anticipated and requested a reduction in the purchase

The City Council agreed to restructure the purchase price as a forgivable

Constructed in 1885, the former Fire Station 10 at 754 Randolph Ave. was once the oldest active fire station in the state. seller's note to be paid after 10 years or if the property is sold. A portion of the principal will be forgiven on an annual basis based on performance of hiring hard-to-employ individuals.

Temke said he continues to work with city staff on issues of concern regarding the project. He plans to remodel the entire building at once, because using the second floor requires the addition of an

The conditional use permit approved on September 21 only involves the firstfloor, said senior city planner Kady Dadlez. Temke wants to use the second floor as a banquet and events space. That would require a separate parking variance, which would be reviewed and voted on by the city's Board of Zoning Appeals. No date for that action has

The property is zoned for residential use. The proposed first-floor uses require 11 off-street parking spaces, while 21 off-street spaces are proposed. The second-floor banquet and event space would need an additional 25 spaces. Access to and from the parking would be off of Randolph.

Several neighbors are concerned about the project's potential for increased parking congestion, delivery traffic, noise, brewery odors and the impact on the area's electrical grid. The former fire station is located in an area of West End where power outages have been a problem.

The West Seventh/Fort Road Federation recommended approval of the permit and asked Temke to continue working with neighbors on their concerns. Eight letters were sent in support of the permit and two in opposition.

One of the conditions that the Planning Commission placed on the permit is that Temke obtain a parking variance or shared parking agreement before the banquet hall is used.

Operating hours also were set. Indoor business uses can operate until 10 p.m. on Monday through Thursday, until midnight on Friday and Saturday, and until 9 p.m. on Sunday. A patio can be open until 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and until 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

In August, the City Council designated the property as a St. Paul historic preservation site. The fire station was built in 1885 and was expanded in 1911. It was the oldest active fire station in the state until 2010, when its fire company moved to the new Fire Station 1 on Randolph and West Seventh Street.

The fire station housed horse-drawn fire rigs and at one time served as the infirmary for ill or injured horses. It is also considered to be historically significant because it was one of the early St. Paul fire stations that was racially integrated after the city's African-American fire company was disbanded in 1942.

# \$1M for new Fire Station 20 is reallocated

By Jane McClure

The long-awaited replacement of Fire Station 20 at 2179 University Ave. will have to wait a few more years. A proposed \$1 million allocation to start the station replacement process has been zeroed out of the city's 2019 Capital Improvement Budget (CIB). The change, proposed by Mayor Melvin Carter's administration, was reviewed by the CIB Committee on September 10 and the City Council on September 12.

Instead of a new Fire Station 20, the CIB now calls for spending \$500,000 on a plan to replace Fire Station 7 on the East Side, a small two-bay station. Another \$500,000 will be used to plan for the replacement for the Rice Recreation Center in the North End.

The CIB for 2019 now allocates \$300,000 for reconfiguring the intersection of Lexington Parkway, Montreal Avenue and West Seventh Street to eliminate longstanding traffic safety issues there. The mayor has also proposed adding \$500,000 to next year's work to rebuild the Summit Avenue bridge over Ayd Mill Road. The city al-

ready had \$997,000 in Municipal-State Aid funds for that project, bringing the total to \$1.497 million. A fourth change proposed by the Carter administration is adding \$25,000 for a study of forestry staff garage needs.

Fire Station 7 was a flash point in last year's city budget process because adding a medic rig there took away a fire engine. A larger station would allow a fire engine to return to Station 7, according to Ward 7 City Council member Jane

Fire Chief Butch Inks presented plans showing Station 7 being completed in 2020-2021. The planning and construction process would then start for Station

Station 20 serves parts of the West Midway, Merriam Park and St. Anthony Park neighborhoods. Earlier this year, an ambulance was added there to meet the growing demand for medical services. The closest ambulances previously were at Station 23 at 1926 Como Ave. and Station 14 at 111 N. Snelling Ave. A fire engine was moved from Station 7 to Station 20, which sparked the battle to get another fire engine on the East Side.

Replacement of Station 20 has been discussed for more than two decades. Studies over the years have indicated that the city has gaps in fire service coverage, including the West Midway area. That need has become more pronounced with the rapid growth in housing and businesses around the Green Line light-rail station at University and

Fire safety at the WestRock (formerly RockTenn) paper recycling plant at University and Vandalia Street is another concern. It is the only WestRock facility that does not have a fire station on site. Company officials have long contended that the lack of fire protection has stymied efforts to expand and upgrade that

St. Paul's proposed 2019 CIB now stands at \$48.1 million. That represents the second year of the 2018-2019 budget cycle. In an effort to streamline the review and approval process, city departments now have their projects reviewed and approved during the first year of the cycle, with smaller neighborhood projects reviewed and approved the second

# News Briefs

## JCC holds grand reopening of expanded center Sept. 30

The Jewish Community Center's threeyear expansion and renovation project is now nearing completion. The public is invited to tour the facility and explore the JCC's expanded programming during a grand reopening celebration from noon-3 p.m. Sunday, September 30, at the JCC, 1375 St. Paul Ave.

The event is part of a Sukkot Festival organized by the St. Paul Jewish Federation. Featured will be theater performances, live music, demonstrations, games and fun for the entire family. Refreshments will be available from several food trucks.

"We're excited to have such a beautiful new space to call home, and to become even more of a hub of activity for the Highland neighborhood, the city of St. Paul and the metro area," said Michael Waldman, CEO of the St. Paul

Among the new amenities are a Creative Arts Wing with five art and music studios, several multi-purpose rooms and a dance studio; a state-of-the-art fitness center with four studios for classes and activities, and space for stretching, cardio and strength training; and an indoor Aquatics Center with a 25-yard lap pool, a viewing room, a family-friendly recreational pool, a water slide and whirlpool, and new locker rooms for men, women and families equipped with showers, saunas and steam rooms.

Also new are a dedicated gallery to show-case the works of local and international artists; a performing arts center with 250-plus seats that are sloped for excellent sight lines; a bright and welcoming main entrance; and a full kitchen, ticket booth and lobby space to support the JCC's varied events and programs. For more information, visit stpauljcc. org.

# Wellington seeking more land for building near new stadium

Wellington Management's plans to construct a five-story mixed-use building on the southwest corner of Snelling and Shields avenues, just across Snelling from the new Major League Soccer stadium now under construction, needs an assist from the city and state.

Wellington wants to tear down the Bremer Bank building at 427 N. Snelling Ave., but also wants to purchase a piece of Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) property south of the bank as part of the project.

Acquiring the land will mean going through a state process. One option is for the city to work with the state on a land sale. Another would be for the state to put the property up for sale on its own, but that runs the risk of Wellington being outbid by another developer.

Timing is also an issue. Construction of the \$35 million building is expected to begin next spring, which is when Minnesota United is scheduled to begin play at the new Allianz



A new fitness center is just one of many improved spaces that can be toured during the September 30 grand reopening of the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave.

Field. However, for that to happen Wellington will need a decision soon on the acquisition of the state land.

The Union Park District Council's Land Use Committee heard a request from Wellington on September 17 seeking its support to purchase the MnDOT property. Committee members put off voting on the matter until October, saying they wanted more details about the state and city processes.

Meanwhile, Wellington Management is continuing to hold meetings with neighbors on the project. The latest development plans will be shared at Central Baptist Church's fall block party from 1-5 p.m. Saturday, September 29, at 420 Roy St.

Wellington is proposing a building with about 18,000 square feet of first-floor retail, including a new bank branch and a Walgreens. Approximately 200 apartments would be on the four stories above, with a mix of studio, one- and two-bedroom units.

"We don't want to bring commercial corridor massing into a single-family residential neighborhood," Wellington said. Another issue is that of generating more traffic in the neighborhood west of the development.

The latest plan calls for using Snelling Avenue properties only, and not tearing down the church-owned homes. About 200 parking spaces would be provided underground and on the first floor.

# Council honors uniquely talented Central High grad

The St. Paul City Council declared September 12 as Mark A. Hicks Day in honor of the 1979 Central High School graduate who has had a long career as an actor and stuntman in television and movies.

Hicks, the son of Edward and Laura Hicks, was a member of the Rashad Karate program and the University of Minnesota men's gymnastics team. He was elected to the Minnesota

All-Star Contact Karate team, earned a fifthdegree black belt in tae kwon do and hapkido, and opened his own tae kwon do academy in California for inner-city youths.

He has worked on 52 different television shows, including "ER," "MacGyver (2017)," "The X-Files" and "The Walking Dead." His film credits include *The Hunger Games, Transformers, Coyote Ugly* and *Rush Hour 2*. He has performed as a stunt double for more than 20 actors, including Will Smith, Omar Epps, Chris Tucker and Cuba Gooding Jr., and has won three Taurus World Stunt Awards.

A large group of Hicks' friends and family members were on hand to see him receive the proclamation. After thanking council members, Hicks regaled them with stories of movie stunts, and joked about his days growing up in St. Paul.

# City again denies variance requests for Dayton duplex

The St. Paul City Council voted 6-0 vote on September 19 to deny plans to turn a home at 1185 Dayton Ave. into a duplex, possibly ending a decade of debate over the issue.

Ward 1 council member Dai Thao said that while he appreciated current owner Jean Schroepfer's efforts to provide rental housing, the city's Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) did not err when it denied variances for the property. Schroepfer appealed the BZA's decision, arguing that a duplex would not alter the character of the neighborhood. She noted that there are more than a dozen other multifamily properties around her building, including a duplex on one side and a triplex on the other.

Some neighbors said the area has too many multifamily rental properties. The variance requests generated staunch opposition in the neighborhood, and 36 neighbors signed a petition in opposition. The Union Park District Council also recommended denial of the variances, as did city staff.

Minimum lot width and side-yard setback variances were needed to convert the single-family home to a duplex. BZA members said there were no extenuating circumstances to justify granting the variances.

This was the second time variances had been sought for the property. The BZA also voted down variance requests in 2009, after Schroepfer bought the house.

Jerome Benner III of the BZA staff said the property was inspected recently and appeared to be in the process of being converted to a duplex. It has a second-story kitchen and bathroom, but lacks a separate entrance for a second unit.

City Council members questioned why considerable renovation was done after the variances were denied in 2009. Schroepfer said it was because the house was in poor condition.

## Federation drops debate over renaming of Linwood Monroe

Discussion of a possible name change for Linwood Monroe Arts Plus School in St. Paul will continue between neighbors and alumni, but without the West Seventh/Fort Road Federation taking a position or being involved in the debate.

The district council, which has facilitated the discussions about a name change in recent months, reviewed recent comments on the issue at its September 10 meeting. Other than continuing to track the matter, council members said they have done all they can.

"It's in the hands of the St. Paul Public Schools at this point," said board member Meghan Redmond.

Federation members noted that the district council has a long history of supporting the school over the years, fighting to keep it open and add programs to increase enrollment. The Monroe upper campus at 810 Palace Ave. has been a junior high, a high school and a community school over the years. It now houses students in grades 5-8. The name change also would affect the lower campus, which was originally Linwood Elementary School at 1023 Osceola Ave. and houses students in grades preK-4.

Earlier this year, parents and students suggested dropping the Monroe name because namesake President James Monroe owned slaves. That provoked a strong reaction from graduates of Monroe, especially when it was a high school from the 1940s-'70s.

District council board member Walt Wietzke said that the discussions about a possible name change have been respectful and a learning experience for both sides. "This is happening all over the country," he said. "People everywhere are dealing with issues of racism and historical names."

The school district has not announced the next steps for a naming process.

News Briefs were compiled by Jane McClure and Dale Mischke.



# Smith challenges Garlock for mayoral seat in Mendota Hts.

By Kevin Driscoll

ncumbent Neil Garlock is facing off against former city council member Jill Smith in the election for Mendota Heights mayor on November 6.

Garlock, 60, retired in 2014 after a 24-year career on the city's police department and was elected to his first two-year term as mayor in 2016. He graduated from the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy in 1980 and now works as a part-time driver for Shepard Road Airport Parking.

Garlock has done volunteer work as race director for the Mendota Heights 5K for 13 years and has raised more than \$100,000 for Special Olympics of Minnesota. He is married with three children and eight grandchildren.

"It's certainly been an honor being mayor of Mendota Heights," Garlock said. "We've accomplished so much in two years as a team, but there's more to be done. I'm the best candidate for the job because I truly understand the core values of the city. I've remained focused and I'm always looking out for the best interest of its residents."

One of the major challenges Garlock sees facing the city is maintaining its roads and other infrastructure. "We already have a 20-year plan in place, which is soon ending," he



Neil Garlock



Jill Smith

said. "We must review and prioritize the streets in need for rehab or reconstruction and establish a strict schedule. We must follow that schedule and be diligent in not falling behind"

Garlock said congestion on Dodd Road has been increasing for years. "We recently completed an independent traffic study, which gave us several options," he said. "We need to meet with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and attempt to implement some of those options to reduce congestion on Dodd Road."

According to him, the retention of city staff also is a challenge facing the city. "We recently hired many new city staff members in all departments after much turnover," Garlock said. "We must maintain an environment where employees feel appreciated and are a part of our team. The employees must be trained and properly compensated."

Smith, 75, is a retired 3M corporate real estate executive who served eight years on the city council (1991-98), and currently sits on the Dakota County Planning Commission and Lower Mis-

sissippi River Watershed Management Organization. She also has served on other county and regional committees, including the Metropolitan Council Transportation Advisory Board and the Metropolitan Airport Sound Abatement Council.

She holds a master's degree in land use from the University of Minnesota Humphrey School and a master's degree in real estate appraising from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is married with two children and two grandchildren.

Smith said she is running for mayor to keep "Mendota Heights as an exceptional place to live, work and raise a family. City planning

for developable and redevelopable properties should concentrate on what the community needs and wants, conform to city codes, and consider all impacts of development to the site and surrounding area."

She said her qualifications include her education, her professional and volunteer experiences, and her 30 years as a Mendota Heights resident. "My education prepared me for working in the public and private sectors," Smith said. "My ability to use a comprehensive approach to development and other issues will be of value to the city as opportunities and issues arise."

Smith said development that retains the city's character is critical for its future. "While Mendota Heights is 99 percent built, prudent development of the few remaining parcels is essential," she said. "Retaining the character of Mendota Heights also relies on preserving its natural resources."

Smith said that communicating with residents is imperative for how the city proceeds with its planning and operations. As chair of the county's Planning Commission, she said she added a public comment section to the regular agendas. She also supported having the County Board seek further public comments on the Lebanon Hills Master Plan, which she said resulted in positive changes.

# Incumbents, hopefuls compete for two spots on MH council

By Kevin Driscoll

ncumbents Ultan Duggan and Liz Petschel are facing challengers John Mazzitello, Rachel Quick, Chadwick Vandarious and Jonathan Zagel in the race for two four-year seats on the Mendota Heights City Council that are up for election on November 6.

**Duggan**, 77, is a retired businessman who has served on the council since 2002. He has also served on the city's Planning Commission and other boards. He holds a bachelor's degree in education from St. Pat-



rick's College at the National University of Ireland with additional studies in education at Arizona State University and in pedorthics at Ball State University. He is married with three children.

Duggan said he is running again because he loves Mendota Heights. "My years of city

service from 1984 until now and my business experience and community contributions of 46 years, and the insistence of many citizens to keep up the good work are strong magnets," he said. "Recent government initiatives pertaining to density in Mendota Heights suggest a much more crowded city, flying in the face of our long-range comprehensive plans and our adopted motto: spacious and gracious."

He said Mendota Heights is nearly 98 percent developed with successful implementation of the city's comprehensive plans since 1960. "As our neighbors, including the airport, continue to grow, we must maintain positive relations with them and businesses, providing input and expertise on transportation issues to ensure minimum disruptions to our quality of life," Duggan said. "Fostering and supporting business growth is vital. The Village at Mendota Heights is an award-winning project and the Mendota Plaza redevelopment is proving to be a crowd-pleaser."

Duggan said the city's success depends on public involvement and participation, and en-

couraging residents to share their expertise. "An involved community will lead our city forward confidently, assured and certain of itself, its vision and its goals," he said.

Petschel, 69, is seeking her third term on the council. She holds a nursing degree from St. Catherine University and is a former nursing instructor at Dakota County Technical College. She now volunteers to aid the

sick and dying through St. Joseph's Church. She is chair of the Dakota County Sheriff's Advisory Board, a former board member of the FBI Citizens Academy, and a former chair of the Metropolitan Airports Commission's Noise Oversight Committee. She is married with three children and six grandchildren.

"I'm running for council because of my experience and my record of accomplishments," Petschel said. "I spent 17 years working to mitigate aircraft noise over Mendota Heights."

Petschel cited a myriad of accomplishments during her time with the city, including working on airport noise, pollution, safety, financing, infrastructure and transportation.

If re-elected, she wants to follow through with the city's new water management plan. "It needs to be systematically implemented until our surface water quality becomes uniformly healthy," she said.

A new traffic study "has laid out short- and long-term solutions that include everything from traffic circles to a major re-engineering of the intersection of Dodd and Highway 62 (formerly Highway 110)," Petschel said. "The city has already begun to work on regional solutions with Inver Grove Heights, Eagan, Dakota County and MnDOT."

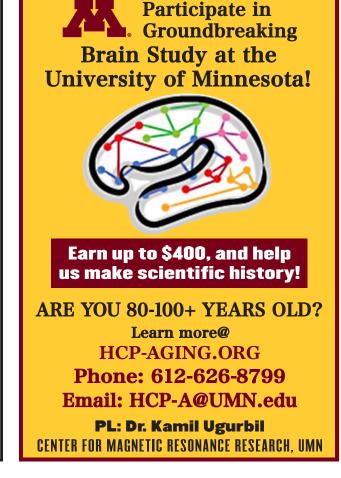
Petschel said she also wants to find permanent funding for the city's aging parks and trails. She said that can be accomplished by moving cell tower income and expiring city budget obligations into the parks fund.

MH COUNCIL ▶7





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#### **6** ■ MH COUNCIL

Mazzitello, 48, is a senior civil engineering consultant and a retired Air Force/Air National Guard lieutenant colonel with 22 years of service. He earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Marquette Uni-



versity and a master's degree in business administration from Argosy University. He has volunteered at Friendly Hills Middle School and Faithful Shepherd Catholic School, and is married with one child.

"I'm running for city council because development, land-use planning, infrastructure, traffic analysis, natural resource management, budgets and taxes are all issues I deal with on a daily basis in my professional career," Mazzitello said. "In addition, my knowledge of the city from serving on the Planning Commission, as well as serving for eight years as the city's Public Works director and city engineer, makes me highly qualified to serve on the council."

He said three challenges facing Mendota Heights include development, traffic infrastructure and a divided community. "As a council member, I'll push for long-range planning to address potential impacts from development before they adversely affect our community," he said.

Mazzitello said traffic volumes have been increasing in Mendota Heights for the past 30 years. "I'd work with MnDOT and Dakota County to develop traffic mitigation plans for Dodd Road, Highway 110 (62), Delaware Avenue and any other corridors where traffic safety or congestion is likely to become an issue," he said.

According to him, there are people who are resistant to further development in Mendota Heights. "As a council member, I'd like to lead the charge to understand current and potential development impacts and move toward long-range planning so our city can continue to prosper," he said.

Quick, 34, is a senior director of technical support at Recurly Inc. She holds a bachelor's degree from Augsburg University and a master's degree in library science from St. Catherine University. She has served as chair of



Dakota County Public Arts and is a member of the Dakota County Library Advisory Committee. She also has done volunteer work with the Dodge Nature Center, Great River Greening and Dakota County Parks. She is a member of the PTO and facilities subcommittee at Garlough Environmental Magnet School and is single with one child.

Quick said she is running for office "to make sure our city retains its beauty, resources and unique character. My working knowledge of Mendota Heights' issues and its residents will serve me well in this job."

She said the city needs to improve how information is disseminated to its residents through easy signups for the city newsletter, hosting family events at city hall, and having council members present and active at city events. She said the city also needs to encourage open channels for resident feedback.

Quick said she "will ensure that we invest in improving our infrastructure now, before it

#### **Candidate forum Oct. 11**

The Mendota Heights Community Resource Association will host a forum for all Mendota Heights mayor and council candidates from 7-9 p.m. Thursday, October 11, at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 700 Wesley Lane.

The forum will be moderated by longtime Mendota Heights resident Jeff Hamiel. For more information, visit welovemendotaheights.org.

becomes an issue in an emergency situation or causes harm to our community."

She added that development and traffic are primary concerns for Mendota Heights residents and she is looking forward to addressing them. "As your city council person, you'll see improvements in our community involvement, a solid natural resources plan and improvements to our infrastructure," she said.

Vandarious, 33, is a data analyst at Sedgwick Claims Management Services. He holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Minnesota. He is a member of the Mendota Heights Community Re-



source Association and the Natural Resource Advocates of Mendota Heights, and has volunteered as a parliamentarian for local activists' meetings. He is married with no children.

Vandarious said he is running "to fight to keep Mendota Heights the place we fell in love with. When I talk to people, I find that my vision of Mendota Heights is not unique to me. High-density development, traffic—in particular on Dodd Road-and environmental challenges are all major concerns.

"All of my issues are tied into the preservation of the character of Mendota Heights," he said. "I feel that the character is threatened by the inexorable shift toward higher density, lot splits (and) large apartment buildings, which chip away at the spacious green community that we have. We need to consider rezoning areas of our city to protect them.

"I'm concerned about invasive species coming in," Vandarious said. "I'm concerned about how larger developments threaten our water. I'm concerned with the sorts of chemicals we use to control weeds in our parks where our children play. I'm part of a group that has been advocating for the city to take a more proactive role in maintaining our clean land, air and water."

He said he will strive to alleviate traffic problems in the city by working toward more efficient road configurations that "reduce congestion, increase safety and functionality."

Zagel, 40, is vice president of accounting and finance at the Better Business Bureau of Minnesota and North Dakota. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in



accounting from the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan. As a volunteer, Zagel assists with local business education and consumer protection efforts through the BBB. He is married with two children.

He said he is running for the council because "I have a passion to give back and make our great city even better. I have extensive experience in accounting, leadership and business that'll bring an important skill set to the council, and I'll move to establish best practices and address the concerns of our citizens in a strategic manner."

As a council member, he said his primary goal will be to serve his fellow residents. "I'll strive for proactive problem-solving by listening to and addressing the concerns and insights of my fellow citizens, and collaborating with neighboring cities and regional agencies to address important issues that affect us all,"

Another of Zagel's priorities is strengthening confidence in city government by improving citizen involvement, establishing better methods of communication, developing best practices for city transactions and improving on government transparency.

He also wants to develop a long-term plan to preserve the city's open spaces while working with state and county resources, the city's Parks Commission and local experts to eliminate invasive species, cultivate native plants and introduce other programs to assure quality resources for future generations.

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# Viewpoint

# Wage debate raises all kinds of complications

By Dale Mischke

It's interesting and perhaps instructive to note that the biggest public debate to date regarding the proposed \$15 per hour minimum wage in St. Paul has been over the pros and cons of a wage adjustment for workers who receive tips. These are the employees who through their own diligence and sweat can earn the admiration and respect of customers and thus make more money in tips. Many restaurant servers and bartenders make a nice living from the tips that are added to their regular wages. Good for them; industry should be rewarded.

However, some folks don't think that's fair. The higher minimum wage, after all, is partly about equity—about city government giving a leg up to workers who put in long hours at jobs making no more than \$7.87 or \$9.65 per hour—the current minimum wage in Minnesota at small and large businesses, respectively. It's hard to make a living at the state minimum wage, especially in the Twin Cities where housing, goods and services cost more. The level of poverty and homelessness in the metro area demands action. And what could be easier or more direct than requiring employers to beef up their payrolls and better compensate their workers?

It may be direct, but it's anything but easy.

The Citizens League recently released a 446-page report on the impact of increasing the minimum wage in St. Paul to \$15 per hour. The 21-member committee that drafted the report considered the pros and cons of the higher minimum wage and whether exemptions should be granted for certain kinds of employers and employees. After an initial scoping study and 14 meetings, the committee concluded that an increase in the minimum wage would affect businesses and organizations differently based on their size, particular industry and model of operation and that government enforcement would be critical to its success.

The committee also recommended further study of the minimum wage for college students in work-study programs, for micro businesses with no more than two employees, for startup businesses, for professional sports teams, and for businesses that receive much of their revenue through federal and state Medicaid programs.

The City Council is pursuing the additional study of some of these issues, such as the minimum wage's effect on micro businesses and on employers that hire people with developmental disabilities. Mayor Melvin Carter has held a series of neighborhood listening sessions on the minimum wage. What's troubling is the little we've heard from St. Paul businesses at public meetings on the issue. Perhaps they're waiting for the City Council to draft the ordinance before joining the discussion.

Ten business people served on the Citizens League committee, including its cochair, St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce president and CEO B. Kyle. These business people offer their separate recommendations in an appendix to the report. The committee also took testimony from several St. Paul business people, and their comments are included in the report. What becomes clear from these comments is that there are business people who are worried that a higher minimum wage will drive up prices, force some firms to lay off workers and force others to move or close up shop.

There are business people who support the \$15 per hour minimum wage, but only if it's phased in over time and makes provisions for certain employees and employers who would be especially vulnerable to the effects of a higher minimum wage.

Mayor Carter has said he wants a \$15 minimum wage ordinance passed by the end of this year. That may be overly ambitious. Clearly, an ordinance that would have such a profound effect on St. Paul's economy demands further study before a draft is written and a thorough public hearing after that draft is written. The devil will be in the details. The city can ill afford to repeat the mistake it made on its new organized trash system, which was largely drafted in private and is now being challenged by citizen petitions.

No, the city may be better off letting businesses set their own wages. Unemployment is at historic lows, and employees have more power than ever to demand a wage commensurate with their skills or take a job with an employer who will pay them more. There's plenty of opportunity in this economy for employees with marketable skills. The demand is there. All that is needed is the proper education, training and experience and the initiative and desire to rise above the minimum.



# <u>Inbox</u>

#### Repurposing the Highland 9

Residents of Highland Park and the entire city of St. Paul should be enthusiastic about the future of the Highland 9-Hole Golf Course (*Villager*, August 29). If the city's feasibility study finds the property fit for redevelopment as a multi-sport amenity, there will be many winners.

First and foremost, St. Paul kids (and grownups) will have access to a new, quality athletic facility. Lacrosse, soccer, baseball, softball, ultimate frisbee and other sports organizations should be ecstatic at the opportunity to have more available field space. If you drive by McMurray Field on an average weekday night, you will see dozens of kids vying for space to play on the turf fields.

Second, local businesses would prosper. As a member of the board of directors of the St. Paul Blackhawks Soccer Club, I can attest to the fact that we send many of our teams to Blaine, Roseville and other suburbs for home games and practices due to the lack of field space in St. Paul. Those are food, gas and other shopping dollars being lost to suburbia

Third, the city of St. Paul's bottom line would benefit. As it stands, taxpayers are footing the bill to keep the Highland 9 operational. It has been losing money for years. A well-executed athletic facility would be an income machine. Aside from the field rental fees—Blackhawks alone spent \$330,000 in facility rental fees last year—the city would reap tax benefits from new sales tax revenue and hotel fees from tournament participants.

Finally, Visit St. Paul, the city's tourism and cheerleading arm, would gain a brilliant P.R. asset. Not many other cities can boast of a first-class sports hub featuring golf, hockey, baseball, softball, soccer, lacrosse, swimming and disc golf, all within one elegant, green, connected space.

Of course, financing will be a challenge, but with a combination of grants, public-private partnerships and other funding strategies, it can be done. Smaller communities have successfully built and managed much larger facilities.

The St. Paul Blackhawks Soccer Club is eager to work with the city to create a sports and recreation space for young and old to enjoy for generations. We encourage other organizations and individuals with a commitment to building character and community through athletics to do the same.

Rob Spence Summit Hill Editor's note: While the Highland 9-Hole Golf Course had annual deficits of \$37,022, \$3,416 and \$133,714 in 2014-2016, respectively, the course made a \$133,666 profit in 2017, according to Clare Cloyd, manager of public relations in the St. Paul Department of Parks and Recreation. A profit is also in the offing this year, according to Parks and Rec, with the balance of revenue and expenses currently \$153,762 in the black.

#### Saving money on trash

Having read claims that the new organized garbage service is more expensive, I checked the facts. We've been paying \$105 per quarter for weekly pickup of a single garbage can. Our new rate will be \$70.32 per quarter. We'll save \$138 per year, with additional savings in lower alley maintenance costs and the imponderable savings in reduced greenhouse gas emissions and street repairs. I don't doubt that some homeowners and renters who teamed up in the past to save money will now pay more. But one could argue the rest of the neighborhood was subsidizing them. If everybody paired up, the rates per disposal would go up for all.

Bruce Jacobs Highland Park

#### No reward for the recycler

I'm not the one tossing the dirty diaper, the pizza box and the fast-food container in the street. I'm not the one sticking junk mail in my mail box. Your big billboards blast and bark at me. Stop barking at me. I'm not the one.

You told me to re-use, recycle and reduce my carbon footprint by generating less garbage and waste. Now you're going to penalize me for doing just that by charging me more for garbage service. You're barking up the wrong tree. I did what you said. I'm not the one.

Elizabeth Ellis Summit-University

#### Don't compromise on issues

When Betty McCollum, Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith don't support wildly popular policies like Medicare for All, getting money out of politics and pulling out of the many foreign wars we're in, don't feel obligated to give them your vote. Don't vote out of fear of Republicans

# There's something rotten in city's trash deal

By Regina Purins

The city of St. Paul is giving its citizens a bloody nose. In tandem with the new garbage collection system, the owners of all single-family homes and two-, three- and four-unit residential buildings will be getting a new property tax assessment: an annual administration fee of \$24.60 per residential unit for garbage collection. Simply put, the owners of these residential properties will be getting a tax hit, which landlords will pass on to their tenants.

Let's examine this "administration" fee. What exactly in the new garbage collection system requires administering on an annual basis? After the first year, garbage collection is a self-administering system, as it has been for years. The city of St. Paul will have no further expenses to cover. No more carts to buy, no more brochures to send out, no more meetings to hold.

City officials, don't give us any of that guff about administrative bill collection from recalcitrant residents; i.e., those refusing to pay out of protest. You don't get to create a problem and then demand a fee to fix it. That's like a firefighter lighting a fire and then demanding money to put it out. Even if I bought that explanation, you cannot levy, year after year, against expenses that may or may not occur.

Just who complained of a massive problem

with St. Paul's traditional trash collection system? It's almost as if—only a cynic would say this—the city needed to create a problem:

- Illegal dumping? But you already have a fix for that—a ticket and a fine.
- Too many trucks in the alleys and on the streets? An annoyance to a vocal few; the rest of us never noticed.
- Widely varying rates? But that's a good thing. If I don't like what I'm paying, I look for a cheaper hauler.

The city has eliminated free-market competition to create a governmentrun monopoly. If the owners of private companies tried any of this stuff on their own, they'd go to jail:

- Forming a cartel to create a monopoly. That's an anti-trust issue.
- Setting uniform rates. In other words, price fixing.
- Dividing territory. Also known as racketeering.
- Forcing the purchase of unneeded services. Or strong-arming.
- Being forced to pay double, triple or quadruple the rate...or else. A shake-down. Did I miss anything?

The city's solving of a nonexistent problem—I'm only speculating—would require, if not the cooperation of the private haulers, a resistance that was not armed and ready to fire. The city would have needed to sweeten the deal for some. So it shoved some residents off the cliff while convincing others they were getting a better deal.

But will those residents continue getting a better deal? The city now controls a monopoly, and it can do whatever it wants with the trash collection program. Don't have enough money to sweep the streets? Raise the garbage rates. Want the Fourth of July fireworks back? Increase the administrative fee for trash collection. Who's to know?

The city now has a secret piggy bank. While everyone is focusing on the hoopla, no one is noticing the quiet siphoning of the administrative fee. Well, I noticed. My guess is about \$3 million worth of siphoning each year. That's a whole lot of administering.

Anyone who thought the city's new garbage collection system was about garbage has been looking at the wrong end of the horse. Though, in truth, both ends smell.

In its current form, this juggernaut must be kept from fully rolling out. It's not too late. The group St. Paul Trash (stpaultrash.com) is collecting signatures to place a referendum on the ballot to allow the residents of St. Paul to vote on two of the four ordinances creating the new trash collection system.

This will not kill the scheme, but it will put it on pause, giving citizens a chance to

Regina Purins is a resident of Highland

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getting elected. This country needs change, and if "our side" is not willing to be brave and make tough decisions, we need new leadership to make it happen. Make them get your vote. Don't let them off the hook for being against popular policies because of campaign contributions from big industry. If politicians believe they'll get your vote no matter what they do, they won't change to support good policy. It's time to hold them accountable.

Stuart Orlowski Macalester-Groveland

#### A 'no' vote on school levy

Initially, the St. Paul Public Schools reported that the excess tax levy increase on the November 6 ballot, if passed by the voters of St. Paul, would cost property taxpayers an extra \$125 a year. Then, the cost went up into the \$130 range. Currently, the school district reports the cost to households will be close to \$200.

St. Paul Superintendent of Schools Joe Gothard and his family reside in Burnsville with their property tax dollars supporting Burnsville and its public school district. The state aid for their school-age children is likely supporting the Burnsville school district. Supposedly, the Gothards plan to move to St. Paul, but there is no

guarantee.

Student enrollment in the St. Paul Public Schools has been on the decline, yet the district is building additions to schools, building new schools and buying existing schools outside St. Paul. I will not and cannot afford to support this tax increase on the ballot November 6.

> Sue Shetka Macalester-Groveland

#### Arms and the teacher

The firearm that kills the next female will most likely be from an intimate partner rather than a school shooter. Every month, 50 American women are shot and killed by current or former boyfriends or husbands.

The U.S. Education Department under Betsy DeVos is said to be considering whether to allow states to use federal funding to purchase guns for educators. Taking money away from school programs that teach girls and young women skills to be productive citizens in the work force is like buying extra fire extinguishers for a house built out of paper. Women with high school and college educations are more likely to be able to afford housing and security for their children,

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Volume 66, Number 16

Maurice F. Mischke, 1920-1991

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The Villager serves the Highland Park, Lexington-Hamline, Macalester-Groveland, Merriam Park, Snelling-Hamline, Summit Hill, Summit-University and West 7th neighborhoods of St. Paul, the Longfellow and Nokomis neighborhoods of Minneapolis, Lilydale, Mendota and Mendota Heights.

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#### 9**⋖** INBOX

helping them to be self-sufficient. If they find themselves in a domestic-abuse situation, these qualifications can bolster their escape.

The presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation increases a woman's chance of being killed by 500 percent. Let's put our efforts toward keeping guns out of the hands of people with dangerous histories so that schools are safer, rather than using funds to arm our teachers and other school personnel. If you feel strongly that education funds should be used for education, please tell your elected officials to block these types of proposals.

Gretchen Damon Macalester-Groveland

#### Rhythms of a residential street

Wheels on slow cars make a soothing rumble as they roll over the asphalt. Faster cars might skid over the rough spots. Experienced bicyclists sustain a relaxed rhythm as legs go up and down and around the pedals.

Young bicyclists push hard and like to go fast, sometimes on the sidewalk. Bicyclists towing a passenger take their ease, careful not to jostle the young one. Skateboarders balance carefully as they control momentum.

On the sidewalk, mothers push strollers at a rocking gait. Fathers let dogs on a leash control the pace. Impatient dogs tug at the slow walker. Walkers with a purposeful rhythm seem to know where they're going. Older walkers take it easy, and each step unfolds on the pavement.

Sitting on the porch where I witness the parade of wheels and feet, it's easy to nod off as I respond to the rhythms. Until a fire truck, returning from an emergency, reminds me of another reason we need working wheels and feet.

Anna K. Wiley Hiawatha, Minneapolis

#### Thumbs up, thumbs down

Thumbs up to the city crews who were out in the 5-inch torrential rain on August 24 to finish the work updating the neighbors' water line under the sidewalk on Goodrich Avenue. By the time the crews finished, they were soaked to the skin and the back fill looked like quick sand.

Thumbs up to the police officer southbound on Snelling Avenue mid-afternoon on August 25 who, as I was crossing westward with my walking pole, stopped his cruiser diagonally across lanes three and four to stop the train of traffic a ways behind him so that I'd not get bumped off by an inattentive driver in lane four (which has nearly happened three times). It's a dangerous place to cross.

Thumbs down to Mayor Melvin Carter and his City Council members who plan to raise city spending next year by 7.6 percent and raise our property taxes yet again. City officials, if you don't have it, don't spend it, or figure out how to make sane changes to the city budget. Do away with the invented position of chief resilience officer at \$126,000 per year. I'm sure Russ Stark is resilient enough to find a job in the private sector. Rescind the tax-exempt status of the St. Paul Saints stadium and the Minnesota United soccer

stadium. It's OK: Governments renege on their deals all the time. Quit expecting city taxpayers to keep reaching into pockets that go no deeper. I've already slashed my expenses to the point I'm hurting the business sector.

Kathleen Deming Macalester-Groveland

#### The cult of Trump

To those who call the Mueller investigation rigged or a witch hunt, I have a question: If you feel as though the investigation is against you, and the media is against you, and "government" as a concept is against you, and the intelligence agencies are against you, and academia is against you, and the courts are against you, and non-Americans are against you, and international organizations and treaties are against you, and liberals are against you, and independents are against you, and even people in your own party are now against you, and that everybody is lying to you, and that there is only one person who is actually for you, who understands you and is looking out for your interests and telling you the truth, then has it ever occurred to you that you might be in a cult?

Marc Conklin Macalester-Groveland

#### When protests go too far

In America we have in our Constitution guaranteed rights of speech, religion and assembly. Citizens holding signs, making speeches with different opinions is allowed. They are using their right of free speech to protest and can be granted permits to rally, march, even shut down thoroughfares. In Minnesota, people who threaten another with bodily harm can be charged with making terroristic threats.

Groups that shut down streets without a permit, throw rocks, damage property, spit on or assault those who disagree are called protesters by the news media. But they are not protesters; they are lawbreakers who threaten law-abiding citizens' constitutional right of free speech.

A new word is needed for such groups. Stop calling them protesters. They are engaging in terroristic threats, which in Minnesota is a felony. I am a protester, and these groups are attacking my first amendment right of free speech.

Tom Nordeen Summit-University

#### White ribbons against porn

I recently received an email from an official at a center where children congregate. It was in response to my request that they remove a sexually explicit tabloid from their entry. She wrote, "We (the board of directors) appreciate your concerns, but we do support the right to have people choose what they want to read and the freedom of speech."

Perhaps her perspective would be different if she heard the court testimony of a Saskatchewan father who confessed to abusing his two adopted daughters: "To my girls: I can't tell you how sorry I am for not protecting you like a father, and that you became the aim of my addiction." His defense attorney advocated for a lenient sentence because his client had been sexually abused as a child and he had a debilitating addiction to pornography. Although his wife knew her husband was getting treatment for an "adult pornography addiction," the sexual abuse of their daughters came as an "absolute shock" to her.

Help us expose the harmful consequences of pornography. Visit the Christian Action League of Minnesota's website at calofmn.com and request our action steps for White Ribbon Against Pornography Week, which begins the last Sunday in October.

Ann Redding, President Christian Action League of Minnesota

#### Who made America great?

Trump demeaned McCain's capture as non-heroic. McCain was downed in battle during the Vietnam War and barely survived with serious injuries. He endured five years of abuse and torture as a POW, refusing early release prior to his comrades. McCain was captured defending his beloved country. Trump dodged the draft with deferments, avoiding military service. Now, who's the hero and how has Trump made America great again?

Tom Birbilis Highland Park

#### Mauer is a lot like Ernie Banks

Ernie Banks and Joe Mauer—I can't help but see the parallels between these two great baseball players.

Ernie played nine stellar years at shortstop and third base for the Chicago Cubs before a knee injury moved him to first base. Joe played 10 stellar seasons at catcher before injuries moved him to first base. Also, like Joe, Ernie played on teams that never made it to the World Series. Ernie won two MVP awards, while Joe won three batting titles. And like Joe, Ernie was an exemplary person on and off the field.

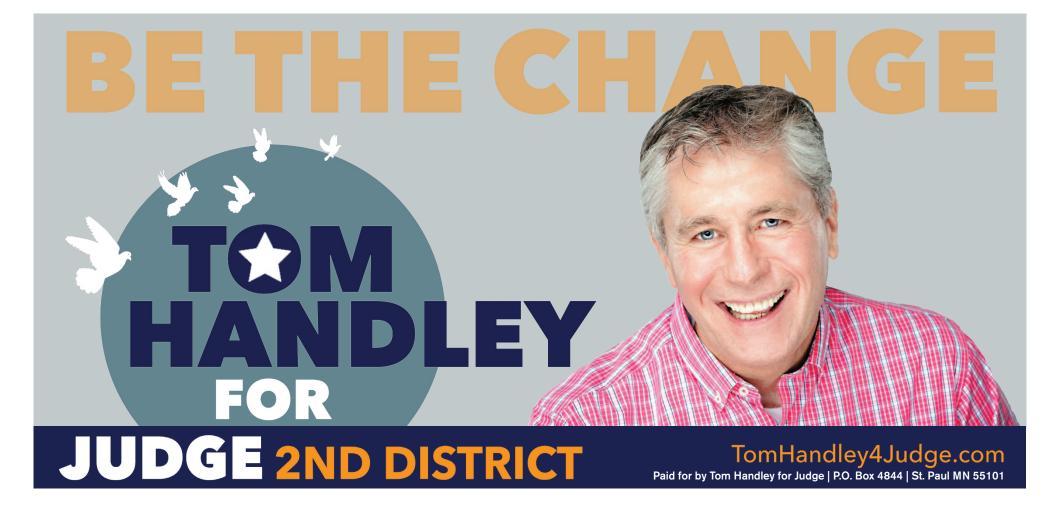
I watched Ernie during my childhood in the 1960s and hear an echo about Joe from the children of today. Ernie retired at age 40 and was productive right to the end.

Steven Hubbell Downtown St. Paul

#### **Today in history**

I can imagine how future historians will regard the America of the late 20th century. They will note that, under the mistaken belief that business and national interests were identical, governments of this period increasingly began to represent and not buffer private interests. They will note that on numerous occasions America went to war to stabilize other nations for the efficient practice of free enterprise. Finally, they will note that highly successful traders in moodinvoking imagery helped create a greatly increased demand for material possessions. The rise in personal consumption led to financial windfalls and the most ruthlessly shortsighted and effective attack on earth's ability to sustain life ever orchestrated by man.

Paul Peter Paulos Macalester-Groveland





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# **District Council News**

#### **Highland Park**

highlanddistrictcouncil.org • 651-695-4005

Ford site meeting—Ryan Companies will hold its next meeting regarding plans for redeveloping the former Ford plant site from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, September 26, in the auditorium of Highland Park Middle School, 975 S. Snelling Ave.

Fall cleanup—The citywide drop-off event sponsored by the Highland and Macalester-Groveland community councils will be held from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, September 29, on Shepard Road between Alton and Davern streets. Car seats will be accepted for recycling and nonperishable food donations will be collected for the Francis Basket Food Shelf. For more, check the HDC's website under "events."

New resident welcome—The HDC will welcome new residents to the neighborhood from 6:30-8 p.m. Friday, October 12, at Tiffany Sports Lounge, 2051 Ford Pkwy.

**Highland 9-Hole revisioning**—A listening session regarding the possible repurposing of the Highland 9-Hole Golf Course for other recreational uses will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. Monday, October 1, at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy.

**Upcoming meetings**—board of directors, 7 p.m. Thursday, October 4; and Transportation Committee, 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 9. Both meetings will be held at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy.

#### **Macalester-Groveland**

macgrove.org • 651-695-4000

Citywide cleanup—The Macalester-Groveland and Highland Park district councils are cosponsoring a citywide fall cleanup from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, September 29, on Shepard Road between Alton and Davern streets. The cost is \$10-\$30 depending on vehicle size. New this year is a chance to drop off car seats for recycling. People also are being asked to bring donations for the Francis Basket Food Shelf. Contact mgcc@macgrove.org to learn more.

Neighbors meeting neighbors—A neighborhood potluck supper will be held from 4-6 p.m. Sunday, September 30, in the Weyerhaeuser board room at Macalester College. Those who

attend are being asked to bring a dish to share.

**Read Brave St. Paul**—Launching this fall, Read Brave St. Paul is a citywide reading program set around a common theme relevant to the city. To learn more, attend the Macalester-Groveland Community Building Committee meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, October 8, at the Edgcumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St.

**Upcoming meetings**—Housing and Land Use Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 26, Groveland Recreation Center; Community Building Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, October 8; and Environment Committee, 7 p.m. Thursday, October 18. The meetings will be held at the Edgcumbe Recreation Center unless otherwise noted.

#### **Union Park**

unionparkdc.org • 651-645-6887

Annual meeting—The Union Park District Council will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, October 25, in Otto Hall at Episcopal Homes, 1860 University Ave. The meeting will begin with a social hour at 5:30 p.m. and will continue with presentations at 6:30 p.m. There will be a forum on police-community relations and an election for seats on the district council's board of directors. All Union Park neighbors and business owners are invited to attend.

**Upcoming meetings**—Transportation Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, October 8, 1821 University Ave.; Committee on Land Use and Economic Development, 6:30 p.m. Monday, October 15, location to be determined; and Environment and Parks Committee, 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 17, Merriam Park Recreation Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave.

**Stay in touch**—The public is invited to "like" the Union Park District Council on Facebook, follow it on Twitter at @ UnionParkDC and subscribe to its e-newsletter, "Neighborhood Matters," by emailing alexa@unionparkdc.org.

#### **Summit Hill**

summithillassociation.org • 651-222-1222

**Summit Hill House Tour**—The Summit Hill Association will hold its biennial Summit Hill House Tour from noon-6 p.m. Sunday, September 30. New for this year's tour are a

limited number of VIP tickets for \$100 each, which include brunch at Dixie's on Grand, free reserved parking during the tour and admittance to the houses one hour before the tour officially opens. (The SHA is offering \$20 off VIP tickets for *Villager* readers using the promo code: VIPDISCOUNT.) Regular tickets cost \$30 in advance and can be ordered online or purchased at Kowalski's Market. Any remaining tickets will be available on the day of the tour for \$35. For information, visit summithillassociation.org/2018-house-tour.

Annual meeting—The annual meeting and elections for the SHA's board of directors will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, October 11, at Dixie's on Grand, 695 Grand Ave. The election is being held to fill 10 open seats on the board. All property owners, business owners and renters are eligible to run. Applications are due by October 3. Attendees will be able to help choose who will fill the open seats. They also can meet current board members and find out more about volunteering with the SHA. For information on running for the board, visit summithillassociation.org/become-a-board-member.

#### West 7th

fortroadfederation.org • 651-298-5599

Board update—At its September 10 board meeting, the West Seventh/Fort Road Federation heard a presentation about Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, which works to connect veterans with supportive public services. The board also voted to support a request to keep a curb cut at 490 Jefferson Ave. after the property lines are changed. Liz Hixson with the St. Paul Department of Parks and Recreation also gave a presentation about the Crosby Farm Regional Park master planning process. A survey about Crosby and Hidden Falls parks can be found at surveymonkey.com/r/KLPNN2R. The board's next meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, October 8, at the federation's office, 974 W. Seventh St.

**West Seventh's future**—Those who live, work or own property in the West Seventh neighborhood are invited to take a short survey at surveymonkey.com/r/NT38DRY to help the federation plan for the neighborhood's future.

**Stay in touch**—Neighbors are invited to "like" the West Seventh/Fort Road Federation on its Facebook page and subscribe to its e-newsletter on its website.



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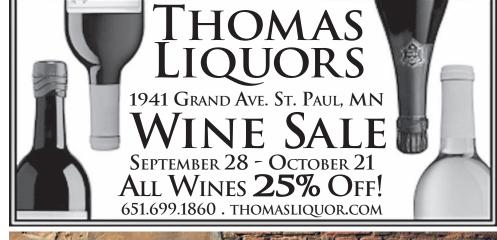
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Yankel Friedman, 4, and Eli Grossbaum, 4, take a run down the double slide side by side while Levi Goldberg, 3, awaits his turn. The colorful attraction is just part of the expansive new Unity Playground on the grounds of the Lubavitch Cheder Day School on Ford Parkway.

# Religious Notes

St. Paul's United Church of Christ, 900 Summit Ave., will offer the following: One Bahá'ís Journey of Faith, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday September 26; Short Stories by Jesus: Lost Sheep, Lost Coin, Lost Son, an interpretation of Christ's parables by Jewish New Testament scholar Amy-Jill Levine, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday October 3; Transition Towns, a presentation by Leslie MacKenzie on the grassroots movement to reduce carbon emissions, 12:15-1:15 p.m. Sunday October 7; and Short Stories by Jesus: The Good Samaritan, an interpretation of Christ's parables by Amy-Jill Levine, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 10. For information, call 651-224-5809.

The Christian Science Reading Room opened in mid-September at 758 S. Cleveland Ave. The library offers a place in which to explore spiritual concepts based on the Bible and the writings of Mary Baker Eddy. It will be open from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on weekdays and until 6 p.m. on Thursdays. An open house will be held from noon-3 p.m. Sunday, September 30.

Christ Church Lutheran, 3244 34th Ave. S., Minneapolis, will present a free recital to dedicate its new organ at 7 p.m. Sunday, September 30. The recital will be performed by internationally acclaimed organist Martin Jean and will be followed by a reception. The new organ has 29 ranks distributed over 24 stops, totaling 1,730 pipes. The console echoes design elements from the interior of the sanctuary, which was designed by Eliel Saarinen in 1949. Christ Church Lutheran was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 2009. For information, visit christchurchluth.org or call 612-721-6611.

The new documentary film Sexual Revolution: Fifty Years Since Humane Vitae will be shown by the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis on Saturday, October 2, in the gymnasium of St. Mark's School, Marshall and Prior avenues. The doors will open at 6 p.m. The film will begin at 6:30, and a question-and-answer session will follow. Admission is by donation with \$5 suggested.

The Book of Ephesians and what it means to be an adopted son or daughter of God will be explored in an eight-week Bible study conducted by Jeff Cavins and Ascension Press from 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, October 2 through November 20, in the parish hall at St. Mark's Catholic Church, 2001 Dayton Ave. The cost is \$22, which includes the workbook. Register online at stmark.xyz/BIBLE or call the parish center at 651-645-5717.

Fairmount Avenue United Methodist Church, 1523 Fairmount Ave., will hold a fundraiser for Puerto Rico disaster relief on Thursday, October 4. A potluck supper will be served at 6 p.m. Lyndy Zabel, UMC director of missions, will tell of his trip to Puerto Rico in August. Donations will be accepted after the program. For information, call 651-699-1335.

The Cathedral of St. Paul's seventh Festival of Lights gala will be held on Thursday, October 4, at the Cathedral, 239 Selby Ave. Emceed by KSTP-TV anchor Tom Hauser, the event will open at 6 p.m. with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in the narthex and tours in the main church. A live presentation and unveiling will follow at 7 p.m. An elegant dinner catered by the St. Paul Hotel will be served at 7:30 in a tent across Selby Avenue. A live auction will begin at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$175. Proceeds will go to the restoration of the Cathedral's stained-glass windows. To register, visit cathedralheritagefoundation.org.

A Blessing of the Animals service will take place at 5 p.m. Sunday, October 7, in the garden at St. John's Episcopal Church, Holly Avenue and Kent Street. The public is invited to bring their pets for a service and blessing in honor of St. Francis. A reception with treats for animals and humans will follow.

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The dining room and open kitchen at the new Hyacinth, 790 Grand Ave.

PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

# Dine at Grand Avenue's new Hyacinth: It just makes sense

verything about Hyacinth is sensible. The new Southern Italian/Mediterranean restaurant at 790 Grand Ave. is open from 5-10 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, a schedule that must make for a sensible work week for its staff. The decor exudes simplicity, from the nearly bare white walls and white tin ceiling to the hardwood floors and open kitchen. And the large front windows provided sufficient natural light for me to be able to read the menu without resorting to my cheaters.

Speaking of the menu, it's one page long. And the dishes, although artfully arranged, are reasonably proportioned. In other words, they fill you up without leaving you stuffed.

One final note on sensibility: The gratuity is included in the price of a meal. Without getting into a long debate over the pros and cons of tipping, I'll admit that at the end of a leisurely meal I'm only too happy not to have to figure out what 18 percent of the bill is—even if I remembered to bring my cellphone and can find the calculator function.

This splendidly sensible restaurant is the brainchild of native Minnesotans Paul Baker and Rikki Gaimbruno. Gaimbruno grew up on Hyacinth Avenue in Victoria, which is just west of Chanhassen. They met while working at a pizza and pasta place in Brooklyn.

The partners took over the former space of Golden Fig Fine Foods, which moved into larger quarters next door. They installed an eight-seat bar and enough tables and chairs to seat another 30 diners. The dining room is long and narrow, which keeps the servers on their toes as they perform innumerable *pas de deux* between the prep counter and the tables.

I'm not very good at planning ahead for my restaurant reviews, so I took it as a sign when my wife Mecca informed me that she'd be meeting a friend on Grand Avenue for a business date. I suggested we turn it into a social event by taking in the scene at Hyacinth, which opened on August 14.

With no reservations, we arrived about 4:50 p.m. on a Wednesday, hoping to at least secure three of the bar seats, which are first-come, first-served. Much to my surprise, a foursome was already waiting outside Hyacinth. Within 10 minutes, another seven patrons showed up, meaning we might be out of luck in snagging a bar seat, since our party was hanging back a bit and the others weren't afraid to crowd around the door. Fortunately, two of the parties had reservations, and Mecca, her friend Jeanne and I were able to get a table.

Mecca and Jeanne ordered wine. Mecca went with a full glass of pinot grigio (\$12), and Jeanne sampled the Plavina, a Croatian wine, before settling on the Negroamaro (\$12 for a full glass), a wine that is bottled across the Adriatic from Croatia in the Puglia region of Italy

Devotees of the local farmers' markets, Gaimbruno and Baker have put together a seasonal menu heavily influenced by the fresh



Hot Dish

By Morgan

Smith

produce available in the region. For that reason, menu items may not stick around for very long. For example, Jeanne chose as her entrée the Roasted Eggplant (\$12). As far as I can tell, that particular dish is no longer on the menu. The two slices of eggplant had the "texture of a pâté," according to Jeanne. They sat on crostini and were covered in Parmesan. She enjoyed it very much.

Mecca tried a half portion of the Linguine (\$16, \$24 for a full portion) with mussels, cherry tomatoes and bread crumbs. When the dish came out, she was surprised to find that the mussels weren't in shells. Although she thought the noodles were too al dente, I thought the pasta was practically perfect and the sauce was subtle but nice. I wouldn't hesitate to order it, except I'm not a big fan of mussels.

I decided to go with the Roasted Pork (\$24). I wasn't enamored with the cut of meat (a little too fatty for my taste), but I liked the garnish of grilled peppers. I also ordered a side of Fried Potatoes (\$8). This dish isn't your typical truck stop fare, but nicely crisped whole baby potatoes that come with an herbed mayonnaise dipping sauce.

The entrée that appeared to be the most popular while we waited for our food was the Spice Glazed Hen (\$26) with heirloom tomatoes. The woman sitting to my left assured me the golden chicken tasted as good as it looked.

The couple on my right praised the Water-melon Salad (\$14), an interesting-sounding concoction of cherry tomatoes, grilled peppers, hazelnuts and ricotta salata. I'm not sure I'd ever order it, but the couple were very enthusiastic.

The other dish that made me rethink my order was the Roasted Prawns (\$26). Apparently, chef Baker frequents the St. Paul Farmers' Market where he loads up on sweet corn, one of the main ingredients in the dish. The four prawns are pan-seared, and the corn serves as a salsa bed for the shellfish with the addition of grilled peppers, onion, vinegar and garlic sauce.

For dessert, we tried the Siringate (\$8), a churro-like Italian sweet that is formed in the shape of a rosette at Hyacinth. Though the dough was a bit undercooked, I really enjoyed the honey lemon curd sauce.

When next I dine at Hyacinth, I'm going to have trouble choosing between the Roasted Prawns and the Spice Glazed Chicken. I better not wait too long for that return engagement, or the decision is going to be made for me: The sweet corn may no longer be in season.

#### **SPONSORED CONTENT**

#### Castle Building & Remodeling

#### The making of the Metcalfe Castle

Ccording to Josh Metcalfe, his wife Emily says if he sees a "for sale" sign on anything, he gets ideas. "I start imagining what could be," he said. "I think it's just my natural tendency."

The Metcalfe family was living on Hague Avenue near Lexington Parkway in St. Paul when the 100-year-old former duplex at 1559 Summit Ave., with its half-acre lot, went on the market. The Metcalfes went beyond imagining. They bought it in January 2017.

Emily and Josh have a growing family—four children ages 14 to 3. "We needed a little more yard space," explained Metcalfe. "Especially for our son who is becoming a lot more interested in sports."

handful of design options. "I liked getting all of the details right in the design phase, everything laid out in all of the documents that you can see ahead of time," Metcalfe said. "One of the things that I liked about Castle—and they promote it on their website—is how diligent they are on the front end."

That's the Castle guarantee – Upfront Pricing, Completion Date, and Lifetime Warranty. The company's philosophy is to do things right the first time. If there's any problem with the workmanship, it will be fixed.

In the end, the Castle crew, led by Travis Hansen, production manager, and John



Before moving into the house in November 2017, the place needed some remodeling. "There were still remnants of its prior life as a duplex," Josh Metcalfe said. The couple wanted the house to be a modern, functional and spacious single-family home.

The Metcalfes didn't have to look long or far for help. They had spotted the purple awning on the Castle Building & Remodeling showroom at Jefferson and Snelling avenues, one of four Twin Cities neighborhood satellites of the company's Minneapolis headquarters.

"It was good to have somebody with a local presence," Metcalfe said. "We had actually interacted with Castle several years ago. We had a house in Falcon Heights and we were thinking about a kitchen project."

After getting bids from Castle and a few other contractors, the Metcalfes ultimately decided against doing that kitchen remodel, but they were impressed with how Castle compared to other contractors and the level and variety of services Castle offers.

With that experience, the Metcalfes confidently chose Castle for their 1559 Summit Ave. project. They worked with interior designer and remodeling design pro Ashley Hansen. "Our first meeting was at their home on Hague," Hansen said. "Josh and Emily gave us a complete tour of that house to get a sense of the family's likes and needs."

Hansen and the Metcalfes then toured the Summit Avenue house. "They had a vision for 1559 Summit," Hansen said. "I took that vision and did my best to make it a reality. They also had a Pinterest page; that was very helpful."

Hansen and her team used a computer-aided design system to devise a

Schirber, carpenter, worked on the lion's share of the renovation, including a complete kitchen remodel, four bathroom remodels, a laundry room, and a few exterior projects. Metcalfe is completing some jobs himself, like painting the trim.

"There are decisions I've made that I might have done differently," said Metcalfe, chuckling. "We'd taken a lot of the trim work out. I should have spent more time working on repairing and painting the trim while it was off the wall before putting it back. It's not totally done yet."

The family is now thinking about more projects: the basement, the yard, a carriage house, alley access and new windows. All in due time.

In the meantime, 1559 Summit Ave. will be featured in the Castle Home Tour: The Educational Remodeling Tour, from noon to 5 p.m. on September 29-30. The tour of 19 homes is a chance to learn about every-day remodeling projects. The goal is to help homeowners make good remodeling decisions that are also good investments.

The Castle Building & Remodeling website at www.castlebri.com is another great resource. The site includes details about the Castle design and construction process, the company guarantee, and the skilled Castle staff. Go online to check out the Portfolio section to learn about several of their projects, and view videos posted in the Education Center.

Then, start imagining.

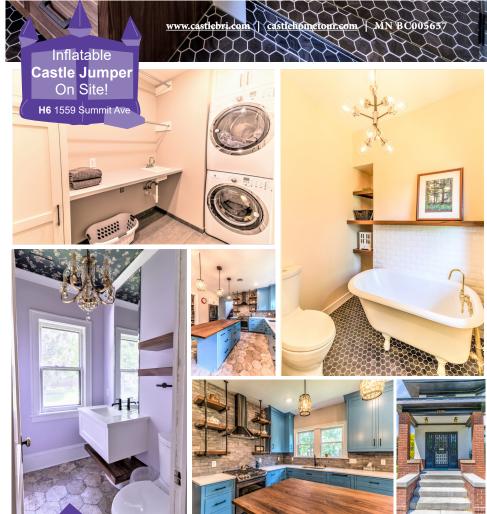
#### **Castle Building & Remodeling**

The Educational Remodeling Tour 362 S. Snelling Ave., St. Paul 651-699-4164 castlehometour.com



Designer: Ashley Hansen | Project Type: Whole-House | Home Style: Tudor | Project Style: Transitional | Project Duration: 21 Weeks





ENERGY THE WOODSHOP OF KOHLER



# Home Improvement

# Curb appeal plus

# Grand gem is classic example of what makes Summit Hill House Tour special

By Dave Page

Shifting family dynamics drew Sue and Brad Hewitt to St. Paul from the western suburbs of Minneapolis three years ago. Subsequent changes in their immediate family's circumstances are now sending them back. However, before they leave they plan to

open their 9,500-square-foot home at 489 Grand Hill for several fundraisers, including the 2018 Summit Hill House Tour from noon-6 p.m. Sunday, September 30.

The architectural plans for their Tudor Revivalstyle home were drafted in 1925 for Carl Schuneman, owner of Schuneman's Department Store, by a firm associated with Allen Stem.

Stem designed Grand Central Station in New York City, but maintained an office in St. Paul. By the time Schuneman's house was constructed, Stem had retired, but the firms with which he worked continued to churn out designs with his name.

Among them was the Schuneman house, which was built to last. A skin of 10-inch-thick limestone covers a frame of steel I-beams. The structure is topped with slabs of slate weighing about 25 pounds each.

According to Sue Hewitt, the home has gone through just a handful of owners during its 93-year history.

"The Schunemans occupied the home until 1946 when the family of Lincoln Harris moved in," she said. "The Harrises remained until 1994. At that point, I was told, an opera

singer lived here."

Local developer Ed Conley bought the house in 2014 and worked on it for a year before selling it to the Hewitts.

"Ed did a beautiful job of transforming the house," Sue said, "but what really attracted us to it was how much natural light comes in. So many of the other homes we looked at in the

neighborhood were very dark."
The house has six bedrooms, seven bathrooms, five fireplaces, a wine cellar and an in-law or nanny suite. Those who tour the home should not forget to look up. Many of Sue's favorite features in the house require visitors to tilt their heads.

Immediately inside the front door hangs one of the bells Conley had made in England by the same person who created the bells for

"Downton Abbey." Similar bells grace a wall in one of the upstairs bedrooms and can be used to summon someone to any of five locations throughout the house.

A little farther into the entry, guests can peer up through the spectacular three-story staircase. The stairs provide one clue about the location of the home's ballroom. It is unlikely such a grand stairway would have existed if the third-floor housed only servants' quarters. However, there does not seem to be clear evidence of a room or combination of rooms on the upper floor that could have formed a space large enough to be a ballroom.

However, there is a large space in the basement with a curved ceiling that might have

SUMMIT HILL HOUSE TOUR ▶18



Parts of four levels of the 9,500-square-foot home at 489 Grand Hill will be open for public viewing during the 2018 Summit Hill House Tour on Sunday, September 30. At right is the home's large wine cellar with space for about 400 bottles. The inset photo at left shows the view of a chandelier looking up from the home's grand staircase.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NORTON REALTY
AND SPACECRAFTING.



# Biennial tour opens door to neighborhood's historic homes Sept. 30

The private homes and public spaces on the 2018 Summit Hill House Tour on September 30 include the following:

#### The Homes

- 16 Benhill Road (1923 Tudor Revival). This picturesque cottage was the longtime residence of an executive with First National Bank of St. Paul. A later addition expanded the kitchen, created a sunroom and an expansive deck. The current owners are collectors of Asian textiles and artwork, which are displayed throughout the home.
- 125 S. Oxford St. (1911 Colonial Revival). The owners of this storybook home have lived there for nearly 30 years. The home features an Arts & Crafts fireplace. Another highlight is a pilot boat from the old Children's Museum that now sits in the basement for their grandchildren to enjoy.
- 432 Summit Ave. (1862 Italianate Villa). The Burbank-Livingston-Griggs mansion is among the most historically significant and splendid homes in Minnesota. It features an exquisite entrance, an English Renaissance "stone room" overlooking the garden, and antique wall coverings and artwork.
- 495 Summit Ave. (1881 Queen Anne). One of the oldest homes on Summit and the

first of the new Queen Anne-style featuring an asymmetrical facade, dominant frontfacing gable and distinctive tower. The home includes a carved foyer and staircase, leaded glass windows and inlaid wooden floors.

- 539 Holly Ave. (1882 Queen Anne). The current owners discovered rows of handpainted advertising signs from the 1870s while remodeling and preserved some of them on the walls of their residence. A seamless addition features a new kitchen and open staircase to the second floor, along with a new master bedroom and bath.
- 599 Summit Ave. (1889 Richardsonian Romanesque). Designed by William Willcox and Clarence Johnston and designated as a National Historic Landmark, the New Yorkstyle Summit Terrace rowhouse is where F. Scott Fitzgerald lived and wrote his first novel, *This Side of Paradise*, in 1919.
- 692 Summit Ave. (1912 Craftsman/ American Foursquare). A home on the first Summit Hill House Tour in 1978 will be open once again. Back then it was noted for its oak woodwork and furniture, and marble-topped dining table and kitchen counters. The owners have made several modifications since then, including an expansive porch and space for a walkout lower-level apartment.

- 725 Goodrich Ave. (1900 Neoclassical Colonial Revival). This house was designed by Clarence Johnston and was one of his last towered houses. The original owner was a prominent businessman for Armour & Co. who was arrested for violating a new state law that prohibited the sale of oleomargarine. David Heide Design Studio restored and expanded the home.
- 796 Fairmount Ave. (1892 Victorian). This home, with its classical front porch added in the 1900s, was built by an attorney who emigrated from Norway. The foyer opens to a living room with a carved poem below the mantel. The home features period interior design with modern amenities.
- 845 Osceola Ave. (1908 American Foursquare). This home features creative redesign of its interior spaces by David Heide Design, including a small addition to create a large kitchen, with millwork and cabinetry that match historic elements of the home. A new rear entry connects the kitchen to a family room
- 489 Grand Hill (1925 Tudor Revival). This "Tuxedo New York" stone home was designed for a descendant of the Schuneman family, whose department store operated in downtown from 1888 until its merger with Dayton's

- in 1958. It also was once home to a celebrated voice teacher. The residence was recently restored with 21st-century technology.
- 1142 Summit Ave. (1912 Georgian Revival Colonial). The current owners are restoring the historic home, beginning with a newly completed third floor "writer's suite" for their aunt. The classic grand entry opens to the original dining room and expansive living room where the family hosts monthly neighborhood dance parties.

#### The Public Spaces

Also on the tour will be the Summit Center for Arts and Innovation in the former St. Paul's on the Hill Episcopal Church, 1524 Summit Ave., which will also be the site of the tour's volunteer after-party; the James J. Hill House at 240 Summit Ave.; St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 1079 Summit Ave.; Dixie's on Grand, 695 Grand Ave., where brunch will be held for VIP ticket holders; the Lexington Restaurant, 1096 Grand Ave., which will have complimentary snacks, a cash bar and restrooms available for tour guests; and the University Club, 420 Summit Ave., which will provide a cash bar along with complimentary ice water and restrooms for tour guests.

# Need a fix? Handypersons it turns out are not always at hand

By Janet Lunder Hanafin

re you flummoxed by a leaky faucet, a sticky storm door, loose gutters, rotten boards on the backyard deck or a couple of cracked bathroom tiles?

Home repairs can be a pain in the neck. One fellow who does it all, and gets paid for it, maintains that fixing stuff around the house is "basic common sense." However, those little, and not so little, projects require the right tools, a bit of know-how, some muscle possibly—and time.

An Internet search can show just about anybody how to fix a running toilet or a broken window sash, but not all of us have the inclination or patience to take on those jobs ourselves. That's where a good handyman or handywoman can come to the rescue.

A handyperson, according to the dictionary, is one who is competent in a wide variety of maintenance or repair skills. While many of the handymen contacted for this story (no handywomen seem to be in the business locally) can do a bit of just about everything, some specialize in certain tasks and others are able and willing to tackle big jobs such as building a deck, remodeling a small bathroom or finishing a basement.

New products and tools appear on the market all the time. A good handyperson will know what's available to get the results you want, and can save you lots of time wandering through a hardware store looking for some gizmo you can't name.

Jerry O'Neill, who advertises as Handyman from A to Z, has been in the business for more than 30 years and does everything from carpentry to tuck-pointing to landscaping. For his regular customers, he'll handle emergencies and toss in five-minute jobs like changing hard-to-reach light bulbs. But he also knows



Ross Jackson of Jackson's Handyman Service chisels sections of a window he was repairing for a Macalester-Groveland homeowner. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

his limitations, and if a job is beyond his capacities he advises his clients to hire a specialist such as a plumber or electrician. He is also very busy these days.

Ross Jackson of Jackson's Handyman Services works his home repair schedule around his other job as a substitute teacher and tries not to schedule himself too far in advance. "Every house is a little different, so you go into it with a puzzle solver's mind and see if you can make it work," he said. "All the details that make the house run nicely—that's what I like to do."

Jackson loves to work with wood, so he re-

pairs lots of decks and fences and also fixes rotten wood around windows and doors. Inside he can change light fixtures, install hand rails on stairways and grab bars in bathrooms, and assemble furniture. He doesn't do masonry, landscaping, gardening or cleaning out garages.

Jackson also specializes in work for seniors. "They can give me ideas because often they have done the work in the past and I'm happy to listen to them," he said. "I like the collaborative aspect."

As homeowners age, finding a good handyperson may be the key to staying in the

family home. In your youth, you might have hopped up a ladder to change the batteries of a smoke detector or to hang a heavy picture on the wall, but stiff joints and deteriorating eyesight are invitations to a dreadful fall. Some handymen are happy to do those little tasks for their regular customers.

Castle Building and Remodeling advertises handyman services. However, according to owner and operations manager Aaron Johnson, the company has temporarily suspended the service because skilled labor is difficult to find and all of its workers are busy with remodeling projects.

A half-dozen handymen advertise their services in the *Villager*, but calls to local hardware stores asking for referrals underscored how hard they are to find. People looking for handyman services often find that they're booked at least six months out.

Handymen who were contacted charge between \$20 and \$100 per hour, with those who have many years of experience and a wide variety of skills at the top end of the scale. A few charge by the job.

Should you find a person to work for you, be specific about how and when you want your job done. Both you and the worker should have a chance to ask questions and agree on what is included in the price you'll pay.

Handypersons do not have to be licensed unless they're doing work for which a permit is needed, such as installing new windows, building a deck or putting on siding. However, they should have their own insurance. Some are rated by the Better Business Bureau or Angie's List. If you're hiring someone for the first time, ask for references and check them

In a city with both aging housing stock and aging homeowners, handypersons have become worth their weight in galvanized nails.

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## Local home remodeling projects part of fall showcase Sept. 28-30

The 2018 Parade of Homes Fall Remodelers Showcase will run from noon-6 p.m. Friday through Sunday, September 28-30. There will be 55 remodeled homes open to the public for selfguided tours this year. Local homes on the tour include the following:

#### St. Paul

- 360 Summit Ave. Organic Modern meets American Classic in this 1870s carriage house transformation. By blending the materials used during the original construction with new concepts and designs, Renaissance Builders was able to create a unique space. What this carriage house lacks in size, it makes up for in boldness and detail, from the timber frame pergola overlooking downtown St. Paul to the custom-built light valence arching over the floating walnut staircase.
- 2002 Norfolk Ave. College City Design/ Build created a Modern Farmhouse vibe for this Highland Park home by opening up the kitchen, mud room, living and dining areas to brighten the spaces and maximize connectivity. There is a new bathroom as well. Featured finishes include wood-look vinyl plank flooring, a statement tile ceramic backsplash, floating shelves, mixed finish cabinets and

clever storage solutions.

#### Mendota Heights

- 1852 South Lane. This main-floor transformation by the Finished Basement Company features an open-concept kitchen with large island, custom wine bar, powder bath, expansive living space and 350-square-foot addition with a modern linear fireplace and floor-to-ceiling windows. The reconfigured spaces now offer exceptional flow for entertaining and showcase the blend of both traditional and contemporary elements.
- 1580 Boardwalk Court. McDonald Remodeling removed one small wall, kept the existing wood flooring and delivered on a new cabinet layout that gives this 1980s twostory home a kitchen that will exceed the needs of this family for years to come. New sight lines, enameled finishes, stone countertops, lighting and improved work spaces are all highlights for this remodel.

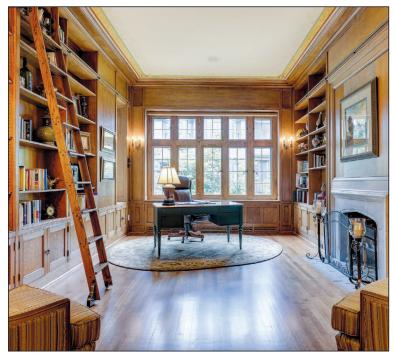
Admission to the Remodelers Showcase is free, with the exception of two Dream Homes where a \$5 fee is requested to support the work of the Builders Association of the Twin Cities Foundation. Tour guidebooks are available at Holiday Stations. For more information, visit paradeofhomes.org.



The openconcept remodeled kitchens at 2002 Norfolk Ave. in Highland Park (top) and 1852 South Lane in Mendota Heights (right).

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE PARADE





that was especially made to roll around the room.

#### 16◀ SUMMIT HILL HOUSE TOUR

served as a ballroom, the Hewitts were told. They currently use it as a billiard room.

Light from two large bay windows brightens the home's main living area. "The ceiling in this room is one of my favorite parts of the house," Sue said, referring to the geometric pattern of carvings.

A unique addition to the room is what ostensibly was Schuneman's original globe. "I was at a gathering at the University Club," Sue said, "when Robert Riesberg came up to me and said, 'I have your globe."

Riesberg, an antique dealer, was referring to a 3-foot diameter globe that was just one of 40 made, including one for President Dwight Eisenhower. The Hewitts purchased the globe from Riesberg and placed it in their living room.

The library demands that eyes travel up the ladder that can roll around the room. "Apparently the railing was still there but the ladder was missing when Ed purchased the house," Sue said. "He had this one specially made."

In the dining room, she is particularly taken with the crown molding. "It's just amazing," Sue said. She also pointed to the chandeliers that came from the Governor's Residence.

The kitchen includes one of the few changes the Hewitts made when they bought the house. "Ed had put in an oak hutch," Sue said, "but we wanted a beverage center."

The Hewitts installed a beverage cooler, an ice maker and another dishwasher in the space occupied by the hutch, which was relocated to the basement. It is now part of a large wine room with space for around 400

The remainder of the enormous kitchen includes a breakfast area, a massive vent hood, a large walnut island and a GE stove with a griddle, grill and pot filler.

"We're really going to miss the house and the neighborhood," Sue said.

A limited number of VIP tickets are available during this year's tour for \$100 each, which include brunch at Dixie's on Grand, free reserved parking and admittance to the houses one hour before the tour opens. (A \$20 discount is being offered on VIP tickets for Villager readers using the code: VIPDISCOUNT.)

Regular tickets cost \$30 in advance and can be ordered online or at Kowalski's Market. Any remaining tickets will be available on the day of the tour for \$35 at St. Thomas More Church and Mitchell Hamline School of Law. Visit summithillassociation.org/2018-house-tour.



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# Crime Report

The following crime incidents were compiled from St. Paul and Mendota Heights police department reports and other sources.

#### **Highland Park**

Robbery—A robbery at gunpoint was reported at 10:12 p.m. Tuesday, September 11, on Juno and Hamline avenues.

**Burglary**—A home was broken into on the 2100 block of Scheffer Avenue between 4:27-5:22 p.m. Tuesday, September 4.

Theft—The AT&T Store, 2132 Ford Pkwy., was robbed of more than \$1,000 in merchandise at 1:50 p.m. Saturday, September 1.

-A purse was stolen from a vehicle at Hidden Falls Park between 1:30-4:30 p.m. Saturday, September 1.

-A stolen vehicle was reported on the 1500 block of Highland Parkway at 5:29 p.m. Tuesday, September 4.

-A wallet was stolen from the office at Menchie's, 750 S. Cleveland Ave., between 1:30-3:29 p.m. Tuesday, September 4.

—Cash and credit cards were stolen from a purse at Panera, 2056 Ford Pkwy., around 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 4.

-A construction trailer was stolen on Springfield Street and Youngman Avenue during the evening of September 10-11.

#### Lexington-Hamline

Burglary—Several tools were stolen from a garage on the 1200 block of Laurel Avenue between September 3-4.

Theft—A vehicle was stolen on the 1100 block of Laurel Avenue on September 2-3.

 A 37-year-old woman was arrested for trying to steal more than \$1,000 in merchandise from the Midway Target at 4:41 p.m. Tuesday, September 4. A 14-year-old girl also was arrested for trying to steal more than \$1,000 in merchandise from the store the following evening.

Weapons—Police arrested a 39-year-old man with a machete for threats of violence at 8:32 p.m. Sunday, September 9, on Lexington Parkway and University Avenue.

#### <u>Macalester-Groveland</u>

Burglary—A purse, cellphone and iPad were stolen from a residence on the 1900 block of Goodrich Avenue between 6:30-8:30 a.m. Monday, September 3.

—Tools and fishing equipment were stolen from a garage on the 1400 block of Juliet Avenue during the evening of September 9-10.

Theft—A backpack, laptop computer and binoculars were reported stolen from a vehicle on Brimhall Street and Randolph Avenue at 9:46 p.m. Monday, September 3.

-A laptop computer was stolen from a vehicle on the 2000 block of Juliet Avenue during the evening of September 3-4.

-A backpack, iPad, camera and other items were stolen from a vehicle on Mississippi River Boulevard and Summit Avenue between 11:30-11:50 a.m. Tuesday, September 4.

-Vehicles were reported broken into outside the Green Mill, 57 S. Hamline Ave., at 10:47 p.m. Thursday, September 6.

-A vehicle was stolen on the 1200 block of St. Clair Avenue during the night of September 6-7.

#### <u>Mendota Heights</u>

Theft—A purse was reported stolen from a vehicle on the 1300 block of Highway 13 at 4:21 a.m. Saturday, September 1. Two thefts from vehicles also were reported on that block at 8:35 a.m. Saturday, September 8.

-A wallet was stolen from an office on the 1200 block of Northland Drive on Monday, September 10. An arrest in the case was made by St. Paul police.

Miscellaneous—After making an illegal Uturn and temporarily blacking out, the driver of a vehicle was arrested at 3:02 a.m. Monday,

#### **Summit-U robbery ends** in fatal shooting of teen

n attempted robbery during a marijuana deal ended with Wilbert Harris-McCalister, 19, of St. Paul lying dead at 9 a.m. Friday, September 7, on Carroll Avenue and Avon Street.

Jayvon Andrew Malone, 17, of Forest Lake was facing charges of attempted murder, second-degree assault, first-degree aggravated robbery and unlawful possession of a firearm in connection with the case. Kalon Arden Harvey-Brown, 22, of St. Paul was charged with first-degree aggravated robbery and two counts of possession of a firearm by an ineligible person.

According to the criminal complaints, Harris-McCalister remained in the back seat of an Oldsmobile while Harvey-Brown left and got into the vehicle of an alleged marijuana dealer, who was not named. Harvey-Brown stole the dealer's marijuana,

phone, wallet and keys at gunpoint. Then he and Malone, who had exited the Oldsmobile and was now standing outside the vehicle also pointing a gun at the dealer, instructed him to get out and pop the trunk.

Once out of the vehicle and upon reportedly hearing one of the suspects say they should shoot him, the dealer told police he took out his gun and fired at Harvey-Brown, who ducked and turned away. Malone then fired at the dealer, who was now running toward the Oldsmobile. Seeing the passenger door open with Harris-McCalister inside and fearing he was reaching for a gun, the dealer said he fired at him.

Harris-McCalister, who was shot twice,

The Oldsmobile was discovered near a grocery store on the 600 block of Selby Avenue. Police later arrested Malone at an

September 3, on Victoria Road and Lexington Avenue for a revoked license and providing false information to police. A passenger was charged with drug possession.

#### **Merriam Park**

Burglary—A residence was burglarized on the 1600 block of Ashland Avenue at 8:48 p.m. Sunday, September 2.

Theft-Drills, a bandsaw and shop vac were stolen from a vehicle on Wilder Street near Ashland Avenue between September

-A vehicle was stolen on University Avenue and Vandalia Street between September

—A moped was stolen on the 2000 block of Selby Avenue between September 4-5.

-A 33-year-old man was arrested for driving a stolen vehicle after he dropped an employee off at Denny's, 1664 University Ave., at 4:25 a.m. Saturday, September 8.

Sex crime—A 35-year-old man was arrested on three counts of possessing child pornography at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, September 6, on the 1600 block of University Avenue.

Miscellaneous—Police found multiple trees, street signs and a light run over on University Avenue and Herschel Street at 12:25 a.m. Friday, September 7. They followed the trail of car fluid and arrested a 23-year-old women for DUI and leaving the scene of an accident.

#### **Snelling-Hamline**

Robbery-A victim was injured in an attempted robbery near the Midway Walmart at 4 p.m. Saturday, September 1.

Theft—A purse, backpack, MacBook and other items were stolen from a vehicle on the 1400 block of Marshall Avenue at 3:16 p.m. Saturday, September 8.

-The catalytic converter was stolen from a vehicle between September 8-9 on the 1400 block of Iglehart Avenue.

—A vehicle was reported stolen at Walmart at 6:30 p.m. Monday, September 10.

Assault—A 48-year-old woman was cited for assaulting a security guard at McDonald's, 1570 University Ave., at 9:50 a.m. Sunday, September 2.

#### Summit Hill

Burglary—A 30-year-old man was arrested for trying to break into an occupied home on the 400 block of Summit Avenue at 9 p.m. Saturday, September 1.

Theft—A cellphone was stolen at Super-America, 925 Grand Ave., at 11:09 p.m. Saturday, September 1.

-Several items were reported stolen from

got out of the car and collapsed on the street, where he was later pronounced dead. A witness said Malone moved the body away from the front of the car and drove off alone.

address on East Sixth Street.

vehicles outside Billy's on Grand, 857 Grand Ave., at 10:20 p.m. Thursday, September 6.

 —A MacBook, binders and paperwork were stolen from a vehicle at the Linwood Recreation Center, 860 St. Clair Ave., around 3:25 p.m. Friday, September 7.

-A purse was reported stolen at the Victoria Crossing East Mall, 857 Grand Ave., at 5 p.m. Saturday, September 8.

-Merchandise valued at more than \$1,000 was reported stolen from the Sprint Store, 1064 Grand Ave., at 12:15 p.m. Sunday, September 9.

#### **Summit-University**

**Sex crime**—St. Paul has a dozen Level III sex offenders relocating in the city, including Joseph Upsher Jr., 62, on the 600 block of Iglehart Ave., and Jache St. John Ashley, 33, on the 900 block of Carroll Avenue. A community notification meeting about the offenders will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday, September 26, at the Western District Police Station, 389 N. Hamline Ave. Call 651-266-5871.

Robbery—A strong-arm robbery was reported on Chatsworth Street and Ashland Avenue at 4:07 a.m. Sunday, September 2.

–A 56-year-old man was arrested for robbing another man of cash at knifepoint at 4:06 p.m. Tuesday, September 4, on the 200 block of Dayton Avenue.

Theft—A backpack, laptop computer and headphones were stolen from a vehicle on Selby Avenue and Virginia Street during the evening of September 2-3.

-A laptop computer, designer bag, wallet, gold necklace and other items were stolen from a vehicle on the 600 block of Selby Avenue at 10:39 p.m. Monday, September 3.

-Several items were stolen from two vehicles on Ashland Avenue and Dale Street between 6:15-10:15 p.m. Tuesday, September 4.

-Cash was reported stolen from the register at J. Selby's, 169 N. Victoria St., at 10:09 a.m. Wednesday, September 5.

—Several items were reported stolen from vehicles outside the Red Cow, 393 Selby Ave., at 10:47 p.m. Thursday, September 6.

—A MacBook was stolen from a vehicle on the 400 block of Selby Avenue at 9:46 p.m. Saturday, September 8.

—A vehicle was stolen on the 500 block of Portland Avenue between 3:30 a.m.-noon Sunday, September 9.

—Several items were reported stolen from vehicles outside the Happy Gnome, 498 Selby Ave., at 10:59 p.m. Monday, September 10.

—A laptop computer was reported stolen from a vehicle outside Fitzgerald's Restaurant, 173 N. Western Ave., at 1:21 p.m. Monday, September 10.

**Weapons**—A man said he was shot at while driving near Chatsworth Street and Concordia Avenue at 7:50 a.m. Saturday, September 1. Bullet holes were discovered in the vehicle and several shell casings were recovered.

-Between 12-20 gunshots rang out near Carroll Avenue and Avon Street at 10:36 p.m. Tuesday, September 4.

-Multiple shell casings were found at an apartment on the 400 block of St. Anthony Avenue at 11:26 a.m. Friday, September 7. Police said there were no signs of injuries, but it was clear people were shooting from both inside and outside the building.

#### West End

Burglary—House and car keys, a garage remote and a bicycle were reported stolen from a garage on the 300 block of Fulton Street at 10:01 a.m. Monday, September 3.

-Several items were stolen from a residence on the 400 block of Vance Street on September 6-7.

Theft—Vehicles were stolen at the Hampton Inn & Suites, 200 W. Seventh St., on September 1-2, and at Coopers Foods, 633 W. Seventh St., on September 4.

-A handgun was stolen from a residence on the 300 block of St. Clair Avenue during the evening of September 2-3.

-Tools and a car stereo were stolen from a vehicle on the 200 block of Wilkin Street during the evening of September 4-5.

-A 54-year-old man was arrested for felony theft on the 100 block of West Seventh Street at 3:53 p.m. Thursday, September 6.

-A cellphone was reported stolen from a park near the Salvation Army, 401 W. Seventh St., at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, September 6. The phone was tracked to the building, but could not be located.

—The catalytic converter was stolen from a truck on the 300 block of Toronto Street between September 6-9.

—Money and jewelry were reported stolen at the Winslow Apartments, 160 S. Western Ave., at 12:41 p.m. Saturday, September 8.

—Two laptop computers, a hotspot adaptor and backpack were stolen from a vehicle on the 200 block of West Seventh Street between 6-10:27 p.m. Monday, September 10.

Weapons—A suspect tried hitting an employee with his cane and pulled a knife on him when being confronted about trying to steal a soda at McDonald's, 551 Jefferson Ave., at 1:11 p.m. Tuesday, September 4. The suspect fled before police arrived.

# Fire Call

The following local calls were gathered from recent reports by the St. Paul Fire Department and other sources.

**Macalester-Groveland**—A pedestrian was taken to the hospital after being struck by a vehicle on Randolph and Snelling avenues at 6:32 a.m. Tuesday, September 4.

Mendota Heights—A bicyclist was injured in a collision with a motor vehicle at 4:16 p.m. Wednesday, September 5, on Pilot Knob Road and Northland Drive.

Snelling-Hamline-A pedestrian was injured after being struck by a vehicle on Hamline and University avenues at 6:52 p.m. Saturday, September 1.

**Summit Hill**—A 33-year-old woman was cited for failing to drive with care after injuring a pedestrian on Chatsworth Street and Grand Avenue at 4:49 p.m. Wednesday, September 5.

The 2018 Minnesota Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, September 30, on the state Capitol grounds. An interdenominational prayer service will take place at 10:45 a.m., followed at 11:30 a.m. by a reading of all 227 names of Minnesota firefighters who have died in the line of duty.





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# The Kiosk

#### Thursday/September 27

"THE RED WHEELBARROW: An English Major's Trip from Poetry to Psycholinguistics and Back" will be addressed by Macalester College psychology professor R. Brooke Lea in a free program from 4:45-5:45 p.m. in the Lecture Hall of Macalester's Campus Center. Call 651-696-6223.

#### HIGHLAND PARK ELEMENTARY

School, 1700 Saunders Ave., will hold an open house from 5:30-7 p.m. The public is invited to come and tour the newly expanded school building. For more information, call 651-293-8770.

LIFETRACK (formerly the St. Paul Rehabilitation Center) will mark its 70th anniversary with a free celebration from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in Woulfe Alumni Hall in the Anderson Student Center at the University of St. Thomas. Hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar will be featured along with stories from participants and staff about the impact Lifetrack has had in their lives.

#### A CANDIDATES FORUM for

those running for the state House of Representatives in Districts 64A and 64B will be presented by the League of Women Voters from 6:30-8 p.m. at the St. Paul Neighborhood Network, 501 N. Vandalia St. Candidates Patrick J.D. Griffin and Kaohly Her will face off in 64A and Dave Pinto and Alex Pouliot in 64B. Visit lwvsp.org/events.

#### SISTERS SIMONE CAMPBELL and

Mary Ellen Lacy of the Network Lobby for Catholic Social Justice will hold a town hall meeting on tax justice and the 2017 tax law from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Carondelet Center, 1890 Randolph Ave. For reservations, visit bit.ly/2CO5Wsx.

#### Friday/September 28

A HUGE RUMMAGE SALE featuring gently used furniture, housewares, clothing and accessories, games, toys, bicycles, sports gear, books, DVDs, CDs, plants and more will be held from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. today and Saturday and from 9 a.m.-noon Sunday, September 28-30, in the parish hall at St. Mark's Church, 1983 Dayton Ave.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN Church, 104 S. Snelling Ave., will hold a charitable flea market from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. today and from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, September 29. A kids carnival will be featured from 5:30-7:30 p.m. today with games, prizes, inflatables and refreshments. A concert by the Irish band Barra will follow from 6:30-8 p.m.

#### Saturday/September 29

#### ST. LUKE FARMERS' MARKET is

open from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. today and every Saturday through October 6 in the parking lot at 1807 Field Ave. Locally grown produce, herbs, flowers, heirloom tomatoes, Piedmont beef, fresh-baked bread and homemade salsa, cookies and soap are available. Cash and EBT, debit and credit cards are accepted.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS will be accepting blood donations from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, 395 W. Superior St. Walk-ins are welcome, but reservations are recommended. Visit redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767.

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE on Mental



**Laying a firm foundation.** Elin Amundson, 9 months, was in toddler heaven when she happened upon a large pile of wooden blocks at the Ice Cream, Peanut Butter and Jam celebration presented on September 15 in Merriam Park by the Union Park District Council. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Illness will offer a free, interactive workshop for families and individuals on mental illnesses, coping strategies and recovery from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Loyola Spirituality Center, 389 N. Oxford St. To register, call 651-645-2948.

#### Sunday/September 30

A FARMERS' MARKET is available from 9 a.m.-noon every Sunday in the parking lot of St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church, Portland Avenue and Kent Street. Hmong-American farmers from Holy Apostles Parish will be there selling fresh produce, herbs, and flowers.

#### LUBAVITCH CHEDER DAY SCHOOL,

1758 Ford Pkwy., will hold its annual gala this evening at the Hyatt Regency, 1300 Nicollet Mall in Minneapolis. The benefit will open at 6 p.m. with a reception and buffet, followed at 7:30 p.m. by the program and a prize drawing. Tickets are \$100, and they are good for a chance at a grand prize of \$10,000 and four \$1,000 prizes. Visit chederdraw.com or call 651-698-0556.

#### Monday/October 1

#### REPURPOSING HIGHLAND

9-HOLE Golf Course with a variety of new recreational uses will be discussed from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. City Council member Chris Tolbert and staff from the city's Department of Parks and Recreation will provide a brief overview, hear comments and answer questions.

#### Tuesday/October 2

A MENTAL HEALTH support group for adults ages 18-30 meets from 6-7:30 p.m. today and the first and third Tuesday of every month at Macalester Plymouth United Church, 1658 Lincoln Ave. The group is facilitated by young adults with a mental illness who are doing well in recovery. It is sponsored by the National Alliance on Mental Illness. For information, call Tess at 507-226-3369.

THE ST. PAUL CAMERA CLUB will hold its first salon of the 2018-19 program year

at 6:30 p.m. in Otto Hall of the Gardens Building at Episcopal Homes, 1860 University Ave. New members are welcome. Digital images of nature and monochrome prints will be judged.

ST. PAUL-ITICS, a night of improvisational comedy driven by the issues of the day, will be presented at 7 p.m. at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Lori Sturdevant of the Minneapolis-based *Star Tribune* and Bill Salisbury of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* will highlight the issues in conversation. The Theater of Public Policy will respond by dramatizing the debate with unscripted theater. Call 651-695-3700.

#### Wednesday/October 3

A FLU SHOT CLINIC will be held from 5-7 p.m. at Fairmount Avenue United Methodist Church, 1523 Fairmount Ave. Flu-Mist, Quadrivalent and high-dose vaccines will be available, administered by Hennepin Health Care. Participants should bring health insurance or Medicare cards and cash or check. For an appointment, call 651-699-1335.

#### Thursday/October 4

HORACE MANN ELEMENTARY School, 2001 Eleanor Ave., will hold an open house with special guests, commemorations and guided tours of its new addition from 4-6 p.m. Call 651-293-8965.

THE INTERSECTION OF FAITH and Politics will be examined by Dr. Michael E. Lee, Fordham University professor of theology and Latin American and Latino studies, at 7 p.m. at the Church of St. Frances Cabrini, 1500 Franklin Ave. SE in Minneapolis. Admission is by donation with \$15 suggested. For more information or to register, visit cabrinimn.org.

#### Friday/October 5

FARE FOR ALL'S monthly distribution of fresh produce and frozen meat will take place from 10 a.m.-noon at the West Seventh Community Center, 265 Oneida St. A variety of food will be available in packages priced from \$10-\$25. Cash, credit

or debit cards are accepted. Volunteers are needed to help load boxes in customers' cars. Call 651-298-5493.

DENIS MCDONOUGH, White House chief of staff for President Barack Obama, will speak at the First Friday luncheon in Woulfe Alumni Hall in Anderson Student Center at the University of St. Thomas. The program will open with registration and networking at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch at noon. Tickets are \$35, \$245 for a table of eight, and parking is included. Visit alumni. stthomas.edu.

THE AMAZING RACE, a competition for teams of two to four adults age 21 and older to roam the grounds while completing a series of challenges, will be run from 6-8:30 p.m. at the Dodge Nature Center, 1701 Charlton St. in West St. Paul. An awards ceremony will follow with wine and beer. The cost is \$20 per adult. Call 651-455-4531 or visit dodgenaturecenter.org.

A TIMELESS LOVE, a film that captures the impact of Alzheimer's disease, will be shown at 6:30 p.m. in Newman-Benson Chapel at Lyngblomsten, 1415 Almond Ave. Admission is free and open to all. A question-and-answer session with registered nurse and dementia specialist Carolyn Klaver and Alzheimer's Speaks CEO Lori La Bey will follow the screening.

HIP-HOP ARTIST, Academy Award-winning actor and activist Common will speak at 7 p.m. in Woulfe Alumni Hall in the Anderson Student Center at the University of St. Thomas. The program is free, but tickets are required. Visit stthomas. universitytickets.com.

#### Saturday/October 6

A PUMPKIN SALE will be held from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the corner of Bohland Avenue and Kenneth Street. The Highland Catholic Men's Club will be selling large carving pumpkins for \$7 and smaller decorative pumpkins for \$3. Carnival games and prizes for children, a beanbag tossing contest and refreshments will also be featured. Proceeds will benefit the Men's Club's efforts to support Highland Catholic School.

MASTEL'S HEALTH FOODS, 1526 St. Clair Ave., will celebrate its 50th anniversary from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. with live music, demonstrations, children's games and activities, garden tours, discounts, prizes and gift bags while they last. Founder John Mastel will be there to visit with customers. Chair massages and mini-facials will be available along with food truck fare.

"BEYOND THE PINT," a four-hour bus tour highlighting the history and architecture of brewing on West Seventh Street in St. Paul, will be led by Augsburg University art and architecture professor Kristin Anderson beginning at 11:15 a.m. at Summit Brewing, 910 Montreal Circle. Tickets at \$55 include three beers and a light lunch at Waldmann Brewery & Wurstery. To register, visit mnpreservation.org.

A NIGHT AT THE Q., the annual gala for the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center, will be held from 6-10 p.m. at the center, 270 N. Kent St. Emceed by Roxanne Battle and T. Mychael Rambo, the semiformal event will be catered by chef Justin



Middle and Upper School Admissions Open House October 3 at 6 p.m. January 14 at 6 p.m.



#### 21**⋖** KIOSK

Sutherland of the Handsome Hog. Tickets are \$65, and a cash bar will be available. For more information or reservations, visit hallieqbrown.org.

#### Sunday/October 7

#### THE CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS de

Sales will present its annual Booya and Fall Fiesta today at the Highland Park Pavilion, 1200 Montreal Ave. A bilingual Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m., and the food will be served beginning at 11:30 a.m. Along with St. Francis' famous booya, the menu includes hot beef sandwiches, hot dogs, soft tacos, tacos al pastor, chorizo, beef marinated in salt and lemon, atole and Mexican coffee. Children's games, pull tabs, and a raffle will also be featured along with live music by the St. Paul Police Band from 1-2 p.m. Call 651-228-1169.

#### FILMMAKER ROB REINER and

Academy Award-winning writer Aaron Sorkin will speak at the Temple of Aaron's annual Tribute Fundraiser beginning at 7 p.m. in The O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University. Net proceeds from the event will support the Neighborhood House Food Shelf, Habitat for Humanity and the synagogue's programs for youth and seniors. Tickets are \$125-\$150. For reservations, visit oshag.stkate.edu.

#### Tuesday/October 9

#### THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH of Carondelet and Consociates will hold an informational session for prospective new members from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Carondelet Center, 1890 Randolph

new members from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Carondelet Center, 1890 Randolph Ave. For more information, contact Joan Pauly Schneider at 651-690-7063 or jpaulyschneider@csjstpaul.org. THE ADVANTAGES of breastfeeding for mothers and children and how to overcome any difficulties will be discussed from 7-8:45 p.m. by the Como-Midway group of La Leche League. Pregnant women, mothers and their children are invited to attend. For information, call Heidi at 651-659-9527.

#### Wednesday/October 10

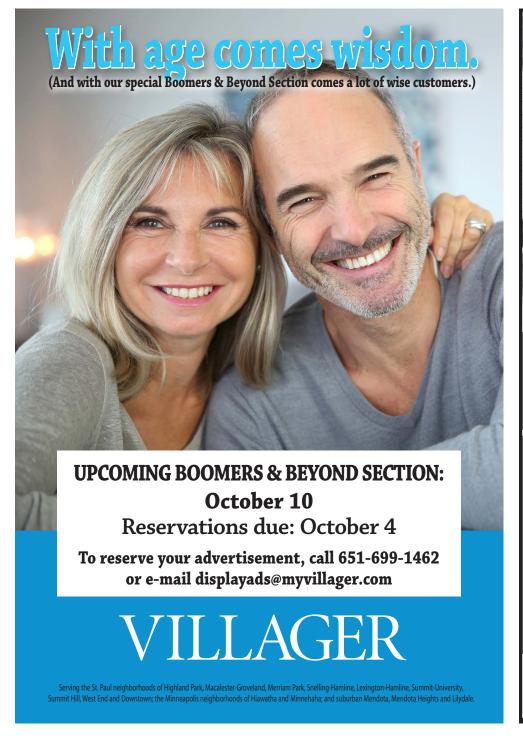
JULIE JONAS, legal director of the Innocence Project, will discuss the organization's efforts to exonerate individuals who have been wrongfully convicted of crimes in a free program from 7-8:30 p.m. in Room 103 of West Hall at Hamline University, 1536 Hewitt Ave. Call 651-695-7621.

#### Thursday/October 11

THE ST. PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS will hold an informational session on the school district's proposed \$18.6 million per year excess levy that will be on the ballot on November 6. The session will run from 6-7:30 p.m. in the district's Administration Building, 360 S. Colborne St. For more information, visit spps.org/referendum2018 or call 651-767-8157.

THE GERMAN POW CAMPS of World War II will be discussed by Nazi Prisoners of War in America author Arnold Krammer in a History Roundtable from 7-9 p.m. in the Visitor Center at Historic Fort Snelling. Admission is \$5, free for students and veterans. Call 612-726-1171.

"DEVELOPMENT, SEXUALITY and Your Child," a parent program conducted by the Family Tree Clinic, will be offered by the Jewish Family Service of St. Paul from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Newman School, 768 S. Hamline Ave. Contact Jodi Saltzman at 651-313-6623 or jsaltzman@jfssp.org.





# On the Town

# Tried and true

# Lagundino embraces his new role as artistic director at Park Square

By Frank Jossi

Then Park Square Theatre's new artistic director Flordelino Lagundino attended Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, the school produced just one drama each year and that was by the English Department. Andrews had no theater department at the time. Lagundino, a Filipino-American, auditioned for the English Department's production of To Kill A Mockingbird, but did not receive any offers.

"There weren't many Asian-Americans on campus back then, and I felt my presence was needed," he said. "But I couldn't even get a non-speaking role."

Yet the sting of that initial rejection led him to a long and successful career in theater. He earned two graduate degrees in theater, worked as an actor and director in such markets as Juneau, Alaska, Washington, D.C., and New York City, and founded three new theaters before being named to replace longtime artistic director Richard Cook at Park Square.

Lagundino, 48, is looking forward to settling down in St. Paul. With his wife Jennifer and their 19-month-old daughter, Lagundino will live in downtown St. Paul within walking distance of Park Square where he will manage a staff of 17 and an annual budget of more than \$3 million. Making the theater and its two stages more reflective of the nation's growing diversity is among his goals.

"I've had a dogged focus on inclusion," Lagundino said. "That's what I bring to the table, and I was fortunate to meet a board of directors and an artistic director in Richard (Cook) who were looking for that as well."

"Flordelino brings a lot of energy to Park

Paul W. Mattessich. "He understands what it takes to run a good regional theater that's engaged with the community. We liked that he had a variety of experiences working in different places around the country."

Though he may be new to Park Square audiences, Lagundino is familiar to some in the Twin Cities theatrical community. He played a major role in Mixed Blood Theatre's 2017 production of Vietgone and had a directing fellowship at the Guthrie Theater for its production of *Blithe Spirit*. Also, a San Diego theater for which he once worked drew inspiration from Ten Thousand Things, a Twin Cities troupe that brings theater into prisons and other non-traditional venues.

"When I was in the Twin Cities for those projects, I really fell in love with this place and the artists and the support they give to each other," Lagundino said. "The audiences seemed really engaged in the work, too."

A native of the Washington, D.C., suburb of Takoma Park, Maryland, Lagundino attended boarding school before heading to Michigan for college. He returned to D.C. to work in theater for a few years before heading to Austin to earn a master of fine arts degree at the University of Texas.

After finding work at theaters in D.C. and New York City, he made a huge leap of faith and moved to Alaska to work at the 170-seat Perseverance Theatre in Juneau. He worked there as an actor and marketing director for several years before starting his own theater on the side.

One of Lagundino's goals has been to remove the barriers of race and ethnicity from plays. To prove his point in Alaska, he directed Sam Shepard's True West with Asian-American actors. "We wanted to say that any story is a universal story," he said. "True West is a uniquely American story, but it's our story as well."



New Park Square artistic director Flordelino Lagundino high above the theater's proscenium stage.

РНОТО

From Alaska he moved back to Washington, D.C., for a fellowship at the Arena Stage and some freelance work. In his early 40s, he decided to pursue an MFA in directing at Brown University in Rhode Island where he stayed for three years. "It was a big commitment, but I felt I needed it because as a person of color I not only needed to get better but to have credentials,"

Lagundino's varied background impressed Cook. "What drew me to Flordelino is he's a working artist and someone who also founded three theater companies," Cook said. "That spoke to me because that's what I did. It makes no sense to found a theater company; it's a crazy thing to do. To have done it more than once and draw talent of color together to give them a stage was what impressed and intrigued me."

Lagundino was hired from more than 100 applicants for the artistic directorship at Park Square, according to Nancy Feldman, co-chair of the theater's succession committee. The committee liked his vision for broadening and expanding the theater's

audience, Feldman said. "We liked his varied background, his authenticity and his clear commitment to St. Paul," she said. "We wanted someone who would put their stakes down in St. Paul."

Lagundino's previous relationship with local theaters and theater artists will help smooth his transition to the new job, according to Cook, and help him avoid any accusations of being a "carpetbagger." And having a person of color running Park Square, Cook noted, should only add to the theater's reach.

Lagundino sees his new role at Park Square as a great opportunity to further develop what is already a major regional asset. The 43-year-old theater company is now the third largest in the Twin Cities, and it has a reputation for working with actors and theater companies of color, as evidenced by its recent collaboration with Mu Performing Arts on Flower Drum Song.

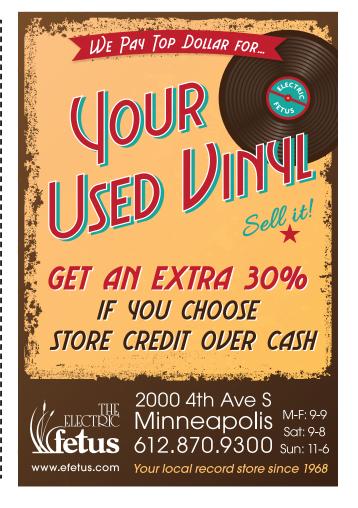
"There are a lot of people in this community I respect, and I feel honored to be part of the conversation with them," Lagundino said.





38 S Snelling Ave S at Grand 651/225-8989

M-Sat 9am - 9pm ~ Sun 10am - 7pm



# On the Town Briefly

#### **Books**

SubText Books, 6 W. Fifth St., will play host to free readings and discussions with author Priscilla Paton and her mystery, Where Privacy Dies, 7 p.m. September 27; contributing poets Michael Dennis Browne, Danny Klecko, Tim Nolan and Peter William Stein from the anthology, The Road by Heart: Poems of Fatherhood, 7 p.m. October 2; and author Michael Fedo from his new memoir, Don't Quit Your Day Job: The Adventures of a Midlist Author, 7 p.m. October 4. Call 651-493-2791.

An open lab for writers to discuss their current projects with other writers or just work on their own is offered from 10:30 a.m.-noon every Thursday at the Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave. Call 651-642-0385.

Common Good Books, 38 S. Snelling Ave., will play host to free readings and discussions with poet Pat Barone and her collection, *Your Funny, Funny Face*, 7 p.m. September 29; author Maureen Aitken and her novel, *The Patron Saint of Lost Girls*, 7 p.m. October 6; and author Rick Harsch and his crime novel, *Voices after Evelyn*, 10 a.m. October 9. Call 651-225-8989.

A book talk with children's author Donna Gingery will be held from 2-3 p.m. Sunday, September 30, at Can Can Wonderland, 755 N. Prior Ave. Gingery will discuss her book series, *Red's Adventures*, and her new endeavor, Strive Publishing, whose mission is to publish African-American picture books and young adult novels with contemporary stories about African Americans.

"Disability Matters," a literary salon and panel discussion featuring the new anthology Firsts: Coming of Age Stories by People with Disabilities, will be held from 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, October 2, in Founders Hall Auditorium at Metropolitan State University, 700 E. Seventh St. The anthology was published by OLEB Books, a new publishing company started by Belo Cipriani, a writing tutor at Metro State who is blind. Admission is free and open to all.

**Poet Kaveh Akbar** will read from his collection, *Calling a Wolf a Wolf*, in a free program at 7 p.m. Thursday, October 4, in the O'Shaughnessy Educational Center auditorium at the University of St. Thomas. The poems confront addiction and the strenuous path of recovery, from craving and control to questioning your own nature.

Two short stories, John Updike's "Tomorrow and Tomorrow and So Forth" and Raymond Carver's "Cathedral," will be explored by the Great Books Discussions Group in its monthly meeting at 5 p.m. Wednesday, October 10, at the University Club, 420 Summit Ave. Admission is free and open to all. For information, contact Margaret King at 651-285-7550 or kingmuelken@q.com.

Susan Bartlett Foote will discuss her book, *The Crusade for Forgotten Souls: Reforming Minnesota's Mental Health Institutions*, 1946-1954, in a free program from noon-1 p.m. Wednesday, October 10, at Landmark Center. Foote is professor emerita in the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota. Her book recounts the local reform movement that broke the stigma surrounding mental illness and publicized the painful truth about the state's asylums.

Minnesota, 1918: When Flu, Fire, and War Ravaged the State, a new book by Curt Brown about that tragic year in history, will be discussed by the author in a free program at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 10, at the Wentworth Library, 199 E. Wentworth Ave. in West St. Paul.



**The hostess with the mostest.** Sophy Prescott (left, played by Laura Hoover) keeps a watchful eye on what Emmy Paige (Dani Pazurek) is reading in *First Lady*, a humorous look at the women who wield the power in Washington, D.C. The play by Katharine Dayton and George Kaufman, which premiered on Broadway in 1935, will be staged from September 28 through October 6 by Lex-Ham Community Theater. The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday in the auditorium of the Wellstone Center, 179 E. Robie St. A discussion with state auditor Rebecca Otto about the role of women in politics will follow the show on September 30. Tickets are \$19, \$15 for students, or whatever you can afford on September 30. Visit lexhamarts. org/theater/shows/201809.

#### **Theater**

Ntozake Shange's choreopoem, for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is Enuf is playing through October 14 at Penumbra Theatre, 270 N. Kent St. Directed by Sarah Bellamy and Lou Bellamy with choreography by Ananya Chatterjea, the 1974 Obie Award-winning drama portrays the pain and jubilation that women of color can experience throughout life. Show times are 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through October 14. Tickets are \$15-\$40. Call 651-224-3180 or visit penumbratheatre.org.

Comedians Shanan Custer and Carolyn Pool have returned to Park Square Theatre with Sometimes There's Wine, a followup to their 2014 production Two Sugars, Room for Cream. Written and performed by Custer and Pool, the sequel was a favorite at the 2016 Fringe Festival, winning the Encore Award. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through October 14 on the thrust stage at 20 W. Seventh Place. Tickets are \$25-\$60 with discounts for seniors, military personnel and those under age 30. Call 651-291-7005.

Life Goes On, a new musical by Jeremiah and Vanessa Gamble about a surgeon, immigrant, foster child, home-school mom and widow who try to find their way through loss, is being staged through October 13 at Art House North, 793 W. Armstrong Ave. Directed by Jeffrey S. Miller with musical direction by Michael Pearce Donley, the production stars Vanessa Gamble, Janet Hanson, Bob Beverage, Katie Consamus, Dee Noah and Falicia Cunningham. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 3 p.m. Saturdays, October 6 and 13. Tickets are \$22-\$27. Call 1-800-838-3006 or visit bucketbrigadetheater.com.

The Agitators, a play by Mat Smart that examines the tempestuous friendship between women's rights advocate Susan B. Anthony and civil rights activist Fredrick Douglass, will open on September 28 on the proscenium stage at Park Square Theatre,

20 W. Seventh Place. Directed by Signe V. Harriday, the production stars Emily Gunyou Halaas as Anthony and Mikell Sapp as Douglass in a series of powerful vignettes beginning with their first meeting in the 1840s. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. Postshow discussions with the cast will be offered on September 27 and October 7. Tickets are \$25-\$60, \$20-\$37 for the previews on September 25-27. Discounts are available for seniors, military personnel and those under age 30. Call 651-291-7005.

The Shadow Box, the Pulitzer Prizewinning drama by Michael Cristofer about three terminally ill cancer patients and the struggles of family and friends around them, will be performed on September 27-30 by Applause Community Theatre. Show times are 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Dreamland Arts, 677 N. Hamline Ave. Tickets are \$10-\$15. Visit dreamlandarts.com.

Frank Theatre will open its 30th season with The Visit, a drama by Swiss playwright Friedrich Durrenmatt that will run from September 28 through October 21 at the Minnesota Transportation Museum, 193 E. Pennsylvania Ave. The Visit tells of an unwed and pregnant woman who is driven out of her small town and returns years later as the wealthiest person in the world. The townsfolk hope her millions will pull them out of economic depression, but she has an agenda, offering her fortune in exchange for the life of the man who spurned her. Wendy Knox directs, and Katherine Ferrand stars. For show times and tickets, priced at \$25, \$22 for students and seniors, call 612-724-3760 or visit franktheatre.org.

The End of TV, a multi-faceted production about the quest to find meaning amidst the constant barrage of commercial images and white noise, will be performed by Manual Cinema at 7:30 p.m. Friday, October 5, in the O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University. Using actors, puppets, live-feed cameras, overhead projectors and multiple screens, the Chicago collective enlivens the experience of attending the cinema with ingenuity and

theatricality. The show is set in a postindustrial Rust Belt city and told with the help of 1970s art pop songs performed live by a five-piece band. Tickets are \$28 with discounts for students, seniors and military veterans. Call 651-690-6700 or visit theoshaughnessy.com.

Le Cirque Féerique (The Fairy Circus), a new drama by Emily Dendinger and David Hanzal that tells of feminist Marie-Catherine d'Aulnoy, her nonconformist friends and the subversive fairy tales they disseminated during the oppressive reign of King Louis XIV, will be performed from October 5-14 in the Off-Leash Area Art Box, 4200 E. 54th St. in Minneapolis. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$15-\$25 with discounts for students, or whatever you can afford for the additional show at 7:30 p.m. Monday, October 8. Visit artful.ly/store/events/15437.

Vermont-based Bread and Puppet Theatre will stage *The Grasshopper Rebellion Circus* at 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, October 6 and 7, at In the Heart of the Beast Theatre, 1500 E. Lake St. in Minneapolis. Bread & Puppet champions a visually rich, deeply political brand of performance art filled with music, dance, and slapstick. This production is a celebration of 6,000 generations of revolution against human management. Tickets are \$10-\$25. Visit brownpapertickets.com or call 612-540-5365.

The Great Society, part two in playwright Robert Schenkkan's trilogy about the turbulent presidency of Lyndon B. Johnson, will open on October 6 at the History Theatre, 30 E. 10th St. Directed by Ron Peluso, this look back at the war on poverty, the conflict in Vietnam and the struggle for civil rights for African-Americans is an exhilarating portrait of political power, morality and societal change. The cast includes Pearce Bunting as LBJ, Shawn Hamilton as Martin Luther King Jr., Andrew Erskine Wheeler as Hubert H. Humphrey, J.C. Cutler as J. Edgar Hoover and Randy Schmeling is Robert Kennedy. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through October 28. Tickets are \$25-\$56 with discounts for seniors and students. Discussions with the cast and special guests will follow the Sunday matinees. Call 651-292-4323.

#### Music

A mix of Cajun, zydeco and '50s-inflected swamp rock will be performed by the Lafayette, Louisiana, band the Revelers from 8-11 p.m. Friday, September 28, at the Eagles Club, 2507 E. 25th St. in Minneapolis. The doors will open at 7 p.m. Admission is \$20.

Justin Timberlake will bring his "Man of the Woods" tour to Xcel Energy Center at 7:30 p.m. Friday, September 28. Tickets start at \$52. Call 800-745-3000 or visit the Xcel box office or xcelenergycenter.com.

Kith + Kin Chorus, a 50-voice community choir, will cap its second season with a benefit concert for Open Arms of Minnesota on Sunday, September 30, at the Parkway Theater, 4814 Chicago Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Directed by Rachel Ries, aka Her Crooked Heart, the choir of bus drivers, writers, teachers, artists, veterinarians and the like will sing a mix of classic and indie rock, pop and folk music. Doors open at 5 p.m. A sing-along screening of the Beatles' A Hard Day's Night will commence at 5:30 p.m. followed by the concert at 7:30 p.m. A silent auction, local food trucks and beverages from Tattersall Distilling and Indeed Brewing will also be featured. Tickets are \$15 in advance. Call 612-822-8080.

The music of Bach, Brahms, Buxtehude,

Duruflé, Hindemith, Herbert Howells, Paul Manz, Hermann Schroeder and others will be featured on Sunday, September 30, during the dedicatory recital for the new Dobson Organ at Christ Church Lutheran, 3244 34th Ave. S. in Minneapolis. The program begins at 7 p.m. Martin Jean, professor of organ at Yale University, will perform.

Thursday Musical will present performances by flutist Libby Laufers, pianist Eunchong Lee, clarinetist Ona Pinsonneault and cellist Will Richardson on October 4. The concert begins at 10:30 a.m. in Antonello Hall at the MacPhail Center for Music, 501 Second St. S. in Minneapolis. Admission is \$15. A reception with coffee and doughnuts will precede the show at 10 a.m. Call 612-333-0313.

The Bach Society of Minnesota will open a new season on Friday, October 5, with "Bach and the Forbidden City," a concert of European Baroque and classical Chinese compositions with acclaimed pipa master Gao Hong. The program will feature music from the royal courts of Asia and Europe with themes of palace intrigue and political strife. Vivaldi's Concerto for Guitar will be played with the pipa taking the solo part. Soprano Carrie Shaw, violinist Margaret Humphrey, cellist Cassidy Miller, harpsichordist Gail Olszewski and percussionist Ziya Tabassian will also perform. The music will begin at 7:30 p.m. at Sundin Music Hall, 1531 Hewitt Ave. Tickets, available online and at the door, are \$25, \$20 for seniors, \$5 for students. Visit bachsocietymn.org.

**Southern rock pioneers** Lynyrd Skynyrd will be joined by Bad Company and special guest Jamey Johnson in concert at 7 p.m. Friday, October 5, at the Xcel Energy Center. Tickets start at \$29.50. Call 800-745-3000 or visit the Xcel box office or xcelenergycenter.com.

**Queen's "A Night at the Opera" LP** will be performed note for note in its entirety by



Strings that sing. China-born classical guitarist Tengyue Zhang will perform in a Minnesota Guitar Society concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, September 29, in Sundin Music Hall, 1531 Hewitt Ave. Winner of the Guitar Foundation of America's International Concert Artists Competition in 2017, Zhang studied under Professor Chen Zhi at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing and Sharon Isbin at the Juilliard School in New York City. Tickets, priced from \$10-\$25, are available at the Sundin box office and mnguitar.org.

Classic Albums Live at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, October 6, at the Ordway Concert Hall. Tickets are \$31-\$62. Call 651-224-4222 or visit ordway.org.

**The Singers** will open its 15th season under the baton of director Matthew Culloton at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, October 6, in the Concert Hall of the Fine Arts Center at Macalester College. The "Shadows, Tears & Light" program will open with David Lang's Pulitzer Prize-winning composition, "little match girl passion," and Morten Lauridsen's "Lux Aeterna" performed with chamber orchestra. Admission is \$22-\$36, free for students. Call 651-696-6808.

Minnesota Orchestra trumpeter Charles Lazarus will join resident organist David Cherwien in an eclectic program of Handel, Purcell, Bach and Steve Heitzeg beginning at 4 p.m. Sunday, October 7, at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 3045 Chicago Ave. S. in Minneapolis. A reception will follow in the Chapel Lounge. Admission is free, though donations are welcome. Call 612-827-5919.

The Hill House Chamber Players will present a program of trio masterworks exploring the diverse repertoire for various combinations of piano, violin, viola, cello, and clarinet from 7:30-9 p.m. Mondays, October 8 and 15, in the art gallery of the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. Tickets are \$23, \$12 for students. A concert preview with the musicians and music blogger Emily Hogstad will be offered at 6:45 each evening. Tickets include refreshments at intermission and a post-performance tour of the Hill House. Visit cart.mnhs.org or call 651-297-2555.

#### **Exhibits**

"Somalis in Minnesota," the story of the largest population of Somali immigrants in the United States, is being told in a new show at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Pkwy. The 2,400-square-foot exhibit includes a reconstructed nomadic hut, photos and artifacts augmented by commentary by Somali-American historians, and videos and interactive photo panels that introduce Somali Americans across the state.

The gallery will play host to classes on Somali culture at 2 p.m. Saturday, September 29, and Islam at 2 p.m. Saturday, October 6. A small-group discussion on refugees and Minnesota will be offered at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, October 10. Admission to the History Center is \$12, \$10 for seniors, students and veterans, \$6 for children ages 5-17. Call 651-259-3000.

Abstract painters Caroline Kent of Chicago and Melanie Pankau of Minneapolis are being featured through October 20 in the Catherine G. Murphy Gallery at St. Catherine University. Kent creates dynamic acrylic compositions and wall-sized paintings. Pankau, in addition to pristine geometric abstractions, is showing compositional drawings, color studies and other studio relics to provide insight into her creative process. Admission is free. Visit gallery.stkate.edu.

"Theatre de la Jeune Lune: A Photographic Celebration," a retrospective of the work of photographers Michal Daniel and Frederic Desbois for the former Minneapolis theater, is on view through December 7 in the Marsden/Gustafson Gallery at FilmNorth, 550 N. Vandalia St., Suite 120. Gallery hours are 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Admission is free. Call 651-644-1912.

"Chinese-ness," new photography by Wing Young Huie of Minneapolis that explores his identity as a Minnesotan of Chinese descent, is being displayed through November 11 at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Admission is free. Call 651-259-3000.

**"kNOw Spaces,"** Iowa artist Jordan Weber's critique of society's ability to foster sustainable practices, is on view through October 25 in the Law Warschaw Gallery of the Fine Arts Center at Macalester College. Weber's sculptures and other works examine agricultural systems, commenting on their prospects for survival or destruction. Admission is free. Call 651-696-6279.

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Artist Siro Amerson's paintings are being displayed through October 18 at Peter's Antique Gallery, 1814 Selby Ave. Call 651-707-4764.

"Under the Black and Baltic Deep," works by nine ceramicists from Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia that reflect the artistic freedom experienced following the collapse of the Soviet Union, are being shown through November 4 in the Main Gallery of the Northern Clay Center, 2424 E. Franklin Ave. in Minneapolis. An opening reception will be held from 6-8 p.m. Friday, October 12. A panel discussion on Baltic ceramics will be held from 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, October 13, at Norway House, 913 E. Franklin Ave. in Minneapolis. Admission is free, but registration is required for the artist talk and discussion. Call 612-339-8007.

"Women's Reality," paintings, sculptures, community art and a live audience installation, will be presented by artist Laura Tiede on Thursday, September 27, in a pop-up exhibit that explores the shifting landscape of what it means to be a woman today. The event will run from 5-9 p.m. at Artista Bottega, 937 W. Seventh St.

Art to Change the World will open its first exhibit, "See. Say. DO," featuring 11 days of diverse programming from October 4-14 at Squirrel Haus Arts, 3450 Snelling Ave. S. in Minneapolis. An opening reception for the public will be held from 7-10 p.m. Saturday, October 6. The 20 participating artists will be there along with their collaborators—experts who assisted in the creation of art that addresses issues of human rights, environmental awareness and personal health and well-being. Nine workshops and seven nights of performances are also scheduled. Call 612-669-8712 or visit arttochangetheworld.org.

#### **Dance**

Learn to square dance. Dakota Grand Squares is offering weekly classes for beginners from 6:15-8 p.m. on Mondays at the West Seventh Community Center, 265 S. Oneida St. The first two lessons are free; thereafter, \$5 each. Children are half price when accompanied by an adult. Bring a partner or come alone. Preregistration is not required. Dress is casual. Call 651-225-9709.

**Ballet Hispánico** will perform works by Latina choreographers, including Michelle Manzaneles' heartfelt and humorous "Con Brazos Abiertos," Annabelle Lopez's sexy and theatrical "Sombrerisimo" and Tania Perez-Salas' reflective "3. Catorce Dieciséis" at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, October 4, on the Carlson Family Stage at Northrop Auditorium. Tickets are \$19-\$47. A free preview of the evening's program will be offered at 6:15 p.m. in the adjacent Best Buy Theater. Call 612-624-2345 or visit northrop.umn.edu.

#### **Family**

Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave., will offer the following free programs: Board at the Library, games of Clue, Apples to Apples Jr., chess, checkers and more from 2-4:30 p.m. every Wednesday; Family Storytime, 10:30-11 a.m. every Friday; You Can Make It, hands-on activities for children ages 7 to 11, 3-5 p.m. every Monday (except October 8); and Paw Pals, an opportunity for children ages 6-12 to read with a friendly and attentive dog, 6-7 p.m. Thursday, October 4 (to register call 651-642-0385).

Red Balloon Bookshop, 891 Grand Ave., will play host to the following free programs: a party for Aimée Bissonette and her new picture book, Aim for the Skies, 2 p.m. September 29; author Kwame Alexander and his new book, Swing, 6:30 p.m. October 4; Alexs Pate and his new picture book,

Being You, 10:30 a.m. October 6; author Kate DiCamillo and her latest novel, Louisiana's Way Home, 6:30 p.m. October 6 at SteppingStone Theater, 55 N. Victoria St. (requires a purchase of the book at Red Balloon); author Laini Taylor and her latest book, Muse of Nightmares, 6:30 p.m. October 8; author Megan McDonald and a celebration of her latest Judy Moody adventure, *Judy* Moody and the Right Royal Tea Party, 6:30 p.m. October 9; and author Melissa Savage and her middle-grade adventure, *The Truth* About Martians, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, October 11. Call 651-224-8320.

The Playful Learning Lab, an introduction to Codes and Chords, will be offered at 3 p.m. Tuesday, October 9, at the Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy., and at 3 p.m. Friday, October 12, at the Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave. The free program will give participants hands-on experience in the new Processing software, and in the process it will teach them about music's color, pitch and amplitude. Call Highland at 651-695-3700 or Merriam Park at 651-642-0385.

"Sesame Street Live! Let's Party," an interactive stage show inspired by the popular television program, will be presented at 1 and 5 p.m. Sunday, October 7, at the Xcel Energy Center. See and sing along with Elmo, Abby Cadabby, Big Bird, Oscar the Grouch, Cookie Monster and others in this new sensory adventure. Tickets start at \$18. Call 800-745-3000 or visit the Xcel box office or ticketmaster.com.

#### **Film**

*Heavy Trip*, a heavy-metal comedy from Finland, will be screened by Sound Unseen at 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 10, at Trylon Cinema, 2820 E. 33rd St. in Minneapolis. A surprise hit at this year's SXSW festival, Heavy Trip tells of an amateur Finnish band called Impaled Rektum that has practiced for 12 years but never had a gig until the promoter for a huge music festival in Norway beckons. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Visit soundunseen.com.

#### Et cetera

Known for her story-driven stand-up and sensual homemade pop music, comedian Erin Markey will open the new Spit Take comedy series at 7 p.m. Wednesday, September 26, at the Amsterdam Bar & Hall, Sixth and Wabasha streets. She will be joined by bandmate Emily Bate. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$22 at the door. Visit amsterdambarandhall.com.

Celebrate Minnesota brewing past and present at Oktoberfest, scheduled from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, September 29, at the Mill City Farmers' Market and Mill City Museum, 704 S. Second St. in Minneapolis. Enjoy the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of Germany at the Farmers' Market, in the Ruin Courtyard and at the museum. Watch a cooking demonstration, enjoy music and dancing, and relax with German food and a Minnesota beer. Children's games and history plays and exhibits will be part of the fun. Admission is free to the outdoor events, \$6-\$12 to the museum. Call 612-341-7555.

"American Justice," a panel on race and justice in America, will be held at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, October 11, in Best Buy Theater at Northrop Auditorium. Retired federal judge Nancy Gertner and Lecia Brooks of the Southern Poverty Law Center will take part in the conversation moderated by Elaine Tyler May of the University of Minnesota History Department. The two will discuss the roles of the justice system and advocacy and why the activities of the late 1960s are relevant to the issues of violence and race today. Admission is free and open to all.

# Sports



The Wright Call
By Dave Wright

# Officially speaking, Serena was wrong

ast month, this column had some fulsome words of praise for tennis player Serena Williams on the Joccasion of her gritty performance at Wimbledon. Even though she lost in the championship match, she turned in an admirable effort that had nearly everybody praising her, especially since she was playing in only her second major tennis tournament since giving birth last fall.

Fast forward to earlier this month when Williams again advanced to the women's single finals, this time at the U.S. Open. Again, she came in as the runner-up. However, this time she hurt herself with a performance that could only be charitably called childish.

Williams had distinguished herself in the summer heat of New York with several solid wins, including one over her sister Venus. In the finals, she was pitted against Naomi Osaka, a wiry native of Japan who grabbed control of the match and put Williams on the defensive. Willams lost the first set by a decisive 6-2 margin. She put up a better fight in the second set, when the referee caught her getting hand signals from her coach in the stands.

For reasons that have never been explained, this is a no-no in pro tennis. At any rate, Williams was docked a point. That may have been annoying, but it was like getting flagged for holding in football on a play where the offense has earned a first down. You simply have to overcome it.

Later, Williams erupted in anger and smashed her racket. One could argue that male tennis players have done worse and haven't been penalized for doing so. But the referee, whose job it is to decide such things, determined otherwise and docked her another point.

Then things really got out of hand. With the microphone still on to amplify his words, everything the referee said could be heard throughout the stadium. Williams called him a thief and he threw the book at her, giving her opponent a free game. That put Williams down 5-3 and a game away from defeat. She held serve, but her opponent did likewise and ended the match. But not the uproar.

Afterward, Williams complained she was a victim of sexism. The tennis community, frequently a tight-knit bunch, was split. Billie Jean King, who was the Serena Williams of her day, tweeted: "When a woman is emotional, she's 'hysterical' and she's penalized for it. When a man does the same, he's 'outspoken' and there are no repercussions."

WRIGHT CALL ►28

# **Old-school football**

## New coach has Cadets clicking at season's midpoint

By BILL WAGNER

There's still plenty of prep football to be played this fall, but it certainly looks as if St. Thomas Academy has gotten its swagger back. Last year, the Cadets saw a disappointing season come to an end in the section playoffs with one of the most lopsided defeats in the school's history. This year, they have a new head coach in Dan O'Brien and a bit of their old look.

STA was undefeated through its first four games this fall and ranked among the top five teams in the state in Class AAAAA. The Cadets had outscored their opponents—North St. Paul, Apple Valley, Henry Sibley and Mahtomedi—by a resounding 156-7 through September 21.

O'Brien, who has previously coached at the high school and college levels and is the son-in-law of former longtime Cretin-Derham Hall coach Mal Scanlan, sounded in awe of his new post at St. Thomas.

"It's an honor to coach this team," said O'Brien, who spoke almost reverently about how previous STA coaches Gerry Brown, Bob Slater and Dave Ziebarth usually had the team contending for the top. "Our goal is to get back to the level it was. We keep talking about playing old-school football."

It's been so far, so good for the new boss, but that doesn't mean STA is without its flaws. O'Brien would be the first to admit that the Cadets don't have much experience on either the offensive or defensive side of the ball.

Senior Alex Kuntz, a three-year regular, is the only seasoned offensive lineman, while senior tackle Jason Samec is the only returning player on the defensive line. That gives O'Brien pause.

"It does concern me," he said. "Games are won and lost up front. The new guys will have to play together for a while."

Still, there's plenty to get excited about for Cadet fans. Once you get past the line uncertainties, there are guys who are capable of making big plays.

"We're more of a speed team," O'Brien



Cadet senior Brendan McFadden moves the sticks on a fourth-down run during STA's 21-0 win over Mahtomedi on September 21. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

said. "You could say that we're pretty athletic at the skill positions."

Perhaps the biggest plus for the Cadets is at running back. Senior Brendan McFadden's stats speak for themselves with 346 yards gained, seven touchdowns and 8 yards per carry after three games. He added two more TDs on runs of 4 and 45 yards against Mahtomedi. McFadden has the speed to take it to the house and the ability to slash and make opponents miss.

O'Brien marveled at one 60-yard run for a score by McFadden against Sibley. "I don't think he was even touched," he said.

Fellow senior running back Jack Nozel is talented as well. O'Brien said Nozel presents the offense with a look that can confuse defenses.

Many coaches frown on employing what amounts to two regular quarterbacks, but O'Brien has no problem alternating between senior Charley Fafinski and junior Joe Deyak. Fafinski is more of a passer, while Deyak adds to the ground game. "They're a dual threat," O'Brien said.

When the Cadets go to the air, senior Callan Happe is usually the target. Happe, who had 102 yards receiving in a 43-0 win over Apple Valley in week two, is quick and runs disciplined routes.

O'Brien, who likes about a 60-40 split between running and passing plays, still wants to see improvement in the aerial game. "We need to throw the ball better," he said.

One of the obstacles that the Cadets' offense needs to overcome is the absence of junior tackle Jackson Smith, who has a dislocated kneecap and isn't expected back until the playoffs. "Aside from that, we're pretty healthy," O'Brien said.

Whatever the state of STA's offensive attack, it has plenty of tough players on defense. Through the first three games, the Cadets have held opponents to 31

STA FOOTBALL ►28

# EAGLES

Central's Max Hand keeps his footing while battling for the ball with Apple Valley's Connor Elumba in the Minutemen's 2-1 victory on September 15. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

# Central off to fast start in boys' soccer

By BILL WAGNER

entral High School boys' soccer coach David Albornoz wasn't sure how to feel about the news that his Minutemen were ranked among the top Class AA teams in the state by virtue of their 9-0 record through mid-September.

"It's a double-edged sword," Albornoz said about his team's showing so far.

That kind of accolade is a tribute to the team's combination of talent and hard work. Then again, it can mean that complacency seeps in, and Albornoz said he's doing his best to ensure that doesn't happen.

"I'm working hard at keeping the boys well-grounded," he said. "We haven't really won anything yet."

Still, the Minutemen have a lot of things going for them. Their victories so far this fall include a 7-0 pasting of Johnson, a 3-1 win over archrival Highland Park, 3-0 shutouts against Spring Lake Park and Harding, a 2-1 triumph over Como Park and an eye-catching 5-4 overtime victory over Stillwater.

Through September 17, Central had outscored its opponents 34-9, and had allowed just two goals in St. Paul City Conference play.

Key among those games was the win over the Scots, in which Central outshot Highland 18-2. "I really respect that program," Albornoz said of Highland Park, "but we outplayed them by a wide margin. That showed our club is maturing."

The Minutemen also beat the Ponies at their own Stillwater Tournament in

August. Albornoz said that victory was not that big of a deal, even though it was.

"To many, it was a surprise, but not to us," he said. "We were ready for that game, but we still have work to do."

Albornoz noted that the Central boys' varsity, junior varsity and ninth-grade soccer teams were all undefeated through mid-September, signifying that the school is establishing depth on all levels. "I don't coach a team, I coach a program," he said.

The depth of the varsity team has been put to the test early this season. At press time, Central had two potentially devastating injuries to key varsity regulars. Senior defender Erik Trail-Johnson just had an MRI of his leg that revealed

## **High school football roundup**

Central (3-1)
Aug. 30 at Johnson21-19
Sept. 7 vs. Washburn22-20
Sept. 14 at St. Croix Lutheran28-33
Sept. 21 vs. Highland Park32-14
Sept. 29 vs. Fridley
Oct. 5 at SMB Wolfpack
Oct. 13 at Patrick Henry
Oct. 17 vs. Mound Westonka
Cretin-Derham Hall (2-2)
Aug. 30 at Totino-Grace22-21
Sept. 7 at Mounds View38-14
Sept. 14 vs. Woodbury17-20
Sept. 21 vs. Blaine20-56
Sept. 28 at East Ridge
Oct. 5 vs. Stillwater
Oct. 12 vs. White Bear Lake
Oct. 17 at Roseville
Henry Sibley (0-4)
Aug. 30 vs. Hastings0-49
Sept. 7 vs. Tartan0-42
Sept. 14 at St. Thomas Academy 0-42
Sept. 21 at South St. Paul21-27
Sept. 28 vs. Park of Cottage Grove
Oct. 5 vs. Irondale
Oct. 12 at Simley
Oct. 17 at Apple Valley
7
Highland Park (0-4)
Aug. 30 vs. Mound Westonka14-48
Sept. 7 vs. Fridley0-42
Sept. 14 at Washburn17-33
Sept. 21 at Central14-32

Sept. 29 vs. SMB Wolfpack Oct. 5 at St. Croix Lutheran Oct. 12 at Providence Academy Oct. 17 vs. Academy Force	
Roosevelt (1-3)	
Aug. 31 at Concordia Academy 26-28	
Sept. 7 vs. Spectrum27-54	
Sept. 14 vs. Humboldt49-21	
Sept. 21 vs. Columbia Heights14-42	
Sept. 28 at Brooklyn Center	
Oct. 5 vs. Edison	
Oct. 12 at St. Agnes	
Oct. 17 at Harding	
St. Thomas Academy (4-0)         Aug. 30 at North St. Paul       50-7         Sept. 7 at Apple Valley       43-0         Sept. 14 vs. Henry Sibley       42-0         Sept. 21 vs. Mahtomedi       21-0         Sept. 28 at Hastings       Oct. 5 vs. Hopkins         Oct. 12 at Park of Cottage Grove       Oct. 17 vs. Hill-Murray	
SMB Wolfpack (4-0)	
SPA/Minnehaha/Blake	
Aug. 31 at Academy Force54-0	

Sept. 7 at St. Croix Lutheran ......35-13

Sept. 15 vs. Fridley ......28-14

Sept. 21 vs. Washburn ......24-8

Sept. 29 at Highland Park.....

Oct. 5 vs. Central.....

Oct. 12 at Johnson.....

Oct. 17 vs. Southwest.....

CADETS
Cadet quarterback Joe Devak Jooks downfield against Mahtomedi. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Cadet quarterback Joe Deyak looks downfield against Mahtomedi. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFE

#### 27◀ STA FOOTBALL

percent in pass completions and an average of only 1.6 yards per carry.

Junior linebacker Ben Reppenhagen roams the field well, while senior twins Will and Luke Herzog also are strong at defensive back and linebacker, respectively.

Will Herzog was also averaging 26 yards on punt returns, while senior kicker John Copeland has been a perfect nine-for-nine in point-after attempts.

Despite the lack of experience on the defensive line, O'Brien has been impressed with the way those players have performed overall. "They're getting to the ball quickly," he said. "They're playing fast."

Judging by the number of players who came out for football this fall, it appears O'Brien has the program heading in the right direction. The Cadets have about 90 players out.

Going into the Mahtomedi game, O'Brien said STA could win if it stops the run, doesn't allow big plays and comes through on special teams

The Cadets and Zephyrs had split their last 10 games against each other. Mahtomedi came out on top 21-14 the last time the two teams met in 2017.

O'Brien said the Mahtomedi game, which marked the halfway point of the regular season, would be a good measuring stick for his squad. "We'll see how good we really are," he said.

# Sports Shorts

The Merriam Park Traveling Baseball Association will hold tryouts for the 2019 season on Saturday, September 29, at the St. Thomas Academy baseball complex, 949 Mendota Heights Road. Tryouts are being held at 11:30 a.m. for 14U, 2 p.m. for 13U and 4:30 p.m. for 12U teams. Players should arrive 20-30 minutes early to check in. The tryout fee is \$25 in advance and \$35 on the day of the event. Visit spmtravelbaseball.com.

A Health & Fitness Expo will be held on Friday and Saturday, October 5-6, at St. Paul RiverCentre as part of the Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon Weekend. People can register there on Friday for Saturday's family events, including the TC 10K and 5K runs that will take place on the state Capitol grounds. The TC 10 Mile and 37th annual Twin Cities Marathon will start at 7 and 8 a.m., respectively, on Sunday, October 7. For information, visit temevents.org.

**Linwood Community Center**, 860 St. Clair Ave., will offer an intermediate T'ai Chi Chih class from 1-2 p.m. Mondays, October 15-December 3. The cost is \$40 for the eight weeks. Register by calling 651-298-5660 or visiting the center.



Central senior Mac Staloch heads the ball in front of teammate Aiden Cavanaugh. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

#### 27**⋖** CENTRAL BOYS' SOCCER

a micro-tear that could put him out for the season. And junior right wing Yasin N'da was found to be suffering from a sports hernia that also could sideline him for the fall.

Albornoz planned to use junior defender Garrett McDermott and senior defender Cormac Clark to replace Trail-Johnson, while sophomore wing Mani Chadaga appeared to be the guy to fill in for N'da.

Those injuries notwithstanding, there's an impressive cast of characters on the rest of Central's roster. Senior central midfielder Aiden Cavanaugh is about as good as it gets. "He's the heart of the team," Albornoz said. "He knows when to pass and when to attack with the ball. He's a fantastic player."

The team's top scorer is senior central forward Danny Barrett, who had seven goals and five assists through the first seven games. Second on the club was junior striker Max Hand, who had five goals and three assists.

Senior Will Hintz and junior Riaz Kelly are fundamentally sound defensively at center back, but they also move the ball well and can execute drives down the field. Central defender Dylan Barrett is just a freshman, but Albornoz said he expects to move him up to the varsity soon.

Senior midfielder Mac Staloch has logged an impressive streak this season, scoring three goals in three games, all on free kicks.

Junior goalie Owen Brooks is in his first year on the varsity, but he already looks quite comfortable. Albornoz said Brooks is adept at starting a play in addition to playing the angles well and stopping shots.

Central's regular season runs through October 3. The Section 3AA tournament begins the following week, with the state tournament set to begin on October 23.

#### 27**⋖** WRIGHT CALL

Former tennis star Martina Navratilova took a different tack, saying that just because a man may have gotten away with such behavior doesn't mean it's acceptable. It was the equivalent of your mother saying, "If someone jumps off a bridge, are you going to do it, too?"

One can debate why coaching is considered punishable in tennis. Fair enough. One also can argue, as King did, that female tennis players get treated differently than their male counterparts. Only the referees can say if this is so.

But here's the bigger issue: It's one thing to complain you've been wronged during a match, but calling an official a thief is not acceptable at any time.

The environment was different, but Minnesota Twins manager Paul Molitor recently gave a good example of how to state your displeasure, get penalized for it and then move on. It happened last week during a game at Kansas City. With a runner on third, a Royals batter made a motion at bunting the ball, then pulled his bat back. The runner on third was caught in a rundown, eventually scoring. Molitor went after the home plate umpire, arguing that the batter had swung at the pitch and, thus, it was a strike, not a ball. Arguing balls and strikes is a specific no-no and Molitor was ejected. Later, he stated he still thought he was right, but so was the umpire.

Rules are rules.

#### Mr. Tommy to leave, but legacy lives on

Things were hot and heavy at Anderson Center a few years back when St. Olaf and St. Thomas were engaged in a very competitive college men's basketball game. A call went against the Oles and their head coach, Dan Kosmoski, was irate. After making his feelings known and calling a timeout, Kosmoski shed his sports coat and tossed it into the stands. The referee who saw it signaled a technical foul and quickly moved to the middle to the court. Kosmoski looked as if he had something more to say on the matter.

Play was about to resume when Steve Fritz, the St. Thomas head coach, called a timeout of his own. Once that timeout expired, Kosmoski was calmer and the rest of the game went on without incident.

Afterward, a fellow went over to Fritz and remarked, "You're the only head coach I know who would call a timeout just to keep the other coach in the game." Fritz smiled and said nothing.

A lot has already been said and written about Fritz, who will retire next spring as athletic director at St. Thomas after being affiliated with the university for 52 years. His coaching numbers alone—594 wins, 16 MIAC championships, a NCAA Division III title, etc.—speak volumes.

However, at the Division III level wins are only part of the equation. How you behave on and off the court matter equally. Fritz competed hard as a player and a coach, but when the game was over, that was it. Losing was no fun, but he always congratulated the winners and wished them well.

As athletic director, he hired topnotch coaches who knew they were under a spotlight at the league's biggest school. Fritz insisted they win and lose with class. He tolerated mistakes, but he always had a line in the sand. When that line got crossed, he had no problem jumping into action and doing what he had to.

Wins and losses eventually fade, but legacies don't. Steve Fritz always did things the right way. His will be a tough act to follow.

#### Too hot to play

Several NCAA conferences, including the MIAC, have established rules on when it is too hot to compete. That came into play two weeks ago when several college football and soccer games had to be moved to earlier or later times when it was stifling hot outside.

There was one unexpected victim of this rule. The University of Minnesota's volleyball game against Kansas State, scheduled to be played inside Maturi Pavilion, also had to be postponed due to the heat. The pavilion is the old hockey arena. It was built in the 1920s and doesn't have air conditioning. Rules really are rules.

Dave Wright can be reached at dwright53@msn.com.

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