



VILLAGER

December 19, 2007 - January 8, 2008

Since 1953

65,000 Copies

Homecroft neighbors turn out in droves to oppose the elementary school's closing

Local residents object to losing neighborhood institution with little or no public discussion

By KEVIN DRISCOLL

One hundred and fifty local residents, some with signs reading "Save Our School" and "Flunk the School Board," turned out on December 12 at Homecroft Elementary School to oppose St. Paul Superintendent Meria Carstarphen's plan to eliminate the K-6 program and replace it with junior and senior high schools for special-education students and students with emotional and behavioral disorders.

The St. Paul School Board was scheduled to vote on the plan on December 18, after this issue of the *Villager* went to press. However, School Board member Tom Conlon said he would ask fellow board members to postpone any action to allow time to consider alternatives. "We may not be able to find a successful alternative," he said, "but I don't believe it was right that the community learned of this so late in the game."

Under the plan, which was not publicized until late in November, Homecroft's 256 students, 88 percent of whom speak English as a second language, would be invited to attend nearby Groveland or Hor-

HOMECROFT SCHOOL ►5



Michelle Nemech, 4, studied the menorah on the sixth day of Hanukkah during an Iron Chef Latke Cookoff celebration on December 9 at the Jewish Community Center. PHOTO BY ANNE BRANDRUD

Pique over property tax increases reaches new heights

Property owners feel the pinch of higher levy and double-digit increases in tax market values

By JANE MCCLURE

The annual Truth-in-Taxation hearing on December 11 was not for the faint of heart. An estimated 250 homeowners, rental property owners and business owners turned out in the Great Hall at Arlington High School to complain to city of St. Paul, Ramsey

County and St. Paul Public Schools officials about the property tax increases they have proposed for 2008. More than 40 property owners testified about the effect the increases will have. Many more waited in long lines to meet with staff from the Ramsey County Assessors Office to argue for a reduction in their properties' taxable market value.

The St. Paul City Council has adopted a property tax levy for 2008 that is 15.1 percent higher than 2007's. Meanwhile, Ramsey County's levy will be increasing by 4.8 percent and the St. Paul Public Schools' by 3.7

percent. The combined increase for the three taxing jurisdictions is expected to be around 7 percent. However, many homeowners will be seeing increases of 20 percent or more due to increased taxable market values (see chart on page 6) and the state of Minnesota's continued phaseout of limited market value, which has held the taxable market value of homes artificially low for more than a decade.

Seeing the taxable market value of their homes increase by 15 percent when their actual market value is declining in a depressed real estate market has been difficult for many

of those who testified at the hearing.

"With the slump in the housing market, how is it that the (taxable) market value of every house on my block went up 15 to 18 percent?" asked Karen Cox, a resident of the Snelling-Hamline neighborhood. "Where do you get these numbers? Do you want us to move out of town?"

Several people said that in the current real estate market, they could not sell their homes for the market value the county has placed on

TRUTH-IN-TAXATION ►6



This restored angel will be displayed for the first time in decades at the Cathedral.

Away at the Cathedral's refurbished manger

Newly restored crèche to be unveiled Christmas Eve

By CAROLYN WILL

Working steadily to classical music from a dusty radio perched on a workbench, Marguerite Denardo Sandbeck and her sister Eleanor Bisciglie are surrounded by statues waiting for their artistic touch. They recently received a donkey, cow

and several sheep, the final pieces from the Cathedral of St. Paul's nativity scene that they are painstakingly restoring. They promise to have all 26 statues returned to their original luster by Christmas Eve when the refurbished crèche will be unveiled inside the Cathedral.

"We started with the Christ Child just before Christmas last year," said Helen Buche, a Summit Hill resident and Cathedral parishioner. "With its little hands raised in the air, the baby figure was so obviously in need of repair.

It had broken fingers and toes."

Buche and her fellow members of the Cathedral Women's Association have invested in refurbishing the entire set of figures, which date from the 1930s. Among the figures are Mary, Joseph, the three Wise Men, three shepherds, camels, sheep, a donkey and an angel that has not been displayed in several decades.

CATHEDRAL CRÈCHE ►2

CITY BEAT

Ward 4 rep Jay Benanav and aide Jane Prince bid farewell after 10 years at City Hall ►4

SIGN OF THE TIMES

Ordinance lights the way for electronic billboards, and its a costly one ►13

CLOSE TO HOME



Rice Park awes ►12

STREETSCAPE

Decade-long effort to redesign the intersection of Cleveland and St. Paul avenues hits another bump in the road ►19

ARTS



Lyra Orchestra strikes up sounds of the season c. 1700 ►27

SPORTS

New seasons get under way in boys' hoops and hockey

►31-32

VIEWPOINT.....	8
DISTRICT COUNCILS.....	16
CRIME REPORT	18
FOOD	23
KIOSK.....	25
CLASSIFIEDS	36

CAR STARTER

23 to choose from as low as

\$199⁹⁹

Installed*

AS-1452V for cars with Keyless Entry, comes with two 4-Button Remotes.

*See salesman for details. Most late model cars require extra parts and labor.
*(Some models available for diesel, & manual transmissions, turbo timer.)
10% Off any Car Starter w/coupon. Expires 12/15/07.

MACH-1

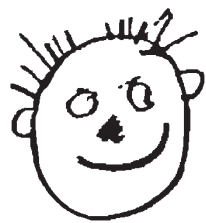
CAR AUDIO & SECURITY
...the speed of sound

St. Paul • 651-699-4530
Randolph at Lexington
Little Canada • 651-481-7215

10% Off

Saint Paul Early Childhood Family Education ECFE

Now registering for classes



ECFE

Galtier ECFE
1317 Charles Ave.
293-5342

Highland Jr. High ECFE
975 S. Snelling Ave.
293-5345

Randolph Heights
ECFE Infant & Toddler
Center

348 S. Hamline Ave. 293-5344

Rondo ECFE 560 Concordia Ave. 325-2793

West 7th ECFE at Monroe 810 Palace Ave.
293-8969

• Education, support and resources for parents and their children birth to kindergarten.

• Programs lead by experienced, knowledgeable staff.

• A fee you can afford. No one will be excluded.

Call 651-793-5410 for more information.

For more information online:

<http://ecfe.spps.org>

ORGANIC FARE • FRESH PRODUCE • LOCAL FOODS
WORLD CUISINE • BREADS & DAIRY • COFFEES

Taste the difference with organic and locally grown food.



Mississippi
market

Mississippi Market

622 Selby Avenue and 1810 Randolph Avenue, St. Paul
651-310-9499 or 651-690-0507 • www.msmarket.coop
Open Daily 8:30-9:30



1◀ CATHEDRAL CRÛCHE

"This is a true labor of love for me," said Denardo Sandbeck, a regionally known sculptor and painter whose father, Louis A. Denardo, painted much of the interior dome of the Cathedral. "I remember visiting the St. Paul Statuary Co. when I was a child to watch my father and older brother work."

Her father learned his trade as an apprentice in Florence, Italy, before immigrating to Minnesota. He specialized in terrazzo and mosaic work.

Denardo Sandbeck, 79, and her sister, who will turn 90 on Christmas Eve, began restoring statues in the mid-'70s. After raising seven and five children, respectively, they apprenticed under their brother, Louis M. Denardo.

"We were lucky to have that one-on-one training with our brother. He was a true master in mixing paint colors," Denardo Sandbeck said. "Louis could walk by as I was mixing a color and say, 'You need a few more drops of sienna in there,' and he'd be right."

Bisciglie started working in the business shortly before her husband retired from his job as a pharmacist. "There were a few years (1975-1978) between when he retired and he passed away, and he'd make lunch for Marguerite and I," she said with a smile. "It was a real treat coming home to a hot lunch every day."

By 1978, their brother had passed away unexpectedly and both women were widowed, so they took over the business, Denardo Statuary Restoration, on St. Paul's West Side. "Now we see that my brother's and father's work is in much need of repair as well," Denardo Sandbeck said.

The Reverend Joseph Johnson, rector of the Cathedral, said this year's centennial celebration of the laying of the Cathedral's cornerstone "reminded us of how many things at the Cathedral have begun to get worn around the edges. Looking at the elaborate plaster ornamentation of the dome and nave that

Denardo designed, we see the damage caused by water leaks before the roof was replaced five years ago.

"Everyone thinks that the completion of the exterior means that the Cathedral is fixed," Johnson said. "Unfortunately, we're learning that possessing a historic building—especially of the artistic and architectural caliber of the Cathedral—means a constant effort in restoration.

*"That's what they do
at the Vatican, and
if it's good enough
for St. Peter's, it's
good enough for
St. Paul's."*

We can't afford the approximately \$10 million to fix the interior right now, but the crèche was one small step in the right direction and it demonstrates our commitment to handing down to the next generation the treasures we've been blessed to receive."

The Denardo sisters refurbish statues that are brought to them from churches and schools around the Midwest. They travel much less to do projects on location these days and shared a laugh recalling that in their younger days, when they were 60 and 70, they would gladly climb scaffolding for a job.

"I remember working on a statue of St. Ignatius of Loyola. I was standing on scaffolding and had to wrap my arm around him to paint his eyes," Bisciglie said with a chuckle. "To this day, I feel close to St. Ignatius."

The women's cozy studio is a converted garage. "My children added the gas line, ventilation system, track lighting, shelves and work benches," Denardo Sandbeck said.

The women rely on their years of experience to solve problems such as the missing hand on the statue of the baby Jesus. "We created a new mold for the hand out of rubber, poured the plaster,



Helen Buche, left, of Summit Hill shows off some of the 26 figures from the Cathedral's nativity scene that have been restored to their original luster of the 1930s. Above, sculptor and painter Marguerite Denardo Sandbeck enjoys a laugh while repainting the manger's sheep. Below, her sister Eleanor Bisciglie shows off other statues awaiting repair. PHOTOS BY ANNE BRANDRUD



and then reattached it before we started the detailed work of painting the piece and finally applying several coats of resin to protect it from the elements—hopefully for many years to come," Denardo Sandbeck said. "The work on these statues was finely done. You can see the emotion on the faces so clearly."

Denardo Sandbeck was only a young girl when the statues were first created, yet she said it sparked an interest in learning the trade herself. Her daughter, Lisa Parkos, has been helping out and plans to take over Denardo Statuary Restoration in time.

"We love the work and I do my best praying down here," said Denardo Sandbeck. "It also keeps us from thinking about the aches and pains that come up at this age."

"We've always taken a lot of pride in what we do," Bisciglie said. "There's a different feeling that carries us while we work. It's more than the money."

For the Cathedral's crèche, volunteers have been transporting the restored statues in their cars. "We've been swaddling the statues in bundles of old blankets," Buche said. "We're taking loving care of each statue as it is returned to the Cathedral so that it can be enjoyed by generations to come."

Money for the refurbishing has come from fundraising events sponsored by the Cathedral Women's Association, including its annual Valentine tea, lemon pie sale and Christmas cookie sale.

Johnson said the crèche will remain on view at the Cathedral until February 2. "For a Christian, December 25 starts a time of celebration that lasts until the Feast of the Epiphany on January 6," he said. "Our crèche will remain in place until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple on February 2, following the European tradition of observing the 40 days from Christmas to Candlemas. That's what they do at the Vatican, and if it's good enough for St. Peter's, it's good enough for St. Paul's."

News Briefs

Randolph-Lexington rezoning, site plan hearings postponed

The St. Paul City Council will hold a public hearing on January 2 regarding a developer's request to rezone the southeast corner of Randolph Avenue and Lexington Parkway in order to build a new 20,000-square-foot retail center that would include a Trader Joe's grocery store. The hearing was scheduled for December 19, but was postponed due to a notification error by city staff.

Randolph Hill LLC wants to rezone the 1.2-acre parcel from a mix of commercial and single- and multi-family residential uses to Traditional Neighborhoods. The developer plans to construct a 14,420-square-foot Trader Joe's and another smaller building that would house two other retail tenants. Randolph Hill is a partnership of TOLD Development and St. Paul-based Meridian Management.

A conditional use permit and zoning variations for the project have already been approved by the Planning Commission on the condition that the rezoning is approved by the City Council.

The project's site plan will be the topic of a public hearing on January 3 before the Planning Commission's Zoning Committee. That hearing was postponed from December 20. The site plan addresses such issues as traffic flow, parking, landscaping and lighting. The full Planning Commission could vote on the site plan as early as December 28. That decision will be final unless it is appealed to the City Council.

Supporters of a Trader Joe's grocery store have aggressively lobbied City Council members to approve the project. Opponents have argued that the national chain would hurt

locally owned businesses, including Korte's Supermarket, McCafferty Liquors and P.J. Murphy's Bakery. They have also raised concerns about increased traffic and parking the development would bring to the corner.

The developers were scheduled to meet with the Highland District Council's Community Development Committee on December 13, but instead decided to hold a smaller meeting with neighbors on December 17.

HRA approves \$650,168 in extra costs for transit hub

The Smith Avenue Transit Center opened this fall, but issues over its construction budget did not get wrapped up until December 12 when the St. Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority approved a budget amendment to cover \$650,168 in cost overruns.

According to a city staff report, the additional costs were for debt service on the parking revenue bonds and unforeseen soil conditions. All but \$126,645 of the extra costs could be paid by funding sources used before for the project. The rest of the money will come from an HRA parking fund.

The 5½-story transit center at Kellogg Boulevard and Smith Avenue has a 655-space parking ramp and serves as a layover facility for up to 16 Metro Transit buses. Planning for the facility began in 1998, but construction did not start until 2006.

Former Mayor Randy Kelly repeatedly delayed the project because he felt other developments, ranging from a Minnesota Twins stadium to a Target store, should be built on the site. Those delays contributed almost \$1 million to the project's eventual \$25.9 million price tag. The decision to pursue a Target

store in 2005 was made after the city had already issued more than \$16 million in bonds for the project. Kelly and City Council members clashed repeatedly over the delays. After Mayor Chris Coleman took office in 2006, he urged that the project move forward.

Part of the project involved moving the historic Armstrong-Quinlan House from the site to a lot on Eagle Parkway near Irvine Park.

ABRA gets five-year reprieve for University Ave. body shop

ABRA Auto Body can continue to operate at 1190 University Ave. following unanimous St. Paul City Council approval of an interim use designation on December 5. The decision allows the auto body repair business to remain there through December 2012 even though the property's commercial zoning does not allow that particular business use. The designation was supported by District 13 Council, the Midway Area Chamber of Commerce and University United.

ABRA is located in an area along the proposed Central Corridor light-rail line that is being studied for a Lexington Parkway transit station. The area is being targeted for land-use changes related to the transit line, which is not expected to start operating until 2014. City staff determined that it is unlikely the property would be redeveloped before then. ABRA representatives said they plan to relocate the business to a properly zoned site.

Earlier this year, ABRA sought a nonconforming use permit from the Planning Commission. The request was opposed by city planning staff, but laid over by the commission until a solution could be found.

When it opened for business 11 years ago,

ABRA was classified as an accessory use to Midway Chevrolet and its sister auto dealership, Midway Hyundai Suzuki. Because both dealerships have since moved out, there is now no main land use. An accessory use cannot legally exist without a main land use.

A stand-alone auto body repair shop is permitted only in industrially zoned areas. The University Avenue site is zoned B-3 for more intensive commercial uses. An auto repair shop could legally operate there, but not an auto body shop.

Cleveland Ave. coffee house receives entertainment license

Coffee Bene, 53 S. Cleveland Ave., was granted a cabaret license by the St. Paul City Council on December 12. The coffee house is owned by the adjacent Davanni's restaurant, which has been on the corner for more than 30 years. The coffee shop opened in February 2006.

Two conditions were placed on the license, which allows music, poetry readings and other smaller-scale entertainment. The license stipulates that entertainment must end by 9:30 p.m. on Sundays through Thursdays and by 11:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. The number of performances also cannot exceed 12 a month.

One neighbor appeared at a legislative hearing in November to express support for Coffee Bene, but also to ask that the entertainment license not be broadened in the future. Coffee Bene representatives said entertainment will be offered inside the coffee shop only and not on the sidewalk or in Davanni's.

News Briefs compiled by Jane McClure.

Highland Park Office 735 S. Cleveland 651 698-2434

Edina Realty Inc.

www.edinarealty.com Your Home for Homes



Grand Avenue Office 700 Grand Ave. 651 224-4321



Breathtaking Interior
94 Crocus Place: One of the finest interiors in St. Paul, museum-quality woodwork & glasswork, massive wrap-around porch, new kitchen, 5+ BRs. Premiere address.
Mary Hardy 651 225-3903 \$1,599,900



Every Luxury
Enjoy a luxuriously renovated Crocus home with 5 splendid new baths, a stylish tasteful interior, 3-car garage, dream master suite, 5 BRs, perfection throughout. 852 Osceola.
Mary Hardy 651 225-3903 \$975,000



Savvy Investment
New list! 642 Lincoln. Wonderful owner-occupied duplex, spacious 4-BR, 3-bath owner's apartment, new architectural siding and windows, 4-car garage, prime rental area.
Mary Hardy 651 225-3903 \$559,900



Premier Block
294 Stonebridge Blvd.: Spacious walkout rambler on a spectacular lot, stunning views, 4 BRs, 3 baths, beautiful windows & 2 FPs. Don't miss this opportunity!
Mary Gallivan 651 225-3921 \$774,000



Stunning Townhome
376 Ramsey St.: Exceptional Ramsey Hill townhome, spacious end unit w/ side yard & perennial gardens, deck, patio, 2 BRs, 4 baths, 2 FPs, 2-car gar. w/storage loft.
Mary Gallivan 651 225-3921 \$485,000



Priced to Sell
57 Avon St. S. #27: Nice main floor unit, private patio, 2 BRs, in-unit laundry, 1-car garage & storage unit, eat-in kitchen, DR, den, hwd. floors, lots of built-ins & storage.
Mary Gallivan 651 225-3921 \$249,900



Investment Opportunity
605 Portland: Vintage 10-unit apartment building with 1920s charm and long-term tenants. Rare opportunity in premier Crocus Hill neighborhood.
Brad Palecek 651 225-3923 \$977,000



Business \$ Investment
2047 Grand: "Salon del Sol" offers premier turn-key business with two additional rental units. Ideal gallery, office space, day spa - wonderful location!
Brad Palecek 651 225-3923 \$559,000



Premier Crocus Hill
1072 Fairmount: Stunning 2-story "Craftsman" style home w/3+ BRs, 2 sunrooms, updated kitchen, family room and gorgeous natural woodwork!
Brad Palecek 651 225-3923 \$449,900



Open your dream business
on Grand Avenue! High visibility, 7 offices, reception, conference area, expansion space, parking for 9. This fabulous Victorian has it all. Perfect location. 653 Grand.
Deborah Saul 651 225-3942 \$650,000



2139 Carroll Ave.
Lovely Craftsman in the historic Hill area of Merriam Park. 5 BRs, 3 baths, over 3,000 sq. ft. Remodeled kitchen w/maple cabinets, hwd. floors, built-ins & leaded glass.
John McKeown 612 387-1584 \$529,900



Charm & Space to Expand
1887 Saunders Ave.: Prime Highland Park location. Extra-large lot, sun-filled 3-BR, 2-bath with cozy fireplace. Bay window in formal DR. Large garage & quiet street.
Roz Vannelli Anderson 1-877 591-1972 \$245,000



Entertain with Ease
Lovely new home in St. Paul, convenient to everything. Open floor plan on main with 4 BRs up. Fabulous master suite and great lower level walkout.
Phyllis Salmen 651 225-3935 \$534,000



Porch & Patio
Cozy living room welcomes you to this spacious 3-BR home in Mac-Groveland. Convenient to busline and walking to restaurants and retail. Great value.
Phyllis Salmen 651 225-3935 \$259,900



Updated & Ready
Enjoy this updated 2-BR condo in the convenient Wilder complex in the heart of Mac-Grove. Stunning new kitchen, new carpet and lovely views & amenities.
Phyllis Salmen 651 225-3935 \$133,900

Ward 4's top two

Benanav, Prince bid farewell after 10-year stint at City Hall

By JANE MCCLURE

An era is ending in St. Paul's Ward 4 as City Council member Jay Benanav and his legislative aide, Jane Prince, prepare to leave what they both described as the most rewarding job they have ever had. As they pack up a decade's worth of mementos from their offices and say their good-byes to colleagues, both agreed that while change is never easy, it is time to move on.

Benanav chose to not seek a fourth term this fall. "Ten years is a long time," he said. "It's a great job, it truly is, and the thought of not doing this anymore is sad, but it's time. Sometimes I think 10 years on the City Council is like 20 years at another job."

"I feel really fortunate to have had this job," Prince said. "For the most part, I've enjoyed constituent service and the work we've been able to do for the city."

Both said they have been gratified by the support they have received in recent weeks. "I'm sure there are people out there saying good riddance," Benanav said, "but it's been great to hear from so many people who've appreciated what we've been able to do."

"It's great to hear from people and realize you were able to make a difference in their lives," Prince said.

Many of those who worked with Benanav and Prince over the past decade said they appreciated the pair's ability to negotiate compromises and their work on a wide range of issues, including the Central Corridor light-rail project, the citywide smoking ban, the crack-down on problem rental properties, numerous Capital Improvement Budget projects, the fight over Ayd Mill Road, sober house regulations, and access to city contracts and the

contracting out of city services.

What was often cited as the major accomplishment of Benanav's tenure on the council was the 2004 agreement that allowed the University of St. Thomas to expand its campus boundaries. The agreement established an ongoing advisory committee and instituted other measures meant to improve the Macalester-Groveland and Merriam Park neighborhoods. Negotiations over that agreement were intense.

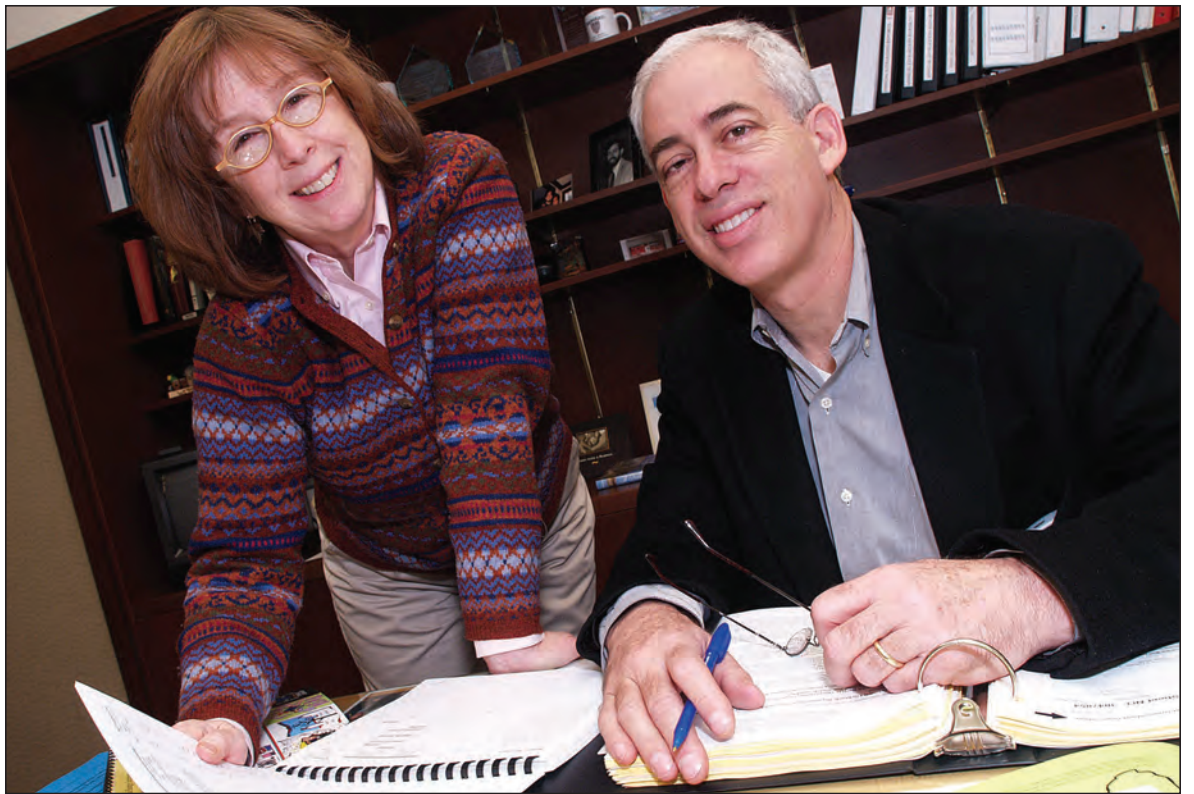
"(Benanav) always encouraged us to try to work things out," said Doug Hennes, St. Thomas' vice president for university and government relations. At the end, Benanav stepped in and personally negotiated the agreement. Prince was closely involved as well.

Hennes said he and other St. Thomas officials are grateful for the work that Benanav and Prince did. That is especially true of the decade-long effort to address single-family and duplex rental properties around the campus. Benanav noted that one impetus for his seeking office was a party house of St. Thomas students on his block in Merriam Park.

"Jay understands the art of reaching agreements and finding compromises better than any other public policymaker I've seen," said Scott Banas, who chairs the District 13 Council's Land Use Committee and co-chairs the West Summit Neighborhood Advisory Committee. "He and Jane have been able to bring people to the table and reach agreements on difficult issues. It's been pretty extraordinary."

Benanav cited one frustration: that the Central Corridor light-rail project is not farther along. "We were discussing (light rail on University) when I was on the Merriam Park Community Council more than 20 years ago," he said.

Benanav said he also would have



Ward 4 St. Paul City Council member Jay Benanav and his right-hand aide, Jane Prince. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

liked to see more progress on renovating the historic Crosby Block building at 1956 Feronia Ave. Still, he said he is proud of his role in promoting the construction of new housing on University, including the Episcopal Home campus, Carleton Lofts, Emerald Gardens and 808 Berry Place. "When you look at what's happening on University Avenue, it's pretty amazing," he said.

"I think they really get neighborhood issues," said Merriam Park resident Jeanne Weigum, who worked with Benanav and Prince on issues ranging from smoking and billboards to parks and other open spaces. Weigum said Benanav also dealt well with the landlords of problem properties and helped animal rescue groups gain access to unclaimed pets.

Benanav credited local residents and business owners for helping him get things done. (Ward 4 includes all or part of the St. Anthony Park, Como Park, Hamline-Midway, Merriam Park and Macalester-Groveland neighborhoods.) "You certainly don't work alone in this job," he said. "You have to work with the people in the neighborhoods."

Resolving difficult land-use dis-

putes is what Prince said she will miss most. Benanav said Prince made his job easier in that regard. "She is someone who can just step in and take on even the most difficult problems," he said. "She's been amazing."

What Benanav said he will not miss are the political fights and the heated disputes that sometimes erupted in the neighborhoods. "It does take a lot out of you," he said.

During his first eight years on the council, Benanav regularly butted heads with mayors Norm Coleman and Randy Kelly. Benanav lost to Kelly by 402 votes in the 2001 mayoral election, which added to the tension during Kelly's term.

"It wasn't fun," Benanav said. According to him, it has been much easier to work with Mayor Chris Coleman's administration.

Benanav pushed to make sure the equal access report was released before he left office. The report spells out the city's shortcomings in providing equal access to city contracts and development opportunities for women, minorities and people with disabilities.

One frustration that both Benanav and Prince cited was the need

to raise property taxes even as city services are being slashed. "I'm really going to be glad to leave at a time when we have to hear the mantra 'do more with less,'" Prince said. "Constituents feel like they're paying more and yet not getting even basic services."

Benanav spent much of his last year in office fighting to preserve Hamline-Midway Library hours and to keep recreation centers open. He is pleased that the Merriam Park Library will get its Sunday hours restored next year, but is disappointed that Fire Station 20 at Vandalia Street and University Avenue had its services cut.

Benanav, who also works as an elections and immigration attorney for Weinblatt and Gaylord, is also starting a business that advises families coping with college costs. "It's very satisfying helping people find the best financial options for their families," he said.

Last week, Prince finished her course work at Hamline University School of Law. She will take the bar exam in February.

Both would not rule out future public service and said they plan to stay involved in civic affairs.

WINNER 2007 UPTOWN COFFEE FESTIVAL



Gift Boxes & Other Stuff from \$5⁹⁹

Save \$2

Mention or clip this ad and Save \$2 on any Gift Box. Expires Dec. 24, 2007.

FREE WIRELESS INTERNET



"A LEGEND SINCE 5 A.M."®

769 Cleveland Avenue 649 Snelling Avenue
at Ford Parkway • 651-699-5448 at Scheffer • 651-695-1960

www.mellaskincare.com

The only specialty spa dedicated exclusively to skin care, massage, and fine products.

skin care & massage

mella

1204 Grand Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105
651.292.8406

Keep Your Teeth & Gums Healthy for Life!

Call for an appointment
(651)690-2837

Robert Juhnke, D.D.S.
33 S. Hamline Ave., Suite 2
St. Paul, MN 55105



New friendly treatments for Gum Disease & Straightening Teeth!

New Patient Offer

Dental Exam including:

- Bite Wing X-rays
- Personal Consultation
- Professional Cleaning*

(*unless Gum Disease is present)

\$69

Regular \$230
Mention this ad to receive discount
Expires Jan. 31, 2008.

CHOO CHOO BOB'S TRAIN STORE

CHRISTMAS BLOW-OUT SALE!

HUGE Savings on Select Items!

This is the Sale Event of the Season...and a Great Opportunity to finish your Holiday Shopping!

Stop in a register to win a \$100.00 Gift Certificate from Choo Choo Bob's Train Store!

Drawing will be held Sunday, Dec. 23. Need not be present to win!

Select Brio Starter Sets: 50% Off!

Polar Express Holiday Set: Reg. \$49.95 **Sale Price \$24.95**
Battery Polar Express Engine: Reg. \$24.95 **Sale Price \$12.50**
Mountain Adventure Figure 8: Reg. \$39.95 **Sale Price \$20.00**
Panda Circle Set: Reg. \$19.95 **Sale Price \$9.95**
Wild West Brio Train Set: Reg. \$49.95 **Sale Price \$24.95**
My First Railway Set: Reg. \$34.95 **Sale Price \$17.50**

Other Exciting Items Also on Sale!

Bachmann "Meteor" Ho Train Sets: 50% Off!
All Bachmann G Gauge Train Sets, Rolling Stock and Track: 40% Off!

Lionel Polar Express Sets: 25% Off!

This sale is through Monday, Dec. 24.

While Supplies Last. NO Rain Checks.

New Story Times with Engineer Paul

Sat. Jan 5 Tues. Jan 8 Sat. Jan 19 Tues. Jan 22
Story Time always starts at 10:00 a.m.!

2050 Marshall Ave. St. Paul 651-646-5252

Extended Holiday Hours through Dec. 23

M-F 10-8 Sat 10-8 Sun 10-7

We are open Christmas Eve 10 am - 3 pm!

1 ◀ **HOMECROFT**

ace Mann elementary schools next school year. "About 59 students would go to Groveland and Horace Mann," Carstarphen said. "The rest would attend Wellstone Elementary," a downtown school that has a strong bilingual program.

One reason district administrators are proposing to eliminate Homecroft as an elementary school is that the 86-year-old neighborhood institution is facing corrective action for failing to make adequate yearly progress over the past few years under the federal No Child Left Behind law. Seven district schools are in the same boat and must make changes or face state and federal sanctions, Carstarphen said. Some of those programs are also facing major changes for the 2008-09 school year.

Monroe Community School is one of them. Carstarphen has proposed merging the K-8 school at 810 Palace Ave. with Linwood A+ Elementary School at 1023 Osceola Ave. Under that plan, Linwood's popular arts program would be available to students in grades K-3 at Linwood and grades 4-8 at Monroe.

However, it is the plan for Homecroft that has drawn the most fire. According to Principal Arty Dorman, children from the surrounding Highland Park neighborhood make up about two-thirds of Homecroft's 250 students. However, only 30 percent of the children in the neighborhood who attend a K-6 public school go to Homecroft, he said.

"Homecroft is a neighborhood school that hasn't been chosen by the neighborhood since at least 1995," Carstarphen said in an earlier interview. At the December 12 meeting, she added, "(public school) enrollment throughout the southwest quadrant (of the city) has been falling. Right now, the students are filling up only half the space that's available here."

To that, Robert Brandtjen of Highland Park replied: "47 percent of the kids (in Highland Park) attend private schools because the St. Paul Public Schools are not providing the programs that would keep them in a public school. If Homecroft has lost students, it's because it has lost resources and programs. Put those resources and programs back in the school and you'll get those students back."

Mary McCarte, a 42-year resident of Highland Park, was upset about hearing of the plan less than two weeks before the School Board was scheduled to vote on it. "I'm worried about the mix of students who would be coming to Homecroft (under the plan)," she said. "It would be 12- to 16-year-old kids who are emotionally and behaviorally disturbed. What kind of security would there be for children in the neighborhood?"

"I think the way this has been handled has been disrespectful to Homecroft students, parents and the community," said Margo Fox of Highland, treasurer of the Homecroft PTA and a former member of the St. Paul School Board. "This is not the way the St. Paul Public Schools has done things in the past, especially when closing an elementary school."

"If you decide to (eliminate Homecroft), you need to communicate with and prepare this community for what to expect," said David Fox of Highland Park.

State Senator Dick Cohen (DFL-District 64), agreed. "I have some concerns about the *fait accompli* element to this decision, the quickness of it," he told school officials. "Please, take a step back and keep in mind the nature of this neighborhood. There are a high number of immigrants at Homecroft."

Carstarphen defended her plan. At Wellstone, she said, former Homecroft students



Homecroft principal Arty Dorman offers some assistance to 2nd-grader Mohammed Ahmed during a recent book fair at the school, 1845 Sheridan Ave. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

"I think the way this has been handled has been disrespectful to Homecroft students, parents and the community," said Margo Fox, treasurer of the Homecroft PTA. "This is not the way the St. Paul Public Schools has done things in the past, especially when closing an elementary school."

receiving English Language Learner services would benefit from its expanded bilingual program and educational partnerships with downtown museums and businesses. "We have the space at Wellstone," she said, "and Principal Christine Osorio is bilingual in Spanish."

"Homecroft students who go to Groveland would benefit from before- and after-school child care services and several enrichment programs in math, science, French and Spanish," Carstarphen said. "Those who go to Horace Mann will have enrichment programs in ELL, science and technology, instrumental and vocal music and physical education." Homecroft cannot offer those same programs and services because of its lower enrollment, according to her.

School Board member Anne Carroll said she does not believe that waiting a year "will solve the problems facing Homecroft. If the right mix of changes were discovered that might bring more students to the school, it would still take another year for parents and the community to see that and decide to send their kids there. We don't have two years to do this. I haven't decided what I'll do yet, but the driver of my decision is what plan will best provide Homecroft students the same opportunities available in our other schools, because right now Homecroft students aren't getting them."

"We could take Homecroft off the agenda, maybe until our January meeting, to give us more time to communicate with Homecroft's families and the community," said School Board member Tom Goldstein. "But given the problems that Homecroft is facing in corrective action, I'm just not sure what could be done."

BIG TOP

Wines & Spirits

Holiday Below Cost Sale

Rex Goliath
All Types
except Pinot Noir

\$4⁹⁹

750 ml

Miller
Genuine Draft,
Draft Light
& Lite



\$13⁹⁹

24 Cans

Ste. Michelle
Champagnes

\$7⁹⁹

750 ml

Barefoot Cellars
All Types

\$3⁹⁹

750 ml

Absolut Vodka
Regular & Flavors

\$17⁹⁹

Liter

Jim Beam
Bourbon

\$18⁹⁹

1.75 Ltr.

Columbia Crest
Two Vines
All Types

\$4⁷⁹

750 ml

Christian Bros.
Brandy

\$14⁹⁹

1.75 Ltr.

Grande Canadian
Whiskey

\$6⁷⁹

Liter

Phillips
Gin & Vodka

\$10⁹⁹

1.75 Ltr.

Johnnie Walker
Red Label

\$27⁹⁹

1.75 Ltr.

Cabin Still
Bourbon

\$7⁴⁹

Liter

Lindemans
Bin Series
All Types

\$8⁹⁹

1.5 Ltr.

Smirnoff Vodka
80 Proof

\$15⁴⁹

1.75 Ltr.

**Rosemount
Diamonds**
All Types

\$5⁹⁹

750 ml

**Mondavi
Woodbridge**
All Types

\$8⁹⁹

1.5 Ltr.

Crown Royal
Canadian

\$16⁹⁹

750 ml

Chateau St. Michelle
Riesling, Sauv. Blanc
& Gewurz

\$5⁹⁹

750 ml

Bailey's Irish
Regular & Flavors

\$13⁹⁹

750 ml

Stolichnaya Vodka
Regular & Flavors

\$15⁹⁹

Liter

LaVielle Ferme
Red, White & Rose

\$5⁹⁹

750 ml

Sutter Home
Merlot, Chardonnay, Cabernet,
Moscato, Gewurztraminer,
Pinot Grigio, Syrah
& Pinot Noir

\$3⁹⁹

750 ml

Arbor Mist
All Types

\$4⁹⁹

1.5 Ltr.

Sutter Home
White Cabernet, White Merlot,
White Zinfandel, Chenin
Blanc, Sauvignon Blanc
& Zinfandel

\$2⁹⁹

750 ml

Prices Good December 10th thru 24th, 2007

Sid's Discount Liquor

Big Top Midway
1574 University Ave.
Saint Paul
651-644-4501

Sid's Plymouth
10200 6th Ave. No.
Plymouth
763-545-0099

Big Top Mounds View
2577 West Highway 10
Mounds View
763-398-0900

Sid's Bloomington
8348 Lyndale Ave. So.
Bloomington
952-884-6592

Big Top Eagan
1284 Town Centre Dr.
Eagan
651-681-1916

City tax levy to increase a record 15.1 percent in 2008

By JANE MCCLURE

The St. Paul City Council on December 12 adopted an \$82.6 million property tax levy for 2008, an increase of 15.1 percent from 2007. Combined with the 4.6 percent levy increase contemplated by Ramsey County and the 3.7 percent increase proposed for the St. Paul Public Schools, that will raise the combined levy for St. Paul property taxpayers to \$308.5 million, a 7.6 percent increase over 2007.

The Ramsey County Board and St. Paul School Board were set to adopt their respective tax levies on December 18, after this issue of the *Villager* went to press. Barring any last-minute changes, the county will adopt a budget of \$556.9 million for 2008, funded in part by \$242 million in property taxes, and the St. Paul Public Schools will levy \$102.9 million to support an annual budget of \$599.7 million.

The \$11.5 million property tax hike in St. Paul represents the largest one-year jump in the city's history. The city's total operating budget for 2008 is \$565.1 million, an increase of 3.1 percent from 2007.

Meanwhile, the city is moving ahead with plans to transfer the management of eight of its recreation center buildings to outside organizations, not the 10 rec centers Mayor Chris Coleman had initially contemplated. Two East Side centers were spared. However, the Homecroft, Desnoyer, St. Clair and Dunning recreation centers are all expected to have new operators next year.

"The budget makes tough choices," Coleman said. "It allows us to fund critical services while bringing St. Paul closer to financial stability."

Coleman has been critical of his two predecessors, Mayors Randy Kelly and Norm Coleman, who, according to Coleman, contributed to the current budget woes. Norm Coleman and Kelly were able to hold the city's property tax levy at a steady \$65 million for 12 straight years. However, they did that in part by expanding right-of-way maintenance assessments and by using one-time funding sources to pay for city operations, leaving holes in future budgets.

City Council members said they did not take the property tax increase lightly. "It's the worst of all possible convergences here," said City Council president Kathy Lantry. "Property taxes are being raised and yet we're cutting services."

At the December 11 Truth-in-Taxation hearing, Coleman, Lantry, County Board chair Victoria Reinhardt and School Board chair Elona Street-Stewart acknowledged the hefty increases property taxpayers are being asked to pay, but maintained that they have little choice. The city, Coleman said, has lost \$108 million in Local Government Aid (LGA) from the state in the past five years.

The City Council's vote on the 2008 tax levy was 5-2. Pat Harris and Debbie Montgomery voted against the 15.1 percent increase, saying it was excessive. Montgomery said she has heard from many constituents who can-

not afford large property tax increases. Harris, who had tried to reduce the levy in September through a shift of interest earnings, said he has also heard from many concerned property taxpayers.

For Ramsey County, the budget increases are largely driven by unfunded mandates passed down by the federal and state governments, Reinhardt said. For example, next year the county is taking over responsibility for monitoring Level 3 sex offenders, a shift that will cost local property taxpayers more than \$1 million in 2008.

In addition to its \$102.9 million levy, the St. Paul Public Schools will be collecting the \$30 million excess levy approved by voters in 2006. According to Street-Stewart, the school district will be using those funds to expand its all-day kindergarten program and to beef up high school science and math instruction. The school district gets 70.3 percent of its revenue from the state and 16.4 percent from local property taxes.

Mayor Coleman and the City Council began their 2008 budget deliberations having to make up a \$17 million deficit if the city was to maintain the current level of city services. Coleman had hoped to close the gap with an additional \$10.2 million in LGA from the state, but the allocation was vetoed last spring by Governor Tim Pawlenty.

The City Council is expected to make several last-minute changes to the 2008 budget on December 19, but those will not affect the total levy. The proposed budget as it looked

just prior to those changes provides for the hiring of 13 additional police officers and the leasing of 100 new squad cars to replace aging squad cars. The budget maintains the total hours of operation at the city's public library branches and restores Sunday hours at the Merriam Park branch. The city will also be hiring a full-time citizen participation coordinator to work with its 17 district planning councils. That position was cut in 1993.

The City Council has voted to include in the Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) for 2008-2009 the merger of Fire Stations 1 and 10 in a new building to be constructed at the intersection of Randolph Avenue and West 7th Street. Station 1 is at West 7th and Grand Avenue. Station 10 on Randolph Avenue is the city's oldest, dating from the 1880s. The council also included in the CIB money for planning an upgrade of the Highland and Como Park swimming pools.

The two-year CIB, which totals more than \$50 million, will also pay for the completion of the Jimmy Lee Recreation Center and Oxford Pool in Summit-University, improvements to Palace Recreation Center on the West End, the replacement of a bridge on Edgumbe Road in Highland Park, work on an extension of the Midtown Greenway bicycle trail through Merriam Park, the reconstruction of Selby Avenue, the reconstruction of the ramps between Ayd Mill Road and I-35E, and improvements to the playgrounds at Hamline and Hague avenues and at Holly and St. Clair avenues.

1◀ TRUTH-IN-TAXATION

their property.

Dianne Binns said her family was among many who moved into the Summit-University neighborhood several years ago, pushed out the drug dealers that had operated there and fixed up their homes. Her house has been assessed at \$390,000, she said, but a real estate agent recently told her she would be lucky to get \$190,000 for it. Binns said her property taxes have increased by more than 50 percent in the past few years. "We elected you all; you've got to do something," she said.

Mary Gross, who has lived on Laurel Avenue in Merriam Park for the past 37 years, said her home has been targeted for a 17 percent tax increase in 2008. "I love St. Paul," she said. "I was born in St. Paul and I raised my family in St. Paul, but I can't afford to stay in St. Paul and live in my house."

Dennis Chandler said the property taxes on his West End home have doubled in the past decade. He said he is working two jobs just to make ends meet. "If I can go to McDon-

ald's, I'm doing good," he said.

Abe Rosenthal, a retired resident of Macalester-Groveland, said he will need to devote three of his monthly Social Security checks just to cover his 2008 property tax bill.

"At what point will you stop asking us for more money?" West End resident Michael Gay asked of local officials. "It seems like every single year you're digging into our pockets more and more."

Several speakers said that if they could sell their homes, they would leave St. Paul. Others said that they may have no choice but to move if their property taxes keep going up. Chee Yang, a Frogtown resident who spoke through a Hmong interpreter, said: "Please, take the property back—take the house back."

However, homeowners were not the only property owners registering their pain. Nancy Novak, owner of Grampa Tony's Pizza at 631 S. Snelling Ave., said that she is looking at a 35 percent property tax increase for 2008. "At this point, we may have to close," she said. "This is quite a shock."

Tara Nelson told of how she re-

Median Taxable Home Market Value

Planning District	2007	2008	Change
Summit-University	\$178,600	\$202,400	13.3%
West 7th	\$154,800	\$172,200	11.2%
District 13	\$254,600	\$282,000	10.8%
Macalester-Groveland	\$268,100	\$288,350	7.6%
Highland Park	\$271,250	\$280,200	3.3%
Summit Hill	\$349,500	\$380,000	8.7%
Downtown	\$110,400	\$130,600	18.3%

The increase that individual St. Paul homeowners will see in their property taxes next year is affected not only by the total taxes levied by the city, county and school district, but also by the taxable market value of their homes in relation to that of other properties in the city. The state is phasing out the limit on yearly increases in taxable market value, so that eventually those values will reflect a home's actual market value. For 2008, the annual increase in tax market value is still limited to a maximum of 15 percent. As the chart above indicates, taxable market values are increasing at various rates across the *Villager* area as the taxable value of homes in those neighborhoods approach their actual values. CHART IS FROM RAMSEY COUNTY

cently renovated a house at 1517 Randolph Ave. for a beauty salon. According to her, rezoning the property from residential to commercial has caused her property tax bill to jump from \$2,700 to \$9,000. "I don't know how I can keep myself

in business and not be run out of town," she said.

"I cannot raise rents at the rate the property taxes are going up," said landlord Brendan Cassidy of Highland Park.

"Frogtown is almost a vacant

city," said Leslie Lucht, whose rental properties are seeing tax increases of more than 20 percent. "I can't even give my property away."

Several speakers complained about public subsidies for private businesses and what they saw as wasteful public spending and poor city services. The lack of responsiveness by police and other city employees was cited by several speakers.

According to East Side resident Bob Hour, news reports of a city employee who was caught stealing coins from parking meters indicated that the man was paid \$42,000 per year by the city. "I can't afford to live in a city that pays someone \$42,000 a year to empty out the parking meters," he said.

Scott Adams of Summit-University criticized the city's spending more than \$1 million on building two refrigerated outdoor ice rinks. He drew applause when he called for local officials to scrap the proposed Central Corridor light-rail transit project, the construction of which has been projected to cost more than \$900,000.

SWITCH FOR SERVICE!



Park Midway Bank

2300 Como Avenue • St. Paul (651) 523-7800
2171 University Avenue • St. Paul
www.parkmidwaybank.com Member FDIC



BUSINESS BANKERS: (Left to right):
John Landree, Steve Johnson, Kathy Bjerke and Rick Beeson

COMMUNITY of PEACE ACADEMY

A PRE-K-12 CHARTERED PUBLIC SCHOOL

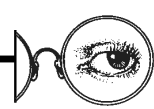
471 MAGNOLIA AVE E., ST. PAUL



- 2007 National Charter School of the Year
- 2003 National School of Character
- Academic Program recognized by US Dept. of Edu.
- Peace Education/Ethics taught and modeled daily.
- Music, Art and Choir
- Grades 7-12 Sports
- K-12 Access to Library and Technology.
- All Day Kindergarten
- 3 and 5 day Pre K.
- Small Class Size
- Tuition Free

Join us for our **Winter Program Dec. 20, 6:30**
Visit us @ the **Parent Info Fair, Feb. 2**
Public Tours, Wednesday at 9:30 am
651-776-5151 #333
<http://cpa.charter.k12.mn.us>

Educating the whole person – mind, body and will – for fullness of life for all.



Grand Spectacle Inc

See Yourself Clearly



- Eye Examinations
- Contact Lenses
- Prescriptions Filled

Providers for BCBS, Medica, VSP, HP most others

Can't see yourself in new eyewear-View the latest in eyewear technology in frames, lenses, tints, and coatings right before your eyes. Our Computer aided system lets you try before you buy! Visit Grand Spectacle today and see for yourself.

764 Grand Ave • St. Paul, MN 55105
Phone: 651-227-8198

819648


ROLEX



OYSTER PERPETUAL
36MM DAY-DATE



R.F. MOELLER
JEWELER

ST. PAUL

MINNEAPOLIS

EDINA

HIGHLAND VILLAGE
651-698-6321

GAVIIDAE COMMON
612-332-4141

50TH & FRANCE
952-926-6166

OFFICIAL ROLEX JEWELER

ROLEX  OYSTER PERPETUAL AND DAY-DATE ARE TRADEMARKS.

Viewpoint

The arithmetic of St. Paul's city budget

BY MATT SMITH

St. Paul's city budget and the property taxes necessary to help pay for it have been in the news a lot lately. Here are some things that you may not have heard or read about the city budget:

- Though St. Paul is the state capital and a central city, with all the extra demands for service that come with that, the city's overall spending is not high compared to many other Minnesota cities. In 2005, the most recent year reported by the State Auditor, St. Paul's spending per capita ranked 42nd out of the state's 218 largest cities.

- Inflation is by far the biggest factor in the city's spending growth. The energy bill for the city increased 30 percent between 2003 and 2006, and a 2.5 percent cost-of-living increase in the police and fire departments alone will add over \$3 million to the city's employment costs in 2008.

- Two-thirds of the city's general fund budget is spent on the police and fire departments, and 80 percent of that is attributable to personnel. Since 2004, spending for police, fire and criminal prosecution has grown by more than 5 percent annually. All other spending by the city grew by less than 1 percent annually.

- The property tax levy that is set each year by the city is the only part of the property tax over which the city has any direct control. Ramsey County then uses that figure—along with the property taxes to be levied by the county, the St. Paul Public Schools and other entities—to come up with the total property tax rate. A growing tax base due to rising property values or new construction does nothing to change total property tax collections; it only pushes down the tax rate. Tax base growth can be captured to help pay for the city budget only if the city increases its tax levy.

- St. Paul's total tax collections have increased only slightly since 1994, and both the city's tax rate and tax ranking among metro area cities have continued to drop. In the past two years, total city tax collections have increased, but today they are only 7.5 percent higher than they were in 1994 in nominal (ignoring inflation) dollars. In the most recent ranking, St. Paul's taxes were 73rd among metro area cities.

- The total city property tax collections for a year don't even pay for the police department. This year's total budget for the police department is \$81 million. The total property tax levy for city operations this year is \$71 million.

- About 1 out of 4 dollars paid by St. Paul property taxpayers goes to the city budget. The property taxes levied by the city, county and school district during 2007 was \$282 million. The city's share was \$77 million.

- St. Paul's financial management gets good grades. In recent years the city has maintained its AAA credit rating and received a "strong" financial management rating from Standard and Poors, placing St. Paul among the top 15 percent of cities in the nation.

- The simplest way to balance a budget is just to find enough money to pay the bills for that year. Problems arise when the money used to pay ongoing expenses comes from a one-time source like a reserve fund or from postponing major purchases. The city did a lot of that over the past few years, so the structural gap in the budget continued to mount.

- The majority of St. Paul's revenue comes from a combination of state Local Government Aid (LGA) and property taxes. Before 2003, LGA was dependable and grew with inflation. Since 2003, LGA has been cut by 25 percent, costing St. Paul \$108 million through the 2008 budget year. Over the long run, reliable revenue to fund the city's budget has to come from either the local property tax levy being increased by the city, or from LGA being restored as a dependable and growing revenue source by the state.

Mayor Chris Coleman's 2008 budget plan laid out the alternatives plainly: If the state restores LGA at least at the level envisioned in last spring's vetoed tax bill, property taxes will grow more slowly and more services can be maintained at current levels. If the state does not help, property taxes will be higher and services will be diminished. The arithmetic of St. Paul's city budget isn't any more complicated than that.

Matt Smith is the finance director for the city of St. Paul.



Inbox

Median would mess up Snelling

To the editor:

I was a little surprised at your article concerning the median proposed for Snelling Avenue between Grand and St. Clair avenues (*Villager*, December 5). You failed to mention that it will really mess up entry and exit to Immanuel Lutheran Church's parking lot—not only for church members, but for Macalester College students and faculty who park there during the week. Then there is the issue of access to homes and Immanuel for emergency vehicles. Oh, and the funniest statement of all: "It will make it safer to cross Snelling." How can it be safer when you are stepping directly into a traffic lane instead of a parking lane?

But since Macalester usually gets what Macalester wants, this will probably go through.

*Vernon Jorgensen
Macalester-Groveland*

We can do better than burner

To the editor:

I am a member of Neighbors Against the Burner (NAB). I wish to differ with writer Douglas Allchin's perception that NAB is "fear-mongering" (*Villager* "Inbox," December 5). Rather, we are working mightily to get ourselves, as ordinary citizens, well-informed about fuel choices for the Rock-Tenn plant and pass along what we learn to the public. On our website, www.neighborsagainsttheburner.org, are many facts and credible studies about this complex issue.

I commend Mr. Allchin for having taught environmental ethics at Cornell University. However, I believe that if he clearly understood that refuse-derived fuel will certainly be laden with pollutants, he should be willing to understand that our political decision-makers have an obligation to move toward, not away from, securing the public health. We at NAB are not "preoccupied with pristine environments." Rather, we are convinced that zero waste is doable and that to construct a garbage burner anywhere in 2007—when newer, truly clean and green energy alternatives are finally emerging—would be moving backward in the struggle to preserve our planet.

NAB has been moving toward supporting an economically viable alternative for Rock-Tenn based on testimony provided to the Rock-Tenn Community Advisory Panel. This would be burning natural gas in the short-term until a genuinely renewable fuel can be used by Rock-Tenn. (Burning garbage is not a renewable source of energy in spite of its current

political definition in our state. Recycling this same garbage would be using it in a renewable fashion.)

The energy marketplace is changing before our very eyes. To build a costly incinerator in this decade would provide us with a huge and unhealthy public boondoggle. We at NAB beg our fellow citizens to get informed and say "no" to incineration.

*Jan Greenfield
Highland Park*

Lighten up on light rail

To the editor:

What is with the shrill, Russ Stark-hating, light-rail-transit-phobic harpies who think that light-rail transit on University Avenue will be a "gazillion-dollar" boondoggle? If they'd get on the Selby-Lake bus to Minneapolis and ride the Hiawatha Line, they'd see that lots of people are riding it and that lots of people are moving into the apartments and condominiums that have been built near the light-rail stations.

There are issues along University Avenue that are different from those faced by the construction of the Hiawatha Line. However, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Metro Transit, Hennepin County, the city of Minneapolis and the neighborhoods along the Hiawatha line worked together to build a transit line that's a great asset to our community. Of course, making that happen along University Avenue for some of the anti-Stark, anti-light-rail zealots would involve taking off their blinders and talking to people who think light rail is a good idea—maybe even Russ Stark!

*Louis Hoffman
Nokomis, Minneapolis*

Use the cities' pathways safely

To the editor:

I've been a St. Paul resident all my life and have lived in Highland Park for 10 years. I bike, walk and Rollerblade the neighborhood and feel fortunate to have so many miles of paved pathways. There's one problem I run into all too frequently, though—people who don't know how to use the pathways properly. Because I've been at trail heads that have the rules of the road posted, I know this information is out there. Unfortunately, people aren't reading it or heeding it.

In some areas, there are both walking paths and separate

8◀ INBOX

paths clearly marked for biking. However, there are still people who use bike paths to walk two or more abreast, blocking the way for the bikers. Even worse, as the approaching bikers call out that they're approaching "on your left," they all stop, turn around in confusion and scramble to get out of the way, often getting angry at the biker for getting in *their* way.

In other areas, the pathways are shared by bikers and walkers. The same thing happens here, but walkers get more indignant. The same can be said about Rollerbladers. On a shared path, it's important to remember to slow down when approaching pedestrians. When approaching from the rear, call out clearly and in ample time that you're coming up "on your left." Pedestrian should walk on the right side of the path, just like cars on the road. When passing in traffic in your car, you signal and pass when it's safe on the left side of the slower moving traffic. It's the same on pedestrian pathways. What could be easier?

These beautiful trails are there for all of us to enjoy —walkers, bikers and bladers. You wouldn't get behind the wheel of a car and drive without knowing how. Please learn the rules for using the pathways and follow them.

Mary Montour
Highland Park

Lend a hand in snow removal

To the editor:

It is wonderful when businesses, schools and property managers make the extra effort to clear the bus stops and intersections when clearing snow from sidewalks and parking lots. A path that is merely a few feet wide makes a tremendous difference and is noticed and appreciated by riders and pedestrians of all ages.

In past years, many businesses have failed to remove snow at these spots, which makes it impossible or nearly impossible for people with walkers, canes and other mobility equipment to ride the bus or to cross the street at marked pedestrian crossings. It creates dangerous situations for others, too. Last winter I witnessed three older adults fall at a Highland bus stop that had not been cleared. That included one elderly woman who actually slid under the bus!

This area of the city is usually very pedestrian-friendly. It is a great community service to pedestrians and mass-transit users to keep the area pedestrian-safe during the season of snow and ice. There are simply too many bus stops for Metro Transit to remove the snow at all of them.

Joanne Hansen
Macalester-Groveland

Sorry state of customer service

To the editor:

I'm sure most of you have experienced the frustration of being put on hold while attempting to make a quick phone call. Such an experience happened to me on Thursday. I made five phone calls taking a total of 50 minutes and six seconds. That's right, an average of 10 minutes per call. I'm talking about calling the offices of a clinic (seven minutes on hold), a therapist (12 minutes on hold), a university doctor (6½ minutes on hold), a library (nine minutes on hold) and a retail store (eight minutes on hold).

You might ask why I sat on hold for so long. The obvious answer: I needed their services and calling back would have resulted in the

same thing, plus I'd go to the end of the line of incoming calls.

The on-hold systems use men's and women's voices with a variety of phrases all basically saying, "Just sit there and wait." Oh, yes, they're very polite, indicating they knew my time was valuable. But it seems to me that they should have enough people to answer my call immediately or don't use the system. Yes, my time is valuable and, yes, I'm glad they realize that, but why don't they also realize they need to support the technology they've chosen?

I spent 50 minutes and six seconds on Thursday, a fair share of it listening to men and women saying they were sorry. I was sorry, too. I could have been writing my Christmas cards, creating mailing labels for their envelopes or maybe even sneaking some Christmas goodies.

Dorothy Kettner
Highland Park

Worth its weight in burritos

To the editor:

Pinehurst Bank would like to thank Chipotle Mexican Grill and its employees for partnering with us in our recent blood drive. Chipotle offered free burritos to the first 100 donors, which was a wonderful incentive to help the community. The blood drive was a huge success, and we look forward to sponsoring the bloodmobile twice a year in the future.

Chipotle further surprised us by graciously providing lunch for our employees. They gave all of our employees cards that said, "A good deed deserves a good feed." It is partnerships like this that make Highland Village a warm, inviting place to work, live and play.

Jody Crowley, Senior Vice President
Pinehurst Bank
Highland Park

A true thanksgiving

To the editor:

Barb Aslesen and I would like to thank you for the nice article you published regarding Thanksgiving Meals on Wheels (*Villager*, November 21). The article helps us get the volunteer drivers we need on Thanksgiving Day. Also, many thanks to all the volunteers who helped make our 38th year of Thanksgiving Meals on Wheels the most successful ever. With the generous gift of time and effort by so many wonderful people, we were able to prepare and deliver 14,212 dinners to brighten Thanksgiving Day for nearly 2,600 Twin Cities families. Special thanks to Cretin-Derham Hall for letting us use their high school year after year and to Holy Spirit Church for letting us use their parking lot.

I will never forget that special feeling when Barb and I delivered dinners in the earlier years of the program, seeing the happy, excited faces of the children and the smiles or tears on the faces of the parents. Barb and I don't have time to deliver on Thanksgiving morning anymore because we're busy coordinating the food distribution and delivery. But the same feelings come in different ways: by working with all the volunteers, listening to their delivery experiences, and reading the many nice notes we get from the grateful recipients.

This is true thanksgiving—seeing those in need and helping them, realizing what we have to be thankful for and really appreciating life, family and the people around us who care.

INBOX ▶ 10

VILLAGER

Volume 55, Number 20

Maurice F. Mischke, 1920-1991

757 Snelling Ave. S., St. Paul, MN 55116
www.myvillager.com
651-699-1462 • Fax: 651-699-6501

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.

Publisher
Michael Mischke
mmischke@myvillager.com

Editors
Dale Mischke
John Wadell
news@myvillager.com

Letters to the editor:
letters@myvillager.com

General Manager
John Rauch
jrauch@myvillager.com

Classified Ads
Lisa Corrigan
Mary Helen Pates
wantads@myvillager.com

Advertising Sales
Tim Carroll
Emmet McCafferty
Bob Stjern
displayads@myvillager.com

Production
John Baichtal
Craig Schuster

CONTRIBUTORS
Anne Brandrud, Nancy Crotti, Kevin Driscoll, Larry Englund, Bob Gilbert, Dick Gordon, Janet Lunder Hanafin, Lisa Heinrich, Janet Hostetter, Philip Hussong, Brian Johnson, Frank Jossi, Jo Marshall, Jane McClure, Steve Michaels, Dave Page, Morgan Smith, Brad Stauffer, Bill Stieger, Bill Wagner, Carolyn Will, Judy Woodward, Dave Wright, Natalie Zett.

CIRCULATION
The Villager is published twice a month by Villager Communications Inc. The paper has a press run of 65,000, including 50,000 copies delivered to households and businesses and another 15,000 copies distributed via newsstands. Mail subscriptions are available at \$35 per year for those who live outside the home-delivered area.

©2007 Villager Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Mary Hardy
Real Estate Agent



Edina Realty
700 Grand Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105
T 651-225-3903
O 651-224-4321
F 651-224-0932
E MaryHardy@edinarealty.com
www.MaryHardyOnline.com

So much to be grateful for.

I would like to thank all my loyal clients and friends for making 2007 another record year. I truly appreciate your referrals and your trust in me. It has been an honor to work with you. Wishing you a happy peaceful holiday season!

Congratulations to the recent buyers and sellers of these properties:

63 S Avon St #36	1078 Linwood Ave
988 Dayton Ave #1	700 Linwood Ave
1374 Edgecumbe Rd	761 Linwood Ave
961 Fairmount Ave	252 Maiden Ln #2
737 Fairmount Ave	2 Overhill Dr
753 Fairmount Ave	1256 Palace Ave
1021 Fairmount Ave	1057 Portland Ave
1219 Hartford Ave	811 Portland Ave
415 Holly Ave	436 Portland Ave #15
1487 Iglehart Ave	1999 Sargent Ave
22 Kent St	1325 Summit Ave
25 Kenwood Pkwy	1189 Summit Ave
2351 Kressin Ave	353 Summit Ave
576 Lincoln Ave	629 Summit Ave
1368 Lincoln Ave	1373 Summit Ave
690 Lincoln Ave	118 Wheeler St
727 Lincoln Ave	427 Woodlawn Ave

'Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam, Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home; Home, home, sweet, sweet home! There's no place like home, oh, there's no place like home. Home, home, sweet, sweet home!

Finding & Selling Your Castle Since 1978

Hurry in to get your framing done by Christmas!



BILL SAYS

"framed pictures make good gifts!"

- baby pictures • school pictures
- old family photos

bring in this ad and get \$10 off any purchase.

Framing Sale

Save 50%

on the cost of the frame with all your custom framing projects.

This coupon not valid with any other sale or coupon offer.

In the Village

FRAMEWORKS

Quality Custom Picture Framing

SE Corner of Cleveland Avenue and Ford Parkway in Highland Park • 651-698-3372
www.myframeworks.com Hours: M-W-F 10-7, T-Th 10-9, Sat 10-5

9◀ INBOX

Thanksgiving Meals on Wheels wouldn't be the size it is today if it weren't for the many special people who support us. It's been a great year. Thanks again from both of us and all our families.

*Bill Foussard, Coordinator
Thanksgiving Meals on Wheels*

A gift that grows

To the editor:

Here's a holiday gift that doesn't need gift wrap, makes birds and other wildlife happy, benefits the community and honors the recipient for many years. It's just the thing for the person who has everything: a tree planted in their name in a local park.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Parks and Trails of St. Paul and Ramsey County, the trees may be designated for any park operated by Ramsey or Dakota counties or by a score of cities in the metropolitan area. They cost \$75 each or three for \$200.

A hand-stamped holiday card announcing your gift will be sent to the person you wish to honor. The tree will be planted by park staff next spring, and the recipient will receive a map showing its location. For more information, call 651-698-4543 or visit friendsoftheparks.org.

*Peggy Lynch, Executive Director
Friends of the Parks and Trails*

Short but sweet

Dear editor:

Just a brief note to express our appreciation for your newspaper and especially to mention how much we enjoy reading columns written by Bill Stieger.

*The Johnstons
Mendota Heights*

A swan song on ever-smiling Bea Evans

BY DICK GORDON

I jokingly refer to Bea Evans as "Grumpy" because she is a perpetual smiler. "I'm just a happy person," said the 93-year-old widow. "As a child I smiled a lot, too." Evans will be flashing an especially broad smile on Christmas Day when she'll join about 30 relatives, including 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, for a family feast at the home of her son, Paul.

Evans is the personification of the Christmas spirit and a beacon of inspiration to her fellow residents of the Wellington assisted living facility in Highland Park. However, if she were a complainer, no one would fault her for having a field day.

Evans' husband died of a heart attack in 1968, leaving her to care for their seven children, then ages 9-21. Three years ago her toe got caught in a revolving door and became infected. Her leg had to be amputated above the knee and she has been getting around in a wheelchair ever since. Last year, her son Judson, a former three-sport athlete at Highland Park High School and a popular high school referee, died of a heart ailment at age 55. And earlier this year, Evans was diagnosed with colon cancer. After an operation, her doctor pronounced her cancer-free and called her "Wonder Woman."

Those superhero capabilities were evident 40 years ago when the newly widowed Evans became the sole supporter of her family. While in her early 50s she made the jump from homemaker to working mom by embarking on a 30-year career as a clerk at the Montgomery Ward in the Midway Shopping Center. The pay wasn't great, but Evans said the employee discount helped a lot when buying family necessities, as did her Social Security and pension checks. A long-time Macalester-Groveland resident, she is still grateful for all the support that her neighbors and fellow members of Holy Spirit Catholic Church offered her and her family.

Evans' career at Montgomery Ward ended when the store closed in 1998, leaving her unemployed and, frankly, bored. "I wanted to keep busy," she said.

After a short stint at a clerk at St. Patrick's Guild, she made a routine visit one day to Liberty State Bank, where she had long been a loyal customer. When she told an employee there that she was unemployed, she was handed a job application. Evans had a difficult time convincing bank officials that a woman in her mid-80s was looking for work, but her persistence paid off and she was assigned to the bookkeeping department.

"Those were the best five years of my working life," she said with her trademark smile. "The customers and employees were



Bea Evans enjoys a workout at the Wellington. PHOTO BY ANNE BRANDRUD

wonderful." She quit only when the department switched to computers.

Evans' six surviving children fully appreciate how hard she worked to support them and are now helping her pay the rent at the Wellington. Her only daughter, Mary, lives in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and her oldest son, George, resides in Florida. Paul is in Andover and Bob, John and Mark are in St. Paul.

Sometimes, if infrequently, Evans admitted to getting a bit downhearted. But then, she said, "I come downstairs and see my friends here and I forget all about it. I'm a very lucky person."

This column may well be my last contribution to the *Villager*. Age 96 and 11 months seems an appropriate time to quit hitting—or missing—the keys (as in typewriter, not computer). If this does mark the end of my journalistic career that began in 1929 at the old *St. Paul Dispatch*, interviewing smiling Bea Evans will be remembered by me as an inspiring swan song.

Math Tips for Parents

How to help your child become mathematically fluent

These strategies can be started as early as kindergarten, first, or second grade. The trick is to do these exercises both **orally** and **visually**, with little or no writing. Pictures or objects can be used as visual aids.

Learning Subtraction Facts

Here is the structure of the process of learning subtraction facts.

Subtraction has two aspects:

- the notion of "how much is left," and
- the notion of "how far apart are the two numbers" (**how far is it** from the smaller number **up to** the bigger number).

Use the notion of "how much is left" when the numbers are fairly far apart, and count down. For example,

12 - 3 is best thought of as "counting down from 12 by 3."

On the other hand, use the notion of "how far apart are the two numbers" when the numbers are fairly close to each other, and count up. For example,

12 - 9 is best thought of as "how far is it from 9 **up to** 12."

After a good deal of practice with both methods, they will use the right one automatically as they are doing these types of problems.

Try these:

- 1) Which method would you use for 100 - 98? **HOW FAR APART**
- 2) Which method would you use for 100 - 3? **HOW MUCH IS LEFT**
- 3) Which method would you use for 100 - 87? **HOW FAR APART**
- 4) Which method would you use for 100 - 15? **HOW MUCH IS LEFT**

Use the concept of breaking down numbers [wholes and parts] to teach subtraction both forward and in reverse:

- 12 - 9 = [12 is 10 + 2. Count up 1 from 9 to 10, and 2 more is 3]
- 11 - = 4 [4 is 1 + 3. Down 1 from 11 is 10. Down 3 more is 7]
- - 9 = 2 [2 is 1 + 1. Up 1 to 10. Up 1 more is 11].
- - 3 = 11 [Counting 3 up from 11 is 14].

MATHNASIUM
The Math Learning Center

1832 St Clair Ave
stpaul@mathnasium.com
651.698.MATH

A Quarter Century of Helping Homeowners



MN Lic. #20320318



www.austadconstruction.com

182A Ryan Lane
St. Paul

- Shingle & Flat Roofs
- Siding & Gutters
- Concrete & Stone Work

Free Estimates, Many References
licensed, bonded & insured

Dave
AUSTAD CONSTRUCTION
Residential & Commercial

Learn something new



Heirloom Necklace
Reg. \$15



Bali Rope Bracelet
Reg. \$18

Over 60 kits to choose from

50% Off
One Beading Kit

Choose from 60 kits available.



One coupon per customer per visit. Must be surrendered at checkout. Cannot be combined with other discounts. Some restrictions may apply. May be redeemed at either retail location in Minneapolis or St. Paul.

Coupon Valid 12/18/07-1/02/08



Minneapolis
50th & France
952-929-4032

St Paul
Grand & Victoria
651-222-7729



kwiatt.com THE HOOPS COLLECTION



KWIAT

SINCE 1907

100 years

R.F. MOELLER

JEWELER

SINCE 1951

ST. PAUL • 651.698.6321

MINNEAPOLIS • 612.332.4141

EDINA • 952.926.6166



Heidi and Laurie Oslin admire the lights at Rice Park before taking in *The Sound of Music* at the Ordway. The park's holiday display includes a 75-foot-tall tree that will be lit continuously through January 1. PHOTOS BY PHILIP HUSSONG.

Rice Park has remained a central part of St. Paul for 158 years

Rice Park really should have been named Central Park, given its central location amid all the activity over the years at the west end of downtown St. Paul. Bounded by 4th, 5th, Market and Washington streets, Rice was one of the city's first parks. Even today, it is central to many downtown activities, surrounded by the St. Paul Hotel, Landmark Center, Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, and the Central and James J. Hill libraries. During the holidays it is particularly resplendent with sparkling lights and toward the end of January the park will again be filled with ice carvings and snow sculptures during the Winter Carnival.

Rice Park predates New York City's Central Park by seven years. In 1849, Henry Mower Rice and John Irvine filed a plat for land in downtown St. Paul, and in doing so designated what is now called Rice Park as a "public square."

(There was a Central Park in St. Paul just east of the state Capitol from the 1880s until the 1970s. It was a rather small space that featured walkways, trees, shrubs and an ornate fountain. Today the site is a parking ramp for state government workers.)

In its early days, Rice Park was largely an untended vacant lot. General C.C. Andrews, in his 1890 city history, quoted a sarcastic observation of the park's condition: "Among



Close to Home By Lisa Heinrich

the rare plants...are fox-tail, pigeon-grass, juniper-weed and dog-fennel. The only care and attention which these spontaneous plants require of the city is an annual mowing. This attention is freely given by our city fathers without regard to expense."

Cows could frequently be found grazing in what was then called City Park. For a while, a German florist grew flowers and vegetables there rent-free in return for caring for the lot. A fence was erected in 1858, and the first trees were planted in 1860. However, the trees became something of a civic joke because the land was limestone under a thin layer of topsoil. In the early 1890s fill was added to raise the ground four feet, but it caused the death of

many of the trees.

At the end of the Civil War, the area surrounding the park was a mix of residential and commercial uses other than the original City Hall where Landmark Center now sits and the Metropolitan Hotel on Washington Street, according to the Selby Avenue-based 106 Group's technical report, "Historical Documentation for Rice Park," that it conducted in 1998 for the St. Paul Division of Parks and Recreation.

A "Bill to Suppress Immorality" prohibited undergarments from drying in Rice Park.

The surrounding residential neighborhood and also made the park attractive for other purposes. According to a pamphlet on Rice Park, "Before the advent of bleach and vacuum cleaners, neighborhood women used the grassy area to bleach their laundry in the sun and on cleaning days could be found beating their rugs."

That prompted *Minnesota Pioneer* editor Joseph R. Brown, who was also a territorial senator, to introduce a "Bill to Suppress Immorality," which prohibited undergarments from

drying in Rice Park, wrote Virginia Brainard Kunz in *Saint Paul: The First 150 Years*.

In 1872 the Great Western Band began playing summer evening concerts in the park. The concerts continued for many years and a bandstand was eventually built to better accommodate them.

One of the highlights of the park's history was its central role in the celebration of the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad. According to the "Historical Documentation," the celebration was likely the impetus for improvements to the park in 1883, including floral displays, additional lights and a sculpture of a boy and a swan. "Nothing, however, could compare to the grand opening of the Northern Pacific Railroad, which was celebrated in this park on Sept. 3, 1883," the report stated. "The 21st president of the United States, Chester Alan Arthur, attended the festivities with his party.... At Rice Park, which on that morning was a gem of trees and flowers, many of the honored guests were seated to review the great parade.... It was indeed a memorable day for St. Paul."

The park enjoyed its heyday in the late 19th and early 20th century, as did much of the city. Andrews wrote in 1890, "Thither every evening in the warm seasons, when the electric

RICE PARK ► 13

Ask for it from your local beer merchant!

BREWER'S CAVE
GOLDEN Caramel LAGER

No Additives or Preservatives
Brewed in the Land of 10,000 Lakes

651-221-0899 • fdyarusso@comcast.net
Chisago Lakes Distributors 651-257-3652

HEALTHPOINT
ORIENTAL MEDICINE
TUINA • ACUPUNCTURE • CHINESE HERBS • SHIATSU • MASSAGE

SAFE, EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE
FOCUSING ON YOU

Treating Pain, Illness, and Disease • Licensed, Board Certified
651-698-1404 www.healthpointclinic.org
232 South Snelling, St. Paul, MN 55105

Remodelers & Cabinetmakers
The Transformed Tree
ESTABLISHED 1973

licensed/bonded/insured
Certified Remodelers on Staff
30+ Years of Dedicated Service

651-646-3996 • www.transformedtree.com

Wet Paint
Artists' Materials & Framing inc.

HOLIDAY SALE!
THRU DECEMBER 31ST, 2007!

In addition to Beka, we offer this sweet, American-made kid's two-sided easel, black chalk & whiteboard.

KIDS EASELS!
Beka Children's Easels -- Made Right & Made Here!
Wet Paint is pleased to offer well-made children's easels by the Saint Paul company, Beka, & others!

Special Holiday Hours:
Saturday, December 22, 10am-8pm
Sunday, December 23, 12n-8pm
December 24 & December 31, 10am-3pm
REGULAR HOURS
Mo-Fr, 10am-8pm
Sa, 10am-6pm/Su, 1-5pm

1684 Grand Avenue Saint Paul 651.698.6431
info@wetpaintart.com www.wetpaintart.com

Ordinance lifts the ban on new electronic billboards in St. Paul

But costly conditions make it unlikely that any will be erected

By JANE MCCLURE

St. Paul's new ordinance governing electronic billboards did not brighten anyone's day when the compromise measure passed December 12 on a unanimous vote by the City Council.

The ordinance allows electronic billboards in the freeway corridor along I-94 and along I-35E north of downtown as long as they are spaced at least one mile apart and do not shine into adjacent homes. However, billboard companies may only erect a new electronic billboard if they remove several existing billboards elsewhere in the city.

The ordinance allows 1 square foot of new electronic billboard space for every 6 square feet of old lit billboard space, or 8 square feet of old unlit billboard space, that is removed. Under those conditions, billboard industry representatives say, it is unlikely that any new electronic billboards will be erected. That disappointed anti-billboard activists, who had been looking forward to the removal of at least some of the more than 600 billboards across St. Paul.

Clear Channel Outdoor, which owns about 400 of the billboard sign faces in the city, contends that the 6:1 and 8:1 tradedown ratios are too steep. "It's unfortunate, but it just doesn't work," said Clear Channel vice president Tim McCarver. He said his company is trying to "do the responsible thing" and remove neighborhood billboards while replacing a handful of old freeway billboards with new electronic ones. According to him, Clear Channel is willing to work with tradedown ratios of 4:1 for lit signs and 6:1 for unlit signs that were recommended by the St. Paul Planning Commission, "but the ratios (adopted by the City Council) make absolutely no business sense for us," McCarver said.

Companies smaller than Clear Channel have testified that under the tradedown ratios adopted by the city, they could remove every billboard they own in the city and it would still not be enough to erect one electronic sign.

The billboard companies and their advertisers like the electronic billboards because they are more dramatic, but can flash a series of messages. However, the new ordinance requires that the billboard messages change no more frequently than every 12 seconds, and that also concerns McCarver. According to

him, the national standard for the industry is every eight seconds, an interval that he said is supported in studies of electronic signs and highway safety.

Traffic safety and visual blight are the top concerns about the electronic billboards. The electronic signs can be distracting for motorists, according to John Mannillo of Scenic St. Paul, and could open up to liability any city that allows them.

Electronic billboards "really get on my optic nerves," said West End resident Andrew Hine.

Peter Brown of Summit Hill compared electronic signs to loud music or pervasive odors. "You cannot ignore them," he said.

Mannillo said he was heartened by how the ordinance minimizes the impact of electronic billboards along freeways. He also praised a provision that gives the City Council the final say on which neighborhood billboards are removed as part of the tradedown.

Three of the city's 17 district councils—St. Anthony Park, Macalester-Groveland and District 13—want the city to ban electronic billboards altogether. According to Joel Clemmer of the Macalester-Groveland council, the very purpose of electronic billboards "is to divert eyeballs off of the road."

However, McCarver and other billboard industry representatives contend that electronic billboards are no more distracting for a motorist than eating or talking on a cell phone while driving.

Both McCarver and representatives of Scenic St. Paul are holding out hope that the regulations will be amended in the future. "It's too bad we didn't have a few more weeks to talk about this," said City Council member Dave Thune of Ward 2. The city is facing a January 31 deadline for having the regulations in place. That is when a city-imposed year-long moratorium on electronic billboards expires.

Thune said there are billboards in his ward that he would like to see taken down, but he questioned whether that will happen under the new ordinance.

Electronic billboards began popping up in the Twin Cities just over a year ago. St. Paul has banned new billboards for the past several years, but billboard companies have successfully argued in court that they have a right to repair and improve existing billboards, including making them electronic.

St. Paul officials imposed the moratorium on electronic billboards to give them time to study possible regulations. Only one electronic billboard was erected in the city before the moratorium was adopted—a sign on I-94 just east of downtown.

In the early 20th century, the park was the site of many events, including rallies for women's suffrage and labor causes as well as the St. Paul Winter Carnival. Recruits assembled there when the United States entered World War I.

By the 1920s the area around the park was no longer residential as larger buildings sprang up, including the St. Paul Hotel, the Minnesota Club, the Hamm Building and the Amherst Wilder Foundation building.

The park fell into "disrepair and deterioration" between the 1940s and 1960s, according to the "Historical Documentation." The St. Paul Women's Institute raised funds for its restoration, which took place in 1965. That is when the current central statue, Alonzo Hauser's "The Source," was added.

Those who visit Rice Park this holiday season will discover a 75-foot-tall tree lit 24 hours a day, seven days a week from now through January 1. The park also is decked out with millions of twinkling lights, classic Nutcracker and angel statues, and other holiday decor. Adjacent to the park is the Wells Fargo WinterSkate rink, which will remain open through February 3.

12◀ RICE PARK

lights are aglow, come hundreds of people, of all classes and ages, and on occasions when open air concerts are given the park is fairly crowded."

The park eventually took on the name of its founder, Henry Rice, but the date of that change is unclear. Rice was born in Vermont, moved to Detroit in 1835 and came to Fort Snelling in 1839. For many years, he was an agent of the Chouteau Fur Company, according to Warren Upham in *Minnesota Geographic Names*, and he aided in the negotiation of several treaties that resulted in land being ceded for white immigration in Minnesota. Rice was appointed a U.S. senator when Minnesota became a state in 1858. He is said to have built the first residence on Summit Avenue in 1855, though Ernest Sandeen lists another one built that same year in *St. Paul's Historic Summit Avenue*.

The first comprehensive design for Rice Park was done in 1898, according to the "Historical Documentation," to complement the construction of the Federal Courts Building.

Fabric SALE
JANUARY CLEARANCE
20-50% OFF
SELECTED FABRIC
Dec 26th thru Jan 6th
Closed Dec 25, Jan 1, 2
TREADLE YARD GOODS
(651) 698-9690
Mon.-Thurs. 10-8, Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 1-5
1338 Grand Ave. St. Paul, MN 55105

Your local libation station
Holiday Specials

Tisdale Wine
\$1.99 750 ml.

12 Pack Summit
\$9.99

Liquor Village
by the Ford Bridge
Over 30 years in the spirits business

Prices valid thru Saturday, January 5, 2008

2289 Ford Pkwy
651-699-7070

Buy One, Get One Free
On Eyeglasses (up to \$259)

Buy a complete pair (frame and lenses) at regular price and receive a free complete pair — same prescription, valued up to \$259. First pair must be of equal or greater value to free pair. Cannot be combined with any other offer, previous purchases, vision and insurance plans, readers or non-prescription sunglasses. Valid prescription required. Certain brands excluded. Accessories are additional on both pairs. Valid at participating locations. Discount off regular prices. Void where prohibited. Some restrictions may apply. Savings applied to lenses.

PEARLE VISION

You'll Love Our New Styles

Eye Exams Available • 6 Days a Week & Evenings.
by Dr. Troy E. Randgaard
651-698-2744
We accept most vision plans.

Highland Village
2034 Ford Parkway

PEARLE VISION
©2007 Pearle, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Use your Vision Benefits or Flex Spending by 12/31/07

Santa is coming to town!

December 20th 2:00pm-5:00pm

Have your FREE picture taken with Santa.

Meet the elves.

Enjoy cookies, juice and coffee.

ANCHOR BANK
Member FDIC
BANKING & WEALTH MANAGEMENT SERVICES

1570 Concordia Ave. • Saint Paul • 651-747-2900

Fall on your knees Oh hear the Angel voices...

Christmas Liturgy at The College of St. Catherine

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 23
Mass: 10:30 a.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE
Lessons and Carols: 4:30 p.m.
Mass: 5:00 p.m.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
December 30 – Mass: 10:30 a.m.

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY
January 6 – Mass: 10:30 a.m.

The College of St. Catherine
Our Lady of Victory Chapel
2004 Randolph Avenue, St. Paul
651-690-6724 • stkate.edu



CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT CHRIST CHURCH LUTHERAN

Christmas Eve Carol Service 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Service 10:00 a.m.

www.christchurchluth.org
Pastor Kristine Carlson

3244 34th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN (612) 721-6611



Christmas Eve Services

*Worship
in Wonder Celebrate
with Joy*

Twilight worship service 4:00 p.m.

Evening candlelight service 10:30 p.m.
Christmas music featuring choir, organ & brass

Central Presbyterian Church
500 Cedar Street, St. Paul
651-224-4728 • www.cpcstpaul.org

everyone welcome • child care • handicap accessible
free validated parking at World Trade Center ramp



Immanuel Baptist Church

We welcome you to worship with us:

Christmas Program Dec. 23 – 10:45 am

Regular Services

Sunday 10:00 am – Bible Class 10:45 am – Worship

Wednesday 7:00 pm – Bible Study/Prayer

Immanuel Baptist is an independent church
www.ibchurch.com

750 Watson Ave. • St. Paul, MN 55102 • 651-227-5075



Christmas Services at Area Churches

CATHOLIC

Lumen Christi:

2055 Bohland Avenue
Christmas Eve Masses at 3:00 (Family Mass) and
5:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.
Christmas Day Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Holy Spirit: Christmas Eve Carols at 4:00, Mass at
4:30 p.m., Carols at 9:30 and Mass at 10:00 p.m.
Christmas Day Mass at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Immaculate Heart of Mary:

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at 4:15 p.m.,
Carols at 3:45 p.m., Christmas Day Mass at 10:15 a.m.

Nativity of Our Lord:

Christmas Eve Masses at 3:00 (downstairs), 4:00
and 5:30; Carols at 11:30 p.m. and Midnight Mass.
Christmas Day Masses at 7:00, 8:15 and 11:00

St. Luke's: Christmas Eve Masses (Carols start one
half hour before each Mass): 5:15 and 10:00 p.m.
Christmas Day Mass at 10:15 a.m.

St. Mark's: Christmas Eve Family Mass at 4:30 p.m.,
Carols at 11:30 p.m. and midnight Mass.
Christmas Day Mass at 10:00 a.m.

EPISCOPAL

St. Mary's Episcopal:

Christmas Service with Pageant at 4:00 p.m.,
Christmas Service with Carols at 10:00 p.m.

LUTHERAN

St. Luke: Christmas Eve at 6:00 p.m.
Christmas Day at 9:00 a.m. with Holy Communion.

Gloria Dei: Christmas Eve Family Service at 3:00
and 5:00 p.m.; Services at 8:00 and 10:30 p.m. with
Holy Communion. Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m.
with Holy Communion.

Immanuel Lutheran: Christmas Eve: 4:00 p.m.
and 10:00 p.m.; Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m.



May the deep and abiding joys of
Christmas fill your heart
and bring you every happiness.



**O'Halloran
& Murphy**

Funeral & Cremation Services

575 S. SNELLING AVE.

651-698-0796

www.ohalloranmurphy.com

Michael O'Halloran
Owner



Holy Eucharist Services 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Nursery Provided
Education for all ages at 9:30

901 Portland Avenue
651-228-1164

www.stclements-stp.org

ST. CLEMENT'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

4:30 pm EUCHARIST & PAGEANT

9:45 pm CONCERT WITH CAROLS
Vivaldi's Gloria with choir and orchestra

10:30 pm CHORAL EUCHARIST
The Christ Mass

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS

10:00 am EUCHARIST WITH HYMNS

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church

Join Us For Christmas Worship
All are Welcome Here!

SUNDAY, 23

A Service of Lessons and Carols
4:00 p.m.

MONDAY, 24

Christmas Eve Services:
4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
10:30 p.m. Festival Service

TUESDAY, 25

Christmas Day
10:00 a.m. Service



60 Kent Street, Saint Paul

651-228-1172

www.stjohnsepiscopal-stpaul.org

— Handicap Accessible —
Nursery Provided
Kent St. and Portland Ave.,
1 block NE of Summit/Dale in the
Summit Hill neighborhood

Oh light divine Oh night when Christ was born!



Silent Night, Holy Night

**Fairmount Avenue
United Methodist Church**
1523 Fairmount Avenue
(1 block east of Snelling, 3 blocks south of Grand)
Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship Service: Dec. 24 at 10:30am
Christmas Eve Services: 4:30 and 10:30pm
Sunday Schedule 651/699-1335
9:00 Education for all ages
10:00 Coffee in Fellowship Hall
10:30 Worship in the Sanctuary
Fully accessible

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

285 North Dale Street, Saint Paul
• 651-227-8295 • www.redeemerstpaul.org

WELCOMING LITURGICAL WORSHIP
Sunday Eucharist 10 am
Rite of Healing 11:15 am



Lessons & Carols
December 23 at 10 am

Christmas Eve 11 pm

Candlelight Eucharist

Christmas Day 10 am

New Year's Eve 6 pm

James Erlandson, Pastor
Kay Sandeen, Director of Music
Serving Christ Since 1890

Handicap Accessible - Reconciling in Christ
LOCATED 1 BLOCK SOUTH OF I-94 ON DALE ST.



**Pilgrim
Lutheran
Church**

A Home for
Hungry Minds & Souls
A Reconciling in Christ
Congregation
A Congregation Caring
for Creation

Christmas Eve Communion Services

Monday, December 24

3:45 pm Prelude of Christmas Carols and Solos

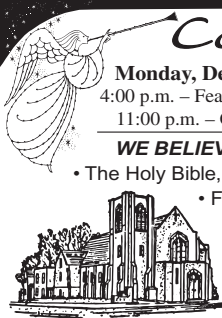
4:00 pm Intergenerational Worship

and

10:30 pm Prelude of Christmas Carols and Solos

10:45 pm Festival Candlelight Worship

Rev. Carol Torner, Lead Pastor
Rev. Wayne Weissenbuehler, Assoc. Pastor
1935 St. Clair Avenue at Prior, St. Paul
www.pilgrimstpaul.org • 651-699-6886
Sunday Worship: 8:30 & 11 am



Calvary Lutheran

Monday, Dec. 24 - Two Christmas Eve Services!

4:00 p.m. - Featuring the Music & Drama of Janet Hanson

11:00 p.m. - Calvary's Traditional Candlelight Service

WE BELIEVE IN: • The Word • Faith • Grace

• The Holy Bible, as the Inerrant and Infallible Word of God

• Family Values • The Sacredness of Life

Pastor Jay Eberth • 651-698-6138

• Sunday Worship: 10:30 am

• Adult & Kids' Sunday School: 9:15 am

• Kids Club: Tuesday, 3:45 pm

• Healing Service First Sunday of Month

341 Hamline Ave. So. • St. Paul

www.calvarystpaul.org

We don't claim to have all the answers,
but we try to ask the right questions.

**Macalester
United Church
Plymouth**

Macalester Plymouth Church is an open
and affirming community.

Come visit us!

Sunday Services @ 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.
Ministers: Heidi Vardeman and Tom Ewald

Christmas Eve Services

Monday Dec. 24th

5:00 p.m. - Family Service

11:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service
with Communion

Macalester Plymouth United Church *UCC and Presbyterian Church (USA)
1658 Lincoln Avenue, Saint Paul * We are just west of Macalester College.
651-698-8871 * www.macalester-plymouth.org

**LO, A KING WAS BORN
...A JOY TO THE WORLD!!!**



CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24 at 4:00 & 10:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25 at 10:00 a.m.

First Sunday After Christmas

Dec. 30 at 10:00AM

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

ACROSS FROM MACALESTER COLLEGE

Saint Paul, MN 55105

651-699-5560

CHRISTMAS AT GLORIA DEI

...celebrating 100 years of ministry

O Day Full of Grace

Sunday, December 23

Advent IV Worship

Lessons & Carols for Advent

8:15* a.m., 11:00* a.m. and 5:00* p.m.

Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve Family Service

3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Candlelight Worship, Holy Communion

8:00* p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 25

Christmas Day Worship

10:00 a.m.

*Nursery available



Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

700 South Snelling Ave.

St. Paul, MN 55116

www.gloriadeistpaul.org

651 699-1378

a Reconciling in Christ congregation

O Holy Night

Sunday, December 23

9 & 11 a.m. Service of Lessons and Carols

Featuring the Choir School and Motet Choir

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24

3:30 p.m. Carillon Concert, David Johnson, *carillonneur*

4:00 p.m. Afternoon Christmas Service for all ages

(Great Hall) Child-friendly

5:30 p.m. Traditional Tableaux Service

The Christmas story with familiar carols and

tableaux adaptations of scenes of the Nativity.

Child care is provided for children under 6

9:30 p.m. Carillon Concert

10:00 p.m. Recital of seasonal organ music,

Charles Echols, *organist*

10:30 p.m. Orchestral prelude

including music by Vivaldi and Bach

11:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship Service

David Van Dyke, *preaching*. Ottorino Respighi's

Laud to the Nativity, the Motet Choir and soloists

with the Bach Chamber Players of St. Paul,

conducted by Andrew Altenbach, *choirmaster*

Christmas Day, December 25: No services

Sunday, December 30:

One worship service at 10:00 a.m.

Thomas W. Foster-Smith, *preaching*

All services are in the sanctuary, unless otherwise indicated.

Worship on Sundays at 9 & 11 a.m.
Church school for all ages at 10 a.m.
Child care provided



www.hohchurch.org



Christmas Eve Worship

Experience the sacred mystery
of the birth of Jesus
this Christmas Eve in a service of
joy and singing, quiet and stories,
of glory and peace.

Candlelight Communion

December 24, 5:00 p.m.

Harpist Trudy Brocheaux

Edgumbe

Presbyterian Church

2149 Edgumbe Road

(1 block west of Snelling Ave.)

(651) 698-8220 www.epchurch.org

Dedicated to the idea that God loves
all people all the time. No exceptions.



Rev.
LeeAnne Watkins

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE - ALL ARE WELCOME!

Christmas Eve - at 4 pm.

Service with Eucharist and children's Christmas pageant.

Christmas Eve - at 10 pm. Traditional Christmas

Carols followed by service with Eucharist at 10:30 pm.

1895 Laurel Avenue (2 blks. W. of Fairview on Laurel)

651-646-6175 www.saintmarysepiscopal.org

District Council News

Highland Park

www.highlanddistrictcouncil.org • 651-695-4005

Crime prevention grants—The Highland District Council's Crime Prevention Committee has awarded crime prevention grants to seven businesses. The grants will reimburse the businesses for two-thirds of the cost, not to exceed \$2,250, of hiring off-duty police officers. The businesses include Sibley Manor Apartments, Cooper's SuperValu, Lunds, Haskell's, Rite Liquor Store, Yarmo Liquor Store and Tiffany's.

Homecroft School meeting—The Highland District Council held a meeting on December 12 at Homecroft Elementary School for Highland Park residents concerned about the fate of school. The meeting was held after the St. Paul School Board voted in committee to "repurpose" Homecroft into a secondary school serving special-education students and students with emotional and behavior disorders. Nearly 200 people attended and spoke of their concerns for the change and asked school officials to reconsider. Only one neighbor spoke in favor of the change, at the same time voicing her concern about the anticipated increase in on-street parking.

Executive committee meeting—The Highland District Council's Executive Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, December 20, in the Activity Room at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Topics for discussion will include the expenditure of the remaining 2007 grant money provided to the council by the city of St. Paul. The HDC has asked that the city allow it to use the funds to pay taxes dating back to 1998. A report by the search committee on the status of hiring a permanent community organizer will also be heard.

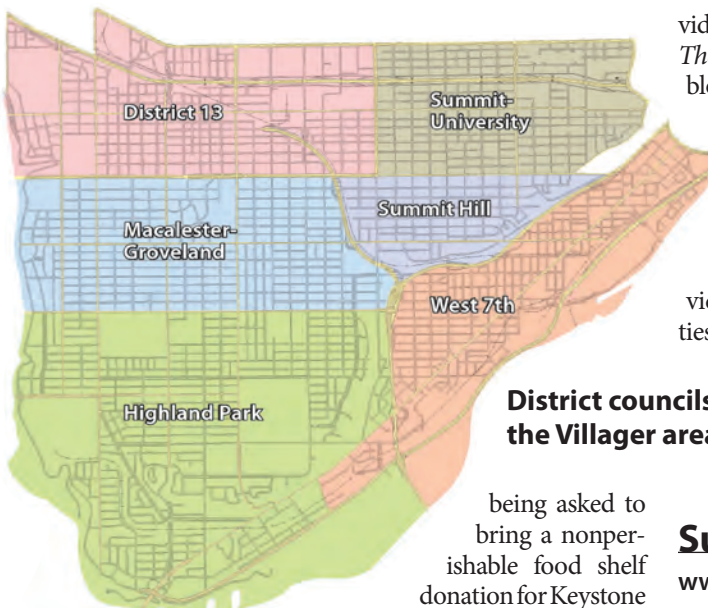
Upcoming meetings—The HDC's board of directors will meet at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, January 3, at the Hillcrest Recreation Center. The board is anticipating a vote on a new community organizer. Proposed spending projects also will be reviewed, as well as other business that may come before the board. The Community Services Committee will meet at 7:00 p.m. Monday, January 14, at Hillcrest and the Community Development Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, January 21, at Hillcrest. For the full agenda, visit the HDC website.

Macalester-Groveland

www.macgrove.org • 651-695-4000

Energy workshop—The Macalester-Groveland and Highland district councils are working together to conduct an "Energy Literacy" workshop from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 16, in the auditorium of the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. The free workshop will examine what citizens can do to address global climate change at a local level. For information, call the council office.

Mac-Grove Frost Fest—The Macalester-Groveland Community Council will sponsor a new winter event on Saturday, January 12, at Groveland Park. From 1:00 to 3:00 that afternoon there will be ice skating, a snowman contest (if there is snow), music by DJ 80s and free food and refreshments. The entire event is free and registration is not required. Participants are



District councils in the Villager area

being asked to bring a nonperishable food shelf donation for Keystone Community Services.

Check the council's website for

updates or contact Marie Nelson at the council office.

Block leaders signup—Block leaders who are interested in receiving the agenda and materials for the community council's monthly board of directors meeting may e-mail Marie Nelson at marie@macgrove.org to get their name added to the list.

Welcome packets—Materials are currently being collected to create additional welcome packets that are distributed to new residents in Macalester-Groveland. Flyers, business cards, pamphlets and brochures, etc., are being sought from local businesses, schools and organizations. A total of 200 copies are needed. They may be mailed to or dropped off at the Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St. Contact Marie at marie@macgrove.org or call the council office.

Holiday office hours—The Macalester-Groveland Community Council office will be closed for the holidays from December 24 through January 1.

Mark your calendar—Community Outreach Committee meeting at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 8, at 1409 Jefferson Ave.; and Mac-Grove Frost Fest from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Saturday, January 12, at Groveland Park.

Summit Hill

www.summithillassociation.org • 651-222-1222

Getting to know you—The Summit Hill Association wants to get in touch with residents of neighborhood apartment buildings to survey their needs and offer them the benefits of participating in a building club. Tenants living in the Summit Hill neighborhood are asked to call the SHA office for more information.

Fundraising letter and survey—Summit Hill residents and business owners recently received a letter from the Summit Hill Association requesting financial support for the SHA. The annual stipend from the city of St. Paul is not enough to sustain the many programs and services that the SHA pro-

vides, such as keeping the neighborhood up to date via the *The Summit* newsletter and electronic news alerts, assisting block and building clubs, coordinating and promoting annual events, and providing referral services. Those who live or work in the neighborhood are being asked to make a tax-deductible contribution to the SHA as part of their year-end charitable giving. They also are being asked to complete a survey that accompanies the letter.

Get connected electronically—The SHA's website provides regularly updated information on neighborhood activities and programs. Residents may also sign up on the website to receive electronic news updates about important events, meetings and other neighborhood issues.

Upcoming meetings—The SHA board of directors will convene at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, January 10, at the Linwood Recreation Center, 860 St. Clair Ave.

Summit-University

www.Summit-U.com • 651-228-1855

New executive director—The Summit University Planning Council is in the process of hiring a full-time executive director. A search committee reviewed the resumes that were submitted on December 17 and will begin interviewing the applicants on December 27. At its regular meeting on January 22, the SUPC board will interview the finalists and make a decision. Among the primary responsibilities of the position are 1) building relationships with neighborhood residents, other community organizations, and elected and appointed officials; 2) serving as the SUPC's liaison with various city government departments; 3) promoting and supporting neighborhood block clubs; 4) convening meetings to learn the interests and concerns of the neighborhood to present to the SUPC board; 5) staffing the meetings of the SUPC board and its committees; 6) seeking additional funding to support SUPC activities; and 7) managing office operations, including the preparation of annual reports, work plans and budgets. For the full job description, visit www.mncn.org. Resumes and cover letters may still be sent to search@summit-u.com.

District 13

www.district13stpaul.blogspot.com • 651-645-6877

Block club leaders—The District 13 Council is working to identify current and potential block club leaders. A block club is a group of neighbors who work together to strengthen their neighborhood and prevent crime. Block club projects might include organizing National Night Out activities, installing streetlights in the alley and creating a neighborhood crime watch system. Block club leaders or local residents who would like more information on how to start a block club are invited to call Julie at 651-645-6887 or e-mail julie@d13stpaul.org.

Neighborhood Honor Roll—A ceremony to honor individuals in St. Paul who have volunteered their time and energy

DISTRICT COUNCILS ► 17

SPECS APPEAL

\$50⁰⁰ OFF

COMPLETE PAIR of Glasses

thru December 31, 2007.

USE UP YOUR 2007 HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS BEFORE JAN. 1, 2008

One day emergency service **Dr. James Buchli**

844 Grand Avenue • St. Paul • 651.291.5150

(Just east of Victoria) Hours: M-F 10am-6pm • Sat. 10am-3pm.

ST. PAUL AUTOMOTIVE

Automobile Diagnostic
Maintenance & Repair Facility

ST. PAUL AUTOMOTIVE

We are now AAA approved. Show your AAA membership card & receive 10% off, up to \$100.

910 Randolph (between Lexington & West 7th)

651 298-0956 www.stpaulautomotive.net

SUPER COUPON

20% Off Dry Cleaning - No Limit on Discount! (Do the Math)

\$1.99 and/or **Men's Shirts**

Beautifully Laundered & Pressed on Hangers **REMEMBER:** If you want a finely finished shirt collar, we are your only choice!

Coupon must be presented with incoming order. Coupon expires 1/31/08.

MIDWAY

Cleaners & Shirt Launderers

1802 St. Clair 651.699-2445 224 No. Cleveland 651.644-4983



Aspen Medical Group welcomes Dr. Wes Peters

Orthopaedic surgeon, now practicing at Inver Grove Heights and accepting new patients

University of Manitoba, Canada, Medical School
University of Manitoba Residency in Orthopedics and University of Vermont Fellowship in Foot and Ankle
Board Certified in Orthopaedics
Member American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society

For appointments call **651.603.7400**
Central Orthopedics Scheduling
We accept all major health insurance
www.aspenmed.org

Council expands permit parking district for residents close to Xcel

By JANE McCLURE

More than two years of debate over residential permit parking in the West 7th neighborhood came to an end on December 12 when the St. Paul City Council voted to change time restrictions and expand an existing permit-parking district by a few blocks. The new restrictions will be posted in late December or early January.

The permit parking district is centered around West 7th Street and Grand and Smith avenues. Vehicles without a permit will soon be banned from parking on posted streets in the district between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. seven days a week. Currently, parking in the district is limited to two hours between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on weekdays for vehicles without a permit. Parking is unrestricted on evenings and weekends.

The permit parking district was established in 1991 to deal with employee parking from United and Children's hospitals that was spilling onto residential streets. The district currently includes sections of Garfield, Forbes and Harrison avenues, and Wilkin, McBoal, Leech and Douglas streets. The expanded district will add both sides of Smith Avenue between McBoal and Goodrich Avenue, and both sides of Goodrich between Smith and a point just east of Leech. The district does not include West 7th itself or the spaces in front of any businesses.

The change is meant to address the growing problem with event parking at the Xcel Energy Center. Residents say they are unable to park near their homes when a hockey game, concert or other event is going on there.

"This neighborhood really does take the brunt of Xcel parking," said Ward 2 City Coun-

cil member Dave Thune at a public hearing on the proposed changes on December 5.

Several neighborhood meetings were held on the issue over the past two years and a variety of solutions were discussed, including a 24-hour restricted district.

"The neighbors, to their credit, have worked really hard on this," Thune said. The Dispute Resolution Center was brought in at one point. Though the solution is not ideal, he said, "it's by a long shot better than what they have now."

The changes had the support of the West 7th/Fort Road Federation.

City officials heard from dozens of neighborhood residents. Several testified on the proposal in November. Most of those attending the December 5 hearing were in support, though one dissenter was heard.

"The compromise is being forced on us by the city," said McBoal Street resident Jason Swanson. He said the city should be enforcing the current two-hour parking restriction instead of changing the district.

Other neighbors said the benefits outweigh the inconvenience. They were especially worried about the Republican National Convention that will be coming to the Xcel in September 2008. Forbes Street resident Richard Sherman called the prospect of the convention an "absolute nightmare."

St. Paul Public Works traffic engineer Paul St. Martin said the city simply does not have enough money or enforcement staff to enforce two-hour parking limits, a two-step process that involves marking vehicles and then coming back to see if those vehicles have moved. "This provides one-stop enforcement, which is much less expensive and much easier to enforce," he said.

16 DISTRICT COUNCILS

to make their neighborhoods a better place to live will be held on Friday, January 11, in Binz Hall at the University of St. Thomas. Sponsored by the city's district planning councils, the awards ceremony will begin at 5:30 p.m. with refreshments and hors d'oeuvres. The program, entertainment and social will follow from 6:00 to 7:30. Tickets to the event are \$20 at the door or \$15 in advance by making a check out to the Summit Hill Association and mailing it to the SHA, 860 St. Clair Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105.

District 13 meetings—Board of directors,

7:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 2, Bethel Fellowship Hall, 1466 Portland Ave.; Neighborhood Issues Committee, 7:00 p.m. Monday, January 7, Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave.; Parks and Recreation Committee, 7:00 p.m. Monday, January 7, Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave.; Land Use Committee, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 16, Merriam Park Library.

Away from the manger—Local residents who will be leaving home for the holidays can have their house checked during their absence by contacting the St. Paul Police Department's Housewatch Program at 651-558-2350.

Fabric SALE
JANUARY CLEARANCE
20-50% OFF
SELECTED FABRIC
Dec 26th thru Jan 6th
Closed Dec 25, Jan 1, 2
TREADLE YARD GOODS
(651) 698-9690
Mon.-Thurs. 10-8, Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 1-5
1338 Grand Ave St. Paul Mn 55105

Newly Opened
Locally Owned
HIAWATHA FALLS LIQUOR
Just across the Ford Bridge next to Blockbuster.
Open Mon-Sat 10am to 10pm!
4727 Hiawatha Ave S.
Minneapolis
612-729-5958

Learn about the easier lifestyle at The Summit
Visit our Sales Center at 520 Selby Ave. to learn about the maintenance-free lifestyle coming to your neighborhood or call 651-292-4182 to learn more!
THE SUMMIT of RAMSEY HILL
AN EXCEPTIONAL COOPERATIVE COMMUNITY IN SAINT PAUL
NEW floorplans & NEW lower monthly fees
www.thesummitoframseyhill.com
If you are an adult 55+ or your parents are, visit our office and discover the exciting new maintenance-free cooperative community coming to your neighborhood.
Now taking Reservations! 40% are already Reserved!

Hill-Murray School
Catholic; Grades 7-12; Welcoming all faiths.
One of only two metro schools cited by ACT for its academic rigor!
Please join us at our winter
OPEN HOUSE
Thursday, January 10: 7:00 P.M.
2625 Larpentour Ave. E., Maplewood, MN
For more information:
651-748-2406 (www.hill-murray.org)

YOU'RE THE BOSS
Be independent, enjoy flexible hours, and still enjoy the benefits of training, mentoring, coaching, and a great retirement plan. At Coldwell Banker Burnet, independent contractors have it all! We are looking for two entrepreneurial spirits to join our thriving team. Call Kathie Phillips at 651-690-8595.

LEITNER'S
GARDEN CENTER
FRESH FLOWERS
Naturally beautiful flowers & plants!
Great Prices!
Local Delivery!
945 Randolph Ave. • St. Paul
651-291-2655

Hey! Lula
has lots of cute stuff!
1587 SELBY AVE. ST. PAUL
651-644-4110
lulasvintagewear.com

Maybe it's your dentist who should be extracted

When your dentist loves what he or she does, it shows. If you and your family aren't dazzled by your dentist, give us a call. Nobody makes St. Paul smile like we do.

Named 2007 Mpls. St. Paul Magazine Top Dentist.

Drs. O'Kane & Monssen

Restorative, Cosmetic and Family Dentistry
2221 Ford Parkway, Suite 201 (Above Haskells) 651-698-1242
okanemonssen.com

Crime Report

The following police calls were gathered from recent Community Watch reports provided by the Ramsey County Sheriff's Department. For more information, visit www.co.ramsey.mn.us/sheriff/communitywatch.htm.

Highland Park

Burglary—A male juvenile was arrested for burglarizing Highland Park Junior High School between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m. Monday, November 12.

—Liquor Village, 2289 Ford Pkwy., was broken into and the safe was forced open between 10:00 p.m. Saturday and 7:30 a.m. Monday, November 17-19.

—Several items were stolen from a locked safe at the O'Kane & Monssen Dental Office, 2221 Ford Pkwy., between Saturday and Monday, November 17-19.

Robbery—Trade Secret, 2114 Ford Pkwy., was robbed at about 4:30 p.m. Saturday, November 17.

Theft—A car was stolen on the 700 block of Woodlawn Avenue between 6:00 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 a.m. Monday, November 18-19.

—Two oboes were stolen at Highland Park Senior High School between 7:30 and 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, November 14.

—The money drawer was stolen from Punch Pizza, 704 S. Cleveland Ave., at about 2:45 p.m. Friday, November 16. While an employee was taking the suspect's order, the suspect leaned over, grabbed the money drawer and fled out the door. He jumped into a car that was later learned to have been stolen in Minneapolis. The suspect was described as a black male, 6-feet tall, 200 pounds and wearing a baseball cap, blue jeans and a blue jean shirt.

—DVDs were stolen from St. Paul Academy on Sunday, November 11. The DVDs were recovered at Half Price Books in Highland Village five days later.

—A 40-year-old St. Paul man was cited for trying to steal \$112 worth of steaks at Cooper's SuperValu, 2481 W. 7th St., at about 9:30 p.m. Thursday, November 30.

Lexington-Hamline

Theft—A black Saturn was stolen on the 1100 block of Selby Avenue between midnight and 5:30 p.m. Thursday, November 22.

Weapons—Shots were fired at a St. Paul Public Works snowplow at Concordia Avenue and Lexington Parkway at about 8:00 p.m. Saturday, December 1.

Macalester-Groveland

Burglary—A home on the 1700 block of St. Clair Avenue was burglarized between 10:00 p.m. Friday and 1:30 a.m. Saturday, November 16-17.

—Entry was forced through the front door and \$650 in cash and \$324 in shrimp were stolen from the Huong Sen Restaurant, 1702 Grand Ave., between 9:30 p.m. Wednesday and 9:30 a.m. Thursday, November 14-15.

—Items were stolen from a storage locker of a commercial building on the 1900 block of Grand Avenue on Monday, November 19.

—A home being remodeled was broken into and graffiti was sprayed on some of its walls on the 300 block of South Lexington Parkway between 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and noon Wednesday, November 20-21.

—A home on the 400 block of South Lexington Parkway was burglarized between November 21-24.

—Oasis Market, 1351 Randolph Ave., was broken into between 11:00 p.m. Friday and 5:00 a.m. Saturday, November 23-24, and again just after midnight on Tuesday, November 27.

—A home on the 1800 block of Wellesley Avenue was burglarized between 5:00 and 10:30 p.m. Thursday, November 30.

Robbery—Frame Ups, 276 S. Snelling Ave., was the victim of a strong-arm robbery at about 4:00 p.m. Monday, November 19. The suspect took cash from the business after telling the salesperson to go to a back room.

Theft—A car was stolen on the 1200 block of St. Clair Avenue between 8:00 p.m. Monday and 5:00 a.m. Tuesday, November 19-20.

—EZ Masonry, 1535 Grand Ave., reported on November 21 that a former employee had stolen about \$1,000 over a period of time by using the company's credit cards.

—The trunk keyhole was punched out and a purse was stolen from a 2005 Nissan on Mississippi River Boulevard and Summit Avenue between 1:00 p.m. Sunday and 2:00 p.m. Monday, November 25-26.

Merriam Park

Burglary—A home on the 1800 block of Marshall Avenue was burglarized between 3:00 and 4:00 a.m. Sunday, November 18. The resident was home at the time.

—A home on the 1700 block of Iglehart Avenue was broken into between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 21. The rear door was forced open.

—Two homes on the 300 block of North Wilder Avenue and another on the 1900 block of Roblyn Avenue were burglarized between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 2:00 p.m. Saturday, November 22-24.

—A home on the 2100 block of Iglehart Avenue was broken into between 10:30 a.m. Saturday and 7:30 a.m. Sunday, November 24-25.

—A burglary occurred on the 200 block of Pelham Boulevard between 8:00 and 10:00 p.m. Saturday, December 1. The side door was forced open.

Robbery—Legacy Chocolates, 2042 Marshall Ave., was the victim of a robbery at about 5:00 p.m. Thursday, November 15.

Theft—A red 1992 Acura Integra with yellow side mirrors and a yellow spoiler on the back was stolen on the 1800 block of Marshall Avenue between 9:30 p.m. Saturday and 1:00 p.m. Sunday, November 17-18.

—A car was stolen on the 1900 block of Iglehart Avenue at about 11:30 a.m. Tuesday November 27.

—A red 2000 Dodge Caravan was stolen on Summit Avenue and Wheeler Street between 6:00 p.m. Thursday and 11:00 a.m. Friday, November 29-30.

—A black male and white female stole liquor from Marshall Liquors, 2027 Marshall Ave., at about 2:00 p.m. Friday, November 30. The suspects fled in a green 2007 Saturn Vue.

Snelling-Hamline

Burglary—A home on the 1300 block of Portland Avenue was broken into between 9:00 and 10:00 p.m. Thursday, November 15.

Summit Hill

Burglary—The main door was forced open and items were taken from inside two condominiums on the 500 block of Summit Avenue on Wednesday, November 21.

—A laptop computer was stolen from a condominium on the 500 block of Summit Avenue between 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 21.

—A home on the 700 block of Lincoln Avenue was broken into between 3:00 p.m. Saturday and 3:00 p.m. Sunday, November 24-25.

Theft—A car was stolen on the 1300 block of Lincoln Avenue between 8:00 a.m. Wednesday and 8:00 p.m. Thursday, November 21-22.

—A theft from vending machines was reported in an apartment laundry room on the

600 block of Grand Avenue between Thursday and Friday, November 22-23.

—A theft from auto occurred at the Lexington Restaurant, 1096 Grand Ave., between 5:00 and 5:30 p.m. Monday, November 26.

Summit-University

Robbery—A man was robbed at gunpoint behind the Uni-Dale mall at Dale Street and University Avenue at about 5:30 p.m. Friday, November 16.

Theft—A theft from auto occurred on the 400 block of Grotto Street between 8:00 p.m. Wednesday and 7:30 a.m. Thursday, November 14-15.

—A woman was getting gas when someone took the purse from her car at the SuperAmerica station at Chatsworth Street and University Avenue at about 3:00 p.m. Friday, November 9.

—A car was stolen on Chatsworth Street and Concordia Avenue between 2:00 and 5:30 a.m. Monday, November 19.

—A gumball machine with \$300 worth of candy was stolen at St. Paul City Church, 1088 University Ave., between November 18-20.

—A purse was stolen from the lunchroom at St. Paul College between 11:00 a.m. and noon Wednesday, November 28.

Burglary—The front door and windows were stolen from a vacant house on the 1000 block of Marshall Avenue between 5:00 p.m. Friday and 12:30 p.m. Saturday, November 16-17.

—Miscellaneous items were taken from the athletic office at Christ Household of Faith, 355 Marshall Ave., between 8:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:30 a.m. Friday, November 15-16.

—A home on the 900 block of Selby Avenue was broken into between 5:00 p.m. Wednesday and noon Friday, November 21-23.

—A home on the 800 block of Holly Avenue was burglarized between 9:00 a.m. Wednesday and 9:30 a.m. Sunday, November 21-25.

West End

Robbery—A man was robbed at gunpoint at the intersection of Scheffer Avenue and Milton Street at about 11:30 p.m. Sunday, November 18.

Theft—A car was stolen on the 600 block of West 7th Street between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Friday, November 16.

Burglary—Supatra's Thai Restaurant, 967 W. 7th St., was broken into between 4:30 and 5:00 a.m. Thursday, December 1.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
The Burton Group
www.jimburtongroup.com



Scott Burton ~ Jim Burton
Realtors
651-690-8556

COLDWELL BANKER BURNET
Making Dreams Come Home

BRANT THOMSEN PIANO STUDIO
Individualized instruction with a focus on overall personal development

- Professional Training: New England Conservatory of Music
- Clinical training in child development & learning

Studio expanding! Call now to schedule an interview.

(651) 224-6884 www.brantthomsen.pianoinstructor.net

COUPON

Yarmo LIQUOR STORE

10% OFF
Wine bottle(s) of your choice
Sibley Plaza 651-698-0707
(just west of Cooper's Super Valu)

Sale items not included. With coupon thru 1/31/08.

Year End Clearance



75% off

A special selection of retired, closeout, and one-of-a-kind frames.

This is a great chance to get that second pair of glasses or sunglasses!

Arthur Williams OPTICIANS
Eye Examinations Available with **Dr. Jenna Sculley**

Contact Lenses • Sunglasses • Great Eyewear
772 Cleveland Ave. So. (at Ford Parkway) 651-224-2883
1542 Larpeur Ave. W. 651-645-1976

~ not valid on previous orders, not valid with any insurance programs, no refunds on prior orders, offer expires Dec. 31, 2007 ~

Redesign of Cleveland-St. Paul Ave. intersection not to everyone's liking

BY KEVIN DRISCOLL

The decade-long effort to redesign the intersection of Cleveland and St. Paul avenues in Highland Park hit another bump in the road on December 11 at a meeting of the Highland District Council's (HDC) Transportation Committee. The St. Paul City Council was expected to vote on December 19 on the \$45,000 purchase of a small parcel of land needed to make the redesign work. However, that may be delayed given the opposition that surfaced among neighborhood residents at the meeting.

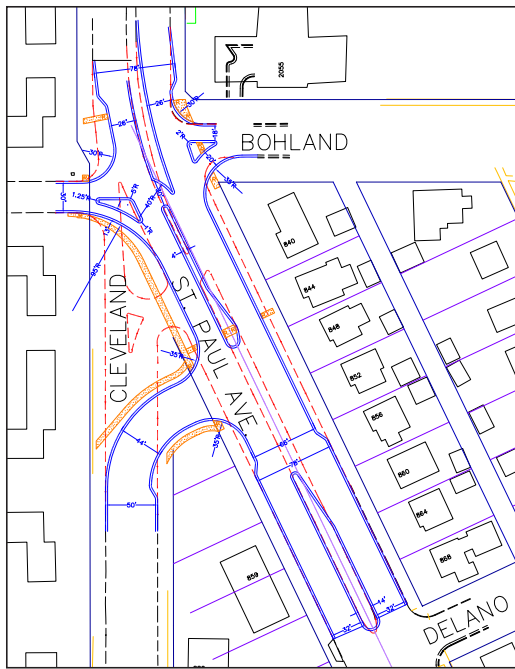
City Council member Pat Harris planned to meet earlier this week with city staff and officials of nearby Lumen Christi Catholic Church to discuss the neighbors' concerns.

The latest plan, drawn up by Barb Mundahl of the St. Paul Department of Public Works and approved earlier this year by the HDC's Transportation Committee, would require motorists traveling south on Cleveland Avenue to veer left onto St. Paul Avenue and then stop and turn right before proceeding south on Cleveland. Curb bump-outs would be added to the intersection along with bigger medians to slow traffic and improve pedestrian safety.

Julie Daniels, who lives on St. Paul Avenue directly across from the proposed intersection, said that with the new design, headlights "will shine right into my living room and my son's second-floor bedroom." Daniels said she does not believe the redesign will improve pedestrian safety and expressed frustration at having only recently learned of the plan. She also questioned the wisdom of rebuilding the intersection with the future of Ford Motor Company's nearby Twin Cities Assembly Plant still in the air.

St. Paul Avenue resident Dan Brown submitted a petition signed by several of his neighbors calling for St. Paul Avenue to be narrowed from four to two lanes between Cleveland Avenue and West 7th Street. "St. Paul Avenue is the unsafe street," Brown said. Over the years it has become "a long, unmitigated raceway," he added.

According to HDC Transportation Committee member Bill Mahaffey, the redesign of the intersection has been thoroughly aired at several Transportation Committee meetings and in stories that appeared in the *Villager*



The proposed redesign of the intersection of Cleveland and St. Paul avenues is shown in blue. The current configuration is in red.

and other newspapers.

The HDC has been seeking money to rebuild the intersection for more than 10 years. In 2006 the City Council voted to include the \$560,000 project in the city's Capital Improvement Budget for 2007-2008. "Most of the money will actually come from the \$8 million per year the city receives from state gas taxes," said city traffic engineer Paul St. Martin.

Brown and Daniels suggested redesigning the intersection in such a way that north-bound traffic on St. Paul Avenue also has to stop and turn before continuing north on Cleveland. However, St. Martin said such a design would not meet state and county criteria. City staff had considered redesigning the intersection with a roundabout, but with two lanes on St. Paul Avenue, that design was ultimately rejected as being too confusing for motorists, St. Martin said.

If the City Council decides to move forward with the redesign, Ramsey County and the state Department of Transportation will be asked for their approval.

"If everything goes smoothly, construction could begin next spring or early summer and be done before the end of next year," Mundahl said.

However, with this project, smoothly hasn't exactly been the operative word.

ADVERTISEMENT

Dr. R.J. Fischbach: the Leading Edge in Dentistry

You'll have every reason to smile more radiantly than ever with the advanced dentistry techniques now being employed in Highland Park by Dr. R.J. Fischbach. Dr. Fischbach is one of only 3% of all dentists in the nation who are using the latest CEREC CAD/CAM technology for porcelain fillings, crowns and veneers. These are dental restorations that are now able to be done in a single appointment.

CEREC stands for Chairside Economical Restorations of Esthetic Ceramics. CAD/CAM dentistry is the process whereby a dentist first takes an infrared picture of a tooth. The picture is transmitted directly to a computer where the tooth is designed right in front of the patient's eyes. (Uncomfortable impressions and temporary restorations are eliminated entirely.) The computer then sends the designed tooth by wireless technology to a milling machine, which grinds the filling, crown or veneer out of a block of porcelain.

The finished restoration is widely regarded by dentists nationwide as the most esthetic, comfortable and long-lasting available today. These are far superior to composite, silver or gold restorations.



Staff member Tammy explains CEREC

When Dr. Fischbach began his dentistry career, he was one of the few to construct a building specifically designed for dentistry. He was one of the first dentists in St. Paul to purchase an air turbine drill, which made tooth drilling almost painless, and he was one of the first dentists to use sedation dentistry and nitrous oxide. He was invited to teach the first course in TMJ (how teeth function together) at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry, and his position as Associate Professor allowed him to remain on the leading edge of dentistry techniques. Many advanced methods of dentistry are now employed in his office.

Dr. Fischbach was also the first dentist in St. Paul—and the second in the state of Minnesota—to use computer technology in his dental practice. He recognized early on that computers would eventually become commonplace in dentistry. Today modern dentists' offices have computers in every dental treatment room. The office is now paperless. All patient records, x-rays and medical histories are now available in all treatment rooms. Consultations or referrals to specialists are now done by instant communication of digital data. X-rays are now made with digital sensors that transfer images immediately into a computer, eliminating the need for developing film. Patients now see the images appear right in front of their eyes.



Dr. Susan M. Olson

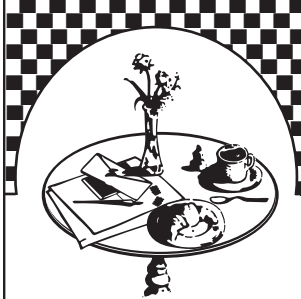
Dr. Fischbach believes strongly in educating his patients. He has movies available in each treatment room of almost every dental treatment available. These 157 short movies can be burned to a CD and given to a patient to take home and review with other family members before any decision is made. The explanations of the various treatments are also available on Dr. Fischbach's Web site at www.fischbachdentistry.com

Dr. R. J. Fischbach, his associate Dr. Susan Olson and their staff of 10 have always participated in almost all insurance Preferred Provider Organizations in order to help patients control the cost of dentistry.

To learn more about what the leading edge in dentistry can offer you, we invite your inquiries anytime.



483 Brimhall Street 651-698-0848
(On the corner of Randolph Avenue and Brimhall Street,
one block east of Snelling Avenue)



Elegant Selections
After Christmas Sale:
Starts Dec. 26
50% off
all Christmas items

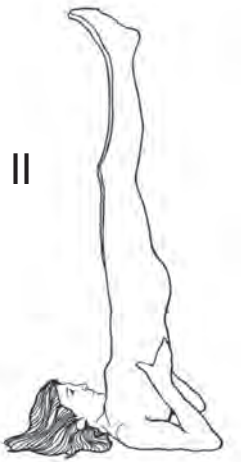
PAPER PATISSERIE
366 Selby Avenue • 651-227-1398

YOGA

Gentle Yoga
Kid's Yoga
Beginning I and II
Intermediate I and II
Advanced
Meditation Class
Breathing Class
Seminars!

Classes begin first week of January

8-week, 75-minute classes for \$75
INSTITUTE of the HIMALAYAN TRADITION
Teaching for over 35 years!
651-645-1291 • www.ihtyoga.org



**COLDWELL
BANKER**
BURNET

Making Dreams Come Home™



See **ALL** For **SALE**, **OPEN**
and **SOLD** Properties at

Highland Park 1991 Ford Pkwy. 651-698-2481

cbburn



**ROSEMARY McNEELY &
LOLLY McNEELY SALMEN**
651-690-8582



LAURA O'HARA
651-690-8560



MARY ORR
651-282-9661



HAPPY H
Thank you for your



MARY McNANEY
651-690-8578



GILLISA McKIERNAN
651-690-8544



JANE AUSTIN McGRATH
651-282-9625



PAT MCGILL
651-695-4311



NANCY MAAS
651-282-9670



KATHERINE LUND
651-282-9664



CROCUS HILL VALUE

This 3-BR home features a totally updated kitchen, new furnace & central air, newer roof, fresh carpet and paint, 2-car garage! Ideally located in the heart of Crocus Hill. Walk to Grand Ave., Linwood A+ School, St. Paul Tennis club. 997 Osceola Ave. www.AtHomeWithSue.com

SUE JOHNSON
651-329-1264 • \$224,900



10005 FALLGOLD PARKWAY N

This Brooklyn Park home is a 10! Vaulted ceilings, top-of-the-line finishes, & great attention to detail. 4 BRs & 3 baths, 3-car gar, home theatre w/built-in surround sound, gas FP's, & a scenic backyard pond. Beautifully landscaped with in-ground sprinkler system.

SUE JOHNSON
651-329-1264 • \$349,900



EASY LIVING

This spacious "London" unit is the largest floor plan and is on the "penthouse" level. Updates include fresh, neutral paint & carpet. Ready to move in & enjoy! Lots of storage too! 1181 Edgcombe Rd.

www.AtHomeWithSue.com
SUE JOHNSON
651-329-1264 • \$159,500



GREAT 4-BEDROOM

all on one level, 3-bath, 2-story home situated on south-facing sunny corner lot! Hardwood floors, built-ins, expanded kitchen, huge 2-car garage with loft/storage space, large back deck great for entertaining plus finished lower level.

www.AtHomeWithSue.com
SUE JOHNSON
651-329-1264



HEART OF HIGHLAND

Don't miss this lovely home just blocks from the center of Highland Park. First floor family room, cozy fireplace, eat-in kitchen and newer mechanicals. 1843 Bohland.

JOAN JOHNSON
651-282-9626



AFFORDABLE LIVING

with all the conveniences! 55+ community offering wonderful amenities! Sauna, whirlpool, secured entrance, exercise room, party room, library, piano room. 1-BR only \$68K. Low dues too!

Q MOET
651-222-1007 • \$68,000



ENJOY THE BEST

Could not be more charming! New kitchen with Viking appl. & granite, 2 new baths, main floor laundry, 4 BRs on 1 level, corner lot, great light, 3rd floor ready for any needs. 777 Laurel.

PAULA GLEESON
651-329-0069 • \$475,000



INTRODUCING 1113 LINCOLN

Gorgeous four-square combines beautiful architectural detail with a flowing floor plan and terrific location. Just one block south of Grand. South-facing front porch, a generously-sized LR w/FP, formal DR w/built-in buffet & 4 BRs on 2nd floor. 3-car garage. 1113 Lincoln.

KATE BECKMAN
651-282-9629 • \$449,000



PRICE IMPROVEMENT

Historic Robertson-Dalrymple home. 1/3 acre on Cathedral Hill. Stunning woodwork & pocket doors, rare stained glass, Tiffany chandelier & fixtures. 11' ceilings throughout. Well-maintained & loads of potential for single family home or condos. 265 Summit.

KATHERINE LUND
651-470-2882



MENDOTA HEIGHTS

Twinhome has it all - one level living & finished walkout level with 2 BRs, bath, family room & storage! Main floor owner's suite, den, sunroom, deck, laundry, big eat-in kitchen, living room w/fireplace overlooking pond. 2125 Lake Augusta Drive. Call to see now.

SANDY AARON
651-282-9606 • \$550,000



2 GREAT CONDOS

Both condos feature 1 BR, 1 bath, garage, AC, FP and are located in Irvine Park, walking distance to United Hospital & downtown. Historic row houses at 232 & 234 Exchange St. Panama Flats historic property. Immediate possession, call me.

SANDY AARON
651-282-9606 • under \$180K



EXCEPTIONAL VALUE!

1375 Eleanor has 4 BRs, 3 baths, over 2,500 fin. sq. ft., fenced yard, low maintenance brick & stucco ext., hwd. floors, 200 amp electric, newer roof, newer AC (2006) and big kitchen. Ready for new owner now!

SANDY AARON
651-282-9606 • \$350,000



651.207.3543 | WESTERN-ROW.COM

80 WESTERN AVE N, SAINT PAUL, MN

MODEL OPEN
THURS - SUN 12-6

\$345K TO \$429K & \$595K TO \$670K

BOLD
MARKETING



BEAUTIFUL CATHEDRAL HILL CONDOMINIUM

This sunny and bright condo has been completely restored. Features include 3 BRs, 2 baths & 1-car garage. You'll love the 10-foot ceilings, huge windows, hardwood floors and wonderfully updated kitchen. 406 Laurel.

SARAH KINNEY
651-282-9621 • \$375,000



W.C. RILEY MANSION

2-BR, 2-bath condo w/both turn-of-the-century charm & urban sophistication. Hwd. floors, AC & a wood-burning FP. Fascinating spaces & huge windows! 143 Nina St. #4.

SARAH KINNEY
651-282-9621 • \$295,000



ULTRA-SOPHISTICATED CARRIAGE HOUSE

New carriage house condo w/chic styling & maintenance-free living. 2 BRs, 2 baths, & exotic wdwk. Thoughtful design, superb craftsmanship & rich architectural detail. 449 Portland Ave.

SARAH KINNEY
651-282-9621 • \$695,000



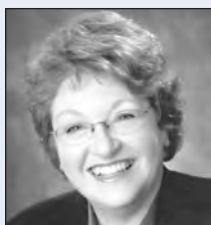
THE AWARD-WINNING WALDORF

This dazzling, complete restoration features an open floor plan, fireplace, hardwood floors, large windows, a luxurious LL (with built-in bar, wine cellar & walk-in humidor) and old fashioned front porch with picturesque views of historic Summit Avenue. 676 Summit Ave. #101.

SARAH KINNEY
651-282-9621 • \$779,900



BILL LINSTROTH
651-695-4309



BOBBI LEVITAN
651-282-9684



SARAH KINNEY
651-282-9621



KATHRYN KENNEDY
651-282-9659



JOAN JOHNSON
651-282-9626



NANCY JOHN & GORDON BABBS
651-398-8025



MIKE JAMBOR
651-695-4306



MARNA HOLMAN
651-282-9619



HOLIDAYS!

business this year!



JOY PRINGLE
651-282-9631



BETTY RUNYON
651-690-8575



BILL SMITTEN
651-282-9610



ROSEMARY McNEELY & LOLLY McNEELY SALMEN

2163 IGLEHART - NEW PRICE

Spacious 5-BR, 4-bath Victorian-style 2-story located on Merriam Park's famed "Pill Hill." Includes 4 finished levels, park-like lot, all the wood and charm of the era plus sweeping front veranda. A piece of Americana.

LOLLY SALMEN CRS • ROSEMARY McNEELY CRS
651-690-8582 • \$545,000



TOM EDELSTEIN

GRAND & GLORIOUS!

Handsome two-story classic boasts lovely hardwood floors, fireplace, sparkling sunroom. Oversized lot, 2-car garage! 1366 Fairmount.

*click on www.tomedelstein.com

TOM EDELSTEIN CRS
651-695-4300 • \$524,900



TOM EDELSTEIN

TUDOR MASTERPIECE!

Gracious 3+ bedroom, 3-bath in a choice location. Discover main floor family room, hardwood. updated kitchen, 2-car garage & more! 1810 Scheffer.

*click on www.tomedelstein.com

TOM EDELSTEIN CRS
651-695-4300 • \$498,000



TOM EDELSTEIN

TRULY DELIGHTFUL!

Pampered 2+ bedroom across from park & school! Beautiful hardwood floors, updated kitchen, main floor den, 2-car garage, CA! 1836 Wordsworth.

*click on www.tomedelstein.com

TOM EDELSTEIN CRS
651-695-4300 • \$228,500



LUKE WALBERT

CENTRAL CORRIDOR

1130 Charles Ave.: Watch it grow and enjoy convenient 1-level living, just 2 blocks from proposed LRT station. Porch, fireplace & walk-up storage attic.

LUKE WALBERT
651-336-3159 • \$139,900



TOM EDELSTEIN

UPDATED CHARM!

Discover gleaming hardwood floors, sparkling skylights in this handsome 4-bedroom, 2-bath! Fenced yard, newer 2+ car garage, CA! 1294 Watson.

*click on www.tomedelstein.com

TOM EDELSTEIN CRS
651-695-4300 • \$245,000



TOM EDELSTEIN

PAMPERED PERFECTION!

Across from Cherokee Park, this exceptional 4-bedroom, 3-bath is right out of "House Beautiful!" Owner's suite, 2-car garage. HMS! 780 Chippewa.

*click on www.tomedelstein.com

TOM EDELSTEIN CRS
651-695-4300 • \$449,000



TOM EDELSTEIN

CLASSIC 2-STORY

loved for 55+ years by the same owner! Discover hardwood, fireplace, eat-in kitchen & formal dining! Attached garage +++ 1792 Eleanor.

*click on www.tomedelstein.com

TOM EDELSTEIN CRS
651-695-4300 • \$325,000



KAT BOURQUE

BEAUTIFUL CONDO

Sharp 2-BR, 2-bath Roseville condo in elevator building with heated attached parking! Don't delay for an easy life w/pool, hot tub, sauna +++!

KAT BOURQUE
952-239-1717 • \$162,500



JIM BURTON

EXCEPTIONAL VALUE!

1450 Bidwell Unit #108: Spotless 2-BR, 2-bath condo with a delightful front patio, large living room and dining room, 2 heated underground parking stalls, and a great building with pool, sauna, and party room.

www.JimBurtonGroup.com

JIM BURTON
651-690-8556 • \$145,000



JIM BURTON

YOU'LL BE IMPRESSED!

400 Cretin Ave. N: Impeccable 3-BR, 2-bath with stunning oak woodwork, gleaming hardwood floors, delightful porch, large privacy fenced yard with new oversized double garage. www.JimBurtonGroup.com

JIM BURTON
651-690-8556 • \$289,900



JIM BURTON

JUST LISTED!

297 Hamline: Immaculate 3-BR with new kitchen, updated bath, charming hardwood floors, and a handsome brick fireplace. www.JimBurtonGroup.com

JIM BURTON
651-690-8556 • \$239,900



LEONARD SCHWARTZ

552 BRIMHALL

Classic stucco 3-BR, 2-bath Tudor. Natural wood. Brick fireplace. Cozy porch. See it today!

LEONARD SCHWARTZ
651-210-2462 • \$249,900



PAT MCGILL

CAREFREE ELEGANCE

1900 Sargent Ave. is a spectacular 3-BR, 2+ story stucco home w/cozy LR fireplace, formal DR w/corner cabinets, nat. wdwk., hdwd. floors, first floor sunroom, wonderful eat-in kitchen, 2-car garage. Now at a reduced price!

PAT MCGILL CRS
651-695-4311 • \$485,000



PAT MCGILL

PRICE REDUCED!

997 Portland Ave. is an immaculate 3-story home with LR FP, formal DR, first floor FR, hdwd. floors, nat. wdwk. galore, third floor waiting to be finished. Remodeled kitchen and bath, newer roof and furnace. It is spectacular!

PAT MCGILL CRS
651-695-4311 • \$575,000



PAT MCGILL

ST. PAUL'S TWO BEST CONDOS

1181 Edgumbe Rd.: Party room, guest suite, library, exercise room. #1106 is 1,330 sq. ft. w/2 BRs and 2 baths, a huge LR, formal DR, facing west, for \$149,900. Unit 1212 is 960 sq. ft., 2 BRs, 1 bath, a spacious LR, formal DR, facing east, reduced to \$99,900.

PAT MCGILL CRS
651-695-4311 • \$149,900 & \$99,900



St. Paul's Newest Neighborhood!

Visit our fabulous model, open Thursday through Monday, Noon to 5. Private showings by appointment.

651-210-2462 • LoveThyNeighborhood.com



DICK & TOM DISTAD

BEST DEAL AROUND!

2-BR, 1-bath home in Mac-Groveland with a new kitchen, bathroom, refinished wood floors, updated electric, new furnace and water heater. Under \$190K! For info call Dick. www.DickAndTomDistad.com

DICK & TOM DISTAD
651-690-8516 • \$185,900



DICK & TOM DISTAD

GREAT SINGLE FAMILY

Wonderfully maintained 2-BR, 2-bath home, walking distance to Groveland and Nativity. One-year home warranty included. For info call Dick. www.DickAndTomDistad.com

DICK & TOM DISTAD
651-690-8516 • \$219,900



DICK & TOM DISTAD

NEW LIST! NEW KITCHEN!

Corian countertops, newer bath, great 3-season porch, hardwood floors, double garage, fenced yard! All for under \$190,000. 1550 Carroll. www.DickAndTomDistad.com

DICK & TOM DISTAD
651-690-8516



SANAE STOREY
651-690-8564



PENNY TONRY
651-282-9669



NANCY & BOB YANKOVICH
651-690-8570



SANDY AARON
651-282-9606



JIM BURTON
651-690-8556



ALICE DICKINSON
651-282-9620



ROBERT GIBB
651-695-4305



KIM FLANAGHAN
651-695-3422



GARY FABEL
651-282-9613



TOM EDELSTEIN
651-695-4300



BRIAN DORFSMAN
651-690-8572



BEN DORAN
651-695-3454



PETER DONOVAN
651-690-8519



DICK & TOM DISTAD
651-690-8516

NEED DENTAL TREATMENT?

...But You Don't Have Dental Insurance?

Introducing...

Alpha Dental Plan

Fine dental care at a great value!

- Experienced Clinician
- Personalized Prompt Care
- Affordable
- Perfect for Self-Employed
- High Quality Service
- Sedation Techniques As Needed

Exclusively by

Please call or stop by our convenient location for an informational brochure.

Be prepared to smile!

Dr. Tom Vukodinovich
FAMILY • COSMETIC • ORTHODONTIC
GENERAL DENTISTRY
Est. 1983

(651) 690-5497

542 S Snelling • Highland Park • St. Paul, MN

Visit our new website! **tv-smiles.com**



*At Kessler & Maguire Funeral Home,
we know and understand the importance
of family, and we appreciate the trust and
friendship that families extend to us
when we care for their loved ones.*

*We hope that as your family gathers this
holiday season, you'll enjoy your time together.*

*May your hearts be filled with the sights,
sounds, and the love of the season.*

Happy Holidays from our family to yours.

KESSLER & MAGUIRE FUNERAL HOME

640 West 7th Street • St. Paul, MN

Phone: (651) 224-2341

Visit our website at www.kesslermaguire.com

Senior Living in a Caring Faith Based Community!

*Enjoy our top notch tenants while living
in a caring community with your peers.*

**Ask
About
Our Winter
Special!**



Riverview Highlands 1834 Mississippi Blvd. So.

1 or 2 Bedroom apartments. Some units have views of the Mississippi River. Units include 10 meals a month, housekeeping twice a month, laundry hookup, decks, and a garage. Ages 62+.

\$1,450+ monthly.

For information and/or appointment
call 651-696-8420

The Highlands on Graham 1910 Graham Ave.

1 or 2 Bedroom Apts in a quiet Highland Park neighborhood. 72 units, includes full kitchen, laundry room, most have decks. Ages 62+.

\$1300+ monthly.

For information and/or appointment
call 651-695-4100

Franciscan Health Community, 1925 Norfolk Ave.

651-696-8400 • www.franciscancare.org

Commission OKs Palace Avenue residence for St. Joseph Workers

Neighbors object to using 'small' home to house six volunteers in local charity

By JANE MCCLURE

Despite objections from neighbors, the St. Paul Planning Commission voted 11-7 on December 14 in determining that the St. Joseph Worker Program at 1704 Palace Ave. is similar to a convent, monastery or religious retreat center and can house up to six young unrelated women.

The determination of similar use was approved with several conditions—that the number of residents be limited to six, that any additions to the structure first be approved by the Planning Commission, that the existing four off-street parking spaces be maintained, that the property be used solely for housing, that only six vehicles be allowed at the residence and that the determination be revoked if the property gets more than four citations for fire or code violations in a 12-month period.

Commissioner Gaius Nelson, who voted against the determination of similar use, said the house is too small for six occupants and lacks adequate off-street parking. He said the ruling sets a precedent for other nonprofit organizations to claim the same status and skirt a city regulation that allows only four unrelated people to live in a single dwelling.

"Anyone with a rental property could put a nonprofit together and say they have that type of religious living arrangement," he said.

The commission's Zoning Committee recommended approving the determination of similar use on a 4-1 vote on December 6. City staff and the Macalester-Groveland Community Council also recommended approval.

The Sisters of St. Joseph are now in their sixth year of operating the volunteer program, which has been housed on Palace Avenue since last February. Attorney Jeff Abrahamson, who represented the sisters, said the program moved to Macalester-Groveland this year to be in a safe, stable neighborhood for the volunteers, after having had problems with a previous landlord in another neighborhood. He said the sisters were unaware of the limits on unrelated people living together. The occupancy issue came up during a subsequent building code inspection.

The young women, ages 21-35, come from various religious backgrounds and regions of the country to live together for a year while doing volunteer work in the Twin Cities. The program provides room and board, as well as a \$100 per month stipend. Residents share meals and household duties, work full time at their volunteer tasks and attend evening activities tied to their volunteer activities. The St. Joseph Worker Program also has a house in Minneapolis.

The Planning Commission received four letters and two petitions opposing the determination of similar use. More than two dozen neighbors signed the petitions. Opponents who addressed the Zoning Committee said they have had good relations with the volunteers, but have concerns about the growing number of rental properties in the neighborhood.

"In the past four to five years, we've seen five of the 15 houses on the south side of the street become rental," said neighbor Carmen Coffman-Johnson. She questioned whether a religious facility that is not directly associated with a church, synagogue or similar house of worship meets the city's definition of a similar use. "This is nothing more than a rental property," Coffman-Johnson said.

Winston Kaehler, who has lived on the block for more than 29 years, agreed. "The tenants at 1704 Palace change every year," he said. "They don't take vows or make a long-term commitment comparable to that of a religious order. Designation as a religious retreat house is dubious if one considers the meaning of the word 'retreat'."

Another issue is parking. Currently all six residents have cars. City staff determined that the garage and apron could accommodate up to four cars, but some neighbors argued that the site was too small and that the determination of similar use would put too many vehicles on the street. They said parking congestion in the vicinity is already compounded by the number of rental properties in the area as well as by visitors to nearby Mattocks Park.

Commissioner George Johnson, who also voted against the determination, said he was sympathetic to the issues raised by residents. "This is clearly a case where neighbors are concerned about neighborhood stability," he said. He added that he viewed the city's limit on four unrelated people as "a line in the sand" that should not be crossed lightly.

Religious Notes

Mount Zion Temple, 1300 Summit Ave., will honor Rabbi Adam Stock Spilker and cantor Rachel Stock Spilker on Friday, December 21, on the occasion of their 10th anniversary at the temple. A family dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m., followed by a Shabbat service at 7:30 p.m. highlighted by reflections and musical selections. The Spilkers and their children are also leaving soon for a six-month sabbatical in Israel. The cost for dinner is \$12 for adults and \$6.00 for children. Reservations are due by December 16. Call 651-698-3881.

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols will be held at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, December 23, at St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church, 60 Kent St. The congregation will sing familiar Christmas carols and the choir will sing anthems. The parish handbell choir will also participate. A reception will follow. Call James Frazier at 651-228-1172, ext. 38.

A Kabbalat Sabbath service will be conducted at 6:00 p.m. Friday, December 28, at Temple of Aaron, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd. The service will be followed by a leisurely Shabbat dinner with prayers, songs and games. Cost for dinner is \$6.50, \$5.00 for children under age 12. For reservations, call 651-698-8874.

Vivaldi's "Gloria" with choir and orchestra will be presented at 9:45 p.m. Monday, December 24, as a prelude to the 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service at St. Clement's Episcopal Church, 901 Portland Ave.

"The First Jewish Family: What We Can Learn from Abraham and Sarah" is the topic for Torah classes that are being offered twice monthly now through the spring at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. The next classes are scheduled from 12:30-1:15 p.m. Wednesdays, January 2 and 16. Teacher Sean Herstein will draw on both Biblical and Rabbinic texts. Participants are welcome to just drop in, and they may bring a lunch. For more information, call Sean Herstein at 651-255-4739.

A Young Family Service will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m. Friday, January 4, at the Temple of Aaron, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd. The service is a chance for children age 6 and younger and their families to celebrate an informal Shabbat with songs, stories and *ruach* (spirit). Prayers, a Torah procession, birthday celebrations and socializing are also part of the service. Call 651-698-8874.

Food



A custard made with coconut milk.

Hot Dish By Morgan Smith

Taste of Thailand menu is a marvel

If you're a restaurant diner who has trouble making up your mind when faced with a cornucopia of food options, be forewarned: Taste of Thailand, 1669 Selby Ave., has an extraordinarily ambitious menu of 23 appetizers, nine soups and salads, 49 entrées and four desserts. On top of that, more than 30 of the menu items may be ordered with alternative ingredients. For example, the pad pak, a stir-fry with fresh mushrooms, celery, broccoli, napa cabbage, onions, carrots, pea pods, green beans, and green and red bell peppers, comes with tofu, mock duck, mock chicken, pork, chicken, beef, shrimp or squid. That creates a total of almost 150 variations of menu items from which to choose. And given that many of the dishes can be prepared from mild to hot, that would be....

Well, you get the picture.

Even more remarkable is that Taste of Thailand owner Lamphay Phetphrachanh cooks dishes that can be prepared in advance at the flagship Merriam Park restaurant as well as the one she operates on Hennepin Avenue in Minneapolis. She also travels regularly to her other restaurants on St. Paul's East Side and in Fridley and Apple Valley to monitor the quality of the food cooked there. "Sometimes I go crazy," she said of her hectic schedule.

The additional restaurants haven't noticeably affected the original Selby Avenue restaurant, however. It still looks from the exterior like what has been described by other restaurant reviewers as a drab neighborhood cafe. The interior effects a similar look. The charmless decor features old tables, benches with red vinyl seats and stiff-backed chairs.

So what keeps Taste of Thailand hopping on weekend nights and about half full on a recent Friday mid-afternoon? No doubt it's the consistently fresh ingredients and postcard presentation of the Thai food itself.

The deep-fried vegetarian egg roll (\$3.65 for three) was a big hit with one of my dining partners. The vegetables in the fresh spring roll (\$4.50 for two) in rice paper were so fresh they were



Happy diners in a sunny room at the Taste of Thailand on Selby Avenue. PHOTOS BY JANET HOSTETTER.

still crunchy, making that appetizer a big hit with my other dining partner. I favored the chicken satay (\$4.95 for six). Although the chicken was a bit dry, that was more than made up for by the delicious peanut curry dipping sauce. Traditional satay is served with a cucumber relish, but at Taste of Thailand the cucumbers come freshly sliced on the side.

The flavor of the chicken rice soup (\$2.25) was a bit too subtle for my taste, but since there were no seasonings or condiments like soy sauce at my table, I ate it just as it came out of the kitchen.

The vegetarian red curry (\$7.75) was a heaping plate full of fried tofu, fresh broccoli, carrots, green beans, napa cabbage, potatoes, pea pods and onions. My quasi-vegetarian friend was not particularly impressed with the tofu, but was very happy with the portion, texture and taste of the vegetables.

The vegetarian-style pad thai (\$7.20) is greasier than the traditional version found in Thailand and a little sweeter than its equivalent at other Thai restaurants in the Twin Cities. Other than that, it had a wonderful, slightly chewy texture and a robust flavor.

The pineapple fried rice with chicken (\$7.20) could have had larger chunks of chicken and more pineapple, but it was appropriately sweet.

For cold winter days, Phetphrachanh had recommended on an earlier visit the tom yum soup (\$7.75). One of the favorites of those Taste of Thailand customers who leave personal

reviews on the Internet, it comes with chicken (\$8.40) or shrimp (\$10.20). This lemon-flavored soup with straw mushrooms and Thai chili peppers is "good for you and low-calorie, too," Phetphrachanh said.

Feeling a bit ashamed of my timid dinner choice of the pineapple fried rice, I vowed to return and be more adventurous at lunch. I ordered the masman curry (\$7.40), which comes with beef, chicken or tofu in coconut milk with masman curry paste, roasted peanuts and potatoes. Much to my chagrin, the dish was unavailable that day. Phetphrachanh, I was informed, was cooking up another big pot, but it wouldn't be available until dinner.

So I chose another traditional Thai dish, northern-style Thai grilled sausage. It came with perfectly steamed rose-petal carrots, beans, broccoli and a dish of Thai salsa. Although flagged on the menu with a lion (translation: "hot"), it was not as spicy as I'd feared. The sausage slices were neither as juicy nor as greasy as a traditional German sausage, but they were every bit as flavorful.

The sauce on the pad bai kra prao—a mixture of basil leaves, onions, fresh mushrooms, jalapeño peppers, red and green bell peppers and a choice of tofu, mock duck, mock chicken, pork, chicken, beef, frog legs or shrimp—was excellent.

Past complaints about the quality of service by other review-

TASTE OF THAILAND ► 24

AWARD WINNING PIZZA

You've tried the rest...now try the best!

THIN, DEEP & STUFFED

ST. PAUL • 651-221-0093
1670 Grand Avenue
Dine-in, Carry-out or Delivery.
(Limited delivery area.)

EAGAN • 651-452-4525
1438 Yankee Doodle Rd.
Dine-in, or Carry-out.
(Sorry, no delivery from this location.)

THE PREMIER PIZZA SHOPPE RESTAURANT

www.italianpieshoppe.com

Shish
A Mediterranean Grill & Cafe

Open 7 Days a Week 8am-10pm
Serving Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Hummus, Falafel, Tabbouli, Kibbeh, Kebabs, Entrees, Coffee, Tea, Turkish Coffee, Baklava, Desserts & More!

Free Piece of Baklava

Shish
A Mediterranean Grill & Cafe

With Entree or Sandwich
Must present coupon. Exp. 1/31/08

Eat In or Take Out • Catering Available
Locally Owned & Operated

1668 Grand Avenue, St. Paul • 651-690-2212

Sibley Plaza
Stop & Shop

22 stores, restaurants and professionals to serve every member of the family year-round.

ACS Mobility • American Family Insurance • Buffet King
Champps • Cooper's SuperValu • Family Dollar Store
Fantastic Sam's • 5 Star Cafe • H & R Block • Accomplish Mortgage LLC
Kiev Foods • La Hacienda • MoneyXchange • Anytime Fitness
Nile Chiropractic • Queen of Sheba • Plaza Tobacco • Subway
SVS Vision • TT Angel Nails • Tuesday Morning • Yarmo Liquors

"Simply the Finest Neighborhood Restaurant & Bar in St. Paul"

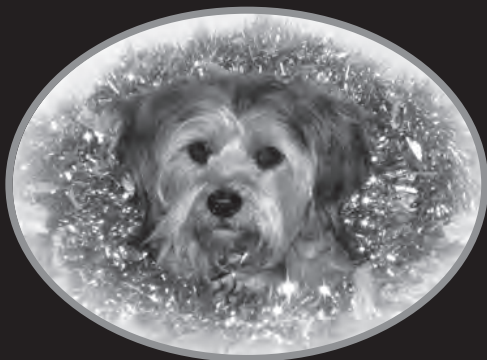
— St. Paul Convention & Visitor's Bureau

**Thanks
for a Great
Year!**

Fabulous
FERN'S
BAR & GRILL

400 SELBY AVE. ON CATHEDRAL HILL
651-225-9414
www.fabulousferns.com

Wrapped Up in Holiday Bills?



Apply today for a

Highgrove Holiday Loan

12 Month Term • 9.9% APR* • \$2,000 Maximum

680 S. Cleveland Ave. | 742 Grand Ave.
Call (651) 698-8801 for more information
or visit www.Highgrove.org

* Your rate may vary depending on your credit history
Offer is good through January 31st, 2008.

Highgrove
Community
Federal Credit Union

Your neighborhood **mom**-bank™

City Council scales back to 5 percent the increase on business license fees

By JANE MCCLURE

An outcry by bar and restaurant owners already coping with sagging sales has convinced the St. Paul City Council to adopt a comparatively modest 5 percent increase in business license and permit fees for 2008. The city had been contemplating license and fee increases of 20 percent or more to raise an additional \$324,000 a year.

The city has not increased the license and permit fees for most types of businesses for 12 years. A recent city consultant's report recommended increases of 25 percent or more for some licensees.

The smaller increase adopted by the City Council on December 12 is expected to raise an additional \$130,000, forcing some last-minute changes to the city's 2008 budget to avert staff cuts in the city's Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI). Because the City Council also expanded the number of bar and restaurant license categories, larger establishments will likely see their fees increase by more than 5 percent and smaller establishments will see their fees increase by less than 5 percent, according to DSI director Bob Kessler.

In 2008 restaurants will pay city license fees ranging from \$420 for a carryout restaurant to \$650 for a restaurant with more than 150 seats. For on-sale liquor licenses, the annual fees will range from \$4,883 to \$5,303 depending on the size of the establishment.

According to City Council member Dan

Bostrom, the city may have made a mistake in not increasing business license and permit fees all along. However, he added, the increases that were initially contemplated for 2008 were too steep.

Of the \$324,000 in additional revenue initially sought from the license and permit fee increases, about \$90,000 was needed to cover public safety costs and \$60,000 was needed to cover city attorney costs related to license holders. The city will now have to shift as much as \$194,000 from the general fund to plug the budget hole left by the lower increase. What that means for city budgets in 2009 and beyond has yet to be determined, Kessler said.

The increases initially proposed for 2008 were part of a three-year plan to bring the city's licensing budget into balance so that it would not have to rely on property taxes and local government aid from the state. Permit and license fees have not kept pace with the increasing costs of providing city services to those establishments, Kessler said. Businesses that request a hearing before an administrative law judge or require several visits each year from city inspectors or the police can cost the city thousands of dollars, not all of which is recovered in fines.

City Council members conceded that the \$194,000 shift is a one-time fix and that the shortfall will need to be addressed next year. Yet to be resolved for 2008 are the permit and fee increases for vending machine operators and taxicab companies.

23◀ TASTE OF THAILAND

ers notwithstanding, my friends and I thought the staff was prompt and friendly. The manager patiently explained the differences in the menu items, and the food arrived in a reasonable time and piping hot.

Both times I ate there, the waiter left a pitcher of ice water on the table, an appreciated touch when the food is a tad spicy. However, both times I ate there the waiter had a list of about a dozen items that were unavailable that day, perhaps not surprising given the extensive menu.

Although I wouldn't rate Taste of Thailand in the very top tier of Thai restaurants that continue to spring up in the Twin Cities, it certainly is close to the top—and more reasonably priced than many—and is worthy of a stop if just to marvel at the menu.



Pad pak, a stir-fry with vegetables.

Happy Holidays from
Stuart Management Corporation
and your friends in the
Shepard Park neighborhood.

SHEPARD PARK
A RENTAL NEIGHBORHOOD WITHIN A PARK

The Alton Memory Care & Suites
Highland Ridge Apartments
The Plaza Apartments
Rockwood Place Senior Apartments
The Wellington Assisted Living Residence
Woodstone Apartments



Stuart Management Corporation
www.stuartco.com



Our Focus Is You

At Twin Cities Eye Specialists, we specialize in helping you see your best.

Whether you simply need an eye exam for glasses or contact lenses or if you have an eye condition that requires medical or surgical treatment, we are committed to helping you achieve your best results.

Considering Lasik? We offer the latest in Lasik, including advanced wavefront laser vision correction.

Any questions, call us. We're here to help you!

Twin Cities Eye Specialists
Highland Park

2221 Ford Parkway #210
Saint Paul, MN 55116
www.twincitieseye.com
651-690-2020



David J. Ellers, M.D.
Diplomat
American Board of
Ophthalmology

TRADITIONS
Classic Home Furnishings



25% Off
Art &
Accessories
thru Dec 23

Minneapolis
3052 Excelsior Blvd.
(612) 285-0356
Saint Paul
1039 Grand Ave.
(651) 222-5253
Naples, FL
www.Traditions.com

The Kiosk

Thursday/December 20

THE ST. PAUL METRO LA LECHE

League will meet at 7:00 this evening. All expectant and nursing mothers and their babies are welcome. For meeting location, call 651-645-8516.

Saturday/December 22

A FITNESS AND PHENOLOGY WALK

will be offered at 10:00 this morning at Fort Snelling State Park. Visitors will look to see what deer and other wild animals at the park are doing to get by this winter. The program is free, but a state parking permit is required. Call 612-725-2724.

A SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

will be held at 2:00 this afternoon at Coldwater Spring in South Minneapolis. The celebration will be led by Twin Cities Reclaiming and will include the Twin Cities Women's Choir. Participants are encouraged to dress for the weather and to bring a chair. For directions, visit www.friendsofcoldwater.org.

Sunday, December 23

A WINTER SOLSTICE PEACE VIGIL

will be held by Merriam Park Neighbors for Peace from 5:30 to 6:30 this evening at the corner of Snelling and Summit avenues. Bring a candle and join residents from throughout the Twin Cities to quietly witness for peaceful solutions to world problems. After the vigil, warm up and socialize at a local Grand Avenue restaurant or coffee shop. Visit www.mppeace.org or call Krista Menzel at 651-641-7592.

CREATE WRAPPING PAPER out of animal tracks during a program at 1:00 this afternoon at Fort Snelling State Park. Visitors will learn how to read animal tracks and will then create their own on wrapping paper. The program is free, but a state parking permit is required. Call 612-725-2724.

THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB will meet at 2:30 this afternoon at Caribou Coffee by the Signal Hills Shopping Center on South Robert Street in West St. Paul. Call 651-646-6421 or visit www.stpaulhike.org.

Thursday/December 27

"SILENCING PEACEMAKERS in the Middle East: Anti-Semitism vs. Criticizing" will be presented by Women Against Military Madness at 7:00 this evening at Macalester Plymouth United Church, 1658 Lincoln Ave. The event will local Muslim, Christian and Jewish peace activists, as well as Cecilie Surasky, communications



director for Jewish Voice for Peace, who led a campaign that resulted in thousands of e-mails and letters to University of St. Thomas president the Reverend Dennis Dease after he canceled a visit by Desmond Tutu. Call 612-827-5364.

Saturday/December 29

A SNOWSHOE ADVENTURE will be offered at 1:00 this afternoon at Fort Snelling State Park. The public is invited to join the naturalist and learn how to walk on snow without sinking too deep. Snowshoes are limited, so registration is required. Call 612-725-2724.

Sunday/December 30

A WINTER WILDLIFE WALK will be offered at 1:00 this afternoon at Fort Snelling State Park. Join the naturalist to learn more about the animals that are active during the winter months. The program is free, but a state parking permit is required. Call 612-725-2724.

Monday/December 31

A NOON YEAR'S EVE PARTY will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. today at Como Zoo. The public is invited to watch the ball drop with the polar bears and countdown to the new year 12 hours early. Call 651-487-8201.

A NEW YEAR'S EVE Celebration will be

held this evening at the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory. The public is invited to ring in the new year with a buffet dinner, live music and enchanting gardens. Dinner seatings are at 6:30 and 9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$195 per couple and include dinner, entertainment and champagne at midnight. For reservations, call 651-487-8250.

A NEW YEAR'S EVE CANDLELIGHT walk will be offered from 3:00 to 8:00 this evening at Fort Snelling State Park. The program is free, but a state parking permit is required. Call 612-725-2724.

Tuesday/January 1

"PAYING A CALL" will be the focus of tours offered from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. today at the Alexander Ramsey House, 265 S. Exchange St. Visitors will learn about the Victorian ritual of calling and discover how Minnesotans celebrated New Year's Day in the 19th century. The cost is \$6.00-\$8.00. Call 651-296-8760.

Wednesday/January 2

A SUPPORT GROUP for people dealing with depression and bipolar disorders and the support-givers in their lives will meet from 7:00 to 8:30 this evening at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. The group is free and open to the public and usually meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Call Marjorie Sigel at 651-698-0767.



James Wosika Sr. (left foreground) of St. Paul's West End walks between the graves of Sgt. Bryan McDonough and his own son, Sgt. James Wosika Jr., during the Wreaths Across America memorial at Fort Snelling National Cemetery on December 15. Above, Nate Zenker of the Patriot Guard keeps a vigil next to the grave of Wosika, 24, who died last January in Iraq. PHOTO BY PHILIP HUSSONG

Saturday/January 5

CITIZENSHIP CLASSES will be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays, today through February 9, at the International Institute of Minnesota, 1694 Como Ave. The classes meet once a week for six weeks. Admission is free. Call 651-647-0191, ext. 307 to register.

Sunday/January 6

THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB will meet at 2:30 this afternoon at Robert Street and Plato Boulevard for a hike that will cross the Mississippi River more than once. Visit www.stpaulhike.org.

Tuesday/January 8

THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB will meet at 11:30 this morning at Summit and Western avenues for a hike through the neighborhood. Visit www.stpaulhike.org.

Wednesday/January 9

THE LONGFELLOW GARDEN CLUB will meet from 7:00 to 9:00 this evening at Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S., Minneapolis. The discussion will be on gardening successes and failures. Participants are asked to bring favorite garden books to give away or swap. Coffee and dessert will be served. The meetings are free and open to the public.

Snelling Ave. Dental

Dr. B.L. Bomberg

Open Evenings

New Patient Exam

\$1*

Transferable. Please share with your family, friends and co-workers.

Expires March 31, 2008

Snelling Avenue Dental

B.L. Bomberg, DDS Kellee Stanton, DDS

604 South Snelling Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55116
651-699-5600 • 651-699-1966 (fax)

*Includes: Initial Exam, Consultation, and Necessary X-rays

snellingavenuedental@hotmail.com

CHINESE

Give the Gift of

A tuition-free public school

651-379-4112

www.yinghuaacademy.org

1355 Pierce Butler Route • St. Paul, MN 55104

IMMERSION!

Language

Mandarin Chinese Immersion • Rigorous Academic Curriculum
Global Perspective • Small School Environment

Bring your children to an open house to experience an immersion classroom session!

Saturday, January 12th, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, January 26th, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 9th, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Or call now for a personal tour!

YINGHUA ACADEMY

Bilingual • Bicultural • Mandarin Chinese Elementary School

Music makes
a magical season
come alive



99.5
classical

**MINNESOTA
PUBLIC RADIO**

There's a warmth in the heart, a sense
of joy in the season. And classical music
fills your spirit with wonder. It's more
than magic. It's alive.

stream online at mpr.org

On the Town

Glad tidings: Lyra strikes up sounds of the season circa 1700

BY BILL STIEGER

The world has gotten a lot smaller for the Lyra Baroque Orchestra since its founding in 1985, even as the St. Paul-based ensemble's international reputation has grown. Lyra performs music from the Baroque era of 1600-1750 on instruments from that period, and when founding director Randy Bourne retired in 2000, Jacques Ogg of the Netherlands was hired as its artistic director.

"We had a lot of great guest conductors come and perform with us, but Jacques had a vision for us," said Paul Jacobson, a baroque flautist from Summit Hill and Lyra's executive director. "That's the main reason we chose him. He made it clear that he wanted to elevate our performances to a level that would establish our reputation internationally."

"That makes it sound like Lyra Baroque wasn't a good orchestra before my arrival," Ogg said. "But that's not the case at all. When I was invited to lead the orchestra, I found a professional group with a lot of possibilities. All I had to do was stimulate and encourage."

Ogg took Lyra to Spain in 2003 to record a series of folk cantatas by 18th-century Spanish composer Antonio Soler at the Royal Monastery of San Lorenzo de El Escorial—in the same chapel where the original compositions



Posed in their performance space at Olivet Congregational Church are Lyra Baroque Orchestra members (from left) Laura Handler, Cheryl Zylla, Sara Thompson, Paul Jacobson, Inger Dahlin, Joanna Shelton, Jacques Ogg, Rachel Hest, Ginna Watson, Brad Johnson, Teresa Elliott, Lucinda Marvin and Julie Elhard. Not pictured are Miriam Scholz-Carlson, Margaret Humphrey, Stanley King, Ellen Rider and Bill Sherfey.

were played and sung. Four soloists and the monastery's choir lent their voices to the recording.

Ogg also introduced Lyra to David Kjar, a virtuoso on the baroque trumpet who will perform with the orchestra on Friday, December 22. Titled "Trumpet of the Nativity," the concert will begin at 8:00 p.m. at Olivet Congregational Church, 1850 Iglehart Ave. It will feature works for trumpet and strings by Corelli, Zavatieri, Gabrielli and Torelli in addition to Torelli's Christmas

Concerto and Corelli's Concerto for Christmas Eve.

"David is a terrific soloist," Jacobson said. "He's highly regarded by baroque orchestras in both Europe and the United States. But what I find even more fascinating is that David's a home-grown musician, originally from Northfield."

"(Kjar) was living in the Netherlands, studying at the Royal Conservatory at the Hague," said Rachel Hest, a baroque flautist from Minneapolis' Longfellow

neighborhood who doubles as Lyra's production manager. According to Hest, Kjar studied jazz and traditional trumpet as a youth in Northfield, then switched to baroque trumpet at the Hague, where he met Ogg.

Ogg himself maintains his residence in the Netherlands. "How that works for Lyra is owed in large part to the wonders of the Internet," Jacobson said. "We perform about six concerts a year. We confer with (Ogg) over the selection of the music, and before each concert

he flies to Minnesota and we rehearse for a few weeks before the performance."

Six of Lyra's 18 musicians hail from the area served by the *Villager*, including Jacobson, Hest, bassoonist Bill Sherfey of Summit Hill, violinist Mary Sorlie of Merriam Park, and harpsichordist Paul Boehnke and cellist and viola da gamba player Julie Elhard of the West End.

Baroque is a French word meaning curious, odd or strange. It comes from *barroco*, the Portuguese word for a large irregular pearl, and was initially used as a derogatory term to describe the art form's eccentric redundancy or noisy abundance of details as opposed to the clearer and more sober nature of Renaissance art.

Compositions from the Baroque era played by a modern orchestra sound almost nothing like they do when played on authentic baroque instruments, according to Jacobson. At the time of Lyra's founding, musicians who performed on baroque instruments were a "small cadre of established performers" who toured the country, performing with various orchestras, he said. "We wanted to develop ourselves as authentic baroque musicians. Most of us grew up playing on traditional

LYRA BAROQUE ORCHESTRA ► 30

Hills are alive with local talent

Having Phil Kilbourne on stage is one of Ordway's favorite things

BY JANET LUNDER HANAFIN

When Phil Kilbourne takes his bow after the final performance of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*, he will hold a record at the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts. Kilbourne, a resident of the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood, has appeared in three shows at the Ordway and a total of 170 performances just in 2007. That's more than any other actor in Ordway history.

In *The Sound of Music*, Kilbourne plays Uncle Max, the family friend of the singing von Trapp family who arranges their escape from the Nazis. "I, of course, think he's the hero of the show, but that's just because I'm playing him," Kilbourne said.

Last January, Kilbourne played the role of the off-stage interviewer in the Ordway McKnight Theatre production of *Love, Janis*, the story of rock singer Janis Joplin. "I didn't even have to put on a costume, just sat at a microphone back stage," he said.

When the Ordway hosted a question-and-answer evening with Laura Joplin, Janis' sister, Kilbourne served as the master of ceremonies, which led to his role as the narrator in the Ordway's presentation of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*.

"I'd be on stage and people would be

yelling, and I'd direct the interaction with the audience," Kilbourne said. "Every night was different. I don't know when I've had more fun."

Kilbourne, who grew up in New Jersey, moved to St. Paul a decade ago to marry his high school best friend, Marysue Moses. The two have always shared a love of theater, and were briefly, he said, boyfriend and girlfriend. "She played Gertrude and I played Claudius in *Hamlet* in high school," he said.

They went their separate ways in college (he earned a bachelor of fine arts degree in acting from Boston University), but they were still good friends and attended each other's weddings to different people. Kilbourne followed his first wife to Columbus, where he received a master of fine arts degree in directing from Ohio State. Years later, he and Moses, by then both divorced, reconnected at a high school reunion. She had moved to St. Paul, and in 1996 he came to visit on her birthday. They were engaged less than a month later and were married in August 1997.

In the meantime, Kilbourne said, "I did a lot of stuff." After college he stayed in Boston for several years doing comedy writing and improvisational theater. He and his first wife moved to western Massachusetts where he gave up the theater to run his own



Seasoned actor Phil Kilbourne of Macalester-Groveland plays Uncle Max in the Ordway's production of *The Sound of Music*. PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

newspaper, *Valley Comic News*. It included a humor column, briefly syndicated, called "Shut Up and I'll Tell You," which he said he would like to resurrect some day.

"When I first got here I didn't audition because I had a happy home life," he said. "I wanted to spend nights at home, not working."

Kilbourne eventually got the itch to act again and began to seek work on Twin Cities stages. His credits in more than 175 plays include roles with Jungle Theater in Minneapolis, where he appeared in *Hapgood*, *A Perfect Crime* and *The Dazzle*, the latter of which he lists as his "favorite thing since I got here." His performance brought him recognition as Best Actor in the Twin Cities for 2005 by *City Pages*.

He also appeared in Penumbra Theatre's *Dinah Was* and *Black Eagles*. At the Frank Theatre he played the title role in *The Love Song of J. Robert Oppenheimer*, a dramatic treatment of World War II's Manhattan Project.

Kilbourne is also active with the Theatre at Work Inc., a theater-based training enterprise that Moses co-founded in 1992 and still operates out of their home. One of Kilbourne's recent projects was directing *None of Our Business*, a play that explores the workplace results of domestic violence. The drama has been produced as a video by Twin Cities Public Television, and the DVD is available through the Sheila Wellstone Institute.

SOUND OF MUSIC ► 30

On the Town Briefly

Music

Mandolinist Peter Ostroushko returns on Saturday, December 22, with a Heartland Holiday Concert. The musical journey from the a cappella carols of Ukraine to the choros of Brazil departs at 8:00 p.m. at the Fitzgerald Theater, 30 E. 10th St. Joining in will be pianist Dan Chouinard, singers Ruth MacKenzie and Natalie Nowytski, percussionist Marc Anderson, bassist Joel Sayles and guitarist Dirk Freymuth. Tickets are \$32. Call 651-290-1221.

Chicago Blues Hall of Fame singer Barbara LaShore will join the Brother Curtis Blues Band in a holiday program of Chicago blues, Memphis and Muscle Shoals R & B and Texas jump blues at 9:00 p.m. Saturday, December 22, at Dixie's on Grand, 695 Grand Ave. Admission is free. Call 651-222-7345.

Ravel's Piano Trio in A Minor, Brahms' Clarinet Quintet in B Minor and Szymanowski's Myths for Violin and Piano will be performed December 21 and 23 by the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. Pianist Mary Jo Gothmann will be featured in the concerts, which begin at 8:00 p.m. Friday and 2:00 p.m. Sunday in the Music Room of the SPCO Center, located on the third floor of the Hamm Building at 408 St. Peter St. Tickets are \$10. Call 651-291-1144.

A Viennese New Year's Eve, a concert, dance and live and silent auction for the benefit of the Chamber Music Society of Minnesota, will be held at 8:00 p.m. Monday, December 31, at the St. Paul College Club, 990 Summit Ave. Tickets are \$100, \$50 for children, and include champagne and hors d'oeuvres. Call 651-450-0527.

A New Year's Eve jazz concert featuring Larry McDonough on piano and Joel Shapira on guitar will be held from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Monday, December 31, at Sage Wine Bar, Highway 110 and Dodd Road in Mendota Heights. Call 651-452-7000.

The 100-plus-voice Minnesota Boychoir will sing from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Sunday, January 6, in Landmark Center. Admission is free.

Pianist Laurie Sager-Wright will join the Musical Offering chamber ensemble on Sunday, January 6, in a program of Mozart, Beethoven, Reicha, and Mendelssohn. The



"And Glory Shone Around," a holiday program of early American choral music, will be performed December 21-23 by the Rose Ensemble. The program of colonial carols, Appalachian and Acadian folk songs, Shaker hymns and California mission music will be presented at 8:00 p.m. Friday at the Church of St. Luke, 1079 Summit Ave.; 8:00 p.m. Saturday at the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis; and 3:00 p.m. Sunday at Trinity Lutheran Church in Stillwater. Tickets are \$17 to \$35. Call 651-225-4340.

music begins at 3:00 p.m. in Sundin Hall at Hamline University, 1531 Hewitt Ave. Tickets are \$15, \$12 for seniors and \$5.00 for students. Call 651-523-2459.

Armenian-Canadian opera singer, soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian will perform on Tuesday, January 8, at the Ordway. The Schubert Club program begins at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$22 to \$45. Call 651-224-4222.

Theater

It's a Wonderful Life, a live radio play based on the classic Frank Capra film, is being performed now through December 23 along with tea or dinner at the St. Paul Hotel, 350 Market St. Produced by Jim Cunningham of Actors Theater of Minnesota, the dramatic reading stars Cunningham, Phil Callen, Adena Brumer, Jennifer Edwards and Ross Young. A three-course tea will be served during shows at 3:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Sunday. Dinner will be served with shows at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Tickets are \$50 and \$65. For reservations, call 651-228-3860.

Hormel Girls, a musical about the Austin meat packer's all-woman drum and bugle corps that crisscrossed the nation from 1947 to 1953 selling Spam by day and entertaining audiences by night, is playing through December 23 at the History Theatre, 30 E. 10th St. Show times are 8:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2:00 p.m. Sundays and 10:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thursdays. Call 651-292-4323.

A Christmas Carole Petersen, a holiday memoir by Theater Latté Da that reflects on the season of joy, hope and melancholy, is being performed through December 29 at the Ordway. For show times and tickets, call 651-224-4222.

Black Nativity, a 20-year holiday tradition in music and song, has returned to the Penumbra Theatre, 270 N. Kent St. The gospel journey is directed by Austene Van with musical direction by Sanford Moore and choreography by Uri Sands. Morning, afternoon and evening shows are scheduled Wednesdays through Sundays through December 30. For tickets, priced from \$15 to \$35, call 651-224-3180.

A Christmas Story, a stage adaptation of the popular 1983 film about a boy's quest

for a Red Ryder BB Gun, will be performed December 21-23 at the Mounds Theatre, 1029 Hudson Road. The curtain rises at 7:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2:00 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$15, \$10 for students and seniors and \$5.00 for children age 12 and under. Call 651-772-2253.

Dance

Nutcracker Fantasy, Loyce Houlton's full-length ballet set to Tchaikovsky's score performed by a symphony orchestra under the direction of Philip Brunelle, will be performed December 20-24 by the Minnesota Dance Theatre. Directed by Lise Houlton, it stars Mathew Janczewski as Drosselmayer, Caitlin Fitzpatrick as the Sugar Plum Fairy, Melanie Verna as the Snow Queen, Abdo Sayegh as the Nutcracker Prince and Matt Jensen as Madame Bonbonniere. Show times are 7:00 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and 2:00 p.m. Monday at the State Theatre in downtown Minneapolis. Tickets are \$11.50-\$23.50 for children, \$23-\$47 for adults, with discounts for students and seniors. Call 612-673-0404.

The Nutcracker According to Mother Goose, the holiday story built around favorite nursery rhymes and wrapped in Tchaikovsky's score, will be told on Saturday, December 22, by Zenon Dance Company. The shows are at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at the Southern Theater, 1420 Washington Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Tickets are \$15, \$10 for children age 12 and under. Call 612-340-1725.

Books

Victorian Christmas traditions come to life at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Wednesday, December 21 and 26, at the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. Actors Craig Johnson and Kirby Bennett will dramatize holiday stories by such 19th-century authors as Mark Twain, Willa Cather, O. Henry and Charles Dickens. Light refreshments and tours of the historic mansion will be available. The cost is \$8.00 for adults, \$6.00 for seniors and students, and \$4.00 for children ages 6-17. Call 651-297-2555.

"**Soap Boxing**," the monthly poetry slam competition, returns at 8:00 p.m. Monday,

Come on down to...

DIXIES ROCKIN' CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Saturday, Dec. 22nd

LBJ presents

The Brothers Curtis

featuring **Chicago blues legend**

Barbara LaShore

\$3.00 tap beers and Well drinks from 8pm till midnight

And don't miss...

Dixies Annual New Years Bash

D.J. and dancing all night long

Half price bottles of bubbly & complimentary toast at midnight.

Free door prizes and much much more!!

Party starts at 9:00...so don't be late.

The Original DIXIE'S

SOUTHERN STYLE

www.dixiesongrand.com

695 Grand Avenue • St. Paul 651-222-7345

Looking for **BRIGHTER DAYS?**

Therapy can help!

Providing therapy for the whole family – children, adolescents & adults.

Specializing in issues of:

Grief, loss, trauma, depression, anxiety, relationships, adjustment, illness & divorce.

Lisa Quinn, LICSW

Psychotherapist

651-366-2128

1053 Grand Ave., Suite 110, Saint Paul • therapistlisaquinn@yahoo.com

evening appointments available • insurance accepted

~ **Thursday Night Special** ~

One pound

Alaskan King Crab \$16⁹⁵

Served with Julienned fries, Salad and Roll

Tavern on Grand

"Famous for Walleye" and other Good Food

656 Grand Avenue 651-228-9030

www.tavernongrand.com

Sunglass Sale!

Stop by and see our large Sunglass selection including Armani, Gucci, Dior, Vera Wang, Fendi, Blinde, Kieselstein-Cord, Oakley and more!

(some exclusions apply)

COMPLETE EYE CARE

EYES OF MENDOTA

740 Main Street, Suite 100

Mendota Heights • 651.686.9393

Located in the Village of Mendota

January 7, to the Artists' Quarter, 408 St. Peter St. The poetry slam competition is open to anyone age 18 and older. Registration begins at 7:00. Chicago poet and hip-hop artist Billy Tuggle will perform. Also featured will be the Women of the World Poetry Slam Showdown. Call 612-207-7991.

Film

Waste = Food (2006), Rob van Hattum's 51-minute documentary about how companies such as Nike, Herman Miller and Ford are experimenting with clean and sustainable production, will be shown at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, December 20, at the Bell Museum Auditorium, University and 17th avenues in Southeast Minneapolis. Admission is \$7.00, \$5.00 for students and seniors.

The series "60 Years of Israel in Film" will continue on Tuesday, December 25, with a double feature. *Shalom Sesame: The Land of Israel* and *Sallah* will be shown beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. Admission is \$6.00. Call 651-698-0751.

Family

The Magic Dreidels, an adaptation of Eric A. Kimmel's beloved Hanukah tale, is being performed through December 21 by the Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company. Show times are 9:45 and 11:45 a.m. Tuesday through Friday at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Come before the show for a reading of the book, and after the show meet playwright Jenna Zark. Tickets are \$16, \$14 for children. Call 651-647-4315.

Red Balloon Bookshop, 891 Grand Ave., will play host to the following: Jennifer Emery and her book *Christmas Gifts* at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, December 22; a dramatic reading of *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Children's Theatre Company actors at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, December 27; "Feathered Friends," a storytime for babies with Sara Waters at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, January 5; Janet Urbanovic and her picture book *Duck Soup* at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 8. Admission is free. Call 651-224-8320.

The Twin City Model Railroad Museum will present its Christmas Train Show on December 21 and 26-28. A tradition since 1939, the moving display will run from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the museum in Bandana Square on Energy Park Drive just west of Lexington Parkway. Admission is \$4.00, free

to children under age 5. Call 651-647-9628.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, Barbara Robinson's beloved story about the year a family of children from the wrong side of the tracks stole the annual holiday show, is being performed Tuesdays through Sundays through December 22 on SteppingStone Theatre's new stage at 55 N. Victoria St. Tickets are \$11, \$9.00 for children and seniors. Call 651-225-9265.

An adventure in architecture awaits children from noon to 4:00 p.m. Thursday, December 27, at the Minnesota Capitol. A special project and scavenger hunt are all part of the fun. The cost is \$4.00. For reservations, call 651-296-2881.

Ring in the zoo year on Monday, December 31. From 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Como Zoo and Conservatory will play host to a New Year's celebration with children's activities and live entertainment by the Radio Disney Party Patrol. Admission is free.

Kwanzaa, the African-American New Year celebration, will be marked from noon to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, December 29, at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Among the attractions are an arts workshop with sculptor Frank J. Brown, folk tales by the Black Storytellers Alliance, an African drumming workshop, hair braiding demonstrations, Joel Brown's one-man show about his father who overcame racism to succeed in business, and the sale of clothing, jewelry, quilts, baskets and musical instruments made in West, East and South Africa. Admission is \$8.00, \$6.00 for seniors and students and \$4.00 for children ages 6-17. Call 651-259-3000.

"**Snow Secrets**," a hands-on program for preschool children and their parents about how animals survive a cold winter, will run from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Thursday, January 3, at the Bell Museum of Natural History, 17th and University avenues in Southeast Minneapolis. The cost is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for seniors, students and children ages 3-16. To register, call 612-624-9050.

Etc.

"**Rock in the Zoo Year**" on Monday, December 31, with live music by HoneyWagon, a buffet dinner, candlelit garden tours and a midnight toast at Como Park Zoo and Conservatory. Dinner by Lancer Catering will be available in sittings at 6:30 and 9:00 p.m. The cost is \$195 per couple. A cash bar will be available. Call 651-487-8250.



Merry Christmas

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL OF MUSIC
450 N. Syndicate, St. Paul, MN 55104
651-690-4364
www.stjoseph-schoolofmusic.net

This is the Place to Swim!!

Book now for winter
& spring swimming lessons
at Minnesota's original
school of aquatic education.



FAMILY SWIM SCHOOL



Visit familyswim.com

1571 Century Point • Eagan, MN
(651) 686-6225
10491 165th Street W • Lakeville, MN
(952) 435-1898

Need a quick holiday meal... or an hors d'oeuvre everyone will love?

Don't serve your guests ordinary pizza —
Try our Pre-cooked Pizzas — hot and tasty
from your freezer to oven. Keep them on hand!

-  Partially baked — ready for oven or freezer
-  Cut smaller — great idea for parties
-  Same generous portions of toppings and cheese for the last 45 years
-  A guaranteed taste treat



Best
WISHES
for the
Holiday
Season

Thank you
...from the
Carbone's Krewel

• Gift
Certificates!

To help savor your favorite
menu item we now serve
Beer & Wine

1698 Randolph • 651-698-0721

www.carbonesonrandolph.com

Lunch Mon. thru Sat. 'til 3:00 pm

Thank You

We'd like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to all of those who helped make our recent benefit a success. Our good friend, Rick Schense, has been diagnosed with terminal cancer.

On a recent visit with him, Rick spoke bravely of his remaining life's goal: to make this transition for his wife Beth as easy as possible. To help Rick and Beth, we held a fundraising party at Dixie's on Grand on December 4. The generous contributions of the following businesses and performers were instrumental in making the event a great success:

Dixie's on Grand
The Roe Family Singers
Nikki Matteson and Her Rue-Mates
Dan Gaarder
Midwest Motorcycles
Fabulous Fern's
La Cucaracha Restaurante
Billy's on Grand

Eluna Blue Estetique
Acme Comedy Gallery
Willie's American Guitars
Eecee Beebe Custom Clothing
Rich Swenson Sports Fund Raising
Robert Bonawitz, Artist
The Villager
Summit Brewery

And thanks to all of those who attended the event despite the weather.

Kevin Ramirez and John Forde

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

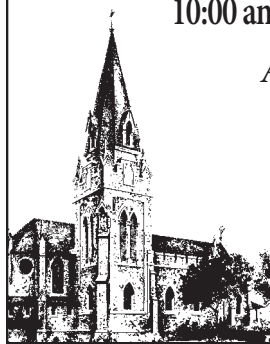
Please join us for one
of our services this Christmas:

- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve**
4:00 pm Solemn High Eucharist
with choir - bilingual English and Spanish
7:00 pm Solemn High Eucharist
with choir
10:30 pm Solemn High Eucharist
with choir
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day**
10:00 am Eucharist with choir

*An open & affirming church-
All Are Welcome!*

1524 Summit Av, St. Paul.
1/4 mi east of Snelling.

Call 651-698-0371 or visit
www.stpaulsonthehillmn.org



AWARD WINNING PIZZA

You've tried
the rest...now
try the best!

**THIN, DEEP
& STUFFED**

ST. PAUL • 651-221-0093
1670 Grand Avenue
Dine-in, Carry-out or Delivery.
(Limited delivery area.)

EAGAN • 651-452-4525
1438 Yankee Doodle Rd.
Dine-in, or Carry-out.
(Sorry, no delivery from this location.)

THE PREMIER PIE SHOPPE RESTAURANT

www.italianpieshoppe.com

COUPON

FREE HAMBURGER
When you purchase a second hamburger at equal or greater value

Snuffy's malt shop

\$3.95 off.
OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/08
Cleveland at St. Clair
651-690-1846
Roseville Shopping Center
(Lexington & Corp.) 651-488-0241

LEITNER'S
GARDEN CENTER
& FRESH FLOWERS

Naturally beautiful flowers & plants!
Great Prices!
Local Delivery!
945 Randolph Ave. • St. Paul
651-291-2655

SEASON'S GREETINGS
From our families to yours!
The Casper & Runyon Families & all of our employees

Great Stocking Stuffers!
NOOK & Shamrock Gift Certificates The Tasteful Gift
Purchase \$100 worth of GiftCards, receive a \$20 gift card FREE

We will be closed Christmas Day so we can celebrate with our families. Open New Years Day at noon.

Shamrocks Only
Pro Night - Sunday Dec. 30th
Live Music featuring John Knodle 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Monday - New Year's Eve
Live Music featuring Morrison 9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.
Midnight Party Favors & Luck of the Irish Champagne Toast

Casper's Runyon's NOOK
a small place with big burgers
Randolph & Hamline • 651-698-4347

SHAMROCK DOORS
a small place with big burgers
Randolph & West 7th • 651-228-9925



FT
FITNESS TOGETHER
1 Client 1 Trainer 1 Goal

**Our Clients Look Good
in Public Because
They Train in Private!**

www.FTMSP.com

Focusing on *only you* is what
we do best.

✓ Free Consultation ✓ Private Training
✓ Guaranteed Results Studios

Gift Certificates Available

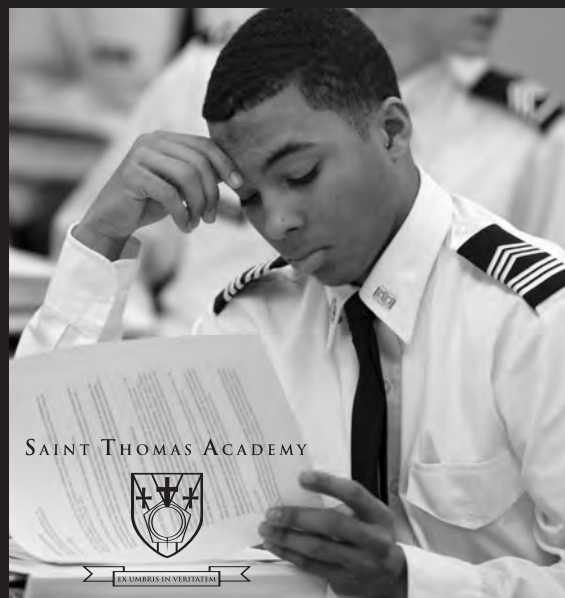
NE Mpls
612-378-8898

2112A Ford Parkway
651-699-9955

Uptown
612-822-3448

STP@FitnessTogether.com

Educating the Leaders of Tomorrow



A curriculum designed specifically for boys facilitates classroom performance. A Saint Thomas Academy education emphasizes reading and writing skills, interactive projects, leadership opportunities and spirituality. Since 1885, Academy teachers have prepared boys for college, career and life.

ADMISSIONS RECEPTION:
January 13, 2008 – 1:00 p.m.

651-683-1515
Cadets.com

27◀ LYRA BAROQUE

classical instruments, so there was definitely a learning curve for each of us."

Like other baroque instruments, the baroque or "natural" trumpet differs greatly from the more compact, valved trumpets of the modern era. The baroque trumpet resembles an elongated bugle. It is notoriously difficult to play, according to Jacobson, in part because it has no valves. The chromatic intervals are achieved by the trumpeter's ability to bend the pitch with the configuration of his or her lips and the pressure used to achieve those intervals.

Sherfey recalled making the transition to becoming a baroque musician. "I ordered a baroque bassoon from a builder in New York and began to practice," he said. "You really can't make the transition easily. But having an expert like Jacques really helps in learning the correct interpretation of the music. We now have the music to the level where we want to work at getting the orchestra's visibility up."

Tickets for the December 22 concert, priced at \$23 for adults and \$10 for students, are available by visiting www.lyrabaroque.org or calling Uptown Tix at 651-209-6799.



Baroque trumpet virtuoso David Kjar will join the Lyra Orchestra in concert December 22.

27◀ SOUND OF MUSIC

Each summer Kilbourne returns for a show or two in Massachusetts. That gives him a chance to reconnect with friends and visit his sister. Last summer's production was a comedy, *Kong's Night Out*. "It takes place in the hotel room next to the one where King Kong abducted Fay Wray," he said. "King Kong actually makes an appearance. This big paw comes on stage and knocks me over."

As for what he would really like to do, Kilbourne said, "I'd really like to work at the Guthrie. Even when we were in high school, Marysue and I said our ideal thing would be

an acting couple at the Guthrie."

"Phil is a very funny man," said *Sound of Music* producer James Rocco. "There's something sophisticated and sharp in his approach to work. He also bakes terrific cakes."

"*The Sound of Music* is wild and big," Kilbourne said. "Broadway stars are in town and they're great, wonderful people. The scenery is huge. We're working with the orchestra, all this talent. It's so much fun to be out there on the Ordway stage."

The Sound of Music will continue at the Ordway through December 29. For show times and tickets, call 651-224-4222.

Highland actress lands role in 'Sound of Music'

BY JANET LUNDER HANAFIN

Dreams have been coming true in stages for actress Katie Allen. The 24-year-old Highland Park resident, who has been singing and dancing in theater productions since she was in high school, is now on the main stage at the Ordway Center playing the role of Liesl von Trapp from her favorite movie, *The Sound of Music*.

James Rocco, the show's producer, calls Allen a budding star. "From the moment I met her, I could tell she was a special actress with a sparkle all her own," he said.

Allen grew up in Eagan with parents who encouraged her theatrical endeavors though neither of them sing, dance or act. "It was a constant joke growing up that I was adopted," she said.

She planned to become an elementary school teacher and attended the University of St. Thomas, later transferring to the College of St. Catherine. After playing the lead in a college production of *Kiss Me, Kate*, Allen decided to pursue musical theater.

Her professional career began with the role of Heather the Cheerleader in the interactive audience hit *The Awesome '80s Prom* at Hennepin Stages. Since then she has performed at the Brave New Workshop,



Katie Allen as Liesl von Trapp

Theater Latté Da and in *Hamlet*, the last show on the old Guthrie stage. She also played Gabriella this year in the Children's Theatre Company's staging of *Disney's High School Musical*.

Allen's dancing ability and her lovely rendition of the innocently romantic duet "Sixteen Going on Seventeen" secured her the role as the eldest of the von Trapp children.

"Everything in this business happens so last-minute," said Allen, who has callbacks for other productions in the works. "I want to do more regional work, tour or eventually get to Broadway. I plan to move to New York in the fall or winter to pursue musical theater there."

However, for now, she said, "I've always wanted to play Liesl, so this is quite a dream come true."

Sports



The Wright Call

By Dave Wright

Baseball's darkest hour

The news this week that more than 80 Major League Baseball players used to take steroids shouldn't have surprised anybody. What was surprising was who was on the list of implicated players. Rumors had been flying for weeks, but when the 409-page Mitchell Report was finally released, a baseball fan couldn't help but draw a few conclusions:

1) Any player who purchased steroids and paid for them with a check is an idiot.

2) Although there were a few notable exceptions, most of the names were older players looking for an elixir to keep their careers going, or younger, marginal wannabes looking for a magic potion to move up in the game. As it developed, most of the successes these players had turned out to be short-lived but will have ramifications for years to come—unless, of course, their reputations don't happen to matter to them.

3) There were some notable exceptions, but many players named in the report turned out to be guys who had considerable individual success but little team success. Barry Bonds, for example, has played on just one World Series team. Coincidence? I think not.

Fortunately, the news wasn't all bad. The Minnesota Twins, for example, were bit players in this drama. There were five former Twins named, but only one, Chuck Knoblauch, was ever considered a significant player here. An organization that has always prided itself on employing good people on and off the field can still hold its head high.

The other good news was that none of the younger stars now in the game—Alex Rodriguez, Derek Jeter, Joe Mauer, Justin Morneau, et al.—was named.

Make no mistake, the Mitchell Report is a black eye for Major League Baseball. Management and players alike should be ashamed and should apologize for betraying the people's trust. The damage can be repaired and the public's trust can be restored over time. Unfortunately, the players may now be considered guilty until proven innocent. That may not have been the legacy Roger Clemens and the others had in mind when they allegedly decided to cheat, but it's the price they'll pay for getting caught.

Tubby's big payday

It took a while to get all the T's crossed and the I's dotted, but University of Minnesota men's basketball coach Tubby Smith finally signed his contract. Nice deal, too—roughly \$1.75 million per year for the next seven years—making him the highest paid employee in Gold Country.

So what's the problem?

Sure, it's a lot of money, but no more than what the market currently bears. Like movie stars, the prime earning years for Division I coaches can be brief. You can hardly blame them for wanting as much money as they can get. The fact is that, like Gopher football, men's basketball at the U of M had

WRIGHT CALL ► 34

Boys' hoops preview

Local coaches are calling 'em as they see 'em

BY BRIAN JOHNSON

Referees won't be shy about blowing their whistles during boys' basketball games this season. The word from the off-season coaches' meetings is that the Minnesota State High School League has told referees to call fouls more closely. If that holds true, the games could be less physical and players should expect to make more trips to the free throw line. Not all area coaches are enthused with the idea.

"I think it's going to be terrible," said Minnehaha Academy coach Lance Johnson. "I think it's going to be inconsistent. That's the experience I've had in our two scrimmages. They'll call it sometimes, but not all the time. Let 'em play."

St. Paul Academy coach Eric Fotsch said the change should result in less physical play around the basket and Cretin-Derham Hall coach Jerry Kline said players and coaches will have to adjust accordingly.

High school basketball players are bigger, stronger and faster than they used to be, but "a little contact doesn't affect that skill," said St. Thomas Academy coach Mike Sjoborg. NBA games of the 1980s had little contact compared to today, he noted, adding that it "would be a mistake if we're going to go backward and take away the physical play."

Highland Park coach Charles Portis generally supports the change. "You're going to have to move your feet a lot more this year," he said. "That's going to put a lot more pressure on defenses. All indications are they're going to cut down on the rough play, make you move your feet and play cleaner."

Basketball has been getting more physical, according to Portis. "To keep the game respectable for years to come, you do have to draw a line," he said. "(The game) has been getting rougher and rougher. This is going to be good for basketball."

Roosevelt coach Dennis Stockmo said referees called games pretty closely during early scrimmages this year, but there were not as many whistles in the season opener against Park of Cottage Grove.



Highland Park's Jovan Moran and Cretin-Derham Hall's Peter White battle for ball control during the Raiders' 65-36 win on December 13. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

"If they're going to call it, they're going to have to blow the whistle 40 or 50 times a game," he said. "It's a very physical game and it'll be difficult for kids to change."

The whistle has sounded for the start of the boys' season. Here's how the local teams look this year:

CENTRAL

League: St. Paul City Conference

Last year's record: 7-19

Coach: Scott Howell

Key players and their strengths:

- Larry Brown, senior forward. An outstanding all-around player who averaged 17.4 points a game last season.
- Dylan Hale, junior guard. Has a good touch and averaged just over 16 points a game in 2006.
- Jordan Larson, junior forward. A strong and athletic player who can do it all.

Team strengths/weaknesses: Central has good team quickness and some proven scorers, most notably in Brown and Hale. However, the Minutemen do not have a lot of big guys and they're young.

Outlook: Central opened the season with a convincing 89-57 win over Richfield. Arlington, Como Park and Johnson are among the teams to beat in the

conference, and Central hopes to be in the mix.

CRETIN-DERHAM HALL

League: Suburban East Conference

Last year's record: 21-8

Coach: Jerry Kline

Key players and their strengths:

- John Nance, senior guard. The Raiders' star football quarterback averaged 14.7 points last year on the hard court.
- Michael Floyd, senior forward. Nance's favorite target on the football field is also an accomplished basketball player who averages 15.7 points per game.
- Seantrel Henderson, sophomore forward/center. An inside force at 6-foot-7, 295 pounds.
- Jake Esch, senior guard. A smart floor general who is headed to Georgia Tech on a baseball scholarship.
- Hennessey Donovan, senior forward. A solid, 6-foot-4 player with good control.

Team strengths/weaknesses: The Raiders are loaded with great all-around athletes and proven scorers. Rebounding is always a concern.

Outlook: CDH returns a strong roster,

BOYS' HOOPS ► 33

Are you a small business owner?
Who can you trust on legal matters?

Karen L. Tarrant

Member of:

- National Association of Women Business Owners
- Grand Avenue Business Association

Call Today: 651-698-5506

**TARRANT
& DRUMMER
LISKA, P.L.L.C.**
Attorneys at Law

1539 Grand Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105
www.tdlattorneys.com



From Our
Family to
Yours,
Happy
Holidays!

In Real Estate
It's All About Trust...

Ted Powell

651.225.3929

www.tedpowell.edinarealty.com

Lifelong St. Paul Resident

Edina Realty

700 Grand Avenue

High School
LETTER JACKETS

Numbers & Emblems to Customize

Hockey Skates **\$39⁹⁵** and up

Figure Skates **\$34⁹⁵** and up

Expert Skate Sharpening

Broomball Gear

BILL ST. MANE SPORTING GOODS INC.

4159 28TH AVE. S. MPLS., MN 612.722-1447

5 mins from Highland across Ford Bridge - Hiawatha to 42 St, then left.

Prep hockey preview

Boys' coaches talk about refs, outlooks for season

BY BILL WAGNER

Complaints about officiating are as old as sports, but it's a rarity when coaches on the high school level go public with their peeves about the whistle-blowers. That's what happened late last month when two boys' hockey coaches—St. Paul Academy's Craig Norwich and Henry Sibley's Dan Moline—went on the record with their complaints.

Both Norwich and Moline emphasized that they were talking about only a few officials and that the majority do an adequate job. Their beefs were not just about making the right calls, but about what they termed unprofessional behavior and a lack of knowledge of the rules.

Norwich, a former professional hockey player, was ejected from a game last year in which he said the official displayed conspicuous arrogance. He said he also encountered one official who didn't know what offside was.

"I can deal with incompetence," said Norwich, a coach at Shattuck-St. Mary's before coming to SPA. "I have a far bigger problem with those who don't have good character. I blame those who appoint the officials."

Moline said he had a run-in with one official last year over the direction in which Sibley's skaters should face during the National Anthem. According to Moline, the official threatened to impose a penalty on the Warriors, but told it only to one of Sibley's captains.

"(An official) said something to my captain, only to deny that he said it," Moline said. "Then he wouldn't comment on it."

Moline said he finds little fault with the on-ice decisions of officials, just with all-too-prevalent unprofessional attitudes.

Cretin-Derham Hall coach Jim O'Neill said hockey is a tough game to referee. "I've had good experiences," he said. "I think overall they (the referees) try to do their best. They certainly have to know the rules. I've not said one word to a referee this year and I haven't had to."

Prep hockey officials are designated by the Minnesota State High School League for the state tournament only. Otherwise they're chosen by the schools, who work with an officials' association. In the Twin Cities, there are three such associations.

Bill Kronschnabel, a former official who works with the MSHSL on the training and supervision of officials, was skeptical about Norwich's claims. "I think the comment about officials not knowing the rules is probably not accurate," he said. "If they're working high school games, they have enough experience to know what the rules are."

Kronschnabel said there are procedures in place to deal with officials who have too many complaints filed against them. "If I hear about repeat situations, I discuss the matter with their association," he said. "They have ways of dealing with the issues."

Kevin Merkle, associate director of the MSHSL, said coaches who have grievances should relay them to the league, which can reprimand or even suspend officials. "What we try to teach the officials is that they don't always have to get the last word," he said. "Experience is so important in defusing conflicts."

The boys' hockey season has officially started for the five teams in the area served by the *Villager*. Here's how the local coaches are calling 'em:

CRETIN-DERHAM HALL

League: Suburban East Conference
Last year's record: 26-2



St. Thomas Academy sophomore goalie Kurt Altrichter deflects the puck during practice. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Coach: Jim O'Neill

Key players and their strengths:

- Ryan Bohrer, senior center. A talented skater and good puck-handler who can score.

- Michael Bangs, junior wing. His game should complement Bohrer's well.

- John Bobzien, senior forward. Another good player who skates on the first line.

- Tom Zimmerman, junior wing. Has a great shot and is strong on his skates.

- Charlie Ehrmanntraut, senior defenseman. Will see plenty of action.

- Danny Tipping, senior defenseman. Brings savvy to the back line.

- Neil Bartholomay, sophomore defenseman. Should take a regular shift.

- Mark Alt, sophomore defenseman. Should see lots of ice time despite his youth.

Team strengths/weaknesses: The Raiders have two good front lines and some good returning defensemen. However, the goaltending is unproven and the club cannot afford any injuries.

Outlook: CDH came close to making it to state last year after winning the Class AA title the year before. The Raiders will miss some graduating players, but they should have enough coming back to be a contender in both the league and beyond.

O'Neill likes his team's chances, but he knows just how tough the conference is. "Last year we had five players from our conference who were drafted by NHL teams," he said, "but we should be fairly strong this year."

HENRY SIBLEY

League: Classic Suburban Conference

Last year's record: 1-23

Coach: Dan Moline

Key players and their strengths:

- Eric Hanson, senior goalie. A stand-up netminder.

- Ryan Lynch, sophomore goalie. An athletic netminder who might also see a lot of playing time.

- Tony Lempilus, senior center. Moved up to varsity last year and showed he belonged.

- Mike Stephenson, senior center. Quickness and agility make him good on the power play and in penalty killing.

- Tom Ahern, junior forward. A physical presence in the attack zone.

- Corey Kreager, senior defenseman. A position player who is good with the puck.

- Matt Hall, junior defenseman. Has good all-around skills.

Team strengths/weaknesses: Sibley has some veteran players back and should see improvement over last season. The Warriors still have

a ways to go on both offense and defense.

Outlook: There is little place for the Warriors to go but up after a one-win season a year ago. "We have nine seniors back who played last year," Moline said. "We'll be better. We have some skill and speed. Now we need to learn how to win." According to him, Hill-Murray, St. Thomas Academy and maybe South St. Paul are the top teams in the league.

MINNEHAHA ACADEMY

League: Tri-Metro Conference

Last year's record: 11-15

Coach: Doug Johnson

Key players and their strengths:

- Luke Lundeen, senior wing. His 65 points last season make him as a bonafide offensive threat.

- Louis Hamel, junior center. A solid second-line guy at center.

- Sam Blaisdell, junior center. Can make plays and score.

- John McLean, senior goalie. A 6-foot-8 wall in the crease.

- Eric Elfgrmann, senior defenseman. His 25 assists last year made him an ideal point man on the power play.

- Johnny VanWinkle, junior defenseman. Should be set for a regular shift.

BOYS' HOCKEY ► 34

*Placement Test

Saturday, January 19, 2008

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

No Pre-registration Necessary

Please Use Albert St. Doors

*Students whose first choice is CDH should take the placement test at CDH



Cretin-Derham Hall

550 S. Albert St., St. Paul, MN 55116
651-690-2443

www.cretin-derhamhall.org

Catholic, College Prep, Comprehensive
Grades 9-12

"The Story's in the Dash"

CORNELIA HOUSE

A Gracious Way of Life



Independent Living, age 62+

None of our residents need a "senior community" yet. Find out why they moved here by choice. Our gracious 1 and 2 BR apartments are only part of the story. Call **651-288-3931** for a tour!

1840 University Ave W • Saint Paul
Part of the Episcopal Homes family
www.ehomesmn.org

IRIS PARK COMMONS

A Community of Heart



Assisted Living, age 55+

We offer comfy, secure 1 or 2 BR and studio apartments with a flexible menu of assisted living services. Call **651-646-1026** for a tour. You'll discover why folks call us "A Community of Heart."

1850 University Ave W • Saint Paul
Part of the Episcopal Homes family
www.ehomesmn.org

31 ◀ BOYS' HOOPS

including several stars from its football team that placed second at state this fall. The Raiders are ranked among the top teams in the metro area this winter and have high expectations. They opened with a 71-55 win over Eden Prairie, gaining some measure of revenge from the school that trounced them in the Prep Bowl.

HENRY SIBLEY

League: Classic Suburban Conference

Last year's record: 21-7

Coach: Tom Dasovich

Key players and their strengths:

- Peter Leslie, senior point guard. A 2007 Associated Press all-state honorable mention who opened this season with 29 points in a win over Apple Valley.
- Chris Halvorsen, senior forward. Off to a good start with double-figure points in games against Apple Valley (13) and Osseo (12).
- Mike Bruesewitz, junior forward. A 6-foot-8 Division I college prospect who transferred from Litchfield.

Team strengths/weaknesses: Henry Sibley has a terrific point guard in Leslie and good offensive skills. The team returns several key players from last year's 21-win season. The Warriors faded a bit down the stretch in 2006-07, losing three of their last four games. They hope to finish stronger this season.

Outlook: Sibley is rated among the top teams in the metro area and should do well in a tough conference that includes Tartan and St. Thomas Academy. Some people have picked the team as a state Class AAAA state championship contender.

HIGHLAND PARK

League: St. Paul City Conference

Last year's record: 8-16

Coach: Charles Portis

Key players and their strengths:

- Prentice Cobbins, senior guard. Has a knack for scoring and good ball-handling skills.
- Tim Simmons, senior forward. A 6-foot-4 player who can handle the ball and rebound.
- Simon Ebaye, senior shooting guard. A consistent shooter who worked on his game over the summer and improved greatly.

Team strengths/weaknesses: Highland should be particularly strong defensively. "We don't press a lot, but we play a strong half-court defense and we're hopefully going to be quick enough to get into the lanes and create a few turnovers, block out well and get some rebounds," Portis said. The Scots return only one starter from last year and they do not have a lot of size.

Outlook: Como Park, Johnson and Central are at the top of the heap in the St. Paul City Conference. Portis just wants his players to work hard and do their best. "I'd like us to win at least 50 percent of our games," he said.

MINNEHAHA ACADEMY

League: Tri-Metro Conference

Last year's record: 16-10

Coach: Lance Johnson

Key players and their strengths:

- Taylor Sparkman, junior forward. A versatile, inside-outside, 6-foot-7 player. Made all-conference last year while averaging 13 points a game.
- David Burnham, junior guard. A great three-point shooter.
- Greg Meyer, junior guard. A 6-foot-4 slasher who can also post up well.

Team strengths/weaknesses: Minnehaha has good size and several players 6-foot-4 or taller. The Redhawks are deep and they return three of their top scorers from last season. However, coach Johnson would like them to do a better job hitting the boards and defending.

Outlook: DeLaSalle, St. Bernard's and Concordia will be tough, but Minnehaha expects to be right in the mix. "We graduated one guy

last year," Johnson said, "and we had a decent team last year, so we're encouraged. But it's a real tough conference."

ROOSEVELT

League: Minneapolis City Conference

Last year's record: 9-17

Coach: Dennis Stockmo

Key players and their strengths:

- Xavier Jones, senior guard. A solid player who led the Mill City conference in scoring last year with 18.5 points a game.
- Derek Scully, senior guard. An excellent shooter who has been on the team since the 8th grade. Sank six of seven three-point shots in the season opener against Park.
- Josh Mason, senior point guard. An unselfish player who had 10 assists in the opener and eight against Highland Park.
- Dylan Clarke-Knabele, senior small forward. A transfer student from DeLaSalle who does all the little things well.
- Torrieo Williams, senior forward. A good shot blocker.
- Robert Howell, senior forward. A good rebounder.

Team strengths/weaknesses: The Teddies are a good shooting team, especially from three-point range, they're unselfish and they work hard. "We practice at 6:00 a.m.," coach Stockmo said, "and I have to get there early because the kids are already waiting to get into the gym." Roosevelt is not a real fast or a great rebounding team. Team defense could also use improvement.

Outlook: The Minneapolis City Conference will be very strong this year, with South, Henry and Roosevelt leading the way. Stockmo likes his chances with his senior-laden team.

ST. PAUL ACADEMY

League: Tri-Metro Conference

Last year's record: 4-23

Coach: Erich Fotsch

Key players and their strengths:

- Evan McMillan, sophomore forward. An all-conference honorable mention last year who scored 13.1 points a game.
- Santano Rosario, sophomore guard. A great defender and improved shooter.
- Joe Stanoch, junior forward. A capable scorer and strong rebounder.
- David Tisel, junior forward. Another strong inside player.

Team strengths/weaknesses: SPA has good speed and a few big guys who can clear the boards. However, the Spartans are young and not particularly physical.

Outlook: SPA returns two starters from last year and hopes to get its win total into double digits. Conference favorites are DeLaSalle, Concordia and Minnehaha Academy.

ST. THOMAS ACADEMY

League: Classic Suburban Conference

Last year's record: 30-2

Coach: Mike Sjoberg

Key players and their strengths:

- Alex Schneider, senior forward. A strong inside player who led the Cadets in scoring (13.2 a game) and rebounding last season.
- Fritz Waldvogel, senior guard. An excellent defender and three-point shooter who averaged 11 points a game last year.
- Michael Fitzgerald, junior guard. Another three-point artist and future Division I player.

Team strengths/weaknesses: STA should have good outside shooting and solid team defense. Three key players return from last year's state championship team. However, the Cadets may struggle a bit with rebounding and lack of experience.

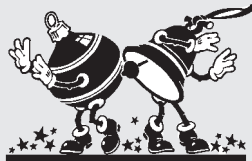
Outlook: STA was ranked among the top four teams in the metro area last week. The Cadets lost five of its eight regular players from last year's team, but the three who are back are outstanding. Sibley and Tartan are the other favorites in the Classic Suburban. "We hope we can be competitive," Sjoberg said.

Be Dancing by New Year's

Call Today ~ Start Today!

Salsa • Swing • Ballroom

Gift Certificates Available



651-227-3200 • 534 SELBY Ave.

**TOP DENTISTS AWARD 2007**

— MN MONTHLY MAGAZINE



**"Happy Holidays and
Best Wishes for the New Year!
The Gift of a Beautiful Smile is Priceless!"**

Paul & Charles Mendes

**FREE
Consultations**

Cosmetic
• Veneers
• Bonding
• Smile Design
• Implants
*new patients only

**Comprehensive Exams
Routine Cleaning
And
4 Bite Wing X-Rays**

**only
\$89***
(\$189 value)

*new patients only

**Professional
Teeth
Whitening**

**only
\$99***
(\$339 value)

*new patients only

Mendes Family Dentistry 550 Snelling Ave. S. (2 blocks S. of Randolph) 651-699-0404

Open Saturdays & Sundays 1 - 3 or by appointment

**European Style Rowhouses
with Elevators!**

**Only 24 Units
Available!**



ONLY 15 MINUTES FROM HIGHLAND OR CROCUS HILL

5733 Brent Avenue in Inver Grove Heights
494 and 52. Exit Upper 55th, go E. to Brent Ave.

3,200 to 3,500 sq.ft. Starting at \$355,000

- The space and quality will impress you!
- Four story townhouse with 4th level Loft.
- Brick and fiber cement exterior.
- Metal roof & Pella windows.
- Energy Star & Green construction.
- Rentals available, call 651-303-6317

Call Georgia Platte REALTOR® GRI
Marketlink Realty, Inc.

651-308-3308 ofc 651-645-5242



MLS No. 3443890

J. Johnson, Inc.

Townhome Builders & Developers Since 1985

www.jjohnsonbuilders.com

Lic. No. 20591671

**We're
MOVING**

Dermatology Consultants, P. A.

is moving from the Midway to
280 Snelling Avenue North,
St. Paul, MN 55104
on or about January 1, 2008.

For all your medical, surgical, and cosmetic
skin care needs, call 651-209-1600.

For your convenience, our other clinics are located
in Eagan, Woodbury, and Vadnais Heights.

31 ◀ WRIGHT CALL

become a second-rate attraction and that meant fewer fannies in the stands and less revenue.

So consider Smith's contract an investment. Gopher football and men's basketball are the two biggest moneymakers at the U. The basketball team doesn't have to be a national power to be profitable, but it does have to be interesting enough to get people out of their ice houses in the winter to attend games.

Defending the big guy

A hockey coach I knew was once asked about his team's play following what had been a very physical game with numerous penalties. The coach smiled. "My guys are aggressive," he said. "Their guys are thugs."

Which brings us to Derek Boogard of the Minnesota Wild. When you're 6-foot-7 and 254 pounds, you tend to stand out on the ice. And when you've recorded only seven points but have rung up 330 penalty minutes in 134 career games, you can't help but have established a reputation.

Watching Boogard reminds me of John Flesch, who trolled on the wing for the North Stars in the early 1970s. However, Flesch wasn't quite in Boogard's league. In 90 games with the North Stars, he scored 11 goals and 17 assists with 89 penalty minutes.

Boogard's current role is enforcer for the Wild. In what has become a ritual, Minnesota coach Jacques Lemaire will mutter to the media that his palooka seems to be getting more than his fair share of penalties. Never mind that Boogard is as subtle as a train wreck and doesn't speak softly while carrying his big stick. This is, you may recall, the same guy who drew attention last summer by conducting hockey camps in which he taught young players how to fight on the ice.

Perhaps the Wild would be better advised to find somebody like Bryan Watson. In 1966, the Detroit Red Wings, who had finished the regular season in fourth place,

were matched in the playoffs against the first-place Chicago Blackhawks. The feisty Watson, a defenseman, was given one simple job for the series: Follow Bobby Hull, the Chicago star who led the league in scoring that season with 54 goals, wherever he went on the ice and annoy him as much as possible.

Watson stood 5-foot-9 and weighed 170 pounds with his skates on. Hull checked in at a solid 5-foot-10, 191 pounds, and looked even bigger. Yet Watson chased Hull everywhere, elbowing and jabbing him every chance he got. Hull was knocked off his game, scoring just two goals in the series. Watson, who had scored only two goals all season, also netted two in the series and Detroit upset the Black Hawks and advanced to the Stanley Cup finals.

As the NHL schedule maker would have it, Chicago opened the next season against Detroit. Hull had a whole summer to think about things and, on the first shift of that first game, chased Watson into a corner and started swinging. Watson's teammates and the officials knew it was coming and stayed back until it appeared that Watson or Hull might get seriously hurt.

Shortly thereafter, the Red Wings sent Watson back to the minors. Eventually, he was traded and returned to the NHL for 15 more seasons, including three with Detroit. He remained a combative player (2,212 penalty minutes in 878 NHL games) but had a productive career because he learned to pick his spots.

Since it's highly unlikely Boogard is going to be shrinking anytime soon, a few lessons in discretion may be in order.

'Tis the season for remembrance

If you'd stopped by Joseph's restaurant the other morning, you would've seen an unusual sight. Twenty-two men of all shapes and sizes were sitting around four tables exchanging stories and laughs. The occasion was the annual Augie breakfast, an affair that honors the memory of the late Mike Augustin, a former *St. Paul Pioneer Press* sportswriter. Augustin passed away 10 years ago this week, and the world

hasn't been as enjoyable a place ever since.

Augie was that rarest of souls, a guy who could be on equally friendly terms with everyone. At his funeral service, Pat Reusse of the *Star Tribune* looked over the large crowd that had gathered in the Abbey Church at St. John's University and said, "I hope you don't think there'll be this many people when the time comes for you guys. We're here today to honor a unique guy."

The annual breakfast draws a smaller but equally eclectic group. At one end this year was Gerry Brown, the former St. Thomas Academy football coach who regaled the gathering with stories of his baseball coaching days. Next to him was Tom Cross, whose current coaching gig is the Macalester College softball team. Once upon a time, Cross was a first baseman at STA. "I think I might have invented the DH role for (Cross)," Brown recalled. "I'd use him at first for a couple of at-bats, take him out for defense and put him back if we needed it late in the game."

Down the table was Don Riley, once the star of the *Pioneer Press* sports staff and now a happily retired writer who can still spin stories with the best of them. There were other retired writers as well as writers who wished they were retired. Dennis Denning and Steve Fritz, the University of St. Thomas coaches who were frequent objects of Augie's pen, were on hand, as were some neighborhood newspaper guys who were befriended by Augie and shared news tips with him.

It was a sweet, private gathering, and when it was over, the old friends and the new—all brought together because of a fellow who passed away 10 years ago—shook hands and went their separate ways.

The holidays are a time for giving and forgiving. It's also a time for remembrance. In the next few weeks, there'll be many gatherings like the one at Joseph's the other morning, with many fond memories shared with family and friends.

A holiday hint: Don't turn down the invitation.

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

32 ◀ BOYS' HOCKEY

Team strengths/weaknesses: Minnehaha has good team balance and a lot of experienced players coming back after graduating only two players last spring. As far as weaknesses, "I don't know if we really have any," said first-year coach Johnson.

Outlook: Minnehaha plays in a league that includes perennially tough Breck and Blake. Still, Johnson likes his raw material. "We have very high aspirations for this group," he said. "We hope we can play with Blake and Breck."

ST. PAUL ACADEMY
League: Tri-Metro Conference
Last year's record: 8-18
Coach: Craig Norwich

Key players and their strengths:

- Terry Schwartz, senior center. Can skate

and shoot.

- Peter Schwartz, senior wing. Ditto for this twin brother.
- Mike Falvey, junior forward/defenseman. Norwich won't hesitate to use this youngster in both positions.
- Everett Wenzel, senior defenseman. Will log a lot of minutes this season.
- James Trevathan, sophomore defenseman. Plays like a veteran.
- Wyatt Wenzel, sophomore wing. A very fast skater with great potential.

Team strengths/weaknesses: Norwich is gradually gaining some depth in the hockey program in his third year as head coach. He has 38 kids junior varsity and varsity players out for his teams this season. The Spartans still need better offensive and defensive production to compete in the rugged Tri-Metro.

Outlook: SPA had six wins in Norwich's first season and eight in his second. "I'd like to get

10 this year," he said. Finishing in the middle of the pack behind powers Blake and Breck would be a logical progression.

ST. THOMAS ACADEMY
League: Classic Suburban Conference
Last year's record: 25-5-1
Co-coaches: Tom and Greg Vannelli

Key players and their strengths:

- Ryan Walter, sophomore center. Has already agreed to play for the Gophers. Will play junior hockey next season to help him prepare for it.
- Conor Rooney, senior wing. A hard-work-ing player, fast skater and good forechecker.
- James Saintey, senior wing. Five goals in the state tourney last season makes him a mainstay.
- Tony Mergens, senior defenseman. A veteran defender in his third season of regular duty.

- Rob Vannelli, senior defenseman. A skilled point-maker and power play threat.
- John Schreiner, senior defenseman. A 200-pound physical presence on the back line.
- Marc Haverkamp, senior forward. A hard-nosed player who knows what it takes to win.

Team strengths/weaknesses: STA has an experienced defense and two of its top four scorers back from last year. There is still a question mark at goalie, however.

Outlook: The Cadets, who are ranked among the top three teams in the metro area this season, came close to another state title last winter after winning the Class A championship the year before. The return of 11 regulars gives Greg Vannelli reason to feel good this year as well. "We have some kids who've played a lot together," he said. "We'll be right up there." He expects his club to compete with Hill-Murray and perhaps Tartan or Mahtomedi for top honors in the conference.

SCRUBBY'S TOUCHLESS AUTOMATIC CAR WASH

1900 W 7TH ST, ST. PAUL



Completely Remodeled

1

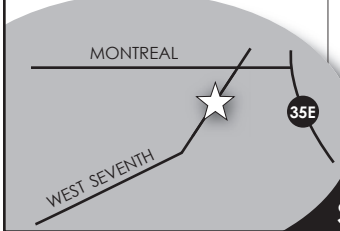
Our voice activated pay station helps you through your transaction.

2

Our PRESOAK / HIGH PRESSURE action whisks away road film. Our triple wax leaves your vehicle with a brilliant luster.

3

After your wash is complete, our countdown timer assists you as you exit through our high velocity power dryers that remove 95% of the spot-free rinse water.



Save 25% on your next purchase with SCRUBBY'S CAR WASH VALUE SAVINGS CARD

Happy Holidays from all of us at Authentic Construction



AUTHENTIC CONSTRUCTION
740 Grand Ave, St. Paul
651.228.9102
www.authconst.com

NARI THE REMODELING INDUSTRY MN Lic #5210

Photos by Brad Daniels



Packer backer Stephanie Palewicz of Hudson applauds her team in the cheesehead-friendly confines of Tiffany's Bar & Grille on Ford Parkway. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

On game day, Tiffany's is a haven for those who bleed green 'n' gold

BY BILL WAGNER

Tiffany's Bar & Grille has been a sports bar for a long time, but only in recent years has it been figuratively redone in green and gold. Tiffany's has 12 television screens and on any given Sunday during the football season, all but one or two of them are tuned to a Green Bay Packers game.

Whenever the Packers game is not being broadcast on television locally, which is most of the time, you can count on a wall-to-wall throng at Tiffany's, 2051 Ford Pkwy. They don their Favre jerseys and get there early to cheer on their favorite club.

Vikings fans are not excluded, but they're outnumbered by a convincing margin. During a recent Green Bay game against Kansas City, the Vikings were playing San Diego at the same time. However, only one small TV screen was tuned to the Vikes' game. The rest of the sets were all tuned to the Pack.

"In the last four years, I'd say that the Packers have pretty much taken over," said Britta Berkeland, a bartender who has worked at Tiffany's for seven years. "We open at 11:00 a.m. and people know that they need to get here early to get a seat for the game."

If both the Vikings and Packers are playing, Berkeland said she tries to keep a few seats reserved for Purple people, but it's pretty much a Packers crowd. "It gets loud," she said, "but there's never any trouble."

Two weeks ago the Packers were playing Oakland at home, a game Green Bay was expected to win easily (and did, 38-7). Still, John Cooper, a 34-year-old orthopedic surgeon who just moved to the Twin Cities from Stevens Point, Wisconsin, was clearly anxious when his team got off to a slow start.

"C'mon, pick it!" he yelled as a Raiders pass fell to the turf incomplete. Cooper, who was watching the game with his wife, then hid his face in his hands as a Brett Favre pass was intercepted to stymie a Green Bay drive.

Things got better, though. Green Bay scored two touchdowns by midway through the sec-

ond quarter, and Cooper clapped his hands and clenched his fists in triumph.

"I've only lived here for a few weeks," Cooper said, "but I have a buddy at the University of St. Thomas who said to check this place out for the games. You come in here on a Sunday and you can run into four guys from Stevens Point. It's a nice place to be surrounded by other Packers fans."

Just a couple of seats away sat a 37-year-old man who identified himself only as Luke. He was alternately staring at the game and glancing down at a laptop computer he had brought with him. An auto technician who lives only two blocks from Tiffany's, Luke was a walking encyclopedia of all things green and gold. He grew up in Brule, Wisconsin, and has been a Packers fan through the good times and bad.

"I remember some bad coaches—Forrest Gregg, Lindy Infante—and some very bad quarterbacks—David Whitehurst, Lynn Dickey," he said. "Those were some lean times."

Just a few feet away from the bar sat a foursome, two of them clad in Packers colors. Joe and Stephanie Palewicz are from Hudson, but regularly make the trip to Tiffany's to see the Packers play. Stephanie, who is originally from Roseville, said she has been coming to the bar since the mid-'90s and was not surprised when the place started drawing a Green Bay contingent. "There are a lot of Packers fans out there," she said. "You get enough people together and money talks."

Jim, a local concrete contractor, was one of the few that Sunday afternoon who was not rooting for the team from the next state over. "I'm down here all the time, but I come here most often to watch the Vikings," he said. "I don't care that it's become a Green Bay bar. It's just that Packers fans are so boisterous."

Berkeland marvels at how fervent Packers fans are. "We used to draw about an even mix of Packers and Vikings fans," she said. "We used to tell people what sections to sit in—they were on separate sides of the bar—but the Packers fans just gradually took it over."

Sports Shorts

The Concordia University-St. Paul volleyball team won the school's first-ever NCAA Division II national championship by defeating Western Washington 3-1 (30-26, 23-30, 30-19, 31-29) on December 1 at Washburn University in Kansas. The Golden Bears stopped the Vikings' streak of 21 consecutive wins and closed the year on a six-match winning streak under head coach Brady Starkey.

The Minnesota Youth Ski League is a volunteer organization that offers children ages 4-15 and their parents a chance to learn how to cross country ski together. The league will meet from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. on eight Sundays, beginning January 6, at the Como Park Ski Center. Membership is \$25 per child and a maximum of \$60 per family. Ski rental is extra. Visit www.MYSL.org or call 651-698-3036.

CROSS COUNTRY SNOW BOARD

Packages Save 20%

Hockey
Inline
Snow Boards
X Country
Baseball
Football
Golf
Soccer



WE BUY
AND SELL
USED &
NEW

145 Snelling at Selby (651) 698-3773
LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED

GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES

We Remember When
Quality and Craftsmanship
Really Mattered.



It Was This Morning.

We know that quality, craftsmanship, and some pretty darn good thinking have been the hallmarks of Garlock-French for 75 years.

Our customers know high quality and good service and if they didn't find it in roofing solutions from Garlock-French, we'd have a very quiet office.

We guarantee our workmanship, so you can feel secure knowing your Garlock-French roof will give you years of trouble-free service. That's the Garlock-French promise – it means everything we do is designed to help you get more out of your roofing investment.

Our friendly, reliable staff will take care of all the details, so you won't have to.

And the quality? It's world class, because at Garlock-French, that's just business as usual!



"Providing peace of mind since 1932"

2301 East 25th Street, Minneapolis

Call: 612-722-7129 • www.garlock-french.com • MN License #0001423

75 Years – Thanks To Our Customers!

Classifieds

Card # _____ Expiration Date _____
Signature _____ Phone _____

HOME SERVICES

CARPET PROFESSIONALLY installed, restretch, repair. Quality work. 30 years' experience. 651-774-3738.

PROFESSIONAL MOVES, large/small; many local references; Angie's List; reasonable rates! John, 651-387-2955.

ANYTIME HANDYMAN. All general repairs, large and small projects; low rates; quality work; senior discounts; free estimates; 651-225-9942.

I'M YOUR HANDYMAN! Small jobs, problem solving, older homes. 651-227-0286.

MIDWEST DRYWALL. Complete drywall service and repairs. Insured. Dan, 651-238-5345.

JUST CALL, WE HAUL, INC.
We haul away almost anything from old furniture/appliances to yard waste/construction debris. We'll do all the loading and cleanup for you. For free estimate on cleaning your garage, attic, basement or yard. Just Call 612-724-9733.

HANDYMAN JIM
No job too small, will troubleshoot or even assist the homeowner; 651-230-8339, lve. msge. All calls returned.

CARPET INSTALLATION, sales and repairs. 16 years' experience. Free estimates. John, 612-366-5837.

NEED A CARPENTER? Call me first. Local, dependable, committed to quality. Specializing in basement refinishing. Fully insured. Adam, 612-716-5420.

FURNITURE REPAIR. All types; nicks, gouges, scratches, buttons, springs and things; complete antique restoration; 651-482-9386. We also buy antiques.

HANDYMAN, 20 years' experience, big or small jobs; 651-482-9386.

ROOF REPAIR/replacement, flat roofs; 25 years. LDS Services; 651-488-2020.

BIBLE & BOOK repair; 38 years' experience. Steve, 651-698-1477. www.specialbindings.com.

TIME TO CLEAN. You call, I haul. No job too small. 651-646-5175.

HIGHLAND HANDYMAN, good work, reasonable rates. Insured. Mitch, 651-698-5595.

OLD FASHIONED HANDYMAN SERVICES. No job too small. Ben Sr., 651-485-7407.

FIREPLACE REPAIR. Chimneys, stucco, brick & stone work; problem solving. Free estimates/Insured. Small jobs ok. 651-442-9748; 1-888-295-3553.

EXPERIENCED HANDYMAN/CARPENTRY. No job's too small. Reasonable rates. 651-285-3237; 651-222-1992.

CARPET CLEANING. Professional. Commercial/Residential. Quality work guaranteed. Estimates. 612-961-5769.

HOUSECLEANING

HOUSECLEANING, specializing in one-time cleanups; excellent references; 20 years' experience. Connie's Cleaning, 651-646-1637; 612-281-5921.

PERFECTIONIST? Call MB's Cleaning Service for housecleaning, Feng Shui, clutter control. 651-225-1960.

HIGH STANDARDS, honest, reliable, housecleaner, good references, thorough; Karen, 651-487-2454.

WE LIKE TO CLEAN & ORGANIZE. What can we help you with? Call Castle Keepers, 651-426-8850. Insured/bonded. Visa/MC.

HOUSECLEANING

EXCELLENT CLEANING, reasonable rates, estimates available. Ann, 651-776-7834.

OPENINGS AVAILABLE. Spic 'n span housecleaning. Honest, reliable. References. Sarah, 651-698-4645.

JOLYNN'S CLEANING Service. Homes, apartments; fast, reliable; one-time cleaning. 651-659-9695; 651-792-6953.

PROFESSIONAL housecleaner will take holiday cleanings. Laura, 651-780-4213.

DISCOUNT CLEANING. Carpet 20¢ sq. ft. Housecleaning; free estimate. 612-598-5906; 952-814-4524.

MICHELLE'S DETAILED Housecleaning. Honest, reliable, excellent references; 651-293-1273.

CLEANING BY STEPH! Odd jobs, complete house. 651-776-5929 for appt.

RELIABLE HOUSECLEANING by Kathy. \$49 for 2 hours. 651-488-2563.

SNOW/LAWN/LANDSCAPE

P.H.M. INC. 651-231-7748
Murphy's Lawn Maintenance & Landscaping Service. THE MOST RELIABLE & DEPENDABLE SNOW SERVICE AVAILABLE. Free estimates on all our services including snowplowing, shoveling, snow hauling and salt/sanding. Hardscaping: patio/retaining walls. Landscaping: sodding, etc. LICENSED. INSURED. REFERENCES AVAILABLE. 651-231-7748.

THE BEST residential snow removal; contracts starting at \$110/month. Landscaping services. Bluhm Brothers, 651-227-2584.

TIM'S SNOWPLOWING Services. Seasonal cleanups, year-round contracts; estimates; 651-690-1284.

SNOW SERVICE. Sidewalks, steps, driveways. Roof top snow & ice removal. 651-699-2832. Insured.

CREATIVE DESIGNS. I can help you install. Horticulture Degree, U of MN. Certified Nursery/Landscape Professional. Living Space Landscapes. Scott Solomonson, 612-868-7787.

SNOW REMOVAL, plowing & hauling. Roof top/ice dam removal. Total lawn maintenance, landscaping. John, 612-328-6893.

ROGER'S TREE SERVICE. Caring for trees & shrubs in Highland, Summit, Crocus neighborhoods since 1974; trimming/removals. Certified Arborist. Licensed/insured. Roger Gatz, 651-699-7022.

LERFALD SERVICES. Complete Landscaping. Plan your spring project now. Free estimates. References. Loren, 651-208-6346.

EARLY BIRD Lawns. Landscaping. Year-round maintenance services. 651-768-0030.

CNT SNOW removal, lawn care. Highland resident. Call Chris, cell 651-757-6339.

METRO LAWN & SNOW. Sidewalks, driveways, alleys, lots. 651-690-5227.

PERSON TO PERSON Lawn/Snow. Snow removal and many other services. 651-775-0248.

SVARE LAWN Service. Fall cleanup, winter plowing & maintenance. 651-323-7311.

SADOWSKI BROS. Snow & roof removal. Gutter cleaning. Reasonable rates. 651-353-3870.

ROOF SNOW & Ice Removal; side-walks/drives shoveled. GUTTER CLEANING. Licensed. Insured. #20126373. Burton's Rain Gutter Service, 651-699-8900.

FRANK'S HOME REPAIRS
Home Projects & Repairs
Carpentry, sheetrock, tilework, plumbing, electric. Excellent work.
Frank Durkin 651-276-7094

ROOFING NILLES Builders, Inc.
651-222-8701
Full Warranty MN Lic. #4690
www.nillesbuilders.com

ALL STAR
PLUMBING • REPAIR • REMODELING
Master Plumber
Serving Highland Since 1984
Satisfaction Guaranteed
Free Estimates
(612) 865-2369
2190 Como Ave. • St. Paul
Angie's List Since 2001
Jack Stodola MN #003414 PM

Treating your house like a home.
Painting by Jerry Wind
Formerly:
Home Traditions Painting & Wallpapering
Same great work. Same great employees.
Even greater value.
www.PaintingbyJerryWind.com
Call: 651-699-6140 or 612-827-6140

A-1 Ceiling Specialists
The Ceiling Experts: Ceiling Painting, Texturing & Repair • Interior Painting
Larry Forsman 651 698-7653
5% OFF with this ad

Weaver Electrical Construction Co.
Residential and Commercial Wiring
Change Fuse Boxes to Circuit Breakers
• Complete Rewiring • Hard Wired Smoke Detectors
- Low Rates - Immediate Response - Troubleshooting
Licensed Master Electrician
Over 29 Years Experience
OFFICE: (651) 644-6551

JET CONSTRUCTION & REMODELING, INC
1025 Selby Avenue • St. Paul, MN 55104
Residential Remodeling
Historic Renovations
Handyman Services
651-228-9490 www.jetconstruction.com

**My old windows are great...
But I'm tired of freezing.**
Restoration WINDOW SYSTEMS
Energy Improvements for Older Windows
Add "tilt-in" feature to Original Windows
Stain Matching ~ Wood Repair ~ Painting
Restoration Series Storm Windows
Call Paul Schmidt 651-222-5075

Don's Electric
• Service Upgrades
• Remodels • Repairs
Licensed #CA00530 • Bonded • Insured
Office 651-647-1480 Cell 612-386-7366

Crocus Hill Hardwood Floors
Mention this ad for 15% Off.
Installation & Refinishing
651-808-3835

Custom Wood
Mantels Nooks
Moldings Shelves
Cabinets Covers
Built-ins Panels
Window Seats
Firewood Boxes
Etcetera
Create / Restore
Paul 612-724-9167

Int. /Ext. Painting
Wallpapering / Stripping
Wood Stripping / Refinishing
Plaster / Sheetrock Repair
Ceiling Texturing / Repair

Courteous craftsmen
Work steady start to finish
References available
Two year warranty
Liability Ins. / Workers Comp.

651-699-6140 or 612-827-6140

Normandale Electric Co.
Residential, Commercial and Industrial
1948 No. Prior • 651 644-0655

KEITH'S PLASTER REPAIR
"Repairing all types of Damage"
• Walls • Ceilings • Water Damage
• Basement Foundation Walls
SINCE 1971 651-636-7098

ROOFING SPECIALIST
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
Tear-Off • Re-Roof • Repairs
✓ Shingle ✓ Flat Roofs
✓ Shakes ✓ Tar & Gravel
✓ Sheet Metal ✓ Rubber Roofs
✓ Siding ✓ Concrete Driveways
CALL FOR FREE EST. & STORM DMG. EVAL
AUSTAD
651-482-0070
MN Lic.#20320318

Burton's Rain Gutter Service
• Clean • Repair • Install
Roof Snow & Ice Removal
Shoveling Walks & Drives
Licensed • Bonded • Insured
Serving area since 1973
Burton R. Johnson 651-699-8900
1864 Grand Ave. MN ID#20126373

Kitchen & Bath Specialists
Let us help you live good!
Livingood's Handyman & Remodeling
Licensed, Bonded & Insured 651 983-7836 MN Lic No: 20220556

Local, Trusted Service for 30 Years
KELLY
PLUMBING & HEATING INC.
651-699-1232
1932 St. Clair Ave. Lic. #3575M8
For All Your Plumbing Needs...

KITCHENS & BATHS
by **REGAL**
DESIGNERS & REMODELERS, INC.
Showroom Hours:
M-Th 10-4:30 Sat 10-2, Eve by appt
968 Grand Ave., St. Paul 55105
651.222.6830 www.regaldesigners.com
DESIGNS MN LIC #1168 ADDITIONS

QUALITY OAK FURNITURE
"Mission Oak for Every Room"
OAK PLUS
Large Showroom
Open M-F 9-5:30, Sat. 10-5
2724 E. 38th St. Mpls.
612-724-5151
Save on Many Styles of Mission Dining
— Super Oak Bookcases

Continued page 38

Service Directory

HOME REPAIRS
Meeting ALL of your home repair and installation needs!!!

- Appliances • Carpentry
- Air Conditioners
- Water Softeners & Purification Units

CALL ~ Insured ~
HANDY REPAIR GUY
651-260-4696

Minnesota Roots
Landscape design, installation & maintenance
focusing on sustainable methods.

Native & conventional plantings
Patios, walkways & retaining walls
Custom made fences, arbors & trellises
Rain gardens
Buckthorn removal

Susan Simon & Bradley Corty
651.310.9551

Zeller Plumbing Repair Service
Reasonable Rates
No Jobs too Small
10% Off Labor
with this ad

Licensed • Bonded • Insured
Raymond M. Zeller
651-690-0421
#3473PM

Moisture Damage?
Moisture damaged sills, casings and exterior wood trim repair or replacement

Harmsen & Oberg CONSTRUCTION
651-698-3156

ROOF TOP SNOW & ICE REMOVAL

Roger Gatz ★ Quality since 1974
651-699-7022

WEIL-McLAIN
HIGH-EFFICIENCY
HEATING SPECIALIST

PAUL FALZ COMPANY
Heating Equipment and Air Conditioning
24 Hour Service
SALES & SERVICE 651-488-6638
24 HR ANSWERING

House Lift
The remodeler you can trust

4330 NICOLLET AVE S • MPLS MN 55409
PH. 651.690.3442 EXT. 25 • www.houseliftinc.com

LOCKSMITH
Fast Mobile Service

We cut Keys and install Deadbolt Locks

Babcock & Son
SECURITY CORPORATION
716 SO. CLEVELAND
651-690-4443

SEASONS PAINTING

The Best Care Year-Round

- Plaster Repairs
- Water Storm Damage
- Skim Coating
- Wallpaper Removal
- Painting of All Kinds
- Texturing of All Kinds

651-714-4100
David Jarecke • 12 Years Exp.
Free Estimates/Insured

YOUR HOME DESERVES THE BEST
Professional Painting
Plaster Repair
Textured Ceilings
Finish Carpentry

"Prompt, Reliable Service"
Hersey Painting
Quality Work Since 1984
651-644-6163
Free Estimates • Fully Insured

Snow Shoveling & Plowing

- Residential
- Commercial
- Many local references

BEAKS (651) 224-9299
Free Estimates

Your Total Bathroom & Kitchen Remodeler Specialists

CUSTOM HOME RESTORATION

- Ceramic Tile
- Drywall
- Skylights
- Doors
- Deck Maintenance
- Plaster
- Carpentry
- Windows
- Texturing

CALL BERN WITTE 651-644-9177

VISIONS TREE SERVICE
24 Hour Emergency Storm Service

Expert Climbers • Professional Service
Tree Trimming & Removal • Stump Removal

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED All Major Credit Cards Accepted FREE ESTIMATES

651-459-7552

"Love your windows?"
Want them more energy efficient?
Call or visit our web site.
651-338-7163
bordenwindow.com
Over 20 years of experience.

LAWN SERVICE & LANDSCAPING
Total Lawn Maintenance
Landscaping ~
Tree and Shrub Maintenance

Plowing and Snow Removal
John: 612.328.6893
20 years experience / Major Credit Cards Accepted
www.kernlawnservice.com

KERN
LAWN SERVICE, INC.

STANDARD HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

Service or Installation!
• Furnace **SALE on NOW!**
Schedule your appointment at
standardheating.com
651-772-2449

DESIGN - REMODEL - RESTORE

COFFEEN CONSTRUCTION
ADDITIONS - KITCHENS
BATHS - DECKS

651-247-4072
~ 24 HOURS ~
Insured

Peter Wilson Drywall
Drywall Services & Plaster Repair

95% Dust Free Sanding

19 Years Experience
651-246-4758

Naturally Beautiful Hardwood Floors
without Polyurethane!

- Natural Vegetable Oil-Based Components Hardens Inside the Wood
- Spot Repairable • Easy Maintenance
- Brings out the Best Color and Grain from Wood Flooring • Custom Colors

Contact Mark, Hardwood Floor Specialist at Finnish Projects 651-271-2166

Interior WOODWORK REFINISHING

Remove Old Paint/Finish

- Buffets • Moldings
- Windows • Doors
- Fine Furniture

Restore the original beauty.
Free Estimates • Locally owned
Dave Gunderson Restoration
Certified Wood Finish Specialists
651.699.6547

SNOW/LAWN/LANDSCAPE

Continued
ALLEY PLOWING. Most driveways \$250 season. Great rates. Bruce, 651-592-5748.

SNOW REMOVAL. Sidewalks, driveways, roofs. Seasonal/monthly/per time. 651-698-0840.

SNOW. Walks/Drives/Roofs. Highland. References/Experience. Butch BOS, 651-308-3410.

SNOW REMOVAL. Residential \$60/month. Satisfaction guaranteed. Call for free quote. 651-343-3944.

CC LAWN CARE & Snow Removal. Highest quality; competitive rates; since 1985. Family owned/operated. Chris, 651-230-9614 (bus).

N/S LAWN SNOW. Call 651-776-5929 for estimates. Appreciate your business.

ACCTING/INCOME TAX

INDIVIDUAL TAXATION and Investment Management. CPA. felix.mcgovern@mncpapro.com.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

FINANCIAL PLANNER, independent, fee-based on Summit Ave. \$50,000 account minimum. John Severy-Hoven, MBA, CFP®; 651-442-0465. www.OracleFP.com.

NEED HOME/Improvement Construction loans? Toll free 1-866-684-2777 (customer ID 62998). www.atlowcostloans.com.

OFFICE & GRAPHICS

WRITE AWAY Word Processing. 651-690-4779. Transcription specializing medical/legal. PowerPoint. QuickBooks.

SECRETARIAL SERVICES. Typing, transcribing, mini-cassette/fax; legal background; 651-488-9333.

ONZAABI DESIGN. Personal, local and original graphic design, specializing in logos for start-ups. Tim@onzaabi.com.

COMPUTER/INTERNET

MACINTOSH COMPUTER troubleshooting and training. New computer and network set-up. Apple certified. Reasonable rates. 651-690-2938.

COMPUTER/INTERNET

HOME COMPUTER SERVICES: On site, free pickup, delivery, troubleshooting, upgrades, virus spyware removal, networking wired and wireless, installation. Great rates. 10 years in Highland. 651-698-7519; 651-470-3792.

APPLE SUPPORT. Apple Certified Consultant. On-site for Businesses and Home Computers. Mac + Network + People = Success. Learn More: www.clintronx.com; 651-329-6319.

SPECIAL SERVICES

MECHANIC ON WHEELS. Service maintenance, repairs, auto, home, garden; 651-343-2267.

PET SITTING/PET CARE

I CARE FOR your pets in your home or mine. Dog walking. Sheri, 612-721-9062.

A HELPING PAW. Amanda, 612-205-0587. www.ahelpingpawtc.com.

IN HOME worry free pet sitter service or dog walking; licensed, insured. PSI Member. 612-205-3264, Cyndi.

BEAUTY SERVICES

AMERICA'S #1 BRAND!
Mary Kay Cosmetics, Mary, 651-454-2725.

HEALTH & FITNESS

ALEXANDER TECHNIQUE. Lauren Hill, nationally certified teacher. 651-646-8993. www.alexanderteachingstudio.com.

NEW WHOLE Food Multi. My husband hates fruits and veggies but still gets them everyday. Picky eaters in your family? Introducing new fruits and veggies in capsules. Robin, 651-235-6468; www.Robin.UptownNaturals.com.

SEWING/EMBROIDERY

PROFESSIONAL FIT. Alterations & Custom Sewing. Weddings, Custom Suits, Tailored Shirts, Monograms, and much more. 925 Selby Ave. 651-646-2117.

HIGHLAND TAILORS. Alterations/Tailoring. Women/Men. 712 So. Cleveland. 651-698-6117. highlandtailors.com.

SEWING/EMBROIDERY

ALTERATIONS. All kinds. Reline coats; wedding dresses; window treatments; slipcovers; 651-698-9698.

ENTERTAINMENT/MUSIC

SINGER-GUITARIST. Popular songs from across the decades; weddings, private parties; listen at www.johnmischke.com. Call 651-489-0149.

PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO

WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY. All of the romance, elegance and beauty, captured for posterity on your special day. Customized packages to accommodate any budget. Capturing the Moments. Photography by Jill Fiebiger, 651-698-9604 or e-mail fiebigerj@qwest.net.

MUSIC INSTRUCTION

PRIVATE VIOLIN instruction with symphony violinist. Experienced. Professional. 651-690-2853.

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL of Music. Master teachers: all instruments, voice, theory; all ages/levels. Suzuki; pre-school; 651-690-4364; stjoseph-schoolofmusic.net.

PIANO. Ph.D. Music Indiana University. Lawrence Wilson, 651-699-0812.

PIANO LESSONS, all levels, member National & Mn. Music Teachers' Assn.; call 651-690-1889, Celia Perelman.

PIANO INSTRUCTION with professional pianist, experienced teacher. Vicky Mackerman, 651-645-7753.

VOICE & PIANO

molysmusicstudio.com. Quality, classically-based instruction. Free introductory lesson. Trial package available; at my studio or your home. Master of Music. 651-340-4038.

DRUM LESSONS

All styles, all levels; Drumset, Snare, Drumline. In your home or the studio! Peter Buxman, 651-592-4716.

LEARN GUITAR from qualified teacher. Email guitar_player@comcast.net for brochure or call Don Armstrong, 651-699-2744 eves. or weekends.



Publication dates for 2008

JANUARY	JULY
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
FEBRUARY	AUGUST
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
MARCH	SEPTEMBER
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
APRIL	OCTOBER
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
MAY	NOVEMBER
4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
JUNE	DECEMBER
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

News deadline is Tuesday, 8 days prior to publication.

Display ad deadline is Thursday, 6 days prior.

Service Directory/want ad deadline is Wednesday, 7 days prior.

MUSIC INSTRUCTION

PIANO LESSONS in a cozy home studio with an encouraging, experienced, great teacher. Trish, 651-645-1620.

GUITAR LESSONS. Suzuki/Traditional, Classical/Popular. All Ages. Gene Swanson, 651-292-4929.

PIANO TUNING/REPAIR

GAVIN PIANO Service. Registered Piano Tuner and Technician. 651-644-3111. See web site for tuning coupon. Gavinpiano.com.

QUALITY PIANO TUNING & REPAIR. Reasonable rates. Robert Clough, 612-722-7586; Robtclough@aol.com.

INSTRUCTION

EXPERIENCED TUTOR, K-college, academics, organization/study skills, homework, ACT/SAT. References. Lyn, 651-235-1955.

NEIGHBORHOOD TUTOR. Building confidence! Phonics, Comprehension, Fluency, Vocabulary, Writing Essentials. (K-6th). Exceptional results. 651-699-7978.

EXPERIENCE THE JOY of fear-less sewing! Classes, camps & private lessons. 651-297-0495; sewinglounge.com.

HELP WANTED

DRIVERS: MAKE \$600-\$800/wk. + benefits! Get pre-hired, go to work with Swift! No CDL? No problem! Local training @ American Truck Training, 866-823-0268.

HOUSE CLEANING, need car, 2-5 days, wage plus miles; 651-426-8850.

CHILD CARE service needs adults days, evenings and vacations; \$500 week/up. Car necessary. 651-429-2963.

PT CHILDREN/YOUTH Ministry Program Leader. St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Enthusiastic, responsible candidate to work with church leadership to plan, build and grow successful children and youth ministry program including mentorship programs, service projects, confirmation, etc. Flexible hours including Wed. nights and Sunday mornings. 20 hours/week. Previous experience preferred. \$20,000 + health benefits. Send resume to administrator@saintmarysepiscopal.org.

CHILD CARE

Parents are urged to exercise caution in arranging child care. Be sure to investigate references. To obtain a list of licensed day care providers in the area, call 651-641-0332.

MARY POPS IN

Loving, attentive, stimulating care for babies & children. References. Mary, 651-222-2268.

FOR RENT RESIDENTIAL

All real estate or rental advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law. Equal housing opportunity.

LEXINGTON PARK. Charming 2 BRs, hdwd. floors, eat in kitchen, spacious closets, \$734-\$774; Orlando, 651-699-8471.

SPACIOUS 1 & 2 bdrm. apt. homes available in the Highland Park & Crocus Hill areas. Call 651-698-6111 today for rental information on several communities professionally managed by Mid Continent Management Corp. Ask for details regarding move in specials and no app fees.

YORKSHIRE GROVE. Specials; \$400 in rent coupons. Come home to the sought after neighborhood of Highland Park. We offer one bdrms. with thoughtful, classic floor plan, \$675. Our studio homes celebrate compact and comfortable lifestyle at an affordable price, \$535. Call Al Loughrey, 651-698-2180.

FOR RENT RESIDENTIAL

MONTCALM APARTMENTS. Luxury apartment homes from \$995, 535 Lexington Pkwy. S.; 651-698-4004; www.montcalmapartments.com.

1 & 2 BRs from \$599-\$780. 1704 Norfolk Ave. & 2061 Shepard Rd. www.krcapartments.com. 651-698-7684.

GREAT DEALS! Beautiful apts. in 50+ locations. Outstanding service, professional mgmt. Get yours now! www.krcapartments.com; 763-572-9400;

1776 ST. CLAIR AVE. Two bdrms. from \$805; 651-690-3787. www.krcapartments.com.

HIGHLAND PARK, 1480 Randolph, spacious 1 & 2 BR, quiet senior bldg. Underground heated parking, \$658-\$819; 651-773-3485.

GREAT DEALS! 1 BR & 2 BR units, 1061 Montreal Ave. Remodeled kitchens! 651-330-4391. www.krcapartments.com.

548 OHIO. Private entry! 2 BR, 1 BA, 1,600 sq. ft., w/d, C/A and more, \$1,065 + util.; 952-844-0500 or email krisulzbach@aol.com.

SUMMIT/LEXINGTON, 3,000 sq. ft. home. All hdwd. floors. 4 bdrm. + 3rd fl. studio. Great neighborhood. Completely renovated. Large, modern kitchen, all new appliances. Huge sunny living room with fireplace. Dining room. Spacious bedrooms. Large yard. Huge front porch. 2-car garage + off street parking for 3 more cars. Free laundry, trash/sewage. \$2,400 + util. Pets ok. 651-587-1895.

2158 RANDOLPH. 2 bdrm. upper duplex near St. Kate's. Natural woodwork, hdwd. floors, fenced yard. No smoking. \$995/mo. 651-399-4887.

MAC-GROVELAND, 2 BR side by side duplex, near river, 2142 Palace Ave. Hdwd. floors, natural woodwork, own basement, washer/dryer, fenced yard, garage, smaller pets ok. \$1,050/mo. 651-699-6162.

HIGHLAND! LOCATION! Charming upgraded 1 bdrm. apartments. Excellent location offers convenient access to work or enjoyment. Hidden River Falls, unique shops, and great restaurants are just a walk, jog or bicycle ride away. Off-street parking and garages available. Call to reserve your new home! 952-334-5365.

MAC-GROVELAND basement for rent. Carpeted, paneled with egress window, bathroom. Wireless internet, cable TV, off street parking. No pets or smoking. \$600 includes utilities. 651-260-8026.

18XX GRAND AVE. 3 bdrm. home, 1 3/4 bath; \$1,450 + utilities. 651-699-8900.

FOR RENT COMMERCIAL

GRAND AVE. Prime 1 and 2+ person office space available immediately. Ideal for consultants, therapists, body work, etc. Adjacent shops & parking. From \$250. Contact Ross, 612-824-7000, ext. 31, or Sue, ext. 32.

PROF. OFFICE rental: fireplace, waiting room, hardwood floors. Call Alison, 651-647-5722.

OFFICE SPACE. Highland Village, 900 sq. ft. of first floor office space; ready to move in; 670 S. Cleveland Ave. Call 651-698-3828

UNIVERSITY & VANDALIA, 10,000 sq. ft. or 5000 sq. ft. offices. Two floor atrium, free parking, close to freeway. Great exposure. Great space. Mick, 651-248-5651

OFFICE SPACE. Prime historic location. Ramaley Professional Building, 658 Grand Ave. Two offices, conference room, reception area. Available immediately. Contact Mike, 612-805-7543.

SABO ELECTRIC
Residential-Renovation Specialist
Licensed • Bonded • Insured
Free Est. **651-698-6491** Since 1980

DECKS
Maintenance-free and Cedar decking
~ Call for estimates ~
Keller Residential, Inc. 651-646-5404

Painting
Professional Quality, Advice, Suggestions
15 Years Experience
Chris Robichaud
651-633-3643
651-450-4340

CUSTOM RADIATOR COVERS
CoverMyRadiator
651-210-8885
www.covermyradiator.com

MUSKA ELECTRIC COMPANY
• Electrical Residential Service Upgrades
• New Homes
• Alterations
• Additions • Repairs
• Pools & Hot Tubs
Lic./Bonded/Insured
kp@muskalelectric.com
651-639-5116

Larry's Painting
• Exterior • Spray Ceilings • Paper Hanging
• Interior • Texture Ceilings and Walls • Drywall
• Skim Coating • Water Damage • Knock Down
Complaint free record at the Better Business Bureau for over 35 years. **651-222-4227** Insured Free Estimates

Restoring Furniture to Beauty and Elegance
UPHOLSTERY SPECIAL
15% Off Labor - 20% For Seniors
Present this coupon at time of order.
CUSTOM CRAFTED UPHOLSTERY INC.
Guaranteed Excellence in Workmanship
• Free Estimates
• In Home Fabric Selection
• Showroom & Guided Tour
617 South Snelling • 651-698-1707
customcrafteduphincqwestdex.com

HOME CUSTOMIZERS INC.
MN License #20215516
Celebrating Our 26th Year in Business!
• Decks and Porches • Patio Doors • Basements
• Drywall • Bay and Bow Windows
• Baths and Kitchens • General Remodeling
CALL 651-690-5964
for expert home remodeling!
www.homecustomizers.com

MERRIAM PARK PAINTING Free Estimates
• Interior-Exterior Painting
• Ceiling Texturing
• Wallpapering
Call Ed, 651-224-3660
Call Norm, 651-208-7294

SCHUSTER
Home Works Inc.
QUALITY REMODELING SERVICES

WOOD FLOORS
Installed ~ Refinished
Awarded 1991 Floor of the Year for the Milton Mall floor
Custom Flooring
651-221-0557
Greg Kruse 25 years service

NORTH STAR PLUMBING AND HEATING CO. INC.
EMERGENCY SERVICE
RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL
• REPAIRS
• RESTORATION
• KITCHEN & BATH REMODELS
• NEW CONSTRUCTION
• BOILER REPLACEMENT
We're Professional "We Do It Right!"
651-699-2725
62 HAMLINE AV. S. ST. PAUL

Nilles Builders, Inc.
525 Ohio St.
• Additions
• Roofing
• Siding
• Remodeling
• Concrete
• Garages
MN Lic. #4690
651-222-8701
www.nillesbuilders.com

BASEMENT EGRESS
window specialists, free estimates, year-round service.
651-777-5044
MN Lic. 20175032

MASTER ELECTRICIAN
One Man Shop
Many Local References
• Service Upgrades
• Remodeling Specialists
20 yrs exp
Ed Strecker Lic.#CA04086 **612-250-6320**

Bathrooms
Resurfacing of Bathtubs, Wall Tile, Sink & Countertops
perma-glaze
WEST METRO 952-451-3900 EAST METRO 651-714-2303

ELECTRIC LEW Electric, Inc.
• Residential
• Commercial
• Remodels
• Industrial
• Service Upgrades
FREE ESTIMATES
Daniel Lew
owner/master electrician
Licensed • Bonded • Insured
612-801-5364

Kunz STUCCO, Inc.
STUCCO • RE-STUCCO
Plastering
New Construction/Remodels
~ 24 Years Experience
(Licensed • Bonded • Insured)
(651) 459-2079
www.kunzstucco.com
Bob Kunz Min Lic # 20302837 BBB

BAC
BAC Construction Services LLC
dba
♦ Banner Roofing ♦ Award Exteriors ♦ Champion Chimney ♦
612-721-2000

First Class GARAGES L.L.C.
Detached & Attached
612.221.7374
Free Estimates
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED MN STATE LIC.#20425137

DTM Remodeling
DESIGN • BUILD
651.699.7654
www.dtmremodeling.com
DESIGN DRIVEN REMODELING
ADDITIONS KITCHENS BATHROOMS LOWER LEVELS

REMODELING
We can put the Show in your Place
SHOWPLACE, Inc.
Dan Preisler 651-429-1317 Lic.#2519

ACME SNOWPLOWING
ALLEYS & PARKING LOTS
RESIDENTIAL
651-221-0452

Chimney Sweep Inspection & Repair
651-699-3373
LONDON AIRE CHIMNEY SERVICES

St. Croix TREE SERVICE
Serving the East Metro Area Since 1974
Local Rep. Chris Muehleck - Mac Groveland Resident
ISA Certified Arborist
U of MN B.S. Urban Forestry
651-770-3744
cmuehleck@stcroixtreeservice.com
www.stcroixtreeservice.com

SNOW PLOWING & SHOVELING
Tree Trimming
Firewood - PU or delivered
Call NOW to Reserve.
WES & DAVE'S LAWN CARE
651-291-1287



Located at the corner of Lexington & Grand

1071 Grand Ave.
Crocus Hill Office
651-251-4800

Your Experienced Real Estate Professionals

RE/MAX Results

*Outstanding Agents
Outstanding Results*



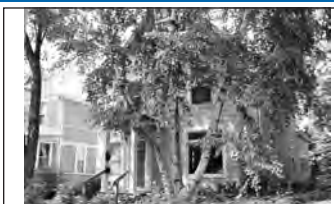
The Real Estate Leaders

www.minnesotahomes.com



Located in the Highland Bank Building

2100 Ford Pkwy
Highland Office
651-698-8006



Merriam Park Duplex

1995 Iglehart: Cozy 1-BR units w/ hdwd. floors, excellent rental history, newer double gar., superb location - close to everything. Bargain priced. www.bobreidell.com

651 696-0855 \$267,500



Mounds Park Bungalow

1079 McLean: Immaculate 3-BR, 1 1/2-story with gleaming wood floors, finished basement, natural wdwk. Name your move-in date! www.bobreidell.com

651 696-0855 \$184,900



Summit Ave. Landmark

294 Summit: On beautiful 1/2-acre bluff lot. Completely restored w/ nearly 10,000 sq. ft. of perfection. 9 new baths, custom kit., stunning decor. www.bobreidell.com

651 696-0855 \$2,150,000



Historic Summit Ave.

1621 Summit: Beautifully refurbished 4-BR, 3-story with new custom kit., 4 baths, beautiful 3rd floor suite, finished basement. www.bobreidell.com

651 696-0855 \$759,900



Charm Galore

544 S. Fairview: Cottage-style 2-story. 3 BRs, beautifully maintained. Wood burning FP, heart of pinewood floors, private backyard. www.bobreidell.com

651 696-0855 \$319,900



Sold! Sold! Sold!

In today's competitive market a professionally prepared home is a must. What to do? Where to start? We can help. To see what would maximize your home for resale, call...

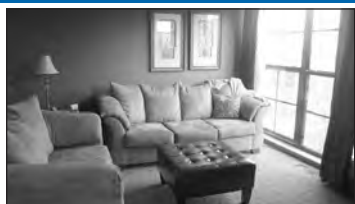
651 699-9000



3-BR Near Como Lake!

1027 Avon St. N.: Pampered 3-BR bungalow has refin. hdwd. floors, porch, new stainless appliances in kit., new 3rd BR or FR w/skylights in upper level.

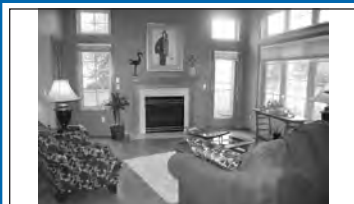
651 696-0866 \$189,900



What a Steal!

Sun-filled 2-story condo in beautiful Emerald Gardens project. Stylish upgrades, 2 private balconies & perfect location! Furnishings can stay -- better than new!

651 646-2100 \$225,000



Picture Perfect!

Open floor plan plus gorgeous decor! Stunning LR w/vaulted ceiling & tons of windows. Spacious master suite, large eat-in kit. & lofted FR. Must see! 2995 David Cir.

651 646-2100 \$250,000



Fabulous New Listing

Wonderful 2+ BR, 2-bath townhome in Roseville! Great location, close to both downtowns & shopping! 2-car garage, gas FP, private patio & more! 1086 Lovell Ave.

651 251-4876 \$209,900



Best Buy - Como Duplex

Wow! Now \$50K below county market value! Call today to see this classic up/down duplex in the heart of West Como. Great opportunity. www.scottbrownlee.com

651 335-4861 \$289,900



Must See! All Redone!

1435 James in Mac-Groveland. 4 BRs, 2 new ceramic baths, built-ins, nat. wdwk., open floor plan, new granite & stainless kit. Call Sue Drude Noyes for showing today!

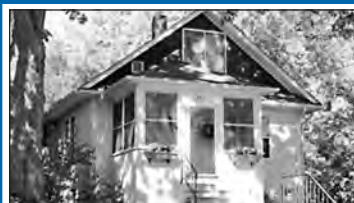
651 256-7400



Tangletown New List!

Wonderful Mac-Groveland location! Turn-of-the-century 2-story farm house. 3 BRs up, 2 baths, hdwd. floors, formal LR & DR, att. gar.. Call Sue Drude Noyes!

651 256-7400



North St. Anthony Pk.

Cute & cozy, in excellent condition! 3+ BRs, hardwood floors, central air, large wooded lots, lots of room for a garage. Fix and info at www.stevetownley.com

651 698-1000 \$249,900



Sold! Sold! Sold!

Million dollar month in closings!

6650 Vernon Ave., Edina
4747 Geneva Ave., Oakdale
5424 45th Ave., Minneapolis

Call Dick Voss and he will do the same for you!

OFFICE 651 698-0899
CELL 651 398-1780



Happy Holidays from your neighborhood realtors



HIGHLAND

Rory Anderson 651-696-0882
Matt Barker 651-256-7380
Scott Blanck 651-696-0852
Jaime Brito 612-481-0226
Emmy Byrne 651-696-0871
Bob Doffing 651-696-0851
Mitch Fink 651-696-0888

Liz Flynn 651-696-0857
Shawna Frazier 651-256-7385
Norm Geiger 651-696-0866
Olivia Gerber 651-696-0855
Mary Hansmeyer 651-696-0843
Yvonne Hanson 651-696-0858
Brandon Hedges 651-256-7380
Mark Hronski 651-245-8014
Mark Hulsey 651-256-7404
David Kunert 651-353-7355
Colleen Langford 651-696-0879
David Levine 651-696-0895
Michael Mangen 651-256-7391

Anita McKeown 651-696-0896
David McLaughlin 651-256-7388
Charles Merck 651-256-7315
Erin Muckerheide 651-226-2324
Phoebe Nguyen 651-207-6640
David Noyes 651-696-0869
Sue Drude Noyes 651-256-7400
David Noyes Jr. 651-256-7410
Kathleen Palm 651-503-3554
Don Peterson 651-699-9000
Alex Prawdiuk 651-714-0289
Bob Reidell 651-696-0855
Beth Richardson 651-646-2100

Lynn O. Ritter 651-696-0846
Amy Ruzick 651-492-1044
Sara Schaefer 651-309-2388
Gloria Smith 651-699-4269
Jim Swift 651-646-9060
Steve Townley 651-698-1000
Dick Voss 651-696-0899
Diane Voss-Weber 651-696-0894
Margaret Uriah 612-845-5089
Barbara Votel 651-696-0896
Mark Wiebusch 651-696-0859

CROCUS HILL

Dan Blackstad 651-251-4860
Robert Boland 651-251-4815
Scott Brownlee 651-251-4833
Steve Casalenda 612-716-4497
Heather Chermak 651-207-3251
Elizabeth Day 651-251-4876
Ramona Erickson 651-324-9586
Marti Estey 651-251-4841
Peggy Farrelly 651-251-4889

Kate McGuire 651-251-4838
David Moser 651-462-3815
Scott Orr 651-251-4800
Carl Reeck 651-251-4818
Karen Schlaefer 651-251-4899
Cathy Smithknecht 651-251-4882
Jay Soeffker 651-251-4806
John Thompson 651-251-4802

