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POOCH PARADISE

St. Paul approves off-leash dog area as part of major overhaul of Lilydale Park ►6

ARTS



Prescription for success ►29

SPORTS



Cadets remain unbeaten ►33

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| VIEWPOINT..... | 8 |
| BUSINESS..... | 14 |
| CRIME REPORT..... | 20 |
| DISTRICT COUNCILS..... | 22 |
| FOOD..... | 25 |
| KIOSK..... | 27 |

Council rejects Walgreens' plan for Village store

Ruling may lead to legal challenge or revised plan

BY JANE MCCLURE

Despite the support of the Highland District Council and Highland Business Association and the approval of the St. Paul Planning Commission, the St. Paul City Council voted 5-0 on October 21 to reject the site plan for a new Walgreens drug store on the northeast corner of Ford Parkway and Finn Street.

"There is no legal basis for (the City Council) doing what they did," said attorney Tom Johnson of Semper Development, the company that designed the site plan for Walgreens.

However, Tom Casey, an attorney for the United Food and Commercial Workers Union (UFCW), which represents employees at the Snyders Drug Store in Highland Village, said the City Council had "ample" reason to deny the site plan. According to Casey, the Walgreens project does not meet the city's regulations for new development and does not adhere to the city's

WALGREENS ►2



Mystery in miniature. Josephine Shuster, 5, tried to figure out how Don Pearson got his ship in a bottle during the Nautical Model Shipbuilders Society's annual show on October 24 at the Merriam Park Library. PHOTO BY ANNE BRANDRUD

Housing gives way to green space at Victoria Park

BY JANE MCCLURE

The former Exxon fuel tank farm on West 7th Street that had been eyed for housing for more than a decade is now being sold to the city of St. Paul for \$1.00 for use as a park. The St. Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) approved the sale on October 28. The agreement now goes to Exxon corporate officials for final approval. The agreement prohibits the city from ever allowing housing or any other buildings to be constructed on the 36-acre site. Exxon has agreed to pay the city \$5 million to clean up pollution on the property.

Exxon officials had long fought plans to build housing on the site due to concerns about being

liable for any future health problems as a result of soil contamination. City officials had argued that the property could be cleaned up and made safe for housing. Exxon officials could not be reached for comment for this story.

The agreement marks the end of Victoria Park, a proposed 850-unit, 65-acre project that would have been one of the largest housing developments in the city's history. Although West End residents have been discussing park uses for the property for several months, some say it is not easy to see the vision for Victoria Park shelved.

"Housing was always the dream for that site," said former West 7th/Fort Road Federation president Diane Gerth. "It's hard to see that not come to fruition. The community lost so much hous-

ing (with the construction of I-35E). We wanted new people to attend our schools and shop at our businesses."

Ward 2 City Council member Dave Thune also said it was difficult to see the dream of Victoria Park die. "We always believed it would be one of the best things that ever happened in St. Paul," he said.

However, Thune also noted that the West End neighborhood lacks usable park space. Federation board members and other West End residents will join a St. Paul Parks and Recreation task force to make plans for the new park. Some of the ideas that are being discussed include

VICTORIA PARK ►2

Light-rail poses big challenge for small business

Prospects of surviving 4-year project appear dim to some

BY JANE MCCLURE

St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman has said that with the building of the Central Corridor light-rail line, "no one has to lose their business and no one has to lose their home." No businesses or homes lie directly in the path of the 11-mile transit between the downtowns of St. Paul and Minneapolis. However, concerns about the disruption of four years of light-rail construction and the permanent loss of on-street parking have prompted one business group to file a federal complaint against the Central Corridor



project and another longtime University Avenue business to announce plans to move out of the city next spring.

Finn Sisu, a cross country ski and sauna shop that has been doing business at 1841 University Ave. since 1978, broke ground in September on a

new store in Lauderdale. "I'll lose my (on-street) parking when light rail is built," said Finn Sisu owner Ahvo Taipale. "It's been very frustrating. I'd like to have stayed in St. Paul, but no one at the city seemed interested in helping me."

University Avenue will lose more than 1,000 of its 1,215 on-street parking spaces to the light-rail line. A group of about 30 Asian University Avenue business people has formed Concerned Asian Business Owners and in mid-October it filed a complaint with the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) Office of Civil Rights against the light-rail project and its builder, the Metropolitan Council. The group's 14-page complaint claims that the Met Council has not done

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The proposed Walgreens store in Highland Village as it would appear from Finn Street looking east.

1◀ WALGREENS

comprehensive plan and the Highland district plan. Walgreens, Casey said, wouldn't "enhance the shopping experience in the area," since there are already three drugstores less than a block away: Snyders, Prairie Stone and Fairview Clinic.

As of last week, Walgreens had not decided whether to challenge the City Council's decision in court. However, project architect John Kohler of Semper Development was planning to present a revised site plan for the new Walgreens to the Highland District Council (HDC) on November 4.

The new site plan places a small second building right on the corner of Ford and Finn. It addresses some of the concerns of opponents of the other site plan. However, adding the second building also means eliminating the public space that had been planned for the corner with benches and landscaping paid for and maintained by Walgreens. Both the HDC and the Highland Business Association (HBA) had supported the site plan that included the public space.

The controversy over the proposed development has embroiled Highland for much of the past year. The opposition has been led by Snyders' employees and the UFCW. Snyders' workers collected hundreds of signatures in opposition to the new Walgreens, and the UFCW filed the appeal that asked the City Council to overturn the Planning Commission's approval of Walgreens' site plan.

What Snyders' employees and their supporters may not have realized is that Snyders' parent company, Canadian-based C & H Holdings, had offered to sell the Highland Village Snyders to Walgreens as early as five months ago. An e-mail obtained by the *Villager* shows that an offer to sell or lease the Snyders building was made last spring and again this fall on the day after the City Council upheld the UFCW's appeal.

Colleen Bracy, vice president of retail operations for Snyders, and Bernie Hesse of the UFCW both said the offer to sell must have been a mistake on the part of C & H Holdings. Although C & H Holdings has been trying to sell Snyders' stores on St. Paul's East Side and in Mahtomedi, Waconia and Mounds View,

the Highland Village store is among the most profitable in the Snyders chain, Bracy said, and C & H would not want to sell it.

However, Deborah Carlson of Cushman Wakefield Global Real Estate Solutions confirmed last week that the store was offered for sale in May and again on October 22, and that it was only recently taken off of the market.

Walgreens did not return phone calls seeking comment. Walgreens representatives have said in the past that they do not discuss pending real estate transactions.

The five City Council members (members Kathy Lantry and Dan Bostrom were absent) did not discuss their decision to reject Walgreens' site plan prior to their vote. Ward 3 City Council member Pat Harris, who represents the Highland Park neighborhood, did read a prepared statement.

"I do believe the Planning Commission erred in granting the site plan," Harris said. (The council must find error if it is to legally overturn a Planning Commission decision.) Walgreens' site plan, he said, is inconsistent with the city's comprehensive plan and plans for pedestrian-oriented retail in Highland Village. Harris criticized the site plan for being "auto-oriented" and said the store and site plan as designed are "inconsistent with future development" in Highland Village.

Harris was asked about his vote afterward. He said he could not comment beyond his written statement.

The City Council's decision caught Walgreens' representatives by surprise. "I would think people in the neighborhood would be calling council members and saying, 'Look, you made a tragic mistake,'" Johnson said.

Johnson cited an earlier opinion by assistant St. Paul city attorney Peter Warner that because the proposed Walgreens is a permitted use under the city's zoning code, the city lacks the legal discretion to review the site plan for compliance with the comprehensive plan. "The city's review of the proposed site plan is limited to whether the application meets all the findings required under the zoning code for site plan approval," Warner said.

Walgreens owns the former Oasis Market gas station and convenience

store at Ford and Finn and has an option to buy the adjacent Party City property. Although Walgreens' plan for a new 9,483-square-foot drugstore at Ford and Finn required no rezoning and no variances from the city, it proved to be controversial.

"This in no way, shape or form fits the (Highland) district plan," Highland Village businessman Mark Moeller told the City Council. Moeller's family has owned and operated R.F. Moeller Jeweler in Highland Village for 58 years. According to him, the Highland district plan never envisioned having competing businesses side by side, and that allowing Walgreens to build in Highland Village could set a precedent for other developments.

Some Walgreens opponents objected to the proposed store's location near the middle of the block rather than at the corner, as recommended by city plans.

Walgreens could revisit the plan to place the building at the corner of Ford and Finn, Johnson said, but that idea was rejected months ago at the behest of neighbors and the Highland District Council. Placing the building at the corner would have put Walgreens' parking lot right beside Snyders' parking lot, and some HDC members and neighbors thought that would be unsightly.

According to Kohler, locating Walgreens' parking lot right beside Snyders' parking lot would put the entrance directly across Ford Parkway from another parking lot entrance, in effect creating a small intersection mid-block between Cleveland Avenue and Finn Street.

The HDC passed a resolution supporting Walgreens' site plan and opposing the idea of a building at the corner. The Highland Business Association also weighed in with a letter to city officials supporting Walgreens' site plan.

The UFCW argued that the proposed Walgreens would create a traffic hazard in the narrow Ford-Finn alley. Kohler disagreed, saying that Walgreens' parking lot and entrances were designed to discourage additional alley traffic and that Walgreens would not be using large semitrailer trucks for deliveries. Walgreens also planned to improve traffic by widening Finn and realigning the street with the entrance to the Highland Village Center to the south.

1◀ VICTORIA PARK

installing playground equipment, ball fields and trails.

Earlier this year, the federation and Thune squabbled with Mayor Chris Coleman's administration over constructing a baseball stadium for the St. Paul Saints on the Exxon property. The administration had also floated the idea of building a soccer complex there, but neighborhood residents objected to that as well.

Any recreational use of the property will have to be compatible with the surrounding neighborhood, Thune said.

The park plans will have to be approved by the St. Paul Parks and Recre-

ation Commission and the City Council. Victoria Park's master plan will also have to be changed. The property is zoned traditional neighborhoods, which is intended to promote dense, mixed-use housing.

Thune and federation executive director Ed Johnson said talks are ongoing with Brighton Development Corporation and other developers to complete the construction on the portion of the site that was formerly owned by Flint Hills/Koch. Development of that site has stalled due to the slow housing market.

St. Paul planning director Cecile Bedor said it will take at least two years to complete the cleanup of contaminated soil from Exxon's property. She said it is likely the site will need to have a few feet

of clean soil brought in after the contaminants are removed.

Last December, a court-appointed panel determined that the Exxon land had a value of \$7 million. Exxon said it would only sell the property to the city if it was not used for housing. The dispute wound its way through the court system over the past five years as the city tried to acquire the property for housing through condemnation.

In 2006, Ramsey County District Court Judge Judith Tilsen ruled in the city's favor and indicated that the city should be able to develop the property and purchase it at a price lower than Exxon Mobil was willing to sell for. Exxon lost its appeal of that ruling in 2007.

St. Paul looks at housing homeless in city facilities

PED staff to research suitability of buildings as temporary shelters

BY JANE MCCLURE

The increasing number of homeless people in St. Paul seeking overnight shelter has prompted a request from the City Council that some city-owned facilities be considered as temporary shelters for the homeless this winter.

Ward 3 City Council member Pat Harris has asked the city's Department of Planning and Economic Development to research city facilities as well as private property for that purpose and to report back to the council by November 12. Harris also asked city staff to research options for staffing the temporary shelters. "There's a huge and growing need for more shelter beds," Harris said. "This could be as bad a winter as we've seen."

Nonprofit organizations in St. Paul operate several shelters for homeless people, including the Dorothy Day Center, Union Gospel Mission and Family

Place. Churches and other places of worship in the city also take turns providing overnight shelters for the homeless through a program sponsored by the St. Paul Area Council of Churches.

All of those shelters will not be enough to meet the demand this winter, according to Harris. The shelters are already having to turn many people away, he said.

The City Council has asked city staff to research long-term solutions to the need for homeless shelters. A report on that study is due back to the council by March 1, 2010.

Council approves \$2 million more in capital improvements

BY JANE MCCLURE

Twelve more capital improvement projects for 2010 and 2011, including two in Highland Park and two in Summit-University, were approved on October 21 by the St. Paul City Council. The projects will be paid for with a \$2 million refund the city received from Xcel Energy for the overpayment of utility bills at the Como Conservatory and Visitors Center.

The projects, which were previously approved by the city's Capital Improvement Budget Committee, include \$215,801 for field improvements at the Jimmy Lee Recreation Center, \$75,000 to study improvements to the Highland National Golf Course clubhouse and old Highland swimming pool building, \$15,000 for the purchase of benches and picnic tables to complete a \$1.7 million renovation of the Highland Park picnic area, \$50,000 to start a youth circula-

tor bus service in the Summit-University and Frogtown neighborhoods, and \$250,000 to complete a citywide facilities plan for the Department of Parks and Recreation.

The \$2 million refund will also be used to pay for projects in Como Park, Mounds Park and Harriet Island and at three recreation centers where the buildings are to be torn down and the fields, playgrounds and restrooms will be improved.

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1 ◀ CENTRAL CORRIDOR

enough to examine the potential adverse impacts of light rail on minorities and minority-owned businesses.

Environmental impact studies for large projects like the Central Corridor are required by the federal government to examine social justice issues as well. The environmental studies for the Central Corridor have already been completed and approved by the FTA, so it is not clear what effect the Concerned Asian Business Owners' complaint will have.

A second group called Preserve and Benefit the Historic Rondo Community filed a similar complaint with the FTA last spring. That complaint, which was prepared with the assistance of the National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development, maintains that the Central Corridor line would unfairly affect Asian and African Americans and other racial minorities who make up about 46 percent of the population along the Central Corridor route. Among the impacts cited was the loss of on-street parking.

"We will not survive without business mitigation funds," said Lysa Bui, one of the owners of Saigon restaurant on University and one of the leaders of Concerned Asian Business Owners.

The \$941 million budget for building the Central Corridor line is not expected to have any money left over to help businesses survive the construction period. However, the city



An artists' rendering of a Central Corridor light-rails station on University Avenue.

of St. Paul is raising money to help pay for streetscape improvements and shared parking arrangements, and the nonprofit Neighborhood Development Center (NDC) is working to help small businesses in the Central Corridor attract new customers before light-rail construction begins, according to NDC director Mike Temali.

University businesses' best hope may be the new Central Corridor Funders Collaborative, an organization of 11 local and national foundations that is hoping to raise \$20 million over the next 10 years to help businesses along the route, "not just to survive, but to thrive," said Jonathan Sage-Martinson, the executive

director of the collaborative and a resident of Highland Park.

The Funders Collaborative led a bus tour of the Central Corridor in October to explain how it and other organizations are trying to help businesses along the route. More than 80 organizations are involved in the Funders Collaborative's efforts, according to Sage-Martinson.

Businesses in the Twin Cities have never been through a street construction project on the scale of the Central Corridor, said Jim Roth, executive director of the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers. Roth and others who are working with the Funders

Collaborative are trying to organize the many business associations, neighborhood groups and other civic organizations along the light-rail line before construction begins in 2010.

The Met Council has not yet announced a construction schedule for University Avenue. However, the relocation of utility lines and other rail preparation work got under way this summer in downtown St. Paul, where some businesses have reported a drop of 40 to 50 percent in sales.

Met Council staff will meet regularly with University business owners to keep them abreast of light-rail construction, according to Robin Cauffman, who heads up community outreach for the council. The Met Council is doing the same for downtown business owners, Cauffman said. It has also been working with contractors on signs to help customers reach downtown businesses during construction.

However, downtown business owners had to wait months for the signs and, when they finally got them, were unhappy to learn that the signs only listed buildings and not individual businesses. University Avenue businesses have since asked the Met Council that directional signs list them individually.

"Small businesses will be the first to feel the impacts of light-rail construction," Sage-Martinson said.

Some may not survive the construction period, Roth acknowledged. However, he said, "We need to recognize that we're going to be stronger if we work together."

Collaborative aims to ease the transition to light-rail transit

BY JANE MCCLURE

The prospect of four years of road construction on the street where you work can be frightening for any small-business owner and his or her employees. That is the situation in which many University Avenue businesses find themselves with work planned for 2010-2014 on the Central Corridor light-rail line. However, they do not have to go it alone if the new Central Corridor Funders Collaborative gets it way.

The Funders Collaborative is hoping to raise \$20 million in the next 10 years to help businesses along the 11-mile light-rail line survive its construction. The organization, which is housed at the Wilder Foundation's headquarters on University and Lexington Parkway, is led by Jonathan Sage-Martinson.

A Highland Park resident, Sage-Martinson works for the St. Paul Foundation, one of 11

local and national organizations that make up the Funders Collaborative. The others are the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the F.R. Bigelow Foundation, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, Living Cities Inc., the McKnight Foundation, the Minneapolis Foundation, the Otto Bremer Foundation, the Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation, the Surdna Foundation and the Travelers Foundation.

The collaborative began taking shape two years ago when a few foundation representatives started meeting to discuss what the Central Corridor light-rail line could mean for St. Paul and Minneapolis, according to Polly Talen, program director for the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

The Central Corridor has a \$941 million budget, but those local, state and federal funds are for construction only. The Funders Collaborative is hoping to assist with other expenditures along the corridor. So far, the

group has raised about \$5 million.

On an October 22 bus tour led by the Funders Collaborative, Talen and other foundation representatives spoke of how the Central Corridor can help the ethnically and economically diverse neighborhoods along the transit line. However, they said, that will require the cooperation of many entities, ranging from national organizations that work on transit and transit-oriented development to small neighborhood-based organizations.

The Funders Collaborative wants to make sure that residents and businesses in the Central Corridor benefit from its construction, Sage-Martinson said. To accomplish that, the collaborative will be focusing on access to affordable housing, a strong local economy, and communication and collaboration.

The possibility of light-rail's disruption is "frightening" for businesses and residents

alike, said Nieeta Presley, executive director of the Aurora-St. Anthony Neighborhood Development Center. People will need help keeping a business open or holding on to their home in the face of gentrification, according to Presley. They will also need to feel like they have a say in what is going on, she said.

Presley's organization is among several that are involved in the University Avenue Business Preparation Collaborative (U7). Founded by seven community development organizations along the Central Corridor route, U7 has received financial support from the Funders Collaborative as well as from St. Paul Foundation and Bigelow Foundation and is already working with businesses along University. Last summer it hired two small-business consultants to work on marketing, business development and technology.

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Dave Morris of Glacial Ridge Construction lays new brick on Goodrich. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Council questions extravagance of brick repaving of Goodrich Avenue

By JANE MCCLURE

The city of St. Paul's residential street paving program hit another bump in the road recently when questions were raised over the financing of the repaving of Goodrich Avenue between Cretin Avenue and Mississippi River Boulevard.

The City Council approved the assessments for the entire Cretin-Goodrich Residential Street Vitality Project on October 21 along with additional assessments for repaving a quarter-mile of Goodrich with brick pavers instead of asphalt.

The total cost for repaving that stretch of Goodrich with bricks was \$487,269, or about \$258,000 more than it would have been had asphalt been used. Goodrich property owners will pick up 25 percent or \$103,844 of the total cost of the repaving. The city will pay the remaining 75 percent or \$383,425, including \$193,500 for the brick work.

Only one property owner appeared at the public hearing to object to the assessments. Katherine Kennedy, whose family owns a double lot on Goodrich, said she will be assessed \$7,100 for the repaving project. She called the bricks "ridiculous" and "entirely unnecessary" and asked the council to halve her assessment so that her family would pay the same amount as the families on Goodrich with single lots.

Since the repaving is nearly complete, City Council members said they had little choice but to approve the assessments. All but three of the 18 homeowners on Goodrich wanted the bricks and agreed to pay the higher assessments. The University of St. Thomas, whose south campus is bordered by that quarter-mile of Goodrich and will be paying half of the assessments, also agreed to the added expenditure.

That stretch of Goodrich was originally paved with bricks in 1919. Asphalt was eventually laid over a portion of the street, but 30 to 40 percent of the original bricks were still visible before the repaving project began.

According to City Council members Russ Stark and Pat Harris, it may be time to review the city's policy on repaving with brick and possibly ask affected property owners to pick up more of the cost of repaving their streets with bricks. In a residential street paving project, property owners pay 25 percent of the cost and the city pays 75 percent. That formula is used with any paving material, but only streets that are already paved in brick may be repaved in brick.

Harris questioned whether the city can bear such a subsidy at a time of tightened city budgets. City officials had hoped to complete St. Paul's residential street paving program three years ago, but because of a shortage of funds have had to repeatedly postpone projects.

Charging property taxpayers across the city for 75 percent of the additional cost of repaving with bricks has also been questioned by the Taxpayers League of Minnesota.

It is unclear how many blocks of old brick streets remain in St. Paul. Most of the old brick or sandstone streets have been repaved over the past two decades as part of the city's Residential Street Vitality Project. Restoring historical paving materials can also have disastrous results, as residents in Summit Hill found when the removal and replacement of historic sandstone pavers on Osceola Avenue resulted in a bumpy mess.

Some homeowners have fought to retain their streets' historical paving materials and sandstone or granite curbs. They contend it preserves a bit of history and enhances property values. Others prefer asphalt, saying the historic materials are not worth the money.

The \$4,025,713 Cretin-Goodrich repaving project covers an area bounded by Mississippi River Boulevard and Summit, Cleveland and St. Clair avenues. Streets there are getting new concrete curbs, gutters, driveway aprons and outwalks; new boulevard trees and sod; and new lantern-style street lighting. The city's portion of the project's costs is \$3,372,667. Affected property owners are being assessed a total of \$653,044.

Lower speed limit sought on Marshall

By JANE MCCLURE

The St. Paul City Council has approved a resolution asking Ramsey County to reduce the speed limit on Marshall Avenue west of Snelling Avenue from 35 to 30 miles per hour. Marshall Avenue east of Snelling already has a posted speed limit of 30 mph.

Merriam Park residents have asked for the lower limit for years, saying that 35 mph poses a hazard on Marshall, which is a county road.

Previous requests for reduced speeds on

Marshall have been rejected because of traffic volume and the current speed of traffic. What could sway county officials this time are the bicycle lanes that were added to that stretch of Marshall over the past few years along with a landscaped median. State law allows local units of government to reduce the speed limit on streets with established bicycle lanes to as low as 25 mph.

The City Council resolution has been forwarded to the Ramsey County Public Works Department and the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners.

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Wildlife viewing platforms and a new fishing pier are planned for Pickerel Lake as part of a new master plan for Lilydale Regional Park that was adopted by the St. Paul City Council on October 21.

St. Paul approves off-leash dog area as part of \$13.7 million overhaul of Lilydale Park

BY JANE MCCLURE

A new master plan for Lilydale Regional Park includes an 8.5-acre off-leash dog area as well as road, entrance and other improvements designed to restore the park's natural beauty and make it more accessible to the public.

The St. Paul City Council voted unanimously on October 21 to adopt the master plan, which had previously won support from the Lilydale City Council and the St. Paul Parks and Recreation Commission. The plan must still be approved by the Metropolitan Council,

since Lilydale Park is part of the Twin Cities' regional park system.

The off-leash dog park is part of a total of \$13.7 million in improvements that are being eyed for Lilydale. The council also agreed on October 21 to apply for nearly \$1.5 million in Metropolitan Council grants to help clean up the park, which contains buried demolition debris left over from when the original Village of Lilydale moved out of the river floodway more than 40 years ago. The environmental cleanup, riverbank restoration and construction of a new park entrance are all scheduled to begin before the dog park is established. Work

could start as early as next spring.

The off-leash dog park is planned near an existing boat landing, one of two large areas where extensive cleanup is required. (The other is the former town dump.) The cost of the dog park is estimated at round \$120,000.

Dog owners said they are happy to have another off-leash dog park after lobbying for one for more than a decade. Currently, St. Paul's only city-run dog park is at Arlington-Arkwright Park in the Payne-Phalen neighborhood. Ramsey County also operates an

LILYDALE PARK ► 7

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6 LILYDALE PARK

off-leash area in Battle Creek Regional Park.

The 384-acre Lilydale Park is a popular place for hiking, fishing, fossil hunting and wildlife watching. It is bounded by the Mississippi River, Harriet Island, Highway 13 and the Lilydale Pool and Yacht Club. The park includes about 100 acres of marshland and the 100-acre Pickerel Lake.

Lilydale Park's master plan is part of a larger one that includes Harriet Island and Cherokee Heights Park. Although much attention has focused on Harriet Island improvements in recent years, the Lilydale area has languished.

The St. Paul Division of Parks and Recreation led a task force composed of the Friends of Lilydale Park, Friends of the Mississippi River, the West Side Citizens Organization and other groups to come up with recommendations for the new master plan. The previous park plan, which was opposed by many area residents, called for a fully developed swimming beach and recreational vehicle park at Lilydale. The new plan calls for a more natural area with improved erosion control, protection of caves and an area for storm water treatment to keep pollution from flowing from Ivy Falls into Pickerel Lake.

A new entrance to the park from Harriet Island will feature materials from the old Twin Cities Brick Company that operated in Lilydale for years. Five wildlife viewing platforms will be added, along with a new fishing pier on Pickerel.

Bituminous and concrete rubble along the river would be removed and about 2.5 miles of shoreline would be restored. The existing regional trail will be redesigned to extend throughout the park. A trail head, possibly with a restroom building, will be built near the fossil grounds.

A boardwalk will be built along the northern edge of Pickerel to provide a pedestrian connection between the main picnic area and the fossil grounds. Two picnic shelters will be added, along with additional outdoor tables. A small amphitheater is also proposed.

Water Street/Lilydale Road will be rebuilt with landscaped medians and light-



The new master plan spells out 14 design elements for restoring Lilydale Regional Park.

ing. Power lines will be buried and about 2,600 feet of the road will be moved farther away from Pickerel Lake to provide more picnic space.

The roadway is called Water Street in Ramsey County and Lilydale Road in Dakota County and is one of the potential sources of conflict cited in the new master plan. Dakota County wants to turn over the entire street to St. Paul, but city officials are hesitant to do so until the roadway work is completed. Discussions of roadway costs and responsibilities are under way.

Lilydale Park is owned and maintained by the city of St. Paul, although most of the park is located in Lilydale. The park came under city jurisdiction as a result of a land swap after the original

Village of Lilydale moved out. Before it became a park, the area was home to a variety of commercial and industrial operations, including a brickyard, an auto salvage yard, a landfill and a marina.

Ward 2 City Council member Dave Thune said approval of the new master plan, which replaces one from 1991, is a huge step for the park. "This is an amenity other cities wish they had," he said.

Thune said he hopes the city will be able to identify more areas for off-leash dog parks. One site being considered is located near the High Bridge on land owned by Xcel Energy. The site could also feature recreational equipment for children and stables for the city's mounted patrol. No timeline has been set for that area's development.

New St. Paul building design regs advance

BY JANE MCCLURE

A controversial plan to regulate the design of new buildings constructed in St. Paul is now headed to the City Council. Following many months of study, the St. Paul Planning Commission has recommended a set of design standards not only for new homes, but new commercial buildings and building additions.

Over the past few years, city officials have fielded an increasing number of complaints about the appearance of new houses and home additions. The complainants generally claim that the new houses or additions are too large for their lots, that they block the sunlight for the residents next door, or that they are out of keeping with the architectural style of neighboring houses.

Since January, city officials have required that all proposed single-family homes and duplexes undergo a city staff site plan review prior to receiving a building permit. The site plan requirement was enacted after a manufactured home was placed sideways on a vacant lot on the North End with no windows or doors facing the street.

Although the focus of the proposed regulations continues to be housing,

new regulations have been proposed for commercial buildings as well as the placement of new accessory buildings such as garages and sheds.

The regulations have been the subject of intense debate. Opponents have stated that the city should not stifle creativity, energy efficiency or environmentally friendly design. "Creativity and innovation must not be thwarted," said Eric Lagerquist, a Macalester-Groveland resident and president of the American Institute of Architects-Minnesota. "There is constant evolution in St. Paul neighborhoods due to creative practices, whether through design, material usage or the siting of buildings."

City planner Luis Pereira said it was a challenge developing regulations that avoided debates over aesthetics and focused on standards that can be clearly defined. Among the Planning Commission's recommendations are:

- The primary entrance of the main structure must be located in the front third of the structure; be delineated with roof overhangs, recessed entries, landscaping or similar design features; and have a direct pedestrian connection to the street.
- For single-family homes and duplexes, the primary entrance must either

face the street or be located off of a front porch, foyer, courtyard or similar architectural feature and must be set back at least 8 feet from the side property line.

- Above-grade window and door openings on a house must make up at least 15 percent of the total area of the exterior walls facing a public street or sidewalk and at least 10 percent of the total area of all exterior walls. Windows must be clear or translucent. (For non-residential buildings, windows may be clear, translucent or opaque.)

- In pedestrian-oriented commercial districts where storefronts are mostly built up to the public sidewalk, new buildings may not be set back more than 15 feet. Buildings must abut the corners at intersections, and their primary entrances must face a primary abutting public street.

- Building materials and architectural treatments on the sides of buildings facing an abutting public street must be similar to those used on the front or principal facades.

- Rooftop mechanical equipment must be hidden from view.

- A site plan must be approved by the zoning administrator before building permits are issued for new buildings or building expansions.

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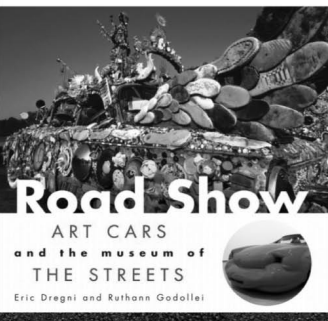
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Viewpoint

No winners: A most unappealing appeal is upheld

BY MICHAEL MISCHKE

It's hard to figure out who the winners were on the heels of the St. Paul City Council's October 21 decision to uphold the appeal of Walgreens' previously approved site plan for its proposed pharmacy in Highland Village. Truth be told, I'm not sure there even was one.

It certainly isn't those Highland Park residents who, though of a decidedly mixed mind on the matter, now get to live with the prospect of a vacant, burned-out gas station and convenience store in their midst for the foreseeable future. It isn't the Highland District Council, which, following numerous contentious meetings with those neighbors and the developer, finally came out with a recommendation in support of an amended site plan. And it isn't the Highland Business Association, whose board of directors also lent the amended site plan its support.

It isn't the St. Paul Planning Commission, which had approved Walgreens' site plan based in part on the recommendation of the city's planning staff. It isn't the City Council, which voted to deny what its own attorneys advised them was a legal site plan under the city's zoning code, exposing the city to a costly lawsuit in the process. And it certainly isn't Walgreens, which, after numerous site plan revisions to garner the neighborhood's support, saw its approval by the Planning Commission overturned on the flimsiest of legal pretenses.

It isn't even Snyders Drug Stores and the United Food and Commercial Workers, whose union employees and members worked overtime to drum up opposition to the entry of a non-unionized competitor in the marketplace, then appealed the Planning Commission's decision to the City Council, only to learn that their parent company—Canada-based C&H Holdings Inc.—has been entertaining offers from Walgreens to buy or lease the Highland Village Snyders behind their backs for the past five months.

But the biggest loser of all may be the city of St. Paul itself. Snyders was seeking no rezoning, no parking variance and, even more noteworthy, no city loans or grants to open a new store in Highland. What message does it send to anyone who would dare to invest in the city when a company does everything and more than is legally required of it, only to see its plans thwarted by political considerations?

Oh, you question that politics played a part? Then ask yourself this:

- Were this not a case of a union vs. non-union shop, would the City Council have upheld the union's site plan appeal?
- If the developer had been a politically connected company that wanted to construct a building for a locally based business, would the City Council have cited the city's comprehensive plan as an excuse for denying what in every respect was a legal and conforming use under the city's zoning code?
- Would trumped-up safety concerns about additional traffic in the neighborhood been an issue?
- Would pie-in-the-sky preferences for "pedestrian-oriented development" have precluded the presence of a business that is no less pedestrian-oriented others in the area?
- Would the fear that the new business might draw customers away from a competitor down the block have even been a factor in the decision?

The City Council ostensibly based its decision to deny Walgreens' site plan on its contention that the site plan didn't adhere closely enough to the city's comprehensive plan. That plan suggests that sites such as the one in Highland Village be redeveloped as "mixed use," i.e., a combination of housing and a variety of commercial uses.

Well, if that's going to be the benchmark for all future construction on all similar lots in St. Paul neighborhoods, you can kiss a lot of future redevelopment goodbye. The last I looked, there wasn't a lot of construction—commercial or residential—going on in St. Paul today as it is.

Otherwise well-meaning people cited the precedent that Walgreens' site plan approval would set in St. Paul. I'd be more worried about the precedent that its denial has set.



Inbox

Build it and he will come

I have nothing against Walgreens. However, I am opposed to the saturation of similar services in close proximity, especially when there is a lack of other services in the same area. The loss of a gas station should be replaced with another gas station.

Highland Village is lacking in gas stations. A privately owned niche gas station would surely fit the bill in that location. It could be a small gas station that serves organic ice cream and gourmet desserts instead of all the bells and whistles of a traditional chain gas station and convenience store. As oxymoronic as it may sound, it could be a gas station with a local, organic, "green" twist. If I had the means to start it up myself, I would. A bust? Maybe. But much more exciting than another cookie-cutter Walgreens.

What do you think, Highland Villagers? I know I'd get gas there during my weekly trip across the river to Lunds.

Peter Woeste
Minnehaha, Minneapolis

Paved with other people's money

Those familiar with Joe Soucheray's "Garage Logic" know of its two categories that summarize current events: Today's Ray of Hope and The End of the World as We Know It. I suggest adding a third: OPM, as in spending Other People's Money. Here's my contribution to that category.

I live on the one-block stretch of Goodrich Avenue between Cretin Avenue and Mississippi River Boulevard. Our tiny little avenue is part of the bigger street improvement project under way along Cretin. Early on in the project, a city planner suggested to my 16 or so neighbors that brick pavers would be a lovely alternative to plain old asphalt. Of course, this option would come with nearly double the special assessment for humble asphalt. Despite the astounding cost, all but two residents agreed to petition for the special pavers and lighting rather than the asphalt that every other street in the same project is getting. The special assessment for my double lot is a whopping \$7,100, which mercifully can be paid over 20 years at a mere 5.5 percent interest!

That's my particular burden. But here's the OPM part of the story. The city's portion of the cost of these ornamental brick pavers over asphalt is \$200,000. And who is really paying to decorate this tiny little corner of the city, but the good taxpayers of Merriam Park and Como Park and every

other neighborhood in St. Paul. If you doubt that, consider that Mayor Coleman's proposed property tax hike is in part because the city has bondholders it must pay. Those bondholders pay for street projects. So with the signature of about 16 residents and the acquiescence of a unanimous City Council, they've just managed to spend \$200,000 of Other People's Money for our pricy little street.

How many other \$200,000 allocations of OPM are being spent across this city?

Katherine Kennedy
Macalester-Groveland

Editor's note: According to Dan Haak of the St. Paul Department of Public Works, 15 of the 18 property owners on Goodrich Avenue between Cretin Avenue and Mississippi River Boulevard supported the \$258,000 additional cost of the brick pavers and so did the St. Paul City Council. The 18 property owners are picking up 25 percent of the added cost through annual assessments. Property taxpayers across the city are paying for the other 75 percent.

Let's require photo IDs at polls

I was listening to Joe Soucheray's "Garage Logic" radio show last week and heard that the Minnesota Voters Alliance (MVA) has started a petition to require voters to show a photo ID at precinct polling stations in St. Paul elections. It is about time that this is required. I applaud the MVA for its efforts and will sign the petition. This is an excellent step in bringing some integrity to our voting process.

Robert Bushard
Merriam Park

No excuse for Afghan slaughter

What gives war its expansive qualities and the ability to morph into whatever it so desires? The U.S. military now has a "capture or kill" list with 50 Afghan "drug lords" on it. How can war have such magical abilities that suddenly out of nowhere the gunning down of these men becomes acceptable?

It appears that war is an unstoppable force that can be anything those who put it in motion want it to be. What's next? The targeting of Afghan women who "support the

A sucker for what the girlfriend dragged in

By Bill Stieger

Until a few weeks ago, I had avoided comment whenever my girlfriend brought up The Cat. “I’m eventually going to have to bring her here,” she said.

I didn’t want her cat in my house. At her former digs, where her sons are still living, the cat had hissed at me when I tried to pet it. “The people next door hate cats,” I told her. “My ex had a cat that suddenly disappeared. I think they had something to do with it.”

“There’s no need to worry,” my girlfriend said. “She never goes outside.” “Oh, that’s just *terrific*,” I said. The neighbors had been my ace in the hole.

Then came the day. She let The Cat out of its carrier in my living room. It took one look at me, hissed, then disappeared upstairs. I didn’t see it for two days.

Eventually, The Cat got acclimated to its new home. It began roaming around the house, and when it wasn’t roaming it was sleeping on the furniture.

The Cat eats three meals a day. First thing in the morning, once in the afternoon, then right before bedtime. And the food has to be “boutique” cat food, some fish concoction that has the word “paté” on the can.

“Why does it have to have this fancy food?” I asked my girlfriend. “Let’s just buy some Friskies.”

“It’s all she’ll eat,” she said. “She’ll starve if it isn’t that brand and flavor.”

“What’s with feeding it three times a day?” She didn’t reply to that question, but I soon learned the answer.

“Why does it have to have this fancy food?” I asked my girlfriend. “Let’s just buy some Friskies.” “It’s all she’ll eat,” she said. “She’ll starve if it isn’t that brand and flavor.”

One day, while my girlfriend was away, I tried to feed The Cat only twice. I just left more food in its bowl. Have you ever tried to remove the stain of cat puke from your carpet?

One morning, I woke up to find The Cat sleeping at the foot of our bed. I kicked it off, and caught hell from my girlfriend.

“She’s 12 years old, for heaven’s sake!” my girlfriend said.

The next morning, The Cat was on the bed again. I left it alone and went back to sleep. Soon The Cat was jumping up on our bed at night and curling up beside my girlfriend. It purred like an Italian motorscooter whenever she petted it.

In the morning, because I get up before my girlfriend, I began feeding The Cat. How could I not? It blocked my path to the refrigerator like a hockey goalie.

It might have taken a few days of my feeding her, but soon The Cat was coming up to me in bed, hoping to get her ears scratched. Now I have to pet the animal every night.

I soon learned that she likes to have her stomach rubbed. She began to roll on her back whenever she saw me. I’d scratch her stomach while she stretched to twice her

length. She’d even crawl up onto my lap whenever my girlfriend wasn’t home.

And I let her. It’s all over for me now. I’ll say the most cloying, stupid and endearing things to The Cat. I have insipid nicknames for her.

Sorry, but in the interest of retaining at least a smidgeon of my dignity, I’ll supply no further details. Suffice it to say that my fall from grace is complete:

I’m a sap. A sucker. A cuckold for the Cat.

8◀ INBOX

insurgency” by cooking food and cleaning and mending clothing for the insurgents? Will they be added to the “capture or kill” list?

I feel sorry for any Afghan men who may look like individuals on the “capture or kill” list. War and its “collateral damage” will excuse the gunning down of any “drug lords” or those who resemble any “drug lords” on the list.

At the beginning of the “war” in Afghanistan, the U.S. military blew up a man named Tall Man Khan while he was collecting scrap metal on the side of a mountain. A U.S. plane hit him with a missile. They killed him because he was tall and looked like Osama bin Laden.

“War” is an excuse, not an act. There is no “war” because there is no excuse for the reckless slaughter of innocent men.

Frank Erickson
Standish, Minneapolis

A preference for IRV

Quite frankly, I am tired of the misinformation your publication continues to peddle regarding instant runoff voting (“IRV’s flaws are rooted in its bottom-up design,” *Villager* Viewpoint, October 21). The farrago of mistruths, half-truths and misunderstandings that passed for an article was astounding. Let me address just one:

“...in races with three or more strong candidates, IRV could skew the results, picking winners who are not the most popular candidates and even punishing candidates who strive harder to win more first-choice votes.” This is just flat-out nonsense. Any candidate who wins a preferential or IRV election, by definition, has a majority of the preferred vote and is the most popular candidate. IRV is a common-sense system that deserves to be fully supported on November 3.

Stephen Arnott
Lexington-Hamline

Fair elections come with a cost

In his column “IRV’s flaws are rooted in bottom-up design” (*Villager* Viewpoint, October 21), Dale Mischke complains about the added cost of devising a new system of counting votes. I look at it as the cost of Minnesota creating an election system that’s a model for the country. Minnesota can set the standard for free and fair elections. Instant runoff voting may indeed be the method that lets every vote count.

Bill Mears
Snelling-Hamline

INBOX ▶ 10

VILLAGER

Volume 57, Number 17

Maurice F. Mischke, 1920-1991

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Publisher
Michael Mischke
mmischke@myvillager.com

Editors
Dale Mischke
John Wadell
news@myvillager.com
Letters to the editor:
letters@myvillager.com

General Manager
John Rauch

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

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

Production
John Baichtal
Craig Schuster

CONTRIBUTORS

Anne Brandrud, Nancy Crotti, Kevin Driscoll, Larry Englund, Bob Gilbert, Janet Lunder Hanafin, Lisa Heinrich, Janet Hostetter, Brian Johnson, Frank Jossi, Susan Klemond, Sue Lee, Jo Marshall, Jane McClure, Steve Michaels, Dave Page, Steve Pease, Morgan Smith, Brad Stauffer, Bill Stieger, Bill Wagner, Carolyn Will, Judy Woodward, Dave Wright.

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9◀ INBOX

Kudos to KidsPark

Our family has had the privilege of being involved with KidsPark for the last seven years. KidsPark is a parent cooperative of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council and is co-sponsored by the city of St. Paul. It provides professionally staffed care for children 6 weeks to 5 years old and has been operating for more than 20 years.

KidsPark recently relocated from the Groveland warming house to the Desnoyer Park Recreation Center. The new facility has a larger and more inviting interior space and, according to our children, “awesome” outdoor equipment.

The flexibility of scheduling reliable professional child care as needed was an integral asset for us in both our professional and personal lives. However, the best part of our KidsPark experience has been the positive effects it has had on our children.

Our kids have loved going, and KidsPark has provided great opportunities for them to interact with other children. The program and staff helped them develop self-confidence and independence. They have been exposed to a diverse group of children. KidsPark served as a great springboard for them into both preschool and kindergarten.

We trust the program will continue to thrive for another 20 years based on new families finding the benefits of this gem of a community resource. Readers in search of professional, local, affordable child care should look into KidsPark by calling 651-603-0144 or visiting kidsparkdropin.org.

*Elizabeth Wrobel and Mark Smith
Merriam Park*

Viewers can push to clean up TV

The entertainment industry insists that broadcast decency rules be removed by a judicial order. As it stated in a brief recently submitted in federal court, to prohibit things like nudity and profanity from being broadcast into our living rooms at any time of the day “interferes with the process of artistic and creative expression.”

The FOX television network claims it has First Amendment protection to allow fleeting expletives and nudity. That isn’t new, but now the “creative community” and network czars demand no limits in entertaining with profane, indecent and obscene material. Together, the writers, producers and musicians spend hundreds of thousands of dollars for the right to have naked people drop f-bombs in every living room in America.

Where is the moral responsibility in Comedy Central’s recent televised roast of Joan Rivers, where she came on stage holding hands with six children, tugging at one little girl, ordering her to say something? When the little girl didn’t speak, Rivers yelled, “That’s (bleeping) enough!” (Of course, the children on stage heard this f-bomb.) When the tots left the stage, Rivers concluded the scene by giving them the middle finger, saying, “I hate children!”

Rivers’ peers roasted her with routines crammed full of jokes about rape, incest, child molestation, genitals—the subjects most people find offensive and no family newspaper would print. Every cable television customer paid for Rivers’

child-molestation humor. The entertainment industry says, “Use the V-Chip.” Why should customers pay for channels they must block? Why is the industry free from any responsibility in this matter?

Cable and satellite TV hold the public captive. Under the current system, they force local and national cable and satellite companies to purchase their networks in a package deal handed down to consumers. Every month your dollars support channels you would never watch, have no interest in and find harmful or offensive. To buy the children’s networks like Disney or Noggin, you are required to take MTV or Comedy Central. No other business operates this way. When you purchase an airline ticket to Hawaii, are you forced to buy tickets to Egypt and Peru, too?

The “creative community” insists that this issue isn’t a constitutional matter. They want no rules. Customers can stop this rampage. Elected officials can pass legislation to “unbundle” the cable packaging, to stop this monopoly that promotes profanity, obscenity and indecency. Consider how much money you will save when buying only the channels you watch.

*Phyllis M. Plum
Mendota Heights*

Editor’s note: The writer is director of the Minnesota Parents Television Council.

Foodshelf donors Lion-ized

The St. Paul Midway Lions Club would like to thank the following for a successful foodshelf drive:

- The Villager for inserting the foodshelf notice in its newspaper.
- The Midway Rainbow Food Store and Dick’s IGA Food Market in West St. Paul for the use of their facilities.
- The people who volunteered for the drive.

A special thank-you goes to all of the people who gave donations to the foodshelf drive in one way or another. All of the donations went to Keystone Community Services’ foodshelves in Merriam Park and the Midway.

*Paul Smrekar, Member
St. Paul Midway Lions Club*

Expand free lunches in schools

In school, empty stomachs often mean empty brains. What happens when Tyler, a low-income 8-year-old Minnesotan, goes to school without lunch money? The answer is not always a “free lunch.”

An increasing number of Minnesota schools are turning away low-income children at lunch counters. Alternatively, our schools are offering cheese or peanut-butter sandwiches in place of the nutritionally balanced hot meal of the day. If Tyler has lunch debts, the school district may use a collection agency to pursue his family. We are thankful that U.S. Senator Al Franken and U.S. Representative Keith Ellison are working with a bipartisan group of legislators in Washington that views these practices as unacceptable. It has introduced a bill to expand free school lunch to more low-income children.

Federally funded free school lunches are only offered to children in families earning less than about \$25,000 a year.

Thousands of low-income Minnesota families experiencing a recent job loss, a home foreclosure or high medical bills are just out of reach of free school lunch. Some families pay a reduced price, but even this has become unaffordable for families living on the edge.

When times were good, schools could absorb lunch debts. Now that times are bad, this is no longer the case. Across the state, we know of school cooks and lunchroom staff who have been instructed to turn children away for nonpayment. Some staff are digging into their own pockets to pay for lunches for these children. We also know of junior high teachers who keep snack drawers for teens who would rather go hungry than be stigmatized by taking the “cheese sandwich” at the lunch counter.

The most gifted teachers cannot teach math and science to a child who has not eaten for 18 hours. We hope you will join us in thanking Senator Franken and Representative Ellison for taking a leadership role in recognizing children cannot learn on empty stomachs.

*Jessica Webster, Policy Advocate
Legal Services Advocacy Project*

Green energy can wait

The Obama administration asserts that its massive investments in “green energy” will create a large number of jobs. President Obama wants to “harness the power of alternative and renewable energy” to create “5 million new green jobs, good jobs that cannot be outsourced.” The \$58 billion devoted to energy programs in the federal stimulus package by itself is supposed to create over 450,000 new jobs.

The fact is, green energy subsidies lose more jobs than they create. Spain, of any country, is perhaps the most aggressive subsidizer of green energy, especially wind and solar. A new study by King Carlos University shows that for every green job created in Spain, they lose 2.2 jobs in the industrial sector. That’s mainly from increasing energy costs, which cause energy-intensive industries to move or close. Unemployment in Spain is nearing 20 percent despite its forests of towering turbines and acres of solar panels on the Costa del Sol. The study notes that “since 2000 Spain has spent \$800,000 to create each green job.”

U.S. industry is developing renewable projects in solar, wind, algae biofuels, etc., with research support from the federal Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory. We don’t need additional billions to prematurely implement technology that isn’t ready for production and which requires large taxpayer subsidies to be competitive.

Proven and competitive nuclear power and domestic natural gas have the capacity to replace much of our coal-burning electric power, while greatly reducing harmful emissions. They can also provide the needed additional megawatts as electricity powers more of our transportation. Investing in those cost-competitive energy sources will create jobs.

*Rolf Westgard
Macalester-Groveland*

Editor’s note: The writer is a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

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A buck makes its way through Crosby Farm Regional Park. PHOTO BY MARK PALAS

Crosby to be closed Nov. 9-11 for second phase of bow hunt

BY BILL STIEGER

Crosby Farm Regional Park will be closed to the public again on November 9-11 to allow bow hunters to reduce the size of the park's deer herd. A previous hunt, for does only, closed the park on October 19-20. This month's hunt is for both does and bucks.

This is the second consecutive year that bow hunters have been called on to reduce the deer population in Crosby. Last year's hunt resulted in the harvest of 13 deer. The hunters either kept the meat or donated it to food shelves.

Last year's hunt at Crosby, which was organized by the St. Paul Division of Parks and Recreation at the request of the Highland District Council, came on the heels of numerous complaints by Highland residents about deer eating their plants. Highland District Council community organizer Kathy Carruth said she has received numerous calls from homeowners requesting that the hunts continue.

"I checked with John Moriarity at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and he said the herd in the park had grown to the numbers it had in 2008, so we decided to continue the hunt in 2009," Carruth said.

Nearly two dozen Highland residents turned out for a district council meeting last year to ask that something be done to reduce the neighborhood's deer population. Some people said the damage done by deer in their yards was the worst they had ever seen. The abundance of deer was also posing a threat to motorists. Thirty car and deer collisions were reported across Ramsey County in 2008.

Adam Robbins, environmental coordinator for St. Paul Parks and Recreation, said the herd at Crosby Park is now at a manageable level of around 24. However, he said the hunts are still needed because the herd is always growing.

"Crosby is across the river from Fort Snelling State Park," Robbins said, "and many of the deer that end up in Crosby swim over from Fort Snelling."

Robbins said the deer population at Fort Snelling State Park is unknown. "Surveys are done in the winter by low-flying helicopters, but it's nearly impossible to conduct an aerial survey there because of the proximity to the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport," he said. "We believe the Fort Snelling State Park's deer population is at capacity."

The trained and licensed hunters are from the Metro Bowhunters Resource Base (MBRB), a nonprofit coalition of Minnesota archery groups that was formed to address the problem of urban deer populations. The

archers killed five does in Crosby last month in what was originally scheduled to be a three-day hunt. "They only had two days to hunt in October," Robbins said. "They were rained out on the 21st."

This is the ninth year that bow hunters have been used to manage deer herds in Ramsey County. More than 650 deer have been taken during that time.

"Crosby is across the river from Fort Snelling State Park," Robbins said, "and many of the deer that end up in Crosby swim over from Fort Snelling."

Last year, archery hunts resulted in the harvesting of 108 deer in the county. The MBRB supplied 219 archers who hunted at 10 county parks and wildlife preserves. No safety problems were reported in the county during the hunts. The hunters shoot from deer stands, toward the ground, in part to insure public safety.

Bob Whiting, president of the MBRB, said the program is popular with area bow hunters. The MBRB receives around 500 applications for special permit hunts a year.

"If a deer is injured and leaves the area of the designated hunt, we mark where the deer exited the park and call the police," Whiting said. "None of our hunters will ever trespass."

Robbins said the same 14 hunters from last month's hunt in Crosby will participate in the one scheduled for November 9-11. The hunters selected by the MBRB have all taken a safety class, an accuracy test and an ethics pledge.

Montcalm Place resident Richard Streeper said the hunts have made an improvement in his neighborhood. "We had two or three deer coming into the yard this year, and I lost a few shrubs," he said. "But having two or three deer in your yard beats having five or six. I hope they keep having the hunts."

Correction

A story on the Elder-Friendly hearing program in the October 7 edition of the *Villager* should have stated that funding came from the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

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Teaching kids the game of life

First Tee's plan for golf learning center is in full swing at Highland National

BY BRIAN JOHNSON

First Tee of St. Paul, a nonprofit organization that introduces children to golf, especially those who otherwise would not likely have the chance to play the game, is getting a financial boost in its efforts to build a learning center at Highland National Golf Course.

Last month, the organization learned it is getting a \$150,000 grant and a \$150,000 loan from the city of St. Paul's Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) program to build the approximately 4,000-square-foot complex. The building would provide a shelter for young golfers during inclement weather, a year-round classroom, a computer room, and office and storage space. A new bunker and chipping practice area are also in the works, as well as an overhang on the back of the center where golfers could use the existing driving range when it rains.

"When we're not using it, the public will be able to hit balls under it,"

said First Tee executive director and PGA teaching pro Brian Simpson. "If they're out there and the weather gets bad, they can take cover and not have to leave or ask for a refund for range balls."

The cost of the project has been estimated at \$450,000-\$500,000, Simpson said. South Dakota businessman and philanthropist T. Denny Sanford, who grew up in the area and played golf and caddied at Highland, has agreed to cover half of the cost. Other local businesses and professionals are donating everything from architectural services to landscaping. The U.S. Golf Association is also chipping in a grant for the learning center. Any additional funds that are raised will go to programming.

The World Golf Foundation started First Tee in 1997. First Tee of St. Paul was founded in 2005, the year that Highland National reopened following a \$4 million redesign. The local chapter received a grant from the foundation, which it contributed toward the construction of the new



Mac Mitchell developed his golf swing with the help of a special club during the opening session of the First Tee of St. Paul junior program at Highland National Golf Course. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

driving range at Highland. In return, First Tee was granted the right to run its program at the course.

Each golf season since then, First Tee has provided golf leagues, instruction and life skills coaching for boys and girls ages 4-17. Over the past four years, it has taught more than 1,200 young golfers and given more than 300 scholarships to youngsters who cannot afford to participate.

Simpson said the new facilities at Highland National will enable First Tee to provide year-round instruction. Golf is the main focus,

but it's not all about hitting the ball long and straight. First Tee bases its program on nine core principles: honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, perseverance, judgment, respect, confidence, responsibility and courtesy.

"We try to promote core values through the golf lessons," Simpson said. "We talk about things like respecting yourself and respecting others. We teach golf as a lifetime game and a way of staying healthy, too."

Franco Zerna, an instructor for First Tee, said instilling those values can be as simple as teaching the kids how to present themselves and how to leave the course in as good or better shape than they found it.

"We get kids from all over St. Paul," he said. "The first day I go over golf etiquette. The next day, 80 percent are wearing golf shirts that are tucked in."

Zerna recalled an 8-year-old girl who lacked confidence at the start of the program. He said her vocabulary was peppered with "I can't's." Slowly, she emerged from her shell.

"At the end of the season, her mom came up to me with tears in her eyes," Zerna said. "She said she

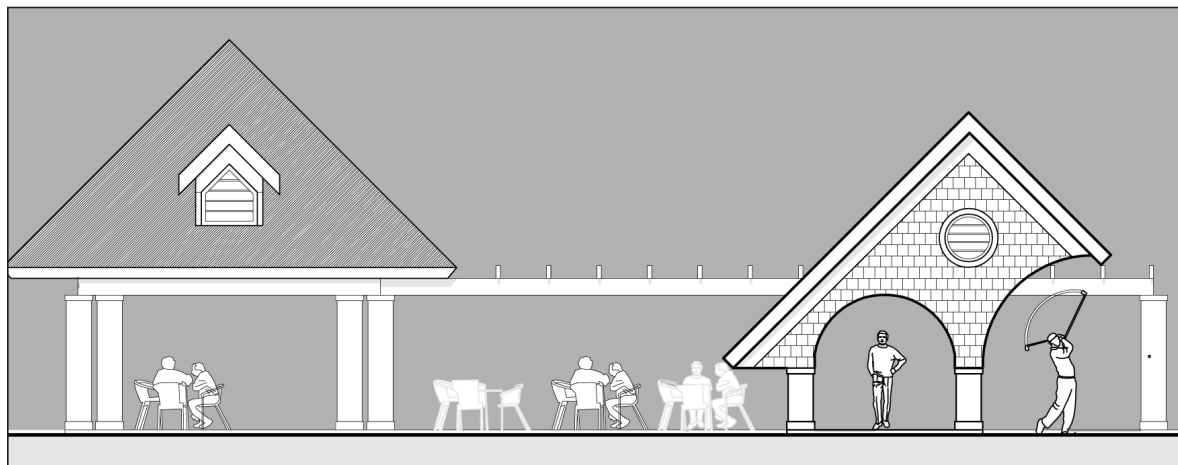
was so happy. (The girl) became part of the group. You could see the confidence."

First Tee hopes to begin construction of the learning center in May. Some of the construction details still must be worked out, but local golf course architect Rich Meyer of Coursecraft Design has agreed to donate his design services for the bunker and chipping practice area, Simpson said. Don Stevens Inc. and the Toro Co. are also providing in-kind donations.

The bunker and chipping practice area will be located right next to the existing putting green, the same site that was originally proposed when the golf course was renovated four years ago. However, those improvements were never made due to the lack of money, Simpson said.

The new facility will be available to other nonprofit organizations, college and high school golfers, and the general public as well as the First Tee program, Simpson said.

For more information about First Tee of St. Paul or to make a donation for the learning center, call Simpson at 612-834-0408 or visit thefirstteestpaul.org.



A drawing of First Tee of St. Paul's proposed T. Denny Sanford Highland Learning Center.

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Local jurisdictions are holding separate tax hearings this fall

Estimated property tax statements will no longer herald a joint tax hearing

By JANE MCCLURE

For the first time in 17 years, the second Tuesday evening in December may be a quiet one for local elected officials. The city of St. Paul, Ramsey County and the St. Paul Public Schools are no longer holding their joint truth-in-taxation hearing on that date.

Ramsey County property owners will still be receiving estimated 2010 property tax statements in the mail between November 10 and 24 as required by state law. However, the Minnesota Legislature dropped its requirement for a single joint hearing and is now requiring local jurisdictions to hold a truth-in-taxation hearing sometime between November 29 and December 30.

The city of St. Paul held a hearing on its 2010 budget on October 28 and will hold a second hearing at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 2, at City Hall. Ramsey County held a 2010 budget hearing on October 30 and will hold a second one at 6:30 p.m. Monday, November 30, at Roseville Area High School. The St. Paul School Board will hold a public hearing on its budget and 2010 tax levy at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 1, and another one just prior to voting on the levy on December 15. Both of those hearings will be held at the school's district's headquarters at 360 Colborne St.

About 20 people attended the City Council's 2010 budget and property tax levy hearing on October 28. More than a dozen people spoke, most in opposition to plans for replacing the swimming pool in Como Park. Several people voice concerns about high property taxes, but there was also a request to restore the position of city coordinator for bicycle and pedestrian traffic and to spend an additional \$64,000 through the Capital Improvement Budget for work on the Merriam Park master plan.

The truth-in-taxation program was enacted by the Minnesota Legislature in 1988 to give property taxpayers more information on the relationship between local governmental budgets and property taxes. The program was phased in by 1993, the same year that the gen-

eral property tax levy limitations for counties and cities were repealed. The joint truth-in-taxation hearing and the Joint Property Tax Advisory Committee for St. Paul, Ramsey County and the St. Paul Public Schools were set up at the same time to encourage those units of government to work together to hold the line on taxes and spending.

The first truth-in-taxation hearing in 1993 attracted a raucous crowd of more than 1,000 to Central High School. Many carried signs protesting rising property taxes.

"That was one wild night," recalled Jerry Blakey, then a newly elected member of the St. Paul City Council who had yet to take his seat.

The plan was for local governmental staffs and elected officials to answer questions from the audience. "But it didn't happen that way," recalled Ramsey County Property Records and Revenue manager Chris Samuel. Instead, speaker after speaker vented angrily about high property taxes and government spending.

Although subsequent truth-in-taxation hearings drew fewer people, attendance still hovered around 200 to 300 people. "I think it's a mistake to eliminate the hearing," Blakey said. "Having been on both sides of the table, I think it did have some value and that people want to be heard."

Local officials did not lobby for the joint hearing to be eliminated, according to City Council president Kathy Lantry, and some were surprised to learn that the state law had been changed.

Though taxpayers often complained about the truth-in-taxation hearing coming only days before the City Council and County Board adopted their budgets for the coming year—and a month after local elections—several of those who regularly attended the hearings said they are going to miss them.

"I just think it's better if the hearings are held together," said Highland Park resident Bob Kreitz. He and his neighbors often attended the hearings together, he said. Although he did not testify, Kreitz said that hearing the public testimony and the presentations by local officials was valuable.

"I think it's a mistake not having the joint hearing," said Highland Park resident Gary Fischbach. "At least it gave people a chance to make themselves heard."

Senior News

The Twin Cities Housing Guide, a list of housing options for older adults in the 11-county metropolitan area, is now available. The guide includes information on the variety of condominiums, cooperatives, assisted-living and memory care residences that are out there. It also includes tips on how to get rid of clutter and live in a smaller home. Free copies are available at local libraries, senior centers, Prairie Stone Pharmacies and Snyder Drug stores. Call 651-690-3141 or visit www.seniorhousingguide.us.

Seniors in the West 7th neighborhood may sign up for free yard cleanup service. Volunteers from 3M will be available to rake leaves and do other fall chores from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Friday, November 6. Seniors must provide the rakes and bags, and must be home during the cleanup. They are also responsible for having the bags removed afterward. To register, call Jeannie Farrell at 651-298-5493, ext. 204.

The West 7th Community Center, 265 Oneida St., will hold the following trips for older adults: a visit to the Minnesota History Center to see the Ben Franklin exhibit and lunch at Pop!! in downtown St. Paul at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 10 (\$15, register by November 6); and a trip to the Old Log

Theatre to see *Funny Money* and have lunch from 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 11 (\$44, register by November 4). Call 651-298-5493 or visit www.west7th.org.

Immanuel Lutheran Church, 104 S. Snelling Ave., will continue its Aging Splendidly series with "The Nations are Here!" on Thursday, November 12. Vern Rice of the St. Paul Area Synod Local Mission Partner Team will speak on how the Lutheran church is changing to reflect St. Paul's diverse population: Call Russ Carlson at 651-699-5560.

A Seniors in Mind program on Benjamin Franklin will be offered at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, November 10, at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. In conjunction with the center's new exhibit, "Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World," actor Shawn Hoffman will portray Franklin and expound on his inventions, theories and commitment to public service. The program is free. Senior admission to the museum galleries is \$8.00. Call 651-259-3000.

A free class on options for adults with Medicare Part D will be offered from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Saturday, November 14, at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 700 Wesley Lane, Mendota Heights. Call 651-452-5683.

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Happily ever after

Red Balloon celebrates having 25 years in the books

By NANCY CROTTI

Carol Erdahl and Michele Cromer-Poire didn't know it at the time, but they had the exact same idea 25 years ago. They started running the idea past mutual friends, who suggested the two strangers should get together and talk.

Erdahl was a children's librarian in the Roseville Public Schools. Cromer-Poire was the assistant manager and children's book buyer at Odegard Books on Grand Avenue. Each woman wanted to open a children's bookstore in St. Paul. Erdahl eventually called Cromer-Poire, and they met for lunch at W.A. Frost.

"We'd never set eyes on each other before that," Erdahl said.

Something clicked and they started scouting locations for what would become the Red Balloon Bookshop. Erdahl was hired as a storyteller at Odegard for the summer, and took a crash course in book selling and a sabbatical from her library job. The Red Balloon opened at 867 Grand Ave. on November 17, 1984.

After five years, the pair bought a dilapidated duplex at 891 Grand and had it torn down to build the current store. A 25th anniversary celebration is now planned for Saturday and Sunday, November 14-15.

"By doing it together we had a better bookshop than we could've had if we'd done it separately because we had different skills," said Cromer-Poire, while sitting with Erdahl at a table in the store's basement surrounded by boxes of books, long tables for packing and unpacking, and a computer to keep track of the inventory.

The main floor of the shop features shelves and displays of children's books, a few stuffed animals and CDs, plus books for teenagers and adults. Despite the advent of on-line book selling and less expensive offerings at big-box



Red Balloon co-owner Carol Erdahl prepares to celebrate the bookshop's silver anniversary on November 14-15. PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

stores, the Red Balloon has held fast to its mission of promoting books and literacy rather than adding non-book merchandise.

"We just don't want to be anything other than a bookstore," Cromer-Poire said. "We're not going to go down that slippery slope."

Erdahl said the Red Balloon has been able to survive the recent recession as well as the influx of bookstore chains that have pushed out other independents by working hard, reaching out to schools, and highlighting the works of local authors and illustrators.

"We're always looking for new faces to sell books to," she said. "One of the big things was our baby and toddler story times, which we added on top of our preschool story times so that we could reach out to the younger child, the upcoming generation."

Not all of their efforts have been flashy, but they have paid off, Erdahl said. "We almost get emotional about the wonderful support that the community has given us over the years," she said. "If it hadn't been for that, who knows if we would've survived? The community

really stood with us. I think they've appreciated having the Red Balloon here. I think people have been committed to keeping us here."

Loyal fans say the Red Balloon has been much more than a bookstore. A steady parade of authors and illustrators have sat down with children and their families to share how they weave their tales with words and images. The Red Balloon and its customers have contributed thousands of books to homeless children. The store offers discounts to teachers and librarians, and it recently started a book club for adults who read children's books.

"From the beginning we saw ourselves as a resource for the community, and the community has been a huge support for us," Erdahl said.

Author and illustrator Nancy Carlson, who has known Erdahl since her library days, was asked by Erdahl what she thought of the idea of opening a children's bookstore.

"I was kind of honored and that's when I met Michele," said Carlson, a Minnesotan who has written and illustrated 61 children's books and has appeared the Red Balloon twice a year since it opened. "They wanted to know would authors come, and the rest is history"

Renowned children's author Tomie dePaola came to the bookshop often in its early years. Newbery Award-winner Kate DiCamillo has been a mainstay. Local authors such as John Coy make regular appearances. The list goes on and on.

Bookshop rises to the occasion

The Red Balloon Bookshop, 891 Grand Ave., will celebrate its 25th anniversary on Saturday and Sunday, November 14-15, with the following special events:

Saturday, November 14

10:00 a.m. to noon—Costumed Clifford and Madeline characters will greet visitors.

10:30 a.m.—Clifford and Friends story time with Carol Erdahl.

11:00 a.m.—Lauren Stringer, illustrator, author and creator of the bookshop's 25th anniversary poster, will have a presentation and signing.

1:00 p.m.—Nancy Carlson, illustrator, author and creator of the shop's fifth anni-

versary poster and new book *Start Saving, Henry!* will have a presentation and signing.

2:30 p.m.—Madeline and Friends story time with Michele Cromer-Poire.

3:30 p.m.—Michelle Edwards, illustrator, author and creator of the shop's 15th anniversary poster will have a presentation and signing.

Sunday, November 15

Noon to 2:00 p.m.—Costumed Clifford and Madeline characters will greet visitors.

2:00 p.m.—Publication party for Highland Park resident Tim Kehoe, author of *The Unusual Mind of Vincent Shadow*.

The bookshop will also be offering discounts and customers may enter to win one of several original drawings and doodles donated by children's book illustrators. For details, visit www.redballoonbookshop.com.

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Business Briefs

Highland Family Eye Care, an independent, family-owned optometry clinic, has opened at 757 S. Cleveland Ave., across the street from the Highland Theater. The clinic is owned by Highland Park resident Brian Snyder, who has a doctorate in optometry and has been in practice for seven years. He is president of the Metro Society for the Minnesota Optometric Association and a fellow of the American Academy of Optometry. A grand opening celebration will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Saturday, November 7, featuring tours, food and door prizes.

Fare For All Express, a cooperative food purchasing program, is offering holiday food packages for \$25 over the next two months. In November, the package includes a 10- 12-pound turkey, pie, bread, frozen veggies, pork tenderloin, and boneless, skinless chicken breasts. December's package will include a ham, pie, bread and other foods for holiday meals. The packages may be purchased between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, November 11 and December 9, at the Ford Plant Training Center. Pre-registration is not required. Call 763-450-3880 or visit www.fareforall.org for information.

The Olive Grove, a store specializing in extra virgin olive oils, specialty oils and balsamic vinegars, has opened in the Village at Mendota Heights on Dodd Road and Highway 110. The shop is owned by Natalie Jaeger, who recently relocated to the Twin Cities from Chicago. Along with oils and vinegars, the Olive Grove stocks gourmet mustards, stuffed olives, imported pasta, bread, olive oil-based soaps and body creams, and accessories. A grand opening is scheduled for November 14.

New Beginnings Face & Body Spa, 1672 Grand Ave., will hold a ladies' spa and fundraiser for breast cancer awareness from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, November 5. The evening will include free spa services and the music of Canadian vocalist Lucie Blue Tremblay. The event is part of the Breast Exam Project's Twin Cities benefit weekend. Call the spa at 651-698-1867 or visit at thebreastexamproject.org.

Community Shares of Minnesota, 1619 Dayton Ave., will hold an open house to welcome new executive director Matt Hunter from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, November

11. To register, call 651-647-0440, ext. 210.

Highgrove Community Federal Credit Union, 1804 W. 7th St., collected 500 pounds of food in two hours during its annual pumpkin giveaway on October 24. The food and remaining pumpkins from the event were donated to the Salvation Army food shelf.

Nutritional Weight & Wellness recently hired licensed dietitian Tamara Brown as a nutrition counselor at its Highland Park and White Bear Lake offices. Brown earned a B.A. in psychology at Washington University in St. Louis and a master's degree in public health with an emphasis in nutrition and dietetics at the University of Michigan.



Free job search assistance is being offered by representatives of Goodwill-Easter Seals from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesdays in November (except Veterans Day) at St. Paul's Central Library, 90 W. 4th St. Call 651-266-7000, ext. 5, or visit www.sppl.org.

Aspire Chiropractic, 333 Grand Ave., will sponsor a free class on managing stress for the holidays at 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, November 11. Call 651-294-2332 to register.

The Go Green Expo will make its debut on November 6-8 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The expo will feature eco-friendly products and services as well as interactive presentations and panel discussions. Business professionals will receive free admission on Friday (business card required). The public is invited to attend on Saturday and Sunday at a cost of \$5.00-\$10 for a weekend pass. Call 612-335-6000 or visit www.gogreenexpo.com.

"Internet Strategies for the Global Marketplace" will be presented from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 10, at the Minnesota Trade Office, 332 Minnesota St. The seminar is designed to help companies understand what the Internet offers for conducting international trade. The cost is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Call Paul Hansen at 651-259-7486.

14◀ RED BALLOON

"We wanted Madeleine L'Engle. We hounded her actually," Cromer-Poire recalled of the late author of *A Wrinkle in Time* and many other works. "We got her."

"Here we were, pouring tea for Madeleine L'Engle on this card table," Erdahl said. "That was such fun. She was a wonderful person."

Customer Letty Merrill began visiting the store before she was married. Now her children are 19, 15 and 13, and Merrill keeps coming back.

"They provide more of an experience of enjoying books as opposed to just a store," said Merrill, a Macalester-Groveland resident. "It's the atmosphere of the art of writing. Especially when they have an artist in, it's like a studio or an atelier. It's like you're in this intimate salon."

Some staff members have been with the Red Balloon for more than 20 years and call Merrill and other customers to recommend books.

Cromer-Poire and her husband, Jerry (dressed as Hagrid for the occasion), brought Harry Potter books and crafts to patients at Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare on the evening when the last Harry Potter book came out.

"The kids at the hospital couldn't make it to an opening," Merrill said. "That's how generous they are."

After 25 years, however, the two bookshop



Like the three bears, families have found the Red Balloon to be just right.

owners are now thinking of retiring.

"We're interested in having our staff continue and in having the community interest in the Red Balloon continue," Cromer-Poire said. "I think it enriches people's lives."

"It's been a win-win for everybody," Erdahl said. "We connect with people who create books with people who read books, and it's just been great."

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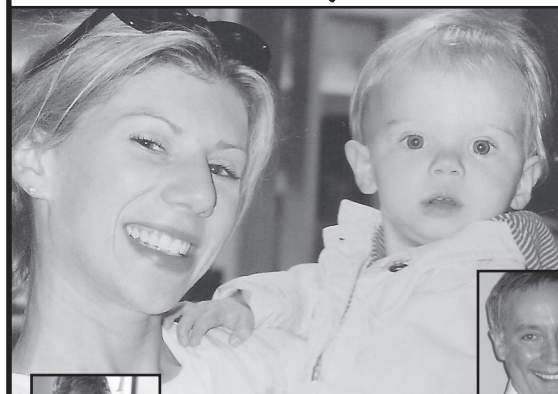
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Pressures of the two-income household

Macalester professors get an education in how working women have dealt with the demands of motherhood

By JUDY WOODWARD

Michelle Obama's resumé boasts two Ivy League degrees and a series of high-profile and lucrative jobs. Despite that, she did not hesitate when her husband was elected president. Proclaiming herself "Mom in Chief," Michelle Obama declared that her new priority was to ensure that daughters Malia and Sasha successfully adapted to their new lives in the White House.

No one would argue that the circumstances surrounding the First Lady's choice were anything but extraordinary. At the same time, she has something in common with many working women of her generation. By leaving the paid work force, Mrs. Obama became what is known as an "opt-out" mother, joining the ranks of women who have decided that they cannot have it all and that, for at least a while, they must sacrifice their careers in the interest of their families.

The "opt-out" decision is explored in a new book by two Macalester College professors, *Glass Ceilings & 100-Hour Couples: What the Opt-Out Phenomenon Can Teach Us About Work and Family* (University of Georgia Press, 2009). The authors, economist Karine Moe and anthropologist Dianna Shandy, will discuss their new book and the research on which it is based on Saturday, November 14. The free program will begin at 1:00 p.m. at the Bibelot Shop, 1082 Grand Ave.

The book's subtitle refers to the

Did either woman ever consider opting out of her profession? No, not really.

However, Shandy said, "the women we interviewed taught us. In trying to see things from their point of view, we saw the allure of staying home."

combined hours that professional couples can spend on the job each week. Dealing with the competing pressures of career and home is very much a family affair, according to the authors. However, it is usually the wife who finds herself revising her priorities.

For their book, Shandy and Moe surveyed about 900 women who graduated from Macalester between 1970 and 2006. They also interviewed almost 300 other college-educated women who decided to stay at home with their children. Their findings are not intended to fuel the so-called mommy wars, they said. "We're looking at common ground," Shandy said. "The pressures that push some women out of the work force are the same pressures felt by women who continue to work."

Pressures such as the childcare safety net that shreds when kids get

sick, the demands of business travel, and the organizational challenges of outsourcing household duties when there isn't enough time in the day to work full-time, attend a child's after-school soccer game, walk the dog, buy the groceries, take the car to the shop or the children to the pediatrician, make the meals and clean the house. Then, there is the conspiracy of silence that prevents working parents from taking advantage of family-leave time lest they jeopardize their ascent up the career ladder.

Whether women ultimately decide to pursue or postpone their careers, the stresses of being a mother while holding down a job have been felt by every woman who ever tried to balance family and professional life. That includes Moe and Shandy. Both women are mothers. Between them, they have four children from preschool to high school age.

For Moe, the make or break years for her academic career were also the most demanding of her as a mother. "To have small children and get tenure was enormously stressful," she said.

Did either woman ever consider opting out of her profession? No, not really. However, Shandy said, "the women we interviewed taught us. In trying to see things from their



Macalester professors and co-authors Dianna Shandy (left) and Karine Moe and their children—Oran, 4, and Rhetta, 8, and Halsey, 12, and Avery, 15. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER



point of view, we saw the allure of staying home. We could also see the benefits that accrue to the community when mothers cut back." The contributions made by women who volunteer in their children's classrooms or run the church charity drives do not receive much attention, according to Shandy, but society benefits greatly from their unpaid labor.

Glass Ceilings & 100-Hour Cou-

ples grew out of Moe and Shandy's friendship and their complementary academic backgrounds. "As an economist, I look at labor force data," Moe said. "I noticed that the march of women into the work force had stalled in the late 1990s. I began to wonder why some women left and others stayed. But one of the limitations of economics is that we don't talk to people."

An anthropologist like Shandy, on the other hand, is an expert at interviewing people and connecting larger social trends to individual circumstances.

As they set out on their research, the authors encountered a few hurdles. "The women were skeptical when we said we wanted to interview them," Shandy said. "They thought we had an agenda because we were professors."

"Our goal was to move the conversation beyond the mommy wars," Moe said.

What they discovered was a nearly universal inclination on the part of mothers to second-guess themselves. The moms who opted out of the workforce and the moms who kept working invariably asked themselves, "Did I do the right thing?"

'GLASS CEILINGS' ► 17

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School Notes

"Intelligent Design and the Constitution" will be discussed from 9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Tuesday, November 10, in a forum sponsored by *The Journal of Law and Public Policy* at the University of St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis. Speakers will analyze various constitutional and philosophical issues surrounding the theories of evolution and intelligent design. Admission is free. Call John Sandy at 651-245-0199.

The St. Paul Federation of Teachers has received a \$150,000 Innovation Fund grant from the American Federation of Teachers for its CareerTeacher program, which is designed to recruit college students and mid-career professionals to become teachers. The federation is one of only eight local unions nationwide to receive the grant.

Barbara Wollak, a teacher of speech and communications at Highland Park Junior and Senior High Schools, received the Teacher of the Year Award from Arc of Minnesota at its state convention on October 24. Wollak and partner David Kopenhaver of Appalachian State University in North Carolina created e-PALS, an e-mail buddy exchange that uses technology to support improved reading, writing and communication skills. She also developed Literacy Camp at Camp Courage for individuals with special learning needs.

French conversation circles will continue at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in November at the Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy. Participants work in concert to improve their French language proficiency. Activities include quizzes, conversation and reading. All ages are welcome.

"The Federal Stimulus: What It Means for Your Child in Special Education," a free workshop for parents of children with disabilities, will be offered by the PACER Center from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, November 5, at Children's Home Society & Family Services, 1605 Eustis St. To register, call 952-838-9000 or visit PACER.org.

Exploring careers in the church is the subject of a weekend retreat for high school students on November 13-14. The free program will run from 5:00 p.m. Friday to 2:00 p.m. Saturday at Concordia University, 275 N. Syndicate St. Fellowship, worship and information on the academic offerings for aspiring church professions will be featured. To register, call 651-641-8230 by November 8.

Concordia Cafe, a free informational session for adults interested in accelerated undergraduate or graduate degree programs, will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, November 12, in Buenger Education Center at Concordia University, 312 N. Hamline Ave. To register, visit www.csp.edu/concordiacafe.

St. Paul Central High School's choir, led by Martha Graber, will team up with Two Rivers Chorale for an "East Meets West" concert at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, November 15, at Bethel University, 3900 Bethel Drive in Arden Hills. The program will include music from Thailand, Korea, China, Ukraine and the U.S. as

well as seasonal music of Christmas with an Asian flavor. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted. Call 651-493-7935 or visit www.tworiverschorale.org.

Experimental College of the Twin Cities (EXCO) will hold a Fall Forward Fest from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 18, at the Hamline-Midway Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave. The potluck will celebrate the end of EXCO's fall session of free classes and will feature performances and demonstrations by some of this semester's participants, including the Klezmer Ensemble. Turkey and vegetarian options will be provided, but participants should bring some food to share. EXCO provides free classes that anyone can take or teach. Visit www.excotc.org.

St. Paul Open School, 90 S. Western Ave., will vote to pick a new school name during parent-teacher conferences on November 11-13. A name change is being sought to better fit the K-12 school's proposed new focus as an Expeditionary Learning program. The two choices selected by the site council include Global Voyagers Community and Open World Learning Community. Voting will take place in the office between 7:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on November 11-12 and between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on November 13. The winning name will be forwarded to the district administration and School Board for approval and is expected to be in place for the upcoming year.

Inver Hills Community College will hold a career expo from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 10, in the College Center building. Admission is free. Call 651-450-3000.

Holy Spirit Catholic School, 515 S. Albert St., will hold a kindergarten open house from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 10. Prospective kindergarten students for the 2010-2011 school year and their families are invited to meet teachers and staff and tour the facilities. Call 651-698-7233.

Nova Classical Academy will offer enrollment events at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, November 21, at the Lower School (grades K-5), 1668 Montreal Ave., and at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, November 22, at the Upper School (grades 6-9), 426 Osceola Ave. The Upper School will add grade 10 next year. Nova is a college-preparatory school with an academically accelerated classical curriculum. The enrollment deadline for next year is February 26. Visit www.novaclassical.org or call 651-227-8622 (Lower School) and 651-209-6320 (Upper School).

St. Paul College, 235 Marshall Ave., will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 4:00 p.m. Thursday, November 12, to mark the completion of Phase II of its lower-level renovation. The \$13.5 million project included remodeling and equipping 105,900 square feet of classroom, lab, shop and other space, as well as constructing a 2,200-square-foot mechanical penthouse, a new entry and an expanded truck mechanics shop. The project took 14 months to complete. A social hour and tour of the area will follow the ceremony.

16◀ 'GLASS CEILINGS'

"In the beginning we thought we could predict who would opt out of the workforce," Moe said. In the end they realized that it was circumstances and not personality that determined who would stay at work and who would leave.

Another crucial factor was the significant other. Having a contented homebody for a mate is a definite plus. As Shandy said, "if you're planning on a high-powered career, look carefully at your prospective spouse. You can be in Condoleezza Rice mode as a mother, but you need someone on the home front."

Moe and Shandy concede that the current

economy is deterring many women from opting out of the work force. Indeed, there's growing evidence that the recession has prompted many women who had earlier opted out to attempt to rejoin the workforce.

There's nothing like the prospect of involuntary unemployment to make a job more appealing for those who still have one. However, Moe added, "the economy is cyclical. When we come out of the recession, all the problems described in the book will remain."

And when that happens, Moe and Shandy are hoping to start a conversation. "The story is not about individual women," Moe said. "This is a societal issue. We try to address the structures that are putting families in stress."

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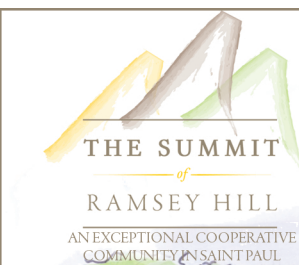
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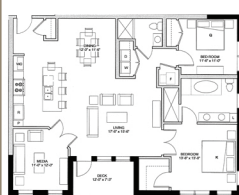
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City Council lays over decision on dynamic business signs

More protections are sought for residential neighborhoods

By Jane McClure

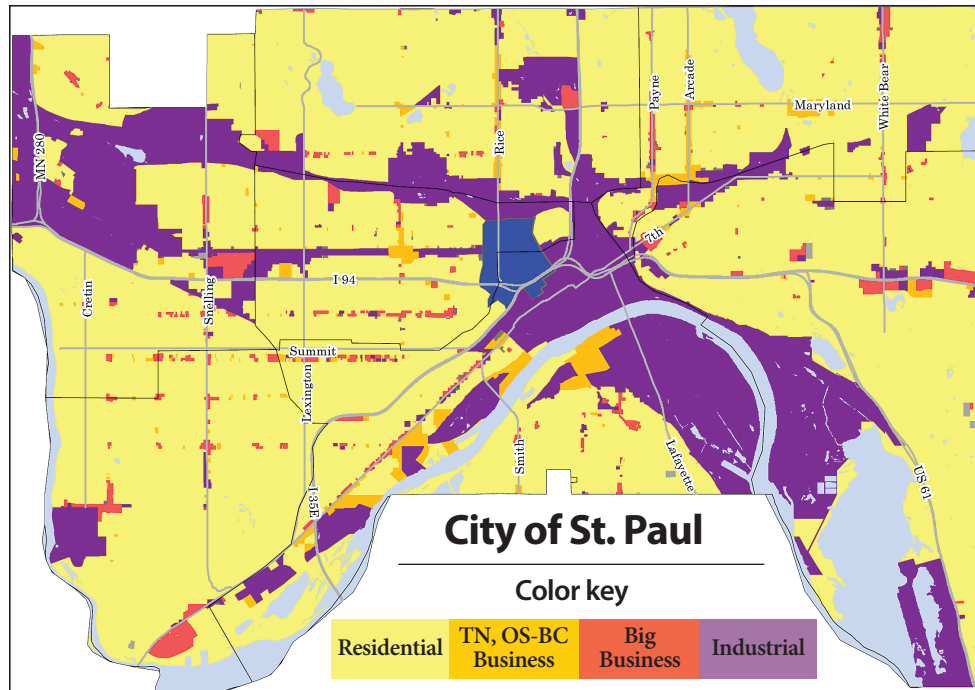
The St. Paul City Council has laid over a proposed amendment to the city's sign ordinance to regulate the increasingly popular electronic billboards and business signs that have changing messages or images. The postponement came at the behest of Ward 2 City Council member Dave Thune, who said he is concerned that the regulations recommended in August by the St. Paul Planning Commission do not do enough to protect residential areas from the flickering glare of these signs.

The city already extensively regulates so-called dynamic billboards. The proposed regulations would cover dynamic business signs as well.

Under the proposed regulations, the size, color, operating hours and duration of dynamic signs would be limited depending on the zoning district, with more dynamic signs allowed in business districts and more yet in industrial zones. Dynamic signs in residential neighborhoods would be limited to schools, recreation centers and places of worship.

The city's intent is to concentrate dynamic billboards along freeways. However, Thune is concerned that large business signs could be just as distracting in adjacent residential neighborhoods. According to him, the proposed regulations do not offer enough protection for neighborhoods.

"We have commercial strips where there are homes interspersed with businesses and homes behind businesses, and those residents could be looking at all kinds of lights," Thune said. "People want the signs to draw attention to their businesses, but if you get too many it's



The St. Paul Planning Commission's proposed regulations for dynamic signs get progressively less stringent as you move from residential to business to industrial zones.

just a mess. We'd have a mini-Las Vegas."

According to city planning aide Emily Goodman, the Planning Commission's recommendations were an attempt to reach "a middle ground" between business and residential interests.

"It may be a compromise, but I think it's a bad compromise," Thune said. "It doesn't seem like a good tradeoff for the neighborhoods."

Dynamic signs are "incredibly successful," said Adam Skare of the sign company Daktronics. According to him, the city's proposed regulations are generally fair. However, he said, it should be up to business owners and not the city to decide what percentage of a

sign should be dynamic.

Under the proposed amendments, business signs with dynamic displays would have to be at least 75 feet from a residential district when measured from the street or 50 feet when measured radially. The dynamic part of a sign could occupy no more than 20 percent of the total signage on that property. Signs with dynamic displays that are intended to be seen by motorists traveling in the same direction on a freeway would have to be at least 660 feet apart, and the city traffic engineer would have the final say on whether or not a sign with a dynamic display creates a road hazard.

Dynamic signs could not be so bright as to interfere with public safety or the effective-

ness of traffic signals, and they would need to be equipped with automatic dimmers to allow their brightness to be adjusted if need be. Dynamic signs also must be designed to allow their images to be "frozen" in case of a malfunction.

Only sports facilities may have moving video images. Dynamic signs in industrial zones could scroll text and change images as much as once every 12 seconds. In business districts, the signs could not scroll text nor change images more than once every 20 minutes. The signs would have to be turned off by 10:00 p.m. in residential districts and 11:00 p.m. in business districts.

The City Council was given a map that showed the various commercial districts where new dynamic signs could be located. Ward 4 City Council member Russ Stark noted that western portions of the Midway area that are designated as industrial zones are now becoming increasingly residential in nature. According to him, the proposed regulations need to take that into consideration.

The St. Anthony Park Community Council is recommending several changes to the proposed regulations, including a stipulation that no more than one dynamic sign be allowed on a lot, with the size of the dynamic display based on a percentage of the total sign face.

The St. Anthony Park Council is also asking that dynamic signs be prohibited in historic preservation districts without the consent of the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission.

The organization Scenic St. Paul also wants the city to regulate dynamic signs in store windows. "The sign may be inside the windows, but its message is directed outside," said Scenic St. Paul member Jeanne Weigum. According to her, such signs can be "highly distracting for drivers."

Happy birthday to a Capitol architect

The St. Paul-based Cass Gilbert Society will mark the 150th birthday of the celebrated Minnesota architect on Saturday, November 21, at the state Capitol. The event will include guided tours of the building Gilbert designed, architectural displays and birthday cake.

The public is invited to join in the festivities, which will begin at 2:00 p.m. with a free tour of the Capitol. Guides from the Minnesota Historical Society will point out the architectural details of the Capitol and describe events in Gilbert's life.

Gilbert was born in Ohio on November 24, 1859. He moved to St. Paul at the age of 9 and returned to the city in 1882 following his studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Over the next 18 years, he worked on numerous commissions, including more than two dozen homes and churches on and

around St. Paul's Summit Avenue.

In 1895 Gilbert was selected to design the new state Capitol in Minnesota. A model of the Capitol, built with Legos, will be displayed during the birthday celebration along with an exhibit highlighting the many buildings that Gilbert designed over the course of 50 years.

Among Gilbert's more celebrated commissions were the Endicott Building and St. Clement's Episcopal Church in St. Paul; the U.S. Customs House, Woolworth Building and New York Life Building in New York

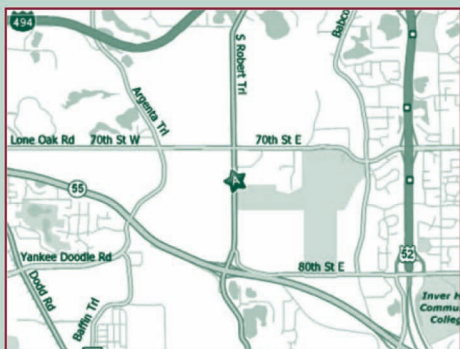
City; the St. Louis Art Museum and Public Library; the state Capitol of West Virginia; and the U.S. Supreme Court Building in Washington, D.C.

The exhibit on Gilbert's architectural career will remain on display in the Capitol's North Corridor for two weeks following the birthday celebration.

The November 21 celebration is free, but reservations are required for the tour (call 651-296-2881). Birthday cake will be served in the Capitol's basement Rathskeller beginning at 3:30 p.m.

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Religious Notes

The Temple of Aaron Synagogue, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd., will offer the following: a "Fundamentals of Judaism" course from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Wednesdays, November 4-March 17 (\$100 for materials); Gemilut Chassadim Day (Acts of Loving Kindness) to fill 100 baskets for the poor from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Sunday, November 15; and a book club meeting from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 17. Call 651-698-8874.

Wisdom Ways Center for Spirituality, 1890 Randolph Ave., will offering the following: "Yoga for Men: How it is Relevant and Compelling" from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 4 (\$35, includes dinner); "Meant to Be: Do Things Really Happen for a Reason" from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Thursday, November 12 (\$50); a Fall Soul Conference featuring hunger expert Frances Moore Lappé from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Friday, November 20, and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, November 21 (\$20-\$40); a Men's Series on "Writing as a Form of Self-Awareness" from 7:15 to 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, December 2 (\$25, includes a continental breakfast); and "Coming Forth as Elders" from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Friday, December 4 (\$40, includes lunch). Call 651-696-2788.

"Putting on the Armor of God," a day-long program on the spiritual dangers of the New Age movement and the occult, will be offered 11:00 a.m. Saturday, November 7, at Convent of the Visitation School in Mendota Heights. Moira Noonan, a former practitioner of the occult and the bestselling author of *Ransomed from Darkness*, will tell of her escape from the deception and darkness of the occult. The program will be emceed by Drew Mariani, the nationally syndicated talk-show personality at Relevant Radio. Mass will be celebrated by the Reverend Robert Altier, who will address what the Catholic Church teaches about demonic possession, the power of curses and the ways people become vulnerable to spiritual attack. Admission to the program is \$20. To register, visit www.heavensarmor.com or call 877-850-5588.

Excerpts from "Elijah" by Mendelssohn will be sung by the choir of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 285 N. Dale St., at the worship service at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, November 8. Call 651-227-8295.

Excavation in Tel Kedesh, Israel, will be the topic of conversation during a free presentation by Congregation Or Emet from 10:00 a.m. to noon Sunday, November 8, at Minnesota Friends School, 820 N. Albert St. University of Minnesota archeology professor Andrea Berlin will elaborate on the history of the ancient Tel Kedesh site and U of M student Emily Kaspari will describe a day of digging in the dirt and sun of the Holy Land. Visit www.oremnet.org.

"How Faith Trumps Trauma: The Role of Spirituality in Trauma Recovery" will be discussed by Marge C. Charmoli from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 10, at Sacred Ground Center for Spirituality, 1890 Randolph Ave. The cost is \$25, although financial assistance is available. Call 651-696-2798.

An Advent festival will be held from noon to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, November 14, at Living Bread Catholic Gifts and Books, 618 Selby Ave. Ideas for celebrating Advent, seasonal music, complimentary cookies and door prizes will be featured. Mother-daughter authors Sharon Altman and Christine Winkelman will sign copies of their Advent book, *Destination: Bethlehem*. Sales will benefit an educational fund for children in Guatemala. Call 651-698-5200.

A hundred Jewish teens from the Dakotas, Minnesota and Wisconsin will rally at 10:40 a.m. Sunday, November 15, at Mount Zion Temple, 1300 Summit Ave. The rally will in-

clude two-minute "fired up and ready to go!" speeches made by selected 9th- to 12th-graders and local adult activists. The rally is part of a weekend of activities planned by the Mount Zion youth group and the northern regional board of the North American Federation of Temple Youth. The weekend will focus on standing up against hatred and working for justice around such issues as ending genocide in Darfur, supporting marriage equality and getting out the vote. For information, visit www.mzion.org.

Sister Rosalind Gefre, a pioneer in massage therapy and founder of a school in massage, will celebrate her 80th birthday on Saturday, November 7. A free public reception will be held in her honor from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 515 S. Albert St. The public is also invited to celebrate Mass at the church at 4:30 p.m. In lieu of gifts, a tax-deductible donation to Sister Rosalind's Christian Ministries is appreciated. Those who cannot attend but wish to make a donation or send a card may mail them to: Sister Rosalind's Christian Ministries, 149 E. Thompson Ave., Suite #160, West St. Paul, MN 55118. Call 651-554-3013.

A Mass for Healing will be celebrated by the Reverend Jim Livingston on Monday, November 16, at Lumen Christi Catholic Church, 2055 Bohland Ave. The St. Francis Prayer Group will lead a saying of the rosary at 7:15 p.m. The Mass will follow at 7:30. For more information, call Jack at 651-699-7098.

Pope Benedict XVI's first social encyclical, "Caritas in Veritate (Love in Truth)," will be discussed by St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity faculty member Deborah Savage on Tuesday, November 17. Titled "Caritas in Veritate: The Church and the Economic Crisis," the discussion will run from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Lumen Christi Catholic Church, 2055 Bohland Ave, St. Paul. Admission is free. Call 651-698-5581.

The Institute of the Himalayan Tradition, 1317 Summit Ave., will offer a program on "The Heart of Forgiveness" from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, November 21. Participants will practice forgiveness through guided imagery, contemplation, writing and art. The cost is \$25-\$30. Call 651-645-1291 or visit www.ihtyoga.org.

Gene Scapanski, a Macalester-Groveland resident and retired vice president of the University of St. Thomas, was awarded the Cardinal Bernardin Medal on October 7 by Theological College at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. The medal is awarded to a lay alumnus of Theological College who has had a distinguished career and is an active Catholic lay leader in the church.

The Christian Community Fair will return to St. Paul RiverCentre on Friday and Saturday, November 13-14. The fair will feature more than 190 exhibitors. New this year will be 150 teams competing in the Big Sal Dodgeball Tournament sponsored by the Salvation Army. There also will be a teen zone with music, henna tattoos, skateboard area, bungee runs and an inflatable obstacle course. The musical group Sweetwater Revival is set to perform, and Larry and Bob from "Veggie Tales" will make special appearances. There also will be a petting zoo, pony rides, bald eagle from the Raptor Center, mini-Ferris wheel, NASCAR vehicle, SWAT team and full canine unit. Admission is free. Discounted parking is available online at www.christianfair.com.



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Crime Report

The following calls were gathered from recent Community Watch reports by the Ramsey County Sheriff's Department. For weekly crime reports by neighborhood from the St. Paul Police Department, visit <http://stpaul.gov/index.asp?NID=2399>.

Highland Park

Burglary—The front door was broken out during an attempted burglary at Arby's, 654 S. Snelling Ave., at 4:00 a.m. Saturday, October 24.

Theft—A drive-up teller monitor was stolen at Highgrove Community Federal Credit Union, 1804 W. 7th St., at 7:00 a.m. Sunday, October 18.

—A theft from auto occurred at Jiffy Lube, 2379 W. 7th St., sometime before 4:00 p.m. Sunday, October 18.

—Tools were stolen from Highland Park Senior High School, 1015 S. Snelling Ave., around noon Monday, October 19.

Assault—A 30-year-old St. Cloud man was arrested on the 1600 block of Montreal Avenue for using a knife to assault a male and female at 9:00 a.m. Sunday, October 18.

Lexington-Hamline

Theft—A woman passed a counterfeit \$20 bill at SuperAmerica, 399 N. Lexington Pkwy., at 2:00 a.m. Tuesday, October 20. She fled before police arrived.

—A laptop computer was stolen at Gordon Park High School, 1212 University Ave., during lunchtime on Tuesday, October 20. Another laptop was stolen around the same time on Thursday, October 22.

—Police responded to a report of a man tampering with a parked car on Dayton and Hamline avenues at 12:30 a.m. Friday, October 23. The man was arrested for possession of stolen property.

Macalester-Groveland

Burglary—Three guns were reported stolen from a home on the 1200 block of Goodrich Avenue between 1:30 and 2:00 a.m. Friday, October 23.

—A man was arrested for obstruction and burglary on the 1200 block of Grand Avenue at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, October 22.

Theft—A presumably stolen TV and mountain bike were found in an alley on the 1900 block of Palace Avenue on Monday, October 12. The items had been placed there between 1:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. that day.

—A vehicle was stolen on the 1700 block of Palace Avenue between 9:00 p.m. Wednesday and 7:00 a.m. Thursday, October 14-15.

—A trolling motor was stolen off a boat in a backyard on the 1800 block of James Avenue on October 17-24.

Miscellaneous—Police cited a 19-year-old man for underage consumption of alcohol at 2:30 a.m. Sunday, October 18, on the 1600 block of Grand Avenue. He was walking down the middle of the street, forcing cars to drive around him.

Merriam Park

Burglary—Two male juveniles entered a garage and stole two scooters on the 1900 block of Carroll Avenue about 5:30 p.m. Sunday, October 11. A neighbor tried to stop the

juveniles, but they fled east on Carroll.

—A home on the 1000 block of Carroll Avenue was broken into between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday, October 12.

—A Fine Grind Coffeehouse, 2038 Marshall Ave., was burglarized just before midnight Sunday, October 18.

—Golf clubs were stolen from an apartment on the 400 block of North Fry Street between 5:00 p.m. Wednesday and 10:00 a.m. Thursday, October 21-22.

—A residence on the 400 block of North Wheeler Street was broken into between 10:00 p.m. Wednesday and 10:00 a.m. Thursday, October 21-22.

Assault—Police arrested a 34-year-old man from White Bear Lake for aggravated assault on Cleveland and Marshall avenues at 3:30 a.m. Wednesday, October 7. The suspect was stopped by St. Thomas security personnel for disorderly conduct. He tried to assault the guards with a sand club and metal chain that he was carrying.

—Four males assaulted a man and took his clothes and keys on the 2100 block of Temple Court at 11:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 14. The suspects fled on foot north on Cretin Avenue.

Theft—A bag of change was stolen at Choo Choo Bob's, 2050 Marshall Ave., about 8:00 p.m. Monday, October 19. The suspect was described as a white male, 5-foot-8, with a scruffy beard. He was wearing a dark blue jacket.

Sex crime—A man was arrested at Fairview and University avenues for indecent exposure about 7:30 a.m. Thursday, October 15.

Miscellaneous—A 19-year-old Minneapolis man was cited for trespassing and underage consumption of alcohol at the University of St. Thomas at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, October 24.

—Police responded to a call on the 1600 block of Hague Avenue about a loud party about 12:30 a.m. Sunday, October 25. About 100 people were at the party. Five men ages 21-22 were cited for operating a disorderly house.

Snelling-Hamline

Burglary—Several items were stolen from a home on the 1500 block of Carroll Avenue between 3:00 and 6:00 p.m. Friday, October 16.

—A home on the 1500 block of Hague Avenue was burglarized between midnight and 11:00 a.m. Sunday, October 18.

Theft—A wallet was stolen at Snap Fitness, 80 N. Snelling Ave., on Sunday, October 18. The victim's stolen credit cards were then used fraudulently.

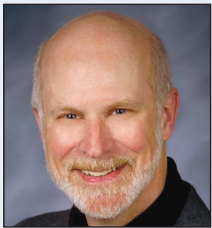
Miscellaneous—A 37-year-old man was cited for aggressive begging at Snelling and Concordia avenues about 10:45 a.m. Saturday, October 17.

—Police cited a man for operating a disorderly house on the 1500 block of Portland Avenue at 1:00 a.m. Sunday, October 18. A second man was cited for obstruction.

—Police cited a 66-year-old man for accosting strangers on Concordia and Snelling avenues at 12:30 a.m. Saturday, October 24. He had been standing in traffic carrying a sign and begging for money.



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Sandy Aaron

HUGE HOME, SMALL PRICE
This 1,400 sq. ft. condo is ready to go @ \$150,000! A great opportunity to own this 2-BR home with granite & SS in the kitchen. Formal DR, double parlors. Really mint inside. Unbeatable value.
StPaulTeam.com
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Sarah Kinney



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MARNA HOLMAN
651-282-9619



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SARAH KINNEY
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Summit Hill

Burglary—Liquor was possibly stolen during a break-in at the University Club, 420 Summit Ave., about 10:00 p.m. Monday, October 19.

Theft—Mail was stolen from two mailboxes on the 1100 block of St. Clair Avenue on October 12-13.

—Two suspects stole many pairs of jeans at Quince, 850 Grand Ave., about 7:00 p.m. Saturday, October 24.

Assault—A man was assaulted by unknown suspects at Milton Street and Summit Avenue about 1:30 a.m. Saturday, October 17.

—Police responded to a report of a fight at SuperAmerica, 925 Grand Ave., about 9:00 p.m. Saturday, October 24. A man was assaulted there, but the suspects were gone when police arrived.

Miscellaneous—Police responded to a report of drunken people causing a disturbance at the Wild Onion, 788 Grand Ave., at 2:00 a.m. Friday, October 16. A Maplewood man and a White Bear Lake man and woman were cited for disorderly conduct.

Summit-University

Robbery—A man was carjacked at gunpoint at Dayton Avenue and Mackubin Street at 4:30 p.m. Friday, October 23.

Burglary—A home was broken into on the 1000 block of Concordia Avenue between 11:00 p.m. Sunday and 6:00 p.m. Monday, October 11-12.

—An apartment on the 1000 block of Selby Avenue was burglarized between 7:00 p.m. Friday and 9:30 p.m. Sunday, October 16-18.

Theft—A wallet was stolen at Sweeney's Saloon, 96 N. Dale St., sometime before 10:15 a.m. Friday, October 16.

—The back window of a minivan was broken out and a stroller was taken on the 300

block of North St. Albans Street between 7:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Saturday, October 17.

—A woman was arrested for trying to cash an altered money order at the UnBank, 1098 University Ave., about 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 20.

—A female suspect took another woman's phone while she was fighting on an MTC bus at Avon Street and University Avenue about 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 20.

Assault—A 30-year-old male assaulted his neighbor on the 500 block of Dayton Avenue about 3:00 a.m. Sunday, October 18.

—Three men ages 20-32 were arrested for aggravated assault after beating a man with a belt and metal bar on the 200 block of Dayton Avenue on Monday, October 19.

Weapons—A suspect with a weapon was reported on the 500 block of Summit Avenue about 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 21. The suspect was gone when police arrived.

—A man was shot at Milton Street and Summit Avenue about 1:00 a.m. Sunday, October 25. The injury was not life-threatening.

Miscellaneous—People were fighting in the street with baseball bats at Dale Street and Holly Avenue about 2:00 a.m. Wednesday, October 7. One car was found with its windows broken out. Police stopped a vehicle leaving the scene and arrested the 26-year-old driver.

West End

Theft—Copper wire was stolen from a construction site on the 600 block of Randolph Avenue between 3:30 p.m. Monday and 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, October 5-6.

—A compressor was stolen from the construction site of the new fire station at 1000 W. 7th St. between October 2-5. Copper wire was stolen from the same site on October 6-7.

—Five musical instruments were stolen

from a storage room at Adams School, 615 S. Chatsworth St., over the summer. The theft was not reported until October 12.

—A theft from auto occurred on the 900 block of West 7th St., between 6:30 and 7:15 a.m. Monday, October 12.

Assault—A man was arrested for assault, theft and possession of drug paraphernalia at Cooper's SuperValu, 633 W. 7th St., about 3:00 p.m. Thursday, October 15. The suspect fought with store security personnel when they stopped him for shoplifting.

—Two victims were stabbed during a domestic assault on the 400 block of Banfil Street just before midnight Friday, October 16. Their injuries were not life-threatening. The suspect fled before police arrived.

—A woman was cut with a knife at West 7th Street and St. Clair Avenue about noon Saturday, October 17. The wound required twelve stitches. A male suspect was arrested.

—A truck driver was assaulted on the 300 block of West 7th Street about 2:00 a.m. Friday, October 23.

Miscellaneous—Police stopped a vehicle for seat belt violations on West 7th Street and Smith Avenue about 8:30 p.m. Monday, October 19, and discovered one of the passengers was wanted in Brooklyn Center for attempted murder.

—A 56-year-old West End man was arrested for threatening his roommate with a sword on the 100 block of Douglas Street about 10:30 p.m. Monday, October 19.

—A woman was arrested for DWI-child endangerment on the 700 block of Stewart Avenue at 1:30 a.m. Friday, October 16. She had driven to a store while intoxicated with her 3-month-old baby in the car.

—Criminal damage to property occurred at the Salvation Army, 401 W. 7th St., between 7:00 and 10:00 p.m. Saturday, October 24.

Fire Calls

The following calls were gathered from recent reports by the St. Paul Fire Department.

Macalester-Groveland—Paramedics were called to an apartment on the 1400 block of Grand Avenue at 5:20 a.m. Thursday, October 1, when the residents complained of not feeling well. They had been heating their apartment with the kitchen oven, which caused elevated levels of carbon monoxide.

Summit Hill—A 61-year-old female pedestrian was struck by a vehicle near Grand Avenue and Victoria Street around 1:10 p.m. Saturday, October 3.

Summit-University—A 54-year-old man was struck by a car while trying to cross the street at Dale Street and St. Anthony Avenue at 7:24 p.m. Friday, October 16.

—A 50-year-old man died by electrocution when he cut into an electrical cable in a manhole on Virginia Street near University Avenue around 9:00 a.m. Friday, October 23.

West End—Phuc "Joey" Vo, 18, was sentenced to four years in prison on October 20 for intentionally setting fire to Rudie's Coffee House, 1169 W. 7th St., on January 21. Vo had pleaded guilty to setting the fire, which did an estimated \$75,000 damage to the first floor of the building and threatened the lives of the residents who were asleep in the apartments upstairs.

—Firefighters and paramedics were called to a home on the 800 block of Randolph Avenue where a boiler was spewing high levels of carbon monoxide at 6:40 p.m. Friday, October 23. The damper on the flue was not opening properly. Residents were examined by paramedics, but required no treatment.

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District Council News

Macalester-Groveland

www.macgrove.org • 651-695-4000

Great Pumpkin Drop

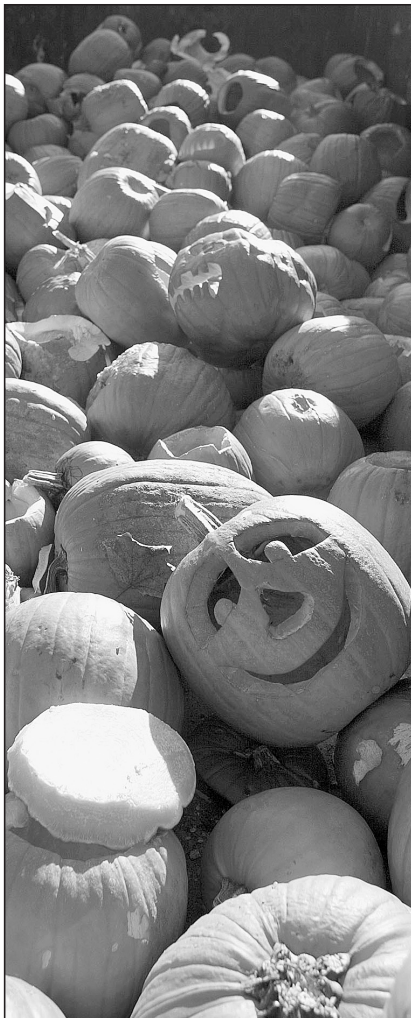
Residents of St. Paul are welcome to bring their unpainted, wax-free jack-o'-lanterns to the parking lot of Immanuel Lutheran Church, 104 S. Snelling Ave., from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Saturday, November 7. The pumpkins will be used to feed pigs on a farm. The Great Pumpkin Drop is co-sponsored by the Macalester-Groveland Community Council and the Highland Park High School Student Council. For information, call Karmann Peters at the district council's office.

Tangletown tutors

Residents of the Tangletown neighborhood of Macalester-Groveland are currently being enlisted to tutor St. Paul children at least one hour a week. The primary goal is to help children achieve grade-level reading by third grade. Contact Rosa Maria de la Cueva Peterson at rmdelap@umn.edu or 651-699-4286.

Crime notification updates—The Macalester-Groveland Community Council offers e-mailed updates on crime in the neighborhood. The information is based on news releases, tips and information received from the St. Paul Police Department. To be added to the e-mail list, contact Afton Martens at afton@macgrove.org.

Recycle your leaves—Ramsey County compost sites will be open through November 30, weather permitting. Leaves, grass and other soft-bodied plants may be dropped off at the sites from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 Saturday; and from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sunday.



Highland Park

www.highlanddistrictcouncil.org • 651-695-4005

HDC board election—The Highland District Council will hold a special election on Wednesday, November 4, to fill the at-large seat of Cory Tennison, who has moved out of the neighborhood. The election will be held at 6:30 that evening at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy., just prior to the monthly board meeting. Any adult who lives in, owns property in or operates a business in Highland Park may vote in the election. Those who are interested in running for the board should call the HDC office or visit the website.

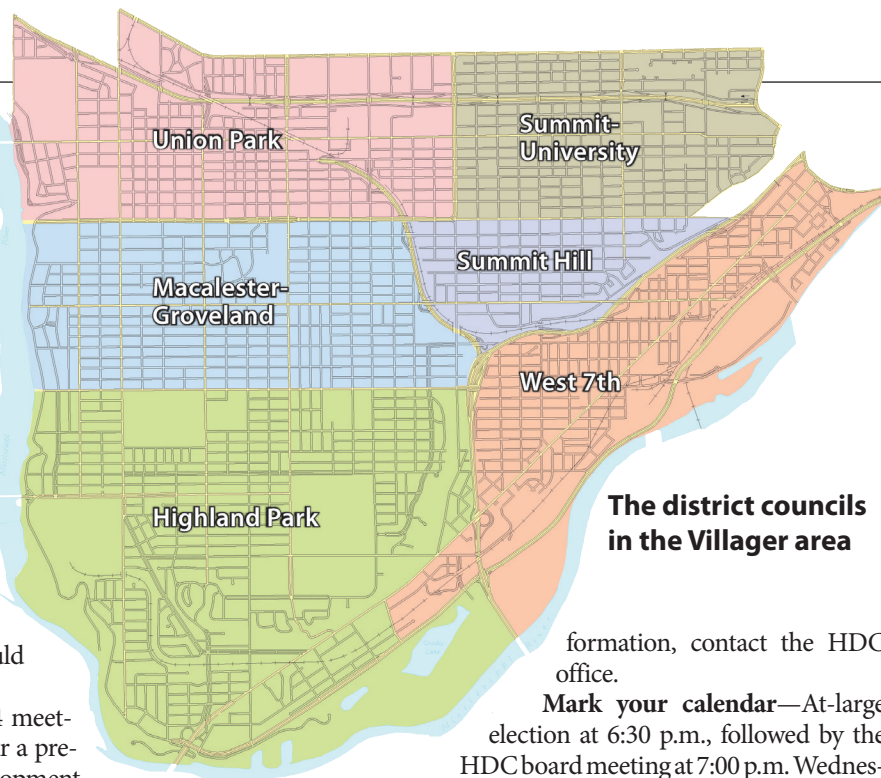
Board meeting—At that November 4 meeting, the HDC board of directors will hear a presentation of John Kohler of Semper Development on a new site plan for a proposed Walgreens at Ford Parkway and Finn Street. There will also be an overview of the zoning and licensing process, and an update on the proposed Carondelet Village senior housing project at Randolph and Fairview avenues.

Crime prevention intern—The HDC is seeking a temporary, part-time crime prevention intern. The individual will be responsible for supporting new block clubs, analyzing crime data, preparing periodic crime updates and coordinating neighborhood responses to crime. To apply, submit a resume and cover letter to the Highland District Council, Community Services Committee, 1978 Ford Pkwy., St. Paul, MN 55116 or e-mail them to hdc@visi.com.

Crosby Park deer hunt—Crosby Farm Regional Park will be closed for another deer hunt on November 9-11. Archers from the Metro Bowhunters Resource Base took five does in the hunt on October 19-20. The hunts are being held to reduce the park's deer herd for a second year in a row. For questions regarding the Highland deer management plan, contact Kathy Carruth at hdc@visi.com or 651-695-4005.

Transportation update—The city of St. Paul is looking at striping the intersection of West 7th Street, Montreal Avenue and Lexington Parkway to make the left-turn lanes clearer. The city is also proposing to remove eight parking spots on the southwest side of Montreal to put in an additional left-turn lane. Accidents from left turns at that intersection are almost three times the average rate in the city. Public comments will be accepted during the Transportation Committee's meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 18, at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy.

Neighborhood Honor Roll—The HDC is seeking nominations for the St. Paul Neighborhood Honor Roll. Inductees from each planning district will be honored during a celebration on January 22 at the University of St. Thomas. For in-



The district councils in the Villager area

formation, contact the HDC office.

Mark your calendar—At-large election at 6:30 p.m., followed by the HDC board meeting at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 4, Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy.; discussion on St. Paul's off-street parking regulations, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, November 5, St. Clair Recreation Center, 265 Oneida St.; Crosby Park deer hunt, November 9-11; Community Services Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 11, Hillcrest; Community Development Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 17, Hillcrest; Transportation Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 18, Hillcrest.

Summit Hill

www.summithillassociation.org • 651-222-1222

Love old houses?—Next year's biennial Summit Hill House Tour will be held on Sunday, September 12. Volunteering to serve on the tour committee is a great way to support the neighborhood and its district council, meet other residents, learn about local history and architecture, and have fun in the process. Volunteers are now being recruited to fill a wide variety of roles. Those who would like to get involved in planning the house tour are invited to contact Lisa McGann at 651-690-2828 or lem1794@hotmail.com.

Linwood rain garden—The SHA's Environment Committee, in cooperation with the St. Paul Division of Parks and Recreation and the Capitol Region Watershed District, recently planted a rain garden in front of the Linwood Recreation Center. Volunteers who are interested in helping maintain the garden are invited to call the SHA office.

Keep up to date—The SHA's website includes updates on neighborhood events, volunteer opportunities and information on how to sign up for the association's electronic newsletter. To receive crime updates for the neighborhood as well as crime prevention tips, e-mail cpcsummithill@visi.com.

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Email questions to clothingexchange99@yahoo.com

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Volunteers

The Salvation Army needs 2,600 more volunteers to help with dozens of activities across the metropolitan area from now until Christmas. The biggest hole to fill is for the Salvation Army Toy Shop, which provides toys to thousands of families in crisis. About 1,300 volunteers are needed in Roseville from November 9 to December 22 to register families for the Toy Shop. Another 450 volunteers are needed on December 16-23 at Toy Shops in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Activities include stocking shelves, registering families and helping families pick out toys. The Salvation Army also needs volunteer bell ringers from November 13 to Christmas at 400 kettle sites across the Twin Cities. Shifts typically last two hours. Visit www.thesalarmy.org or call 651-746-3400.

Joseph's Coat, 1107 West 7th Street, is holding a donation drive from now through December 15. New and gently used winter coats, hats, mittens and other items for adults and children may be dropped off at the following locations: Cooper's SuperValu, 633 W. 7th St.; Shamrocks Irish Nook, 995 W. 7th St.; Highgrove Community Federal Credit Union, 1804 W. 7th St.; Seventh Street Storage, 2060 W. 7th St.; and American Bank, 2310 W. 7th St. Call 651-291-2472.

Claire's Closet located in the Sibley Manor Apartments is in need of winter coats, hats and gloves. For more information, visit www.askmotherrose.org/ministries/claire.htm.

'Round Again is a free clothing closet for maternity and children's clothing. The program is operated by the Moms Club of Summit Hill and is located in the basement of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1935 St. Clair Ave. Hours are from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays and from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Fridays. Exceptions are holiday closings on November 27 and December 25. Call 651-699-8522.

The Minnesota Cleaners Association is sponsoring its annual blanket drive to benefit Sharing and Caring Hands, a Minneapolis nonprofit organization that serves more than 20,000 people in need each month. The public may drop off new or gently used blankets, comforters, bedspreads and throws at participating dry cleaners. For information, visit minnesotadrycleaners.org.

Keystone Community Services is looking for volunteers to assist at local food shelves and deliver for Meals on Wheels in St. Paul. Last year, Keystone food shelf volunteers distributed nearly a million pounds of food and served almost 13,000 people, while its Meals on Wheels volunteers delivered over 21,000 meals to homebound and disabled people. Call 651-603-6650.

The League of Women Voters Education Fund has announced the expansion of its Leaders of Today and Tomorrow Fellowship Program from a single annual seminar to an ongoing leadership program offering five months of seminars, mentoring and networking for 10 outstanding college-age women. As part of the new program, the league is looking for women leaders to become mentors. Contact program director Allie Moen at 651-224-5445 or at amoen@lwvmn.org.

The Minnesota Literacy Council is seeking volunteers to spend two or three hours a week tutoring an adult, assisting in an adult



A Kids Club shoebox packing party to benefit Operation Christmas Child will be held at 3:45 p.m. Wednesday, November 11, at Calvary Lutheran Church, 341 S. Hamline Ave. The shoeboxes will be filled with school supplies, toys and necessities to bring holiday joy to needy kids around the world. Joan Sedlacek of Calvary is pictured at left picking up 100 empty shoeboxes from Sheri Wood, Twin Cities coordinator of Operation Christmas Child. To volunteer or to learn how to send a shoebox gift, visit www.samaritanspurse.org or call 612-359-7025.

classroom or teaching a basic English or GED classes. Locations are available throughout the Twin Cities and training is provided. Visit www.themlc.org, e-mail volunteer@themlc.org or call 651-645-2277, extension 219.

Bridgeview School, a public school for children with developmental disabilities at 360 Colborne St., is seeking volunteers to work at least four hours a week during the school year as teacher's aides. The aides work in the classroom under the supervision of special education teachers. No experience is required. For more information, call Patrick Coleman at 651-705-5668.

Operation Minnesota Nice is looking to expand its Merriam Park chapter. The nonprofit group specializes in sending monthly hospitality boxes to soldiers overseas. The group meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. To donate money or items to mail to the soldiers, call 651-644-5716 or bring them to a meeting.

Girl Scouts in the Highlander service unit are looking for volunteers to work with girls and adults. Especially needed are a service unit recruiter, a service unit product program manager and a co-service unit manager. Guest speakers, mentors and troop leaders are also being sought. Training is provided. Call Angela Hutchinson at 1-800-845-0787 or e-mail angela.hutchinson@girlscoutsvr.org.

The Bullfrog Bash will take place on Saturday, November 21, at the Depot in Minneapolis to raise money for the Jeremiah Project, which serves young mothers and their children. The evening will feature cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, fine dining, silent and live auctions, and dancing to the music of the Casablanca Orchestra. Tickets start at \$200. There will also be a Late Night Leap, where people may join the party after dinner for dancing, cocktails and late night bites for \$40 a ticket. E-mail bash@jeremiahprogram.org or call 651-332-5010.


The Johnson Hospice Care Agency is offering special training for individuals interested in becoming hospice volunteers. The training will be offered from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 10, and from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 8 at the Shaller Family Shalom East Campus, 740 Kay Ave. Contact Judy Marcus at 952-542-4840 or jmarcus@jfcsmpls.org.

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| Preschool—Grade 8, South Campus 4200 West River Parkway, Minneapolis • Tuesday, November 10, 6:45 p.m. | Preschool and Kindergarten, South Campus 4200 West River Parkway, Minneapolis • Saturday, November 14, 9:30–11 a.m. Childcare available for PK/K students | Preschool—Grade 5, Bloomington Campus 102nd and Xerxes Avenue South, Bloomington • Saturday, November 14, 9:30–11 a.m. |
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Names in the News

Guitarist Dean Magraw of Macalester-Groveland has been diagnosed with leukemia and recently underwent a bone-marrow transplant. A benefit to help cover his living expenses during his recovery will be held at 8:30 p.m. Friday, November 13, at the Cabooze, 917 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis. The Big Wu, God Johnson, JT Bates and other local artists will pay tribute to Magraw and his music. The suggested donation is \$20. Donations also may be made out to Dean Magraw and sent to: John Wright, 5217 N. 6th St., Minneapolis, MN 55430, or visit www.dothedean.com.



Award for his work as a coach and personal trainer for athletes with disabilities.

Mary Jo Bjornson, who operates Always Busy Growing out of her West End home, was recently awarded accreditation from the National Association of Family Child Care. Bjornson has been a child-care provider for 23 years. She uses a Reggio Emilian-inspired curriculum and encourages parents to participate in program activities.

Anna Donnelly, 23, of Macalester-Groveland recently received the first Outstanding Citizen Award from World Without Genocide of Edina. Donnelly was recognized for her four years of work to raise awareness of genocide. A graduate of the University of Minnesota, she is an AmeriCorps volunteer at the Advocates for Human Rights in Minneapolis.

Carol Walsh of Merriam Park recently received a certificate of merit from the Minnesota Library Association during its annual conference in St. Cloud. The award is presented to a citizen, board of trustees, friends group, or other library or organization that has made a noteworthy contribution to the delivery of library services in Minnesota. Walsh is employed by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

James Stanger, a Lexington-Hamline resident and film editor for the locally made movie *Sweet Land*, was presented with the Richard Norris Award at the Lex-Ham Community Council's annual meeting on October 26. The award is given to a resident who has made notable contributions to the musical or cultural life of the community. Stanger has had a 20-year career in television commercial editing.

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Food



Home Fires

By Jo Marshall

Convenience foods for do-it-yourselfers

I would never suggest that cooking in quantity is as easy as small-batch production, any more than I'd tell you that as long as you're having one child you might as well have six. I'm no octomom in the kitchen department. As a rule, I appreciate the pleasure of giving birth to one meal at a time. But every rule has its exceptions, and sometimes quantity cooking done well in advance can be the most efficient use of a cook's time, energy and ingredients.

Detailed below are seven do-aheads worthy of becoming staples in your kitchen. Think of them as convenience foods for do-it-yourselfers. A little convenience can yield major dividends, especially now, as the holiday cooking season kicks into high gear.

Pie Crust

Once you've discovered how easy it is to make pie crust in a food processor, you may never go back to cutting in shortening by hand. The first recipe I tried yielded two crusts, and I figured as long as I'd gotten the processor dirty, I might as well make a consecutive batch. It's a habit I've repeated often.

Quiches are a standard weekend brunch at our house, so my premade crusts disappear quickly. If pies are on your Thanksgiving to-do list, making the pastry ahead of time will put you ahead of the game.

Meatballs

In an impromptu survey of favorite foods, spaghetti and meatballs, spaghetti and meatballs and more spaghetti and meatballs were numbers one, two and three on my daughter's list. But popularity isn't the only reason I make meatballs in



A package of 40 to 60 potsticker wrappers can be stuffed and frozen for future use as a delicious appetizer or the centerpiece of a convenient meal.

PHOTO
BY JANET
HOSTETTER

quantity. The best meatballs are made with a combination of meats, and unless you're best friends with a butcher, buying the component meats in packages of less than a pound can be difficult and cost-prohibitive.

I recently saw the classic beef-pork-veal mixture selling for \$7.00 a pound. I'm no math wiz, but that's more than the sum of its parts. You can economize by creating your own combination (beef-pork, beef-pork-turkey), but you'll end up with lots of meat. So as long as you're up to your elbows in raw meat and eggs, why not get the job done for the entire winter?

Brown the meatballs in the oven and toss them into freezer bags. They're handy for quick appetizers or weeknight suppers. Reheat them in pasta sauce to lend flavor to the sauce. Reheat them separately for a vegetarian pasta with carnivorous options. When you make your own meatballs, you can enjoy flavors you can't buy at a store—like my daughter's new favorite, eggplant meatballs—and there's no "mystery meat" or chemical additives.

mix. Add the butter and pulse six to eight times until the mixture resembles coarse meal with pea-sized pieces of butter. Add ice water 1 tablespoon at a time, pulsing once after each tablespoon until the mixture just begins to clump together. When you can pinch some of the crumbly dough and it holds together, it's done. If the dough doesn't hold together, add another tablespoon of water. The amount of water needed will vary.

Remove the dough from the processor and mound it on a clean, floured work surface. Gently shape it into two disks. Wrap each disk in plastic wrap and freeze for up to three months. (I place wrapped disks in freezer bags for added protection from the air.)

Frozen crusts can be thawed overnight in the refrigerator or defrosted *very* briefly and gently in the microwave. Pastry should always be well-chilled for rolling. Roll out and bake as usual. This recipe yields two pies, or one pie with top crust.

— Jo Marshall

Refrigerated Bread Dough

Local bakers Jeff Hertzberg and Zoe Francois brought bread baking to the time-impaired with their book, *Artisan Bread in Five Minutes a Day*, detailing how to effortlessly mix and store no-knead dough. If canned refrigerated biscuits are a convenience, this stuff is a miracle, letting you bake hot, fresh, crusty bread in roughly the time it takes to cook the rest of the meal.

It's convenient for anyone who appreciates good bread, and now that my husband and I are empty-nesters, I've discovered an added bonus: Mini-loaves sized for two (or one, for that matter) bake quickly, leave no bread sitting around to go stale, and give you the freedom to top the loaves with the herbs or seeds that complement that night's dinner.

And while you're baking one loaf, you could parbake another. It's the same concept as those pricy take-and-bake loaves you find at the store. You can freeze the parbaked loaves. They're a great way to take bread to a holiday dinner. Finish the baking at your host's house, and you can present them with freshly baked bread without having to monopolize their oven. How's that for potluck convenience?

Potstickers and Stuffed Pasta

Take me to an Asian restaurant and I could happily eat all night without getting past the appetizer menu. Potstickers are a huge hit at my house, and while they're expensive to buy, they're easily made with the premade potsticker wrappers you find in Asian markets or well-stocked grocery stores. But there's a catch. Wrappers generally come in packages of 40 to 60—considerably more dumplings than even I could eat in a single sitting. Here's another instance where frugality calls for quantity.

Kids love helping to fill and crimp the dumplings. Assemble the dumplings on a wax-paper-lined cookie sheet, pop them in the freezer for a couple of hours, and then store them in freezer bags. (Freezing them individually first will keep them from fusing together in the bag.) Take them out as needed, and you've got hot steamed or fried dumplings in minutes. Use them as an easy appetizer or as the centerpiece of a 15-minute supper with a tossed salad and egg drop soup.

Crust that's as easy as pie

When it comes to pie crusts, some cooks swear by lard, but I like the classic *pâte brisée* with a lipid content of pure butter. Since I use the pastry mostly for quiches, my recipe doesn't call for sugar, and when I use it for pies, I don't miss the sweetness. If you prefer a sweetened crust, add a teaspoon of sugar.

This recipe makes two 10-inch crusts. To make four crusts, do a consecutive batch.

2-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup (two sticks) butter, thoroughly chilled
1 teaspoon salt
3 to 6 tablespoons ice water

Cut the butter into half-inch cubes and, if it isn't thoroughly chilled, place the cubes in the freezer for 15 minutes. Combine the flour and salt in your food processor, pulse to

CONVENIENCE FOODS ► 26

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25◀ CONVENIENCE FOODS

Premade wrappers can also be used for stuffed pastas like ravioli and tortellini. And when you make your own, you can incorporate whatever flavors you like—squash in ravioli, for instance, or shrimp and shiitakes in Asian dumplings.

Refrigerated Cookie Dough

For me, having cookie dough in the freezer is a simple matter of taste: Cookies taste best straight from the oven. So rather than baking the whole batch, I prefer to bake some and save the rest for later baking. Most cookie doughs—with the exception of those made with a lot of egg whites, such as macaroons—freeze beautifully. It's a great way to get a head start on Christmas baking.

Most of us are familiar with the practice of wrapping cylinders of dough in plastic and freezing for slice-and-bake cookies. You can also freeze individual cookies. Form drop cookies on a wax-paper-lined sheet, freeze them, then store them in bags or containers. Ditto for rolled dough shaped with cookie cutters.

Pancake Mix

If your idea of a perfect breakfast includes a tall stack of hotcakes, it makes sense to devise your own pancake mix. Check the ingredients on commercial mixes and you'll find flour, sugar, baking powder and baking soda. If it's that simple, why not make your own? For a buttermilk version, look for buttermilk powder at the co-op. The healthier pancake mixes, such as whole wheat, can be expensive to buy but cheap to make, and your mix will be free of commercial preservatives. What's to miss but the box?



Potstickers that are ready to eat or — if you can stand the wait — to be frozen for a future meal. PHOTO BY JANET HOSTETTER

Microwavable Lunches

Frozen soups are among the tastiest microwave lunch options in your grocer's freezer section, but the good ones don't come cheap. When you make a favorite soup, use ziplock bags to freeze the leftover soup in individual portions. Toss the hard-frozen bag in your briefcase in the morning, and you've got a microwavable lunch that tastes better than yesterday's Lean Cuisine.

Tidbits

Cooks of Crocus Hill, 877 Grand Ave., will conduct a cooking class on Indian favorites from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Thursday, November 5, and a "You Don't Have to be Diabetic to Love This Class" from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 10. Cooks will host cookbook signings by Andrew Zimmern from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Thursday, November 19; Lynne Rossetto Kasper and Sally Swift from noon to 2:00 p.m. Friday, November 20; and Robin Asbell from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Sunday, November 22. For more information, visit www.cooksforcrocushill.com.

Mississippi Market will offer the following cooking and health classes in the next few weeks at its new West 7th Street store: a mini-cheesecake class from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Saturday, November 7 (\$18-\$20); a healthy cooking demonstration from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, November 5 (\$25-\$30); "Kombucha 101: How to Make the Divine Tea" from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 10 (\$36-\$40); herbal cold and flu formulas from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, November 12 (\$13-\$15); high-temperature roasting from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Saturday, November 14 (\$22-\$25); and gluten-free sweets from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 18 (\$20-\$25). To register, call 651-310-9499 or 651-690-0507.

ister, call 651-310-9499 or 651-690-0507.

Learn how to make a traditional boiled Christmas pudding on Saturday, November 7, at the Alexander Ramsey House, 265 S. Exchange St. The class "Put Up Your Christmas Pudding" will run from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Participants will also tour the Ramsey mansion, enjoy a morning snack of fresh-baked plum pudding and coffee and take home a recipe and a pudding mold. The cost is \$25. Call 651-296-8760.

TeaSource, 752 S. Cleveland Ave., will offer "Gong Fu: The Art of the Chinese Tea Ceremony" from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Saturday, November 14; and "Entertaining with Tea" from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Thursday, November 19. The cost of either class is \$15. Call 651-690-9822.

"Perfect Pies" will be created during a program from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, November 14, at the Alexander Ramsey House, 265 S. Exchange St. Participants will learn Victorian pastry techniques, tour the mansion, hear how Thanksgiving was celebrated more than a century ago, enjoy pie and coffee, and take home an apple pie ready to bake. The cost is \$25. Bring a pie pan. Call 651-296-8760.

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The Kiosk

Thursday/November 5

SUMMIT-UNIVERSITY RESIDENTS are eligible for up to \$400 worth of home energy saving goods and services through the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. A Home Energy Squad will install the materials for a \$30 co-pay and provide one year of personalized home energy reporting. A workshop to explain the program will be held from 6:30 to 8:00 this evening at the Rondo Library, 461 N. Dale St. To register, contact the Summit-University Planning Council at Irna@Summit-U.com or 651-228-1855.

AN ANXIETY AND PANIC SUPPORT group will be offered by the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Minnesota at 6:30 this evening and on the first and third Thursdays of the month at Gloria Dei Church, 700 S. Snelling Ave. Admission is free. Call 651-645-2948 or visit www.namimn.org.

PUBLIC MEETINGS on the city of St. Paul's new proposed off-street parking requirements will be held from 7:00 to 8:30 this evening at the West 7th Community Center, 265 Oneida St.; from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, November 7, at the Como Park Pavilion, 1360 N. Lexington Pkwy.; and from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 10, at the Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center, 800 Conway St. Visit www.stpaul.gov/offstreetparkingstudy.

LATINA HIP-HOP audio-visual producer Melisa Rivière will discuss her research from 6:30 to 8:00 this evening in McNeely Hall at the University of St. Thomas. Admission is free. Call 651-962-6460.

Saturday/November 7

"CAMERA SHOTS & SECRET SPOTS" will be offered by the Smart Trips Union Park program at 1:00 this afternoon from Trotter's Cafe, 232 N. Cleveland Ave. Participants are encouraged to grab their camera and tour the neighborhood's back alleys with a photographer as they guide. Discover secret gardens, tree houses, solar panels and gnarly, giant oaks. Free coffee and cocoa will be given to the first 20 people. Call 651-224-8555 to register.

ARTS, CRAFTS AND HOME FESTIVAL will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. today at Minnehaha United Church of Christ, 4001 38th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Vendors will be selling jewelry, pottery, home decorating and cooking items, bakery goods, homemade pickles and more. Lunch will be available for purchase and door prizes will be awarded. Call 612-866-3949.

A JUSTICE FOR IMMIGRANTS event featuring John Keller of the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota will be offered from 10:00 a.m. to noon today in Hayden Center, 328 W. Kellogg Blvd. To register, call 651-291-4477 or e-mail osj@archspm.org.

A CRAFT SHOW/CHILI LUNCHEON will take place from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. today at Camphor Memorial United Methodist Church, 585 Fuller St. Lunch is \$5.00. Call 651-224-0341.

A HISTORY FORUM on Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull will be offered from 2:00 to 3:15 this afternoon at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Donald Fixico of Arizona State University will explore the two men's quest for American Indian



Lend me your ears. Sophia Liang, 9, (dressed as a chef) and brother Sam, 7, (a ninja) received instructions from MGayle Studio owner Michael Gayle (a Roman Centurion) while taking in a haunted house at the Cleveland Avenue fitness studio during Trick or Treat in Highland on October 31. PHOTO BY ANNE BRANDRUD

autonomy. Admission is \$10-\$14. Call 651-259-3000.

"GENERATIONS OF SANBORNS: Minnesota's Prominent Judicial Family" will be presented by Thomas Boyd, an attorney with Winthrop and Weinstine in Minneapolis, this morning at Landmark Center. A guided tour of the "Uncle Sam Worked Here" exhibit will begin at 9:30 a.m., followed by refreshments and the keynote address at 10:45 a.m. in Courtroom 326. The program is free. To register, call 651-292-3063 or e-mail ktompson@landmarkcenter.org.

FOLDED PASTRIES filled with seasoned meat and vegetables will be available for pickup after 2:30 this afternoon at Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S., Minneapolis. The pasties cost \$4.50 each. Call 612-724-8942 to order by November 5.

A HOLIDAY CRAFT SALE will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. today at the Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St. More than 30 crafts people will be selling their wares. Lunch and concessions will be sold throughout the day. Call 651-695-3711.

Sunday/November 8

CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW will be taught from 6:30 to 8:00 this evening and on Sundays, November 15-22 and December 6-13, at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. The cost is \$60-\$90 for the five classes. Call 651-698-0751 to register.

Tuesday/November 10

A HISTORY LOUNGE PROGRAM on "The 1950s Sitcom—Guide to American Life" will be offered at 7:00 this evening at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Pop culture historian Melissa Williams of the University of Minnesota

will look at how 1950s sitcoms like "The Honeymooners" and "Father Knows Best" showcased new ways to fight the Cold War. The program is free. Call 651-259-3000.

THE COMO-MIDWAY LA LECHE League will meet at 7:00 this evening to discuss the "Art of Breastfeeding and Avoiding Difficulties." New and expectant mothers are invited to attend with their babies and toddlers. Call 651-659-9527.

Wednesday/November 11

BIKING IN COLDER WEATHER will be discussed during a class offered by the Smart Trips Union Park program at 6:00 this evening at the Merriam Park Recreation Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. Participants will learn tricks for staying warm, finding safe routes, combining trips with transit and riding safely in snowy conditions. Free bike lights will be given to the first 20 people and free hot chocolate and snacks will be served. Call 651-224-8555 to register.

THE LONGFELLOW GARDEN CLUB will meet from 7:00 to 9:00 this evening at Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S., Minneapolis, for its fall potluck dinner. Participants should bring a dish to share, along with photos, stories or something from their garden. Beverages will be provided. Club meetings are free and open to the public.

A RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be held from 2:30 to 7:30 this evening at Mount Zion Temple, 1300 Summit Ave. To register, call 1-800-448-3543.

THE MOMS CLUB of Mendota Heights will host an open house from 9:30 to 11:00 this morning. Call Shellie Larsen at 651-452-4776 for the location.

ARMISTICE DAY will be remembered

with a program at 11:00 this morning at Macalester Plymouth United Church's peace pole on Lincoln Avenue and Macalester Street. A moment of silence will be followed by bell ringing to remember soldiers who have died in war and as well as those who are committed to making peace. Names of Minnesota soldiers who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan will be read.

A FREE FAMILY BOOK FAIR will take place from 4:00 to 6:00 this evening at the West 7th Community Center, 265 Oneida St. There will be book readings, games and snacks. All children will be able to select three free books to take home. Call 651-298-5493 or visit www.west7th.org

Thursday/November 12

A WORLD WAR II ROUND TABLE lecture on "The Sorge Spy Ring" will be held at 7:00 this evening at the Fort Snelling visitor center. Author Donald Goldstein will speak about the Sorge spy operation that led to Germany's first major defeat in WWII. Admission is \$5.00; free for students. Call 612-726-1171.

A WINE AND BEER TASTING and silent auction will be held by the Lake Street Council from 5:30 to 8:00 this evening at El Nuevo Rodeo, 3003 27th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Tickets are \$20-\$25. Parking is available in the US Bank lot across Lake Street. For tickets or to donate auction items, call 612-822-0232.

Friday/November 13

JEWISH WAR VETERANS Posts 162 and 354 will sponsor a Veterans Day service at 8:00 this evening at the Temple of Aaron Synagogue, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd. Retired Colonel Kenneth Wofford, a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, will speak about the origination and successes of this famous World War II group of fliers and also about aviation history. All veterans, their families and the public are invited to attend.

Saturday/November 14

AN ADOPTION FAIR will be held from 9:00 a.m. to noon today at Children's Home Society and Family Services, 1605 Eustis St. Program specialists will offer information on adoption options and adoptive families will share their experiences. Mini-seminars on adoption-related topics will be offered throughout the morning. No registration is required. Call 651-646-6393.

A CIVIL WAR TOUR of the state Capitol will be offered from 1:00 to 2:30 this afternoon. Tour-goers will discover the role Minnesota had in the war and why the Capitol is decorated and memorialized with Civil War artifacts, paintings and memorials. The cost is \$5.00-\$8.00. Call 651-296-2881.

A HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE and bake sale will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. today at the Nokomis Square Cooperative, 5015 35th Ave. S., Minneapolis. A large variety of homemade items will be sold. The coffee shop opens at 8:30 a.m. Apartments will be open for tours.

A PANEL CONVERSATION on "Reflections on the History of the Federal Courts in St. Paul" will be held this morning

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at Landmark Center. A guided tour of the "Uncle Sam Worked Here" exhibit will begin at 9:30 a.m., followed by refreshments and the conversation at 10:45 a.m. in Courtroom 326. The program is free. To register, call 651-292-3063.

A HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. today and from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. tomorrow at St. Peter Claver Church, 375 N. Oxford St. The sale will feature handcrafted and quilted items, including home decor and jewelry.

A RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. today in Howley Hall at Holy Spirit Church, 515 S. Albert St. To register, call 1-800-448-3543.

A USED-BOOK SALE sponsored by the Shakespearean Youth Theatre will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. today at Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church, 435 S. Hamline Ave. The sale will include gently used books, educational materials and games, along with baked goods and crafts.

Sunday/November 15

A FUNFEST AND SILENT AUCTION will be held by the St. Francis de Sales Rosary Society from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. today in the Nova Classical Academy auditorium, 426 S. Osceola Ave. The event will feature Santa, food, games, a country store, boutique, silent auction and more. Call 651-442-5357.

Monday/November 16

THE GARDEN CLUB of Ramsey County will meet at 7:25 this evening at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Terry Yockey will speak about planning a potager

garden. Admission is free. Visit www.ramseygardeners.org.

"PICTURING CHINA for an Early American Audience: The 1790-1795 van Braam Albums" will be the topic of a free talk by Bruce MacLaren of the Peabody Essex Museum in Massachusetts at 6:30 this evening in the O'Shaughnessy Educational Center on the campus of the University of St. Thomas.

Tuesday/November 17

THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB will meet at 7:30 this evening in the parking lot of Monroe School, 810 Palace Ave., for a residential hike. Call 651-455-0052 or visit stpaulhike.org.

Wednesday/November 18

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS will offer an update on St. Paul's housing situation at 6:00 this evening at the Edgcombe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St. The discussion will be on foreclosures, demolitions, the reverse mortgage market and federal stimulus money. Speakers will include Sheri Pemberton-Hoiby from the city's planning office and Chuck Ferguson from the attorney general's office. Call 651-450-6477.

A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS will be celebrated today at the Alexander Ramsey House, 265 S. Exchange St. Original Ramsey family holiday heirlooms will be on display, stories will be told, music will be playing on the 1875 Steinway piano and fresh cookies will be baking in the wood-burning oven. Holiday tours will leave on the half-hour from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. November 18-21 and 25-28 and from noon to 3:00 p.m. November 22 and 29. The cost is \$6.00-\$9.00. Call 651-296-8760.

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

You'll have reason to smile more radiantly than ever with the advanced dentistry techniques now being employed in Highland Park by Dr. R.J. Fischbach and his staff.

Dr. Fischbach's is one of only 3% of all dental offices in the nation that are using the latest CEREC CAD/CAM technology. The dental restorations Dr. Fischbach and his staff perform can now be done in a single appointment.

CEREC stands for Chairside Economical Restorations of Esthetic Ceramics. CAD/CAM stands for Computer Aided Design/Computer Assisted Modeling. CAD/CAM dentistry is the process by which the dentist first takes an infrared picture of your teeth. The picture is transmitted directly to a computer where the teeth are designed right in front of your eyes, eliminating entirely the need for uncomfortable impressions and temporary restorations. The computer then sends the designed teeth by wireless technology to a milling machine, which grinds the fillings, crowns or veneers.

The finished restorations are widely regarded by dentists nationwide as the most aesthetic, comfortable and long-lasting, and they are far superior to composite, silver or gold restorations.

Dental patients today are increasingly asking for metal-free restorations. Dr. Fischbach and his staff employ many alternative materials in CAD/CAM technology, including Leucite, Ceramic, Zirconia, Glass Ceramic, Feldspar Ceramic, Fine Grain Translucent Porcelain, and Yttrium-Stabilized Zirconium. The wide range of materials allows Dr. Fischbach's staff to select the one that is best suited for you. Most other dentists use a technique that fits all patients with just one material.

CAD/CAM dentistry was originally developed for making single crowns. This technology can now be used to make bridges, inlays and onlays (fillings), veneers and even gold crowns. These all can be done without impressions and if not fabricated at the appointment, can be



Staff member Tammy explains CEREC

fabricated in a day or two. CAD/CAM technology also allows Dr. Fischbach's staff to save teeth that most other dentists would extract.

Dr. Fischbach and his staff are in the business of saving teeth, re-establishing function and perfecting glowing smiles. They are also in the business of educating their patients. Dr. Fischbach's office has movies of almost every dental treatment available. The short movies can be burned to a CD and given to you to take home and review with family members before any decision is made. The explanations of the various treatments are also available on Dr. Fischbach's website at

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Dr. Fischbach, Dr. Susan Olson and their staff of 10 participate in almost all insurance Preferred Provider Organizations in order to help you control the cost of dentistry.

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On the Town

Rx for success

Remedy for struggling writer is novel on marital love, loss and miracle cures

BY BOB GILBERT

Kate Ledger's debut novel, *Remedies*, has been well received by the press, getting favorable reviews from Publisher's Weekly, Kirkus Reviews and the *StarTribune*, among others. One unexpected bonus for Ledger has been the reception she has received from people in the Twin Cities, where she has lived for the past three years.

A resident of Macalester-Groveland, Ledger has presented readings of *Remedies* all over the metropolitan area this fall. "The opportunity to bring my story out into the community after 10 years of writing in relative isolation is exciting for me," she said.

Remedies (G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2009) has also been chosen as the community read for the upcoming Twin Cities Jewish Book Fair. The novel tells the story of Simon and Emily Bear, a middle-aged couple who have all the accoutrements of worldly success but whose personal lives are empty. Their first child, Caleb, died in infancy. They never properly grieved for the boy, and their marriage has suffered as a result.

Simon is a physician who blames himself for not attending to his son's illness in time. He has suppressed his grief in his medical practice, becoming a distinguished doctor whose specialty is treating chronic pain.

"What Simon found amazing," Ledger writes, "was that most physicians, accustomed to addressing a problem and fixing it, couldn't stand the mystery. They hated not being able to pinpoint where the pain was or to measure its severity with any known tool.... Simon welcomed the challenge. Chronic pain patients turned up often in Simon's office. They sought him out, and he did not turn them away."

Emily is a public relations professional adept at extricating corporations and CEOs from predicaments of their own making. Their 13-year-old daughter, Jamie, never really got the attention she needed from her parents, who were emotionally distracted by

their grief.

Emily "did not think often about Caleb," Ledger writes, "but now and then she found herself wondering if her relationship with him would have been tender. He was a difficult baby, colicky and hard to please. It was unfair to speculate—she felt like she was betraying Jamie even to imagine what he would have been like—but sometimes she imagined that if his colic had ended, she would have hit her stride as a mother."

The central story in *Remedies* takes place one summer when Simon believes he has discovered a miracle cure for pain, Emily rediscovers an old love and Jamie has an emotional breakdown at summer camp. The novel is "about navigating the communication within a marriage," Ledger said. "Simon and Emily are both aware that their grief is not gone, but the means of communicating it with each other is missing. They are involved in a tacit agreement to keep moving forward."

This is the third year a community read has been part of the annual Twin Cities Jewish Book Fair. The goal is to find 100 people to read *Remedies* and then come to discuss it with Ledger, according to Jeffrey Richman, the cultural arts director at the St. Paul JCC. The discussions will take place at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 10, at the JCC, 1375 St. Paul Ave., and at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, November 19, at the Sabes JCC, 4330 S. Cedar Lake Road in St. Louis Park. Admission is \$9.00.

"It isn't every day that one of our members at the JCC gets a book published by a major publishing house," Richman said. "That in and of itself is something to celebrate. But we think the book is great on many levels. It's extremely well crafted, and many of its themes, like dealing with loss, marital problems and our human tendency to procrastinate with things that are painful, are elements we can all relate to."

Ledger's parents groomed her for a writing career. At the age of 12, she published her



Newly published novelist Kate Ledger of Macalester-Groveland. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

first article in the University of Pennsylvania alumni magazine, which her father edited. It was about an archeological dig she had taken part in the previous summer.

While still in high school, Ledger landed an internship at the *Philadelphia Daily News*. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania, she earned a master of fine arts degree in fiction writing at the University of Arizona.

Ledger later landed a job as a medical writer at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. Her experiences with the doctors there went a long way in informing her narrative. Her work at Johns Hopkins also led to freelance assignments with such publications as *Self* and *Health* magazines. She even published a story in *Sports*

Illustrated on the evolution of the batting helmet.

Ledger moved to the Twin Cities when her husband got a job teaching biomedical engineering at the University of Minnesota. They have a 5-year-old daughter and twin 2-year-old sons.

Since publishing her novel, Ledger has taken a job at the Loft Literary Center in Minneapolis, where she teaches a class on "Writing From a Place of Confidence: Turning What You Know into a Novel."

"There's a culture of writers helping other writers here (in the Twin Cities)," she said. "It's much more collaborative and helpful than the competitive get-head attitude on the East Coast. There's a we-are-all-in-it-together ethic here, which I like."

Jewish literary front examined in three-week book fair

Macalester-Groveland resident Kate Ledger is just one of the Jewish authors of national repute taking part in the 2009 edition of the Twin Cities Jewish Book Fair. Cosponsored by the Friends of the St. Paul Public Library, the series of six readings and discussions will run from November 7-22 at the Jewish Community Centers of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

The schedule includes:

- Ernest Adams discussing his book, *From Ghetto to Ghetto: An African-American Journey to Judaism*, on Saturday, November 7, at the St. Paul JCC, 1375 St. Paul Ave. A reception begins at 7:00 p.m., and the reading will follow at 8:00. (Tickets are \$10.)

- Mother-daughter Roz Marks and Andrea Marks Carneiro discussing their book, *Jewish Cook-*



Lily Koppel

ing *Boot Camp: The Modern Girl's Guide to Cooking Like Your Grandmother*, at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, November 8, at the Sabes JCC, 4330 S. Cedar Lake Road in St. Louis Park,



Ernest Adams

and at 3:00 that afternoon at the St. Paul JCC (\$9.00).

- Ledger discussing her debut novel, *Remedies*, at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 10, at the St. Paul

JCC, and at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, November 19, at the Sabes JCC (\$9.00).

- Theresienstadt concentration camp survivor Ela Weissberger discussing Hannalore Brenner's book, *The Girls of Room 28: Friendship, Hope and Survival in Theresienstadt*, at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, November 15, at the St. Paul JCC (\$6.00).

- Lily Koppel discussing her book, *The Red Leather Diary: Reclaiming a Life Through the Pages of a Lost Journal*, at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 17, at the Sabes JCC, and at 7:00 that evening at the St. Paul JCC (\$9.00).

- "His Story, Our Story: Coming Together Around a Rediscovered Diary," a presentation by four descendants of David Blumenfeld on what it meant to find Blumenfeld's diary 50 years after his death, at 3:00

p.m. Sunday, November 22, at the St. Paul JCC (free).

Three additional book fair programs will be held in early 2010. They will feature Lenore Skenazy and her book, *Free Range Kids: Giving Our Children the Freedom We Had Without Going Nuts With Worry*, at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, January 24, at the St. Paul JCC (\$9.00); Aliza Shevrin and her new translations of Jewish humorist Sholem Aleichem's *Tevye the Dairyman* and *Motl the Cantor's Son* at 11:00 a.m. Sunday, February 21, at the St. Paul JCC (\$9.00); and Lev Raphael, the son of Holocaust survivors, and his book, *My Germany*, at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, March 14, at the St. Paul JCC (\$9.00).

For more information, call Jeffrey Richman at 651-255-4752 or visit www.stpauljcc.org.

On the Town *Briefly*

Books

2009 Minnesota Book Award winners will be featured in free readings sponsored by the Friends of the St. Paul Public Library. The schedule includes Brian Malloy and his book for young people, *Twelve Long Months*, at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, November 7, at Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy.; Susan Marie Swanson and her children's book *The House in the Night* at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, November 10, at Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave.; and Kao Kalia Yang and her memoir *The Latehomecomer*, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 18, at Rondo Library, 461 N. Dale St. Call 651-222-3242.

Ruthann Godollei and Eric Dregni will sign copies of their new book, *Road Show: Art Cars and the Museum of the Streets*, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, November 8, at Wet Paint, 1684 Grand Ave. Godollei, a professor of art at Macalester College, and fellow car artists Kat Corrigan, Jan Elftmann, Mina Leierwood, Sandy Elftmann and Alex Christianson will also be exhibiting their mobile masterpieces and providing tips for aspiring car artists during the free program. Call 651-698-6431.

Free hour-long readings will be presented by writers whose work is featured in the 2010 edition of *St. Paul Almanac*. The schedule includes Elen Bahr, Ed Howell, Kathryn Kysar, Andrea Taylor Langworthy, Marcie Rendon, Mary Kay Rummel, Su Smallen, Dennis Stern, Katie Ka Vang and Kathleen Vellenga at 7:30 p.m. Monday, November 9, at Amore Coffee, 917 Grand Ave.; Aleli Balagtas, Deb Costandine, Louis DiSanto, Norita Dittberner-Jax, Joyce Garcia, Ann Iverson, Linda Kantner, Suzanne Nielsen, Margery Peterson and Rummel at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, November 14, at the Mad Hatter's Tea House, 943 West 7th St.; and Amanda Baden, Bob Deck, Dittberner-Jax, Mike Hazard, Patricia Kirkpatrick, Angela Mack, Rose McGee, Suzanne Nielsen, Tim Nolan, Deborah Torraine and Diane Wilson at 7:30 p.m. Monday, November 16, at Common Good Books, 165 N. Western Ave.

The Minnesota Center for Book Arts, 1011 Washington Ave. S. in Minneapolis, will present its eighth annual Book Arts Fest from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, November 14. The fest will feature craft workshops,



Steve Hendrickson (left), James A. Williams and Stacia Rice star in *Othello*. Shakespeare's tragedy about love, jealousy and interracial tensions is playing through November 8 at Park Square Theatre, 20 W. 7th Place. The curtain rises at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Friday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 2:00 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$20-\$36. Call 651-291-7005.

artists demonstrations and the show and sale of hundreds of pieces by dozens of artists working in the areas of fine press, broadsides, art prints, posters, handmade journals, collectible books, decorative paper and letterpress cards. Call 612-215-2520.

Humorist Kevin Kling will read from his new collection of stories, *Holiday Inn*, at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 17, at the Swedenborgian Church, 170 N. Virginia St. Admission is free.

A free tribute to 20th century Spanish poet Federico Garcia Lorca will be held at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 18, in the auditorium of the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Actress Mim Solberg will recite verses by Lorca to the accompaniment of flamenco guitarist Michael Hauser, saxophonist Chuck Armstrong and flamenco dancer Deborah Elias Morse.

Theater

Moonlight and Magnolias, a comic drama about the making of the movie *Gone With the Wind*, is playing through November 15 on the Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company's stage at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Ron Hutchinson's play tells of producer David O. Selznick's five-day closed-door session with director Victor Fleming and screenwriter Ben Hecht to rescue one of the most successful films of all time. Shows are at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 8:00 p.m. Saturday and 2:00 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$18-\$25, \$12 for student rush. Call 651-647-4315.

Chemical Imbalance, a zany new play by Lauren Wilson based on the story of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, is being performed weekends through November 15 by Theatre

Unbound. Repressed impulses burst free in this fast-paced romp about men and women walking the line between aristocracy and depravity. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2:00 p.m. Sunday at the Lowry Lab Theater, 350 St. Peter St. Tickets are \$12-\$26. Call 612-721-1186.

St. Thomas Academy and Visitation School will present *Blithe Spirit*, Noel Coward's supernatural comedy, from November 6-15. The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 4:00 p.m. Sunday in DeSales Auditorium at Visitation in Mendota Heights. Tickets are \$10, \$5.00 for students and seniors. Call 651-683-1750.

The Disney musical *Beauty and the Beast* will be performed by the Morris Park Players from November 6-21. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday (except November 14) and 2:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, November 14 and 15, in the auditorium of Folwell Middle School, 3611 20th Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Disney Princess Teas will be served at 12:45 p.m. on November 14 and 15. Tickets are \$5.00 for the teas and \$15 and \$12 for the play. Call 612-724-8373.

At War With Women by the late Fran Ford will be performed November 11 and 13. The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in Sundin Hall at Hamline University, 1536 Hewitt Ave., and at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the chapel at Macalester College, 1700 Grand Ave. Admission is free, though donations will be taken.

Two Bowls of Cereal and Some Bacon, Mahmoud Hakima's one-man show about his sometimes heart-rending experiences growing up in a family ruled by an abusive stepfather, will open on November 12 at Dreamland Arts, 677 N. Hamline Ave. The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. November 12 and 14 and 19-21 and at 3:00 p.m. November 15. Tickets are \$15, \$12 for students and seniors. Call 651-645-5506. A benefit performance for the Dwelling Place women's shelter will be held at 7:00 p.m. Friday, November 13, at Jehovah Lutheran Church, 1566 Thomas Ave. A discussion with Hakima and director MaryLynn Mennicke will follow.

Tartuffe, Moliere's classic story of a religious con man in 17th-century Paris, will be performed from November 13-21 by the Macalester College Theatre and Dance Department. The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m.

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Thursday through Saturday and 2:00 p.m. Sunday in the Main Stage Theatre of Macalester's Fine Arts Center. Call 651-696-6359.

Shakespeare's comedy *Twelfth Night*, transported to the mid-1960s, will be performed from November 13-21 by Inver Hills Theatre. The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays in the theater of Inver Hills College, 2500 E. 80th St. in Inver Grove Heights. Tickets are \$7.00, \$5.00 for seniors and students. Call 651-450-3588.

Casanova's Homecoming, the opera by Dominick Argento based on the memoirs of the quintessential lover, will be performed by the Minnesota Opera from November 14-22. Co-produced with the Opera Theatre of St. Louis, it stars John Fanning, Jennifer Casey Cabot and Matt Boehler. Show times are 7:30 p.m. November 14, 17, 19 and 21 and 2:00 p.m. November 22. Tickets are \$20-\$150. Call 612-333-6669.

Of Mice and Men, a stage adaptation of John Steinbeck's novel about the friendship between two migrant workers and their dream of someday escaping their harsh lives, will open a month-long run on November 17 at the Park Square Theatre, 20 W. 7th Place. Shows will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Saturday, November 19 and 21; 2:00 p.m. Saturday, December 5; and in more than 20 weekday matinees. Tickets are \$15-\$36. Call 651-291-7005.

Dance

Ballet Minnesota artistic director Andrew Rist's choreographic vision of Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" and Mozart's Symphony No. 40 will be featured on November 6 and 7. The troupe's fall concerts will begin at 7:30 p.m. Friday and 2:00 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the Fitzgerald Theater, 10 E. Exchange St. As an added incentive, two tickets will be available for the price of one, which is \$21, \$17 for seniors, \$10 for children age 12 and under. Call 651-290-1221.

Hidden Yearning, the story of Leili Tajadod Pritschet's days as a dancer in pre-revolutionary Iran, her arrest and torture by Ayatollah Khomeini's regime and her escape to the U.S., will be performed on November 7 and 8 by Laurel Victoria Gray and her Silk Road Dance Company. Persian classical dance, video, live music and poetry are all part of this drama about resilience, forgiveness and the healing power of art. The curtain rises at 2:30 and 7:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday in the auditorium of Brady Educational Center at the University of St. Thomas. Tickets are \$18. Call 1-800-838-3006.

Exhibits

"Hazel Thorson Stoick Stoeckeler," a retrospective of the University of Minnesota professor's small watercolors displayed alongside the poetry of Elizabeth Weber, is on view through January 17 at the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. Stoeckeler and Weber will discuss their art during a free Art Gallery Open House from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, November 8. Admission to the gallery is otherwise \$2.00, or free with a paid house tour. Call 651-297-2555.

"Hungry Planet: What the World Eats," a provocative exhibit based on the book by Peter Menzel and Faith D'Alusio, is on view through May 9 at the Bell Museum of Natural History, 17th and University avenues in Southeast Minneapolis. The show combines mesmerizing photos with hands-on displays about the origins of food. University of Minnesota anthropology professor William Beeman will discuss the variety of table manners found around the world from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, November 5. Anthropology professor Gloria Raheja and geography professor Susy Ziegler

will lead a tour of the exhibit at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, November 12. Admission is \$5.00, \$3.00 for seniors and children ages 3-16. Call 612-624-7083.

"Minnesota Eye," new images by 17 photographers from the North Star State, is on view in the College of Visual Arts gallery, 173 N. Western Ave. Leslie Hammons of the Weinstein Gallery will moderate a panel discussion from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, November 5. David E. Little of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts will give a gallery talk at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, November 8. Tickets for the talk are \$10. Call 651-757-4000.

"Hold Push," large woodcut prints of nature scenes and the female figure by local artist Susan Andre, is on view through November 28 at FrameWorks, 2022 Ford Pkwy.

"City Behavior," an exhibit of public art by the Twin Cities collective Grace MN, is being displayed through December 11 in the Third Floor Gallery of Metropolitan State University, 700 E. 7th St. A reception will be held from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Thursday, November 5. Admission is free.

"ReGroup," new paintings by St. Paul artist Shana Kaplow that explore the tension between interconnectedness and individualism, will be displayed from November 6 through December 6 in the gallery of Macalester College's Fine Arts Center. An opening reception will be held from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Friday, November 6. Call 651-696-6416.

"Realism and Stylization: Six Views," an exhibit of jewelry, paintings, drawings and collage by Janet Donaldson, Pat Williams, Michaelynn McCarron, Anita White and Ed and Marge Bohlander, will open with a reception from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Saturday, November 7, at Bohlander Arts Gallery, 3011 36th Ave. S. in Minneapolis. For information, call 612-721-6438.

"Sky Beauty," more than 40 skylines by local artists Cheryl Anderson and Jody Stadler, will be displayed from November 9 through January 2 in the Minnesota Women's Building at 550 N. Rice St. The gallery is open weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. An opening reception will be held from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, November 20. Admission is free.

Thirty artists at the Dow Building, 2242 University Ave., will open their studios to the public on November 13 and 14. Paintings, collage, prints, stained-glass, fabric and sculpture will be among the media featured from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. Friday and noon to 6:00 p.m. Saturday. Performing artists and healing artists will also be demonstrating their craft. Call 651-470-1326.

The Weavers Guild of Minnesota will present its annual Fiber Fair on November 13-15 at the Textile Center, 3000 University Ave. SE. in Minneapolis. More than 50 artists will be showing and selling their fiber art, decorative textiles, rugs, handspun yarn, hand-woven clothing and accessories from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4:00 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free.

Film

Torturing Democracy, a documentary on the events that led to the U.S. government's decision to torture suspected terrorists, will be shown at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 4, at Oak Street Cinema, 309 Oak St. SE. in Minneapolis. Sponsored by the local chapters of Amnesty International, the free screening will be followed by a discussion.

New and recent features and documentaries on Jewish themes will be screened in November at Oak Street Cinema, 309 Oak St. SE. in Minneapolis. The schedule includes *Two or Three Things I Know About Him* at 7:15 p.m. Friday through Sunday, November

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6-8; *Being Jewish in France* at 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, November 11-15; *Inside Hana's Suitcase* at 7:15 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, November 16-17, and at 5:00 p.m. Sunday, November 22; *Schmatta* at 7:15 p.m. Thursday, November 19; *The Dybbuk* at 7:15 p.m. Friday and 5:00 p.m. Saturday, November 20-21; *Jewish Luck* at 3:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, November 21-22; and *His Wife's Lover* at 7:15 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, November 21-22. Tickets are \$7.00, \$6.00 for students, or \$10 and \$9.00 for the double-length *Being Jewish in France*. Visit www.mnfilmarts.org or call 612-331-3134.

The Ritchie Boys, a documentary about Jewish men who fled Nazi Germany only to return to Europe as U.S. soldiers, will be shown at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, November 12, at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. The free program will open with a tour of the "Minnesota's Greatest Generation" exhibit. Guest speaker is former Ritchie Boy Guy Stern.

Music

Classical guitarist Daniel Volovets, 17, will perform the music of Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff in a free program at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, November 8, at St. Paul's Central Library, 90 W. 4th St. Call 651-266-7000.

Seven-string fingerstyle guitarist Paul Hintz will perform jazz from the great American songbook in a free program at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, November 15, at Rondo Library, 461 N. Dale St. Call 651-266-7400.

The Hill House Chamber Players will perform at 7:30 p.m. Monday, November 9, in the restored art gallery of the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. The quintet will play Telemann's *Don Quixote Suite*, Dvorak's Terzetto in C major, Michael Dougherty's Viola Zombie and Brahms' Viola Quintet No. 2 in G major. Guest artists include Catherine Schubilske on violin, Nathalie Cruden on viola and narrator Craig Johnson. Tickets are \$17, which includes refreshments and a tour of the Hill House following the performance. Call 651-297-2555.

Columbian singer and guitarist



Award-winning Korean pianist Joyce Yang will perform in a Frederic Chopin Society concert at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, November 8, in the Concert Hall of the Macalester College Fine Arts Center. Her program includes Lowell Liebermann's Gargoyles, Beethoven's Sonata No. 18 in E-flat Major, Brahms' Klavierstücke, four Scarlatti sonatas and Schumann's Carnival. Tickets are \$20, \$12 for full-time students with ID. Call 612-822-0123.

Ruben Dario Gomez will perform contemporary originals and classic Spanish and Latin American music at 8:340 p.m. Friday, November 13, at Dunn Bros. Coffee, 1569 Grand Ave. Call 651-698-0618.

Pianist Steven C. Anderson of Ramsey Hill, a 1988 graduate of Hamline University, will perform on his 9-foot Bosendorfer grand piano on Sunday, November 15, in a benefit for the fine arts program at Hamline University. The music begins at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of Hamline United Methodist Church, 1514 Englewood Ave. Among the musical guests will be Hamline UMC music director and organist Chuck Parsons, who will perform Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor. Admission is free, though donations will be taken.

Music by 19th-century American composer Louis Moreau Gottschalk will be performed on Sunday, November 15, by Macalester-Groveland pianist Larry Wilson. The concert will begin at 6:51 p.m. at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1935

St. Clair Ave. Wilson is the organist at Pilgrim. Admission to the concert is free, though donations will be accepted for the Pilgrim Organ Fund. Call 651-699-6886.

Family

Hanuman & the Girl Prince, a zany comedy of errors about an Indian princess who finds love with the help of a mischievous monkey king, is being performed through November 8 at SteppingStone Theatre, 55 N. Victoria St. Written by Aditi Brennan Kapil, the new play is based on an episode in the Indian epic, *The Mahabharata*. The curtain rises at 10:00 a.m. and noon on Wednesday and Thursday, 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Friday, 3:00 and 7:00 p.m. Saturday and 3:00 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$11, \$9.00 for seniors and children. Call 651-225-9265.

A half-hour storytime for preschoolers and their families will be offered at 10:30 a.m. every Friday in November at the Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy.

A St. Martin's Day celebration cosponsored by the Germanic American Institute of St. Paul will be held from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Sunday November 8, at Landmark Center. Families are invited to make traditional paper lanterns, enjoy festive German music and learn customary St. Martin's Day songs. The story of St. Martin, the 4th-century soldier who gave half his cloak to a shivering beggar, will be reenacted by students from the Twin Cities German Immersion School. Complimentary coffee, cocoa and German treats will be served in Landmark Center following a lantern parade around Rice Park. Admission is free, but participants are asked to bring donations of new and gently used clothing for charity. Call 651-292-3276.

Storytellers will share classic tales, teach songs and help children make a book on how wheat gets from the field to the table on Saturday, November 14. The half-hour program begins at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the Mill City Museum, 704 S. 2nd St. in Minneapolis. The program is free with admission, which is \$10, \$8.00 for seniors and college students, \$5.00 for children ages 6-17. Call 612-341-7555.

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Sports



The Wright Call

By Dave Wright

Scots storm way to Twin Cities title

To an outsider, it appeared that the Highland Park football team would be facing more than a few obstacles in making a rare appearance in the Twin Cities Game on October 21. For one thing, the Scots had to travel to Minneapolis Washburn, whose only loss this season was to Edina. For another, the field conditions were miserable following an all-day rain.

Still, Highland coach Dave Zeitchick wasn't worried. "It's taboo here to talk about the weather giving you problems," he said. "When you run a spread offense like we do, you're going to have to pass in all sorts of circumstances."

In this case, junior quarterback Max Elliott persevered nicely, completing 16 of 35 passes for 160 yards as the Scots slogged to a 20-12 victory. It marked just the second time in school history that Highland Park had triumphed in the game between the Minneapolis and St. Paul city conference champions. "We talked before the game about the historical significance of it," Zeitchick said. "Everybody understood this was a rare chance."

After dropping their opening game of the season to Como Park 26-20, the Scots ran off six straight wins this fall. They ended the regular season in a three-way tie with Central and Como for the conference title, but got the nod for the Twin Cities Game because the other two schools had both made appearances there since Highland's 2004 conference title, the school's only other first-place finish in football. (In 1999,

WRIGHT CALL ► 34



Senior Tarrell McDuffie helped Highland run up a 56-36 win over Jordan in the opening round of the section playoffs on October 27. PHOTO BY ANNE BRANDRUD



Senior running back Dan Freund fights for extra yards during the Cadets' decisive 46-0 win over the Richfield Spartans on October 31. STA will host South St. Paul on November 6 for the Section 3AAAA title.

PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Monstrous assault

Halloween bash puts unbeaten STA in section final

BY BILL WAGNER

Dave Ziebarth has been the head football coach at St. Thomas Academy for the past seven years and an assistant coach under the legendary Gerry Brown long before that. So when he says that this year's Cadet squad rates among the best in the school's history, that's saying something.

"We don't really have any Division I players," he said. "What we have is a committed group of kids who've bought into the system. We have the potential to be very, very good. We play well in all three phases of the game. For sure, this is one of the best teams we've ever had. And at the start of the season, our goal was to keep improving."

Mission accomplished.

The top-seeded Cadets earned a first-round bye in the Section 3AAAA playoffs by virtue of their perfect 8-0 record in the regular season. They shut out the Richfield Spartans 46-0 in the section semifinals on Halloween and will host No. 2-seeded South St. Paul at 7:00 p.m. Friday, November 6, for the section title and a state tournament berth.

STA finished the regular season with

a 7-0 mark in the Classic Suburban to share the conference title with Mahtomedi. (The Cadets and Zephyrs haven't played each other this year, though that could change in this month's state tournament.) STA is ranked among the top 10 teams in the state and has outscored its opponents by a whopping 354-62 this fall.

The Cadets have handled all challenges in the Classic Suburban, despite Henry Sibley's and South St. Paul's high hopes of knocking them off. The much-improved Packers were within a touchdown after the first half of play, but ended up losing 42-7. The Cadets also came on strong in the final two quarters against the Warriors for a 34-0 victory.

"Both of those teams were pretty good," Ziebarth said, "but we were able to stay focused."

STA is built around depth and Ziebarth takes advantage of it by rotating a lot of players into the game. "You always have kids who've at least played a little bit," he said. "You try to keep your depth going from year to year."

The team's wing-T offense is a point-scoring machine that is hard to stop. The fulcrum of the offense is the team's

"three-headed monster" composed of senior running backs Danny Abbott and Dan Freund and junior running back Augie Braddock. All three can run, catch and block. Freund, the fullback, has put up the gaudiest numbers, having amassed 782 yards rushing for an 8.5 yards-per-carry average and 10 touchdowns through the regular season.

"He's very fast," Ziebarth said of Freund. "He's not really big, but he's super-tough. He had 192 yards rushing against North St. Paul."

Abbott, who has come back from a sternum injury suffered last year, gained 599 yards on 41 carries and scored five touchdowns heading into the playoffs. Braddock rushed for 455 yards on 44 carries, with eight trips to pay dirt. He also caught 16 passes for 280 yards and three touchdowns.

Ziebarth has the luxury of two equally skilled quarterbacks in senior John Garry and junior Ryan McManus. Each plays two full quarters regardless of the opposition, and both have managed the games well. Garry is also the team's place kicker and McManus is the punter.

STA FOOTBALL ► 35

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33◀ WRIGHT CALL

Highland lost to Edison in the Twin Cities Game. The Scots got to compete because league champion Cretin-Derham Hall opted to play a non-conference game against Wayzata.)

Curiously, the season-opening loss to Como proved to be a rallying point for Highland. In that game, the Scots surged from a 20-0 halftime deficit to tie the Cougars before losing in the last minute of the game. "We told the kids afterward that if they don't beat themselves, we're a pretty good football team," Zeitchick said. "They bought into that."

Elliott, a 6-foot-1, 160-pound whippet, only completed four passes that night. However, since then he has been on fire, finishing the regular season with 1,747 yards passing and 14 touchdowns. More important, he threw just one interception in the final seven regular-season games. "He's a difference maker," Zeitchick said.

Washburn was no slouch playing at home. The Scots shot to a 14-0 lead on a pair of touchdowns by senior Tarrell McDuffie. The Millers cut the lead to 14-6, but Elliott and McDuffie teamed up for a 11-yard TD to make it 20-6. Washburn managed to score once more, but the Scots' defense held from there.

"Talent helps," Zeitchick said, "but one of the keys to the season was turnovers. We were plus 15. That's the biggest factor."

Highland moved to Section 2AAA this year, so instead of butting heads with the likes of St. Thomas Academy and Richfield in post-season play, the Scots are up against schools like Jordan, which they beat 56-36 on October 27 in the first round of the sections. Their reward was a Halloween rematch with Washburn, which they lost 27-12.

"It's a better fit for us," Zeitchick said about the change in sections prior to the section semifinal game. "But no matter how it goes from here, it's been a very good season."

Redhawks come close

Minnehaha Academy football coach Ron Monson had his team kneel in the middle of what was left of their home turf on October 21. It was an fitting gesture, since seconds earlier the Redhawks' bid to upset DeLaSalle in a battle between two previously unbeatens had ended there with an incomplete pass. For a little more than 47 minutes, Minnehaha had chased the Islanders all over the school's South Field, knocking balls down and out of the hands of the visitors on a rainy, chilly day that was better suited for duck hunting than for football. Then, with only 38.8 seconds remaining, DeLaSalle running back Reginald Gandy broke free for an 8-yard touchdown to stick the Redhawks with a tough 22-18 loss.

"It was a terrific football game," Monson said. "To have fun and have a chance to contend was the goal today. We did that. We even had a chance at the end to pull it out. That's all I could have asked."

Minnehaha is not a perennial contender for gridiron honors in the Tri-Metro Conference. However, this year Monson felt he had the right mix of speed and veterans on his team. As a result, the Redhawks were able to turn on some past tormentors, racking up points in a manner that would make the Vikings green. They rammed past seven straight opponents, averaging 46 points per win.



Minnehaha quarterback Dan Doran was in the middle of the action in a sloppy, muddled meeting of the unbeatens when the Redhawks squared off with DeLaSalle on October. 21. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

However, facing the highly ranked Islanders would be another story. A week's worth of rain, plus a grim forecast, prompted Minnehaha to move the game's starting time to 3:00 p.m. No matter. The stands filled quickly, causing some late arrivals to have to line up along the fence behind the Minnehaha bench to watch the game unfold.

It was worth the wait in the rain.

Football in a sea of mud can be both entertaining and nerve-racking. Handling the ball with any sort of grace was hard. DeLaSalle, playing without starting quarterback Evan Williams, made several early treks into the Redhawks' end of the field with little success. The only points of the first half were set up when Minnehaha lost a fumble deep in its own end. Two plays later, Gandy zipped in for the score. The snap for the extra point was bad, but Tyler Harper, filling in for Williams, ran it in for two points.

It was 8-0 at the half when Monson gathered his charges under a tree at the far end of the field. The Redhawks' offense had managed just four first downs, two of which were due to penalties. Still, they were within one score of tying one of the top teams in the state.

"I reminded them to stick to the fundamentals and not try to be too tricky," Monson said. "On a field like this, it's the basics that matter. We were playing hard, but not much had gone right."

Oddly enough, as the weather worsened in the second half, the caliber of play got better. Redhawk senior quarterback Dan Doran suddenly found his range. Midway through the third quarter, he connected with senior Matthew Wolpert for a 20-yard strike. Since the Islanders had made a two-point conversion, the Redhawks decided to go for the tie. However,

Doran's pass attempt fell incomplete—and the tenor for the day was set.

The Islanders moved down the field quickly in the second half and scored, but missed the two-point conversion. The Redhawks followed suit.

It remained 14-12 until Doran muddled around in the backfield long enough to find senior Taylor Hanson for a long touchdown pass halfway through the fourth quarter. The two-point attempt failed for the third time and the Redhawks' lead was a tenuous 18-14.

The fans began to assemble at the south end, looking forward to charging the field in victory. But the Islanders stayed on task, with Gandy, who rushed 34 times for 216 yards, eventually scoring with less than a minute to go. He ran in the ensuing two-pointer as well.

Minnehaha had one last hurrah after Doran, who threw for 271 yards on the day, found Wolpert near midfield with 17 seconds left. That was it, though. The next three passes fell incomplete and a great game was over.

Monson couldn't help but smile at how his players handled themselves. "We hadn't been tested much this year until today," he said. "Then again, neither had they."

The win gave the Islanders the top seed in Section 4AAA. The Redhawks, by virtue of a previously arranged coin toss, fell to the third seed behind St. Croix Lutheran. Minnehaha defeated Concordia Academy 14-13 in the first round of the playoffs on October 27 and lost to the Crusaders at St. Croix Lutheran 55-8 on Halloween.

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

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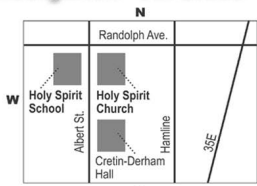


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Sports Shorts

The Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy., is now accepting registration for its second session of fall classes that begin in November. Among the offerings are children's dance, tumbling and yoga, Abrakadoodle art, American Red Cross babysitter training, Soo Bahk Do karate, adult yoga, adult body conditioning through dance, and senior exercise. To register, call 651-695-3706 or visit www.stpaul.gov/parks.

Lanes for Friendship, a fundraiser for the Highland Friendship Club, will be held from noon to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, December 5, at Saxon Lanes in Little Canada. Team sponsors for the event are now being sought. Team members will receive T-shirts, a team photo with Minnesota Twins catcher Joe Mauer, and an opportunity to bowl with a special guest. Past guests have included professional baseball players; Gopher football, baseball and hockey players; and members of the USA Women's Hockey Team. All teams also bowl with a member of the Highland Friendship Club, a nonprofit organization that provides activities for young adults with disabilities. A silent auction will also be part of the event. For information or to sponsor a team, call Mary McKeown at 651-278-5732 or visit www.highlandfriendshipclub.org.

The 2009 Dreidel Dash 5K and Maccabee Mini-Mile will take off on Sunday, December 13, from the Temple of Aaron Synagogue, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd. The 5K run/walk will begin at 1:00 p.m. and wend its way through the Highland Park neighborhood to the St. Paul Jewish Community Center. The Maccabee Mini-Mile for children age 10 and under will start at 2:00 p.m. and follow a short loop along St. Paul Avenue in front of the JCC. Following the races, the JCC will host an event that will include Hanukkah goodies, music, crafts, displays, activities and dreidel games. The cost is \$25 in advance and \$30 on race day for the 5K and \$5.00 per child or \$8.00 per family for the Mini-Mile. All 5K participants will receive a knit running cap. Contact Beth Gendler at 651-255-4736 or bgendler@stpauljcc.org.

The Minnesota Ski & Snowboard Expo will take place from November 6-8 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Five current and former Olympic skiers, including gold medalist Donna Weinbrecht, will highlight the show. The expo will feature more than 70 exhibitors, an aerial trampoline show, skateboarders and BMX bikers, and a fitness challenge for kids. Admission is \$12, or free for children with a paid adult. Visit www.onthesnow.com.



Merriam Park entered the St. Paul City 12U Boys' Soccer League playoffs on October 23-24 with a 9-1 record. The team beat North Dale and Hillcrest, and then defeated Edgcombe 5-1 to capture the city championship. Pictured, from left, are (front row) Joey Pojar, Jack Johnston, Daniel Casement, Diego Luke, Andrew Herrick and George Mefleh; and (back) coach D.J. Johnston, Torben Pearson, Conor Hetzel, Samuel Adams, Michael Syverud and coach Dan Herrick. Not pictured are Slater Bernstein and Julian Fiore.

33◀ STA FOOTBALL

The two quarterbacks each threw for more than 400 yards during the regular season and combined for 11 touchdown passes.

Still, Ziebarth prefers to run first and he has an impressive collection of road graders up front to clear the way. Senior center Conor McFadden, who was all-conference and honorable mention all-state last year, anchors a group that includes senior right tackle Isaac Rinehart, senior left guard Mike DePauw and junior left tackle Luke Marks. Senior tight end Luke Hvidhyld is also a tremendous blocker, according to his coach.

In fact, the Cadets' ground game is so good that not a lot of passing is required. "We throw it more than eight times a game, but not a lot more," Ziebarth said. "In the playoffs, you have to be able to run the ball."

The Cadets are as quick on defense as they are on offense. Their two blue-chip linebackers—junior Will Ratelle and senior Alex Jurich—set the tone. Jurich is the team's leading

tackler, a determined blitzing who has great speed. He plays the corner linebacker and is great at coming off the edge into the backfield. Ratelle plays the middle, where his range and ability to diagnose plays are apparent.

Another big playmaker on defense is senior free safety Leo Leighton, who had seven interceptions through eight games. Leighton also has run back two punts for touchdowns this year and is averaging 16 yards per return.

Junior nose guard Anthony Hayes controls the gaps well, and STA rotates in four defensive ends—seniors Ben Bennett, Jack Berigan and Colin Nitschke and sophomore Billy Mork.

Ziebarth is thankful that his team has avoided any serious injuries this season and hopes the team peaks in the playoffs. This year's club has something to shoot for, too. Three years ago, the Cadets lost to Totino-Grace in an exciting state final that was anybody's game until late in the fourth quarter. Last year, STA entered state with a 10-1 record but lost to Mankato West in the quarterfinals.

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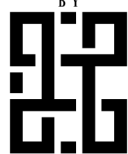
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