



Emily Umentum enjoys the fall colors while riding a “dog bike” in Hidden Falls Park. She was taking a break from rehearsing Barebones Productions’ 15th annual free Halloween outdoor puppet show, which will be presented at 7:00 p.m. October 25, 26, 31 and November 1 at the north end of the park off Mississippi River Boulevard. PHOTO BY ANNE BRANDRUD

Analysis finds Ford options would do little for city coffers

By Jane McClure

Redevelopment of Ford Motor Company’s Twin Cities Assembly Plant in Highland Park would not have a major impact on the city’s bottom line, according to a recently completed fiscal analysis of five different redevelopment scenarios for the 135-acre property. However, because Ford officials have decided to keep the plant operating until at least late 2011, the fiscal impacts of those scenarios are expected to change.

A preliminary fiscal analysis of the redevelopment options and what they could mean for Ford and the city were discussed on October 6 by members of the public and the city-designated Ford Site Task Force. “We’re looking at the effects of new development on government’s bottom line,” said city planner

FISCAL ANALYSIS ► 4

City sued for \$250,000 over RNC-related raid

Plaintiff claims affidavit supporting warrant was riddled with falsehoods

By Jane McClure

Mike Whalen, whose Summit-University duplex was raided by the police on the weekend before the Republican National Convention, intends to sue the city of St. Paul in federal court. Whalen and his attorney, Ted Dooley of Summit Hill, announced the legal action in front of City Hall on October 10.

“We want the police to back off and stop screwing around with people’s rights,” Dooley

said. Police found “nothing, absolutely nothing” in the August 30 raid, he said.

“I’m ashamed of what’s happened to my city,” said Whalen, 60, who owns the property at 949-951 Iglehart Ave. and has lived there for more than 30 years. He said he will be seeking damages of \$250,000.

Whalen, who lives at 951 Iglehart Ave., allowed members of I-Witness Video to stay in the vacant unit at 949 Iglehart before and during the convention. The New York-based independent media organization came to St. Paul to document police actions during the convention.

I-Witness Video was probably the target of the police raid, Dooley said. The group’s work helped to clear about 400 people who were charged in connection with protests at the 2004 Republican

National Convention in New York.

An FBI agent requested entry to Whalen’s property on August 30. Lacking a search warrant, he was denied, Whalen said. More than two dozen police officers returned a few hours later with a search warrant. They handcuffed Whalen and others and held them at gunpoint, he said. No one was allowed to leave the duplex, and no one other than law enforcement officers was allowed to enter. The officers searched both units, breaking down a door between the two.

Dooley was harsh in his criticism of the police action and the Ramsey County District Court’s approval of the search warrant. Noting that the warrant and the sworn affidavit that was used to

RNC LAWSUIT ► 3

St. Joe’s tips its cap to the past

Hospital names its new \$90 million tower after longtime administrator

By Carolyn Will

Twelve years ago, HealthEast announced its plan to close St. Joseph’s Hospital in downtown St. Paul in the year 2000. However, following a surge in its patient load and a breakdown in merger talks with Allina-owned United Hospital, HealthEast officials decided to keep the doors of Minnesota’s oldest hospital open.

And they have never looked back. This Friday, October 24, HealthEast will hold an open house

to celebrate the opening of St. Joseph’s Hospital’s new, 180,000-square-foot de Paul Tower at the corner of St. Peter and 10th streets. Public tours of the five-story, \$90 million addition will be offered between 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. along with a health fair and free health screenings.

The new state-of-the-art tower features centralized heart care and neuroscience centers, four new operating rooms, facilities for outpatient surgery, private rooms for all patients, a fully equipped education center and a new main entrance, lobby and chapel. The addition will also allow St. Joseph’s to expand its emergency room, add two new operating rooms for minimally invasive procedures and make other inter-

ST. JOSEPH’S EXPANSION ► 5



Sister Marie de Paul Rochester stops outside the chapel in St. Joseph’s Hospital’s new de Paul Tower. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

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News Briefs

Food co-op seeks city funding; union wants organized workers

A disagreement with the United Food and Commercial Workers Union's Local 789 has complicated Mississippi Market's request for city funds for its planned Victoria Park store.

The food co-op was requesting a \$400,000 loan and \$200,000 grant through the city's Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization program, but is now only seeking the \$200,000 grant. A decision on the 2008 grants and loans will be made later this fall by the St. Paul City Council. The requests are currently being reviewed by Mayor Chris Coleman.

UFCW Local 789 has expressed concern about granting any level of city subsidy for the store. "Our issue is that public subsidies should have a public purpose," said Bernie Hesse, who oversees special projects for Local 789.

UFCW and Mississippi Market representatives met in the mayor's office recently, but could not reach an agreement on the union's pitch to try to organize the co-op's workers as union members. Hesse said Mississippi Market's opening at Victoria Park will affect the business of two Cooper's SuperValu locations on West 7th, both of which employ union workers. Giving one store a city subsidy and not another one "isn't a level playing field," he said.

Mississippi Market is a member-owned co-op with stores in the Highland Park and Summit-University neighborhoods. The new store proposed for 1500 W. 7th St. would replace the one at Randolph and Fairview avenues.

Even though Mississippi Market officials now say they can get bank financing for the \$400,000 loan, the West 7th/Fort Road Federation voted on October 13 to recommend that the market get its full STAR funding request of \$600,000. General manager Gayle Graham updated the federation on the store's plans that evening. The nearly \$6 million construction project will be paid for with a combination of bank financing, member loans and city funds.

Graham said the STAR funding is especially important since the project has run into unexpected additional costs of about \$100,000 for soil remediation beneath the site of the West 7th store. A 50-foot strip of land has unstable soil from past fill and will have to be stabilized by sinking vertical piers in the ground.

Wild Onion fined by city for allowing late-night noise

The Wild Onion, 788 Grand Ave., must pay a \$500 fine for failing to ensure that its patrons leave the premises and parking lot without causing a disturbance. The St. Paul City Council levied the fine on October 15 on the recommendation of city licensing staff and an administrative law judge.

Summit Hill residents and Wild Onion management have clashed for years about how the restaurant is operated and how pa-



Graffiti mars a railroad warning sign near the footbridge that served as a connection to the former Homecroft School in Highland Park. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Future of footbridge up in air

Residents along a stretch of the Canadian Pacific Railway tracks in Highland Park will be surveyed this fall regarding what can be done to improve public safety there. The survey, which is being prepared by Ward 3 City Council member Pat Harris and his staff, is in response to neighborhood concerns about a footbridge over the tracks. Property owners between Edgumbe Road and Prior Avenue will be surveyed.

"We're looking at all of the options for the area," Harris said. That includes improving lighting and increasing police patrols. The St. Paul Department of Public Works has been tracking pedestrian use of the bridge, and both the city and CP Rail have increased efforts to remove brush and trash along the railroad right-of-way.

Some Highland residents have submitted a petition to the Highland District Council (HDC) and Harris' office, asking that the bridge be removed. They contend that the bridge is a magnet for vandalism, public drinking and other problems. The HDC and its Community Services Committee have discussed problems in the area for the past few months. The committee laid over action on the request to remove the bridge, pending the results of the survey, pedestrian traffic counts and other information.

Public records show that the city and railroad agreed in the 1920s that the footbridge should be built. The bridge, which wasn't actually built until the 1970s, served as a connection to the former Homecroft School.

tron behavior is monitored. One condition on the restaurant's licenses is that security personnel be present in the parking lot at closing time on Tuesday through Saturday nights to ensure that patrons leave without causing a disturbance in the neighborhood.

A June 11 complaint about noise at closing time resulted in St. Paul police being called. Police observed noisy patrons leaving the restaurant after closing time, with no one from the business outside to quiet them. City licensing staff had sought a \$1,000 fine; the administrative law judge recommended reducing the fine by half.

Three neighbors testified in support of the fine on October 15. Avon Street resident Tom Donaghy said he has lost count of the number of times he has been awakened by loud patrons leaving the restaurant.

Wild Onion attorney David Hashmall said

the business has made changes to ensure a security guard is in the parking lot at closing time.

St. Paul adds more regulations for 24-hour exercise facilities

Proposed city regulations for no-frills, 24-hour fitness clubs keep getting a workout. After adopting the regulations on October 8, the St. Paul City Council recalled and amended the rules on October 15 on a 5-2 vote.

The amendments, which were brought forward by Ward 6 council member Dan Bostrom, call for 24-hour fitness clubs to only have one office in which the interior walls and office door are made up mostly of clear glass. No window treatments may be installed to obstruct the view into the office and the door must be locked unless an employee is inside.

Bostrom said the added regulations are needed to prevent illegal activity. While saying he has no problems with franchises like Anytime Fitness or Snap Fitness, Bostrom said he is concerned that future club operators could try to run illegal businesses and that an enclosed office space with 24-hour public access is too risky.

Bostrom and council member Dave Thune have expressed concern that the fitness clubs could too easily be converted into fronts for prostitution. For years the city battled such bogus "health clubs," finally using a state statute on nuisance properties to shutter many of the facilities in the 1990s.

Similar concerns stalled the City Council's approval of an ordinance allowing the 24-hour fitness clubs to operate in St. Paul without trained staff always on hand. New regulations allow the clubs to be open 24 hours a day without staff, but only if they abide by conditions on video surveillance, patron access, exterior windows and equipment to use in case of emergency.

Council members Pat Harris and Russ Stark, who voted against the amendment, said the additional regulations were too onerous.

Council supports rezoning Selby shop for catering biz

The St. Paul City Council agreed on October 15 to act on a request from Greg Jones and Portia Bunker to rezone a former dental clinic at 1278 Selby Ave. so they can open a catering business there. The rezoning from office services to community business must still go through a series of readings before it is finalized.

The building has retail space on its ground floor and an apartment above. It was built in the early 20th century as a grocery store and has housed several businesses over the years. Most recently it was the Timberlake dental clinic. That business closed months ago.

Jones and Bunker want to buy the building, renovate it and sell it to Roseville resident Kristin Wasgliszyn, who wants to live there while operating a catering business that supplies meals for private airplanes.

The Union Park District Council and St. Paul Planning Commission recommended approval of the rezoning request. However, 42 neighbors signed a petition opposing it. Some residents complained that the district council did not hold a public meeting to discuss the rezoning before taking its position. Neighbors also expressed concerns that other types of businesses could use the building if it were rezoned.

The Union Park District Council distributed 200 fliers to announce an October 7 meeting to discuss the proposal and reconsider its position, but only two people showed up. No one appeared at the City Council hearing on October 15 to speak against the request.

News Briefs compiled by Jane McClure.

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1 ◀ RNC LAWSUIT

support it were for the wrong address, he said, "it shouldn't take two hours (to get a warrant) if you know why you're there."

The sworn affidavit contained other falsehoods, according to Dooley, who called the allegations against Whalen "preposterous."

One allegation described how Whalen had been receiving heavy boxes in the mail that allegedly contained weapons that were to be used during the Republican National Convention. However, the boxes did not contain weapons, according to Dooley and Whalen, but pamphlets for aspiring vegans labeled "A Guide to Cruelty-Free Eating." Large numbers of the pamphlets are regularly delivered to Whalen's home and distributed by one of Whalen's housemates.

"These are dangerous weapons," Dooley said as he handed out some of the pamphlets at the press conference.

The affidavit also claimed that Whalen had supported international terrorism and had a relationship with former Symbionese Liberation Army member Kathleen Soliah. Soliah had lived quietly for many years in Highland Park under the name Sarah Jane Olson before her arrest in 1999 and subsequent conviction for taking part in a 1975 bank robbery that resulted in the death of an innocent bystander.

Olson, who is now serving a prison sentence in California, was a co-owner with Whalen of Arise Bookstore in Minneapolis. According to Dooley, the business arrangement lasted a year before Olson's interest in the store was bought out. The two lost contact after that, he said. Whalen is still a co-owner of the bookstore.

Whalen was never arrested or charged in connection with the raid. However, the city did order him to affix the proper type of house numbers to his duplex.

One wrinkle in Whalen's case was the failure of authorities to execute and file the search warrant with the court within 10 days

St. Paul City Attorney John Choi did point out that the police had entered the home with a search warrant signed by a Ramsey County District Court judge.

after its issuance, as required by state law. The warrants and the supporting affidavit went missing after the raid. They finally turned up in late September in the mailbox of a Ramsey County prosecutor who had nothing to do with the case.

Dooley said he does not believe there was anything underhanded in the handling of the documents.

St. Paul City Attorney John Choi said the city has received correspondence from Whalen's attorneys seeking various documents. As part of its agreement to host the Republican convention, the city received the protection of a \$10 million police liability insurance policy. According to Choi, all RNC-related lawsuits are being forwarded to the insurance company for defense and indemnification.

"Once we receive a lawsuit, we'll review it," Choi said. Though he did not comment at length on Whalen's case, Choi did point out that the police had entered the home with a search warrant signed by a Ramsey County District Court judge and operated under that legal authority.

Whalen is being represented by Dooley and Peter Nickitas, who are both members of the National Lawyers Guild that has been active in defending RNC protesters. Dooley is also representing Mick Kelly, who was arrested while protesting during the RNC and has also announced his intention to sue the city.

St. Paul officials have also been dealing with four other lawsuits related to the RNC. Those suits do not focus on police activity, but on parade permits and the locations for protests and public speakers.



Plaintiff Mike Whalen in front of his Iglehart Avenue duplex, which was raided by local law enforcement on the weekend before the Republican Convention. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

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Residents want even hand in assessing uneven street

Repair of cobblestones on Osceola found unacceptable

By JANE MCCLURE

Reconstruction of a one-block stretch of Osceola Avenue between Chatsworth and Milton streets has resulted in a bumpy surface of uneven sandstone pavers that rattles motorists and causes vibrations that shake adjacent homes. The poor quality of the reconstruction work has fueled a three-year-long disagreement over how much adjacent homeowners should have to pay for the project. The St. Paul City Council is trying to sort those issues out before making a decision on the assessments to abutting property owners on October 22.

"The street is almost undrivable," said Osceola resident Eric Lampland. According to him, anyone driving more than 10-15 mph on the street is jarred by the uneven surface.

Lampland and other neighbors asked the City Council on October 15 to take the poor condition of the road into account when assessing homeowners for the work. They

brought along a letter from Department of Public Works director Bruce Beese, who has stated that the street's surface is "not acceptable."

How much the homeowners are assessed for the work is just one issue. Some City Council members also want to determine if the city has recourse against the contractor and subcontractors who worked on the street and have already been paid. The City Attorney's Office has been asked to research the city's legal options.

Street reconstruction projects are assessed against property owners on a per-foot basis, measured along the front of a property. The city also covers a share of the cost. Reconstruction of the Osceola block cost \$363,214. The neighbors' share is \$67,343.95.

The Osceola residents were originally told they would have to pay as much as \$90 per foot to save the cobblestones on their street. That sparked a lengthy fight between residents and city officials, and among the members of the City Council. Ward 2 council member Dave Thune lost a council vote three years ago when he argued that the city should pick up more of the cost as a way to preserve a historic

asset. Instead, neighbors were told they would have to pay a higher rate based on the actual cost of the work.

"We had a beautiful, historic street that was ruined in the process of redoing it," Lampland said.

The actual cost resulted in an assessment of \$56.87 per foot, said Dan Haak of Public Works. By comparison, neighbors with asphalt streets paid \$35.78 per foot in 2006.

Lampland said Osceola residents would accept paying what their neighbors with asphalt streets paid. That would mean the city picks up more of the cost.

Osceola between Chatsworth and Milton is one of only a few streets in St. Paul with sandstone pavers. When the Chatsworth-Goodrich Residential Street Vitality Program was first discussed in 2005, residents were concerned about the cost to rebuild their block as well as

the quality of workmanship.

"We had a beautiful, historic street that was ruined in the process of redoing it," Lampland said.

Along with the uneven surface, neighbors have complained about their driveways not being realigned properly, the loss of a large tree and sod dying despite frequent watering and fertilizing by residents.

"I don't know what the solution is," Thune said.

Public Works has used a binding product to try to smooth the surface, without success. Other options, such as grinding down the street surface, will not work. And the residents of Osceola were less than mollified by some Public Works statements that a rough street should be viewed as a form of traffic calming, Lampland said.

Haak conceded that the project's specifications were changed during the reconstruction of Osceola. The first subcontractor went out of business while doing the work and a second contractor had to be brought in. Specifications for how the cobblestones would be relaid were changed to reflect the reality of uneven stone heights.

1 FISCAL ANALYSIS

Luis Periera. "The key assumption is that any new development will impact city revenue as well as expenditures."

The fiscal analysis looked at how the city's general fund would be affected by the five redevelopment scenarios, which include (1) light industrial use, (2) mixed light industrial/flexible technology use, (3) mixed office and institutional use, (4) a mixed-use "urban village" and (5) a high-density "urban transit village." The annual fiscal impacts on St. Paul's budget were predicted to range from a \$5,000 deficit for Scenario 1 to a \$165,000 boost for Scenario 4. The detailed data are available at www.stpaul.gov.

Each of the five redevelopment scenarios would result in a higher market value for the property than its currently estimated \$69 million. The resulting market values following redevelopment range from \$132 million for Scenario 1 to \$319.3 million for Scenario 3. Annual property taxes for the property are currently \$1.1 million, and could double or triple through redevelopment.

About 40 people task force members, area residents and developers attended the October 6 presentation. They asked for more information on issues ranging from the increased

sales tax revenue under the various redevelopment scenarios to what the impacts would be for surrounding area businesses.

Some speakers questioned how relevant the fiscal analysis will be in a few years due to an unstable economy. However, city officials contended there is value in early computer models of the economic impacts. The models used current market conditions to suggest how the redevelopment scenarios would affect both the city and the St. Paul Public Schools. Additional spending for city services under the redevelopment scenarios is projected for such things as parks and public safety. However, that will be offset by more fees and property taxes paid to local units of government.

The task force was established by the St. Paul Planning Commission after Ford announced in 2006 that it would shut down the Highland Park plant in 2008. Ford's subsequent decision to keep assembling Ranger trucks there until 2011 gives the city more time to study reuses for the site, but it also means that the fiscal impacts presented on October 6 will likely be out of date by the time a new development plan is selected.

Ford officials who attended the meeting indicated that the model could be useful in planning for its the property's reuse. Ford alone will choose the new owner of the prop-

erty, but company officials are working with the city to plan for redevelopment.

"A lot of our work has been put on hold at this point," said Jay Gardener of Ford Land, the real estate and development arm of Ford Motor Company.

"We're looking at the effects of new development on government's bottom line," said city planner Luis Periera. "The key assumption is that any new development impacts city revenue as well as expenditures."

Gardner said Ford is continuing to address environmental issues at the property, such as cleaning up the network of tunnels beneath the plant. Last year, the Ford Little League Fields were cleaned up to address concerns about soil pollution there.

The computer models used to come up with the fiscal analysis were developed by Hennepin County and the University of Minnesota, with the aid of the federal Transportation Administration and other agencies. The models have previously been used to evaluate the fiscal impacts of several projects in Hennepin County.

The city of St. Paul has to balance several factors in looking at redevelopment, Periera said, including to what extent the tax base could increase, what the costs of new infrastructure will be, and how redevelopment can be done in a way that is environmentally sustainable.

The models that were used analyzed residential use as well as commercial, industrial and mixed-use development. The residential model projected the number of people who might live there, which will be useful for schools to project enrollment.

The models did not look at capital costs or ripple effects the redevelopment plans might have on the area's economy. It also did not consider a redevelopment plan being developed by ARISE, a coalition promoting sustainable redevelopment and environmentally friendly manufacturing. That group's preliminary plans were also made available to the task force and public on October 6.

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Sister M. Virginia Webb embraces Sister Marie de Paul Rochester (right) following the dedication ceremonies for St. Joseph's Hospital's new, de Paul Tower (above).



1 ◀ ST. JOSEPH'S EXPANSION

nal improvements.

The tower has been named for a former hospital administrator, Sister Marie de Paul Rochester, whose 18 years of leadership (1956-65 and 1968-78) is the longest of any administrator in the hospital's 155-year history.

De Paul, now 95 and living at Bethany Convent in Highland Park, was both happy and humbled when she heard that the employees of St. Joseph's had chosen to name the new tower in her honor. "I was just amazed," she said. "When I was told, I said I'd have to pray on it and ask my superiors."

De Paul served on the committee overseeing the expansion project, offering guidance on which features to include to best demonstrate the hospital's Christian heritage and tradition. "They wanted to continue the strong liturgical presence," de Paul said. "We're very happy with the new chapel as well as the peace garden. I think every place of healing should have a place where patients and their families can just be themselves."

Just inside the entrance, the new tower has a reception and information desk, a grand spiral staircase to the second floor, and a third-floor balcony that allows patients and visitors to look down onto the three-story atrium decked out in midnight-blue paint, dark cherry wood trim, terrazzo flooring and a fleur-de-lis design that harkens back to the French roots of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, who founded the hospital. A fireplace, lounge seating and a cafe warm the lobby, which looks out onto the peace garden complete with a fountain, benches and views of downtown and the state Capitol.

"The intention was to have it not feel like a hospital when visitors walk through the entrance," said Health East spokeswoman Lynn Sadoff. "It's also important for families who are here with their loved ones to see life outside the building and feel that connection."

St. Joseph's Hospital has always been well-connected to St. Paul. The Sisters of St. Joseph had arrived in the city to teach the children of the local pioneers and American Indians of the area. When a cholera epidemic swept through the region in 1853, they turned the former log chapel they had been using as a school into a hospital.

The need for a larger hospital was evident from the start, and three local leaders quickly stepped forward to make it possible. Henry

Rice, a prominent Protestant layman, donated the land on which St. Joseph's Hospital was built, Chief White Cloud donated the lumber and Bishop Joseph Cretin donated 10,000 francs, his family inheritance. The hospital opened at its present location in 1854.

"From the start, St. Joseph's Hospital has been an ecumenical effort," said de Paul, who co-authored the 2003 history of the hospital, *Sesquicentennial: 150 Years of Caring at St. Joseph's Hospital*. A former nurse, de Paul said St. Joseph's attracts health care professionals "driven by a desire to heal and bring hope through a caring, faith-based approach." However, she added, it has always welcomed people of all faiths and cultures.

De Paul is also proud of St. Joseph's record of medical firsts. According to her, it was the first hospital in the Twin Cities to allow fathers into the delivery room. "We called it family-based nursing and, believe me, we had some resistance from the doctors at first," said de Paul, who was the hospital's administrator at the time. In those baby boom years, St. Joseph's was assisting in the delivery of 2,200 babies a year. "People were having big families," de Paul said. "One of our sisters, Mary Meyer, was a midwife and she introduced us to this new idea."

Other St. Joseph's firsts included the first open heart surgery in St. Paul, and the first intensive care unit and first chemical dependency unit in the Twin Cities.

With the de Paul Tower addition, St. Joseph's will become the first hospital in the Twin Cities to be equipped with the patient-tracking device called Horizon Enterprise Visibility. With the aid of large flat-screen monitors on the walls, nurses and family members will be able to check on the status of patients, including which patients are waiting for lab results and which room needs to be cleaned. The new tower is also home to the National Brain Aneurysm Center, treating the full spectrum of neurovascular illnesses, and Cyberknife Stereotactic Radiology, a technology new to the Upper Midwest that is used in treating tumors.

The de Paul Tower is the fourth major addition at St. Joseph's. The other three were the North Tower, built in 1926; the Archbishop John Gregory Murray Tower, constructed in 1960; and the Carondelet Tower, built in 1972.

For more information on the open house, visit www.stjosephs-stpaul.org.

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District councils review fuel options for Rock-Tenn plant

BY JANE MCCLURE

The Macalester-Groveland and St. Anthony Park district councils voted unanimously on October 9 to support the recommendations of the Rock-Tenn Community Advisory Panel (RCAP) that would tie the future energy needs of the Rock-Tenn paper recycling plant at I-94 and Vandalia Street to a rural anaerobic digestion system. The Hamline-Midway Coalition planned to weigh in on the matter on October 21 and the Union Park District Council is scheduled to vote on it on November 5 in order to meet a November 7 deadline for public comment. The St. Paul City Council will hear a report on the recommendations on November 12 before deciding which energy source is best for the plant.

The district councils are among several member groups of RCAP that spent more than a year discussing various energy options for Rock-Tenn. The plant lost its longtime power source last summer when the steam line that extended from the old Xcel Energy High Bridge plant to Rock-Tenn was disconnected. Since then, Rock-Tenn has been burning a combination of fuel oil and natural gas. However, it has been looking for a more cost-effective alternative fuel source.

A St. Paul Port Authority-led consult-

ing team worked with RCAP in studying various energy options, ranging from wind power to refuse-derived fuel (RDF). The Port Authority's preferred option is to work with an outstate group to generate biogas through anaerobic digestion. Biogas, which is a clean, renewable energy source similar to natural gas, is created by using microbes to promote the decomposition of corn byproducts, sugar-beet waste or animal manure.

Biogas produced at the plant could be added to the natural gas pipeline system and be used to buy down the cost of natural gas for Rock-Tenn. That would enable the plant to use about 75 percent natural gas and 25 percent fuel oil, which is the reverse of what it currently is using. By participating in efforts to produce biogas, Rock-Tenn may be able to purchase natural gas at a 10 to 20 percent discount.

The resolutions that were approved by the Macalester-Groveland and St. Anthony Park district councils on October 9 mirror what was approved by RCAP when it concluded its meetings in August. The two district councils supported the Port Authority's preferred option, but also cautioned that RCAP did not have time to study the environmental impact of an anaerobic digester. The resolutions adopted by RCAP and the two district councils all stated that an anaerobic digestion system

must be built to meet the highest health and environmental standards.

The resolutions also stated that RDF should be removed from future consideration as a fuel source. The Port Authority has argued that RDF cannot be ruled out.

If for some reason the biogas option does not work out, the Port Authority's second choice is to build a new turbine at Rock-Tenn to co-generate electricity and steam. The electricity would be sold to a utility company, and the steam would be used to power the Rock-Tenn plant. That option has the support of the two district councils and RCAP if the fuel that is used for the turbine is either natural gas or biogas.

The Port Authority's third choice is to build a gasification facility at Rock-Tenn that would be fueled by a renewable form of biomass, such as agricultural waste or wood waste. The two district councils and RCAP have indicated that they could not give unqualified support to that option due to a lack of information on environmental performance and economics.

The resolutions adopted by the two district councils on October 9 also commended Rock-Tenn for energy conservation efforts that have implemented at the plant over the past year and urged that more such efforts be made in the future.



A worker loads up a finished roll of recycled paper at Rock-Tenn. PHOTO BY ANNE BRANDRUD

UST student center, athletic facilities to be studied together

BY JANE MCCLURE

Members of the West Summit Neighborhood Advisory Committee (WSNAC) got their wish on October 14 when St. Paul officials agreed on requiring a single environmental review of the University of St. Thomas' plans for a new student center and athletic facilities.

UST wants to build the Anderson Student Center on the site of its main parking lot at the northeast corner of Summit and Cretin avenues. The project would involve demolishing O'Shaughnessy Hall just to the east of the lot. The university also wants to build a larger field house near Schoenecker Arena.

City planning staff had originally suggested separate studies for the two projects, but WSNAC members objected. They said the cumulative effect of both projects should be

looked at in a combined environmental assessment worksheet (EAW) instead of what some committee members saw as a piecemeal process.

WSNAC members also agreed to a memorandum of understanding with the city to allow the study to proceed. A formal agreement will be brought back to WSNAC in November. By then the university's board of trustees is expected to have firmed up a timeline for the projects, said Doug Hennes, vice president of university relations.

WSNAC includes representatives from the Macalester-Groveland and Union Park district councils, the Summit Avenue Residential Preservation Association (SARPA) and Neighbors United. The group was created by the city in 2004 to monitor and make recommendations on campus projects and issues that affect surrounding neighborhoods.

The EAW will assess potential environmental impacts of the project. One question that arose was whether a combined study would require revisiting the 2004 conditional use permit that allowed St. Thomas to expand onto the two blocks south of Summit Avenue between Cleveland and Cretin avenues. WSNAC members agreed they do not want to reopen that process, which dragged on for several years.

SARPA representatives Les Metzler and Jim Toscano said a combined EAW for the two projects should be seen as a one-time agreement. "We don't want to set a precedent" for other campus projects, Metzler said.

WSNAC co-chair Scott Banas said the memorandum of understanding does not preclude the district councils, SARPA and Neighbors United from voting separately on the projects and commenting on the EAW.

Nor would it make the city, university or WSNAC immune from any legal challenges to the projects.

The EAW and any written comments will be reviewed by the St. Paul Planning Commission, which will make a recommendation to city planning director Cecile Bedor. She will make a final decision on whether the EAW is adequate or whether a more detailed environmental impact statement is needed.

St. Thomas is looking to build the athletic facilities first, followed by construction of the student center in 2010-2011. Both projects would require site plan review by the Planning Commission. A building permit for the student center and a demolition permit for O'Shaughnessy Hall would need to be reviewed by the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission since both sites lie within the Summit Avenue West Historic District.

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HPC asks St. Thomas to tweak plans to expand Sitzmann Hall

By JANE MCCLURE

The University of St. Thomas' plan to expand Sitzmann Hall on the northeast corner of Cleveland and Summit avenues will need some changes before being brought back to the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC). During a design review on October 9, HPC members suggested changes ranging from the building's dormers to a retaining wall. UST officials and Anderson Dale Architects will continue discussing the plans with HPC staff and could return to the commission in November for approval of a building permit. The HPC has jurisdiction because Sitzmann lies within the Summit Avenue West Historic District.

Generating the most discussion among HPC members was the design of one large window in the proposed addition, as well as the use of stained-glass windows in a chapel. The windows would not be visible from Summit but would be from Cleveland.

The university is proposing a 4,700-square foot, three-story addition to Sitzmann, a converted house that has been owned by St. Thomas for 60 years and has housed its Catholic Studies program since 2003. The addition would be used for storage, a chapel, classrooms and offices. St. Thomas also plans to remove a driveway and small parking area just off Cleveland.

The improvements to Sitzmann are proceeding with little neighborhood opposition following a unanimous vote of approval on

September 9 by the West Summit Neighborhood Advisory Committee (WSNAC). The vote ended more than a year of neighborhood review. If all goes as planned, work on the addition would begin next spring.

WSNAC supported the expansion plans in exchange for conditions that addressed concerns raised by the Summit Avenue Residential Preservation Association (SARPA) and area residents regarding future St. Thomas projects. SARPA at one point had threatened to sue the university over the Sitzmann plans.

The conditions include the following:

- No further expansion to Sitzmann will be allowed after the 2009 project is complete.
- No expansion will be allowed at 2057 Portland Ave., a house now used by the university's art history department.
- St. Thomas will be allowed to renovate or replace the building at 44 N. Cleveland Ave. that it uses for its international education department, but a new structure must not exceed the current building's height.

• A small rear addition will be allowed at Morrison House, the St. Thomas president's residence at 2045 Summit Ave. However, there are no plans to expand the home at this time.

• UST will be allowed to acquire only one home for ex-presidents or chancellors, which clears up wording in a 2004 condition.

The plans for Sitzmann Hall will now be forwarded to the Macalester-Groveland and Union Park district councils for review. They will also require city staff site plan review.

Council approves \$2M loan for new West 7th fire station

Ground will be broken for St. Paul's newest fire station on October 29. Fire Station 1 will be built at the corner of West 7th Street and Randolph Avenue to house the fire companies now operating out of Stations 1 and 10, as well as the Fire Department's administration. The St. Paul City Council approved a \$2 million loan for the project on October 15, which will allow construction to start sooner than planned. The \$15.2 million station is scheduled to open in late 2009.

The West 7th/Fort Road Federation heard an update on the fire station project on October 13. Some design changes have been made, such as moving a stair tower from the corner

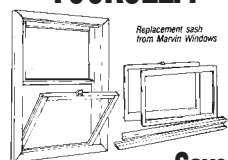
to the side and adding more windows and a more prominent pedestrian entrance.

The building will be two stories tall and will have an attached parking ramp. The Fire Department is trying to incorporate as many environmentally friendly building features into the building as possible.

Fire Chief Tim Butler said some issues related to fire station's construction still have to be worked out, including the relocation of a bus stop in front of the building site. The bus stop is expected to serve patrons of the new United Family Practice Health Center now under construction across Randolph Avenue.

Additional parking also still must be found for local businesses that have used part of the fire station site for off-street parking. The federation is working with businesses to promote more shared parking in the area.

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Viewpoint

Why the Villager does not endorse

BY MICHAEL MISCHKE

As is our premeditated custom, the *Villager* is not endorsing any candidate for any elective office once again this year. As the publisher of this newspaper, I'd once again like to explain why.

In last Sunday's *Star Tribune*, editorial page editor Scott Gillespie wrote: "To opt out of political endorsements simply to avoid angering supporters of candidates we don't select, as more newspapers seem to be doing, is a vote for irrelevance."

Maybe. But given the *Star Tribune's* financial plight, you'd think irrelevance was the least of that newspaper's worries.

Our own decision not to endorse candidates has nothing to do with angering our readers who might strongly disagree with our selections. If we feared occasionally angering our readers, we wouldn't be in the newspaper business in the first place. We manage to occasionally anger our readers *without* endorsing candidates, thank you.

Rather, our decision not to endorse candidates has everything to do with our respect for our readers' own decisions based on their own informed judgments on who they believe the best candidates to be.

An unsigned editorial in last Sunday's *St. Paul Pioneer Press* took a slightly different tack in explaining why that similarly struggling newspaper has chosen *not* to make an endorsement for president this year. Acknowledging that its readership is "evenly split among Democrats and Republicans, and includes a fair number of independents and supporters of smaller parties," the editorial writer observed: "This means that we are bound to make a goodly number of readers angry no matter what we decide, (though) that would not stop us if we thought we had special access to the facts or brought special insight to the decision."

Apparently the editorial board believes that to be the case with respect to all races other than presidential.

And that's another reason we don't endorse any candidates. It has always struck me as the height of presumption for anyone to claim to have special access to the facts or special insights to electoral decisions. What anyone *does* have—today more so than ever—is access to a vast array of media sources with which to make informed judgments.

Though this particular local media source is not endorsing any candidate once again, the *Villager* is once again endorsing this: Learning all you can about the candidates and their positions, and voting for whomever you believe to be the best ones on the ballot next Tuesday, November 4.

What public purpose?

The surprising news that redeveloping Ford Motor Company's 135-acre Twin Cities Assembly Plant after it moves out in 2011 would have little if any salubrious effect on the city's coffers makes you wonder about the St. Paul Port Authority's justification for using eminent domain to force another St. Paul business to move out.

Advance Shoring Co., a 45-employee firm that has operated on the city's North End since 1960, is being threatened by the heavy hand of government to make way for what the Port hopes will become a comparatively modest 35-acre industrial park. The Port claims the taking is legal because it would serve a public purpose and because the cost of cleaning up contaminated soil beneath Advance Shoring would be more than the property is worth.

Karen Haug, Advance Shoring's CEO, and Lee McGrath, executive director of the Minnesota chapter of the Institute for Justice, dispute the Port's contention. "The thing to keep in mind when it comes to the Port Authority's trumped-up environmental claims is that Karen's property complies with all Minnesota Pollution Control Agency directives," McGrath said. "If her property is left alone, any minor environmental concern that may exist can be easily and cost-effectively taken care of with private funds, which Karen is ready to invest."

The Port exists primarily to expand the city's property tax base and to create good-paying jobs. It's hard to reconcile the Port's actions against Advance Shoring with its stated mission when the fiscal analysis of redeveloping the much larger and more desirable Ford site suggests it would result in insignificant expansion of the tax base—and 45 good-paying jobs at Advance Shoring would be eliminated in the process.



Politics '08: It only hurts when I'm not laughing

You know what? It's time that a normal Joe Six Pack American is finally represented in the position of vice president.

—Alaska Governor Sarah Palin

BY BILL STIEGER

Perhaps the finest outcome of the slime-encrusted electoral campaign of 2008 will be the demise of the Karl Rove strategy of ad hominem attacks on political opponents. Sure, we've been seeing more of that kind of campaigning this year than ever before, but the opinion polls are beginning to reflect that the electorate has had its fill of it. Nevertheless, I find the attack ads thoroughly entertaining and certainly worthy of replaying on "Comedy Central." Here are a review of a few of my favorites along with some other unsolicited opinions:

★ How about those invocations that Governor Sarah Palin employs at her rallies across the country? "We're going to put a stop to Barack Hussein Obama!" she shouts, implying that Obama, if not a terrorist in the vein of Saddam Hussein, is really a Muslim bent on converting a Christian nation.

★ I also get a charge out of U.S. Senator Norm Coleman's televised plugs. Coleman is the master of the attack ad, suggesting in essence that his Democratic opponent is a filthy pornographer who assaults people. But his funniest ad is the one in which he introduces us to a disabled kid as his "fishing buddy." What, are we to think that Coleman flies home from Washington, D.C., on a Friday, wakes up bright and early on Saturday morning, packs two spinning rods in the back of his Escalade and then picks up little Johnny before heading to the lake? How many times has Coleman taken this kid fishing? If it's more than once, I'll eat my hat. If it's more than three times, I'm calling child protection. And, no, I don't approve this message.

★ Not that I'm crazy about Al Franken either. The guy had trouble getting Air America off the ground, so how is he going to get anything done in Washington? I've never seen Al hanging out at Dunn Brothers, taking in a Twins game or walking around Lake Harriet. He may have grown up in St. Louis Park, but c'mon, he's a New Yorker carpetbagging in a state that he's betting will be a pushover. Al is a comedy writer, for heaven's sake. Then again, most of the speeches coming out of Washington these days are comic. Perhaps Franken does have the makings of the proverbial Washington insider. If elected, he could campaign for president in 2012 with Mel Brooks as his

running mate.

★ Just who are the pols and commentators yakking about when they refer to this Joe Six Pack fellow? Some slob reclining in a flea-infested La-Z-Boy, clad in a filthy wife-beater undershirt, watching reruns of "The Dukes of Hazzard" as flies buzz about the scrunched-up beer cans at his feet? This is the guy whom Sarah Palin is winking at? A drunken Bozo who makes Larry the Cable Guy look like Fred Astaire?

★ Who would've thought that the Grand Old Party of family values would embrace a candidate with a pregnant teenage daughter? I feel sorry for Bristol Palin and her high school dropout fiancé, Levi Johnston. I mean, I suppose it's fine that the McCain campaign is proudly touting the kid's pregnancy, but didn't it used to be an embarrassment to have a family situation like this? I guess the pro-life movement has transformed teen pregnancy from a source of shame into a sign of virtue.

★ News flash: Liberals can be nut-jobs, too. In fact, the worst part about being a liberal these days is having to share the same political party as Arianna Huffington. Huffington was born in Greece, educated in England and later went la-la in California. She's an ex-Republican, a past devotee of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh (remember the doped-up knucklehead with the 27 Rolls Royces?), a former adherent of EST and a current follower of a Christian mystic named John Roger.

The Huffington Post, for the three of you who don't know, is the political left's on-line answer to the Drudge Report. And its journalism is just as horrific. The Huffington Post has something like 1,000 columnists on staff, many of whom are movie stars. Barbra Streisand, Alec Baldwin, Sean Penn, John Cusack and Jamie Lee Curtis are just a few of the many bloggers who rant on that website.

It can become rather pathetic. One of last week's columns on the Huffington Post was headlined, "Reading the Pictures: Has McCain Been Suffering From What the DSM-IV Classifies as Caffeine Intoxication?" Under the subhead, "Kristol & Brooks Play Dumb at *New York Times*," columnist Eric Boehert opened his treatise with a question: "Bottom line: Do Bill Kristol and David Brooks understand the basic tenets of journalism?"

But Mr. Boehert, what about the basic tenet that you don't lead off an article with the most worn out cliché in the English language?

If we could harness political stupidity as energy, we'd have enough renewable fuel to light the planet for a million years.

Inbox

Act of a feckless Legislature

To the editor:

Finally! An honest explanation of the inherent dangers in the misnamed “Clean Water, Land and Legacy” Amendment. Verne Johnson’s guest editorial in the October 8 *Villager* is a clear and concise list of everything wrong with this amendment and an explanation of why everyone should vote against it (or do nothing, as failure to vote counts as a “no”).

The Minnesota Constitution was never intended to be used as an end run around the Legislature, and the obvious precedent here is frightening. If this amendment passes, who’s to stop any and every group, special interest, organization, cause, etc., from demanding its piece of guaranteed funding via the same mechanism?

What I find most galling is the Legislature’s abdication of its responsibility to formulate state budgets (except, of course, the small minority who bravely voted against the referendum on the amendment). We all should, and I do, expect more from our state representatives and senators.

We all agree with the causes this amendment purportedly supports, but this is the wrong way to fund them. Let us demand appropriate funding via the legislative process and hold our legislators responsible for doing their job and fund these priorities correctly. In the meantime, I’m voting against the amendment.

Vince Walker
Macalester-Groveland

RNC protesters deserve our thanks

To the editor:

St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman, Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak, and Target, Travelers, Xcel Energy and other companies have publicly and profusely thanked police for their work at the Republican National Convention in St. Paul in September. Their thanks are misplaced.

Prior to the convention, St. Paul police were known for community policing and had a good relationship with the peace community. However, all of that changed when the city hosted the RNC. I believe the police should not be commended for the repressive and often brutal tactics they used against unarmed protesters. I think gratitude is due, instead, to the thousands of people who took to the streets, marching and rallying against war and occupation.

Thank you to the veterans, adults, parents, children, students, people with disabilities, immigrants and everyone else who braved the militarization of law enforcement, the mass arrests, the illegal searches and seizures, the police snipers on rooftops, the gunboats on the Mississippi River, the intimidation tactics, the tear gas, pepper spray, concussion grenades and rubber bullets. Thank you to the journalists who continued to cover the demonstrations even as dozens of them were arrested, sometimes beaten and held for hours. Thank you to the medics who continued to try to help injured demonstrators, even though some of their numbers also appeared to be targeted and arrested.

Thank you, Minnesotans, who will not let this outrageous trampling of our First Amendment rights be forgotten. The violent tactics of a police state were used against the peace movement, which was asking for an end to U.S. violence against other countries. In fact,

through a federal grant the St. Paul Police Department now possesses weapons and experience that could be used against the people of St. Paul again. We must continue to press for an independent investigation and work to stop the militarization of St. Paul and all U.S. cities.

Mary Beaudoin
Como

Editor’s note: The writer is the director of Women Against Military Madness.

A legacy worth voting for

Dear editorial staff:

While the presidential and senate races are grabbing headlines, there is a question on the November 4 ballot that will have a large impact on our state’s future. The Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment is taking a back seat in press coverage, but it is an important opportunity on critical issues. This amendment would invest in our natural resources and in our way of life. Passage would create four new areas of investment: a clean water fund; a fish, game and wildlife habitat fund; an arts fund; and a parks and trails fund. Unless action is taken to secure stable funding, we are in danger of losing forests, clean lakes and rivers and exceptional cultural amenities.

Minnesotans are proud of their state, and rightfully so. We are home to the headwaters of the Mississippi River, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area and beautiful lakes. However, 40 percent of the lakes, rivers and streams in Minnesota that have been tested are impaired and unsafe for fishing and swimming. One in four wildlife species and one in five plant communities are endangered or threatened. We cannot afford to ignore these problems as they will only get worse. Passing this amendment will allow us to take positive steps toward fixing these problems.

Minnesota has a long, proud tradition of arts and culture. These funds will ensure youth access to arts education, which is critical not only to our children’s future, but to our state’s economic well-being. Like our natural resources, our state’s cultural resources are an important part of our tourism industry and our quality of life. By voting “yes” on the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment, we can help ensure that future generations enjoy Minnesota at its best.

Senator Richard Cohen
District 64

Blood for no oil

To the editor:

Little noticed during the furor over America’s mortgage debt crisis was the signing of two large oil development contracts between Iraq’s oil ministry and foreign oil companies. Iraq has approved a \$3 billion contract between Iraq’s North Oil Company and the Chinese National Petroleum Company to develop the Ahdab oil field south of Baghdad.

Iraq has also announced the signing of an agreement that sets the commercial principles to establish an incorporated joint venture

VILLAGER

Volume 56, Number 16

Maurice F. Mischke, 1920-1991

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

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CIRCULATION
The Villager is published twice a month by Villager Communications Inc. The paper has a press run of 60,000, including 50,000 copies delivered to households and businesses and another 10,000 copies distributed via newsstands. Mail subscriptions are available at \$35 per year for those who live outside the home-delivered area.

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INBOX ►10

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between Iraq's South Gas Company and Shell Oil Company. It provides for the processing and marketing of all associated natural gas produced in the Governorate of Basra in southern Iraq, an area covering some 19,000 square kilometers.

Speaking at the signing ceremony in Baghdad, Linda Cook, executive director of Royal Dutch Shell, said, "Iraq has one of the world's largest natural gas resource bases, and I am delighted that the Iraqi government, including the Ministry of Oil, has supported Shell as the partner for a joint venture with the South Gas Company."

There have been no such deals in Iraq with American oil companies as yet. The U.S. has been accused of trading blood for oil in Iraq. It is beginning to appear that we may be trading blood and treasure for no oil.

Rolf E. Westgard
Macalester-Groveland

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

Lend me your ear plugs

To the editor:

This summer I noticed many motorcycle riders using earplugs. Hmm.... If the motorcycle is too noisy for the rider, why isn't it too noisy for everyone else? How about some courtesy and respect for those of us who would like to enjoy some peace and quiet. If your bike is too loud for you, it's too loud for me.

David Harrington
Merriam Park

A feather in our cap

To the editor:

Thank you for the amazing article on "Canyon crossing brings plight of Africans closer to home" (*Villager*, September 24). I do volunteer public relations work for Give Us Wings, and it is really important for us to be in publications such as the *Villager*. It lends us credibility and increases awareness of the cause that we feel is so important—the crisis in Africa.

Thank you for publishing such an important article. We truly appreciate that you brought our cause to your readers.

Jennifer Kinkead
Volunteer, Give Us Wings
Lexington-Hamline

STAR dimmed by Nativity grant

To the editor:

The October 8 *Villager* edition included an item in its "News Briefs" section stating that St. Paul City Council member Patrick Harris has directed \$150,000 from the Ward 3 Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) fund to the Nativity School expansion project. I feel it is incumbent upon council member Harris to explain where his authority, as a public servant, comes from in making such a grant. It seems to me these special sales tax proceeds should be restricted to public uses, and not to schools of any kind or affiliation, religious organizations or private businesses.

The taxpayers of St. Paul are entitled to an annual report on the grants made each year, by ward, including the names of the grantees and the use that was made of the funds granted.

Warren Olson
Highland Park

Editor's note: The money Harris allocated to the \$15 million Nativity School expansion project came from the Neighborhood Development Program, a portion of the Neighborhood STAR fund that is divided evenly among the city's seven wards and allocated for brick-and-mortar projects at the discretion of that ward's City Council member. The Neighborhood STAR fund comes from a portion of the city's half-percent sales tax.

What makes St. Paul great

To the editor:

I am writing to highlight why I love to live in St. Paul. The number of family-owned businesses and the quality of service you get from them are outstanding.

My recent experience at Roering Auto Body, 90 N. Dale St., is what has prompted me to write this letter. I was rear-ended on my daily commute and had some damage to my car that needed to be fixed.

Our family had worked with Roering before, and we have come to use them as our go-to shop. One reason is that Lisa Roering knows how to work with insurance companies to get things done. The other reason is that she makes the process so simple. Upon picking my car up, I could only shake my head. My car hadn't looked that good since I bought it a

year ago. The fix was done to perfection. The interior was in showroom condition.

Thank you, Lisa and the rest of the Roering staff. You provide service that helps make St. Paul a great place to live.

Dave Lewandowski
Summit-University

Elect a moderate as president

To the editor:

The "free-speech-loving" person who stole my McCain lawn sign last night left my "Yes for Minnesota" sign next to it, supporting the Minnesota Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. Radical liberals who would dominate all political debate are many things, but honest, patriotic and fair-minded are not among them. Moderate Americans tolerant of different views should elect the only moderate presidential candidate. Failure to elect John McCain would give victory to the radicals at both extremes.

McCain has a long record of putting country first. He will actually deliver on working with all sides to solve problems. And McCain is certainly not friends with avowed terrorists or anti-Americans like George Soros.

Voters who believe in our United States and in environmental protection, please join me with your own McCain lawn sign.

Brian H. Davis
Highland Park

Judge Obama by his actions

Dear editor:

I concur with letter writer Paul Paulos (*Villager* Inbox, October 10). Eloquence and leadership are not necessarily the same. As he laments, the presidential debate questions have been too inadequate to be enlightening. All who have raised the blue sea of Obama signs have a patriotic duty to truly know the person they are endorsing. The conservative candidates are being highly scrutinized, but the media have purposely given Obama a free pass.

This is significant. Character is built on what we do, not what we say. The more I learn about Barack Obama, the more I realize what he says and what he has done and written are completely disconnected.

Please read *The Case Against Barack Obama* by David Freddoso before November 4. It is a neutral discussion of his actions. Ignorance may be bliss, but it still has consequences. If the sea of blue has its way, the discovery path after the election will not be pleasant for any American.

Stephen Miller
Merriam Park

Experience we can believe in

To the editor,

Some people have expressed concern that Barack Obama lacks experience. Actually, Obama has more experience than several past presidents of the United States. Obama has 12 years of government experience, eight as a state senator and four as a U.S. senator. George W. Bush had only six years of experience as governor when he became president. Ronald Reagan had eight years as governor. Jimmy Carter also had eight years of government experience, four years in the state senate and four as governor. Dwight Eisenhower had no political experience at all. Harry Truman had worked for 10 years as U.S. senator and one year as vice president. In contrast, Sarah Palin has only two years of experience as governor should she have to take over the president's office.

It could be argued that Obama doesn't have executive experience, that he has not been governor of a state. But the same is true of John McCain. McCain has been a congressman and senator but never a governor. Another interesting note: Both John F. Kennedy and Bill Clinton were younger than Obama when they became president of the U.S.

Becky Johnson
Macalester-Groveland

What is best for U.S.

Dear editor,

I'll vote for Al Franken for U.S. Senate because I know he's a true Democrat who will stand up, speak out and be outraged at the serious problems we face. Our country is in the sixth year of war. We're facing what's called the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. We need change. Frankly, we need some people in power who are outraged about what's gone wrong and will work to make things better. We need a president and Congress who will work to end the war, weather this financial crisis and start building a better and greener economy.

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I've heard Al speak many times over the years. He can be funny, but he's also serious, informed and passionate about our country. He's a policy wonk who loves to delve into the details of issues, from health care and Social Security to the environment and the war in Iraq.

I'm no Al Gore or Walter Mondale or any of the other big names who support Al Franken. I'm an ordinary Minnesotan who wants what's best for our state and our country. That's why I'll vote for Al Franken.

*Kate Havelin
Merriam Park*

Taxpayers for Coleman

To the editor:

In these hard economic times, most Minnesotans agree that taxes have been a terrible burden. U.S. Senator Norm Coleman has been at work for tax relief and economic prosperity since the day he stepped into office. He is fighting to lower gas prices, improve the lagging housing market and curb the rising cost of food and prescription drugs. In order to protect average taxpayers, he has consistently voted against reckless tax-and-spend budgets. Senator Coleman supports critical tax relief and fiscally responsible budgets.

It is for these reasons that the Taxpayers League Liberty Fund has endorsed Senator Coleman's bid for re-election and encourages all hard-working Minnesotans to vote for him on November 4.

*Kent Kaiser, Vice President
Taxpayers League Liberty Fund*

Editor's note: The writer is a resident of St. Paul's North End.

Superbly qualified to be judge

To the editor:

The Minnesota Code of Judicial Conduct states: "As a judicial officer and person specially learned in the law, a judge is in a unique position to contribute to the improvement of the law, the legal system and the administration of justice..." Gail Chang Bohr's ability to listen, her knowledge and her deep respect for people and families, in addition to her

outstanding record of legal scholarship and community service, make her superbly qualified to advance "the administration of justice." I am honored to support her.

*Mary Louise Klas
Summit Hill*

Editor's note: The writer is a retired Ramsey County District Court judge.

Elect Bohr as judge

To the editor:

I am writing in strong support of Gail Chang Bohr for election as Ramsey County District Court judge.

I have known Gail for 25 years, including the years I served on the board of the Children's Law Center of Minnesota (CLC), of which Gail is the founding executive director. While on CLC's board, I saw firsthand Gail's wisdom, compassion, diligence and exceptional managerial abilities representing children and supervising staff and volunteer attorneys.

Her legal work has gained national recognition as well. In June 2008 Gail was named one of the Top Ten Legal Newsmakers of the Decade. It is no surprise that Gail has received the endorsement of former Vice President Walter Mondale, six retired justices of the Minnesota Supreme Court, five past presidents of the Ramsey County Bar Association and others for this important judicial seat.

I am convinced she has the right combination of integrity, judgment, legal knowledge, impartiality, experience and judicial temperament to make her an exceptional district court judge. Please consider voting for Gail Chang Bohr on November 4.

*Jon Gutzmann
Eagan*

Bohr is committed to fairness

To the editor:

I have known Gail Chang Bohr for many years and can personally attest to her intelligence, even temperament, excellent reputation and, most of all, her commitment to fundamental fairness. Gail left a job with a prestigious law firm to start the nonprofit Children's Law Center of

Minnesota in St. Paul. She did this because she saw that a vulnerable population, children, were not represented when their interests were being decided in the courts. In securing volunteer attorneys for hundreds of children with the Children's Law Center of Minnesota, Gail has helped the Ramsey County courts fulfill their essential mission "to provide a fair, impartial, accessible and open judicial forum." As a judge, Gail would continue to ensure that every party receives a fair and full opportunity to be heard without bias or partiality.

I hope you will join me in voting for Gail Chang Bohr for Ramsey County judge on November 4.

*Susanne "Anne" Starr Goodman
Macalester-Groveland*

Vote for Orenstein

Dear editor:

I have known Howard Orenstein for more than 20 years and urge my neighbors to vote for him for judge. His thoughtful, even temper, respectful demeanor and innate sense of fairness are just what we need on the Ramsey County bench. As a lawyer practicing for 16 years, I believe Howard's background as a lawyer, legislator and law professor makes him superbly qualified for the bench. He is also the only candidate in the race rated "qualified" by Minnesota Women Lawyers. Please vote for Howard for Ramsey County judge.

*Kate Latimer
Highland Park*

Lawyers are backing Orenstein

To the editor:

As an attorney, I know the importance of the judge we have the opportunity to elect this November. The right choice is crucial for children and families in Ramsey County. I've had the occasion to know and work with both of the candidates running for the open judicial seat in the Second District. I am strongly supporting Howard Orenstein. Howard was my law professor many years ago, and I found him to be smart, thoughtful and fair. I am an active member of Minnesota Women Lawyers. Howard was found to be qualified by

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Thursday, October 23, 7 p.m.

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Presented by Rachael Freed

Thursday, November 6, 7 p.m.

**The Changing Dimensions
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Presented by Mark and Janet Skeie

Thursday, November 13, 7 p.m.

**Flexible Employment
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*Presented by Mary Christensen
and Damian Martin*



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Saturday, October 25th

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Minnesota Women Lawyers while his opponent was not. Howard also won the judicial selection poll taken by attorney members of the Ramsey County Bar Association, which demonstrates his respect among members of the bar. More important, Howard has been a leader in our community and an outstanding lawyer. He is insightful and honest, traits critical for judges. The people of Ramsey County will be well-served by supporting Orenstein for Ramsey County judge.

*Samantha Gemberling
Merriam Park*

The makings of a good judge

Dear editor:

It is an honor to write this letter in support of Howard Orenstein for Ramsey County judge. I met Howard several years ago when we were both working for Amy Klobuchar in the Hennepin County Attorney's office. Howard has earned a reputation as a great lawyer. I have also watched him on many occasions show his skills as a respectful listener and problem-solver. We serve together on the board of the St. Paul Public Schools Foundation, which Howard chairs. Howard has a knack for being the calmest one in the room, being able to let others have their say and then offering constructive solutions. Moreover, he has taken a special interest in mentoring young lawyers, myself included, and has helped to guide their careers in public service. These qualities will all serve Howard well as a judge. He will be an extraordinary addition to the Ramsey County bench.

*Sara Grewing
Summit-University*

A hard-working legislator

To the editor:

I support Rick Hansen for re-election as state representative in District 39A. Rick has been a strong and effective voice for Mendota Heights and his entire district. I have been impressed not only with his prompt responses to inquiries on issues, but also by how he stays engaged in the topic all the way to completion. Rick keeps us informed of key issues as they move through the legislative process and takes time to discuss how we can achieve the best outcome. Rick is an honest, hardworking legislator we can all be proud of. I hope you join me in voting for Rick Hansen on November 4.

*John Huber, Mayor
Mendota Heights*

We have a champion in Paymar

To the editor:

It's hard to believe we have a legitimate candidate on a national presidential ticket who would not put a halt to the practice of refusing to cover the cost of a rape victim's medical exam and would force a raped woman to have her assailant's child if she becomes pregnant. We don't have that kind of thinking going on in Minnesota thanks to the people in District 64B who keep sending Michael Paymar back to the

Minnesota House of Representatives by huge margins every two years.

We have a champion in Representative Paymar, who fights for services for those who are victims of sexual or domestic violence. His leadership was recognized when he received the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault's 2007 Aware Award. With the leadership of Representative Paymar and so many other legislators, victims of sexual violence in Minnesota get the care, support and access to justice they need. We may be cold, but we aren't Alaska.

*Bob Tracy
Macalester-Groveland*

In praise of Paymar

Dear editor:

I have attended some of District 64B Representative Michael Paymar's constituent meetings over the past few years at the Hillcrest Recreation Center. I have seen him address issues from immigration policy to health care for returning vets to transportation, and he always listens with an open mind. There are so many elections where I have less than wholeheartedly cast my vote for the endorsed candidate, but Paymar is someone I have confidence in to make informed decisions at the Capitol, and I support his re-election to the state House.

*Susan Kassin
Highland Park*

Addicted to oil

Dear editor:

The energy crisis puts the security of this country and our standard of living in jeopardy. To solve the problem of global warming and to end our reliance on often unstable countries for energy, we must wean ourselves from our addiction to oil.

The Bush administration has been going the wrong way. Getting more oil is not the answer. Opening up natural treasures like the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to drilling only fosters the addiction. To solve the energy problem, we need to use energy more efficiently and develop alternative, clean sources of energy, like wind and solar power.

Like the Bush administration, the big oil companies can't get past the oil addiction. But they will change if we demand it. Our way of life depends on it.

*Pat O'Regan
Inver Grove Heights*

Expanding the national pastime

Dear editor,

Commissioner Bud Selig promises an expansion of Major League Baseball by 2012. With Montreal as a template for poor expansion choices, Major League Baseball must stay within the borders and find cities rich in baseball tradition to expand. Las Vegas and San Antonio represent just that. How does the San Antonio Six-Shooters sound?

*Steven Hubbell
Downtown St. Paul*

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St. Paul officials attempt to get handle on '08 budget shortfall

Funding gap stalls decision on extra \$300,000 for Palace rink

By JANE McCLURE

St. Paul is facing a shortfall in its 2008 budget that could mean cuts to city programs and services in the weeks ahead. Complicating the issue is that the need to cut the current budget comes at a time when the city is deliberating its 2009 financing and spending.

It is not clear at this point how much the city could be short for 2008. "At this point it's really a moving target," said council president Kathy Lantry. The potential shortfall is being blamed on miscalculated fringe benefits, an increase in fuel costs, and a decrease in building license fees and permits.

The problem of unbudgeted fringe benefits emerged during a Police Department budget review on October 8. A \$1.6 million hole was discovered in that department's budget for fringe benefits for 2008. That prompted the council to ask for a department-by-department review to see what the miscalculation of benefits has meant citywide.

Council members are also seeking more detailed information on specific budget issues, such as how a slowdown in the construction industry is affecting the number of building permits pulled. That in turn is affecting the budget of the Department of Safety and Inspections, which is based on revenues derived from fees and permits. Other issues city officials are wrestling with include the impact of higher energy costs, and how those affect each department's spending.

Office of Financial Services director Margaret Kelly told the council that it is her understanding that fringe benefit issues "tend to balance out in the end." She said that more detailed budget information for 2008 will be available in November. If problems are found, she said that information will be brought back quickly to the council.

Lantry said the city cannot dip too far into its budget reserves to fix the shortage, since that would affect the city's credit rating. That leaves cutting the budget as the only option.

Worries about a budget shortfall prompted the City Council to lay over a decision on Oc-

tober 15 to provide an additional \$300,000 to complete the refrigerated ice rink at the Palace Recreation Center. The site has already been graded and trees, picnic tables and horseshoe pits have been removed. The matter could be taken up again by the council as soon as October 22.

The council was asked by Parks and Recreation to take \$300,000 in maintenance funds for 2008 to use for the rink. Council members said they wanted more information about why the project ran into a shortfall before they spend any more money on it.

Ward 2 council member Dave Thune, whose ward includes Palace, objected to the layover. He said other parts of the city got refrigerated ice and the western neighborhoods should, too. "It's not fair to screw over an entire side of the city," he said.

Other council members said the playground should not have been torn up if the city could not afford to build the third rink. "Why would you start building when you don't have all of the money?" asked Ward 3 council member Pat Harris.

Harris said constituents have asked him if building refrigerated ice rinks is a wise use of scarce city dollars. "I'm hearing quite a bit of concern about this," he said. "Even if you're for it, you ought to have an answer as to why it costs more."

Last year the council spent \$1.4 million in Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization to pay for three refrigerated rinks at the behest of Mayor Chris Coleman. Rinks were built last fall at the Phalen and North Dale rec centers, but a site could not be found in the city's western neighborhoods. Parks and Recreation director Bob Bierscheid decided last month to build the third rink at Palace, which took West End residents by surprise.

Lantry, who voted against the original rink proposal, scolded city budget staff for the shortfall. "How were we off by \$300,000?" she asked.

No one from Parks and Recreation attended the council meeting, but Ward 5 council member Lee Helgen was familiar with the cost overruns that bedeviled the North Dale rink. He explained that ice chillers had to be relocated and exposed chiller lines had to be reburied.

Macalester opens new \$45M athletic and wellness complex

Macalester College dedicated its new Leonard Center on October 11. The \$45 million, 175,000-square-foot athletic and wellness facility features an indoor pool with off-deck viewing area, a field house with a 200-meter track, and a gymnasium that seats 1,200 and meets the minimum guidelines to host regional and national competitions. A fitness center with cardio machines and weights, two racquetball courts, and two multipurpose studios round out the athletic and recreational spaces. The building also has a small snack bar and is the new home of the college's health and wellness services.

"One of the most exciting aspects of this project is the integration of health services, wellness and health promotion opportunities," said Macalester athletic director Kim Chandler. "The new facility will be a significant opportunity to serve a broader campus community."

The Leonard Center has a distinctly Macalester flavor. The field house, for example, has a 13-panel mosaic made up of 33,500 Macalester images that, from a distance, look like the flags of the 128 countries

of the school's students and alumni. In the lobby, large banners with photos of the campus, students and professors hang from the trusses. The atrium and the bathrooms feature Italian porcelain tile and the main level features four-color terrazzo flooring.

The center uses recycled materials throughout. The elevators run on vegetable oil, the windows are placed strategically to take advantage of natural light and heat, and the building's design allows for efficient heating and cooling. About 90 percent of the athletic facilities replaced by the school were reused or recycled. The old field house, for example, was moved west of town to become a horse stable.

McGough Construction was the general contractor for the facility, which was designed by the architectural firm Hastings & Chivetta. Environmental building consultant Intep incorporated the "green" adaptations for the building.

The center is named in honor of the late George P. Leonard and his wife Wilma Fox Leonard, both members of the class of 1927, and their descendants, who have been longtime supporters of Macalester.

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Lead zombie Larry Andrie reaches through the entrance of the Fright Night Haunted House's Dead-end Cemetery.



Hold on tight for Fright Night Haunted house creates chills to aid charities

BY BILL STIEGER

Just the site of the abandoned Tastee Bread store at 1546 W. 7th St. looks scary. A rickety covered wagon sits beneath the remains of a huge neon sign with its lights broken out. A raft of empty semi-trailers sits in the side parking lot. The only hint that the otherwise vacant building is currently in use is the spray-painted lettering that indicates it is the location for the Fright Night Haunted House, which will run weekend evenings through October 31.

Early on the day of the haunted house's 2008 opening night, a pickup truck pulled up and parked. A man with three children in tow unlocked the front door. The man was makeup artist James Bossman. His children—Autumn, 7, Nick, 9, and Anna, 12—each said they enjoy dressing up in costume to help him with the haunted house.

The inside of the building looks even more frightful as the outside. The large, dusty, lin-

leum-tiled foyer is strewn with folding tables and stacked furniture. "You haven't seen it yet?" asked Larry Andrie, a husky fellow in a black T-shirt who has worked for the haunted house since 2000. "It's back there, behind the black curtain."

The haunted house is owned by Chris Gregg, an optician who operates it as a non-profit, charitable organization. He has been running the haunted house since 1993, including the last four years on West 7th.

"The whole haunted house thing started as a project sponsored by Inver Grove Heights Parks and Recreation Department," Gregg said. "Parks and Rec began having some budgeting problems with it so I took it over and sank some money into building it up. I've been at it ever since."

The first stop on the tour behind the black curtain is a scene from *The Phantom of the Opera*. The centerpiece of the room is an old, rickety pipe organ covered with synthetic spider webs. Resting at eye-level on the organ are



Ghoulish mad woman Kelsey Gregg screams inside the Insane Asylum of the Fright Night Haunted House at 1546 W. 7th St. PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

two skulls whose eyes are glowing red.

"The lights are on now," Bossman said, "but you really get the mood when we're all set up with the proper lighting. We've had grown men literally wet their pants on our tour. And more than a few have fled out the door."

Bossman quickly added that the Fright Night Haunted House also has a "no-scare" arrangement for children who might be unduly frightened by the experience. "My kids help out with the no-scare requests," he said. "They'll lead the other kids with a flashlight and tell them what's about to happen and who it is that's wearing the costume. It works out pretty well."

Two real coffins are the centerpieces for the next stop on the tour, a funeral parlor-like setting that Bossman calls the Monks Room.

The wildest part of the tour is the Lab and Torture Room, where a fake human head floats inside a bubbling aquarium. An electrical arc travels up a pair of wires. Tables are lined with flasks and beakers that look as if

they were lifted from the set of a Frankenstein movie. A skeletal effigy is strapped to an electric chair.

The tour winds through a hallway with an imitation jail before arriving at a room called the Insane Asylum. Strobes pulse over a row of converted, 1950s-style beautician's chairs, complete with hair dryers.

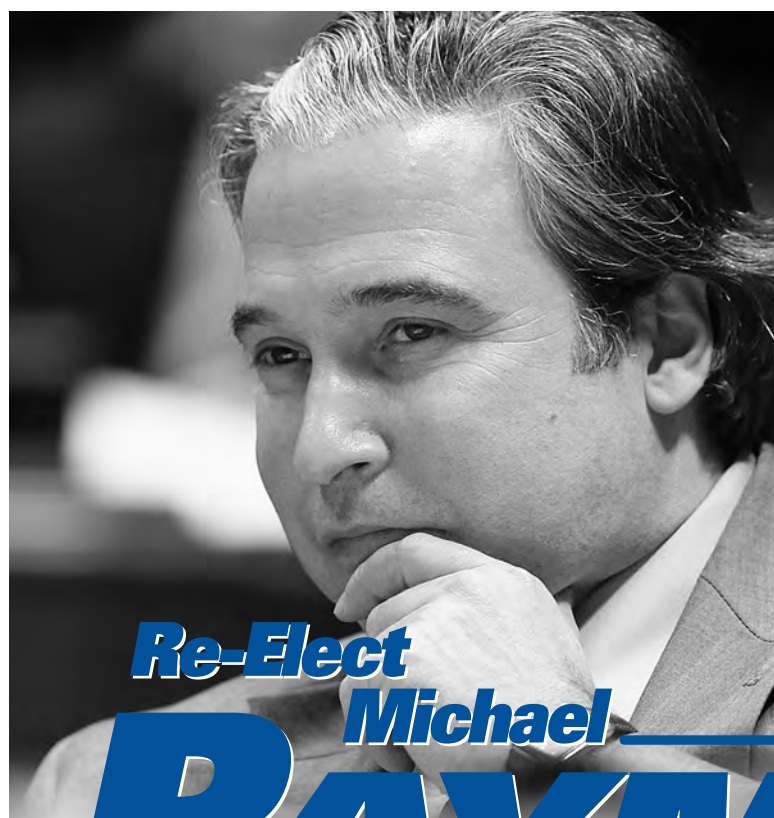
"This is where our patients get their lobotomies," Gregg said with a laugh. "When we're up and running, we have a staff of about 15 people."

Admission to the Fright Night Haunted House is \$7.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children, with \$1.00 off with a nonperishable food donation. All proceeds will benefit the Salvation Army, the Minnesota Optician's Society, local food shelves and Owabopte, an organization that works with physically and mentally handicapped people.

The Fright Night Haunted House will run from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. on October 24-26 and 31. For information, call 651-455-1492.

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Catch the Halloween spirit

Hang up the ghosts, carve the pumpkins and wipe the cobwebs off the discs of spooky music. It won't be long before the little goblins come knocking on the door looking for treats. For those who are looking to scare up even more fun, here's a look at some of the local events being held to mark Halloween:

Shadows and Spirits will stalk the eerily lit halls of the state Capitol from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on October 23-25. Tour-goers will meet historical "spirits" who will tell tales of the Capitol's early years. Admission is \$5.00-\$8.00. Call 651-296-2881.

A Halloween Extravaganza will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, October 24, at the Dodge Nature Center in West St. Paul. Children may walk on the trick-or-treat trail or, if they dare, venture out onto the scary trail where ghosts and goblins await. Educational programs also will be offered throughout the evening. Admission is \$5.00-\$7.00 and includes candy, marshmallow roasting and a hot drink. Call 651-455-4531.

Como Zoo will present its annual Zoo Boo from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. on October 24-26. The kid-friendly event offers families a trick-or-treating alternative that includes more than 200 costumed characters, live entertainment and activity stations. Children are encouraged to come in costume. Admission is \$6.00 in advance or \$7.00 at the gate. A free shuttle to the zoo is available from the State Fair parking lot on Como Avenue. Call 651-487-8226.

Fright Night Haunted House, 1546 W. 7th St., will be open for those who are looking for a scare from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. on October 24-26 and 31. Admission is \$7.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children, or \$1.00 off with a food donation. Proceeds will benefit local charities and food shelves. Call 651-455-1492.

Trick or Treat in Highland will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturday, October 25. The Highland Business Association invites children to dress in costume and visit participating shops in Highland Village that will be handing out treats that day. (Look for the orange signs in the windows of the participating businesses.) Winifred the Good Witch will be doing painting faces and making balloon animals from 10:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. at Lunds, a Thomas the Tank Engine coloring contest will be conducted at Pinehurst Bank, pumpkins will be decorated at the Highland Grill, gift bags will be handed out at Fairview Clinic, and Great Clips will be creating colored hairdos from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and providing live music from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. Call 651-699-9042.

The Boo Bash will be presented by the Grand Avenue Business Association on October 25-26. A Pumpkin Festival will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Saturday and from noon to 4:00 p.m. Sunday at Ramsey Junior High School on Grand Avenue and Cambridge Street. The event will feature inflatable bounce houses, food vendors, a blood drive and pumpkin carving. At dusk on Saturday will be a free outdoor showing of the movie *Disney's Halloween Treat* and people can bring jack-o-lanterns to add to a 15-foot-tall pumpkin tower that will be lit after the movie. Kids can also go trick-or-treating at participating stores from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, and enter a costume contest. Call 651-699-0029 or visit www.grandave.com.

A Halloween party for children living in the neighborhoods served by recreation centers in the southwest quadrant of St. Paul will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Saturday, October 25, at the Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St. A variety of activities will be provided and meals will be available for \$3.00. Kids are asked to come in costume. Call 651-695-3711.

A fall festival will be held from 9:00 a.m. to noon Saturday, October 25, at Gateway Bank, Dodd Road and Highway 110, Mendota Heights. The third annual festival will feature balloons, refreshments and free pumpkins

while supplies last. Call 651-209-4800.

A children's Halloween party will be thrown by the Ramsey Hill Association from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Sunday, October 26, at the Virginia Street Swedenborgian Church, 170 Virginia St. Children and adults are encouraged to come in costume. Call 651-224-4553.

Dia de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) will be celebrated from noon to 4:00 p.m. Sunday, October 26, at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Music, dancing, paper banners, special breads, sugar skull candies and decorated altars (*ofrendas*) will all be part of the colorful Latin American holiday, which is celebrated annually to honor friends and family members who have died. Admission is \$5.00-\$10. Call 651-259-3000.

The Great Pumpkin Festival will take place from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Sunday, October 26, at Landmark Center. There will be a costume runway fashion show, face painting, balloon creations, a "Mummy Idol" contest, magic, juggling, a costumed children's choir, arts and crafts projects, storytellers and treats. Admission is free. Call 651-292-3276.

"The Minneapolis Horror: Tales from the Night Shift" will be presented at 6:30, 7:00 and 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, October 27-28, at the Mill City Museum, 704 2nd St. S., Minneapolis. An evening tour of the Washburn A Mill will feature costumed actors reliving the dangers of working the night shift and the horrific disasters that befell the mill over the years. The cost is \$8.00-\$12. Call 612-341-7555.

Victorian ghost stories will be told at 6:30 and 8:00 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, October 28-29, in the dimly lit James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. Costumed actors will tell the tales of Edgar Allan Poe, O. Henry, Edith Wharton and other authors in the parlor. The cost is \$6.00-\$10 and includes a tour of the house and hot cider. The event is not recommended for children under 10. Call 651-297-2555.

"Mrs. Ramsey's Attic: A Victorian Children's Halloween" will be presented at 4:30, 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, October 29-30, at the Alexander Ramsey House, 265 S. Exchange St. Visitors will learn how children celebrated the holiday more than 100 years ago, visit the attic to hear stories from the German children's book *Struwwelpeter*, enjoy 19th-century games and sample Victorian Halloween candy. Costumes are encouraged. The cost is \$8.00-\$10. Call 651-296-8760.

A Halloween concert and costume contest will be held at 10:00 p.m. Friday, October 31, in the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center at Macalester College. Music will be provided by the Macalester Orchestra and Wind Ensemble. Admission is free. Call 651-696-6808.

A Halloween dance will be hosted by the Twin Cities Costumers' Guild at 8:30 p.m. Friday, October 31, at the Odd Fellows Hall, 2380 Hampden St. The evening will feature called dances, ballroom dances and modern music. All called dances will be taught. Costumes are encouraged and light refreshments will be served. Admission is \$10. Visit www.tccostumers.org.

The Mendota Plaza Shopping Center, located on Highway 110 and Dodd Road in Mendota Heights, will offer trick-or-treating at its stores and free hayrides outdoors from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Friday, October 31. The plaza's newest tenant, Teresa's Mexican Restaurant, will host an open house during the event. At dusk, the city of Mendota Heights will light a bonfire in the lot behind the plaza where free pop and hot dogs will be served. Wood for the fire may be dropped off in the roped-off area behind the plaza. Call City Hall at 651-452-1850.

A spooky flashlight tour will take place from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday, November 1, at the Bell Museum, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. The cost is \$5.00-\$7.00 or \$15 for families. Call 612-624-9050.

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A place at the table

St. Paul Reformation Lutheran celebrates 125 years of welcoming the poor and marginalized in society

BY BOB GILBERT

Eight years ago, the 176 members of St. Paul Reformation Church defied the hierarchy of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and voted unanimously to proceed with the ordination of their lay minister, Anita Hill. Hill was a lesbian in a committed relationship, and ordained ministers who are homosexual are expected by the ELCA to abstain from sexual relations.

Following Hill's ordination in April 2001, an ELCA bishop issued a letter of censure and admonition. St. Paul Reformation was placed under sanctions that forbade anyone in the congregation from serving in a synodical or churchwide position. Several members lost their elective positions, including the newly Reverend Hill, who at the time was the dean of conference.

This was not the first time St. Paul Reformation had bucked tradition. The church is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year, and to commemorate the occasion it has commissioned a play that tells of the congregation's long-standing commitment to inclusiveness. Titled *Come to the Table*, it was written by professional playwright and St. Paul Reformation congregant William Randall Beard.

The five-act drama will premiere on November 8 in the church's sanctuary at 100 N. Oxford St.

Come to the Table is the story of the four Lutheran congregations that eventually became St. Paul Reformation Lutheran Church. The oldest was founded in 1883 when the members of Memorial Lutheran Church in downtown St. Paul broke away from the Augustana Synod to do something that was considered heresy at the time: Conduct church services in English instead of Swedish.

In 1905 a woman by the name of Clara Samuelson established a Sunday school in the parlor of her St. Paul home for the children of the poor immigrant families in the neighborhood. The Sunday school quickly outgrew that space, and in 1908 the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Clara Congregation was founded. In 1923 it became St. Paul Lutheran Church, and 30 years later that predominantly white middle-class congregation welcomed African-Americans into their ranks,

becoming one of the first integrated Lutheran churches in America.

St. Paul Reformation Lutheran Church was formed in 1977 through the merger of St. Paul Lutheran and Reformation Lutheran churches. In 1982 it became the first "Reconciling in Christ" congregation in the world when it opened its doors to people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender.

"Our understanding of the Christian faith is that Jesus was about continually welcoming more and more people—the marginalized and the poor and those set on the edge of society," said Hill, who has been a member of St. Paul Reformation Lutheran since the early 1980s. "Welcoming GLBT people is part of our living out what we understand the Gospel to be."

Beard, who is gay, has written several other plays, including *Beyond the Rainbow*, a musical biography of Judy Garland that was performed at the History Theater, and an adaptation of Frederick Schiller's *Mary Stuart* that was performed at the Park Square Theatre.

Beard hopes that by putting the congregation's mores into a historical context, *Come to the Table's* treatment of the GLBT issue will

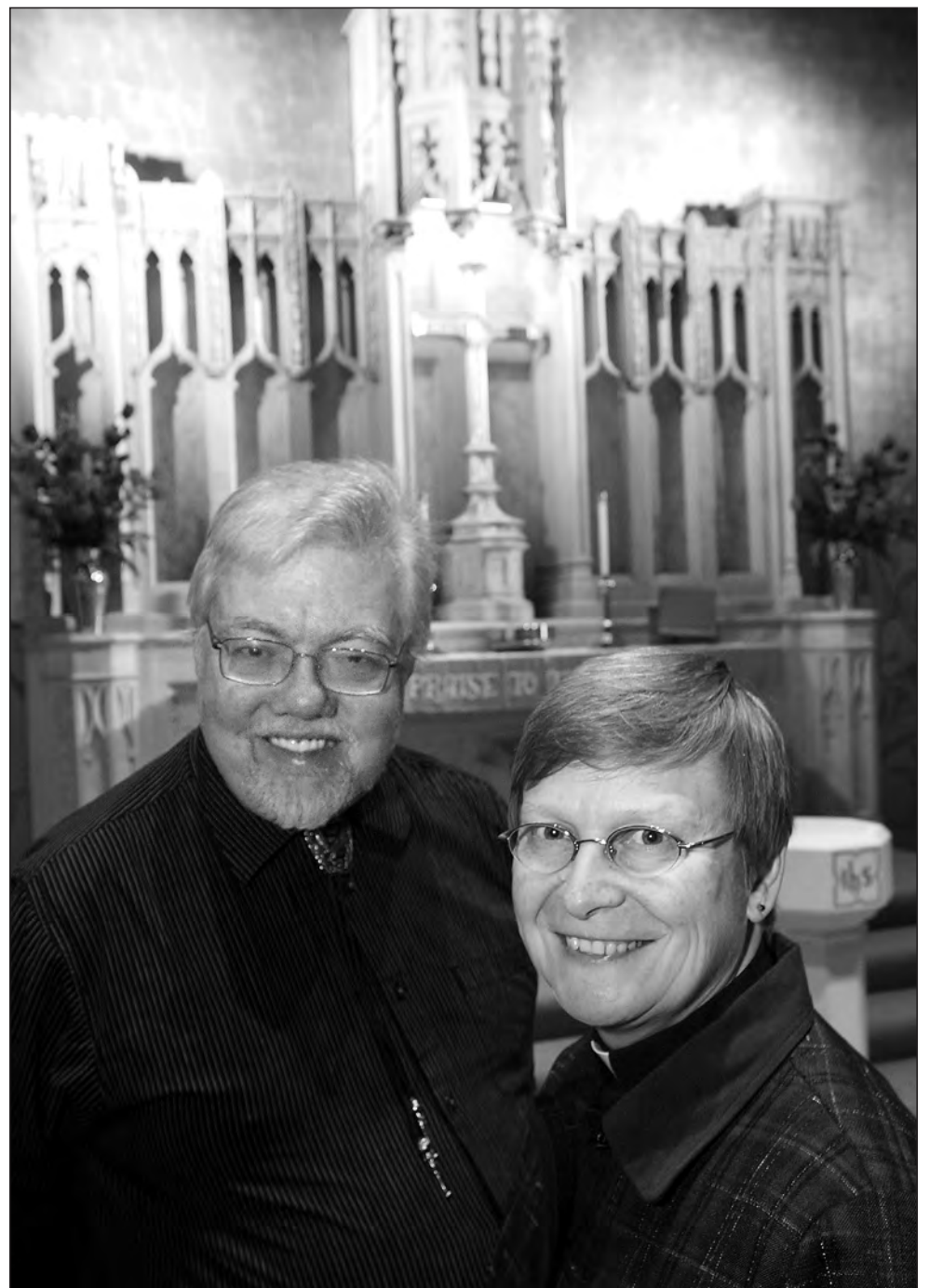
be less threatening to audience members who are not of the same mind.

"Over the years, people who could not embrace the new inclusion left," said Beard, a 25-year member of St. Paul Reformation Lutheran. "One thing about the play that I'm very proud of is that we don't whitewash any of that. The reality is, if you have diversity you're going to have conflict, because people from different backgrounds aren't always going to agree. But to have that contention and to still move through it to community is wonderful."

St. Paul Reformation now has about 650 members. The majority are white and heterosexual. People of African, Hispanic and Asian descent make up about 15 percent of the congregation. The GLBT population is about 35 percent.

According to Hill, the church's style of worship is informal and eclectic. One congregant compared the services to snowflakes: No two are ever alike. One Sunday, for example, a polka service was followed by a guest preacher from the predominantly African-American Baptist church down the street.

"Eleven o'clock on Sunday mornings is often the most segregated community time we have in America. But here on Sunday mornings we promote the coming together of a community that is diverse."



Come to the Table playwright Randy Beard and his pastor, the Reverend Anita Hill, in the sanctuary of St. Paul Reformation Lutheran Church. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER.

Shortly after joining St. Paul Reformation, Hill helped create its Wingspan Ministry, an outreach to the larger community that, among other things, offered witness that people who are gay or lesbian can be Christian, too. "In the 1980s, Leo Treadway and I did hundreds of what I called 'Meet the Homosexuals' shows around the Twin Cities, in outstate Minnesota and in Wisconsin and Iowa," Hill said. "At times it was a hard sell, but most times we were in places where someone was supportive and cared about the issue."

"Eleven o'clock on Sunday mornings is often the most segregated community time we have in America," Hill said. "But here on Sunday mornings we promote the coming together of a community that is diverse."

Come to the Table will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, November 8, and at 2:00 and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, November 9, at the church. Admission is by donation; \$10 is suggested.

The play has a cast of 20, including three

professional actors—Susan Townsend, Cathleen Hardy and Noe Tallen. It also has a chorus, a brass ensemble and puppets. As Beard said, "if you want to tell a story about inclusiveness, you have to include as many people as you can in telling the story."

Following the premiere, Beard plans to take the play on tour to Lutheran congregations across the U.S. in hopes of changing hearts and minds in advance of the ELCA's national convention in Minneapolis next August. Delegates at the convention will be addressing numerous issues, including the ordination of gay and lesbian ministers in committed relationships.

Like every convention since 1999, Hill will be there to lobby the high-ranking officials of her church. Although the ELCA lifted its sanctions on St. Paul Reformation in 2003, its letter of censure and admonition remains in place and Hill has never been formally admitted to the ELCA's roster of ordained clergy.

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Religious Notes

“Saturday Breakfast for Men will be served on October 25 and the fourth Saturday of most months at the Church of St. Helena, 3204 E. 43rd St. in Minneapolis. Mass is at 8:00 a.m., followed by a hearty breakfast at 8:30 a.m. in nearby Rowan Hall. Speaking from 8:45 to 9:30 a.m. will be Arthur Hippler on “Real Men Think, Act and Pray” on October 25. The cost is \$5.00 per session or \$20 for the series. Reservations must be made by noon on the preceding day by calling 612-729-7321. Complimentary tickets are also available.

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church, 60 N. Kent St., will collect furniture and household items from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Saturday, October 25, to benefit Bridging, which provides items to families in need. Desperately needed are beds, tables, chairs, upholstered furniture, dressers, dishes, towels, kitchen utensils, knives, pots and pans, silverware and linens. Each month, Bridging gives away more than \$1 million of free furniture and household goods to more than 450 families. Call Sandy Rusch at 952-220-2398.

“Mystics of the Middle Ages,” a two-hour class on the lives and teachings of Julian of Norwich, Meister Eckhart and Marguerite de Porete, will be taught by University of St. Thomas Professor Martin Warren at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, October 25, at the Institute of the Himalayan Tradition, 1317 Summit Ave. The cost is \$20. Call 651-645-1291.

The St. Paul Interfaith Network is offering a series on “Your Truth and My Truth: Absolutes and Openness in Our Religious Traditions” from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on five Mondays at five area houses of worship. The series includes Anant Rambachan (Hindu) on October 27 speaking at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 700 S. Snelling Ave.; the Reverend Lee Piche (Christian) and professor Adil Ozdemir (Muslim) speaking on November 3 at the Muslim American Society in Inver Grove Heights; professor Earl Schwartz (Jewish) and Fatma Reda (Muslim) on November 10 at Beth Jacob Congregation, 1179 Victoria Curve, Mendota Heights; Rabbi Amy Eilberg (Jewish) and Wilbur Stone (Christian) on November 17 at the Islamic Institute of Minnesota in Maplewood; and a panel with Imam Abdisalam Adam (Muslim), Rabbi Adam Spilker (Jewish) and Roxanne Meshar (Christian) on November 24 at St. Pascal Baylon Catholic Church, 1757 Conway St. Visit www.spacc.org/spin or call Marc Blakesley at 651-646-8805.

The Temple of Aaron Men’s Club will present its annual Havdalah and Campfire Sing-Along on Saturday, November 1, at the synagogue, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd. Open to all, the old-fashioned affair will open at 4:30 p.m. with Mincha services at 4:30 p.m. Attendees are asked to bring their own lawn chairs and flashlights. Apple cider and s’mores will be served. The cost is \$5.00 per family. Call 651-698-8874.

A forum on “Ethical Dilemmas in International Justice” will be presented by Joan and Segundo Velasquez of Mano a Mano International at 12:15 p.m. Sunday, November 2, at Unity Church-Unitarian, 732 Holly Ave. The couple will share stories of ethical issues and decisions they faced in expanding Mano a Mano from a kitchen table operation in St. Paul to the largest provider of health services in Bolivia. Call Pat Haff at 651-228-1456.

The Requiem by Maurice Duruflé will be sung by the St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church choir at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, November 2, at the church, 60 N. Kent St. “Pie Jesu” will be sung by Krista Palmquist, accompanied by cellist Laura Sewell. Helen Jensen will be the guest organist and James Frazier will conduct. The concert will follow a service of Evensong. A reception will follow the concert. For information, call Frazier at 651 228-1172, extension 38.



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Contest Rules

- Entries must be dropped off at the Boo Bash on Grand pumpkin festival area on Saturday, October 25 from 10am-8pm or Sunday, October 26 from Noon-3pm. Pumpkin festival is located at the Ramsey Jr. High School Yard, Grand & Cambridge.
- No entries will be accepted after deadline date and time.
- One winner will be selected from each of 3 age categories: 0-4, 5-8, and 8 and up. Each winner will receive \$25.
- Winners will be contacted by the Grand Avenue Business Association. Winner's names will be announced

in the November 5th issue of The Villager.

- Contest entry must be original form from newspaper, no copies accepted.
- Winners may be asked to visit the Grand Avenue Business Association office to receive their prize.
- Entrance into the contest implies your consent to have winner's name and/or photo appear in the newspaper.
- Entrance into the contest implies your consent for the Grand Avenue Business Association to use your contest entry in future promotions.

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• BooBash • Grand Avenue Business Association • Grand Pumpkin Festival •

Voters Guide

The people will rule on races and referendums Nov. 4

BY DALE MISCHKE

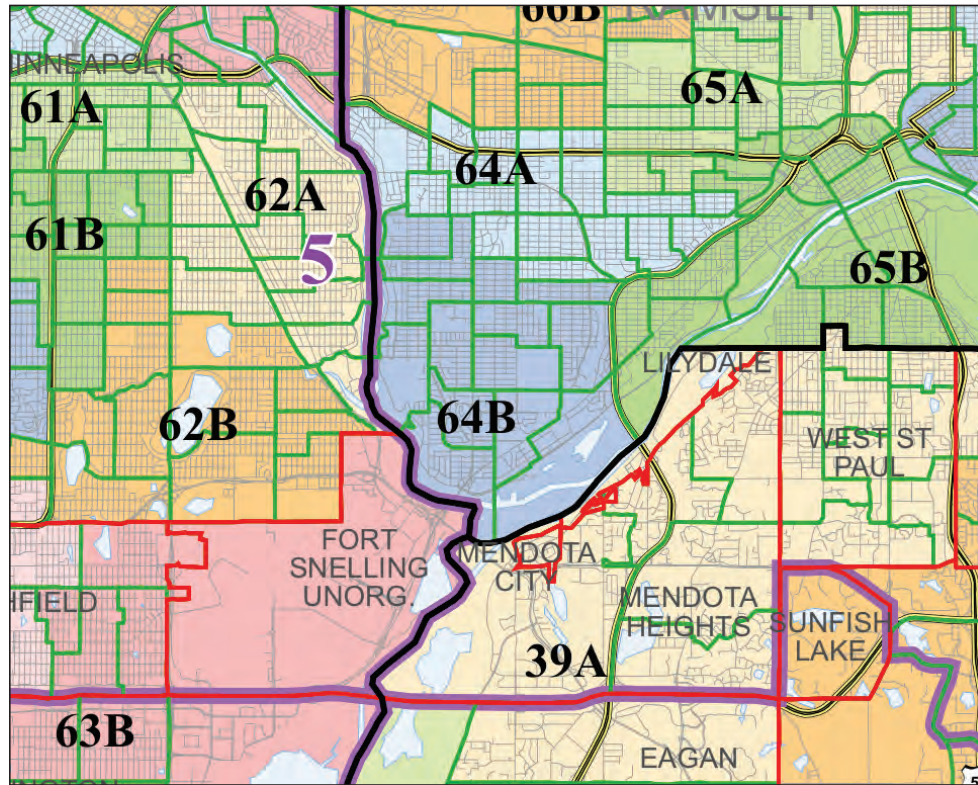
A record turnout is predicted on Tuesday, November 4, when voters across the *Villager* area go to the polls to choose among candidates for federal, state and local offices and to weigh in on several ballot questions.

Local election officials are expecting a turnout of about 150,000 voters in St. Paul. That's up from 138,000 voters in 2004, the last presidential election, according to Joe Mansky of the Ramsey County Elections Bureau.

Mansky based his estimate on the number of absentee ballots his bureau is receiving and on the number of voters registered as of the October 14 pre-registration deadline. According to him, 167,000 of the estimated 209,000 eligible voters in the city were registered as of that date.

The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on November 4. Voters who are not yet registered in their respective precincts may register at the polls by showing their Minnesota driver's license, learner's permit, ID card or tribal ID card that includes a photo and their current address. If these ID cards have a previous address, they may still register by showing a U.S. passport, U.S. military ID card or a Minnesota college student ID card along with a current utility bill that includes their name and current address.

Among the offices that are being contested



The House districts in the *Villager's* distribution area.

this fall are U.S. president and vice president, U.S. senator, U.S. representative, state representative, state Supreme Court and Court of Appeals judges, district court judges and county conservation district supervisors.

Voters across the state will also be asked to approve or reject a constitutional amendment that would increase the state sales tax by three-eighths of 1 percent and dedicate that revenue to protect, restore and enhance

the natural environment; support parks and trails; and preserve the arts and the state's cultural heritage.

Minneapolis voters will be electing three members to four-year terms on their seven-member School Board. They will also be asked whether or not to replace the expiring \$815 per pupil excess property tax levy for the Minneapolis Public Schools with a new \$1,200 per pupil excess property tax levy. Minneapolis voters will also be asked to approve a change in how they elect School Board members beginning in 2010.

For its "Voters Guide," the *Villager* asked candidates for the Minnesota House of Representatives in Districts 39A, 62A, 62B, 64A, 64B and 65B questions on some of the top issues of the day. Their answers appear on pages 19, 20 21 and 23. Also featured in the guide are stories on the candidates for U.S. representative in Districts 4 and 5 and the Minneapolis School Board, a sample ballot for the general election, information on obtaining an absentee ballot and notice of a Ramsey County District Court candidates forum. A story on the mayor's race in Lilydale appears on page 26.

For more information on voting, call 651-266-2171 in Ramsey County, 612-348-5151 in Hennepin County or 651-438-4380 in Dakota County. Information is also available by visiting the counties' respective websites, the state Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.mn.us or by calling 1-877-600-VOTE.

Matthews challenges McCollum's bid for a fifth term in the 4th Dist.

Candidates differ on health care, federal bailout, free trade

BY KEVIN DRISCOLL

Hoping to do what no Republican congressional candidate has done since 1946—win in Minnesota's 4th District—Highland Park attorney Ed Matthews is challenging U.S. Representative Betty McCollum's bid for a fifth term. McCollum, a Ramsey Hill resident, was first elected in 2000 to the seat that was previously held by fellow Democrats Bruce Vento (1977-2000), Joe Karth (1959-77) and Eugene McCarthy (1949-59).

"The current Congress is not doing its job," Matthews said. "It has continued wasteful government spending and has failed to make the 2001 and 2003 tax relief permanent." If those tax cuts are allowed to expire as scheduled, he said, "a family of four earning \$60,000 a year will pay another \$1,800 more in federal income taxes in 2010."

Matthews, 34, a divorced father of one child, graduated from Miami University in Ohio in 1995 with a degree in business administration. A certified public accountant, he graduated from William Mitchell College of Law in 2003 and worked as a law clerk for the Minnesota Supreme Court before entering private practice.

Matthews is opposed to a universal health care system. He said he would like Congress "to implement market-based health care insurance reforms (and) simplify the tax code.

Forty cents of every dollar the federal government collects in personal income taxes goes to pay interest on the national debt. That's unconscionable. Eliminating deficit spending would lead to lower interest rates, saving the typical family \$36,000 on a home mortgage, \$1,400 on student loans and \$700 on the purchase of a car."

Congress should also cut the corporate income tax rate to increase the competitiveness of U.S. companies and retain good jobs in America, Matthews said. According to him, at 35 percent it is the second highest corporate income tax rate in the world.

Matthews opposed this fall's \$700 billion federal bailout of the financial institutions. "The free market is perfectly capable of handling the current situation," he said. "Certainly there will be some tightening of credit, but that's what we should expect after years of easy money and reckless borrowing. Our economy is flexible, resilient and dynamic enough to get through this. Washington shouldn't be in the business of picking winners and losers on Wall Street. Hard-working Minnesotans shouldn't be on the hook for the risky and greedy behavior of New York bankers."

Matthews faulted the Federal Reserve and Congress for luring New York bankers into that behavior by injecting "easy money into the system by lowering interest rates to artificially low levels. Congress strong-armed lenders, including Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, into making loans to people who couldn't afford to make the payments," he said.

Matthews also opposes the federal No Child Left Behind Act. Education is a local, not a federal issue, he said. He favors allowing more domestic oil exploration and production to reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil.



Betty McCollum

He is opposed to the federal subsidies of corn-based ethanol production, which he believes have increased world food prices without lessening the pain at the pump.

Matthews supports the passage of free-trade agreements. "Trade creates jobs, higher wages and lower prices," he said. He favors building alliances among countries that are interested in participating in a missile defense shield program and in combatting "radical Islamofascism." According to him, the troop surge in Iraq and related counterinsurgency operations have worked. However, he said, the U.S. "should continue to encourage the Iraqis to take responsibility for their own affairs and build a stable nation in the Middle East."

McCollum, 54, said she is running for reelection because, "after eight years of defending Minnesota families from Bush administration policies, I'm ready to work to reinvest in America and put our families first again. I'm ready to work with the next president to strengthen our economy, create jobs, expand health care access and bring our troops home



Ed Matthews

from Iraq."

A divorced mother of two grown children, McCollum graduated from the College of St. Catherine with a degree in education, got a job as a high school social science teacher and worked in retail sales and management for 25 years. She served on the North St. Paul City Council from 1987-93, then served four terms in the Minnesota House of Representatives.

McCollum supported the federal government's bailout of the financial sector this fall. This is "not a time for political posturing or free-market ideological purity," she said. "This is a crisis that requires responsible and immediate action. The excesses on Wall Street and the failure to regulate the sectors that created this disaster have placed the financial future of every family in danger."

McCollum recommends "a new federal commitment to oversight, accountability, transparency and appropriate regulation in the markets. The era of deregulation and

Questions

Education: Do you support the Minnesota Miracle bill increasing state spending on K-12 education by \$2.5 billion a year? If yes, how do you propose to pay for it?

Budget: Minnesota is projected to face a budget deficit of \$1 billion to \$2 billion in fiscal years 2010 and 2011. How would you resolve the shortfall?

Arts/Environment. Are you for or against the state constitutional amendment to raise the state sales tax 3/8 of 1 percent to fund arts and environmental causes?

Qualifications: What distinguishes you from your opponent in the race? Why should the voters elect you?

House District 64A



Erin Murphy

Age: 48
Residence: Summit Hill
Party: DFL
Occupation: Registered nurse, state legislator
Education: B.S., Nursing, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh; M.A., Organizational Leadership, College of St. Catherine

Communities are cutting school budgets and filling school budget gaps with local referenda, resulting in rising property taxes and inequitable, unpredictable funding for schools. The 2007 biennial budget provided much needed funding for schools. The goal of the Minnesota Miracle legislation is strong schools for every student through stable and equitable funding by reforming the funding formula. This proposal prepares us for the future, and I will shape it so I can support it.

We will solve this budget deficit with careful review and thoughtful consideration of expenses and revenues. As in any successful enterprise, we must consider both sides of the ledger if we are to strategically weigh the options for our future. I successfully authored legislation to fund community health workers, who deliver improved health outcomes at a savings to the state. We must consider all of our options so we can invest, innovate and create a better future.

I supported this legislation and will vote for the constitutional amendment because I want to protect Minnesota’s natural and cultural resources. For too many years, citizens and advocates have worked to secure funding to improve the quality of our habitat, waters and culture. These efforts have been derailed in the current no-new-taxes environment. I urge Minnesota’ voters to learn about the proposal to make their own choice.

As a registered nurse, I adopted the discipline of solving the problems before me and those in my care. I bring that discipline to the Legislature. In my first term, I listened to understand the root of a problem and advanced effective, responsible answers. I am committed to solutions that work and will pursue them with hard work, courage and tenacity.



Meg Ferber

Age: 66
Residence: Merriam Park
Party: Republican
Occupation: Homemaker
Education: B.A., College of St. Benedict

The bill would increase the expenditures from Minnesota’s general fund by about 30 percent if fully funded. So far, there has been no proposal for raising the extra revenue. Nor has there been any specification that student achievement would be measured in such a way to show if the extra money made any difference. I am opposed to the proposal for these two reasons.

The hiring freeze that the Pawlenty administration has imposed should be kept in place. Requests for projects like a new home for gorillas, cultural centers, music libraries, outdoor projects and others need to have careful scrutiny and should not be funded in times of budget deficits.

I am not in favor of this constitutional amendment. Requests for these projects should be taken to the Legislature. They need to compete with other projects that are important to Minnesotans.

I believe in fiscal discipline in government. I would not have voted for study groups for light rail, planning groups for Orchestra Hall, rocks along St. Paul’s shoreline and others that my opponent has supported. I believe in the protection of the weak and defenseless. My opponent has voted for bills that promote abortion and for other bills that take away parental responsibility.

House District 64B



Michael Paymar

Age: 54
Residence: Macalester-Groveland
Party: DFL
Occupation: Research Specialist, Battered Women’s Justice Project.
Education: M.A., Education, Hamline University; B.A., Education and History, St. Scholastica

Our schools are still dealing with the lingering effects of the 2003 state budget cuts, skyrocketing special-education costs, declining enrollment and increased health care and fuel costs. And while we are facing another deficit in the next biennium, I will be supporting the New Minnesota Miracle bill that will reform education funding and reduce our overreliance on property taxes. Because of the cost and the deficit, we will probably have to phase in this reform.

Last year, the Legislature balanced a \$935 million state deficit in a balanced way through a combination of budget reductions, reserve funds and closed corporate tax loopholes. I would cut ethanol subsidies, gas tax funding for ATV use and the JOBZ program and reduce the number of assistant commissioners in state departments. The governor and the Legislature should also examine the 1999 Omnibus Tax Bill, which cut income taxes for individuals with the highest incomes.

When this bill came up in the Legislature, I opposed it. The Legislature is responsible for adequately funding protection of our wetlands, habitat, water quality and the arts. Constitutionally dedicating funding for worthy needs is illogical and sets a bad precedent. Why not constitutionally dedicate a percentage of the sales tax for ECFE, nursing homes, veterans, law enforcement, etc.? I will continue to support the environment and the arts, but not through a constitutional amendment.

I understand government and know what it takes to be an effective legislator. I have been a city council member and served in the Legislature. The Speaker of the House appointed me chair of the House Public Safety Finance Committee, which has oversight over the courts, crime victim programs and the state Departments of Corrections, Public Safety and Human Rights. I have received accolades from both sides of the aisle for being a fair and inclusive chair.



Emory Dively

Age: 52
Residence: Highland Park
Party: Republican
Occupation: Co-Pastor, Twin Cities Deaf Assembly of God Church
Education: B.S., Social Work, Rochester Institute of Technology; M.A., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

No. If we add \$2.5 billion a year, it still will not solve the current educational problems. It also will not help to decrease the high school dropout rate in the Twin Cities. We cannot afford to implement this due to a budget deficit of between \$1 billion and \$2 billion next year. We need prudent fiscal management for our schools. I do not plan to favor any new job-killing tax increases, but I also plan to increase more funds, not cut or decrease educational dollars for our schools next year.

We need to trim across the board if necessary, except in the area of public education. I will not raise any new job-killing tax. We should emphasize job growth to bring more tax revenue into our state treasury. We cannot afford to push more employers out of our state by creating any new tax burden upon them and expanding our government jobs. Our state government needs to learn to live within its means smartly like families budget.

Personally, I oppose this state amendment. However, I will accept any decision of our citizens to implement this amendment or not. While I am in favor of purchasing for and improving our parks, providing more resources for hunting and fishing, protecting our water and natural resources, I feel this amendment could limit the ability of legislation in the future.

It is time for me to give back to my community. Public office was not designed as a lifetime career, but a way to bring fresh ideas and synergies to make our state a wonderful place to live. I will advocate strongly for special education, Minnesota clean energy power and strong public transportation and road systems in our state. I will strongly oppose any job-killing tax increases and keep our government smaller. Government should empower the people, not itself.

18◀ 4TH DISTRICT RACE

consumer abuse is over. Government has an obligation to act to protect our families and taxpayers from the excesses and abuses of the irresponsible and greedy.”

McCollum supports the creation of a universal health care system that emphasizes prevention, early intervention and personal responsibility. She said she voted against the federal No Child Left Behind Act because she did not think the federal government would fully fund its mandates. She supports No

Child Left Behind’s goals, she said, but would replace the high-stakes testing with a system that makes the federal government a partner with school districts.

McCollum opposes oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and would invest more in renewable energy, fuel-efficient cars and energy conservation. Nuclear power should be expanded, she said, but only after a method is devised for the safe, secure storage of nuclear waste.

Creating good-paying American jobs is another of McCollum’s priorities. However,

she said, the free-trade model advanced by the Bush administration has resulted in record trade deficits and the loss of American jobs. Greater investment is needed in higher education and its study-abroad opportunities and in the research and development of new technologies, especially new “green” technology, she said.

McCollum supports the “responsible withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq starting in 2009,” she said. “It is time for Iraqis to govern themselves. (That) will allow much needed resources to be refocused on defeating a resur-

gent Taliban and al-Qaida in Afghanistan.” McCollum also favors “expanded diplomatic engagement with Iran and North Korea to prevent nuclear weapons proliferation and reasserting America’s international role as a champion of human rights, the rule of law and a beacon of freedom.” America’s image in the world can be advanced, she said, by “restoring our traditional role as an honest broker in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations and working to eliminate extreme poverty by helping to improve the lives of the billion people in the world living on \$1.00 or less per day.”

Questions

Education: Do you support the Minnesota Miracle bill increasing state spending on K-12 education by \$2.5 billion a year? If yes, how do you propose to pay for it?

Budget: Minnesota is projected to face a budget deficit of \$1 billion to \$2 billion in fiscal years 2010 and 2011. How would you resolve the shortfall?

Arts/Environment. Are you for or against the state constitutional amendment to raise the state sales tax 3/8 of 1 percent to fund arts and environmental causes?

Qualifications: What distinguishes you from your opponent in the race? Why should the voters elect you?

House District 39A



Rick Hansen

Age: 45
Residence: South St. Paul
Party: DFL
Occupation: Owner, Harmony Cedar Inc.
Education: B.S., biology, Upper Iowa University; M.S., soil management, Iowa State University

Minnesota's education funding formula relies too much on property taxes. School districts are forced into levy referendums just to keep schools afloat. That's not fair to students or taxpayers. The proposed bipartisan Minnesota Miracle is a modern, balanced approach. New revenue can be phased in over time as economic conditions allow. Even without new revenue, this reform would implement a fairer funding system for our students and taxpayers. I support this needed reform.

State economist Tom Stinson reported higher than expected revenues for three straight quarters, but the situation will still leave the state with a large budget deficit. We must be disciplined and make wise choices to balance the budget. We should protect Minnesota's most vulnerable citizens—students, seniors and people with disabilities—while trimming the budget responsibly, making strategic choices to strengthen the economy and create jobs through capital investment.

I co-authored the bill to put the constitutional amendment on the ballot. I strongly support this important initiative. Over 40 percent of Minnesota's waters are impaired, invasive species are destroying native habitat and pollution threatens water quality. The serious challenges facing Minnesota's environment require action now. To protect and preserve our state's treasured natural and cultural resources, I encourage Minnesotans to support the Legacy Amendment on November 4.

I have served our community in public office since 1997, first at the county level and now in the state House. During that time I have taken my responsibilities seriously, listening and acting in the best interest of our community. I ask voters of District 39A to look to my record of responsive, community-based leadership. Our community can be confident in my commitment to strengthening the future of our children, neighborhoods and economy.



Bill Jungbauer

Age: 51
Residence: West St. Paul
Party: Republican
Occupation: Carpenter
Education: Kellogg High School

No. There is no money to fund it. With the current economic climate in Minnesota, and the estimated \$3 billion deficit in the coming biennium, there is no money to do it.

I would not raise taxes at all. I would cut spending on frivolous items such as Representative Hansen's ditch reclamation bill that asks for money to plant native perennials along rural ditches and compensate farmers for loss of production. State funding to Planned Parenthood would be eliminated. I would cut taxes on businesses and create incentives to start a business in Minnesota, such as Wisconsin's Statute 255.

No. The money that would be going to the arts would be better spent on education. Rather than spending money on paved trails in the woods, we should be spending money to pave roads and bridges. With a state budget deficit, we must prioritize our spending. Missouri has dedicated 1/8 of 1 percent of existing sales tax revenues to the outdoors. I am in favor of such a plan.

I am the best candidate because I am one of the citizens of the community. I am a middle-class worker like the great people of our district. I feel the pain of filling the gas tank, paying the heating bills, feeding my family and paying taxes. I believe it was Abraham Lincoln who once said, "He who represents his party best, represents his country first." I plan on representing the people of our district first.

Review a sample ballot and arrive at the polls prepared

A snapshot of the races and referendums facing Villager readers Nov. 4

For a preview of the various offices, candidates and questions that will appear on the general election ballot on Tuesday, November 4, *Villager* area voters may consult the sample ballots below.

Leading off the list are the statewide races and the proposed state constitutional amendment that will appear on all ballots. Following that are the additional races that will appear on ballots in St. Paul, Dakota County and Minneapolis, respectively, as well the wording of two ballot questions in the Minneapolis School District.

An asterisk (*) after a name indicates the incumbent office holder.

For more information on voting, call 651-266-2171 in Ramsey County, 612-348-5151 in Hennepin County or 651-438-4380 in Dakota County.

Information is also available by visiting the respective counties' websites, by visiting the Minnesota Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.mn.us or by calling 1-877-600-VOTE.

ALL BALLOTS

President and Vice President — Chuck Baldwin and Darrell Castle, Bob Barr and Wayne A. Root, Roger Calero and Alyson Kennedy, John McCain and Sarah Palin, Cynthia McKinney and Rosa Clemente, Ralph Nader and Matt Gonzalez, and Barack Obama and Joe Biden.

U.S. Senator—Charles Aldrich, Dean Barkley, Norm Coleman,* Al Franken and James Niemackl.

Minnesota Supreme Court Justice — Paul Anderson* and Tim Tingelstad.

Minnesota Supreme Court Justice — Lorie Skjerven Gildea* and Deborah Hedlund.

Minnesota Court of Appeals Judge — Terri Stoneburner* and Daniel Griffith.

Constitutional Amendment—"Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to dedicate funding to protect our drinking water sources; to protect, enhance and restore our wetlands, prairies, forest, and fish, game and wildlife habitat; to preserve our arts and cultural heritage; to support our parks and trails; and to protect, enhance and restore our lakes, rivers, streams and groundwater by increasing the sales and use tax rate beginning July 1, 2009, by three-eighths of 1 percent on taxable sales until the year 2034?"

ST. PAUL BALLOTS

U.S. Representative District 4 — Ed Matthews and Betty McCollum.*

State Representative District 64A—Meg Ferber and Erin Murphy.*

State Representative District 64B — Emory Dively and Michael Paymar.*

State Representative District 65A — Paul Holmgren and Cy Thao.*

State Representative District 65B — Lisa Murphy and Carlos Mariani.*

Second District Court Judge — Gail Chang Bohr and Howard Orenstein.

Conservation District Supervisor — David Bogue, Nick Quade and Tom Tuft.

Conservation District Supervisor — Greg Copeland, Mara Magnuson Humphrey, Paul Sawyer and Jill Elizabeth Wilkinson.

DAKOTA COUNTY BALLOTS

U.S. Representative District 4 — Ed Matthews and Betty McCollum.*

State Representative District 39A — Rick Hansen* and Bill Jungbauer.

County Commissioner District 3 —

Thomas Egan* and Scott A. Holm.

First District Court Judge — Joseph Carter* and Nathaniel J. Reitz.

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor — Marian Brown, Victoria A. Dvorak and Scott Norstad.

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor — Chris Nielsen and Peter Thomas Schaffer.

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor — Michael T. Carr and Joe Meyers.

Lilydale Mayor — Kay Frye and Thomas H. Swain.*

MINNEAPOLIS BALLOTS

U.S. Representative District 5 — Keith Ellison,* Bill McGaughey and Barb Davis White.

State Representative District 62A — Jim Davnie* and Dave Shegstad.

State Representative District 62B — Jeffrey Gunness and Jean Wagenius.*

Fourth District Court Judge—Philip D. Bush* and Eugene Link.

Fourth District Court Judge — David Piper and Jane Ranum.

Soil and Water Conservation Supervisor — Richard A. Klatte, Ben Torell, James Wisker and Rahn V. Workcuff.

Soil and Water Conservation Supervisor — Jeffrey A. Beck and Karl Hanson.

Minneapolis School Board (vote for up to three) — Carla Bates, Jill Davis, Sharon Henry-Blythe,* Lydia Lee,* Doug Mann and Kari Reed.

School District Ballot Question 1 — "The Board of Special School District No. 1, Minneapolis Public Schools, has proposed to revoke the school district's existing referendum revenue authorization of \$815 per pupil and replace that authorization with a new authorization of \$1,200 per pupil beginning with taxes payable in 2009.

This revenue will be used to develop early reading skills, bolster math and science programs, provide up-to-date technology and textbooks and manage class size for the benefit of the children of Minneapolis. The maximum amount of increased revenue per pupil will be \$1,200. Beginning in 2010, the amount will be increased each year by the rate of inflation. The rate of inflation is the increase in the Consumer Price Index for urban consumers prepared by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Standards. The proposed revenue would be authorized for eight years, unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law.

"Shall the school district's existing referendum revenue authorization be revoked and the increase in the revenue proposed by the Board of Special School District No. 1, Minneapolis Public Schools, be approved? By voting 'yes' on this ballot question, you will be voting for a property tax increase."

School District Ballot Question 2 — "Shall the Board of Special School District No. 1, Minneapolis Public Schools, consist of six members elected by district and three members elected at-large for a total of nine members? Board of education members elected on or prior to November 4, 2008, shall complete their terms. The six districts shall be of equal population and shall initially coincide with the six park board districts for the Minneapolis Park Board. Three districts shall be given even numbers and three districts shall be given odd numbers.

"Transition: Beginning with the 2010 general election, three members representing districts with odd numbers and two at-large members shall be elected for a total of eight members. In the 2012 general election, three members representing districts with even numbers and one at-large member shall be elected for a total of nine members."

Questions



Education: Do you support the bill to increase state spending on K-12 education by \$2.5 billion a year? If yes, how do you propose to pay for the increase?

Budget: Minnesota is projected to face a budget deficit of \$1 billion to \$2 billion in fiscal years 2010 and 2011. How would you resolve the shortfall?



Arts/Environment. Are you for or against the state constitutional amendment to raise the state sales tax 3/8 of 1 percent to fund arts and environmental causes?

Qualifications: What distinguishes you from your opponent in the race? Why should the voters elect you?

House District 62A

	<p>Age: 49 Residence: Cooper Party: DFL Occupation: Teacher Education: Masters degree, secondary education, University of Minnesota; B.S., psychology and social work, University of Minnesota</p>	<p>I do support moving the state toward adequately funding our K-12 education system and better tying that funding to student needs. This proposal would need to be phased in over several bienniums, smoothing the transition and planning the revenue sources. Funding anything is a larger discussion of how the state positions itself in the global economy and how it chooses to tax itself.</p>	<p>The anticipated shortfall, our third in four bienniums, tells us that neither Minnesota's economy nor its revenue system are working for Minnesota. It is time we took a strategic view of strengthening our position in the world economy and admit that the "no new taxes" experiment hasn't worked. To resolve the deficit, we will need to look at using reserves, review state spending and "side pots" of money, and review where we can lower taxes and where we might want to raise taxes.</p>	<p>I will be supporting this amendment. While I generally oppose dedicated funding due to its limiting nature, our failure to act could mean losses of natural areas that we cannot simply replace. It is a bad idea whose time has come.</p>	<p>I have over 20 years of community, neighborhood, union, and political experience. That provides me with a broad view and depth of experience that I bring to decisions at the Legislature. Seventeen years of teaching middle school also provides me with a depth of knowledge and passion for K-12 education and educational opportunity for all.</p>
	<p>Age: 57 Residence: Longfellow Party: Republican Occupation: Small-business owner Education: Roosevelt High School, Minneapolis Vocational Tech, GM Training Center</p>	<p>Dave Shegstad declined to take part in the <i>Villager</i> "Voters Guide" candidates survey.</p>			

House District 62B

	<p>Age: 35 Residence: Nokomis Party: Republican Occupation: International corporate travel agent Education: A.A., Normandale Community College; student, Minnesota School of Business</p>	<p>As a fiscally responsible candidate for the House, I am against a bill that increases spending. Raising spending invariably means that taxes will be raised to cover the shortfall. An increase in property, sales or income taxes will just continue to hurt the people of Minnesota and not provide their children with any better of an education. The problems in the classroom can't be fixed by throwing more money at the administration. Existing funds must be spent in the classroom and not on administrative "needs."</p>	<p>Part of my platform is that I oppose tax increases. Our government has grown out of control in its spending of the people's money. Reducing the size of government is the only route that will, in the long term, balance our budget.</p>	<p>The arts and the environment are important aspects of life in Minnesota. It is not government's responsibility to fund the arts. Individuals can and should continue doing that by spending their hard-earned money as they see fit. Protecting the environment should be as simple as enforcing property rights. You have the right to treat your property in any way you see fit, but if your treatment of your property infringes on the rights of another (i.e., polluting your neighbor's stream), you should be held accountable.</p>	<p>Jean Wagenius states it better than I ever could. Listed as her "occupation" is "state legislator" (i.e., career politician). I am a working citizen. I am of the people. I have not elevated myself above them. I know what we, the people, need. Our state government is specifically created for citizen legislators who maintain a career outside of politics.</p>
	<p>Age: 66 Residence: Northrup Party: DFL Occupation: State legislator Education: B.A., George Washington University; J.D., William Mitchell College of Law</p>	<p>Yes. There are two big reasons to support the bill. First, as a matter of tax policy it is fairer to have the state rather than property taxes pay for education. Second, when children live up to their potential, all Minnesotans benefit. When we measure income per person, Minnesota is in the top tier of states. We were once in the bottom tier. Economists tell us that education made the difference.</p>	<p>The world economy is in major crisis. It is very difficult to project what impact this crisis will have on Minnesota a year from now. I know we will need to respond in a balanced way that will encourage job creation, expand renewable energy and energy conservation, and prepare us for long-term economic growth. It is simply too early to write a budget now that won't take effect until next July.</p>	<p>For. Minnesota has neglected its natural resources, especially lakes and rivers, for too long. Without additional funding, our children won't be able to enjoy the outdoors that we love in the same way that we did. Our parks and trails have suffered from too much use and too little maintenance. Now that Minnesotans are recreating close to home, it is especially important to provide the necessary resources.</p>	<p>I have a strong record of putting ideas into action and have been given many awards in recognition of my efforts. Also, I am accessible. When I was first elected, I started meeting with constituents on the second Saturday of each month. I still do so.</p>

Judicial candidates forum set

Gail Chang Bohr and Howard Orenstein, candidates for Second District court judge, have been invited to participate in an October 29 judicial candidates forum sponsored by the Ramsey County Bar Association and Hamline University School of Law.

The candidates forum will be held from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. that Wednesday in the Moot Court Room at Hamline University School of Law, 1536 Hewitt Ave.

David Schultz, a professor in Hamline's Graduate School of Management, will serve as moderator.

Orenstein and Bohr will be asked to respond to questions regarding their judicial philosophy, courtroom demeanor and the challenges facing judicial administration. Admission is free and open to the public.

For more information on the forum, call Cheryl Dalby at 651-222-0846.

Can't make it to polls? You can still vote

Absentee ballots are now available for the November 4 general election.

Only those voters who will be absent from their home precinct on election day or otherwise unable to get to their polling place due to illness, physical disability, religious observance or service as an election judge in another precinct may vote by absentee ballot.

Eligible voters may cast their absentee ballots by mail or in person between now and election day at their county auditor's office or election bureau.

To accommodate in-person voting, the Ramsey County Elections Bureau will extend its hours from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday, October 28 and 30; from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 1; and from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 3.

Ballots that are received by election officials after November 4 will not be counted.

For an absentee ballot application or other voting information, call 651-266-2171 in St. Paul, 651-438-4380 in Dakota County or 612-673-2070 in Minneapolis.

Information about the upcoming election is also available on the counties' websites, by calling 1-877-600-VOTE or by visiting the Minnesota Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.mn.us.

Accountant and pastor challenge Ellison's re-election in 5th District

BY KEVIN DRISCOLL

Freshman U.S. Representative Keith Ellison is facing two challengers in his bid for re-election in Minnesota's 5th District: Columbia Heights pastor Barb Davis White and Minneapolis accountant Bill McGaughey Jr.

White, 48, a widowed mother of two grown children, holds a bachelor's degree in mortuary science from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree in theology from Bethel Theological Seminary. Endorsed by the Republican Party, she has worked as a prison chaplain and as the director of Light Foundation Ministries in Minneapolis for 25 years. She has also served as a missionary in Uganda, Rwanda and the Congo.

According to White, the people of the 5th District are expressing "a growing change of heart and buyers' remorse about having (Ellison) in office."

White advocates making President Bush's 2001 and 2003 tax cuts permanent. It is the single best way to deal with the nation's current financial crisis, she said. She also favors stepped-up efforts to block illegal immigration while encouraging legal immigrants to enter the U.S.

"The surge (in Iraq) has been successful," White said. "I would insist that we encourage the Iraqi government to strongly govern itself and then we can begin to pull out and bring our troops home."

"We need to boost the supply and enhance

the productivity (of energy)," she said. "The U.S. restricts development of a substantial amount of its energy production. We need to encourage environmentally responsible exploration of domestic energy supplies, limit red tape on domestic refineries, and encourage alternative energy such as nuclear power and natural gas." Since that will take time, she added, "the quickest, easiest and cheapest way to lower energy prices is by conserving energy."

White is also calling for reversing the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *Roe vs. Wade* that legalized abortion as a constitutional right of women.

McGaughey, 67, an independent candidate from Minneapolis' Near North neighborhood, is married and the father of one grown child. A graduate of Yale University with a degree in English, he is self-employed as a certified public accountant and landlord. He said he is running to "raise fundamental questions about our nation's and humanity's future and generate a new politics."

McGaughey said he is in favor of socialized medicine because "corrupt relationships between doctors and pharmaceutical companies" give doctors financial incentives to prescribe specific brands of drugs. "For the cost of the (Medicare) prescription drug benefit to seniors," he said, "we could have a new system of free service for all U.S. residents paid for by the federal government."

McGaughey would "replace free trade with a system that acknowledges the vastly differ-



Barb Davis White



Keith Ellison



Bill McGaughey

ent levels of industrial development around the world." He said his "scheme of employer-specific tariffs could become a tool to raise living standards in poorer countries (and) be a way that national governments could regulate multinational corporations."

"We must end the war-based economy that burdens our nation, turn responsibilities for policing the world over to the United Nations (and) take the military toys away from leaders such as President Bush who are unable to use them responsibly," McGaughey said.

Ellison, 44, an attorney from the Near North neighborhood of Minneapolis, is married and the father of four children. A graduate of Wayne State University in Detroit with a degree in economics, he earned his law degree at the University of Minnesota. A lawyer in private practice from 1990 to 2006, Ellison also served as executive director of the Legal Rights Center and as a member of the state House of Representatives for one term prior to his election to Congress.

Endorsed by the DFL Party, Ellison said he supports the creation of "a universal, national,

single-payer health care system," an increase in the federal minimum wage and protecting the rights of workers "to organize for better wages, better benefits and better working conditions."

According to Ellison, access to credit is important for families who want "to secure a better future." Toward that end, he introduced the Fairness for Home Ownership Act of 2007, using similar legislation in Minnesota as a model. "The bill puts an end to predatory lending practices and allows borrowers a clear look at what they're borrowing and on what terms," he said.

Ellison said he wants to bring U.S. troops in Iraq "home safely as soon as possible." That, he said, will require Congress "to set clear, firm timetables for redeployment. Our goal should be to get our people out of a conflict no one can win."

According to Ellison, the U.S. should "play an active role in pursuing peace and reconciliation between parties in the Middle East that reflect and respect the sovereignty of each nation to live in peace and security."

Board hopefuls lay out their solutions for Mpls. schools

Six candidates vie for 3 open seats on Mpls. School Board

BY KEVIN DRISCOLL

The November 4 general election could be a watershed for the Minneapolis Public Schools. In addition to electing three members of the School Board, Mill City citizens are being asked to vote yes or no on two referendums—one to renew the school district's eight-year excess levy and expand it from \$815 to \$1,200 per pupil per year, and the other to expand the School Board from seven members elected at-large to nine members, including three elected at-large and six elected by district.

The candidates, their backgrounds and their positions on the issues follow:

Carla Bates, 46, who lives in the Seward neighborhood with her partner and three children, works as an information technology professional in the Department of Psychology at the University of Minnesota where she is pursuing a master's degree in education. Bates has been a member of the school district's Parent Advisory Council since 2002 and is a founder of an on-line forum for Minneapolis public school parents. She also has a doctorate in American Studies from the U of M.

Bates supports both referendums. Though the district has some of the best schools in the state, she said, "we must do better addressing the needs of low-income students of color, students who are learning English (as a second language) and special education students."



Jill Davis



Doug Mann



Kari Reed



Lydia Lee



Sharon Henry-Blythe



Carla Bates

"The School Board must work harder and smarter to improve the central bureaucracy," Bates said. "Too many times, the district has failed to provide equitable programming across schools. Lack of accountability at the central office has led to this uneven programming, uneven student performance and frustrated parents." Though the district is "showing signs of life," she said, "we have a long way to go to achieve transparent budgeting, community-based planning and reliable data reporting."

The parent of three children in district schools, Bates said her graduate studies and her decade as an IT administrator at the U of M have given her an "understanding of the big picture regarding education policy and funding and a knowledge of how to make things happen in large educational institutions."

Jill Davis, 47, a licensed psychologist and social services supervisor for Anoka County, is a graduate of the Minneapolis Public Schools, co-founder and co-chair of a Northeast Minneapolis organization that advocates for stronger public schools, and a member of the school district's Parent Advisory Committee and Citizens Budget Advisory

Council. Married and the mother of one child attending a district school, she is a former member of the Waite Park School site council.

Davis, who supports both school referendums, said her extensive involvement in school district and neighborhood affairs, coupled with her 25 years as a psychologist working with children, have given her an understanding "of the barriers impacting a child's academic success and of how to strengthen the relationship between schools and neighborhoods."

According to her, there are two important issues facing the school district. "One is having sufficient financial and human resources to support a quality public education system," she said. "The second is rebuilding trust and credibility with parents and taxpayers."

If elected, Davis said, she would work "to ensure the effective management of funds and the implementation of policies and practices to end the disparities of educational opportunities between schools, close the achievement gap, stabilize enrollment and have manageable class sizes."

Lydia Lee, 60, current president of the School Board, is seeking a sec-

ond term. Married and the mother of two grown children, she lives in Uptown and is retired after working for 17 years in the Minneapolis Public Schools, including 12 years as a teacher, two years as a mentor of new teachers and three years in the central office leading a reform initiative in the middle grades.

According to Lee, "severe budget constraints over the past eight years have presented a wide range of challenges for the district to deliver on its obligation to provide a quality education to every student. The district has had to lay off staff and compromising the efficient delivery of services." That has also made approval of the excess levy referendum on November 4 critical, she said.

Lee is opposed to changing the way the School Board is elected. In fact, she believes the board should be appointed instead of elected. "A system must be put into place that ensures optimal racial diversity and representation (on the School Board) from all parts of the city," she said. "There should be a nonpartisan commission that screens applicants and makes its recommendations to, perhaps, the City Council."

Doug Mann, 51, a licensed

practical nurse who lives in the Lynedale neighborhood, ran unsuccessfully for the School Board in 2006 and the Ward 8 City Council seat in 2004. Married and the father of one child, he is a past member of the NAACP education advocacy committee and of the board of directors of the Parents Union.

According to Mann, teacher turnover is one of the school district's biggest problems. It has led to a high concentration of new teachers, he said, especially in the schools that have the most students of color. "For decades every spring, the district has fired all teachers on probationary status," he said. "What is saved on payroll costs is probably more than offset by extra administrative and training costs and other overhead. You can't expect kids to learn much in a school where most of the teachers have no more than a few years of experience and no job security."

Mann recommends a program called Arts for Academic Achievement "to eliminate watered-down curriculum tracks without holding back the high achievers. Arts for Academic Achievement has been

Questions

Education: Do you support the Minnesota Miracle bill increasing state spending on K-12 education by \$2.5 billion a year? If yes, how do you propose to pay for it?

Budget: Minnesota is projected to face a budget deficit of \$1 billion to \$2 billion in fiscal years 2010 and 2011. How would you resolve the shortfall?

Arts/Environment. Are you for or against the state constitutional amendment to raise the state sales tax 3/8 of 1 percent to fund arts and environmental causes?

Qualifications: What distinguishes you from your opponent in the race? Why should the voters elect you?

House District 65B



Carlos Mariani

Age: 51
Residence: West Side
Party: DFL
Occupation: executive director, Minnesota Minority Partnership Fellowship
Education: B.A., History, Macalester College; policy fellow, U of M Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Yes. It also substantially lowers property taxes, which we increasingly depend on to fund schools and thus violates the original design of the Minnesota Miracle. The bill is designed so that it can ramp up over time as the economy grows, without needing to do the entire amount right away. Our future depends on making this investment in K-12 education.

Everything needs to be on the table. In the past, we have cut investments to the most vulnerable and have yet to recoup those. My priority will be to hold the line on those investments, minimize administrative costs of departments, stop ethanol and similar subsidies and raise taxes on the highest incomes. We will need help from the federal government. It won't be easy.

Yes. I'm not happy with this, but given what the GOP majority did to environmental funding, unrealistic budget cuts and raising new fees (e.g., hunting licenses) that nonetheless couldn't cover costs long supported by general revenues, the environment now competes against education and health care funding in an era of tight budgets. The governor's unwillingness to return to prior tax rates that could alleviate this gives us little option than to take this directly to the people.

My working-class background, non-ideological outlook, clear-headed experience and ability to look at the big picture while understanding the uniqueness of our diverse population and how they fit in that picture so that we all do better. I am committed to social and racial justice and have a demonstrated willingness to be independent when needed. I have strong connections to the community and progressive movements. I am bilingual and bicultural and have proven leadership.



Lisa Murphy

Age: 43
Residence: West End
Party: Republican
Occupation: Self-employed food concessions, NRA-certified personal protection instructor
Education: Alexandria Technical College (Sales)

No. We spend 27.2 percent of our state budget on K-12 education now. I don't feel throwing more money at the problem will fix it. We need to start funding solutions. Why do we lay off teachers when the school is tight on money? Isn't the point of schools to teach children? Why don't they start from the top and work down? The school districts have gotten way to top-heavy at the expense of our children and the taxpayers.

First of all, stop the spending. We need to stop pork projects that go out to special interest groups. These projects require a lot of Minnesota's money and are generally for the benefit of the few. And there is no oversight on how the money is being spent. I would not raise taxes. It only makes matters worse when people do not have the money in their pockets to spend on growing the economy.

I will have to vote "no." I am all for clean water and conservation, but I have a real problem having an amendment like this tied to the arts. I feel everyone in Minnesota would vote "yes" on this amendment if the arts were not added on. We all enjoy the outdoors, and we all want clean water, but a majority of the people feel the arts should not be funded by a constitutional amendment.

I am new, I have new ideas, and I am not beholden to any special interest groups. I will work for all the people. It is their money we will be spending and their families that will be affected by my decisions. I will work as Minnesota government has intended—as a citizen legislator.

22◀ MPLS. SCHOOL BOARD

proven to boost achievement in Minneapolis public schools, but it has not been used to its full potential."

Mann is opposed to the excess levy referendum because "the current board doesn't have a realistic plan to fix the schools that need fixing," he said. He also opposes the referendum to alter the membership of the School Board. Should it pass, "the DFL slate will continue to be picked by the same group of people who pick it now," he said. "The current format of the board also allows a somewhat greater diversity of views to be represented."

Kari Reed, 33, is married and the mother of five children whom she schools herself in her Whittier neighborhood home. If elected,

she said, "I will mainly be advocating for my neighbors who attend the public schools yet can hardly read."

Reed is opposed to the excess levy referendum. "I'm not convinced more money is the answer," she said. "Minneapolis already has some of the highest per pupil spending, yet its overall performance is among the lowest in the state. We need to look at the last excess levy referendum. We were promised smaller class sizes and ended up with larger class sizes, worse test scores and declining enrollment. In these difficult economic times, how can we ask the citizens of Minneapolis to pay more taxes when the School Board's philosophy is at fault? I understand this district also has some of the greatest challenges in the state. (However) we need solutions that cut costs

and improve overall student performance.

"The cultural diversity of the people living in Minneapolis...is a beautiful thing," Reed said. "We need to match the increasing diversity with more quality choices for parents, students and teachers through charter schools, neighborhood schools, parent-run schools, ethnic schools or whatever schools.

"I believe the School Board has plenty of money, but perhaps needs a few lessons in eliminating unnecessary spending," Reed said. "I manage my home with very little money, (yet my family) is happy, well fed, clothed and my children are getting a great education at home. All children can learn...no matter what we've labeled them or what their socioeconomic status or color is. Let's get our focus back to children learning the basics of read-

ing, writing and math."

Sharon Henry-Blythe, 53, a former president and current clerk of the School Board, is seeking her third term. Married and the mother of three children, she lives in the Field neighborhood and works as the director of children and family policy and research at the Family Supportive Housing Center in St. Paul. A graduate of the University of Minnesota with a bachelor's degree in secondary education, she is the former director of two child care resource and referral agencies. Several attempts to contact her by phone and e-mail for this article were unsuccessful.

Bates, Davis and Lee are endorsed by the DFL. Reed is endorsed by the Republican Party.

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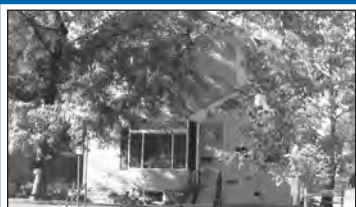
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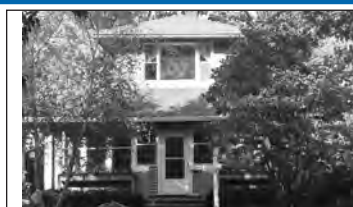
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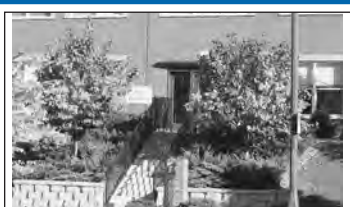
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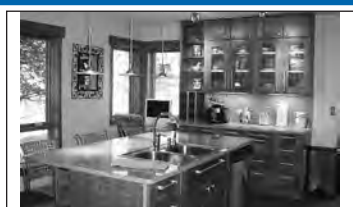
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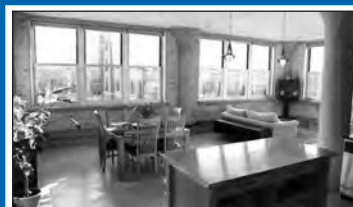
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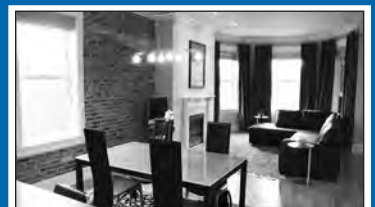
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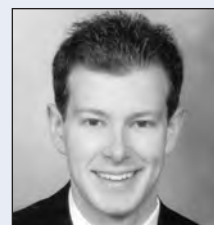
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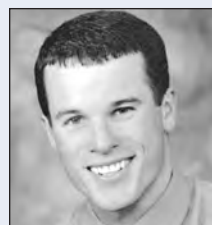
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Jane Austin McGrath



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Jane Austin McGrath



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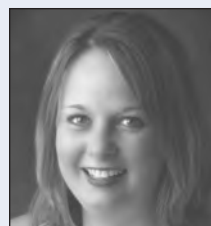
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Development dominates Lilydale race

BY DAVE PAGE

When Lilydale officials decided to sell off an acre of city-owned Mississippi River bluff property for residential development, Kay Frye decided she would run for mayor. This fall's campaign is the first contested mayoral election in a dozen years in the city of 736.

Frye, 64, who works as an educational consultant helping high school seniors make the transition to work, opposes the land sale, which was recommended by current Lilydale Mayor Tom Swain as a way to address the city's \$220,000 debt. Frye organized a letter-writing campaign to dissuade Lilydale City Council members from rezoning the property from passive open space to residential.

Frye's effort failed and the Metropolitan Council and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources subsequently agreed to allow the construction of a single-family home on the site. Though there has been little interest in the steep wooded lot at 1124 Sibley Memorial Hwy., Swain is still hoping the city can sell it. The current asking price is \$249,000.

Swain, 87, a retired insurance executive, was elected mayor of Lilydale two years ago when he ran unopposed. "I arrived in a firestorm," he said. At the time, the city was around \$230,000 in the red. By raising fees and reducing expenses, Swain was able to balance the city's biennial budget.

"I renegotiated the police contract with Mendota Heights, turned off the lights in the City Hall parking lot, adjusted heating and air conditioning



Tom Swain



Kay Frye

to reduce costs, worked to lower legal expenses and renegotiated short- and long-term interest rates," Swain said. "I have followed a policy of fiscal integrity and prudent management. Hopefully, that's what the voters want."

Marilyn Lundberg, who was the only one of four Lilydale City Council members to oppose the sale of the bluff property, does not think the issue will be brought back to the council even if Frye should win the race. However, at its last meeting, the City Council did agree to at least consider working with Mendota Heights and the village of Mendota in an effort to retain much of the bluff as open space, she said. Lundberg is hoping the three municipalities, in cooperation with the Dakota County Farmland and Natural Areas Program, will implement

a plan to protect undeveloped property.

Besides working with Lundberg to acquire conservation easements, Frye said that if she is elected, she will bring "more openness" to the political process in Lilydale. "It's a pretty closed group that runs the city now," she said.

Another issue the incoming mayor will face is the possible foreclosure on a planned condominium project at the former Lilydale Tennis and Health Club site. The \$40 million Mendota Homes development has stalled due to the downturn in the housing market, and the current owners now want to sell a portion of the site for new senior housing.

"The effort (to sell the property) is proceeding," Swain said. "It looks encouraging."

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Crime Report

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

Highland Park

Theft—A counterfeit \$100 bill was passed at Baker's Square, 2239 Ford Pkwy., on the morning of September 29.

Miscellaneous—A man attempted to get into a woman's vehicle near Hamline and Niles avenues at about 2:30 p.m. Monday, September 29. The woman was waiting in her car to pick up a child.

—A Macalester-Groveland man was arrested at Ford Parkway and Cretin Avenue for violating sex offender registration requirements on Saturday, September 27.

Macalester-Groveland

Bicycle fatality—Paramedics responded to a call at about 8:00 a.m. Saturday, September 27, concerning a female bicyclist who had been struck by a vehicle near Summit and Snelling avenues. The woman was transported to the hospital, where she died.

Burglary—A home on the 1400 block of Goodrich Avenue was burglarized while the resident was home at about 11:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 30.

—The Oasis Market at Randolph and Hamline avenues was broken into about 1:45 a.m. Wednesday, October 1. The suspects fled before police arrived.

—A man stole a projector from Randolph Heights Elementary School, 348 S. Hamline Ave., at about 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, October 1. The suspect was described as a white male, 20-25 years old. He was wearing a jersey and baggy jeans.

—A theft from auto occurred at the park on Mississippi River Boulevard and Summit Avenue between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. Friday, September 26.

Fire—A fire was caused by a homeowner who was using a propane torch to remove paint from his home on the 2100 block of Fairmount Avenue on September 29. The homeowner tried to extinguish the fire with a garden hose before calling the fire department. Damage was estimated at \$25,000. Two occupants of the home were examined for breathing difficulties, but were not taken to a hospital.

Merriam Park

Burglary—About 160 DVDs were stolen from an apartment on the 400 block of North Fairview Avenue between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Thursday, September 25. A door was broken to gain entry.

—An attempted burglary was reported at about 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, September 30, on the 400 block of North Fairview Avenue. The resident was home at the time.

—An apartment on the 400 block of Roy Street was burglarized between 12:30 and 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 16.

Theft—A car was stolen on the 300 block of Fry Street between 4:00 p.m. Wednesday and 5:00 p.m. Friday, September 24-26.

—An attempted auto theft occurred in the parking ramp at Spruce Tree Center on Snelling and University avenues between 7:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Monday, September 29.

—A juvenile suspect stole a laptop computer off his teacher's desk at the High School for Recording Arts, 550 Vandalia St., at about 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, September 30.

Fire—Carelessly discarded smoking materials caused a fire on the windowsill of a restaurant in the 1600 block of Selby Avenue at 2:16 p.m. Sunday, October 12. Damage was minor and there were no injuries.

Miscellaneous—Police responded to a loud

party at Dayton Avenue and Wheeler Street at about 1:00 a.m. Sunday, September 28. A vehicle leaving the area was stopped and a 19-year-old Rosemount man who was driving it was cited for an open bottle of liquor. Three other underage men were cited for underage drinking and open bottle.

—An 18-year-old man fought with campus security officers and was cited for underage consumption of alcohol at the University of St. Thomas at about 2:00 a.m. Sunday, September 28.

Snelling-Hamline

Burglary—A laptop computer, camera, passports, cash and other items were stolen from a home on the 1500 block of Hague Avenue between 7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Friday, September 26.

Manhole explosion—Firefighters were called to the 100 block of North Snelling Avenue at about 5:00 a.m. Tuesday, September 30, for a possible explosion in a manhole. There was no fire, but a manhole cover was open and sulfur dioxide was detected by the fire department's hazardous materials team. Xcel Energy was notified.

Weapons—Shots were fired at the McDonald's on Snelling and University avenues at about 2:30 a.m. Monday, September 29. There were no injuries.

Summit Hill

Theft—A man shoplifted diapers, infant formula and baby wipes at CVS Pharmacy, 1040 Grand Ave., at about 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 30. Employees said the suspect had been stealing from the store on an ongoing basis.

Summit-University

Burglary—A home on the 400 block of Aurora Avenue was broken into at about 8:00 a.m. Saturday, September 27. The residence was occupied at the time.

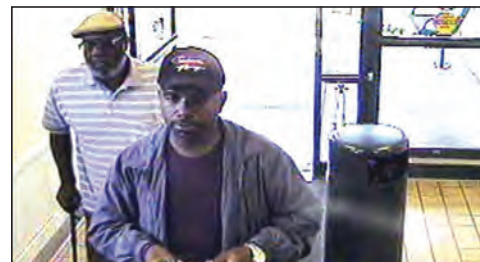
Weapons—Shots were fired on the 900 block of Dayton Avenue at about 10:00 p.m. Thursday, September 25, on the 200 block of Mackubin Street at about 10:30 p.m. Saturday, September 27, and on the 800 block of Hague Avenue at about 11:30 p.m. Saturday, September 27.

West End

Burglary—The Crosby Pointe Apartments on Elway Street and Shepard Road were burglarized at about 4:30 a.m. Friday, September 26. Two men forced their way into the building and stole a flat-screen TV and a DVD player from the community room.

Lilydale

Miscellaneous—Police cited a 51-year-old River Falls man and a 56-year-old Merriam Park man for indecent exposure at the Lilydale Park boat launch on Water Street and Joy Avenue at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, September 28.



A team of pickpockets has been working the Highland Village area, according to Highland Business Association director Shelly Harris. The suspects reportedly have been sneaking up behind elderly shoppers and lifting their wallets. Beat officer Jeff Gilsrud obtained the above photo of the suspects. Anyone who spots them is asked to call police at 651-266-5512, or 911 if a crime is in process.



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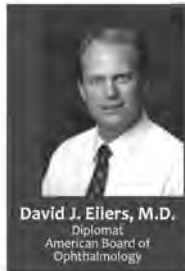
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District Council News

Macalester-Groveland

www.macgrove.org • 651-695-4000

Grab the rakes—Every year, the Job Connection offers a free fall raking service for seniors in the Macalester-Groveland, Highland Park and Summit Hill neighborhoods. Last year, 80 households signed up to receive the free service, and volunteers are once again being sought this year. Raking will occur on the weekends of October 25-26 and November 1-2. Volunteers do not need to dispose of the leaves, just to rake and bag them. For information on volunteering or having a lawn raked, call Afton Martens at the community council office or e-mail afton@macgrove.org.

Check out KidsPark—KidsPark, the community council's drop-in child-care program, is now open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on weekdays for children ages 18 months to 5 years, with infant care offered on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings. The professionally staffed center is located in the Groveland Park warming house at 1961 St. Clair Ave. and provides an ever-changing, theme-oriented curriculum. Call 651-695-4008 or visit www.kidsparkdropin.org.

A heap of thanks—The joint Macalester-Groveland and Highland Park fall neighborhood cleanup on October 11 was a great success. About 300 cars came through during the five hours the cleanup was held in Ford Motor Company's parking lot and more than 60 volunteers pitched in to help. Another cleanup will be held in the spring.

Great pumpkin drop—Macalester-Groveland's annual pumpkin drop will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Saturday, November 1, in the parking lot of Immanuel Lutheran Church, 104 S. Snelling Ave. Unpainted and wax-free pumpkins may be dropped off for free. They will be used as animal feed at a local farm.

Mark your calendar—Housing and Land Use Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 22, Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St.; and Alley and Native Garden Awards Celebration, 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 29, Weyerhaeuser building at Macalester College.

Highland Park

www.highlanddistrictcouncil.org • 651-695-4005

Community Development update—The Highland District Council's Community Development Committee met on October 13 to discuss Umbria restaurant's request for a parking variance in order to open at 2073 Ford Pkwy. Representatives of Radatz Walsh Commercial Real Estate and Lunieski Properties updated the committee on their attempts to lease off-street parking in Highland Village. They reportedly were turned down for the Snyders and Barnes & Noble lots, and had not heard back yet from Pinehurst and Highland banks. Umbria needs a 22-space parking variance to open a restaurant at that location. The committee agreed that the following conditions need to be attached to the variance: Lunieski must have Umbria and its other tenants use the same trash hauler and coordinate their delivery times in order to reduce noise and blocking of the alley for long periods, Umbria must install adequate venting equipment to keep food smells out of the neighborhood, and Umbria's employees must park on nonresidential streets. The St. Paul Board of Zoning Appeals is

scheduled to hear the variance request on November 3.

Transportation Committee—The HDC's Transportation Committee will discuss the proposed Highland Parkway bike boulevard at 7:00 p.m. Monday, October 27, at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. For information or to express a preference, visit the district council's website.

Fall cleanup—Sixty volunteers helped work at the neighborhood cleanup on October 11. Special thanks go to Davanni's for the lunch, Mary Davis for the cookies, J&S Coffee for the drinks, John Hagenmiller for hauling the tents and tables, and Tim Puffer for handling the finances. More than 400 families were able to get rid of their waste that day.

Bow hunt at Crosby Park—Bow hunters took out seven does during a bow hunt on October 13-15 at Crosby Farm Park. They will be back on November 3-5 when they will be able to take does or bucks. The goal is to remove from 10 to 20 deer from Highland's deer population. The park will be closed to the public during the hunt.

Neighborhood honor roll—Nominations are being sought for the St. Paul Neighborhood Honor Roll. Nominees should be people who have given of their time and talents to make St. Paul a better place. The nomination deadline is November 15. Inductees will be honored at a ceremony on January 16 at the University of St. Thomas.

Mark your calendar—Trick or Treat in Highland, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturday, October 25; Highland Parkway bicycle boulevard meeting, 7:00 p.m. Monday, October 27, Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy.; Community Services Committee meeting to discuss crime prevention budget, 7:00 p.m. Thursday, October 30, Hillcrest; Crosby Farm Park closed for deer hunt, November 3-5; general election, November 4; HDC board meeting, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 5, Hillcrest; Community Services Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m. Monday, November 10, Hillcrest.

Union Park

www.unionparkdc.org • 651-645-6887

Lexington-Hamline Music Fest—The second annual Lexington-Hamline Music Festival will be held from 1:00 to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, October 25, at the Jimmy Lee Recreation Center on Marshall Avenue and Lexington Parkway. The festival will feature local groups performing in a variety of musical styles, including Walker West Music Academy's Jazz Ensemble, the Cadenza Music Jazz All-Stars and the Lex-Ham Community Band. The highlight of the afternoon will be the premiere of a piece composed by Larry McDonough for the Lex-Ham Community Band. Admission is free. Visit LexHamArts.org or contact band@lexhamarts.org or 651-644-3366.

Merriam Park master plan—The Union Park District Council's Parks and Recreation Committee and Center for Urban and Regional Affairs intern Adam Maleitzke presented a revised version of the master plan for Merriam Park on October 14 at the Merriam Park Community Center. The master plan will act as a compass for future development of the park. For more information on the master plan, visit www.u-plan.org/MPMasterPlan.htm.

Recycling bins—Recycling bins are still available from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at the Merriam Park Recreation Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. The next pickup dates are November 5 and 19.

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Knit with Courage

Woman copes with what life throws her way by clicking two little sticks

By JANET LUNDER HANAFIN

Keeping a journal is a private affair, but blogging is about as public as one can get," writes Annie Modesitt in the introduction to her recently released memoir, *Knit with Courage, Live with Hope: A Year in St. Paul* (Mode Knit Press, October 2008). The slim volume, the published version of her blog as a knitwear designer, details a tumultuous year of ups and downs, joy and fear, courage and hope for Modesitt and her family. Readers will laugh, commiserate and even weep as they follow the family's move from New Jersey to the Summit Hill neighborhood in 2007 and the devastating diagnosis that followed.

Modesitt teaches knitting classes all over the country, designs knitwear for major knitting magazines, and has written half a dozen books about her escapades with needles and yarn, including *Confessions of a Knitting Heretic*, *Romantic Hand Knits*, and *Men Who Knit & the Dogs Who Love Them*. She fell in love with the Twin Cities in April 2006 when she taught a class in St. Paul at the Minnesota Knitters Guild's annual Yarnover event. She called her husband, Gerry Landy, telling him how wonderful the area was. He responded that he was up for anything.

She brought the family, which also includes children Hannah and Max, for a visit during the State Fair and they were hooked. "What impressed me most about the Twin Cities was an overwhelming sense that the quality of life is very high," she said. "(It's) very egalitarian and incredibly neighborly—the schools, the parks, the neighborhoods, the architecture, the restaurants and the arts. It was a no-brainer to move here."

Modesitt's memoir begins in South Orange, New Jersey, on January 1, 2007, as the family prepares to move, even though they have not yet found a house in the Twin Cities to move to. Gerry has a sore back, and packing and lifting are difficult for him.

By mid-January the family has found their dream house and between trips around the country to teach, Modesitt sorts the contents of their New Jersey's home's closets, arranges her spring teaching schedule and packs the fine china. Gerry's back is worse and he begins physical therapy.

On Valentine's Day, in the midst of a blizzard, the family sets off for Minnesota in two cars. They arrive three days later, in time for the Linwood Boosters Club's skating party and a sleigh ride around Linwood Park.

Modesitt writes about meeting new neighbors, getting settled in the house and making plans for remodeling the kitchen and adding a downstairs bathroom. She writes about enrolling the kids in school, the death of Butkis the cat, her trips to teach knitting classes, and her escalating concern for her husband's back pain.

Then, in early April, she writes: "What the frig is multiple myeloma?" It is, her family learns, a progressive, incurable type of blood cancer that is usually terminal.

The year continues as the family adjusts to a new normal, with Modesitt knitting as she waits with Gerry through doctor's appointments. "Without my yarn and needles, sometimes a crochet hook, I'd be stark raving mad," she writes. "There is something so soothing in the constant rhythm of my work



Annie Modesitt knits alongside husband Gerry. She will read from her book *Knit with Courage* on October 26 at Common Good Books. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

that helps both Gerry and me put our lives on autopilot and not fret too much as we wait."

Modesitt had become the family's sole breadwinner, so teaching and traveling were part of her normal routine. With the help of relatives and friends, the family survived remodeling the house, kept meals on the table and got Gerry established with a team of cancer specialists at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. On August 31, 2007, he received a stem-cell transplant and, she said, he has been doing "great."

This past summer, Modesitt and Gerry attended a multiple myeloma conference in Short Hills, New Jersey, "where the common hope was that we can someday think of MM as a chronic condition instead of a terminal illness," she said. "Gerry and I are already trying to think of it that way."

Modesitt's memoir deals with more than the ravages of cancer. Readers are also treated to the tale of an incredibly bad haircut, sledding at Highland National Golf Course, and her adventure teaching knitting in France.

Modesitt calls her children her greatest assets. "Both Max and Hannah understand that by traveling a little bit, I'm able to create a life where I ultimately have more flexibility than a 9-to-5 job might allow," she said.

The family feels fortunate to have ended up in St. Paul when they did. Neighbors and friends, many of them knitting connections, often stopped by with food for the family during their more trying times.

The family remains scared, but optimistic. "There's a giddiness in doing something like this together as a family and surviving," she writes. "If we can't make sense of it, at least we try to make a joke of it."

Modesitt decided to put her blog into print because so many readers e-mailed her saying there was so little written from a MM caregiver's perspective. "They told me how much it meant to them to read a day-to-day account of a family's struggle with an MM diagnosis," she said.

She said her daily report was known as "Gerry's wife's blog" on multiple myeloma sites, and that readers were printing out passages and taking them to support group meetings.

Knit with Courage has been released to coincide with Multiple Myeloma Awareness Week (October 20-27), and Modesitt will read from it at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, October 26, at Common Good Books, 165 N. Western Ave. For information, call 651-225-8989.

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Luminaries of the literary world will address book fair Nov. 1-22

The 2008 Twin Cities Jewish Book Fair, a three-week series of literary events, will open with a gala at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, November 1, at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave.

Martin Fletcher, NBC News bureau chief in Tel Aviv and author of *Breaking News*, will speak at the gala, which will also feature a show and sale by 45 Israeli fine artists. Admission to the gala is \$15. Wine and food will be served.

The book fair will continue with nine programs led by the following authors. All of the programs will be held at the St. Paul JCC and cost \$9.00 each unless otherwise indicated:

• Jeff Hertzberg and Zoe Francois, authors of *Artisan Bread in Five*

Minutes a Day, at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, November 2.

• Joanna Hershon, author of *The German Bride*, at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 5.

• Roger Bennett, author of *And They Shall Know Us by the Trail of Our Vinyl: The Jewish Past as Told by the Music We Have Loved and Lost*, at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, November 9, at Landmark Center (\$6.00).

• Bob Morris, author of *Assisted Loving: True Tales of Double Dating with My Dad*, at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 11.

• Borsht Belt mystery writer Reed Farrel Coleman, author of *Redemption Street*, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, November 13.

• Elyn Saks, author of *The Center Cannot Hold: My Journey Through*



Kevin Odegard

Madness, at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, November 16, at Temple Israel in Minneapolis (free).

• Ariel Sabar, author of *My Father's Paradise: A Son's Search for His Jewish Past in Kurdish Iraq*, at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 18.

• Robin Gerber, author of the his-



Elyn Saks

torical fiction *Eleanor vs. Ike*, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, November 20, at the Sabes JCC, 4330 S. Cedar Lake Road in Minneapolis.

• Kevin Odegard, author of *A Simple Twist of Fate: Bob Dylan and the Making of "Blood on the Tracks,"* at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, November 22.



Ariel Sabar

Odegard will be joined by other local musicians in a program of music and conversation (\$15).

A series pass good for all programs except the opening gala costs \$54. Call 651-255-4752 for information.

School Notes

Declan Kiberd, an Irish author, critic and commentator, will give a free lecture on "What is My Nation? An Irish View of Politics and Literature" at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 29, in the O'Shaughnessy Educational Center at the University of St. Thomas. Prior to the address, the university will present him with an honorary doctor of humane letters degree in recognition of his distinguished achievements in scholarship and teaching. Call Jim Rogers at 651-962-5662.

The Talmud Torah of St. Paul, 768 S. Hamline Ave., will dedicate its new science lab at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, November 2. The lab was made possible by a \$100,000 challenge grant from Mickey and Harold Smith and an additional \$80,000 that has been raised to date. The facility features a specially designed prep room and new lab stations. Visit tisp.org or call 651-698-8807.

St. Thomas Academy, 949 Mendota Heights Road, Mendota Heights, will hold an open house for potential students and their parents at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, November 2. Tours will be led by students. Call 651-454-4570.

St. Mark's School, 1983 Dayton Ave., will host an open house and school tour for interested families from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Thursday, October 23. For more information on the school, call 651-644-3380 or visit www.markerspride.com.

The Reverend Dennis Dease, president of the University of St. Thomas since 1991, received the National Catholic Educational Association's highest honor on October 6 in Washington, D.C. Dease was one of five recipients of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Awards in recognition of his lifelong work as a Catholic educator.

Elizabeth A. (Betsy) Buckley, a Merriam Park resident and 1969 graduate of St. Norbert College, received the college's distinguished service award on October 9. Buckley is the founder and CEO of What Matters, a St. Paul-based consulting firm. She serves on St. Norbert's board of trustees and was honored for chairing the search committee that resulted in the selection of Thomas Kunkel as the college's new president.

"The People's Law School" is being offered by St. Paul College and the Moss & Barnett law firm from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesdays this fall at the UAW-Ford-MnSCU Training Center on Ford Parkway and Mount Curve Boulevard. Topics include civil lawsuits on October 28, employment law on November 11 and business law on November 18. The cost is \$15 per session. Call 651-846-1783 or visit www.saintpaul.edu.

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Food



Hot Dish

By Morgan Smith

Lake St. grill's attention to detail leaves this fellow longing for more

There's a lot to like about the Longfellow Grill in South Minneapolis. While dining there on a recent Sunday evening, I immediately took to the white hand towels that are laid out on the tables as napkins. I'm somewhere between Emily Post and a Cro-Magnon when it comes to eating etiquette, so it was nice to know that an extra-absorbent towel was available just in case.

The Longfellow Grill on East Lake Street at West River Parkway was the brainchild of Stephanie Shimp and David Burley. The duo had always wanted to own a great breakfast place, and they achieved that 15 years ago with the opening of the Highland Grill in Highland Village. Four years later, they added the Blue Plate Cafe in Red Wing to their holdings.

Though the Red Wing cafe closed two years later, the name lives on in their Blue Plate Restaurant Company, a quintet of dining establishments operated by Burley, Shimp and Shimp's brother Luke. Along with the Highland and Longfellow Grills, they also own the Groveland Tap on St. Clair Avenue, the Edina Grill at 50th and France and the Three Squares Restaurant in Maple Grove.

The Longfellow Grill opened in 2005. The owners' plan was to create a basic menu for all their restaurants and offer monthly specials to set each restaurant apart. The décor also



The "cartoony industrial" decor at the Longfellow Grill.



The Longfellow Grill's Blackened Chili Lime Tilapia with brown-sugar-glazed vegetables and asiago mashed potatoes. Pictured at left is the Grill's Killer Banana Waffle breakfast with praline sauce and whipped cream. PHOTOS BY JANET HOSTETTER

varies from location to location. Shimp calls the Longfellow Grill's decor "cartoony industrial," with its yellow, orange and purple hues, modern art, corrugated steel and exposed duct work. Another thing that sets the Longfellow Grill apart is its patio. On nice days, customers may dine al fresco with a view of the Mississippi River gorge.

Ruth Grubbs, who has managed the Longfellow Grill for the past three years, is happy with the business the restaurant has been doing. On that recent Sunday evening, it was easy to understand why. There were just a couple of tables available when my date and I arrived at 6:30. Within a half hour, nearly all of the 100 or so seats were taken and a line had formed. It stayed that way until we left around 8:00, even though the restaurant closes at 9:00 on Sundays.

To be honest, our meal got off to a rocky start. While my date actually exclaimed with delight at the first sip of her iced tea, a black currant concoction from TeaSource in Highland Village (\$2.50), I found the appetizers wanting.

For one thing, the price on the menu for the appetizers was different from the price on the check. But we didn't learn that until later. What we discovered right away was that the pierogies, which are little dumplings stuffed with potato and cheddar cheese and served with onion strings and horseradish sauce (\$7.45), were lukewarm even though they came out of the kitchen quickly after our order.

The tempura green beans with plum dipping sauce (\$6.95) were delicately battered and the plum sauce was tasty, but I'm still trying to figure out whether or not I liked the combination of flavors. In any case, they arrived in a huge metal basket and could easily have served four.

The soup of the day, white chicken chili (\$3.50 for a cup and \$4.50 for a bowl), came with fish crackers—a nice touch—but it was too watery.

My date and I were both tempted by the Longfellow Grill's selection of salads, but we knew we wouldn't have room. She thought about ordering the panko-crusted goat cheese and beet salad (\$9.95), and I was interested in the balsamic

poached pear with oven roasted apple, greens, candied walnuts, gorgonzola cheese and cider vinaigrette (\$9.95). Alas, they will have to wait for another visit.

Instead, we ordered one of the entrée specials, the blackened chili lime tilapia with brown sugar-glazed Brussels sprouts and asiago mashed potatoes (\$14.95), and an entrée off the menu, the slow-roasted pork shoulder with homemade creamed corn and garlic asiago cheese mashed potatoes (\$13.95).

This may sound odd, but the highlight of the meal was the creamed corn, a wonderfully flavorful concoction of crunchy corn kernels and onions in a light sauce. The pork was tender and the potatoes were good, but next to the creamed corn they were the side dishes. My dining partner loved the tilapia, but I told her her tilapia was better—honestly.

We were both excited about the dessert special that night. The problem was, we were getting full. The portions at the Longfellow Grill are so generous, we were able to take home a second meal in containers thoughtfully dated by the wait staff. Indeed, the overall service provided was excellent. Despite a packed house, the food was served on time, and there was always water in my glass and a smile on the face of the server.

For dessert that night, we ordered the Marsala apple crostata, a traditional Italian baked dessert tart (\$6.95) made with Braeburn apples simmered in Marsala, rosemary and lemon scent, wrapped in cane-sugar-crust dough and served with the house praline sauce and vanilla bean ice cream. It was warm and truly yummy. If all pie crust tasted like the crust on this dish, I'd never leave a crumb on my plate.

The Longfellow Grill is also known for its tasty burgers—bison (\$11.45), turkey (\$9.45) and veggie (\$9.95), the latter a Morning Star garden patty—and, of course, its breakfasts, which include everything from the traditional American plate of eggs, hash browns, ham, toast and jelly (\$8.95) to walleye and shrimp Benedict (\$13.45).

Obviously, the Shimps and Burley have found a winning combination, both in their business partnership and in their Blue Plate restaurants.

Tidbits

Mississippi Market is offering the following classes at its natural food co-op at 622 Selby Ave: "Indian Vegetarian Dishes" from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 22 (\$22-\$24); "Gut Reaction: Restore Digestive Health Through Nutrition" from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, October 23 (\$27-\$30); "Healthful, Easy Cooking for Your Dog" from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Saturday, October 25 (\$13-\$15);

"Chickens in the City 101" from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Sunday, November 2 (\$18-\$20); and "Gluten-Free Baking" from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 5 (\$25). For information or to register, call 651-310-9499.

A Christmas pudding class will be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 1, at the Alexander Ramsey House, 265 S. Exchange St. Participants will learn how to put up a traditional boiled plum pudding, tour the Ramsey House, learn about 1870s servants' lives, enjoy a morning snack

of fresh-baked plum pudding and coffee, and go home with the makings and mold for a pudding of their own. The cost is \$36. Call 651-296-8760.

Pizza Luce, 1183 Selby Ave., is now offering a gluten-free menu alongside its regular menu on Tuesdays due to customer demand. The gluten-free pizza crust is provided by Cooqi Bakery in Merriam Park. The special menu contains nearly all of the restaurant's specialty pizzas and toppings as well as some new items, such as gluten-free stuffed shells and pasta

and Redbridge gluten-free beer. To sign up for a gluten-free newsletter, e-mail glutenfree@pizzaluce.com.

The Twin Cities Women's Choir will present its fifth annual wine and beer tasting from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, November 7, at DeGidio's, 425 W. 7th St. The tasting includes upscale wines, artisan brews, light hors d'oeuvres and a chocolate fountain. The choir will preview several pieces from its concert series. Tickets are \$40. Call 612-333-8292 or visit www.TwinCitiesWomensChoir.org.

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Business Briefs

Ingebretsen's Scandinavian Gifts & Foods, 1601 E. Lake St. in Minneapolis, will host a book reading on Saturday, October 25. Minneapolis author Eric Dregni will read from his new book, *In Cod We Trust: Living the Norwegian Dream*. The free program and book-signing will run from noon to 2:00 p.m. Call 612-729-9333.

The Better Business Bureau of Minnesota and North Dakota, which is based in Highland Park, will present its 2008 Integrity Awards to companies that demonstrate ethical business practices during a ceremony from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 28, at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis. St. Paul Saints president Mike Veeck will be the keynote speaker. Six high school seniors will be presented with a total of \$10,000 in college scholarships at the event. Contact Sarah Hilliker at shilliker@thefirstbbb.org or 651-695-2417.

A "Going into Business" seminar will be offered by SCORE small business counselors from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 28, at University Bank, 200 University Ave. The fee is \$60, which includes materials. Call 651-632-8937.

Penny Phillips of Summit Hill has rejoined the Felhaber Larson Fenlon & Vogt law firm's Minneapolis office. Phillips was an associate with the firm for more than 16 years. Recently, she served as labor and employment counsel for SuperValu Inc. She now represents clients in all areas of employment law.

The Highland Business Association will hold a membership luncheon at 10:40 a.m. Thursday, October 30, at

Noodles & Company, 2110 Ford Pkwy. The special guests will be representatives of Rebuild Resources, which specializes in helping people with chemical dependency issues find jobs. Register by October 27 by calling 651-699-9042.

Nicademis Art and Framing has opened at 225 N. Snelling Ave. Owner and operator Nick Krings of Merriam Park has been working in art and framing for the last eight years. The shop does all of its work in-house and offers do-it-yourself classes and gallery space showcasing local artists. Now on display is a collection of paintings and multi-media works by Adam Booker.

BankCherokee, a family-owned bank headquartered on St. Paul's West Side, is celebrating its centennial by having bank employees visit customers and deliver birthday cakes. "My father (James) and grandfather (Russell) built this business, and now we're one of the oldest family-owned and -operated banks in the Twin Cities," said BankCherokee CEO and president Heidi Gesell, a Summit Hill resident. Centennial celebrations will continue through the end of the year at BankCherokee's six locations.

Free job search assistance will be provided from 10:30 a.m. to noon on Monday, November 3, in the conference room at the Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy. Kevin Corcoran, a representative of Goodwill-Easter Seals, will be on hand to help all comers in searching for a job, filling out applications and writing resumes and cover letters.

"Developing Your Business Plan," a seminar presented by SCORE small

business counselors, will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 5, at University Bank, 200 University Ave. The fee is \$40, which includes materials. Call 651-632-8937.

Roger Salway of Ramsey Hill has been named executive director of Compatible Technology International (CTI), a nonprofit organization in St. Paul that designs food and water technologies for people in developing countries. Salway was previously vice chair of the board of directors of CTI. His more than 25 years of global manufacturing and leadership experience includes senior management experience in Europe and North America for Deere & Co. He has also served as a chief operating officer for Paper Calmenson & Co. and an executive vice president for Capacity Web.

White Rock Coffee Roasters, after more than five years in business, is separating into two companies. The wholesale company and roasting operation will continue to be based at 2325 Endicott St. in downtown St. Paul, while the retail coffee shop will continue to operate at 769 S. Cleveland Ave. Greg Schiffer will lead the retail and web-based operations as president of ShiffCo Inc. (dba: White Rock Coffee Roasters), while Bruce Olson will lead the roasting and wholesale operations as president of Olson Coffee Roasters Inc.

Jet Construction & Remodeling, 1025 Selby Ave., has received the 2008 Best of St. Paul Award in remodeling and repairing from the U.S. Local Business Association.

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The Kiosk

Wednesday/October 22

VICTORIAN SECRETS will be revealed during programs at 6:00 and 7:30 this evening at the Alexander Ramsey House, 265 S. The private side of Victorian life will be the topic of discussion in this adults-only tour, including how they dealt with the birds and the bees, mental illness, restrictive undergarments, medical ailments and the “sins of the flesh.” Admission is \$8.00-\$10. Call 651-296-8760.

MITCH PEARLSTEIN, founder and president of the Center of the American Experiment, will speak at a lunch from 11:30 to 1:00 this afternoon at Metropolitan State University. He also will sign copies of his new book, *Riding into the Sunrise: Al Quie and a Life of Faith, Service and Civility*. Call 651-793-1285.

A BLOOD DRIVE will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. today and tomorrow at the University of St. Thomas. Call 1-800-448-3543 for an appointment.

THE CENTRAL CORRIDOR Partnership will hold a listening session today to gain property owners’ comments concerning business and construction mitigation planning along the Central Corridor light-rail line. The session will take place from 5:00 to 6:00 this evening at Episcopal Homes, 1840 University Ave. A similar session will be held from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, October 30, at the Vietnam Center, 1159 University Ave. Call Karri Plowman at 651-265-2782.

Thursday/October 23

A SPAGHETTI DINNER will be served between 4:30 and 7:30 this evening in the newly refinished West 7th Community Center, 265 Oneida St. The event will feature Laurel Severson’s signature sauce. There also will be entertainment, door prizes and a silent auction. Tickets are priced from \$4.00-\$8.00. Call 651-298-5493.

A BENEFIT will be held for the long-term care of Jim Thuente from 7:00 to 11:00 this evening at the Prom Center in Oakdale. Thuente, 55, a lifelong member of Nativity Catholic Church, has been diagnosed with frontotemporal dementia. The evening will include a silent auction and music by the Dweebs. The suggested donation is \$15. For information or to donate items to the auction, contact thuentebenefit@yahoo.com. Donations also may be sent to the Thuente Family Fund, c/o Carol Jorgensen, US Bank, 711 S. Cleveland Ave., St. Paul, MN 55116.

“**CELEBRATE THE SECOND HALF** of Life,” a series sponsored by the Friends of the St. Paul Public Library, will begin with Robert Riesett speaking on *The Retirement Transition* at 7:00 this evening at the Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave. Admission is free. Call 651-642-0385.

Friday/October 24

PROFESSOR ABDULLAN AL-AHSAN of the International Islamic University will speak on “Qur’anic Guidance for Good Governance” at 7:30 this evening at the University Club, 420 Summit Ave. N. Doran Hunter, a retired professor at Minnesota State University, will respond. The free lecture is sponsored by the Caux Round Table, a network of business leaders who promote moral capitalism. Call 651-222-1751.



The city of St. Paul recently celebrated the \$5 million restoration of Raspberry Island beneath the Wabasha Street Bridge. The 2.2-acre city park features a new lighted walking path, lower island terrace, serpentine seating areas and native plantings. PHOTO BY ANNE BRANDRUD

MOONLIGHT, MERLOT AND MONET will be on the menu during an event from 6:30 to 9:30 this evening at St. Peter’s Church in Mendota. An art preview and socializing will be followed by a live art auction at 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$10, which includes wine and appetizers. Call 651-456-9561.

Saturday/October 25

THE KING BOREAS TOASTMASTERS club meets at 7:30 a.m. today and every Saturday at Associated Bank, Selby and Snelling avenues. Anyone who is interested in developing his or her speaking, listening or leadership skills is invited to attend.

A ROAST PORK DINNER and bake sale will take place from 4:00 to 7:00 this evening at Mendota Heights United Church of Christ, 680 Highway 110. The cost is \$3.00-\$10. Take-out will be available. Call 651-454-1311.

A FUNDRAISER will be held for the children of Bernard Gill from 5:00 to 10:00 this evening in the TIES Building, 1667 N. Snelling Ave. Gill, a longtime Summit-University resident and staff member of the National Youth Leadership Council, died suddenly last April, leaving his four children without parents (his wife succumbed to breast cancer in 1998). Colleagues and friends are holding the benefit, which will include music, food and a silent auction. The suggested donation is \$10. For information or to make a donation on-line, visit www.nylc.org/gillfundraiser. Donations also may be sent to the Bernard Gill Children’s Fund at Western Bank, 663 University Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104.

GEOCACHING 101 will be offered at 10:00 this morning at Fort Snelling State Park. Participants will learn how to use geocaching to explore Minnesota’s parks and participate in a history challenge. A limited number of GPS units will be available. The program is free. Call 612-725-2724.

A HEALTH AND SAFETY FAIR will be held by the Vasatka-Goers VFW Ladies Auxiliary from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. today at Mendota Heights City Hall, 1101 Victoria Curve. The fair will include flu shots (\$28 or an insurance card is required), pneumonia

vaccinations (\$57 or card), a Kid Print station, and information from local health and safety groups. Fair-goers are asked to bring donations for care packages for soldiers serving abroad, including food and snack items, toiletries, new or used DVDs and CDs, board games, phone cards, etc.

A LITTLE HOUSE SAMPLER will be offered from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. today at historic Fort Snelling. Children ages 7-11 will experience the life described in Laura Ingalls Wilder’s *Little House* books. Campers will sing songs, play games and make food and crafts that Wilder learned while growing up in the 19th century frontier. The cost is \$49. Call 612-726-1171.

“**UNDERNEATH THE OIL** of Desert Lands,” an informal showcase of the culture of the Gulf States, will be sponsored by the Arab-American Cultural Institute from 2:00 to 7:00 this evening at Cahoots Coffee Bar, 1562 Selby Ave. Participants may sip Saudi Arabian coffee and sample local delicacies while being surrounded by music and dance. There also will be henna body painting, caricature drawing and other artwork by local Arab artists, and a raffle for free dance lessons with the Jawaahir Dance Company.

BOOYA WILL BE SERVED between noon and 6:00 this evening at the Mendota VFW, 1323 Sibley Memorial Hwy. Takeout will be available for those who bring a container. Call 651-688-7408.

Sunday/October 26

THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB will meet at 2:30 this afternoon on Summit Avenue and Mississippi River Boulevard for a joint hike with the Minneapolis club. Hikers will cross the Ford Bridge and continue to Minnehaha Falls. Call 651-646-6421.

THE WELLINGTON, 2235 Rockwood Ave., will hold an open house from 1:00 to 3:00 this afternoon. Representatives from Let’s Dish will provide samples, recipes and coupons for preparing healthy, homemade dinners. Door prizes will be awarded. Call 651-699-2664.

A CZECH ROAST PORK DINNER will be served by Sokol Minnesota with seatings

at 12:30 and 2:30 this afternoon at the CSPA Hall, 283 Michigan St. The meal will include roast pork, bread dumplings, sauerkraut and more. The cost is \$7.00-\$15. The gift shop also will be open. Visit www.sokolmn.org or call 651-290-0542

Monday/October 27

A WEBSITE WORKSHOP will be offered at 7:00 this evening at the Rondo Library on University Avenue and Dale Street. Participants will learn the basics of creating a website, from HTML to content management systems and hosting. Admission is free.

A DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE for older adults will be offered by the Minnesota Safety Council from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. today and tomorrow at the Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. The cost is \$17. Call 651-645-7424.

IMAGINATIVE MINDS are invited to try Write Now! an entertaining writing exercise at 6:00 this evening at White Rock Coffee, 769 S. Cleveland Ave. It also will be presented at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 29, at Cahoots Coffee Bar, 1562 Selby Ave., and at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, October 30, at Brewberry’s Coffee Place, 475 Fairview Ave. The exercise offers the fundamental elements needed to produce a story in 30 minutes. Call Terry Faust at 612-722-4354.

Tuesday/October 28

THE MAD HATTER’S TEA HOUSE, 943 W. 7th St., will hold a conversational salon from 6:30 to 8:30 this evening. The film, *Recount*, about the 2004 presidential election, will be shown. The salon is free, but donations are encouraged for the program and treats. Call 651-227-3228.

THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB will meet at 7:30 this evening on Robert Street and Plato Boulevard for a hike that will include crossing the Wabasha Street Bridge. Call 651-646-6421.

JOHN RIEDEL of the University of Minnesota will present a free lecture on “The Social Web” at 3:30 this afternoon in Room



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PARENTING WITHOUT FEAR will be discussed by Jill Jerabek, a life-coaching program candidate with the Fearless Living Institute, from 10:30 a.m. to noon today at the Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave. The program is designed for parents and their children ages birth to 5. Admission is free. Register at jilljerabek@comcast.net

A SENIOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS Fair will be held from 10:00 a.m. to noon today at the West 7th Community Center, 265 Oneida St. Blood-pressure and hearing tests, chair massages, flu and pneumonia shots and informational displays by more than 25 senior organizations will be available. Admission is free. Call Jeannie Farrell at 651-298-5493 extension 204.

Wednesday/October 29

A COMPOSTING WORKSHOP will be offered by Eureka Recycling at 7:00 this evening at the Palace Recreation Center, 781 Palace Ave. The cost is \$5.00, with a backyard compost bin available for an additional \$45. Call 651-222-7678.

Saturday/November 1

THE JEREMIAH PROGRAM will hold its 10th annual Bullfrog Bash at 5:30 this evening at St. Paul RiverCentre. The evening will include silent and live auctions, a raffle for a Vespa scooter, dinner and dancing to the Casablanca Orchestra. Tickets are \$200. Friends also are invited to arrive at 8:30 p.m. for dancing only at a cost of \$40. Call 651-332-5018 or visit www.jeremiahprogram.org.

A BUCKTHORN BUST will be held by the

Friends of the Mississippi River from noon to 2:00 p.m. today near West River Parkway and 24th Street in Minneapolis. Volunteers will be provided with tools and gloves, and should be prepared to work on steep slopes. To register, contact Sue Rich at srich@fmr.org or 651-222-2193, ext. 14.

A MYSTERY DINNER will be hosted by Sokol Minnesota today at the CSPS Hall, 383 Michigan St. Guests are encouraged to come in costume for the interactive dinner theater, which will take place aboard the re-creation of a 1920's luxury cruise ship. The cost is \$50, half of which is tax-deductible, and includes dinner and refreshments. Proceeds from the event will benefit the flood-damaged Cedar Rapids Sokol. Call 651-297-9000 or visit www.sokolmn.org.


LIVING WITHOUT FEAR will be discussed by Jill Jerabek, a life-coaching program candidate with the Fearless Living Institute, from 1:00 to 3:00 this afternoon at the Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave. Admission is free. Register at jilljerabek@comcast.net.

Sunday/November 2

MUSICAL FLOWERS, featuring chamber music by members of the Minnesota Orchestra amid a display of Japanese flower arrangements, will take place at 2:00 this afternoon at the University Club of St. Paul, 420 Summit Ave. The doors will open at 1:30 p.m. for guests to view the flower arrangements and meet the artists. Admission is free. Call 651-222-1751.

Tuesday/November 4

THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB will meet at 7:30 this evening at Jefferson Avenue and Victoria Street for a residential hike. Call 651-646-6421.



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On the Town

Love at first bite

Bewitching romance novels are latest turn in the literary career of Lyda Morehouse

BY JUDY WOODWARD

Halloween is a special day on the calendar of Merriam Park author Lyda Morehouse. "It's one of the few holidays in America that comes out of pagan traditions," she said.

That's important to Morehouse. Not only is she the author—under the pen name Tate Hallaway—of a series of well-received "chick lit" vampire romance novels, she is a practicing witch. To Morehouse and her fellow Wiccans, Halloween is celebrated as Samhain, a pagan Gaelic festival when it is said that incantations can bridge the void between the worlds of the dead and the living. Morehouse has even cast a spell or two, though she said her experience in that department has taught her to "be very careful what you wish for."

Morehouse's familiarity with the occult comes in handy in setting the mood for her romance novels. Her heroine, Garnet Lacey, is a young, sexy, modern witch clad in spiderweb tights and high-top shoes. Lacey runs an occult bookstore in Madison, Wisconsin, and suffers the usual pangs of modern love, complicated in her case by the fact that her boyfriend happens to be a vampire.

Romancing the Dead (Berkley Books, 2008) is Morehouse's third book in the series. She will discuss her new book as part of "Meet the Wyrdsmiths," an event that will run from noon to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, November 16, at Lunds, 1450 W. Lake St., Minneapolis.

As a novelist who writes about witches, Morehouse said she is lucky. "There's a better understanding of witchcraft as a religion now," she said. "I have a lot of Wiccan and pagan fans who write to tell me that I got it right. I like to write about magic that has a cost—love spells that go wrong."

The occult and the ordinary exist in serene equilibrium for More-



"Modern women are attracted to the idea of women of power," she said. "We no longer punish (witches). Now we allow them sexuality and attractiveness."

house, who was raised as a Unitarian Universalist. She projects an air of calm, everyday purposefulness—a marked contrast to the ways of her flighty, supernatural heroine.

Morehouse began her literary career as a science-fiction author and made the transition to vampire romance for the most pragmatic of reasons. "Science fiction doesn't sell very well," she said. Vampire romances, on the other hand, were hot and Morehouse said she knew she "could write one with one hand tied behind my back."

But first she had to find an alias to avoid disappointing the fans of her earlier work. She wanted to adopt a pen name that would link a pair of



Lyda Morehouse, aka Tate Hallaway, ruminates on her latest darkly tinged romance novel, *Romancing the Dead*, during a visit to Calvary Cemetery. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

museums. Tate Walker was an early consideration, but her editor persuaded her to pick a last name that started with the letters "Ha" so her books would be grouped with best-selling genre authors like Laurell Hamilton and Charlaine Harris. "I opened the phone book and put my finger down," Morehouse said, and a pen name was born.

Writer's block has never been a problem for Morehouse. "Tate Hallaway novels write themselves," she said. "When I start writing from Garnet's point of view, she just flows—a little flighty, a little chatty."

Morehouse said the current popularity of paranormal romance says something about the women

who are the chief fans of the genre, which she characterizes as "Sex in the City' with fangs."

"Modern women are attracted to the idea of women of power," she said. "We no longer punish (witches). Now we allow them sexuality and attractiveness."

In fact, "sex it up" was the advice Morehouse received when she began writing the series, which also includes *Tall, Dark & Dead* and *Dead Sexy*.

Morehouse has a contract for two more books in the series and is now thinking about giving Lacey a child of her own. "She already has a stepson," she said.

Morehouse has not abandoned

writing novels in her own name. She has a new science fiction title coming out next fall to be published by Mad Norwegian Press. She also thinks she might take up mystery writing. "I'd love to write a cozy (an Agatha Christie-type mystery with very little violence or sex)," she said, "but I'd probably have to change my name to do that."

As for her own Halloween celebration this year, Morehouse said she will be out trick-or-treating with her 5-year-old son. "Mason has been trying to figure out his costume for months," she said. "Last year he was a mummy. This time he wants to be Medusa."

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On the Town Briefly

Theater

Tyrone & Ralph, Jeffrey Hatcher's story of the dynamic duo behind the creation of the Guthrie Theater, is being performed through November 2 at the History Theater, 30 E. 10th St. Call 651-292-4323.

An all-star, all-female cast is performing Shakespeare's comedy *Twelfth Night* at 8:00 p.m. Fridays through Sundays through November 2 at Open Book, 1011 Washington Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Sally Wingert, Isabell Monk O'Connor and Kate Eifrig star. Tickets are \$20. An additional show is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Thursday, October 30, at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. The JCC performance is free, but reservations are required. Call 612-203-9502.

A Plague of Angels, based on the true story of "Typhoid Mary," the Irish immigrant cook in turn-of-the-20th-century New York who unwittingly spread a deadly epidemic, is playing through November 9 at Theatre in the Round, 245 Cedar Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Show times are 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2:00 p.m. Sunday. Discussions with the cast, director and local experts in epidemiology and bioethics will follow the matinees on October 26 and November 2. Tickets are \$20. Call 612-333-3010.

Cretin-Derham Hall will perform *Twelfth Night* in six shows from October 24 through November 1 on the high school's stage at 550 S. Albert St. Shakespeare's comedy of mistaken identity is transported to the 1960s in a production augmented by Beatles music and beatnik poetry. The curtain rises at 7:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2:00 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$7.00, \$5.00 for students and seniors. Call 651-696-3333.

Chaim's Love Song, Marvin Chernoff's heart-warming comedy about the cross-cultural friendship between a 74-year-old Brooklyn man and a newly married teacher from Iowa, will be performed October 25 through November 16 by the Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company. Directed by Carolyn Levy, it stars Kirby Bennett, Marshall Hambro, Alayne Hopkins, Jaime Kleiman, Benjamin Kutschied, Miriam Monasch and George Muellner. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8:00 p.m. Saturdays, 2:00 p.m. Sundays and at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, October 26, in the theater of the



Kurt Schweickhardt, Ashford Thomas and Charles Fraser star in *Defiance*, opening October 24 at Park Square Theatre, 20 W. 7th Place. Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright John Patrick Shanley's drama about honor and morality portrays a monolithic institution whose absolute authority has come under siege. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 2:00 p.m. Sundays through November 9. Tickets are \$34-\$39. For reservations, call 651-291-7005. PHOTO BY PETRONELLA YTSMA

Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Tickets are \$18-\$25, \$12 for student rush. Call 651-647-4315.

Deer Camp, a new comedy that follows four fearless deer hunters into the woods, is playing through November 30 on Actors Theatre's stage at the Lowry Theater, 16 W. 5th St. What happens at deer camp stays at deer camp. The problem is, after decades of hunting trips, the guys have yet to bring home a deer and the wives are getting suspicious. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 5:00 and 8:30 p.m. Saturday and 5:00 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$29-\$39. Call 612-673-0404.

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Tennessee Williams' Pulitzer Prize-winning play about the conflicts within a powerful Southern family whose patriarch is unaware that he is dying of cancer, will be performed October 31 through November 8 by the Macalester College Theater and Dance Department. The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through

Saturday and at 2:00 p.m. Sunday in the Main Stage Theatre of the college's Fine Arts Center. Tickets are \$7.00, \$5.00 for seniors. Call 651-696-6359.

Forgetting will be performed by the Workhaus Collective from October 31 through November 10 at the Playwrights Center, 2301 E. Franklin Ave. in Minneapolis. Written by St. Cloud State University professor Trista Baldwin, the new play tells of three women bonded by loss and looking for healing. Call 612-332-7481 extension 20.

The Abduction of Seraglio, Mozart's classic comic opera, will open at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, November 1, at the Ordway. Michael Colvin and Jeffrey Halili star as nobleman and servant who set out to rescue their lovers, played by Jennifer Casey Cabot and Kathleen Kim, who are being held hostage aboard a train. A co-production of the Minnesota and Houston Grand Operas, the production is sung in German with the English translation projected above the stage. Subsequent shows

are at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, November 4, 6 and 8, and at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, November 9. Tickets are \$20-\$150. Call 612-333-6669.

Music

Soprano Dawn Upshaw will join the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and conductor Scott Yoo in concerts at 8:00 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 23-25, at the Ordway. The program includes Hindemith's Kammermusik No. 3, Ravel's Chansons Madécasses, Delage's Four Hindu Poems, Bach's Ricercare from *The Musical Offering*, and the premiere of Maria Schneider's Carlos Drummond de Andrade Stories. On Friday, the audience will not hear the Hindemith piece, but may choose between Beethoven's Ghost Trio in the concert hall and Mary Louise Knutson's jazz trio in the foyer. Tickets are \$11-\$59, or \$5.00 for children. Call 651-291-1144.

St. Joseph's School of Music will hold a concert fundraiser at 7:00 p.m. Friday, October 24, at Hamline United Methodist Church, 1514 Englewood Ave. Professional Twin Cities musicians will perform works by Mozart, Fauré, Chopin, Duruflé, Bach and others. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted to benefit the school at 450 N. Syndicate St.

Pianist Anna Polonsky will join the Minnesota Sinfonia in a free concert at 7:00 p.m. Friday, October 24, in the auditorium of Metropolitan State University, 700 E. 7th St. The program includes Tchaikovsky's September from *The Seasons*, Beethoven's Piano Concert No. 1 in C Major, Overture on Hebrew Themes by Prokofiev and Symphony No. 93 in D Major by Haydn.

Three cantatas by Handel, including his dramatic *La Lucrezia*, will be performed on Friday, October 24, by soprano Carrie Henneman Shaw with Julie Elhard on viola da gamba and Asako Hirabayashi on harpsichord. The concert, begins at 8:00 p.m. at St. Clement's Episcopal Church, 901 Portland Ave. It will also feature several of Handel's instrumental works, including a sonata for viola de gamba and a solo piece for harpsichord. Admission is by donation.

The Lex-Ham Music Festival, a free showcase of local talent, will be held from 1:00

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to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, October 25, at the Jimmy Lee Recreation Center, Marshall Avenue and Lexington Parkway. Among the performers will be the Walker West Academy Jazz Ensemble, the Cadenza Jazz All-Stars and the Lex-Ham Community Band, which will present the world premiere of a piece by Highland Park jazz composer Larry McDonough. Call 651-644-3366.

The Bach Society of Minnesota will open a new season on Saturday, November 1, with a program devoted to the music Bach wrote for one and two harpsichords. Keyboardists Asako Hirabayashi and Paul Boehnke will be featured. The concert will begin at 8:00 p.m. in Hamline University's Sundin Music Hall, 1531 Hewitt Ave. Tickets are \$16 and \$20. Visit www.bachsocietymn.org.

Clarinetist Charles Neidich and cellist Jean-Michel Fonteneau will join the four members of the Chamber Music Society of Minnesota in concert on Sunday, November 2. The program includes Mozart's Clarinet Quintet with Neidich on the basset horn and Messiaen's Quartet for the End of Time. The music will begin at 4:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Tickets are \$15-\$25. Call 651-450-0527.

Classic songs from such movies as *Titanic*, *Porgy and Bess*, *Rocky* and *Fiddler on the Roof* will be performed at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, October 26, at Temple of Aaron, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd. Ascending the stage will be singers Mitchell Kowitz and Jennifer Schwartz, violinist Alice Bartsch, the Temple of Aaron adult choir and the Inver Hills Community Band. Admission is \$5.00, free for children under 12. Call 651-698-8874.

Violinist Catherine Schubilske will join the five-piece Hill House Chamber Players in concert at 7:30 p.m. Monday, October 27 and November 3, in the art gallery of the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. The program will include *Elegy* for violin and piano by Elliott Carter, *Suite Populaire Espagnole* by Manuel De Falla, *Piano Trio No. 2* in B minor by Jacques Turina and *String Trio* by Beethoven. Tickets at \$16 include refreshments and a tour of the Hill House. For reservations, call 651-297-2555.

Internationally acclaimed organist Pamela Decker of Tucson will give a free recital at 8:15 p.m. Monday, October 27, in the Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas at the University of St. Thomas. She will perform her own composition, "El Tigre," along with works by Angela Kraft Cross, Ken Yukl, Matthew Whitehouse, George Crumb and Olivier Messiaen. Call 651-962-5850.

Books

Steve Almond, author of the story collection *My Life in Heavy Metal* and the nonfictional *Candyfreak: A Journey Through the Chocolate Underbelly of America*, will give a free reading at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 22, in the auditorium of the University of St. Thomas' John R. Roach Center for the Liberal Arts.

Common Good Books, 165 N. Western Ave., will present readings by authors Mark Ireland from *Wellstone: Conscience of the Senate* at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, October 25; Annie Modesitt from *Knit With Courage, Live With Hope: A Year in St. Paul* at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, October 26; Larry Millett from *Murder Has a Public Face* at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, October 30, at the Virginia Street Swedenborgian Church, 170 N. Virginia St.; Cathy Wurzer from *Tales of the Road* at 7:30 p.m. Monday, November 3, at the Virginia Street Swedenborgian Church; Todd Boss from *Yellowrocket* at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 5, upstairs at Nina's Coffee Cafe; Michael Greenberg from *Hurry Down Sunshine* at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 5. All events are free and at Common Good Books unless otherwise indicated.

Jude Nutter, winner of the 2007 Minnesota Book Award for poetry, will read from her verse in a free program at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 28, in Room 108 of the Library Center at the University of St. Thomas. Her collections include *Pictures of the Afterlife*, *The Curator of Silence* and the forthcoming *I Wish I Had A Heart Like Yours*, *Walt Whitman*.

The Teens and Tweens reading group will meet author Susan Runholt and talk about her book, *The Mystery of the Third Lucretia*, in a free program beginning at 3:00 p.m. Saturday, November 1, at the Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy. Free refreshments will be served.

The Highland Park Library Book Club meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. On November 6, the club will discuss *Those Who Save Us*, a passionate love story by Jenna Blum set during World War II. Everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be served.

Dance

James Sewell Ballet will present four explosive works, including two world premieres, in four shows on October 23-26 in O'Shaughnessy Auditorium at the College of St. Catherine. The program includes Hart and Lang's "LightSpace" and Sewell's "Winter" (1994) set to Vivaldi, the new "Dancing People" and a new work set to Chopin. The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m.. Thursday, 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2:00 p.m. Sunday. A shorter First Chance Dance program for children will be presented at 11:00 a.m. Saturday. For tickets, call 651-690-6700 or 612-672-0480.

A swing dance to the music of the St. Thomas Academy and Visitation School jazz band will be held at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, October 25, at St. Thomas, 949 Mendota Heights Road in Mendota Heights. Instructors from the Dancers Studio will provide swing dance lessons. The cost is \$25 per couple. Call 651-454-4570.

A square dance to live music to raise money for the Hope Community for the homeless in Minneapolis will be held from 7:30 to 11:00 p.m. Saturday, October 25, at the Friends Meeting House, 1725 Grand Ave. The Mill City Serenaders and Light of the Moon will perform. No experience is necessary. A donation of \$5.00 is requested. Call 651-642-9118.

Exhibits

"Hard Rain: Our Headlong Collision With Nature," an exhibit that marries the words of Bob Dylan's "A Hard Rain's A-Gonna Fall," with 42 images by British photographer Mark Edwards on climate change, poverty and extinction, is on view through November 14 in the outdoor quadrangle at the University of St. Thomas.

The unconventional paintings of K. Daphnae Koop will be shown from October 23 through December 31 at the Fivetwosix Gallery, 526 Selby Ave. An opening reception will be held from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Thursday, October 23. The artist will be on hand from noon to 3:00 p.m. Saturday, October 25. Admission is free. Call 651-222-3839.

"Vanishing: The Wonderland of Aging," a visual discourse about the disquieting experience of growing old by senior artists Bette Globus Goodman, Lucy Rose Fischer, Karen Searle and Jody Stadler, will open with a public reception from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Sunday, October 26, in the Catherine G. Murphy Gallery at the College of St. Catherine. Working in various media, they explore such themes as the indignity of aging bodies, confronting mortality, the

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compression of time and the loss of identity. The exhibit will remain on view through December 19. Call 651-690-6644.

"I'm Holding on for That Teenage Feeling," installation, sculpture, painting, photography and video focusing on the experimental aspects of adolescence, will be displayed from October 30 through November 22 in the College of Visual Arts Gallery, 173 N. Western Ave. An opening reception will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, October 30. A roundtable discussion with the six participating artists will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, November 6. Call 651-757-4080.

Fiber artist Sara Langworthy's wearable art, rugs, wall hangings and collages will be displayed from November 1 through December 27 at the Textile Center, 3000 University Ave. SE. in Minneapolis. In conjunction with the show, more than 200 textile artists will be selling their original works. Call 612-436-0464.

Family

"Saturday Live!" free entertainment for children at 11:15 a.m. Saturdays at St. Paul's Central Library, 90 W. 4th St., will continue with a program on bones and skeletons on October 25; the magic of Irish folktales and songs with musicians Andrea Stern and Laura MacKenzie, November 1; and Chef Roberto's Magic Show, November 8.

Stories and songs about bread and baking will be told in half-hour programs beginning at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Saturday, October 25, at the Mill City Museum, 704 S. 2nd St. in Minneapolis. Visitors will also be able to grind wheat into flour and taste freshly baked bread. Museum admission is \$10, \$8.00 for seniors and students and \$5.00 for children ages 6-17. Call 612-341-7555.

Rainbow Crow, a new play by Rhiana Yazzie based on an American Indian story, will be performed October 24 through November 9 at SteppingStone Theater, 55 N. Victoria St. In it, the inky black bird with the noisy caw has a beautiful voice and colorful feathers, but sacrifices them to save her friends. Tickets are \$7.00 to \$11. Call 651-225-9265.

"Sundays at Landmark," a series of free entertainment from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Sundays at Landmark Center, will continue with the Great Pumpkin Festival, featuring storytelling, music, art activities and a costume parade, on October 26; and the Skylark Opera performing "Patriots and,

Politicians: Reflections on Politics and Government in Song" on November 2.

Stories, finger plays, rhymes and songs are offered at 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays at the Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy. Children of all ages are welcome.

Film

Nim's Island, the 2008 fantasy adventure about a young girl who lives with her widowed father on a South Pacific island, will be shown at 7:00 p.m. Friday, October 24, at the West 7th Community Center, 265 Oneida St. The free screening will be preceded by 20 minutes of fun. Call 651-298-5493.

A free French film festival continues in the auditorium of the O'Shaughnessy Educational Center at the University of St. Thomas. *Persepolis*, the coming-of-age story of a precocious Iranian girl, will be shown at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 28. A panel discussion will follow. *Le Voyage du Ballon Rouge* (Flight of the Red Balloon) will be shown at 7:00 p.m. Monday, November 3, and will be followed by a reception.

Et cetera

"Russian Seasons," three hours of music, dance and theater with an international flavor, will be presented at 7:00 p.m. Friday, October 24, in Buetow Auditorium at Concordia University, 300 N. Hamline Ave. Emceed by Highland Park impresario and pianist Tatyana Dikareva, the program will feature popular music of the Soviet era, drama by students from Central High School and Macalester College, a Soviet fairy tale, an exhibition of drawings by Vladimir Dikarev of Highland Park on the theme "War and Peace," singers Oktyabrina Molaeva and Mariam Kocharian, the Irish dance group Scoil na d'Tri and others. Tickets are \$25, \$20 for seniors, \$15 for students and free to children age 6 and under. Call 651-695-0792.

Wild Yam Cabaret, Eva Johnson Blackwell's semi-regular variety show, will return on Saturday, October 25, with original songs by Alex Mielke, a treatise on the lighter side of fear and three essays on phobia, including "Chicken Dressing Day" by Cathy Konat, "The Hanging Gardens" by Sharon Hanson, and Bev Goldberg's "It's Never Too Late for Therapy." The fun begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Mad Hatter's Teahouse, 943 W. 7th St. Admission is by donation, with \$6.00 (\$5.00 in advance) suggested. Call 651-293-9072.

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Sports



The Wright Call

By Dave Wright

A new kind of anniversary gift

According to tradition, the proper gift for a 10th anniversary is something made of tin or aluminum. Concordia University-St. Paul has decided on a slightly different tack to celebrate its first decade as a NCAA Division II school and member of the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference. The gifts it's getting are a new on-campus football stadium and a pair of basketball games against the University of Minnesota.

"Getting a football stadium is a very big deal for us," said athletic director Tom Rubbelke, one of just three people in the athletic department remaining at Concordia from that turbulent transitional year to Division II. "We're breaking ground next month and I can hardly wait to get started."

Phil Fandrei, a 1951 graduate of Concordia and the co-owner of Sea Foam Sales Company, donated \$5 million to the university to get the stadium project rolling. Sea Foam Stadium will be built on the west end of the campus near the corner of Hamline and Concordia avenues. The 4,500-seat facility is expected to cost \$14.5 million and be ready for the Golden Bears to play football in next fall.

"The building is going up in phases," Rubbelke said. "It won't be totally finished by next August, but we'll have enough done that we can play there." That means installing the playing field, some of the stands, a track around the field, lights, a parking lot and a bubble for year-round use. Phase 2 will include a weight room, a press box, the remainder of the stands and locker rooms. Of all the stadium's amenities, none may be more important than that last one.

Ever since its days competing in the NAIA, Concordia has played its football games at nearby Griffin Stadium, a fine stadium when it was built for high school football in the 1940s and still an acceptable facility for that purpose now. However, as a college football facility Griffin is about as popular as Vikings coach Brad Childress.

"Every game we play there, the visiting teams and officials fill out reports on the total experience," Rubbelke said. "The one thing that's consistent in all of those reports is how bad of a facility Griffin is for them."

The locker rooms are so small that football teams frequently opt to sit outside at halftime. The press box is also small and has windows that can't be opened, so most visiting radio station personnel prefer to work the games outside. And when the Golden Bears draw a big crowd, the concession stands are inadequate for the task.

It's nobody's fault. No matter how much lipstick you apply to it, a pig is still a pig. "Look, we appreciate Griffin and it's been very good for us," Rubbelke said. "It's fine, but it's not ours. It'll be better for us to be on campus."

While the new football stadium may be a delayed gift, the men's and women's basketball games at Williams Arena are

WRIGHT CALL ► 42



Sophomore Jennie Hartjes and the rest of the Raiders will face Minnetonka in the first round of the state tennis tournament on October 22 at the University of Minnesota. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Tough CDH tennis team earns trip to state

BY BRIAN JOHNSON

The Cretin-Derham Hall girls' tennis team has shown plenty of pluck this season, and that quality came through in a big way during the team's Section 4AA championship match against Stillwater on October 9.

Three times the top-seeded Raiders were a point from elimination and each time they fought back. The result was a sensational 4-3 victory that put CDH in the state tournament for the first time since 2001.

State tournament trips may be rare, but winning tight matches has become a habit for the Raiders, who head to state with an 18-4 record, including a 6-2 mark in the tough Suburban East Conference. They will face third-ranked Minnetonka in the first round of the state tournament at 8:00 a.m. Wednesday, October 22, at the University of Minnesota's Baseline Tennis Center.

"We won close matches all year," said CDH coach Tim Spika. "Our record would have been quite different if that had not been the case. When the matches are close, we seem to hang in there and pull it out."

None of those close wins was as dramatic as the section championship game. The nip-and-tuck contest came down to the third doubles match featuring freshman Anna Stein and senior Megan Gibbs. All eyes were on them and their backs were to the wall.

"We were behind and Stillwater had three match points at various times," Spika said. "We somehow managed to get even, win that game and win the

match. Our kids showed some mettle in the tough times and found a way to win."

Sophomore sensation Jennie Hartjes leads the Raiders this year with 23 wins in 28 singles matches. Hartjes defeated Stillwater's Pauline Gilbert in straight sets (6-1, 7-5) to win the Section 4AA singles championship on October 13. She will face senior Taylor Reiners of Hastings in the first round of the state singles tournament at 8:00 a.m. Friday, October 24, at the U of M.

Hartjes, a lefty, is a dominant player in the No. 1 singles slot. A tough competitor, she covers the court well and plays a strong power game. Last year, she won the Section 4 singles championship as a freshman.

"This year she didn't sneak up on anyone," Spika said. "She was the top seed. She's an outstanding player and gave us a great opportunity to be a good team."

Spika said junior Moira Caulfield has "done a beautiful job" as the No. 2 singles player for the Raiders and junior Katie Cullen is "extremely competitive and a very determined young player" at the No. 3 spot.

Sophomore Erin Hynes is 20-1 at CDH's final singles spot. "Her style and temperament are a perfect fit for No. 4 singles," Spika said. "She's consistent and makes few mistakes. She's just tough to beat."

In doubles, junior Clare Johnson and sophomore Maddy Eiden have solidified the top spot for most of the season with an 8-3 record. Also performing well were the second team of seniors Michelle Johnson and Molly Gibbs,

and the third doubles team of Stein and Megan Gibbs.

In the Section 4 doubles competition, Eiden teamed with Caulfield. The duo advanced to the championship match, but lost 6-4, 4-6, 7-5 to Amy Wilson and Anna Hancks of Woodbury.

Three other players also saw considerable playing time for the Raiders: freshman Delaney Dobbs, sophomore Nora Bengel and junior Eleanor Tapp.

Sizing up the state tournament competition, Spika said every match will be a challenge. "All eight teams are going to be extremely tough and anyone who gets a victory at the tournament is going to earn it," he said. "We think we match up well and we'll give it our best shot and see what happens."

"We're not favored, but we're not prohibitive underdogs either. We're looking forward to the opportunity to prove ourselves, to see what we can do."

Visitation qualifies three for state

Senior Bridget Doyle of Visitation School also qualified for the state Class AA singles tournament. She will face junior Adele Henke of Edina in the first round on October 24 at the U of M. Senior Jenny Mullen and 8th-grader Meredith Lawrence of Visitation qualified for the state doubles tournament and will face junior Emilie Renault and senior Annemarie Ryu of Rochester Mayo that day.

Visitation made it to the finals of the Section 3AA tournament, but lost to top-seeded Simley 5-2 on October 10. The Blazers finished the season 15-8.

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STA's shot at state ends in shootout

BY BILL WAGNER

The St. Thomas Academy soccer team lost 2-1 to Blake in a shootout at home in the Section 3A final on October 16.

The Cadets had gone into the season with such high hopes, getting most of their cast back from a team that was under .500 a year ago. And they had given every indication that they were ready to make a run to the state tourney for the first time since 2005, having defeated a highly skilled Simley squad 2-1 two nights earlier in the section semifinals.

The Cadets (15-2-2) took the early lead against the Bears in the championship game on a first-half goal by senior forward Andrew Housh, assisted by senior forward William Brady. Housh scored after making a nice breakaway rush and sliding the ball into the net.

STA looked to have a defense that was more than capable of protecting that lead. But then Blake got a goal from Michael Ankeny on a penalty kick with just under 15 minutes left in regulation to tie it at 1-1.

The two teams battled through the overtime period and then went deep into the shootout before Blake's Jack

Markusen booted the ball home to clinch the 2-1 triumph for the Bears.

STA coach Julius Tangwe knew just how his charges felt after the loss. "We had an outstanding season," he said. "I thought our kids represented our school well. I feel bad for the boys, but you never know how it's going to end when you have a shootout."

STA had established some good momentum with the hard-fought win over Simley in the semifinals. The Spartans got the upper-hand early, but Cadet senior midfielder Jake Szymanski tied it up with a header off a throw-in. Senior forward Carl D'Aquila earned the assist on Szymanski's goal.

Then STA took the lead for good when senior midfielder Sean Nasifoglu scored on a nice crossing pass from Housh.

The Cadets finished first in the Classic Suburban Conference and had some good chances to win prior to the shootout against Blake, but it was not to be.

After the game, Tangwe assembled the Cadets at midfield and laid it on the line in a positive fashion. "I just told them to be grateful for the chance we had to work together this

year, and for the chance to compete on such a high level," he said.

Section 4AA playoffs

Cretin-Derham had to play Stillwater twice in the semifinal round of the Section 4AA boys' soccer playoffs before it was official. The Raiders were losing to the Ponies 2-1 after about 25 minutes of play in their semifinal game on October 11 before lightning caused a postponement. The game was restarted from the beginning on October 14 and Stillwater scored early to pull out a 1-0 win over the Raiders (13-7).

"We had a lot of shots from six to 10 yards out, but they were right at the goalie," said CDH coach Mike Huber. "We tried to put some pressure on after Stillwater got ahead, but we couldn't capitalize on our chances."

Central High School defeated White Bear Lake 1-0 in the first round of the Section 4AA playoffs, but did not have enough left in the tank and lost to Woodbury 1-0 in the semifinals on October 11. The third-seeded Minutemen won the St. Paul City Conference title with a perfect 12-0 record and finished the season 14-4-2 overall.



Cadet senior forward Andrew Housh battles Blake's David Brenton in the Section 3A final on October 16. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Visitation senior midfielder Kelsey Crocker, left, and sophomore forward Olivia Beinlich meet at the ball during the Section 3A final against Holy Angels on October 16.

PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER



Blazers' season ends with loss to Holy Angels in section final

BY BILL WAGNER

The Visitation soccer team went into its Section 3A final game against Holy Angels on October 16 with great hopes. However, the Blazers saw their chances for the school's second ever trip to the state tournament dashed with a 1-0 defeat to the Stars.

Third-seeded Visitation earned its way into the finals by beating second-seeded Blake 2-0 in the semifinal round two days earlier, while Holy Angels defeated St. Paul Academy in the other semifinal game. The Blazers had their opportunities in the championship game, but failed to take advantage of them and ended the season with a 15-4-2 record.

It was the second year in a row that Visita-

tion lost to Holy Angels in the section playoffs. Last fall it was by a 4-0 count in the semis.

"Against Blake, we seemed to have an edge," said Visitation coach Carle Cheesebrough, "but it's hard to come up with that kind of effort two games in a row."

Holy Angels scored the game's only goal shortly after the second half kickoff, which was followed by a flurry of activity in front of the Visitation net. "Their midfield intercepted the ball and then they got it down deep in our end," Cheesebrough said.

Junior goalie Clare Robinson, whose work has been solid throughout the year, got her hands on the ball, but it squirted loose and

VISITATION SOCCER ► 42

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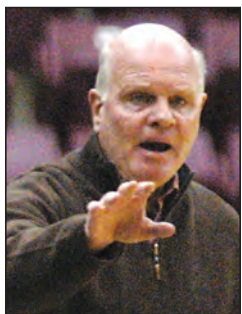
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The Purple Raiders recently won the National League championship of the Midway Little League. Pictured, from left, are (front row) Jacob Barnard, Will Lundquist, Tommy Boeckman, Jonah Leurquin, Joe Martin and Jason Duffy; and (second row) Simon Blaine-Sauer, Harrison Worthman, Charlie White, Eamon Naughton, Evan Andrews and Ryan Thie. The coaches are Steve Worthman, Pat Duffy and Troy Thie.

Sports Shorts

Tom Ihnot, the assistant boys' varsity basketball coach and a former head basketball coach at St. Thomas Academy, will be inducted into the Minnesota Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame at noon Sunday, October 26, at the DoubleTree Park Place Hotel in St. Louis Park. Ihnot has coached basketball for 37 years and has a career record of 362-215. He was a head coach at Cannon Falls from 1974-76 before moving to STA, where he coached from 1976-89 and compiled a record of 204-111. His Cadets earned state tournament appearances in 1985 and 1988, with the '85 squad winning the consolation championship. In 1989 he went to Burnsville High School, where he led the Blaze to the school's first Lake Red Conference championship.



Ihnot has also served as a head coach for girls' basketball teams at Visitation and Simley. He was named Region 3AA Coach of the Year in 1985 and 1988 and coached the Metro All Stars in 1986.

The Minnesota College Hockey Showcase will be held on Saturday, November 1, at the Xcel Energy Center. The event will feature the men's hockey teams from Minnesota State, St. Cloud State, the University of Minnesota and the University of Minnesota-Duluth. Tickets are being sold as a two-game package for \$32-\$42 and are now on sale at the Xcel box office and all Ticketmaster locations, or by phone at 651-989-5151.

TAGS Gymnastics is now accepting registration for its second fall session, which will run from October 27-December 20. Gymnastics classes will be offered for boys and girls ages 2-17 of all ability levels. For information, visit www.tagsgym.com or call TAGS South at 952-431-6445.

High school football roundup

Central (6-2)

Aug. 29 vs. Shakopee 12-22
Sept. 5 vs. Harding 46-8
Sept. 11 vs. Arlington at Bakken 35-0
Sept. 19 vs. Highland Park 32-6
Sept. 25 vs. Como Park 37-21
Oct. 2 vs. Johnson 25-18
Oct. 10 at Humboldt 36-0
Oct. 15 vs. Mpls. Washburn 6-22

Cretin-Derham Hall (8-0)

Aug. 29 vs. Forest Lake 35-19
Sept. 5 at Hastings 33-0
Sept. 12 vs. Woodbury 22-16
Sept. 19 at Stillwater 42-7
Sept. 26 at Roseville 42-13
Oct. 3 vs. White Bear Lake 42-12
Oct. 10 at Park 62-46
Oct. 15 vs. Mounds View 33-0

Henry Sibley (5-3)

Aug. 29 at Mahtomedi 0-27
Sept. 5 vs. North 21-0
Sept. 12 at South St. Paul 27-14
Sept. 19 vs. Simley 3-6
Sept. 26 at St. Thomas Academy 21-47
Oct. 3 vs. Hill-Murray 39-14
Oct. 10 vs. New Ulm 54-8
Oct. 15 vs. Richfield 24-6

Highland Park (4-4)

Aug. 29 vs. Como Park 26-16
Sept. 5 at Johnson 16-28
Sept. 12 vs. Humboldt 44-14
Sept. 19 at Central 6-32
Sept. 27 vs. Harding 22-12
Oct. 3 vs. Arlington at Griffin 32-12
Oct. 10 at Litchfield 24-51
Oct. 15 vs. Mpls. South 12-13

Mpls. Roosevelt (4-4)

Aug. 28 at Southwest 0-48
Sept. 4 vs. South at Hamline 0-34
Sept. 12 vs. North 21-6
Sept. 19 at Washburn 0-60
Sept. 26 vs. Edison 54-20
Oct. 3 vs. Patrick Henry 29-19
Oct. 10 at St. Peter 32-23
Oct. 15 at Como Park 0-41

Minnehaha Academy (3-5)

Aug. 29 at St. Bernard's 13-26
Sept. 5 vs. Concordia Academy 6-20
Sept. 12 at St. Paul Academy 7-26
Sept. 19 vs. Brooklyn Center 37-17
Sept. 26 at Blake 28-21
Oct. 4 vs. Breck 21-36
Oct. 10 vs. St. Anthony 7-6
Oct. 15 vs. DeLaSalle 7-42

St. Paul Academy (2-6)

Aug. 29 vs. St. Croix Lutheran 21-70
Sept. 5 at St. Anthony 6-35
Sept. 12 vs. Minnehaha Academy 26-7
Sept. 19 vs. St. Bernard's 20-36
Sept. 26 vs. DeLaSalle 7-49
Oct. 3 at Brooklyn Center 25-20
Oct. 10 at Blake 15-39
Oct. 15 vs. Breck 20-38

St. Thomas Academy (7-1)

Aug. 29 at South St. Paul 42-2
Sept. 5 vs. Simley 14-20
Sept. 12 at Duluth Denfield 49-16
Sept. 19 vs. Hill-Murray 49-21
Sept. 26 vs. Henry Sibley 47-21
Oct. 3 at Richfield 50-6
Oct. 10 vs. North St. Paul 50-7
Oct. 15 at Tartan 44-21

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39◀ WRIGHT CALL

just around the corner.

Concordia's women's team will play the Gophers on November 2. Concordia coach Paul Fessler may be a bit of an excitable bear on the sidelines—he once got a technical foul for arguing with a ref when his team was ahead by 40 points—but nobody questions his coaching ability. The Golden Bears have won three regular-season and three post-season titles during his nine years at Concordia and are now one of the better programs in Division II. That made Concordia an easy pick for the Gophers, who have room for two exhibition games before their November 14 opener at Stanford.

Concordia's men's basketball team has not enjoyed the same level of success as the women's, but the Golden Bears were a decent 16-12 last season. Tubby Smith already had St. Cloud State and Northern State booked for exhibition games, and when a Division I school dropped out at the last second for the NABC Classic at Williams from November 14-16, the Golden Bears got the call to be the fill-in for games against the Gophers, Georgia State and Bowling Green.

"It was a lot less expensive for them to play us than to try to get another D-I school to come to town at this late date," Rubbelke said. "We jumped at the opportunity."

The game is considered an exhibition for Concordia, but is the first regular-season game for the Gophers. And when Concordia hits the Williams Arena floor, it will be its first game of the season, but the U of M's third.

"We're looking at it as preparation for our conference season," said Kelly Boe, Concordia's men's coach. "We won't see better competition than this. As a Minnesota guy, I'm excited to see us get to play a game at Williams Arena. But what I really like is getting three games against D-I teams and having two of them be on a neutral court. That doesn't happen very often to teams like ours."

Boe said he has exchanged tapes with the Gophers, but is not likely to do so with the other two Division I schools competing in the classic. "At this point, I don't know too much but about them, but we'll get to watch them live," he said.

The Golden Bears also get to see the Gophers play two conference foes. Northern State is a longtime member of the Northern Sun and St. Cloud State is one of three teams that moved into the conference this year.

When the Golden Bears head to Williams, Rubbelke hopes the trip will be better than the one he had the other night. During a "Midnight Madness" session to kick off Concordia's new basketball season, Rubbelke stumbled on a carpeted runway and injured his shoulder. He was headed to the doctor to get the diagnosis when a reporter called.

Which might lead to a new addition to the list of 10th anniversary gifts: rotator cuff surgery.

Central completes great fall run

It's been quite a run for Central High School athletes this fall. As of press time, the Minutemen had won the regular-season St. Paul City Conference titles in football, boys' and girls' soccer, girls' tennis and volleyball. In fact, Central's volleyball team has been so dominant in the City Conference that it was big news on October 7 when Highland Park rallied for a five-set win to end Central's 61-match winning streak. Central also finished first in the St. Paul City Conference boys' and girls' cross country meets this fall. Girls' swimming had not been decided as a press time.

Unfortunately, regular-season success does not always translate into post-season laurels. Both of Central's soccer teams, which had a combined 23-0-1 record in the regular season, were knocked out of the playoffs in the second round. The volleyball team only earned an eighth seed and will face White Bear Lake on October 22 in a section quarterfinal match.

After winning their first City Conference football title in 20 years with a 6-0 record, including a stunning win over Johnson when the Minutemen scored two TDs in the final five seconds of play, Central found out what St. Thomas Academy did last year: Minneapolis Washburn is mighty good. The Millers, even without star tight end Ra'Shede Hageman, who had been suspended because of an unspecified in-school incident two days before the game, defeated Central 22-6 in the Twin Cities game on October 15.

Are you ready for more football?

Cretin-Derham Hall and St. Thomas Academy enter this week's football playoffs on a roll. The Raiders, who have flown under the radar for most of the season, grabbed a lot of people's attention with a 33-0 smacking of Mounds View on October 15 to clinch the Suburban East Conference crown with an 8-0 record. The Cadets, meanwhile, tied with Simley at 6-1 for the Classic Suburban Conference championship. Both CDH and STA are the top seeds in their sections and could well be spending November playing at the Metrodome.

But perhaps the most remarkable performance of the year among local high schools was turned in by Henry Sibley. The Warriors struggled to a 0-9 mark last year, but this fall finished third in the Classic Suburban and will enter the section playoffs with a 6-2 record.

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

40◀ VISITATION SOCCER

Holy Angels attackers put it away.

Visitation tried to apply more offensive pressure in the second half, but the Stars' defense held. "We had some chances that we just missed on," Cheesebrough said. "It was a heartbreaking defeat. To get that far and not make it to your goal. You could say a lot of what-ifs."

The Blazers entered the finals with confidence after beating Blake for the first time in Cheesebrough's eight seasons as coach. The game was decided

on nifty goals by senior forward A.J. Montanez and sophomore forward Olivia Beinlich. "They were just brilliant goals, both of them," Cheesebrough said. "They couldn't have been prettier."

Montanez, whose goal was her 21st of the season, also received an assist on Beinlich's marker. Blake applied some attacking heat early, hoping for a quick strike, but the Blazers were equal to the task. "We were able to withstand their pressure," Cheesebrough said. "Then our defense was strong when it needed to be."

Visitation's optimism in the playoffs also was buoyed by a 6-0 victory over Highland Park in the quarterfinals. The Blazers received two goals from Montanez against the Scots, which was the Blazers' ninth win in 10 games.

"We just got more and more used to playing with each other as the season moved along," Cheesebrough said. "We had a great, great season."

Visitation also received stout playoff performances from senior midfielders Kelsey Crocker and Emma Russ.

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2 BEDROOM DUPLEX, MacGroveland area, 1472 Sargent, \$1,100/mo. plus util. Spacious, sunny, fireplace, built-ins, woodwork, fabulous 2-season porch; Pottery Barn bathroom, 1-year lease/deposit. Cell: 651-353-1578.

FOR RENT RESIDENTIAL

MENDOTA HEIGHTS, rambler, 2 bdrm., 1 bath, attach. garage, finished basement, large lot on cul-de-sac by lake, new carpet, no animals/no smoke; \$950 plus util. 612-369-0672.

1491 PORTLAND. Large one bedrooms, one with balcony, dishwasher, A/C, carpet. Garages available. 12-month lease. No pets. \$705. Heat paid. 651-270-0093.

HIGHLAND DUPLEX. A townhouse in the city! Pristine SxS offers 2 floor living plus private basement and attic. HW floors, new kitchen & bath, WD, prime location. NS/NP. 20XX Palace Ave. \$950 + util. Jim, 651-690-0590.

FURNISHED 2-BR duplex, Summit Ave. Short term lease Jan.-May. New kitchen, office, gas fireplace, garage. All appliances. \$2,275 mo. + util. 651-698-3427

HIGHLAND PARK House, 5 bedroom, 2 bath, on busline and shopping center; \$1,950 + util./\$1,600 damage deposit. Small pets ok. No smoking. 651-690-1347.

49XX 39TH AVE. SO., Minneapolis. Very nice 3-BR rambler overlooking Minnehaha Lagoon. Large fenced yard, near light rail. \$1,900/mo. 612-729-0525.

TWO BEDROOM duplex with laundry, 1 bedroom, large condo. Call Claudia, 651-261-2416.

TWO BEDROOM lower, garage parking, laundry, walk-in closets, hardwood floors, \$935 + util./deposit. No pets, nonsmoking. References. 651-227-1807.

LARGE ATTIC efficiency, partially furnished, A/C, cable; 1/2 bath; 651-699-2737, Sima or Victor.

LEX-HAM DUPLEX. 2 BR, 1 BA, large first floor duplex. Quiet neighborhood with park nearby. Large sunny corner lot, fabulous woodwork. Interior painted in spectacular Pottery Barn Colors. Walking distance to unique shops and great restaurants on Grand Ave. No smoking. Small pets dependent on breed. \$995 + util. 651-225-0681.

1863 LINCOLN. Beautifully renovated 2 BR, 2 bath, 1912 bungalow with original hardwood floors, built-ins with stained glass and spacious 3 season porch. Large living room, dining room, eat-in kitchen, all new appliances. Large fenced yard. \$1,375 plus utilities. Avail. November. Call 612-703-0885 or 612-825-3999.

FOR RENT COMMERCIAL

PROF. OFFICE rental: fireplace, waiting room, hardwood floors. Call Alison, 651-647-5722.

OFFICE SPACE. Highland Village, 900 sq. ft. of first floor office space; ready to move in; 670 S. Cleveland Ave. Call 651-698-3828

LEASE. Office/Warehouse/Zone E2. Prime location. Move in condition. 651-287-3663, ask for Kathy.

BLOOMINGTON EXECUTIVE SUITES, 7800 Metro Pkwy. Prime 1 and 2+ person office space available immediately. Ideal for consultants, psychologists, attorneys, etc. Located near both airports and MOA. From \$400. Contact Judy, 952-851-9040.

ROOMMATES WANTED

SHARE LARGE house, two baths, laundry, near buses. \$330 plus util. 651-414-0545.

GARAGE/STORAGE

SECURED STORAGE space for rent in Selby area. Cars, trucks, boats, motorcycles and SUV's; \$40/month. Rental rates increase for oversized items. Call 651-227-5199.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOOYA. MENDOTA VFW. Sat., Oct. 25, noon-6 p.m. 1323 Sibley Memorial Highway.

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