

VILLAGER

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Serious shredding. Nick Tamanaha, aka the Flyin' Hawaiian, snowboards down an embankment at the Vulcan Snow Park during the Tow Up Throw Down competition on February 10 at the State Fairgrounds. It was one of several events being held on the last day of the St. Paul Winter Carnival. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Housing projects proposed for pair of Summit-U sites

Rezoning sought for Boy Scout, Morning Star Church properties

BY JANE MCCLURE

Two multifamily housing developments in the Summit-University neighborhood are poised for St. Paul City Council approval on February 14. The council held public hearings on February 7 on Exeter Group's plans to redevelop the former Boy Scout service center site at 393 Marshall Ave. and PDMC LLC's plans to redevelop the Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church property at 739 Selby Ave.

Ward 1 council member Dai Thao supports both plans, which require rezoning the properties. He said the Exeter project meets the neighborhood's need for market-rate apartments, while the PDMC project meets its need for senior housing.

Of the two proposals, the plans to redevelop the Boy Scout property are the most controversial. Exeter's development entity, 393 Marshall LLC, is buying the site and wants to rezone it from office-service use to traditional neighborhoods 2. It plans to demolish the current structure and construct a new building with a mix of 175 studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments.

The St. Paul Planning Commission recommended approval of the rezoning in December, saying it would be consistent with other local land uses. The site is

SUMMIT-U PROJECTS ▶3

Caucus-goers pick their favorites for governor

Tim Walz, Jeff Johnson top straw poll at outset of race

BY KEVIN DRISCOLL

With two U.S. Senate seats, eight U.S. House seats and the entire Minnesota House of Representatives up for election this year, it was the contest for governor that took center stage at precinct caucuses held across the state on February 6. Both the Republican and DFL parties held straw polls in the governor's race.

Hennepin County Commissioner Jeff Johnson topped the straw poll for governor at the Republican caucuses. Six-term U.S. Representative Tim Walz of Minnesota's First District garnered the most support for governor at the DFL caucuses. The DFL's support for the Mankato congress-

man did not surprise Hamline University law professor David Schultz. "There's a perception, right or wrong, that the DFL cannot win if they nominate an urban or metro Twin Cities liberal candidate," Schultz said. "The DFL leadership has gotten behind Walz because they see him as a candidate who can win more moderate and perhaps more Greater Minnesota voters."

As for Johnson's support among Republicans, "the simple answer is that the Republicans have no one else," Schultz said. "The GOP hasn't won a statewide office since Tim Pawlenty (was re-elected governor in 2006), and they haven't groomed anybody else to be an effective statewide candidate. Johnson may be damaged goods (having run unsuccessfully for governor before), but there's no one else with the name recognition and support."

Turnout at the DFL caucuses totaled nearly 30,000 statewide. The Republican caucuses drew

just under 11,000 voters, reportedly the smallest statewide turnout for the party in the past 15 years.

Following are the precinct caucus results in each of the state Senate districts served by the *Villager*. Some districts did not have exact numbers in the straw poll, only the order of the finish.

SENATE DISTRICT 65

Republican—According to chair Mitch Berg, 100 people attended the Republican precinct caucuses in District 65. Jeff Johnson won the straw poll for governor, followed by Woodbury Mayor Mary Giuliani Stevens, former state Representative Keith Downey of Edina, undecided, and Kenyon school teacher Philip Parrish.

DFL—Chair Meg Thomas reported about 900 attendees. District 64A Representative Erin

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St. Paul Public Schools avert teachers strike

BY KEVIN DRISCOLL

The St. Paul Federation of Teachers called off a threatened strike on February 11 following 13 hours of negotiation on the seventh day of mediation with negotiators from the St. Paul Public Schools. The two sides reached tentative agreements on labor contracts for teachers, educational assistants, and school and community service professionals for 2017-2019.

Details of the agreements were not available as of press time, but St. Paul Superintendent Joe Gothard was relieved to have reached the agreements. "Both the district and union feel passionately that our students deserve the best education we can give them," he said. "This is a strong step in that direction."

Nick Faber, the teachers federation president, stated, "we're proud to have settled a fair contract that will improve our public schools for all students. We look forward to continuing the fight for fully funded, racially equitable schools in the weeks and months ahead."

The teachers federation voted on January 31 to authorize a strike and announced on February 7 that it would go on strike on February 13 if a settlement was not reached. At the beginning of contract negotiations on February 5, the bargaining teams for the educational assistants and school and community service professionals merged with the teachers team. Among the unions' goals, according to Faber, was to equate teachers' working conditions with students' learning conditions.

"We're asking school district to partner with us to reduce class sizes, provide more support for English language learners and special education students, increase mental health supports in our schools, and expand restorative practices so that we build relationships with

students instead of push them out of our schools," Faber said.

"At the center of contract negotiations were the issues of wages and benefits for teachers," said School Board vice chair Steve Marchese. "The price tag for all of the things the teachers federation requested was nearly \$160 million. The district has about \$2.07 million in the budget to settle these contracts."

Early in the negotiations, the teachers asked for a 2.5 percent wage increase in each of the two years. That was in addition to the steps and lanes wage increases the teachers receive based on years of service and level of education. The district offered a 1 percent raise in each of the two years, adding that any additional expenses included in the contract would have to be paid out of that 1 percent.

Class sizes remained a major point of contention. The teachers federation and district administrators had agreed on a range of maximum class sizes in previous contract negotiations, but the federation was now pushing for more definite caps. Although district negotiators were amenable to more definite caps in certain classrooms such as special education, they argued that the ranges of class sizes agreed to in the previous teachers' contract have been largely successful though they have caused long waiting lists at the more popular schools and a drop in enrollment across the district.

"The students deserve more support staff, such as licensed counselors and school social workers, psychologists and nurses," said Beth Swanberg, a member of the teachers federation's executive board and a choir and musical theater teacher at Highland Park Middle School.

The two sides in the negotiations were making progress last week. According to a district press release, beginning with the 2018-19 school year, district negotiators had agreed to provide one social

worker for every 30, 40 and 50 special education students in the elementary, middle and high schools, respectively, and one social worker for every 500 students in the rest of the district. Similarly, one counselor would be provided for every 400 elementary students and every 350 middle and high school students. Finally, the district agreed to provide a minimum of one school nurse and one library media specialist at each school.

Progress was also being made in the areas of class sizes, employee benefits and working conditions. The administration offered additional support to general education and English language learner teachers through professional development and the integration of new standards in curriculum, a district press release stated, though it did not offer any more money for English learner teachers as the teachers federation had proposed because it was not affordable.

The district had agreed to collaborate with the teachers federation in seeking additional financial support from private corporations. The district had also proposed a memorandum of understanding with the teachers federation to expand the use of restorative practices when discipline problems arise, focusing on repairing relationships instead of punishing students.

In a February 8 update, the teachers federation complained that the administration was "unwilling to tap into its unallocated reserves or to back a school funding referendum" to help pay for the teachers' demands. However, Marchese has said that the reserve funds are there for operational, not programming needs, and that when it comes to considering an excess levy referendum, the School Board prefers "a more open community discussion rather than closed contract negotiations."

BZA denies student rental on Marshall Ave.

Landlord neglected to file proper paperwork

BY JANE MCCLURE

Another house in the Merriam Park neighborhood that has been used as a student rental has been denied a certificate to maintain that status. The St. Paul Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) voted 4-0 on January 29 to uphold a decision by city staff to deny a student rental certificate to AAA Properties LLC, the owner of 1609 Marshall Ave.

The BZA had heard the New Brighton-based company's appeal earlier in January, but a 3-2 vote for denial meant the matter had to be laid over until January 29. A minimum of four votes is needed for a BZA decision. AAA Properties had 10 days to appeal the BZA's decision to the City Council, and as of the *Villager's* deadline no appeal had been filed.

The house at 1609 Marshall is located in the student housing overlay district set up by the city of St. Paul in 2012 to establish a 150-foot minimum distance between student rentals in neighborhoods around the University of St. Thomas. The district is intended to limit the proliferation of student rentals in parts of the Merriam Park and Macalester-Groveland neighborhoods and stem the problems associated with them. Landlords who proved they had rented their properties to students for the 18

months prior to the establishment of the overlay district were exempted from the distance requirement and were granted a student rental certificate.

AAA Properties bought the house at 1609 Marshall Ave. in late 2012. The Company owners Jim Price and Sean Maynard contend that they have a student rental certificate and legal status as a student rental dwelling. "Everything I do is student rental," Maynard said. "I wouldn't have purchased the property if it couldn't be student rental."

St. Paul Department of Safety and Inspections staff said the property was never registered as a student rental and that the certificate was issued in error because there is a registered student rental within 150 feet of 1609 Marshall.

The previous owners of 1609 Marshall submitted paperwork in 2012 for a student rental certificate. However, city officials sent the paperwork back because it was incomplete. Despite followup calls and letters in late 2012 and early 2013, the proper paperwork was never filed.

According to Maynard, AAA Properties bought 1609 Marshall in late 2012. Ramsey County records indicate the sale was finalized in April 2013. Maynard and his attorney, Trevor Oliver, contend that AAA Properties applied to register the property but the city lost the paperwork. "Any record mismanagement issues that exist should not result in withdrawing approval for what has to date been a model student housing property," Oliver wrote in a letter to city officials.

BZA chair Gloria Bogen said that

given the timeline, the previous owner would have been the one to seek the needed student rental certificate.

According to Maynard, the house was in poor condition when he purchased it. "I made it a non-problem property," he said. He also objected to having to tell his current tenants that they may have to move out before the semester is over.

No one else spoke in favor of AAA Properties' appeal. Several neighbors testified that the company's student rental status should not be allowed since the previous owner failed to bring the property into compliance with the overlay district requirements.

The city sent out 463 letters in 2012 asking landlords in the overlay district to register their student rentals, according to Cathy Plessner, a Macalester-Groveland resident and registered student landlord. Only 246 properties were eventually registered.

Many landlords were unable to provide proof of the minimum 18 months of student occupancy, Plessner said. According to her, AAA Properties' appeal should be denied. "The overlay district is very important to keep a balance in the neighborhood," she said.

Marc Manderscheid of Macalester-Groveland described how residents of the area worked to establish the overlay district because of the negative impact some student rentals had. "There's no evidence that the requirements of the law have been met," Manderscheid said, nor that the city made a mistake and misplaced paperwork.

Parking ban proposed as part of Lexington bikeway extension

By JANE MCCLURE

Ramsey County's plans to resurface Lexington Parkway between James and University avenues this summer will provide an opportunity for the city of St. Paul to install bicycle lanes on Lexington from James to St. Clair avenues.

More than two dozen people turned out for a meeting on January 25 at the Linwood Recreation Center to review the preliminary bikeway plans with staff from the county's and city's public works departments. The plans will be reviewed in March by the Macalester-Groveland Community Council's Transportation Committee. They will eventually go to the city and county for approval. No hearing dates have yet been set.

Some Lexington residents expressed concerns at the bikeway meeting that they will lose on-street parking near their homes. Others said they would welcome the lanes, the promise of traffic calming and the improved crosswalks that are planned.

Adding bike lanes would make Lexington safer for cyclists and would help slow traffic, said Luke Hanson of St. Paul Public Works. "There are already people biking on Lexington," he said. "This would help users and improve the comfort level for everyone."

Hanson said the project would also provide connections to bike lanes on Jefferson and St. Clair avenues. "This is a bike system gap we'd like to solve," he said.

The county's plan to resurface Lexington will give the city a chance to extend the street's current bike lanes that were added three years ago between Montreal and Randolph avenues.

The current plan calls for adding bike lanes on both sides of Lexington between James and St. Clair. On-street parking would continue to be banned on Lexington between Jefferson and St. Clair. Parking would remain on the west side of Lexington between James and Jefferson, but would be eliminated on the east side of that stretch.

The area of Lexington between Jefferson and St. Clair is 44 feet wide and carries 12,792 vehicles per day. It currently has 11-foot traffic lanes, a 12-foot center turn lane and 5-foot shoulders. The proposed plans call for 11-foot traffic lanes, a 10-foot center turn lane and 6-foot bicycle lanes.

Lexington between James and Jefferson is also 44 feet wide and carries 11,865 vehicles a day. It has 8-foot parking lanes and 14-foot traffic lanes. Plans call for an 8-foot parking lane on the west side, 11-foot traffic lanes and 7-foot bike lanes.

Some residents asked why parking could not be eliminated on the west side of Lexington, where residents have an alley. The east side has no alley, and some residents on that side said they worry about backing out of their driveways into car and bicycle traffic.

Lexington resident Kate Schulz said it is already difficult to accommodate guest parking on her street. A small stretch of Juliet Avenue

near her home is used by a nearby townhouse development for parking. "So we can't have guests park there," she said.

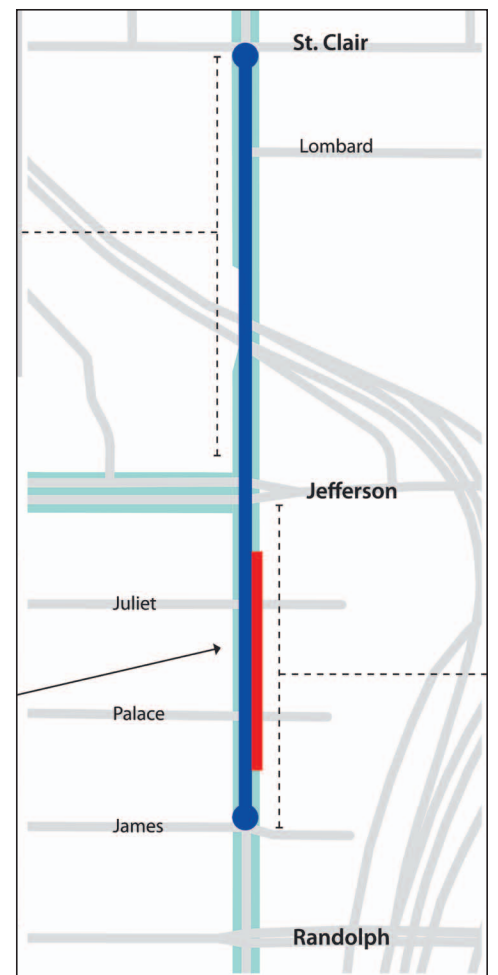
"It would be a hardship (to lose parking)," said Lexington resident Robert Deck. "It's also a safety issue for us." He said he was concerned about visitors having to park across the street and then try to cross the busy roadway.

Others said the bike lanes would be welcome. "I see bicycles on the street daily," said Lexington resident Bryce Rasmussen. He used to commute by bike on Lexington for five years before changing jobs and said having bike lanes would be a benefit.

Bicycling advocates said the lanes would add a needed bikeway system connection and would slow motor traffic. They asked why no lanes are being considered on Lexington north of St. Clair in order to connect to the bike lanes on Summit Avenue. City and county staff said Lexington narrows in that area by about 4 feet and that adding bike lanes there would require additional analysis.

Residents would retain access to their driveways during the resurfacing project. Because it is a county project, property owners will not be assessed for the work.

More prominent "zebra-style" crosswalks would be added. Traffic signals would be replaced on Lexington at St. Clair, Concordia and St. Anthony avenues. Corner curb ramps were replaced last year and brick crosswalks in the northern part of the project area were removed.



The Lexington Parkway bike lane project is in blue and proposed parking ban in red.

1 SUMMIT-U PROJECTS

west of the Christ's Household of Faith complex and is kitty-corner from the Aberdeen condominiums.

Rob Stolpestad, chief financial manager and managing principal of Exeter, said the developers have met with dozens of neighbors, business owners, the Summit-University Planning Council (SUPC) and Ramsey Hill Association. According to him, those meetings will continue as the building plans take shape.

"We've heard a couple of themes loud and clear: The top two are parking and traffic," Stolpestad said.

Along with providing underground parking at the new complex, he said, Exeter will work on promoting shared parking. The development requires a traffic management study, which also should point to some solutions. Stolpestad said the benefits of the project include creating construction jobs and returning the site to the property tax rolls.

Four people spoke in support of the development, including John Andrews, CEO of the Boy Scouts' Northern Star Council. The council is consolidating its St. Paul and Minneapolis service centers at its Base Camp at Fort Snelling. Andrews said the traffic generated at the Marshall Avenue site could actually decrease, since the Boy Scouts had 50 full-time staff members and about 150 people coming through the offices there six days a week.

The SUPC has opposed the rezoning, indicating that it is difficult to support the change without knowing more specifics about Exeter's plans.

Aberdeen condo residents Don Maietta, Rita Lacasse and Kevin Loney were concerned that the project will generate more traffic and parking problems in an already congested neighborhood. Maietta said the increased density will add "tremendous challenges" for the area.

When the six-story, 56-unit Aberdeen was developed, more than 100 parking spaces were part of the project, Maietta said. The city's current parking standards require fewer spaces for the Exeter development.

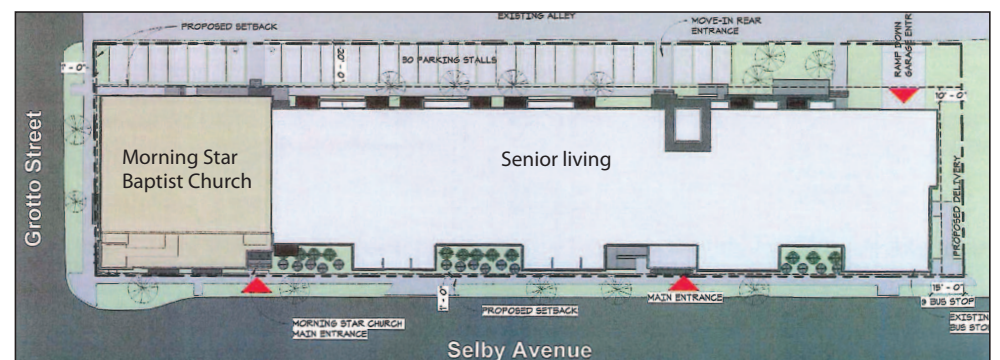
Lacasse said Christ's Household of Faith is among the groups that rent parking in the Boy Scout lot after hours. "That lot is filled on Sundays," she said.

"We love the neighborhood, but the added density and parking are concerns," said Gary Connor, who lives at Christ's Household of Faith. "There are very serious concerns about adding people without making additional provisions for parking."

Thao said he was encouraged that Exeter is continuing to meet with the public. "I hear both sides," he said.

Morning Star project

No one spoke against plans to demolish the Morning Star Church at 739 Selby Ave. and construct a four-story, 95-unit senior housing complex and new church in its place. The



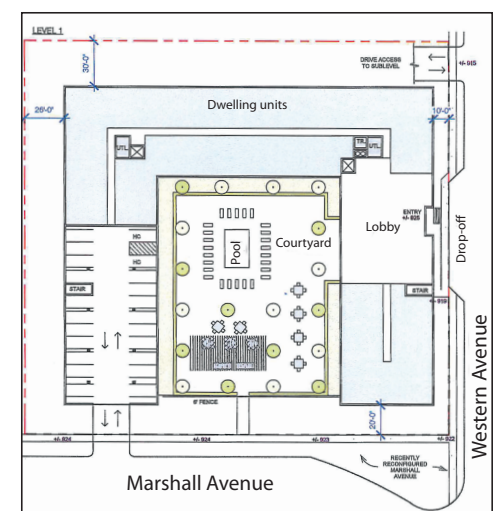
Concept plans for the Morning Star site (above) and the Boy Scout site (at right).

\$26 million project, which is being built in cooperation with Mesaba Capital Partners and Premier Housing Management, has the support of the SUPC and many neighbors.

The development is expected to bring an affordable mix of studio, one- and two-bedroom senior apartments to the area. Plans call for a full continuum of care, including independent and assisted living, memory care and extended care.

Common spaces would include a dining room, club room, coffee shop/bistro, health center, library, community room and theater. The facility would have 30 surface parking spaces off the Selby-Dayton alley and 66 underground spaces.

A new 6,600-square-foot church would be built at the northeast corner of Selby and Grotto Street. It would have space for up to 240 church members.



The nearly 1-acre site has been zoned for commercial use since the 1920s. The project requires rezoning the property to traditional neighborhoods. The city's Planning Commission recommended approval of the rezoning in December.

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Legislative wish lists released by city, county, school district

BY JANE MCCLURE

The 2018 session of the Minnesota Legislature convenes on February 20, and the city of St. Paul, Ramsey County and the St. Paul Public Schools may have to scramble to get their wish lists fulfilled.

Lobbyists for the three local units of government have cautioned that it could be a challenging session. "There's a lot of tension at the Capitol this year on a number of issues," said Claudia Brewington, government relations specialist for Ramsey County.

DFL Governor Mark Dayton and Republican leaders of the House and Senate have already clashed over the governor's proposed state bonding bill. They also continue to battle over operating funds. Dayton vetoed the Legislature's operating budget last spring, so one of the first issues of the new session will likely be an appropriation to keep the Legislature running. And with all of the House seats up for re-election this fall, legislators may shy away from addressing the more controversial issues.

City of St. Paul

Topping the city of St. Paul's legislative agenda is Mayor Melvin Carter's Community First Police Reform initiative to improve public safety and the level of trust between the police and citizens. Carter wants to reform current police practices to increase accountability, implement innovative policing strategies and invest in crime prevention.

The city will also be pushing for an increase in Local Government Aid (LGA). The funds make up about 23 percent of the city's operating budget, according to city finance director Todd Hurley. The city would also like the Leg-

islature to adopt automatic adjustments to the LGA formula.

If state lawmakers do not increase LGA, the city is asking for other options to generate revenue and relieve the pressure on local property taxes. Those options include a 1 percent increase in the lodging tax and the authority to establish new public infrastructure utilities to raise money for the maintenance of rights-of-way.

"Cities should be able to impose service charges against property to ensure the maintenance and safety of the right-of-way for all Minnesotans without having to prove an increase in fair market value or to determine whether those contributing to the utility fund are taxable or tax-exempt," the city agenda states.

Public infrastructure utilities could be used to recover funding lost when St. Paul's decade-old right-of-way maintenance assessment was largely eliminated when it was found to be unconstitutional in a 2016 Minnesota Supreme Court ruling.

The city will also be seeking increased funding for transit, Safe Routes to Schools and the Complete Streets program to provide that rights-of-way are designed for all users. The city would like to expand the use of tax increment financing for transit-oriented developments and to fund a permanent flood damage reduction system in the Lowertown area.

Financing for the rehabilitation of older housing in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, more funding for affordable senior housing, the expansion of programs to improve the energy efficiency of older homes, and new programs for people who face long-term homelessness are also on the city's legislative agenda.

Ramsey County

Ramsey County is making four major policy and funding requests at the Capitol this spring and is supporting other initiatives brought forward by advocacy groups and other units of government.

Ramsey and Hennepin counties are leading an effort to maximize the use of child care subsidies through changes to the waiting list. According to Brewington, the current method of prioritizing families on the waiting list for child care subsidies creates a disadvantage for low-income families who have not used the Minnesota Family Investment Program, a state welfare reform program.

Ramsey and Hennepin counties would also like to be included as recipients of revenue derived from the leased vehicle sales tax. Currently, all metropolitan area counties receive funding for transportation projects through the leased vehicle sales tax except Ramsey and Hennepin, even though most of the funds are collected in those two counties.

Ramsey County is seeking funding for a pilot program in supervised release revocation intervention. Ramsey has the second-highest rate of probation revocations among Minnesota's 87 counties. Offenders who violate the conditions of their probation are often returned to prison. The revocation intervention program would work with at-risk and non-compliant probationers to keep or get them in compliance with their supervised release.

The fourth request is to reclassify vendor application information in the Central Certification Program (CERT) as non-public. CERT is a small-business support program operated by Ramsey and Hennepin counties and the city of St. Paul. It requires applicants to provide financial information to prove

program eligibility. Under current law, this information is public, which county officials believe may be a disincentive for businesses to enroll.

St. Paul Public Schools

Lobbyists for the St. Paul Public Schools will be pushing for pension reform, more prekindergarten funding, more local control over student testing, allowing school boards to opt out of new state mandates that are not funded by the state, and allowing districts to renew existing excess levies with school board approval rather than through a referendum.

Public employee pension reform has roiled the Legislature for the past few years. Governor Mark Dayton vetoed a pension reform bill in 2016 following the close of the 2016 session. Dayton said the bill put too much burden on retirees and did not do enough to address potential future problems. A panel was convened to look at pension issues, and pension reforms were included in a bill that was passed by the Legislature in 2017 but also vetoed by Dayton. This time Dayton was concerned about provisions that would have preempted local governments' ability to set wage and benefit levels higher than state law.

The St. Paul Public Schools is also seeking more flexibility in administering standard assessments so that students may be tested in ways that work best for each district. Some districts may want computerized testing, while others may prefer paper and pencil.

The school district is also seeking increased support for students in at-risk families, highly mobile families, foster homes or homeless shelters; more money for full-service community schools and support services grants; and funds for mental health programs in schools.

Henningson tapped as Ward 4's interim City Council member

Two candidates emerge for special election to fill out Stark's four-year term

BY JANE MCCLURE

The St. Paul City Council on February 14 is expected to approve the appointment of Samantha Henningson as the interim replacement for Ward 4 council member Russ Stark. After 10 years in that office, Stark is stepping down to become St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter's chief resilience officer, the city's policy director in the areas of sustainability, transit advocacy, green building, energy efficiency and the implementation of the city's new organized trash collection system.

Henningson, a resident of the Hamline-Midway neighborhood, has served as Stark's legislative aide for the past 10 years. Interim council members are typically appointed with the understanding that they will not run for the seat in the subsequent election. A permanent replacement to fill out the remaining 16

months of Stark's term will be chosen by Ward 4 voters in the statewide primary election on August 14.

Ward 4 includes all of the Merriam Park, St. Anthony Park and Hamline-Midway neighborhoods and parts of the Como Park and Macalester-Groveland neighborhoods. So far, two candidates have announced their intention to seek the Ward 4 seat on the City Council in August:

- Amy Schroeder Ireland of Hamline-Midway, a graduate of Macalester College and the University of Minnesota School of Law, an immigration attorney and a Hamline-Midway Coalition board member.

- Mitra Jalali Nelson of St. Anthony Park, a former school teacher who now serves as a policy aide and outreach director for U.S. Representative Keith Ellison.

Six applicants for the interim appointment were interviewed by the City Council on February 6. In addition to Henningson, they included:

- Autumn Amadou-Blegen of Hamline-Midway, a community activist who has worked as human resources director at both



Samantha Henningson



Amy Schroeder Ireland



Mitra Jalali Nelson

the Surly and Summit brewing companies.

- Scott Banas of Merriam Park, an attorney and former president of the Merriam Park and Union Park district councils.

- Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn of Como Park, a self-employed management consultant and former executive director of the Ignite After-School Program.

- Jon Oppenheimer of Hamline-Midway, a clinical social worker, cofounder of the Friends of Hamline Park and lead artist for Midway Murals.

- John Van Hecke of St. Anthony Park, the founding executive director of Minnesota 2020, former aide for the late U.S. Congress-

man Bruce Vento, and a former member of the St. Paul Charter Commission and Snelling-Hamline Community Council.

Stark said he had mixed emotions about leaving the City Council, but he is excited about his new position working on issues he has championed during his tenure on the City Council. He will be one of Carter's top four staff members in addition to Deputy Mayor Jamie Tincher, chief equity officer Toni Newborn and chief innovation officer Tarek Tames. Stark's salary for the full-time position will be \$105,000 per year. As a part-time City Council member, he was paid \$63,000 per year.

1◀ PRECINCT CAUCUSES

Murphy topped the field in the straw poll with 175 votes, followed by Walz with 167 and undecided with 153. Former St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman came in fourth in his home district with 145 votes, followed by state Auditor Rebecca Otto with 135, state Representative Tina Lieblich of Rochester with 44 and state Representative Paul Thissen of Minneapolis with 20. Thissen has since withdrawn from the race.

SENATE DISTRICT 64

Republican—According to chair Ted Nelson, 100 people attended. Jeff Johnson topped

the straw poll, followed by Giuliani Stephens, undecided, Parrish, Downey and Woodbury attorney Lance Johnson.

DFL—Associate chair Rick Varco reported 1,750 caucus attendees. Murphy won her home district with 492 votes, followed by Walz with 375, Otto with 251, undecided with 246, Coleman with 224, Lieblich with 97, Thissen with 35 and other with 4.

SENATE DISTRICT 63

Republican—Chair Joel Burns reported 94 caucus attendees. Jeff Johnson topped the straw poll with 46 votes, followed by undecided with 11, Downey with 9, Parrish with 5,

Giuliani Stephens with 2, and former Governor Tim Pawlenty with 2.

DFL—Chair Eric Ferguson reported attendance of about 1,000 people. Walz topped the straw poll, followed by Murphy, Otto, undecided, Coleman, Thissen and Lieblich.

SENATE DISTRICT 52

Republican—According to chair Kevin Sethre, 177 people attended, with Jeff Johnson getting 68 votes, Downey 38, undecided 33, Giuliani Stephens 16, and Parrish 11.

DFL—District chair Matthew Schempp reported attendance of 700. Walz topped the straw poll, followed by Murphy, Otto, Cole-

man, undecided, Lieblich and Thissen.

INDEPENDENCE PARTY

The Independence Party in Minnesota's Fourth Congressional District held its precinct caucuses in person and online. Chair Phil Fuehrer reported participation by 42 people in person and seven online. "We didn't conduct any straw polls as we felt that attendance would be relatively light and that our two gubernatorial candidates (Jenny Rhoades of Montrose and James Everett of Minneapolis) are still largely unknown," Fuehrer said.



Minnesota United FC is seeking variances for both temporary and permanent signs at the new Allianz Field soccer stadium in the Midway.

BZA lays over stadium sign variance requests

By JANE MCCLURE

Minnesota United FC's request for more than 4,000 square feet in sign variances for the new Allianz Field soccer stadium in the Midway was laid over by the St. Paul Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) on January 29. Any action on the variances is now not expected until February 26.

BZA members said they need more information before they can act. The deadline for action under state law is March 8, but the team or the city may extend the process for another 60 days. Otherwise the requests are automatically approved.

Requests for both temporary and permanent signs are being considered. A city staff report, which lumps both requests together, recommends approval on the condition that the temporary signs come down once construction of the 14,900-seat Major League Soccer stadium is completed next year. However, BZA members and Assistant City Attorney Peter Warner said the variances need to be separated and voted on one at a time. They said separate actions are needed for enforcement reasons if any signs are found to be in violation.

Minnesota United is seeking a variance of 2,987 square feet in order to allow 3,237 square feet of temporary vinyl banners on fences along Pascal Street and St. Anthony and Snelling avenues. The signs, which promote the team as well as lead contractor Mortenson Construction, went up last year without a variance or any city permits.

"This (variance) would legalize the temporary signs," said Jerome Benner II of the BZA staff.

Minnesota United is also seeking a variance of 1,200 square feet to allow 3,187.5 square feet of permanent signs on the 17-acre stadium property. Company officials have cited a need for more permanent signs due to the large scale of the site and the need to properly identify the stadium and its multiple entrances. There would likely be a combination of stand-alone signs and illuminated wall signs.

Warner said approving a large variance for permanent signs now would create problems for two new multistory commercial buildings being proposed along Snelling Avenue west of the stadium. Warner said those buildings would be limited in how much sign space they could have or the stadium would have to lose signs that are already installed so the two buildings could have more signs.

"It sounds like we've got a moving target here," Warner said. "I think we need to know exactly what's needed for the entire site before this moves ahead."

The parcel outlined for the sign variances includes a proposed parking lot and transit plaza at the northwest corner of Pascal Street and St. Anthony Avenue, the stadium itself, a United Champions Plaza at the northeast corner of Snelling Avenue and St. Anthony, two parking lots that are slated to become the two building sites, and the Great Lawn north of the stadium. It does not include what is left of Midway Center.

Mortenson officials agreed to the layover on January 29. In submissions to the city, they said the variances are needed due to the "abnormally large site and high-profile project." They also pointed out that the temporary signs are a "fence wrap" to shield the views of the construction site. However, once the banners were installed on the fence, they became signs, according to city officials.

James Simonson of Mortenson, which is working with Nordquist Signs on the project, said the illuminated signs are being designed so that there will not be spillover lighting or excessive glare.

The Union Park District Council has not taken a position on the sign variances. Its meeting to consider the issue was canceled due to the January 22 snowstorm.

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An artist's rendering of the five-story, 61-unit apartment building proposed for the northeast corner of Marshall Avenue and Moore Street.

Council denies neighbors' appeal of Marshall apartments site plan

Appeal hinged on errors
in staff report, Planning
Commission decision

By JANE MCCLURE

Despite strenuous opposition from local residents, the St. Paul City Council voted 5-1 on February 7 to allow a Hopkins-based developer to tear down two century-old homes at the northeast corner of Marshall Avenue and Moore Street and build a five-story, 16-unit apartment building.

The council rejected an appeal of the project's site plan filed by the recently formed Historic Merriam Park Neighborhoods group. Barring further legal action, developer Jon Schwartzman may demolish the homes at 1973 and 1977 Marshall Ave. and build what he described as "upscale affordable" three- and four-bedroom units that are expected to appeal to students and young professionals.

"For immediate neighbors this is going to be a big change," said Ward 4 City Council member Russ Stark, who represents the area. But while many concerns were raised about the project, Stark added, city staff and the St. Paul Planning Commission made no errors in approving the site plan.

City Council member Jane Prince, who cast the sole vote against denying the appeal, disagreed. According to her, the project is not consistent with the city's comprehensive plan nor with the Union Park neighborhood plan. Prince spoke for historic preservation. "I think the houses in Merriam Park are at very high risk," she said.

The City Council's decision was a victory for the college students, recent college graduates and advocates for higher-density development who turned out in force to support the project, but a defeat for the Merriam Park residents who have been seeking protection for the historic homes along Marshall Avenue since the 1980s.

A zoning study of Marshall Avenue in the Merriam Park and Snelling-Hamline neighborhoods is currently underway. A development moratorium is also in effect for the six-block stretch of Marshall that includes the development site. However, Schwartzman

filed his application with the city prior to the moratorium.

The property is zoned for multi-family residential use, and the project needs no zoning changes or variances, according to city planner Tia Anderson. However, neighbors have raised concerns about the building's height and the impact it will have on the surrounding residential area. With 61 bedrooms, the building is expected to accommodate 61 tenants, and that level of density has raised concerns about traffic congestion, noise and disruptive student behavior. The developer will provide 30 off-street parking spaces below ground and on the first floor of the building, but the neighbors believe dozens of tenants and their guests will be parking on the adjacent residential streets.

Schwartzman said he has tried to work with neighbors to mitigate their concerns, removing balconies that faced homes across the alley and making other changes to the plans. "There's a rental housing shortage in the area," he said. "Many other new developments are needed" to provide young adults with safe, modern and affordable rental housing.

Max Schwartzman, Jon's son and the future manager of the property, said there is strong demand for the type of housing planned. Citing the Twin Cities' low rental vacancy rate, he said, "I think St. Paul really needs some new, fresh housing options."

The appeal by Historic Merriam Park Neighborhoods centered on alleged errors in Anderson's staff report and the Planning Commission's decision. Attorney Michael Obermueller said the staff report had technical errors regarding the site's grade.

According to Obermueller, city code does not allow a developer to mask the true height of a structure by changing the grade of the site. Yet the site plan shows the underground parking would extend two feet above the current grade. "This determination ignores the plain language of the zoning code, which expressly prohibits a party from raising the existing grade of property to comply with the height limits of the code," Obermueller said.

The parking structure also drives the need for a setback variance, he said, since the underground parking would extend beyond the building's footprint, encroaching on the required setback from the property line.

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St. Paul widens scope of its rental rehab loan program

By JANE MCCLURE

The city of St. Paul's new rental rehabilitation loan program, which has drawn only eight applications since it was unveiled last summer, is undergoing its own renovation. The program was originally targeted for about 1,500 properties, but has been expanded to allow the owners of rental properties in poor condition throughout the city to be eligible for the loans.

The St. Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) voted 6-1 last month to approve the changes to the program, which became effective on February 1. A total of \$750,000 is available in interest-free loans for fixing up single-family, duplex, triplex and fourplex rental properties that are in significant disrepair. A landlord may apply for up to \$30,000 for a single property.

The city classifies the condition of rental properties from A to D, with the latter being in the worst condition. The new guidelines allow owners of Class C and D properties citywide to apply for the loans. Another amendment now allows Class A and B property owners in low-income areas to also apply.

The program requires landlords to receive a letter of recommendation from the district council where the property is located. That is seen as a way of weeding out the owners of problem properties.

Of the eight applications that have been made since last August, four loans have closed. Only two landlords asked for the \$30,000 maximum. As of yet, none of the properties have been able to improve their condition ratings with the city.

Ward 3 City Council member and HRA board chair Chris Tolbert said the initial response to the loan program was disappointing. He said the HRA and city staff agreed when launching the program that it should be expanded if the original \$750,000 was not spoken for in six months.

He and other council members said they

are not sure why there has not been a greater response. Letters were sent last year to 1,500 property owners in lower-income areas, including parts of the Frogtown, North End, East Side, Summit-University, Lexington-Hamline, Snelling-Hamline and Merriam Park neighborhoods.

Ward 6 council member Dan Bostrom cast the sole vote against expanding the program. "These people are in business and we're subsidizing them," he said. According to Bostrom, the program has failed to fix up the "worst of the worst" rental properties.

Other council members said the program needs to continue with an expanded focus. Ward 4 council member Russ Stark said the concept is still valid.

Council president Amy Brendmoen said the city frequently allocates resources to improve larger rental properties that house low-income residents. She said it makes sense to help smaller properties as well.

The loan program has several conditions. Landlords given loans can set rents that are no higher than fair market value and must agree to keep them affordable for the next 10 years with increases of no more than 3 percent per year. Properties must be occupied at the time of the application and at least half of the tenants must be considered low-income.

Landlords must demonstrate that they are making good-faith efforts to maintain the property, but that the cost of the needed repairs are out of their reach. Improvements that qualify for the loans include the abatement of lead paint, the replacement of mechanical systems, landscaping that addresses grade and water-runoff issues, improved access for disabled tenants, as well as other changes that make a building safer and more livable.

A landlord cannot use the loan for new appliances, furniture, decks, fences or cosmetic improvements, and licensed contractors must be hired to do the work.

For more information about the program, visit tinyurl.com/yblghwzc.

Proposed streetcar on West 7th St. proceeds to public hearing Feb. 20

By JANE MCCLURE

The locally preferred alternative for new transit in the Riverview Corridor is moving toward a final decision. The Ramsey County Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed modern streetcar line linking downtown St. Paul's Union Depot, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and the Mall of America at 9 a.m. Tuesday, February 20.

The Bloomington City Council and the Metropolitan Airports Commission have both approved that route and mode of transit. Hennepin County's Transportation Committee will discuss the Riverview Corridor on February 13 and send a recommendation to the Hennepin County Board.

The Hennepin County Board and St. Paul City Council have yet to schedule their public hearings on the transit line. The St. Paul Planning Commission recommended the modern streetcar line on January 26, though it questioned the project's viability in the face of the expected development of driverless cars.

"In the not too distant future, people may not own their own motor vehicles," said planning commissioner Daniel Edgerton. While improving the region's transit system makes sense now, he added, "will it still make sense to build this given the long time frame involved?"

"I'm extremely disappointed that the Planning Commission has recommended an alter-

native without any public hearing," said West End activist Diane Gerth. At the commission's January 26 meeting, she held up a sign stating, "Riverview rail project—opposed by district council, opposed by West 7th Business Association—removes 30 percent of transit stops, narrows sidewalks, eliminates bikes, but no public hearing."

According to St. Paul city planner Anton Jerve, the city's intent was to wait until the project reaches the City Council before holding the public hearing.

With an estimated cost of \$1.25 billion to \$2 billion, the 11-mile Riverview streetcar line would run from downtown St. Paul along West Seventh Street, crossing the Mississippi River at or near the Highway 5 bridge before connecting with the light-rail Blue Line tracks leading to Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and the Mall of America.

The approval of a locally preferred alternative is needed before an application can be submitted to the Federal Transit Administration for money to pay for detailed engineering studies. If every local jurisdiction affected by the project does not approve of the route and mode of transit, it is back to the drawing board.

With the approval of a locally preferred alternative, an application for federal funding would be made in 2020. If Riverview is chosen, more detailed studies will take place in 2022-23. Construction would begin in 2024 and be completed in 2027.

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Viewpoint

Disc golf expansion intrudes on public's enjoyment of park

As residents of Highland Park and nearby neighborhoods, we are greatly concerned about the St. Paul Parks and Recreation Department's plan to renovate and expand the Highland Park Disc Golf Course from nine to 18 holes. Not only has the city's so-called planning process been opaque and not involved local residents, but the proposed expansion would essentially eliminate most of the existing open spaces for general recreation in Highland Park.

Where will the picnickers, walkers and game players who currently use these limited spaces go? How will the parents who watch their children at the playground feel comfortable? Does anyone in City Hall care?

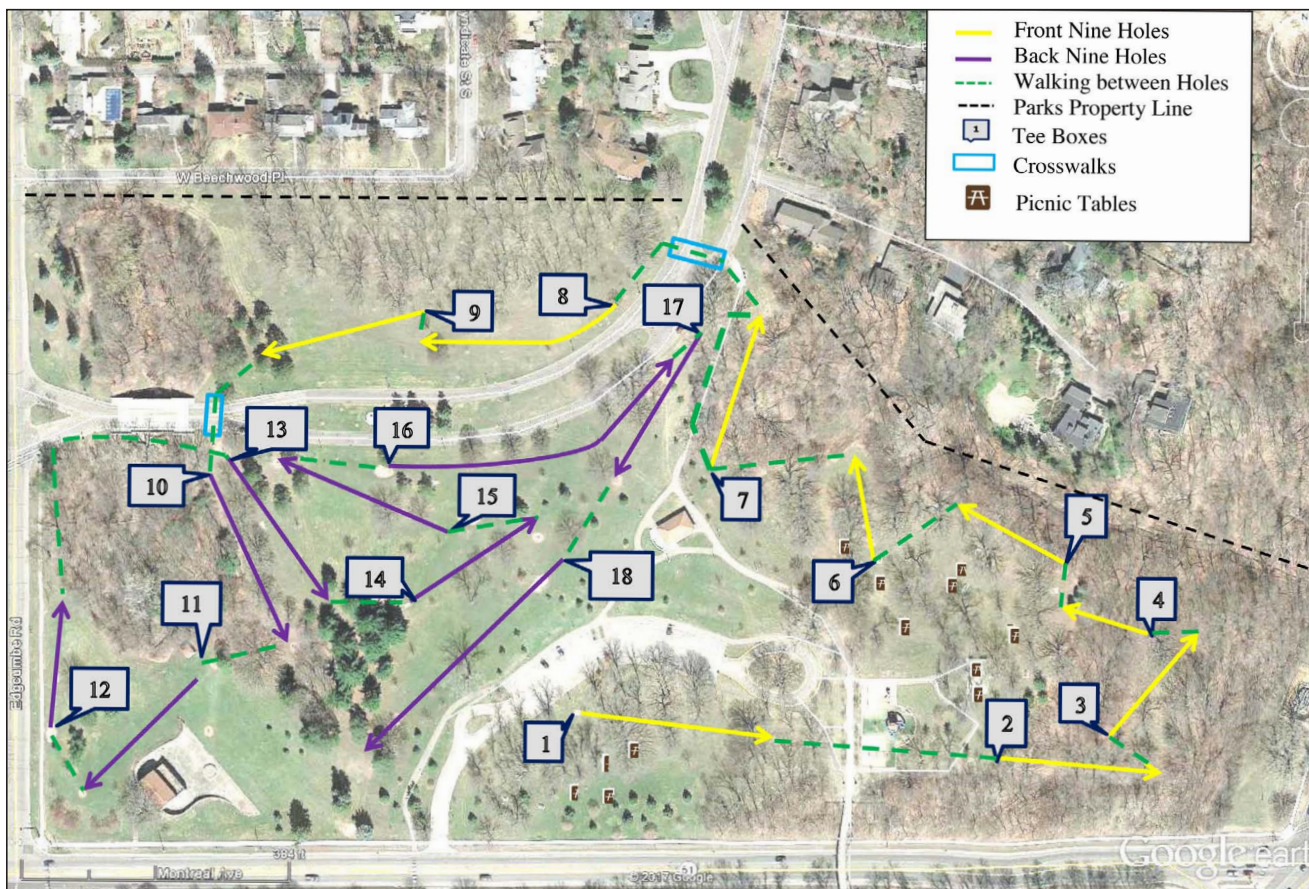
Last October disc golfers were directed—by signage on the disc golf course baskets—to take an online survey regarding possible course improvements and expansion. At that time, there was no attempt by the city to involve the neighbors who are impacted by the disc golfers' activities, which are both pleasant (athletics and camaraderie) and negative (parking congestion, litter, treading on lawns and through fragile understory).

The Parks and Recreation Department noted in a recent presentation that during 2017 it, along with Ward 3 City Council member Chris Tolbert, "sought input on future improvements to the Highland Park Disc Golf Course via an online survey. The results of the survey gave the city a better understanding of how we could improve the amenity."

This statement suggests a broad attempt was made by the city to gather input, but where was the residents' input? Were we just supposed to learn of a slam-dunk, precooked deal and accept it with a smile? We asked Parks and Rec a couple of times for a copy of the survey, but the promised call-back still has not come.

The current proposal, about which we learned only recently, is to double the existing disc golf holes while "remaining well clear of public areas." We beg to differ. It is not possible to expand in an already limited space. With the existing nine holes, it is already hazardous for us to walk the paths, allow our children to play, walk dogs or just sit in the sun. "Fore!" may mean something to a golfer on a golf course, but it means nothing to a child in a park.

Highland Park is an established, multi-use space. The pavilion on the north side of Montreal Avenue is rented out by families and other groups who also use the surrounding green space. On any given day, younger children play in the playground in their parents' sight, while older siblings play pickup games in the lower park under the tree canopy. With the proposed disc-golf expansion, these open spaces will be



A map of the proposed 18-hole disc golf course at Montreal Avenue and Edgumbe Road.

restricted or disappear, the area will be filled with disc golfers, and the fragile lowland groundcover will be further trampled as golfers search for their discs. Disc golf is a vector sport without boundaries.

The Friends of Highland Park has tried but failed to comprehend the benefit that the disc golf course expansion would provide the greater community. We do not see how limiting the space for the many to accommodate the few is beneficial.

Moreover, with disc golfing has come a substantial drug trade in the parking lot off Montreal and Edgumbe Road. This is not to blame the disc golfers for the drugs, but to note that the criminals and their clients often wear and carry disc golf equipment to cover their illicit activity. We neighbors have had to call "911" more times than we can count to get the police to monitor this drug trade and hopefully make some arrests.

We constituents are disappointed that we were not engaged in any park planning. We feel let down by our City Council representative and city agencies as they attempt to ram through a finished plan that will cause substantial damage to our park and community.

We are passionate about our community and its environment and do not want it ravaged. Please join us and make your voice heard with emails to City Council member Chris Tolbert (chris.tolbert@ci.stpaul.mn.us), St. Paul Parks and Rec Special Services program supervisor Paul Prior (paul.prior@ci.stpaul.mn.us) and St. Paul Parks and Rec Special Services director Susie Odegard (susie.odegard@ci.stpaul.mn.us).

Valerie and Steve Mooney, Annette and David Swanson and other members of the Friends of Highland Park

Growing complacency on Grand

There it goes again—"no, no, no"—the familiar cry of neighbors in and around Grand Avenue. How dare a business owner try to upgrade his or her property and not stay within some arbitrary boundary? Peter Kenefick and his family and business partners see the writing on the wall. Do nothing with Dixie's on Grand's property and fall victim to disrepair and the Grand Avenue of 40 years ago when rent was cheap and no one was looking.

The businesses that have been on Grand Avenue for a long time have invested money, sweat and I'll bet tears making it a street St. Paul could be proud of, one that draws visitors and shoppers and hungry people. And you know what? It worked. More people. More shoppers. More hungry people. And then what? Rent shot up—way up. So did property taxes. City government rules and regulations are often anti-business. And what do you have now? Businesses that can barely afford to stay in business. Many don't.

As a wise Grand Avenue business owner once said to me, "Grand Avenue does not guarantee success." It sure doesn't. And you know what makes it worse? So many of the people living on and around Grand Avenue don't even patronize the businesses. How's that Costco membership working for you?

Grand had it all until it didn't. Selby Avenue, West 7th Street, Phalen and Lowertown, even downtown St. Paul, are making great strides. We don't need—or dare I say want—Grand any more like we once did. And if too many of us find other options, Grand goes back to the way it was oh so long ago.

Be careful what you ask for. If I were the Kenefick family,

Inbox

I would consider selling the property to someone with deep pockets and a willingness to battle those rules and regulations. Enjoy the ride.

*Merry Beckmann
Downtown St. Paul*

Editor's note: The writer is a former executive director of the Grand Avenue Business Association.

Economics argues against \$15

Bad news for St. Paul's low-skilled workers: New Mayor Melvin Carter seems set to follow through on his plan to hike the city's minimum wage to \$15 an hour.

If you raise the price of something, people will buy less of it. In the case of labor, if wages are raised to a rate above the workers' contribution to revenue, they will not be employed. If they were, the business would be adding more to its costs (the wages) than its income (the revenue). A business that operated like this would not be in business very long.

This is often derided as simplistic theorizing, Econ 101. However, this theorizing is supported by the weight of empirical evidence. In 2008, economists David Neumark and William L. Wascher surveyed two decades of research into the effects of minimum-wage laws. They found that "minimum wages reduce employment opportunities for less-skilled workers... (that) a higher minimum wage tends to reduce rather than to increase the earnings of the lowest-

skilled individuals... (that) minimum wages do not, on net, reduce poverty... (and that) minimum wages appear to have adverse longer-run effects on wages and earnings."

What problem is raising the minimum wage supposed to solve? Wages in Minnesota are rising without political dictates. Data from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development show that after years of stagnant pay (the median wage actually declined by 1 percent between 2003 and 2014), Minnesotans' median wage has been rising in recent years, growing by 4 percent in real terms between 2014 and 2016. This is, in part, a consequence of the supposed labor shortage in the state: As the demand for something rises in relation to the supply of it, the price rises. Econ 101 is validated once again.

Economic theory and empirical evidence show that the minimum wage is bad public policy that disproportionately harms those it is supposed to help. But thanks to current economic trends in Minnesota, it is also irrelevant public policy as the tightening labor market drives up wages.

Why does Mayor Carter persist in pushing such a bad idea?

*John Phelan
Downtown St. Paul*

Editor's note: The writer is an economist at the Center of the American Experiment.

Fair and open gov't demands more than first names

BY JANE MCCLURE

I have covered St. Paul neighborhoods and city and county governments as a newspaper reporter and editor for 30-odd years. Some of those years have been odder than others. However, at the St. Paul City Council meeting on February 7, I witnessed something that was more than just odd. It was a policy shift that in my mind, and in the minds of other journalists as well as advocates of open government, is a troublesome development.

The City Council has decided that people giving testimony at public hearings before the council no longer need to provide their full name and address prior to testifying—only their first name. The change was described as giving comfort to those who testify. A check with Minnesota Newspaper Association's legal counsel indicates that while this new policy is unusual, it does not violate any laws. It probably seems to some people to be very hip and accessible and informal. It is still a very bad idea.

My initial response to the change was that unless your name is Cher or Beyoncé or Prince (God rest his soul), you have a first and a last name; please use them. However, my greater concern is for open, honest and transparent government. This new policy is fraught with the potential for abuse and even trolling.

If you are a developer seeking a zoning change or a business owner trying to retain a city license, what recourse will you have against people who do not have to fully identify themselves, especially if their testimony helps to squelch your request? The first-name policy denies due process to those seeking city action. It also calls into question the credibility and actions of the City Council when the council members do not know who is speaking.

I could be from, say, Hibbing and claim to live a block from a development site in St. Paul. I could be a paid lobbyist in the guise of a gray-haired block club leader. Could people testifying before the council have given a false name and address before? Sure they could, and over the years I have witnessed a few folks doing just that. But the vast majority of people have fully identified themselves.

The policy change raises new difficulties for journalists who cover the City Council. We need names, and while we do not print their addresses, we need to tell our readers where speakers are from and

whom they represent. It affects our credibility as news media if we cannot identify a person who is quoted. And it affects the speaker's credibility as much as ours. We do not know if he or she is the company CEO or the janitor.

The change was announced at the beginning of the City Council meeting on February 7. When I raised concerns, I was told that I would need to get a copy of the sign-up sheet if I wanted full names and addresses. But what do I do when, say, five people named Mary or John speak? Or when people neglect to sign the sheet? On a personal level, I have some physical disabilities, and there are days when I cannot chase down 20 or 30 people at the end of a public hearing. Then what public record will we have besides a podcast? And what happens with emails, which are currently part of the public record? Will those be censored, too?

Are there compelling reasons to allow people to not give their full name and address at a public hearing? Perhaps when there has been criminal violence. However, in those cases, a district council representative could testify on behalf of that person and spare her or him any threat of retaliation or harassment. In other cases, people may claim potential harm from divulging their identity, but it is rarely warranted. Public hearings before the City Council are not whistleblower situations. Allow people to claim potential harm when testifying about a zoning change threatening their property values and it is a fast slide down a slippery slope.

This new policy is part of a troubling trend on the City Council to provide less and less information on its agendas. We have lost the weekly listing of claims filed against the city. We get the names of Planning Commission appointees, but not the names of all of those who applied for the position. The current City Council staff and leadership seem more intent on serving the council than serving the public.

The instinct of public officials may be to err on the side of greater control and secrecy, but this is not a Barbie Dream House or a backyard tree fort we are arguing over. This is City Hall, and we need checks and balances to ensure fair and open government.

Jane McClure is a resident of Merriam Park and a freelance writer for the Villager and other publications.

8◀ INBOX

City shows no fiscal restraint

I've owned a duplex in the Desnoyer Park area of Merriam Park since 1974. The duplex was built by my grandfather, and I acquired it through my family. It has become nearly impossible for me to provide housing, as rents received just cover out-of-pocket expenses. No owner draw has ever been taken. The culprit is property taxes, which in St. Paul are outrageous, amounting to one third of all rents.

Over the years I've met several times with the Ramsey County assessor and the St. Paul City Council. These meetings have generally accomplished nothing. The City Council and the County Board don't understand fiscal restraint. Every year their budgets expand.

When I last presented my case to the City Council, it seemed nobody cared or was even listening. Several members were doing something on their laptop. I've never believed the city of St. Paul has any empathy for landlords. When I tell someone what I pay in property taxes on this duplex, they don't believe me.

After reading the article on the Truth-in-Taxation meeting (*Villager*, December 6), I certainly sympathized with everyone who spoke. I don't know how to get through to elected officials. Somehow when it's not their money, restraint isn't practiced. Most certainly there are many more people who are of the same opinion, but they choose to say nothing.

*Jim Eberhard
Fairmont*

Fair-weather recycler

I called Eureka Recycling on February 1 to ask why my recycling had not been picked up since January 16. I was informed that my alley was inaccessible and that the driver would not risk driving through the alley. The representative added that our garbage may have been picked up, but that is not an indication that the alley is safe for such large vehicles. Eureka's drivers will not risk such icy

VILLAGER

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Maurice F. Mischke, 1920-1991

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Next Issue: February 28

Visit myvillager.com for deadlines.

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INBOX ▶ 10



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9◀ INBOX

conditions.

Our alley is plowed by a paid contractor who I feel does a very good job. I have been able to access my garage even with a rear-wheel-drive sedan. If Eureka is unable to access our alley again, they will call the city to salt and sand.

I wonder if under the city’s new organized trash collection system, the garbage collectors will find our alleys inaccessible when they are no longer motivated by customer service? I hope the city is ready to organize alley plowing in the near future. Otherwise, there may be a lot of garbage to collect in the spring.

*Jason Emrick
Highland Park*

Gratitude on ice

A huge “thank you” to our amazing Edgcumbe Hockey Association flooding volunteers: John Kimlinger, Jim Kimlinger, Charlie DeReuil, Jim Nonnemacher and Peter Kern. Since December, they have tirelessly maintained the ice rinks at both Edgcumbe and Palace playgrounds through flooding and shoveling, most evenings late into the night. This helps all Edgcumbe families keep hockey fees more affordable as the city of St. Paul is willing to generously accept our volunteer hours in lieu of ice fees. These five individuals have gone above and beyond in their efforts to support the Edgcumbe Hockey Association.

If you or your family have skated at Edgcumbe or Palace ice this year, please take the time to thank them as well as association president Dan Mucio, Edgcumbe Hockey Association board members and the city of St. Paul. Through their altruistic dedication, they’ve helped every Edgcumbe Hockey Association member afford hockey and have access to well-maintained public ice all season long. If you drive by late at night, give a honk, a wave or simply lend a hand. It’s a small way we can support their huge efforts.

*Heidi Sturm
Macalester-Groveland*

Homeless at the library

The article, “St. Paul invests \$240,00 in staff training on mental health issues” (*Villager*, January 17) states that the city will be hiring a social worker to handle the St. Paul Public Library’s growing problem with homeless patrons. More homeless people are using the libraries as daytime shelters. Restroom sinks are being used for bathing and washing hair. Children are being found in the library abandoned by their homeless parents. Domestic abuse victims are seeking refuge in the libraries. The article states that the “new mental health practitioner...will be trained to provide information and referral services.”

The article should have gone on to state what the information and referral services can do for these library patrons. It sounds like we don’t just need training and a social worker; we need day and night shelters and care centers. Or better yet, let’s address the problems and inequities that put our fellow citizens—men, women, families and children—in these dire straights. Since when did our libraries become the next to last stop on the road to ruin?

These are societal issues, and as members of our society, we must find and fund solutions, not diversions.

*Tom Reasoner
West End*

Kindness can move snow piles

My neighbor wrote a letter to the editor accusing the entire St. Thomas student body and staff of being bad apples because they did not respond the way he would have liked to the snowstorm on January 22 (*Villager* Inbox, January 31). Like him, I am an alumnus of St. Thomas and also a resident of the area. His comments were counterproductive to building a stronger community.

He would not have written such a negative letter if he truly cared about making a positive impact. Did Macalester College students jump to grab their shovels? How about St. Catherine’s? What did he expect when he called up the athletic director at the last minute with his request? He did it to prove to himself that St. Thomas students are a terrible mark on this community. Nothing could be further from the truth. Perhaps he will take notice of the current political debate and understand that writing off an entire group of people, especially neighbors, is generally a bad idea. There are better ways to go about his request. For the record, I think it is a great idea to assemble a St. Thomas Snow Squad to help shovel after snowstorms. See, wasn’t that easier to say?

*Mike Orth
Summit Hill*



Damaged sod along a sidewalk on Edgcumbe Road near Homecroft Playground.

Plowing snow or busting sod

I don’t know who’s responsible for plowing the public sidewalks around the schools and parks in St. Paul. But for the past several years the plows have been using blades that are too wide. The result is that the grass along the sidewalks is continually being dug up and large furrows of dirt now border the sidewalks. (The sidewalk along Edgcumbe Road by the old Homecroft Elementary School is a prime example.) In the spring, weeds fill in where the grass was dug up.

A few years ago when the city came through with its water and sewer main replacement project, the boulevards were laid with nice new sod. That winter the plows came through and dug up a lot of the new sod because the plow blade was too wide. More taxpayer money was needed to replace that sod.

I wonder if it’s too much to ask that the city use a smaller blade on its plows or have the drivers tilt the blades so they don’t rip up the grass along the sidewalks. This seems like low-hanging fruit that could save city taxpayers a lot of money over the years. We have many better uses of taxpayer funds than constantly replacing grass along sidewalks.

*Scott Olson
Highland Park*

Coming to America

Letter writer T.J. Sexton admits to being “well over 70 years old,” but likely looks back to a far earlier romantic time when, to use his terminology, foreigners knew their “crappy” place (*Villager* Inbox, January 31). Sexton ignores our history of transporting and enslaving Africans against their will. Thus he makes the astonishing statement, “In many crappy countries, nearly 100 percent of the people would jump at the chance to move to America, legally or not.” How else to explain his strange criticism of Senator Dick Durbin for casting our president “in the worst light possible” by quoting Trump verbatim?

To his credit, unlike some of those in the room who denied hearing anything, Sexton admits Trump said something.

*Paul Alper
Macalester-Groveland*

The false promise of a wall

As I read the many politically driven stories that make the claim for building a wall on our southern border, two thoughts come to mind. 1) When Leonidas I was king of Sparta, he was asked why the Greek city-state did not have a wall around it. He said that every citizen of Sparta is a stone in the mightiest wall a city could build. 2) Even in the Garden of Eden, that closed-off paradise of beauty and peace, there was a snake.

There were and forever will be genuine, quotidian and frightful creatures in our cities, forests and paradises. The worst of all possible snakes, however, is the eternal human proclivity for evil. The evil is psychological, spiritual, economic and personal. It’s within all of us. No wall, however tall, will keep that evil out. Even if the fortress were thick enough, in principle, to keep everything bad outside, the evil would immediately appear again within.

The real debate should be over the question, do we want to make our citizens safe or strong? Soft people will always vote for safe; it’s easy and someone else can do it. That’s why our military is becoming a class unto itself; Fewer than 1 percent of Americans serve. We simply may be too soft and lazy to be strong. Thus we need a wall to make us even less strong.

How many Americans know anything about Sparta, the Garden of Eden, or have read enough history, literature, religion, economics, psychology or science to call themselves citizens? Uneducated and lazy people can never be citizens of any institution or nation; they can only be subjects. Subjects

need walls to protect them from their own reality. Citizens engage their reality with strength, purpose and courage. It comes down to our identity as Americans.

And that American identity comes from understanding that our strength is defined in our country’s motto: E pluribus unum; out of many, one. It comes from an understanding that the pursuit of happiness means caring for each other and our infrastructure, our commonwealth.

Happiness and strength come from making our republic better. Walls can never do that.

*Michael Hartoonian
Summit Hill*

Trump unleashed

The progressive collective continuing its compulsive, obsessive, pathological pursuit to depose a duly elected president is the American version of regicide. The years ahead, after this obstructive nonsense runs its course, will allow our president to go forward full stride.

In addition to his Make America Great Again agenda, I suggest he detribalize society by making English the official unifying language. Eliminate the penny coin. Establish term limits to end the half-century ensconcing of congressmen and congresswomen. Desalinate sea water for our coastal cities. Push for a three-year moratorium on all immigration. End political correctness, the verbal Marxism.

*Everett C. Dehmer
Downtown St. Paul*

The state of disunion

I watched the State of the Union address on January 30. Like virtually every such previous address, it was full of many sometimes heartwarming, sometimes heartbreaking examples of people who have done or suffered much. Yet like so many addresses before that sought to bring together the disparate, often warring elements of Congress, this one was cheapened by the party not in power sitting stone-faced or glaring without clapping while the other side smiled and clapped vigorously.

This time it was the Democrats, but the Republicans did the same thing when Obama was in power. So when Trump, as Obama did before him, asked for togetherness in Congress, it was like asking Vikings fans to cheer for the Eagles in the Super Bowl—an honorable yet hopeless request that did little to overcome any differences in Congress.

*Paul Peter Paulos
Macalester-Groveland*

A whole new level of ridiculous

Here is a glimpse of where your hard-earned tax dollars will go in St. Paul Mayor Carter’s new administration:

From the mayor’s web site: “Current Ward 4 City Council member Russ Stark will step down from his seat as of February 15 to serve as Chief Resilience Officer. In this position, Stark will promote sustainability strategies aimed at protecting St. Paul families from the effects of climate change.”

A whole new level of ridiculous from our elected officials.

*Jeanne Condon
Highland Park*

A priceless appointment

The city of St. Paul now has a “chief resilience officer.” What does that cost? Who cares? Mayor Melvin Carter and St. Paul taxpayers want one and need one. And Russ Stark is a terrific choice.

What will taxpayers get from our chief resilience officer? Just wait, it will be a real bargain...and wonderful. If you don’t have a bicycle, buy one before they’re all gone.

The city is officially brain dead. Pull the plug.

*T.J. Sexton
Macalester-Groveland*

For safety’s sake

It’s the season of puddles when temperatures are above 32 degrees, ice when temperatures drop below 32 degrees, and trying to avoid bumping into potholes. Please call the St. Paul Public Works Department’s street maintenance hotline at 651-266-9700 if your street is icy or you’re bumping into potholes so that work orders can be generated to fix those problems. Home and business owners, please shovel and sand or salt your public sidewalk for safety purposes.

Thank you.

*Sue Shetka
Macalester-Groveland*

District Council News

Highland Park

highlanddistrictcouncil.org • 651-695-4005

Board opening—The Highland District Council is seeking to fill an open, at-large alternate position on its board of directors at its meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 1, at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Those who are interested in the seat are being asked to contact Kathy Carruth by calling the HDC office or emailing info@highlanddistrictcouncil.org.

Rec nights—Free recreation nights will be held from 6-8:30 p.m. on Friday, February 16, at the Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St., and on Friday, February 23, at the Groveland Recreation Center, 2021 St Clair Ave. There will be open gym, art, snacks, music and board games. Register in person or by visiting stpaul.gov.

Safe Routes to School—A discussion on the Safe Routes to School project to pave missing sidewalks for students attending Expo, Holy Spirit, Randolph Heights and Cretin-Derham Hall schools will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, February 13, at the Highland Park Community Center.

Community Development—The HDC's Community Development Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, February 15, at the Highland Park Community Center. The agenda will include an application for a wine, beer and Class A entertainment license for the former Tropicana Cafe at 2585 W. Seventh St.

Macalester-Groveland

macgrove.org • 651-695-4000

Board openings—The Macalester-Groveland Community Council currently has several openings on its board of directors, including for Grid 5 and for at-large faith, at-large business and at-large landlord representatives. The council also has four standing committees that meet once a month. Those who attend three consecutive committee meetings can become voting members. Visit macgrove.org/node/341.

Upcoming meetings—Environment Committee, 7 p.m. Thursday, February 15; Transportation Committee, 6:30

p.m. Monday, February 26; Housing and Land Use Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 28, Groveland Recreation Center. Unless noted, the meetings will be held at the Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St.

Summit Hill

summithillassociation.org • 651-222-1222

Summit Hill Plan—The Summit Hill Association is updating its neighborhood plan. Those who live or own a business in the neighborhood are being asked to take a survey before February 28 at summithillassociation.org/comprehensive-plan-update. Those who take the survey can register to win a \$100 gift card from Cafe Latte. They also may sign up to receive email notifications about all SHA developments.

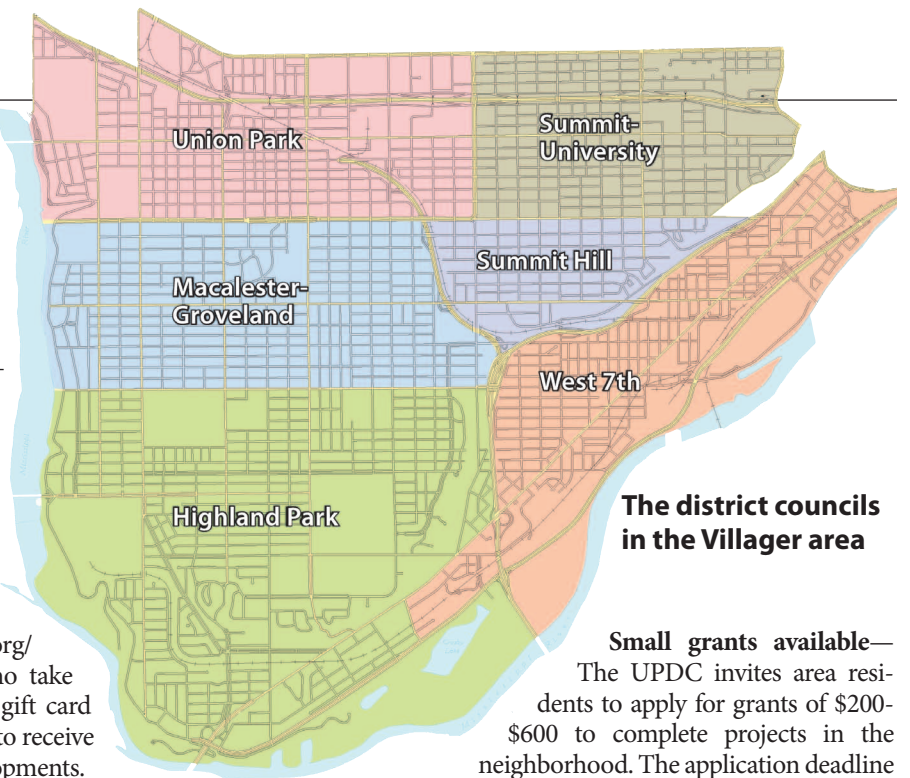
History in the making—The public is invited to join the SHA for a discussion of historic houses in the neighborhood with local author and historian Larry Millett and Historic St. Paul's Carol Carey at 7 p.m. Thursday, February 15, at the University Club, 420 Summit Ave. Admittance is by a tax-deductible donation of \$25. Tickets are available at summithillassociation.org/upcoming-plan-related-events.

Keep in touch—Check out the SHA's new website and watch for details about upcoming events. People may also sign up for the association's electronic newsletter on the website and learn about volunteer opportunities.

Union Park

unionparkdc.org • 651-645-6887

Celebrating 10 years—The Union Park District Council is marking its 10th anniversary. People can join in the anniversary by ordering a copy of a 2017 Special Report. Just email michael@unionparkdc.org. Donations are also being sought to support the council's communication efforts.



The district councils in the Villager area

Small grants available—The UPDC invites area residents to apply for grants of \$200-\$600 to complete projects in the neighborhood. The application deadline is April 30. Contact michael@unionparkdc.org or visit unionparkdc.org/micro-grants.

Music and movement classes—The UPDC has teamed up with Playing With Music to offer music and movement classes at 10 a.m. on Saturdays at 161 N Snelling Ave. for children from birth through kindergarten and their caregivers. A Ukulele Club for children ages 5-8 is also being offered at 11 a.m. on Saturdays. Email marksorvari@gmail.com.

Historic home project—Those who own historic homes in the Union Park neighborhood are invited to purchase an engraved plaque for their properties. The cost is \$95, which includes a \$25 tax-deductible donation to the UPDC. For information, visit unionparkdc.org/historichome or email michael@unionparkdc.org.

Upcoming meetings—Transportation Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, February 12; Land Use and Economic Development Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, February 19; Environment and Parks Committee, 7 p.m. Wednesday, February 21, 161 N. Snelling Ave. Unless otherwise noted, the meetings will be held in Otto Hall at Episcopal Homes, 1860 University Ave.

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Crime Report

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

Highland Park

Burglary—A 43-year-old man was arrested for burglary at Graham Place Senior Living, 1745 Graham Ave., at 7:27 p.m. Friday, January 26.

—The Family Dollar Store, 2463 W. Seventh St., was broken into at 1:20 a.m. Tuesday, January 30.

—Highland Park Elementary School, 1700 Saunders Ave., was broken into during the evening of February 5-6.

Theft—Stolen vehicles were reported on the 1700 block of Graham Avenue on January 25-26, on the 1600 block of Randolph Avenue on January 31-February 1 and on the 900 block of South Cleveland Avenue on February 1-2.

—Two laptop computers and a purse were reported stolen from a vehicle on the 1300 block of St. Paul Avenue at 2:45 p.m. Tuesday, January 30.

—A laptop computer, computer bag, Bose earbuds and shoes were reported stolen from a vehicle at Horace Mann School, 2001 Eleanor Ave., at 7:18 a.m. Thursday, February 1.

—A license plate was stolen from a vehicle at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave., between 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Friday, February 2.

Miscellaneous—Felony criminal damage to property was reported at an apartment at Graham Place Senior Living, 1745 Graham Ave., during the evening of January 25-26.

Lexington-Hamline

Robbery—Three boys were suspected of trying to rob another student of his cell-phone inside Central High School at 9:23 a.m. Wednesday, January 24. The victim ended up being choked and thrown down the stairs. Two of the boys were charged with felony robbery and the third with attempted robbery.

Burglary—Several items were reported stolen in a home break-in on the 1200 block of Selby Avenue at 7:24 p.m. Wednesday, January 31.

—Rising Sun Home Health Care, 393 N. Dunlap St., was broken into during the evening of February 1-2.

Theft—A 9mm pistol was reported stolen from a vehicle on the 1100 block of University Avenue at 1:19 p.m. Sunday, January 28.

—Vehicles were stolen on the 1200 block of Selby Avenue on January 25 and on the 1100 block of Laurel Avenue on February 4.

Assault—A woman was the victim of a felony assault on the 1200 block of Laurel Avenue at 1:07 a.m. Friday, January 26.

Weapons—The window of an apartment at Skyline Tower, 1247 St. Anthony Ave., was shot at between 1-8 a.m. Monday, January 29.

Macalester-Groveland

Robbery—Scott's Liquor Store, 1464 St. Clair Ave., was robbed at 8:58 p.m. Saturday, February 3.

Theft—Backpacks were stolen from a vehicle on the 1300 block of Grand Avenue between 5:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 24.

—A Lenovo laptop computer, iPhone and passport were stolen from a vehicle on the 1700 block of Randolph Avenue between 3-9 p.m. Friday, January 26.

Assault—Police responded to a report of two males fighting and arrested a 56-year-old man for felony assault at 4:35 p.m. Thursday, February 1, on Grand and Prior avenues.

Weapons—Police received a call about an ex-boyfriend trying to enter an apartment complex on the 1300 block of Grand Avenue and arrested a 36-year-old man for possession of a gun without a permit at 9:55 p.m. Tuesday, January 30.

Mendota Heights

Burglary—Tools were reported stolen from a new construction site on the 700 block of Highway 110 at noon on Saturday, January 20.

Theft—Fraudulent transactions took place on an account after a credit card was reported missing from a home on the 2000 block of Victoria Road at 8:25 a.m. Friday, January 26.

—Tools left outside of a toolbox were reported stolen at a work site on the 700 block of Highway 110 at 9:33 a.m. Tuesday, January 30.

Assault—A victim was threatened with a tire iron at 2 p.m. Thursday, February 1, at McDonald's, 2020 Dodd Road. The suspect left before police arrived.

Miscellaneous—A male suspect was cited for fighting with staff at a business on the 800 block of Highway 13 at 8:27 p.m. Sunday, January 21. He was taken to the hospital.

—A homeowner reported a damaged lock on a mailbox on the 1000 block of Overlook Road on January 26. It was unknown if a theft had occurred.

—A juvenile male was arrested after police responded to a domestic dispute between a father and son at 11:10 a.m. Thursday, February 1, on the 700 block of Pondhaven Lane.

Merriam Park

Theft—A purse and laptop computer were stolen from a vehicle on the 1800 block of Selby Avenue between 11-11:45 a.m. Thursday, January 25.

—An HP laptop computer and iPhone were reported stolen at Episcopal Homes, 1860 University Ave., at 2 p.m. Friday, January 26.

—A vehicle was stolen at ATI Auto Sales, 461 N. Wilder St., between noon-6 p.m. Wednesday, January 31.

—A wallet was stolen from a hotel room at the Days Inn, 1964 University Ave., between midnight-11:54 a.m. Saturday, February 3.

Snelling-Hamline

Robbery—A 35-year-old man was arrested for felony strong-arm robbery and drug possession at the Midway McDonald's, 1570 University Ave., at 6:14 a.m. Friday, February 2.

—A robbery at gunpoint was reported in the parking lot of the Midway Walmart at 7:34 p.m. Tuesday, February 6.

Theft—More than \$500 in merchandise was reported stolen at the Midway Herberger's at 5 p.m. Sunday, January 21. A 28-year-old woman also was arrested for trying to steal more than \$500 in merchandise from the same store at 5:50 p.m. Monday, January 29.

—Packages were stolen on the 1400 block of Summit Avenue between 11:58 a.m.-1:10 p.m. Thursday, January 25.

—A charger cord was stolen from a vehicle on Ashland and Snelling avenues between 8:30-9:50 p.m. Thursday, January 25.

—An employee stole multiple items worth an estimated \$835 at the Holiday Station, 1345 Marshall Ave., at 6:03 a.m. Friday, January 26.

—A stolen vehicle was recovered in the parking lot at the Midway Walmart at 7:08 p.m. Monday, January 29. The owner had tracked the vehicle to that location using GPS.

—A vehicle with the keys in it was reported stolen at the Midway Cub Foods at 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 6.

Summit Hill

Burglary—An apartment was broken into on the 300 block of Grand Avenue between January 27-29.

Theft—A Lenovo laptop computer was reported stolen from a vehicle on the 700 block of Grand Avenue at 5:35 p.m. Thursday, January 25.

—More than \$1,000 in merchandise was reported stolen at The North Face, 799 Grand Ave., at 2:40 p.m. Friday, January 26.

—More than \$500 in merchandise was reported stolen at Fjallraven, 797 Grand Ave., at 6:20 p.m. Wednesday, January 31.

Miscellaneous—A man was taken to the hospital for lacerations to his arm caused by damaging the front door of an apartment building on the 600 block of Grand Avenue at 2:19 a.m. Saturday, January 27.

Weapons—Police were called to the 600 block of Grand Avenue at 4:58 p.m. Monday, February 5, regarding a suspicious vehicle. They arrested a 19-year-old Wisconsin man for possession of a gun without a permit and felony drug possession.

Summit-University

Shooting—A 22-year-old man was taken to the hospital and was in stable condition after being shot several times by another male at 2:42 p.m. Sunday, February 4, in an upstairs apartment on the 100 block of North Chatsworth Street. According to media reports, a man heard a knock on the door, opened it a crack and saw the suspect in the stairwell with a gun. The suspect shot at him before he could close the door. He was uninjured and ran to another area of the apartment. The victim was shot multiple times in the chest, though other people in the apartment were not hurt. Police said the shooting did not appear to be random.

Theft—A laptop computer and headphones were stolen from a vehicle on the 300 block of Selby Avenue between 7-10 p.m. Thursday, January 25.

—A Windows laptop computer was stolen from a vehicle on the 400 block of Selby Avenue between 6-8:30 p.m. Monday, January 29.

—A Macbook Pro computer, headphones and a Toshiba hard drive were reported stolen from a vehicle at Sweeney's Saloon, 96 N. Dale St., at 10:07 p.m. Monday, January 29.

—A Dell laptop computer was stolen from a vehicle on the 300 block of Selby Avenue between 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, January 29.

—An Apple laptop computer was reported stolen on the 1000 block of Portland Avenue at 1:26 p.m. Tuesday, January 30.

—Stolen vehicles were reported on the 200 block of Summit Avenue on January 30, on the 200 block of North Western Avenue on February 3 and on the 700 block of Marshall Avenue on February 3.

—A female reported being pickpocketed at the Oxford Community Center, 270 N. Lexington Pkwy., at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday, January 30.

—Trading cards, cologne, Frisbees and tax receipts were reported stolen from a vehicle on the 200 block of North Western Avenue at 12:49 p.m. Thursday, February 1.

—The wheels were reported stolen from a vehicle on the 1000 block of Portland Avenue at 4:01 p.m. Friday, February 2.

Assault—A female suffered minor injuries when a male suspect struck her in the face with an object on the 600 block of Marshall Avenue at 9:38 a.m. Sunday, February 4. The suspect had left before police arrived.

West End

Burglary—Construction tools were stolen from a trailer on the 200 block of Grand Avenue between 1-6:15 a.m. Wednesday, January 24.

—Tools and copper pipes were stolen from a construction site at Adams Spanish Immersion School, 615 S. Chatsworth St., during the evening of January 25-26.

Theft—A cellphone and wallet were stolen from a purse on the 100 block of Grand Avenue between 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, January 5.

—A suspect was seen trying to remove the catalytic converter from a vehicle on the 1100 block of West Seventh Street at 5:30 a.m. Saturday, January 27. A neighbor scared off the thief, who fled in a gold-colored SUV.

—A laptop computer was stolen from a vehicle in the gold ramp at United Hospital between 3:34-4:30 p.m. Monday, February 5.

Assault—A man was taken to the hospital after suffering a large cut on his head in an assault in an apartment on the 1500 block of Adrian Street at 12:14 a.m. Friday, February 2. A suspect was charged with felony domestic assault.

—A female employee was assaulted by a customer at Mississippi Market, 1500 W. Seventh St., at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, February 3.

—A 21-year-old woman was arrested for using a knife to try to assault a police officer at JR Mac's, 1420 W. Seventh St., at 1:13 a.m. Sunday, February 4. Police were called to the bar and grill after the woman refused to leave the premises when asked.

Weapons—Gunshots were reported on Otto Avenue and Shepard Road at 7:51 p.m. Monday, January 22.

—A gunshot was reported on Armstrong Avenue and View Street at 6:37 p.m. Tuesday, January 30.

Miscellaneous—A man was cited for disorderly conduct after he cursed at staff and students at the St. Paul Public Schools' Community & Education Service Center, 1780 W. Seventh St., at 2 p.m. Thursday, February 1. At one point the man reportedly unzipped his pants.

—A 27-year-old man was arrested for felony damage to property after he broke out a window at Tom Reid's Hockey City Pub, 258 W. Seventh St., at 10:54 p.m. Friday, February 2.

—A 48-year-old man was arrested for disorderly conduct after yelling and trying to fight with people inside McGovern's Pub, 225 W. Seventh St., at 10:10 p.m. Friday, February 2.

The Ramsey County Sheriff's Office and Crime Stoppers of Minnesota are working together to gather more crime information from people who wish to remain anonymous. Those who provide tips about criminal acts that they witness may be eligible to collect a reward of up to \$1,000.

The nonprofit Crime Stoppers of Minnesota operates independent of law enforcement and is funded solely by tax-deductible donations. It has been in place since 1979 and is one of more than 500 Crime Stoppers programs around the United States.

People with knowledge about a crime, criminal or a fugitive can call Crime Stoppers toll free at 1-800-222-8477 or visit CrimeStoppersMN.org.

Fire Calls

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

Lexington-Hamline—A boy was taken to the hospital after being struck by a motor vehicle on Dayton Avenue and Lexington Parkway at 7:26 a.m. Monday, January 29. The 40-year-old male driver of the vehicle was cited for careless driving.

—A pedestrian was struck by a hit-and-run driver at 6:30 p.m. Friday, February 2, on Hamline and St. Anthony avenues.

Macalester-Groveland—A hit-and-run accident involving a pedestrian was reported at 7:45 p.m. Friday, January 26, on Hamline and James avenues.

Snelling-Hamline—A 60-year-old woman was fatally struck by two light-rail trains while standing between the tracks at 3:15 p.m. Sunday, January 28, on University Avenue and Pascal Street. She was the fifth person to die on the Green Line since it opened in 2014.

Boomers & Beyond

Living on the upside of 50

Getting by with a little help

Area elders hang on to their longtime homes with the aid of the Neighborhood Network

BY LESLIE WALTERS

Doris Forsys has no desire to move into a nursing home. At 90, she still lives independently in her four-bedroom Macalester-Groveland home. Forsys has lived in the century-old home for the past 40 years. She values her privacy and likes being surrounded by her memories with her family and friends nearby.

Forsys also enjoys spending time with Valerie O'Keefe, 55, a neighbor who shares her interests, values and outlook on life. "I feel like we've been friends for 100 years," said Forsys. "We're great friends, and we never would've found each other without the Neighborhood Network for Seniors."

Kathy Chermak, 66, was still undergoing physical therapy following knee-replacement surgery when her husband Bill developed a severe spinal infection. Trying to manage their concurrent health crises, Chermak became overwhelmed and turned to the Neighborhood Network for Seniors for help with transportation and supplemental nursing. "I needed a ride and I needed a break," the Merriam Park resident said.

Home visits and respite care are just two of the services offered by the Neighborhood Network for Seniors to help older area residents live independently, safely and comfortably in their homes. With a force of about 75 volunteers and several paid staff, the network provides seniors with companionship, transportation to appointments, care coordination, help with chores,

exercise and a variety of health care and social services, according to its executive director Alison Schaub.

The network is available to anyone age 62 and older. Incorporated in 1992 as the Living at Home/Block Nurse Program, the network was recently renamed and expanded to include the neighborhoods of Merriam Park, Snelling-Hamline, Lexington-Hamline, Summit Hill, Summit-University and the northern half of Macalester-Groveland. (The Highland Block Nurse Program serves Highland Park and Macalester-Groveland south of St. Clair Avenue.)

The Neighborhood Network for Seniors is always looking for more volunteers. Its client list has grown rapidly in recent years, partly due to the growing number of older people, according to Schaub. It currently assists between 400 and 500 seniors during the year with services that circumvent or delay the need for a nursing home. That saves the taxpayers of Minnesota millions of dollars a year, according to Schaub. "It also helps keep our communities whole," she said, by allowing seniors to continue contributing to the community.

About 150 clients regularly use the network for help with snow shoveling, leaf raking and transportation to medical appointments, hair appointments and grocery shopping. Others benefit from blood pressure and flu shot clinics, chair exercise classes and health education. Balance classes that help prevent falls are a particular favorite, as are home visits by professional nurses.

Forsys' daughter Nancy Rohland



Doris Forsys and Neighborhood Network for Seniors volunteer Valerie O'Keefe enjoy a laugh while engaging in their shared love of knitting in Forsys' Macalester-Groveland home. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

has been visiting her two to three times a week, helping with household chores and repairs. Forsys also enjoys visits by a handful of friends, and she meets with others at her regular exercise class. She still gets lonely, though, and Rohland occasionally needs a break.

"Val and Mom are a perfect match," Rohland said.

Forsys looks forward to O'Keefe's Wednesday visits when they share their interest in current events, an affinity for knitting and a love of each other's company. "Doris' mind is sharp," O'Keefe said, "and she feels strongly about the state of the country and the environment."

The network's registered nurse, JoAnn Mason, visits clients frequently, providing a variety of health services, including safety assessments and geriatric and hospice care. "I'm good at eyeballing (a problem)," Mason said. "I look at what support systems they have in place and where they need more help."

The network's volunteers also help with troubleshooting. "It's im-

portant that more than one person's eyes are on a client," Schaub said.

Whether it is for a few hours a week to run errands or a few weeks a year to provide a much-needed break, the network's respite care services offer families the chance to reduce stress, restore energy and keep their lives in balance. Chermak said it was a big relief when Mason came to sit with Bill so she could run errands. A nursing student from Century College was helpful, too, providing minor assessment and patient sitting.

Between 10 and 20 of the network's clients require the most hands-on help. "Many are low-income, have few or no family members and less access to private care and social programs," Schaub said.

The network covers its roughly \$100,000 annual budget with money from the city of St. Paul, nonprofit organizations, private foundations and individual donors. Most of its services are free, though some have small fees and others are charged on a sliding scale based on a client's ability to pay.

"With basic needs being met and through social engagement, we find most seniors thrive longer in their homes," said Sharon Overbaugh, a member of the network's board. "We're pleased at the return we give for the money entrusted to our program."

"People in neighborhoods don't watch out for elders like they used to," Mason said. "Many people in their 80s and 90s don't know anybody on their block."

The network is striving to change that. "This is truly neighbor-to-neighbor," said Stacy Dunn, the network's volunteer coordinator. "It's really magical when we provide relationships and services. It changes everything."

"We need to do what we can to stay where we all want to be," O'Keefe said. "The network is the great connector for making that happen."

For more information on the Neighborhood Network for Seniors, visit neighborhoodnetwork-forseniors.org or call 651-646-2301.



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A dreamer of old

Caterina Cenaro embraces the independence of her own shop

BY KASEY MCKEE

"I would never work for anybody else," said St. Paul tailor Caterina Cenaro, "even if they paid me \$100 an hour." Cenaro rents a street-level space in the Lowry Building for her shop, Alterations By Caterina, 344 St. Peter St. "I love the freedom," she said. "Nobody tells me what to do, and I can work late whenever I want."

Cenaro, 62, was born in Calabria in southern Italy. She came to St. Paul in 1972 as a 16-year-old immigrant sponsored by her grandmother's sister, who was already living in the Twin Cities. After completing vocational training in tailoring, she went to work for various clothing retailers in the area and

now has more than 40 years of experience in the trade.

She began her career in 1976 at the Foreman & Clark department store in downtown St. Paul and later took a part-time job at the predecessor of Heimie's Haberdashery, the men's clothier in downtown St. Paul, working for the grandfather of the current owner of Heimie's.

"I learned the most by working with people and learning from what they did," she said.

Having worked as an in-house seamstress for others for many years, Cenaro decided to go into business for herself. She started her own alteration shop in the Hamm Building alongside the new location of Heimie's Haberdashery. She moved to her current space in the Lowry Building a decade ago.

"There was nothing here," she said. "It was vacant, and my son helped me to build the shop in 2008."

Alterations by Caterina offers same-day adjustments on both men's and women's clothing, including slacks, blouses and dress shirts. Cenaro also works on specialty pieces such as prom dresses and bridesmaid gowns and will transform the wide neckties of yesteryear with a narrower, more fashionable contour.

Her small shop is designed for utility, with a front desk to greet customers, a work table, a fitting room, and racks of incoming and outgoing clothing. The shop is open six days a week and is closed on Sundays.

Her religious faith is important to Cenaro. She is a member of Maternity of Mary Catholic Church in the Como neighborhood, and the walls of her shop are decorated with religious art, including a large reproduction of "The Last



Sole proprietor Caterina Cenaro plies her trade in her shop in downtown St. Paul.



Caterina Cenaro poses beside a mannequin in her alterations shop at 344 St. Peter St.

PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER.

Supper" by Leonardo da Vinci.

"It's nice to have Jesus to keep me company while I work," she said.

While Cenaro spoke, she paused to finish the piece of clothing in front of her, a military jacket decorated with insignia. "This guy's in the Army," she said. "He just needs a patch put on and he seems nice, so I don't think I'm going to charge him for it."

Alterations by Caterina has received high ratings on both her Yelp and Facebook pages, averaging 4.5 and 5 stars, respectively. "Caterina is so amazing," one customer wrote in an online review, "so talented and I felt so comfortable with her. I'm bummed I'm finding her now and not years ago."

Cenaro takes great pride in her work, and appreciates her clientele. "I take care of my customers very well, and I take care of their clothes like they're my own," she said. "People

come here, and then they come here again."

She said she has made a lot of friends since opening her shop in the Lowry Building. "The people here are very nice," she said, "very professional, and never complain. I have a lot of regular customers, even people from outside St. Paul, like Minneapolis, Eagan, all over."

Cenaro said she has seen a few neighboring businesses close since she opened hers. Although she tries to keep her rates affordable, she said, the rising cost of operating her shop has been a challenge, as has the variable pace of work:

"There was a time when it was much busier," she said, "but it's slowed down a lot. It can be very quiet, but every month is different."

Even so, Cenaro said she has no immediate plans to retire. "I'll work here as long as I can," she said, "as long as God wants me to. It's up to God."

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City scrambling to address shortage in senior housing

By JANE MCCLURE

With the oldest members of the baby boom generation now well into their 70s, more and more Twin Cities residents are looking for housing that is smaller, more conveniently located or comes with more services to help them maintain an independent lifestyle. Many of those people are not finding what they need in the neighborhood where they made their home for many years and they are having to move out of the area, according to the participants in Promoting Healthy Aging in Our Community, a panel discussion presented in January by the Union Park District Council.

"It's a need that's growing, and we have to look at it," said UPDC president Dan Taylor.

According to a Reframing Aging report issued by the St. Paul Mayor's Advisory Committee on Aging, the demand for senior housing options is only expected to increase. "In Ramsey County, the older population is growing at a tremendous rate," the report states. "By 2030, there will be nearly 128,000 Ramsey County residents age 65 and older, a 48 percent increase from 2015."

According to the report, that new generation of older adults will be more diverse in race and ethnicity than preceding generations of seniors. They will live longer, want to work longer and to be more independent, according to the report. "They will also want to age in their current community," the report states.

The Promoting Healthy Aging in Our Community discussion suggested there is also a growing demand for housing options that are more affordable than the new market-rate housing that is being built in the area. "I feel there's a sense of urgency here," said Kathy Kelso, a Macalester-Groveland resident and chair of the St. Paul Mayor's Advisory Committee on Aging. "The demographic shift is upon us. Older adults are leaving St. Paul, but we don't know where they're going."

It is important to set aside preconceived notions about aging, according to Julia Wolfe, a planning specialist in Healthy Aging for the Ramsey County Department of Public Health. Older people need to be viewed as assets to their communities who can contribute and be involved, she said. People are living and working longer, according to Wolfe, and they want to age in place with or without the support of family.

Audience members at the Healthy Aging program said they would like to see more intergenerational housing in the area where adults of various ages share a home. College students could share a home with seniors and

meet the housing needs of both groups, they said. The city currently allows no more than four unrelated adults to reside in the same home. Loosening that requirement for intergenerational housing may be a better way to use large, single-family homes than converting them to student rentals, some people noted.

Others said they liked the idea of housing cooperatives, co-housing or multi-family housing with a shared ownership structure. Co-housing is a cluster of private homes around a shared space. Each attached home has its own bedrooms, kitchen and other private spaces, but they may share recreational space, a laundry, large kitchen and dining area, outdoor walkways and gardens.

"People are telling us, 'we like this community, we want to stay here,'" said St. Paul city planner Lucy Thompson. According to her, the city's updated comprehensive plan, which is scheduled to be released later this year, will outline various housing strategies, including ways to make new housing options legal. Those strategies may involve revising the city's legal definition of a family, how housing is planned and what is and is not allowed.

One type of senior housing that is still in high demand is that which has been developed by Episcopal Homes, which has its main campus at University and Fairview avenues. In addition to offering support services for seniors, that housing is generally affordable for those with lower incomes.

With the end of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's 202 program, there is a huge unmet need for more of such housing, according to Julie Niewald, director of the Life + Wellness program at Episcopal Homes. "HUD is no longer constructing these buildings and there's a huge bottleneck of people who can't get in," she said. Episcopal Homes has had to close its waiting list for affordable senior housing, as have several public housing agencies in the area.

Another issue is the need for more support services for older people who are living on their own, especially those with limited incomes. Those services include mass transit and other transportation services, block nurses, meals on wheels and congregate dining programs.

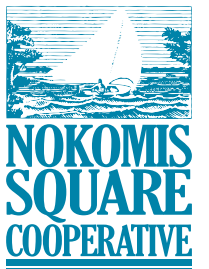
Wolfe noted that the traditional models for how seniors live in their communities and interact with others is changing. People in the decades ahead may not want to partake in the same activities or programs that their parents enjoyed.

"Senior centers are going the way of the mastodon," Wolfe said.



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Senior News

The Thompson Park Activity Center, 1200 Stassen Lane in West St. Paul, is offering the following programs in the coming weeks: a Discover Group discussion from 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, February 21 and March 21 (\$1); a meeting of the Non-Fiction Book Club at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, March 1 (50 cents); a presentation on the Minnesota State Capitol's \$310 million renovation at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 7 (\$5); and free technology support from 9 a.m.-noon on Mondays. Call 651-403-8300 for information or to register.

The Wilder Foundation-Community Center for Aging, 650 Marshall Ave., will offer the following: a free six-week support group for participants with early stage dementia to learn more about the disease at 10 a.m. on Thursdays, February 22-March 29; and a 10-week Memory Club for those with early stage memory loss and their care partners from 10 a.m.-noon on Wednesdays, March 7-May

9 (sliding fee scale). Both groups require screening. Call 651-280-2273.

St. Paul Neighborhoods Act on Alzheimer's will hold a Dementia Friends session at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 11, at Central High School, 275 N. Lexington Pkwy. Email Meghan Constantini at mconstantini@preshomes.org.

Edie Weinstein, a graduate of Nativity School and now a freshman at Visitation, has written *Grandpa and Lucy: A story about Love and Dementia* (CreateSpace Independent Publishing). Weinstein wrote the 24-page children's book to serve families, particularly young people, who are struggling with a loved one suffering from memory loss. She recruited several of her Nativity classmates to create illustrations for the book. Visitation classmate Maggie McConville took things a step further by creating a kit that includes tools to inspire conversations and connections with people suffering from dementia.

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The Kiosk

Thursday/February 15

THE TRANSFORMATIVE NATURE of grieving will be addressed by Paul V. Johnson at 7 p.m. in the Wesley Room of Fairmount Avenue United Methodist Church, 1523 Fairmount Ave. Admission is free. Call 651-699-1335.

THE #METOO MOVEMENT and the steps to ending sexual harassment through legal means will be addressed by World Without Genocide fellows Abigail Hencheck and Erinn Valine from 7-9 p.m. in the Conservatory at Mitchell Hamline School of Law, 875 Summit Ave. Admission is \$10, \$5 for students and seniors. Call 651-695-7621.

Saturday/February 17

LATE ACTOR GENE WILDER'S life and career will be discussed by former Minnesota State University English professor Donald Larsson at a meeting of the Or Emet Congregation for Humanistic Judaism from 10:15-11:45 a.m. in the Teen Room on the first floor of the Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy. Wilder was named the Humanistic Jewish Role Model for 2017-18 for his career and humanitarian and philanthropic works. Admission is free and open to all. Visit oremet.org.

Sunday/February 18

RUSSIA'S FOREIGN POLICY under autocratic President Vladimir Putin will be addressed in a free 20-minute film presentation and discussion at 1:30 p.m. at the Waters, 678 S. Snelling Ave. Sponsored by the nonpartisan organization Global Minnesota, the Great Decisions program will explore Putin's goals, why Russians support him and how the U.S. should respond. For details, call 651-363-3040.

Monday/February 19

"GARDENING with the Wild World in Mind" will be addressed by author and avid birder Clay Christensen at a meeting of the Garden Club of Ramsey County from 7:25-8:25 p.m. at St. Luke Lutheran Church, 1807 Field Ave. Visitors are welcome. Visit ramseygardeners.org.

Tuesday/February 20

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

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHER Ian Plant, managing editor of *Outdoor Photography Guide*, will be the guest speaker at a meeting of the St. Paul Camera Club beginning at 6:30 p.m. in Otto Hall of The Gardens building at Episcopal Homes, 1860 University Ave. Visitors are welcome. Call 651-578-1874.

THE SCOTT COLLECTION, a series of books from the 1950s-70s about the vibrant African-American community in the Twin Cities, will be discussed from 7-8 p.m. at the Minnesota History Center, 345



Hizzoner, your host. St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter (left) welcomed Wayne Axel and Wayne's daughter Thora, 5, to his Big Game Party, held at the Jimmy Lee Recreation Center on February 4 just hours before Super Bowl LII kicked off just down the road at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

W. Kellogg Blvd. The books were produced by Walter R. Scott of Minneapolis. His widow and four of his children will be there to present this pictorial resumé of the black community. Admission is free. For information, call 651-259-3015.

"FINDING CHRIST in the Old Testament," a weekly Bible study, will begin this evening in Carolyn Hall at the Church of St. Mark, Dayton Avenue and Moore Street. William Stevenson, assistant professor of Dogmatic Theology at the St. Paul Seminary, will lead the Bible study from 7-8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays through March 27. The cost for the six-week session is \$15. To register, visit saintmark-mn.org or call the Parish Center 651-645-5717.

Thursday/February 22

BOB KLANDERUD of Healing Minnesota Stories, a project that fosters understanding between American Indians and other Americans, will speak on Encountering the Dakota Worldview at noon in the Iversen Hearth Room on the third floor of the Student Center at the University of St. Thomas. The free program is the sixth in a series of eight talks on religious and cultural traditions sponsored by the Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning. Visit stthomas.edu/jpc.

THE HOME & PATIO SHOW, a four-day extravaganza featuring hundreds of exhibitors displaying and demonstrating the latest in home remodeling, decorating, gardening, landscaping, lawn care and more, will open from 2-8 p.m. at St. Paul RiverCentre, 175 W. Kellogg Blvd. The show will continue from noon-8 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, February 23-25. Admission is \$9, \$2.50 for children ages 6-12. Visit homeandpatioshow.com.

A FREE SUPPORT GROUP for persons with anxiety disorders meets from 6:30-8 p.m. today and the second and fourth

Thursday of every month in Room 108 at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 700 S. Snelling Ave. For more information, call the National Alliance on Mental Illness at 651-645-2948.

THE EARLY WORLD OF SOUND recording will be reviewed in a two-hour program beginning at 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. at the Alexander Ramsey House, 265 S. Exchange St. Enjoy a drink while learning about the pioneers and renegades of audio technology. Tickets to the History Happy Hour are \$26, which includes two drinks, snacks and time to mingle in the historic mansion. Call 651-296-8760.

THE ST. PAUL AREA CHAMBER of Commerce will hold its 150th annual meeting this evening at St. Paul RiverCentre. The affair will open with registration and a reception at 5 p.m., followed by the dinner and program at 6 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Denis McDonough, a graduate of St. John's University in Collegeville who served as President Barack Obama's chief of staff from 2013-17. McDonough will share his insights about leadership, the future of the workforce and stories from his years in the White House. Visit saintpaulchamber.com.

"A TASTE OF ST. MARK'S," a sampling of the Catholic IDEALS curriculum at the prekindergarten to grade 8 school, will be offered from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at St. Mark's, 1983 Dayton Ave. In addition to mini-classes in 2nd grade engineering, 4th grade Top 20 training, middle school Ignite and Catholic IDEALS math, the program will serve up a variety of delicious foods from the community. Prospective students and their families are invited. For reservations, call 651-644-3380 email schooloffice@markerspride.com.

"THE RACIAL WEALTH GAP" will be addressed from 7-9 p.m. in Rauenhorst Ballroom in the Coeur de Catherine at St. Catherine University. Sister Simone Campbell, executive director of Network,

a national Catholic social justice lobby, will discuss the topic with Me'Lea Connelly, director of the Association on Black Economic Power. Admission is free, but registration is required. Visiting bit.ly/2izXy2Q.

Saturday/February 24

"LBJ, NIXON & THE MAKING of Today's Supreme Court" will be addressed in an hour-long forum beginning at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Historian Laura Kalman of the University of California-Santa Barbara will explore the ideological battles of the late 1960s and early '70s that framed the U.S. Supreme Court's earlier work in a negative light and how events of the '60s and '70s affect the Supreme Court today. Tickets are \$16. Call 651-259-3015.

FROM SOMALIA TO MINNESOTA, a multi-faceted program on Somali immigration, will be offered from 5:30-9 p.m. at the History Theatre, 30 E. 10th St. Participants will attend a History Theatre performance of *A Crack in the Sky*, a play about a young man's journey from Somalia to Minnesota. Immigrant playwright Ahmed Yusuf will talk of his personal experiences. Mariam Mohamed will discuss issues facing Minnesota's Somali community. World Without Genocide fellows Darrow Anderson and Hanna Valento will discuss the role that climate change has played in Somalia's political turmoil. The cost is \$40, which includes a light dinner and the play. For reservations, visit goo.gl/yDGxYz by February 16.

Monday, February 26

A RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be held from noon-6 p.m. at the Waters of Highland Park, 678 S. Snelling Ave. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are preferred. Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org.

Tuesday/February 27

HEART HEALTH will be discussed by Dr. Julie Mumm, assistant professor of public health at St. Catherine University, during the Lunch, Learn and Laugh program from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Seabury building at Episcopal Homes, 1830 University Ave. The cost is \$8 (cash or check only), which includes a lunch of spaghetti, meatballs, bread sticks and Caesar salad. For reservations, contact Kire at 651-379-5102 or KMeyer@episcopalhomes.org.

MEETING THE CHALLENGES of raising a child with mental illness is discussed in a facilitated support group meeting from 6-7:30 p.m. today and the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 700 S. Snelling Ave. The program is sponsored by the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Call Jonathan Wagner at 651-210-9549.

Thursday/March 1

"NUTRITION AND HEALTH in Wild Bornean Orangutans: Insights Into the Evolution of Obesity in Humans" will be addressed by Erin R. Vogel of the Department of Anthropology at Rutgers University from 4:45-6 p.m. in the Lecture Hall of the Campus Center at Macalester College. The public is invited. A reception will follow.

Batter up: Mac's Fish Chips Strips makes for one fine fry

Following his retirement from professional hockey, former Minnesota North Stars standout Tom McCarthy opened Mac's Fish Chips Strips in 1991 in a former gas station at Larpenteur and Hamline avenues. Dan Flanagan and his son Tom bought the restaurant in 2010, kept the name and have since expanded to three other locations in the Twin Cities.

Their fourth Mac's Fish Chips Strips opened on St. Patrick's Day 2017 in a newly constructed building at 300 S. Snelling Ave. "It's where the old Novick's service station used to be," said Dan Flanagan, 59.

Dan and Tom Flanagan, 29, are both residents of the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood and parishioners at nearby Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church. Dan got his start in the restaurant business at age 19 when, after three months of chef school, he took over a restaurant at St. Paul's Holman Field and renamed it Flanagan's. Eight years later, he sold that restaurant and opened Danny Boy's on West Seventh Street, where he and Tom first started working together.

Shortly after buying Mac's, father and son opened their second Mac's Fish Chips Strips at 54th Street and Lyndale Avenue in South Minneapolis. Then four years ago, former St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman took Minnesota Twins president Dave St. Peter out to dinner at the Larpenteur Avenue location as part of an effort to convince the Twins to bring more St. Paul restaurants into Target Field. St. Peter liked what he tasted and invited the Flanagans to open a booth at the Twins' stadium.

"It's a real honor," Dan said, "and it helps build the brand."

The Mac's at Target Field serves only walleye. "The best walleye come from cold, clear lakes," Dan said. "We buy ours from a group that is owned by the Canadian government. The fish is caught in a lake north of Winnipeg."

There's more to serving good fried fish than just procuring a tasty fillet. The Flanagans' secret is in the batter. It has to be made 24 hours in advance, Dan said, and the frozen fish has to be drained to the point it is moist but will not steam when dropped in the deep fryer.

In addition to pickles and lemon slices, the Flanagans offer a sweet with each order, "but not one of those little mints," Dan said. His wife suggested salt-water taffy. Inspired, father and son discovered that no local com-



Hot Dish

By Morgan Smith

panies make the chewy confection, so they ordered a custom-made machine and began pulling their own taffy.

"People ask if we're willing to wholesale the taffy," Tom said. "Right now, I tell them we're selling fish."

The idea for another sweet at Mac's came from Tom's grandmother. Years ago she ordered some doughnuts and got doughnut holes instead. In what was strong language for Grandma, she called the people who made the mistake "those dummies," and now on Wednesdays Mac's offers its customers made-from-scratch doughnut holes covered in a maple-honey glaze. A bit heavier than a typical doughnut because of the brioche dough, the golf ball-sized pastries sell for \$1 each. The Flanagans call them "dummies" in honor of Grandma.

With just a couple of dozen seats, the Snelling Avenue Mac's Fish Chips Strips does about 60 percent of its business takeout. "It can get crazy on Fridays during Lent," Dan said. "But we beg, borrow and steal enough staff to make sure no one stands in line longer than 20 minutes."

In addition to walleye, halibut, cod, shrimp, clams and chicken, the Snelling Avenue location serves sides of French fries (*aka* chips), coleslaw, cheese curds and poutine, which is a Canadian dish of French fries and cheese curds topped with a brown gravy.

After ordering and paying, patrons can help themselves to such condiments as malt vinegar, ketchup, tartar sauce and Key Lime Jalapeño tartar sauce. Don't let the jalapeño in the name fool you. It's pretty mild and every bit as good as the regular tartar sauce.

I was on my own in exploring the menu at Mac's several weeks ago. My friends couldn't make it, but I certainly didn't mind.

For lunch one day, I went with the Walleye Half (\$8.50), a generous piece of fish, half a serving of French fries and coleslaw. The fish was flaky, fresh and moist, and the fries were addictive. It was more food than I could



The Classic Shrimp dinner served at Mac's Fish Chips Strips with a side of cheese curds, coleslaw and saltwater taffy. PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

handle, .

On another visit, I tried a combo of cod and chicken—one piece of cod and three chicken strips, a full order of French fries and coleslaw (\$10.75). I enjoyed the cod as much as the walleye, and the chicken strips were just as juicy as the fish. Though I prefer the batter on my chicken strips to be a little more crispy, you wouldn't have to twist my arm to get me to order the chicken again.

On my third foray to Mac's, I asked for a combo of halibut and shrimp with French fries and coleslaw (\$16). Once again, the fish was excellent, but the shrimp was even better. In fact, of all the entrées I tried at Mac's, the

shrimp, though it had the least amount of batter, was my favorite because of its texture and flavor.

The Flanagans say they sell about the same amount of cod, walleye and halibut. Apparently, I'm not the only patron who has a tough time choosing a favorite among the fish.

The only downside to my recent forays at Mac's, besides the few extra pounds I put on my frame, was the cold wind that blew through when the door in front and the door to the parking lot in back were opened at the same time. I'm sure in warmer weather, that breeze will be just another blessing for Mac's patrons, like the salt-water taffy is now.



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On the Town

When your memories are not your own

Friendship founders between writer and protégée in Jewish Theatre's 'Collected Stories'

BY FRANK JOSSI

Collected Stories, the latest production of the Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company, investigates how the friendship of two writers devolves into scathing bitterness when one draws upon the life experiences of the other in her fiction. Set over a six-year span, the play explores the ownership of personal memories and stories, the role of mentors and the virulence of betrayal.

Collected Stories opens on February 24 on the Jewish Theatre Company's stage at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Penned by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Donald Margulies, the play has been performed off and on Broadway over the past 22 years and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in drama.

In an interview for the Minnesota Jewish Theatre's website, Margulies said the play should resonate with audiences: "Cultural appropriation, intellectual property, who has the right to tell certain stories and who doesn't—all of these topics may be a bigger part of our social discourse today than they were in 1996."

The drama is directed by Jennie Ward, the managing director at the Center for Performing Arts in Minneapolis. A resident of Highland Park, Ward has been working

in theater for 24 years, serving as an assistant director or director at the Jungle and Guthrie theaters, the St. Croix Falls Festival Theater and the Playwright's Center. She has worked for the St. Paul Conservatory of the Arts and in the Guthrie's bachelor of fine arts program at the University of Minnesota. A graduate of Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois, she earned a master's degree in directing at Harvard University's Institute for Advanced Theater Training.

Collected Stories, Ward said, is "fundamentally about a friendship between two women that blooms in surprising and unexpected ways that are delightful but which, over time, fracture in a way there may be no coming back from."

The play has a cast of just two. Ruth Steiner (played by Maggie Bearmon Pistner) is a cantankerous professor of literature who was a writer of moderate renown years before for a collection of short stories she authored. Her writing career largely behind her, Ruth agrees to mentor Lisa Morrison (played by Ashley Rose Montondo), a young admirer who hides beneath her sycophancy a merciless ambition to become a famous writer herself.

Pistner may be familiar to local audiences. She performed in the Minnesota Jewish Theatre's productions of *Aunt Raini*, *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*, *Jericho*, *The History of*

Collected Stories is "about a friendship that blooms in surprising and unexpected ways that are delightful but which, over time, fracture in a way there may be no coming back from."



Maggie Bearmon Pistner (right) and Ashley Rose Montondo star as a cantankerous professor of literature and her protégée in the Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company's production of *Collected Stories*.

PHOTO BY SARAH WHITING



Director Jennie Ward

Invulnerability and *Our Class*. Montondo is making her Minnesota Jewish Theatre debut. A graduate of the University of Minnesota, she has performed at the Guthrie, 7th House, Yellow Tree, Gremlin and Red Eye theaters.

At one point in the play, Ruth regards Lisa as her "chosen daughter," a status that begins to change as Lisa's career takes off. When Lisa publishes her first novel, Ruth discovers that it revolves around a memory she shared of a long-ago love affair she had with a poet. Their friendship unravels as Ruth unloads a dose of vitriol on her former protégée.

Collected Stories "invites us to ask the

question, who has the right to tell whose stories?" Ward said. "Are we required to only tell stories close to our experience? Is it possible for an artist to tell a life story far distant from her own?"

Lisa, unlike her Jewish mentor and friend, comes from a "waspy family," Ward said. When Lisa writes about Ruth, the play asks if she is really qualified for that assignment, or is she stealing a memory? "Does Lisa have the power, right or responsibility to tell the story of someone whose Jewish religious and cultural values are very much a part of her life, values with which she has very little experience?" Ward asked.

Can a white writer tell the stories of black students? Can a gay artist offer insights on the life of his straight counterparts? "There's no good answer," Ward said. "They're both right and they're both wrong. For me, the core of *Collected Stories* is these women's friendship and how the intellectual argument of it is the way in which the emotional argument gets played out."

Disenfranchised artists should be allowed to tell their own stories and not have them told by others, according to Ward. Power plays a role in who gets to tell the stories in America, she added, but allowing new voices is one way to enliven the cultural fabric of society.

Collected Stories will be performed at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8 p.m. Saturdays and 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sundays through March 18. Tickets range from \$23-\$38. For reservations, call 651-647-4315 or visit mnjewishtheatre.org.

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On the Town *Briefly*

Theater

'Til Death, a musical about marriage, is being staged at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through February 24 at Art House North, 793 Armstrong Ave. A Valentine's tradition for Bucket Brigade Theater, the drama tells of a mid-life couple in marital crisis who get stuck in a remote cabin with newlyweds who are perfectly perfect for each other. It stars real-life couples Damian and Anna Leverett and Jeremiah and Vanessa Gamble. Additional shows are scheduled on Wednesday and Thursday, February 14 and 15. Tickets are \$22-\$27 with discounts for students, seniors and groups. Call 800-838-3006 or visit bucketbrigadetheater.com.

A Crack in the Sky, a new play about a young Somali immigrant and the power of the written word, is being performed through March 4 at the History Theatre, 30 E. 10th St. Written by Harrison David Rivers and Ahmed Ismail Yusuf, the autobiographical drama examines the courage of the immigrant and the generosity of those who help in the journey. Show times are 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Fridays, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. Discussions about the Somali-American experience will follow the Sunday matinees. Ticket prices, which are subject to change, are \$25-\$40 with discounts for seniors and students. For reservations, call 651-292-4323 or visit historytheatre.org.

Joy Rebel, an autobiographical drama by Khanisha Foster that offers a candid look at her interracial family and discovers the radical joy inside, will be staged from February 15-18 at Penumra Theatre, 270 N. Kent St. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$15-\$25. Call 651-224-3180 or visit penumbrateatre.org.

Kingdom Come, a musical by Matthew Osceola Webster that transcends the catastrophic events of September 11, 2001, to celebrate humanity, will be performed by the Concordia University Department of Music, Theatre and Dance at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, February 15-18, in Westlund Blackbox Theatre, 312 N. Hamline Ave. Tickets are \$10, \$5 for seniors and students. Visit ticketworks.com.

Musical mayhem on the high seas, Gilbert



Austen adapted.

Jenny Morris plays Jane Austen and Gabriella Abbott is Emma in *Jane Austen's Emma*. The stage adaptation of the comic masterpiece by the 19th-century British novelist is being presented at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays, now through March 4, at Theatre in the Round, 245 Cedar Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Tickets are \$22 with discounts for seniors and students. For reservations, call 612-333-3010.

PHOTO BY
RON RAVENSBORG

and Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance* will open at 7:30 p.m. Friday, February 16, on the proscenium stage at Park Square Theatre, 20 W. Seventh Place. Doug Scholz-Carlson adapted and directed the operetta, which stars Bradley Greenwald, Christina Baldwin and Max Wojtanowicz. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. For ticket information, visit parksquaretheatre.org or call 651-291-7005.

A Raisin in the Sun, Lorraine Hansberry's classic drama about an African-American family that confronts adversity with passion, hope and a zest for living, will open on February 22 on the thrust stage at Park Square Theatre, 20 W. Seventh Place. Warren C. Bowles directs a cast that features Darius Dotch, Ivory Doubletree and Cynthia Jones-Taylor. Show times are 7:30 p.m. February 22-24 and March 1, 2, 10, 15 and 16, and 2 p.m. March 4. For tickets, call 651-291-7005 or visit parksquaretheatre.org.

Music

Musical champions of the Scottish Highlands, the five-piece Gaelic supergroup Dáimh (pronounced "dive") will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, February 15, at Celtic Junction, 836 N. Prior Ave. Tickets are \$20 at the door, \$16 in advance at celticjunction.org.

Grammy Award-winners Take 6 and the Manhattan Transfer have collaborated on a concert program and will perform nearly a dozen songs together at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, February 15, at the Ordway Music Theater. From jazz to swing and gospel to R&B, the two bands are known for crystal clear harmonies, innovative arrangements and funky grooves. Tickets start at \$48. Call 651-224-4222.

Mezzo-soprano Nerea Berraondo and violinist Pedro Gandía Martín will join Lyra Baroque Orchestra in a rare performance of music from 17th century Spain and Italy at

7:30 p.m. Saturday, February 17, in Sundin Hall, 1531 Hewitt Ave. The program includes Scarlatti's Sinfonia in C Major and Two Sonatas in D Major, Juan Francés de Iribarren's Arde el furor intrepido and Prosigue acorde Lira, Charles Avison's Concerto V in D Minor, Jayme Torrens' Guiados de una Estrella, Francesco Geminiani's Concerto 'La Follia' in D Minor, and José de Nebra's Llegar ninguno intento from *Iphigenia in Tracia*. A preconcert talk will be offered 45 minutes before the show. Tickets are \$5-\$25. Visit lyrabaroque.org.

The gospel choirs of Hamline and Concordia universities will join the Twin Cities Community Gospel Choir in concert at 7 p.m. Friday, February 16, at Hamline Church United Methodist, 1514 Englewood Ave. Admission is free, though donations will be accepted at the door.

Members of the Minnesota and St. Paul Chamber orchestras will perform works by prominent women composers, including Minnesotans Libby Larsen and Jocelyn Hagen, in a benefit for the Minnesota chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union on Sunday, February 18. The music will begin at 3 p.m. at Macalester Plymouth United Church, 1658 Lincoln Ave. Tickets are \$30. Visit aclu-mn.org.

The Minnesota Bach Ensemble will be joined by violinist Jonathan Magness, soprano Linh Kaufman and cellists Kätke Jarka and Katya Linfield in the chamber program "Shadows to Rest" at 3 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Monday, February 18 and 19, in Antonello Hall at the MacPhail Center for Music, 501 Second St. S., Minneapolis. The concert will include Bach's Violin Concerto in A minor and Cantata 202 Weichet nur, betrübte Schatten; Handel's Concerto Grosso in B-flat Major and Concerto Grosso in D Major; Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Cellos in G minor; and Jan Dismass Zelenka's Hipocondrie a 7 Concertanti in A Major. Tickets are \$30, \$10 for students. Visit mnbach.org.

Warm up to some of the best bands in the Twin Cities. Free concerts are being presented from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Sundays at Como Conservatory. The schedule includes the blues, country, punk and folk of Flowtus on February 18; the Latin heat of Café Accordion Orchestra, February 25; the barroom bluegrass and lyrical ballads of

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Dead Pigeons, March 4; and the Delta blues and British pop of Heatwave & Landman, March 11. Beer, wine, pop and light snacks will be available for purchase.

Thursday Musical will present performances by pianist Ann Duhamel, cellist Lindsay Schlemmer and flutist Russell Dedrick on February 22. The music will begin at 10:30 a.m. in Antonello Hall at the MacPhail Center for Music, 501 Second St. S., Minneapolis. Admission is \$15, \$6 for students. A reception with free coffee and doughnuts will precede the show at 10 a.m. Visit thursdaymusical.org.

Grammy Award-winning singers Sonja Tengblad and Eric Neuville and pianist Michelle Schumann will explore Emily Dickinson's poetry through contemporary vocal music in a free program at 8 p.m. Thursday, February 22, at Mairs Concert Hall in the Fine Arts Center at Macalester College. Call 651-696-6808.

J.S. Ondara, native Kenyan singer-songwriter, will perform at 7:30 p.m. Friday, February 23, at Latimer Library, 90 W. Fourth St. The Loud at the Library concert will open with a solo show by singer Lydia Liza Hoglund, formerly of Bomba de Luz. Tickets are \$10. The doors open at 7 p.m. Beer and wine will be available for purchase. Concert-goers over age 21 who bring a current library card will receive one free beer courtesy of Summit Brewing. Visit thefriends.org.

The new music ensemble Zeitgeist will be Playing It Close to Home with music by the winners of its annual Eric Stokes Song Contest and the world premiere of Davu Seru's "Dead King Mother" at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, February 23 and 24, at Studio Z, 274 E. Fourth St., Suite 200. Tickets are \$15, \$10 for students and seniors. Call 651-755-1600.

The bluegrass band the High 48s will perform in a benefit for hunger relief sponsored by the Fort Snelling Lions Club on Saturday, February 24, at Mount Calvary Lutheran School, 16th Avenue and 66th Street in Richfield. Doors open at 5 p.m. Music starts at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 12-18, free for kids under 12, and that includes a buffet dinner served from 5-7 p.m. All proceeds will go to the Minnehaha Food Shelf, Veap and Food in the Hood. Folks are asked to bring a donation of nonperishable food, cash or gently used shoes.

Éigse (pronounced eg-shuh), a semi-formal fundraiser for the Center for Irish Music (CIM), will be held on Sunday, February 24, at Celtic Junction, 836 N. Prior Ave. Emceed by Cork-born entertainer Máirtín de Cógáin, the gaela will include dinner with an Irish twist; a Celtic-themed silent auction; raffle to win a wall of wine, whiskey or winter ale; and a concert featuring the stellar musicians who teach at CIM. The dinner is sold out, but tickets for everything else cost \$30 at the door, \$25 in advance. Call 651-815-0083.

Pink Floyd's album of 1973, "The Dark Side of the Moon" will be performed by the 11 musicians of Classic Albums Live at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, February 24, at the Ordway Concert Hall. Tickets start at \$27. Visit ordway.org or call 651-224-4222.

Organic vaudeville, or laid-back folk music steeped in tradition with modern pop influences, will be performed by the Emmy Award-winning Jack and Kitty at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, February 24, at Ginkgo Coffeehouse, 721 N. Snelling Ave. Kitty is the niece of reggae legend Bunny Wailer, and Jack's babysitter was troubadour Tiny Tim. The husband and wife play banjo, guitar, ukulele, washboard, jug, kazoo, harmonica, whizbang, rumba box and more. Admission is free, though donations will be appreciated. Call 651-645-2647.

"The Veil and the Thorn," vocal music for Lent, will be performed by Lumina Women's Ensemble at 2 p.m. Sunday, February 25, at Hamline Church United Methodist, 1514 Englewood Ave. Lumina draws from a variety of musical sources, including Medieval chants, Renaissance motets, traditional folk songs and living and local composers. Admission is free, though donations will be accepted at the door.

The Irish Rovers will open their Unicorn Tour 2018 in concert at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, February 25, in the O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University. The near legendary band of Celtic musicians includes Sean O'Driscoll on banjo, singer-songwriter George Millar, singer and guitarist Ian Millar, fiddler Gerry O'Connor, keyboardist Morris Crum, Fred Graham on bodhran, Geoffrey Kelly on flute and whistle, and accordionist Wilcil McDowell. For tickets, priced from \$28-\$52, call 651-690-6700.

The Hill House Chamber Players will present music, poetry and stories from World War I as well as favorites by Beethoven and Brahms in concert at 7:30 p.m. Monday, February 26, in the art gallery of the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. A conversation with violinists Julie Ayer and Catherine Schubilske, violist Thomas Turner, cellist Tanya Remenikova, pianist Mary Jo Gothmann and music blogger Emily Hogstad will precede the concert at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are \$23, \$13 for students, and that includes refreshments at intermission and a post-performance tour of the Hill House. Call 651-297-2555.

Dance

Once Upon A Dream, a new work about a girl whose idyllic life is turned upside down when at age 12 she loses her mother in an accident, will be performed on February 23 and 24 by Out On A Limb dance company and school. The production, which is set to music by Minnesota recording artists, features more than 80 dancers and actors from across the metro area. The curtain will rise at 7 p.m. Friday and 2 p.m. Saturday in the O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University. Tickets are \$25, \$20 for students. Visit oshag.stkate.edu or call 651-690-6700.

Exhibits

Macalester College art professor Ruthann Godollei is displaying her latest work, "Hellmouth," through March 4 in the Law Warschaw Gallery of Macalester's Fine Arts Center. Hellmouth is a medieval motif depicting the damned and the unrepentant being swallowed by a demonic beast. Godollei's work comments on the "big show" of the current administration in Washington, D.C. Admission is free. Call 651-696-6416.

The evolution of feminist imagery in contemporary art is explored in two exhibits running through March 16 in the Catherine G. Murphy Gallery at St. Catherine University. "Born Again" features selected works from Judy Chicago's Birth Project, a series of screen prints, needlework and other textiles that first toured the U.S. in the mid-1980s. "After: Birth" is a contemporary response to motherhood and sexuality by a dozen artists working in fiber, clay and photography. Admission is free. Visit gallery.stkate.edu.

"Parades, Palaces and People," a look back at the 132-year history of the St. Paul Winter Carnival in artifacts, photographs and art, is being displayed through April 2 in the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. Admission is \$2, or free with a tour of the historic mansion. Tours cost \$10, \$8 for seniors and college students, \$6 for children ages 5-17. Call 651-297-2555.

"The Irish Mission at the Watson House," a new exhibit showcasing the experiences of

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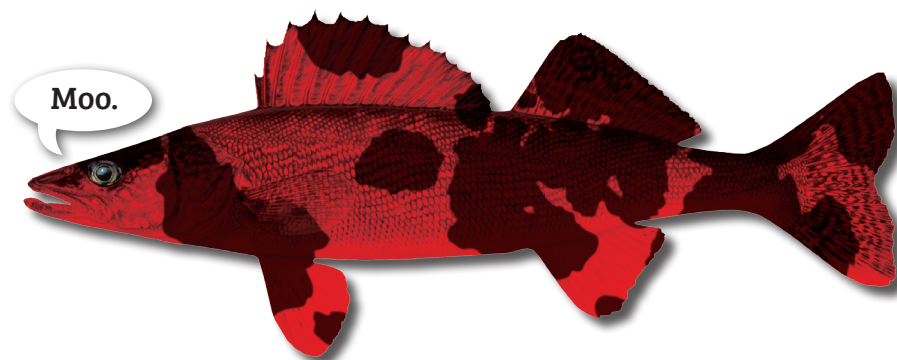
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Irish immigrants, is on view through April 29 in the library at St. Catherine University. The exhibit was created by Maureen Murphy, professor emerita of Irish Studies at Hofstra University, to highlight the stories of Irish immigrant women, the obstacles they faced coming to America, and the efforts of the Catholic clergy to improve the immigration process for the more than 100,000 women. The exhibit is free and open to the public during library hours—7:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Sunday. Visit library.stkate.edu.

“Organic Influences,” the stoneware, porcelain and earthenware pottery of Marjorie Wade and the lithography, solar etching and mezzotints of Diane Hatchitt, will be displayed from February 23 through April 27 at Raymond Avenue Gallery, 761 Raymond Ave. An opening reception will be held from 6-8 p.m. Friday, February 23. Call 651-644-9200.

Books

A Victorian Poetry Slam will be held from 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, February 14, in the drawing room of the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. Celebrate Valentine’s Day by listening to 19th-century poems about love, romance, temperance, sports and war recited by actors Craig Johnson, Laura Salvesson and Ann Daly in period dress. Audience members will be invited to recite a short Victorian poem of their own. Tickets are \$12, and they include light refreshments and a tour of the Hill House. Call 651-297-2555.

Common Good Books, 38 S. Snelling Ave., will host free readings and discussions with authors Ty Sassaman and his road-trip memoir, *Just One Question*, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, February 14; and Judy McConnell and her novel, *Dreamhouse*, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, February 21. Call 651-225-8989.

The Friends of the St. Paul Public Library has returned with its Fireside Reading Series at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays at Hamline-Midway Library, 1558 Minnehaha Ave. The schedule includes the following authors and their books: Carolyn Porter and *Marcel’s Letters: A Font and the Search for One Man’s Fate* on February 14; Jon Lurie and his memoir, *Canoeing with José*, February 21; and Kaethe Schwehn and her postapocalyptic novel, *The Rending and the Nest*, February 28. Admission is free, and so are the hot coffee, cider and cookies. Call 651-642-0293.

Stassen Again author Steve Werle will discuss “The Political Rise, Demise and Redemption of Harold E. Stassen” in a free program presented by the Ramsey County Historical Society from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, February 15, at the Ramsey County Library, 2173 N. Hamline Ave. in Roseville. Stassen is infamous for his 10 unsuccessful campaigns for president of the U.S. The three-term governor of Minnesota was also a hero of World War II, a prominent Republican Party leader and a founder of the United Nations. Call 651-222-0701.

SubText Books, 6 W. Fifth St., will present authors Rebecca Soffer and Gabrielle Birkner and *Modern Loss*, their book on grief in the age of social media, at 7 p.m. Thursday, February 15, at SubText; Patrick Nathan, Kaethe Schwehn and their new novels *Some Hell* and *The Rending and the*

Nest, respectively, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, February 27, at Black Dog Cafe, 308 E. Prince St.; and Joseph Cassara and his debut novel, *The House of Impossible Beauties*, at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 1, at SubText. Call 651-493-2791.

Reading by Writers, the monthly literary program emceed by Ramsey Hill poet Carol Connolly, will return on Tuesday, February 20, with poets Sandy Beach, Cristopher Gibson, Ibé, Rebecca Ramsden and Lynette Reini-Grandell reading from their latest verse. The free event will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the University Club, 420 Summit Ave. A cash bar and dinner is available. For reservations, call 651-222-1751.

Family

Ta-Da!, a weekly series of puppet shows for children, continues at 10 a.m. and noon on Saturdays through March 10 at In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre, 1500 E. Lake St. in Minneapolis. The schedule includes *Tiger Man* by Patty Gille, February 17; *On the Day You Were Born*, performed by Julie Boada and Esther Ouray, February 24; and *The Way of the Monarch* by Laurie Witzkowski, March 3. Tickets are \$7. A Make-n-Take puppet-making workshop is offered between shows at 11 a.m. every Saturday. The cost of the workshop is \$5 for children, \$3 for adults. To register, call 612-721-2535.

Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy., will offer the following free programs: Baby Storytime, 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays; Nature Smart, a trading post for items of natural history, biology and geology, 4 p.m. Wednesdays; Crea-tech, high-tech fun for teenagers, 3:30 p.m. Thursdays; children’s storytime, 11 a.m. Saturdays and 10:30 a.m. Mondays; Amharic Storytime, 6 p.m. Tuesdays; and a workshop in making pendants with charms suspended in resin, 6 p.m. Tuesday, February 20 (materials provided). Call 651-695-3700.

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, a stage adaptation of Mildred D. Taylor’s novel about a young African-American girl who comes of age in 1933 Mississippi and discovers the world is not what she expected, is being performed mornings, afternoons and evenings on Tuesdays through Sundays through March 3 at SteppingStone Theatre, 55 N. Victoria St. Directed by Kory LaQuess Pullam, the full-length drama is not recommended for children under age 8. For tickets, visit steppingstonetheatre.org.

Nut Job 2 (2017, rated PG) will be screened at 6:15 p.m. Friday, February 16, in the gym at the West 7th Community Center, 265 Oneida St. Admission is free. Concessions will be available beginning at 6 p.m. Call 651-298-5493.

Beat Cabin Fever, a workshop in percussion, will be offered to boys and girls ages 7 and up accompanied by an adult at 1 p.m. Saturday, February 17, at the Women’s Drum Center, 2242 University Ave. The two-hour program will include instruction in playing the drums and a percussion instrument that the children will make and may take home. The cost is \$20 (cash or check) for a child and adult, \$5 for each additional child in the family. Refreshments will be provided. For reservations, email info@womensdrumcenter.net.

Travel the world without leaving the Twin Cities. Landmark Center

is offering weekend programs that highlight the music, dance, folklore, customs and cuisine of peoples on three continents. The schedule includes the Carpathian Mountains of Central and Eastern Europe from noon-4 p.m. February 18 (admission is \$4-\$6) and Iceland from 1-3 p.m. February 25 (free). Call 651-292-3225.

Bring your teddy bear to the James J. Hill House, listen to stories about the stuffed creatures and tour the historic mansion at 240 Summit Ave. from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 20. The teddy bear was named after Theodore Roosevelt, the 26th president of the U.S. and a friend of the Hill family, and Teddy Bear Story Time is being offered in celebration of Presidents Day. Tickets are \$6 for ages 2 and up. Call 651-297-2555.

Jack and Kitty, the Emmy Award-winning duo specializing in organic vaudeville and jug band music, will present a free children’s show at 10 a.m. Saturday, February 24, at Ginkgo Coffeehouse, 721 N. Snelling Ave. Call 651-645-2647.

History and science come together in family activities focusing on the role of technology, engineering and math in the evolution of Minneapolis’ milling industry from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, February 24, at the Mill City Museum, 704 S. Second St., Minneapolis. Learn about kitchen chemistry in a baking lab. Discover how simple machines helped the mills operate. Experiment with waterpower. Learn about wheat and flour quality from a General Mills employee, meet scientists from a University of Minnesota laboratory, and take part in activities offered by the National Park Service and Mississippi Watershed Management Organization. Museum admission is \$12; \$10 for seniors, veterans and college students; \$6 for children ages 5-17. Call 612-341-7555.

Film

Streetlight Harmonies (2017), a documentary by Brent Wilson that traces the evolution of American pop music from doo wop, surf music and Motown to Phil Spector’s wall of sound, will be screened at 7 p.m. Wednesday, February 14, at Trylon Cinema, 2820 E. 33rd St. in Minneapolis. Tickets are \$12 at the door, \$10 in advance. Visit soundunseen.com.

Et cetera

The Love Show, the fourth annual Valentine’s Day variety show, will be presented by humorist Kevin Kling and musical guests Dan Chouinard, Prudence Johnson, Claudia Schmidt, Simone Perrin, Dane Stauffer and Marc Anderson, will be presented at 7 p.m. Wednesday, February 14, in the O’Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University. Tickets are \$29 with discounts for students, seniors and military personnel. Call 651-690-6700.

Common Good Books, 38 S. Snelling Ave., is accepting entries for Here and Now, its sixth annual poetry contest. Four poets will receive prizes of \$750 each. The poems must be set in St. Paul in the winter, be original, previously unpublished and by an author who has full rights to the material. Only one poem is permitted per person. Email yours to poetry@commongoodbooks.com no later than 5 p.m. March 9. For information, call 651-225-8989.

Sports



The Wright Call

By Dave Wright

Raider hoopsters living up to hype

From the first day of practice, Cretin-Derham Hall boys' basketball coach Jerry Kline knew his team would be in the spotlight this season. For one thing, the Raiders had 6-foot-10 senior Daniel Oturu, who had already committed to play for the University of Minnesota. For another, they had several other players back from a 23-9 team that won the Class AAAA consolation title in last year's state tournament.

Going into the February 13 game at Forest Lake, CDH has lived up to all the lofty expectations. The Raiders were 18-1 overall, undefeated in the Suburban East Conference and averaging a remarkable 83 points per game. As a result, the team has been ranked nearly all year as the best in its class and has high hopes for a return trip to the state tournament in March.

The Raiders' only loss came on December 7 to Edina. Their next game was a one-point win over a good Orono team. Since then, CDH has played just one game in which the winning margin was fewer than 10 points. Among its victims was Apple Valley. In last year's state tournament, the Eagles knocked the Raiders out in the first round 76-67. This winter, CDH turned the tables with a 80-69 win on December 30.

Kline, who is now in his 14th season as the Raiders' head coach, was asked if attracting so much attention has made this a tougher season to manage. "What's different is you're a target every night," he said. "So you get everybody's best game. But it's how you prepare for it that's key. The players have handled it very well."

One way that happens is when the best players show the way at practice. Kline picked out 6-foot-1 senior guard Ryan Larson as a prime example. "Ryan is a phenomenal athlete, but he also works at it very hard," he said. "Guys notice that sort of thing."

It also helps that Oturu is not the only big man up front. There's 6-foot-8 senior Sy Chatman and four 6-foot-5 guys to share the scoring and rebounding load. Kline likes the fact that, as good as Oturu is, the other big men also stand out because "they're very unselfish. We're way more than just a 6-foot-10 center up front."

It goes back to something Kline remembered from former CDH coach Len Horyza's long tenure. "Len drilled it into our heads that if one guy is struggling, somebody else picks him up," Kline said.

At practice, there's also an extra incentive to perform well. The loser in a competitive drill has to run an extra lap.

The Section 4AAAA tournament is still three weeks away. The Raiders posted a 77-66 win over a very good DeLaSalle team on February 10 and still have several regular-season tests left, including battles with Eden Prairie (16-5) and Woodbury (13-7), which only lost at CDH by nine points.

With that in mind, Kline continues to caution his players about not looking too far ahead. "We're going with the flow, but it's really just one game at a time right now," he said.

As a result, Kline shuns all talk of playing into late March. However, if it does happen, he'll be pleased indeed. "We've worked hard to get where we are," he said.

St. Paul United looking for a repeat

A year ago, they caught a few people by surprise. Even though it was St. Paul United's third trip in four years to the state girls' hockey tournament and they were seeded second in Class A, many thought they'd be up against it when they tangled with longtime power Warroad in the semifinals.

But Maggie Connors gave the United a 2-0 lead in the first period on her way to a hat trick and they ended up beating the Warriors 4-2. The title game didn't go as well with a 6-2 loss to Blake. However, United coach Nate Mauer and

Jumping through hoops

Young Central boys are fast becoming contenders

By Bill Wagner

Central High School might have the best boys' basketball team in the metro area with a moderate 12-8 record. However, the Minutemen appear to be well on their way to becoming far better.

Longtime coach Scott Howell has seen enough Minutemen squads to know how well a team is coming along, and he said he has seen great improvement with this year's group. That's despite the fact that Central has no senior starters and has faced more than its share of dominating teams in the early going.

"We knew at the start of the year that we were going to be young," Howell said, "and young teams make young mistakes. But I'd definitely say that we're ahead of schedule."

Central started the season with an immediate test at Cretin-Derham Hall, which has spent much of the season as the top-ranked team in the state in Class AAAA. The Minutemen gave the Raiders all they could handle, actually getting the better of them at times with their up-tempo pace. Central lost by seven points, but served notice that it was a team to be reckoned with.

The Minutemen had close six-point losses against big-school titan East Ridge and league-leading Johnson. However, they also logged some noteworthy victories. Central beat Minneapolis Roosevelt and its stellar guard Deszi Sims in a 69-68 thriller. It also outlasted Brooklyn Center by six, and blasted Como Park, Mounds View and Henry Sibley by 20-30 points each.

The Minutemen aren't big, but they're quick and their relentless running offense wears a lot of teams down. And when they're playing good team defense, they become dangerous.

One thing for sure is they have offensive sharpshooters. "I've never had a team that could score like this one," Howell said about a squad that has scored 90 points or more in at least nine games this winter.

Central's explosive lineup is led by junior shooting guard Daveonte Davis, who is a bona fide candidate for all-state honors. Davis is listed at 6-foot-3 but plays a lot taller, according to his coach. "He's 6-foot-5 or 6-foot-6 when he gets down in the post," Howell said. "We do that a lot with him."

Davis also can explode off a dribble, pull up to hit a jumper or back up to nail a three-pointer. He went into February averaging about 24 points per game, and he has logged some performances that defy description. He hit for a sizzling 41 points in a win over Minneapolis Henry on January 27, though the game was later forfeited to the Patriots due to Central's use of a disqualified player.

Davis followed that with 32 points in a key victory over Harding on February 2 and 33 points in a loss to conference-leading Johnson three days later.

Howell said the 41-point offensive effort by Davis, who also pulls down about 15 rebounds per game, was something



Central's Daveonte Davis looks to pass the ball over Highland Park's Naseem Lewis during the Minutemen's 97-85 win on February 8. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

he hadn't seen before in his coaching career.

"He has a motor that never stops," Howell said. "You can always count on his work ethic."

Five-foot-8 junior point guard Ronelle Porter leads the team in assists and is a steadfast competitor. Along with distributing the basketball, Porter can score and defend.

"He looks for the challenge," Howell said. "He's our table-setter."

Junior small forward Dion Ford goes about 6-foot-4 and is an unsung hero. "He's one of those guys that no one notices," Howell said, "but after the game you look down and he's got 20 points and about 10 rebounds."

Junior forward Luke McElroy, who is around 6-foot-3, averages about 12 points and is a dead-eye three-point shooter. McElroy opens up a lot of defenses. "They have to respect his three," Howell said.

Also starting is 6-foot junior Kai West, who can play both guard and forward. He handles a lot of the grunt work for the Minutemen, averaging about 10 points, six rebounds and three assists per outing. Howell likes the way West buckles down in his own end of the floor. "He

can guard the other team's best player," he said.

The Minutemen go seven or eight deep in their rotation and recently had to find a replacement for 6-foot-4 junior center My'kel Alexander, who is out for the season with a knee injury. Six-foot-6 freshman Jaelen Thomas was brought up from the junior varsity and has filled that role nicely.

Terrell Fountain, a 6-foot-2 junior, provides competent relief at forward, while 5-foot-8 sophomore Caron Crowe spells Porter at the point.

Howell said he learned a lot about his team when it soundly beat Mounds View during a holiday tournament. He said a conversation with Mustangs coach David Leiser during intermission summed things up.

"He said, 'You guys are a matchup nightmare,'" Howell recalled.

If the Minutemen are playing above-average defense by the time the Section 4AAAA playoffs roll around next month, Howell will feel good going into the postseason.

"It's a process for us," he said about his young team, "but we've been learning pretty well."

Solid as a rock

CDH might have its best boys' hockey team in years

BY BILL WAGNER

The Cretin-Derham Hall boys' hockey team continues to rack up wins this winter. The Raiders were 19-3-2 overall through February 10, sat alone atop the Suburban East Conference with a 13-0-2 record and were ranked fifth in the state in Class AA.

"We're a fun team to watch," said veteran coach Jim O'Neill. "We get scoring out of three lines, and our defense and goaltending are good. We're solid."

The Raiders have logged solid victories over such teams as Eden Prairie, Forest Lake, East Ridge and Stillwater. They dominated seventh-ranked Holy Family 10-1 and defeated conference rival White Bear Lake 5-4.

The Raiders could be forgiven their three losses to very good Edina, Wayzata and St. Thomas Academy squads. O'Neill said Edina, the top-ranked AA team in the state, might be in a class of its own.

"They're loaded," he said about the Hornets, who have lost only one

game so far. "They have five Division I players."

CDH has outscored its opponents by an average of 5.1 goals to 2.4. The team's vaunted power play, perhaps its most effective asset, was scoring at a rate of 32 percent. The penalty killing wasn't bad either, successfully skating off 80 percent of opportunities.

The Raiders' first line of sophomore center Matthew Gleason, junior wing Grayson Milosch and sophomore wing Nick Davison might be as good as any in the state. Gleason was leading the team in points with 27 goals and 21 assists through February 10, and O'Neill couldn't say enough about him.

"He's not big, but he's a bundle of energy," O'Neill said. "He's good around the net and he's a good playmaker. He's quick on his skates. He gets from A to B in a hurry, and he's very competitive."

O'Neill thinks it's only a matter of time before Gleason has a gaggle of Division I offers to consider. "He'll get a lot of looks," he said.

Milosch is a skilled skater who



CDH defenseman Will Pope whisks the puck behind the net and away from goalie George Maguire while pursued by Roseville's Mario Maietta in the third period of CDH's 7-3 win on February 8. PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

digs after pucks and is defense-conscious in his own zone. With 11 goals and 16 assists, he's one of seven CDH players with 20 points or more.

Davison has good hands and a good hockey IQ. He was third on the team with 30 points (11 goals, 19 assists).

The second line is centered by senior Joey Gimberlin, a three-year veteran who skates well and knows how to put the puck in the net with 10 goals and 18 assists. Senior wing Michael Kramer can also skate and shoot. Fellow senior wing Nico Castro, at 6-foot-4, can handle the physical stuff, is a good forechecker and can also put the puck away with 12 goals and 13 assists.

Junior Zach Brydges centers the third line and provides good checking. Senior wing Joe Buckingham (13 goals, 12 assists) is a grinder, while junior wing Nolan Conzemius plays a physical checking game.

O'Neill is comfortable going with four lines, and the trio of junior center Robby Klein and senior

wings Tom Cummings and Henry Jaunich does a fine job of creating havoc. O'Neill described it as his "energy line."

He's also fine with using six regular defensemen. The backliners are led by junior Danny Magnuson, who does it all. He's a big threat taking point on the power play, and he knows how to break the puck out of his own zone. Magnuson was the team's leading scorer as a sophomore, and is second this year with 9 goals and 23 assists. Paired with him is junior Will Pope, a classic stay-at-home defender.

The defensive pair of seniors Liam Ryan and Billy Honsa is also solid and does a good job with the team's second power play unit. The third pair includes sophomore Preston Thelemann and senior Shane Benick.

Goaltending might have been an area of concern for the Raiders at the outset of the season, but no more. Both senior Tommy Cavanaugh and junior George Maguire have been playing well. Cavanaugh,

now back after suffering a concussion that sidelined him for three weeks, was 8-2-2 with an .895 save percentage, while Maguire was 11-1 with an .896.

"They both give us a good chance to win games," O'Neill said.

The coach liked the way his squad came out flying against Holy Family on January 27 in a contest that many figured would be a lot closer. "That was good to see against a quality opponent," he said.

O'Neill, who was at CDH's helm for all three of its previous state tournament appearances (1988, 2006 and 2009), likes the way his club seems to be peaking this winter. It'll be playoff time soon, and the Raiders' last regular-season contest is scheduled for February 15 against Park of Cottage Grove.

Edina looms as a surefire top seed when the Section 6AA playoffs begin on February 20, but O'Neill expects the Raiders will draw the second seed. The state boys' hockey tournament will be held March 7-10 at Xcel Energy Center.



CDH's Matthew Gleason (second from left) is congratulated by teammates Nick Davison, left, Grayson Milosch and Will Pope after scoring the teams' third goal against Roseville.

23◀ WRIGHT CALL

his team skated away with the respect of the girls' hockey sorority.

This season came with new expectations. Mauer looked at his roster, saw a lot of new faces and knew it might take a while to jell. The team, which features players from Visitation and St. Paul Academy, also had a difficult schedule, starting with a season-opening loss to Class AA Edina. The United were 3-3 early and then reeled off four wins in a row, the last of which was a 3-0 shutout at South St. Paul. That victory over the Packers came in handy at the end of the season. When the Section 4A rankings came out last week, the United (17-9) were seeded first and the Packers (19-5-2) second.

"I'd rather be one than two any day," Mauer said. "In theory, the second seed has a tough semifinal game."

The United drew a first-round bye and will face either Henry Sibley or Simley in the section semifinals on February 13. South St. Paul will either face Mahtomedi or the St. Paul Blades in its semifinal match.

"With a different schedule, we could've been 22-3," Mauer said. "Yes, we have a lot of losses, but look who we played." Besides Edina, the United had two losses each to Breck and Blake.

Among the new players on this year's team are seniors who were seeing their first regular playing time at the varsity level. Accordingly, there were adjustments that needed to be made.

"We also have some very talented 9th-, 10th- and 11th-graders who grew into their roles," Mauer said, "but it takes

time to do so."

The team also had to deal with something most of the players had not experienced before. As is the case with CDH boys' basketball, the United were taking a lot of opponents' best shots—and then some—in games. Learning how to handle that also took some time.

Talent does tend to win out in the end. The United won seven of their last nine games and would seem to be in a good place heading into this week's playoffs. However, Mauer is acutely aware that last year's success was, well, last year's.

"During the season, we probably lost some games we should've won," he said. "But we have the lineup we want now."

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

Sports Shorts

Fred Emmings of Merriam Park was one of 36 players called to take part in U.S. Soccer's U15 boys' national team training camp that was held in Florida in January. Emmings, a goalie, grew up playing with the Highland Groveland Recreation Association and the St. Paul Blackhawks, and as of this last fall began playing with the Minnesota United FC Academy.

The Highland Park girls' and boys' Nordic ski teams won their Section 4A meets on February 6 at Wirth Park in Minne-

apolis. The girls placed all seven skiers in the top 10, while the boys placed seven in the top 14. Both teams had undefeated regular seasons and will compete at the state meet on February 15 at Giants Ridge in Biwabik. The teams are coached by Brad Moening.

Noah Hanson of Great River School was named the Section 4A winner for the Triple "A" Award presented by the Minnesota State High School League. The award recognizes seniors

who have excelled in academics, athletics and the arts. He will be honored with other winners during the state boys' basketball tournament in March. Hanson has played football, basketball, baseball and Ultimate Frisbee during his school career. He was awarded the district sportsmanship award for football, the All-Academic Award for the Twin Cities Athletic Conference and the Bellman Young Scientist Award in physics. This fall, he played in a concert with local musicians to help raise money for the school's spring fundraiser.

Classifieds

LOVE NOTES ♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

THE VILLAGER is better than the Times because YOU are MY Valentine. ♥

TO MAWK, Beer not suggested. Valentines Day for the ages. Eating Tide Pods instead. ♥ From Shelley.

YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE: When love goes sour and you feel low, Valentine's Day goes mighty slow. You see lovers acting happy, but you feel mean and think they're sappy. The world seems cold and flat and gray. You hope you'll find a happier day. Now, red is for heartbreak, blue is for sorrow - but what the heck, there's always tomorrow! ♥ ANON

A SPECIAL VALENTINE is in my heart even though we are far apart. Sending you kisses, hugs, love and blessings from above. ♥ Grandmary

JERRY. Getting older can be a pain, but with you along, I can't complain. Despite the things that we go through, I know I'll never stop loving you. ♥ JAG

DIVA, I waited a lifetime for you, will you be my Valentine? My Love and Devotion, ♥ Smooches.

WE LOVE YOU, Mom! ♥ Dad, Damian, Daniel, Isabel, Beatrice & Elizabeth

YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE: When wintry streets are wet and slushy, that's the time to get all mushy. Tell your love that they're the best (assume that they could pass the test). Hit them up for a big-time gift before their mind begins to drift to all the bucks they'll have to pay at tax-time, just two months away. ♥ ANON

NMO: Before I Met You, I Never Knew What it Was Like to be Able to Look at Someone and Smile for no Reason. ♥ JRZ

YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE: You have been my one and only, and I would be so very lonely if I had to throw you out because you're an unfaithful lout. So watch your step and do what's right, or you will sleep alone at night. ♥ ANON

LOVE NOTES ♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

DEAR MARY, I ask God to bless you as a woman of strength who understands how much your work, your gifts, and your influence make a difference to those around you—including me and our family. As a wife and a mother you are loved more than you know! Renew her with health and strength...hold her steady...inspire her mind with hope...guide her footsteps...Bless her day with happiness and laughter! Thank you for her! All my love!! ♥ C.S.

MELISSA. Happy Valentine's Day! First time I've ever done this baby and so glad it's with you. I love spending time with you, dinners, wine, movies, our times up north and other times. ♥ Love, Lover.

LRW. My little peanut vendor. After nearly 35 years of marriage, I'm still nuts about you. Te quiero mucho. ♥ JCW

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Continued page 26



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APRIL 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 11: Home Improvement April 25: Gardening Cinco De Mayo		MAY 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 31 May 9: Health & Fitness Graduation Mother's Day May 23: Grand Old Day	JUNE 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 June 6: Father's Day June 20: Boomers & Beyond Fourth of July
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OCTOBER 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 31 Oct. 10: Boomers & Beyond Halloween Oct. 24: General Election Halloween		NOVEMBER 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 Nov. 7: Holiday Gift Ideas Nov. 21: Holiday Gift Ideas Grand Meander	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 31 Dec. 5: Holiday Gift Ideas Dec. 19: Last Minute Gift Guide Health & Fitness

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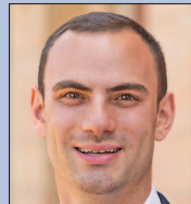
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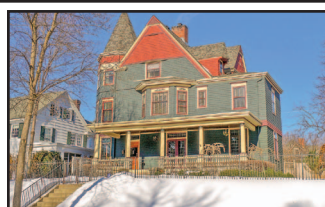
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651-755-6669 • \$1,375,000



JUST LISTED!!!

1020 Victoria Ct: Handsome 5 bedroom in immaculate condition and situated on a quiet cul de sac. Remodeled family sized kitchen with granite, main floor family room, delightful sun room, and king sized master bedroom suite.

JIM BURTON
651-690-8556 • \$389,900



JUST LISTED!!!

901 138th Lane NE: Spacious detached townhome on the 18th fairway of the Majestic Oaks golf course. Bright open floor plan, large eat in kitchen, and delightful 4-season porch.

JIM BURTON
651-690-8556 • \$329,900



LUXURY ONE LEVEL LIVING!!!

674 Apache Lane: Quality built Ranch Style south facing on a beautifully landscaped and fenced lot. Entertainment sized rooms, family sized kitchen, delightful rear porch.

JIM BURTON
651-690-8556 • \$529,900



SARAH KINNEY
651-282-9621



CHARMING HIGHLAND MIDCENTURY!

Charming midcentury rambler on a sweet block of Bayard. Well maintained with wood floors and 3BR on same floor. Just a few blocks to The Nook, Highland Golf Course, and much more. Call for details! 1424 Bayard.

MICHAELA TOOHEY
651-253-6830
PHILIP WAHLBERG
651-336-2410



CLASSIC HIGHLAND PARK COLONIAL!

Very special 4BR/3BA home with an expansive main floor family room/kitchen. Great location within walking distance of schools, restaurants and parks. Spacious backyard and a 2 car garage. 1869 Pinehurst.
AnotherHomeSoldByMary.com

MARY KNUDSEN CRS
651-335-6619



CLASSIC HIGHLAND COLONIAL!

1210 Bayard offers stunning new kitchen with Bosch appliances, beverage refrigerator, induction cook top, quartz and stainless, spacious main floor space with family room, 3 large BRs up and lower level fun room, with private 62.5 wide yard. Call Lolly for details!

LOLLY MCNEELY SALMEN
612-810-4138



DOUBLE LOT!!!

Rare opportunity to enjoy a double lot in the city! Situated in vibrant West 7th, this sun-drenched 4BR, 3BA home boasts a thoughtfully designed new kitchen, huge mudroom, beautiful landscaping, paver patio and new siding/fascia/gutters/windows/roof. 946 Tuscarora Ave.
mmderosia@cbburnet.com

MORAGHAN DeROSIA
952-486-3697 • \$335,000



SHAWN LEETZ
651-373-8984



SPLENDID RENOVATION!

This Cathedral Hill home features 5/BR, 4/BA, an updated kitchen, first floor family room, a master BR, wine cellar, new 3-car garage, a charming 2/BR carriage house with a secluded courtyard. All set on a third acre lot. 435 Portland Ave.

SARAH KINNEY
651-282-9621 • \$1,195,000



CONVERTED MANSION!

Elegant 3-level condo with panoramic river bluff views, original parlor, library & dining room all meticulously restored. Features include 2,517 sqft, 2 BR, 3 BA, fabulous common areas and a 2/c garage. 302 Summit Ave.

SARAH KINNEY
651-282-9621 • \$695,000



PARK TOWERS!

This luxurious 23rd floor condo features 2/BR, 3/BA, bright sunny open spaces with deluxe accoutrements, panoramic views and heated parking. Located in the historic Rice Park neighborhood with a short walk to the Ordway and Xcel. 59 4th Street #23E.

SARAH KINNEY
651-282-9621 • \$725,000



377 WOODLAWN AVENUE

Located on one of Saint Paul's most charming streets and surrounded by prestigious homes, this 4BR, 2BA home is an incredible opportunity. For a private showing, contact David Noyes Jr. with the Noyes Real Estate Group.
www.davidnoyesjr.com

DAVID NOYES JR.
651-233-0748 • \$459,900



MARY MCNANEY KNUDSEN
651-690-8578



DAVID NOYES, JR.
REAL ESTATE GROUP
651-233-0748



SUE DRUDE NOYES
651-248-2077



LOLLY MCNEELY SALMEN
612-810-4138



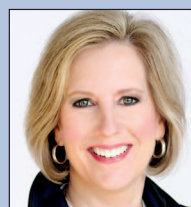
JIM SEABOLD
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MICHAELA TOOHEY
651-253-6830



JOEL UEHEL
651-695-4304



KRISTA WOLTER
612-247-5106



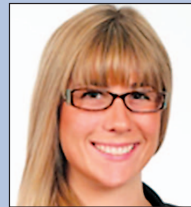
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MIKE & TOM DISTAD
612-275-1343



PETER DONOVAN
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