

11 **Justice is served**
Todd Jones takes over reins as
state's chief federal prosecutor.



33 **The Beads go on**
Latest incarnation of St. Paul
band finds the right formula.



37 **Fish tale**
Wally Luoma reels in second
career as professional angler.



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VILLAGER

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Return of the rockets' red glare. The sky over Highland Village will be ablaze with activity, and so will the streets below, when the Highland Business Association presents its 15th annual Highland Fest August 14-16. For a preview of all the goings-on, see the special section on pp. 19-30. Photo by Mike Long.

Wider distribution of airport noise has done little to quell complaints

In Minneapolis, only the misery appears to be spreading

by Bob Gilbert

Three hundred South Minneapolis residents whose homes lie under flight paths leading to and from Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP) gathered at Roosevelt High School last week to find out why this summer has been the most disruptive in memory.

Jet noise reaching over 90 decibels has been rattling windows, silencing dinner conversations and drowning out radios and televisions, people testified. Many of them have begun to wonder whether moving out of the

neighborhood is the only way to reclaim their former quality of life.

The meeting had been called by Minneapolis City Council members Sandy Colvin Roy of Ward 12 and Kathy Thurber of Ward 9, whose offices have fielded hundreds of complaints from constituents about the recent increase in airport noise.

Those at the meeting learned that the changes in airport noise are due to repairs now taking place on the west end of the south parallel runway. That work has prevented

Airport/see page 2

Developers, preservation advocates applaud plan for Fort Snelling bluff

by Catherine Condon

Everybody who attended a public hearing last week on the reuse of Fort Snelling's 141-acre Upper Bluff seemed to find something to like in the task force's recommendations for a combination of public and private uses.

Indhira Joseph envisions new Montessori schools operating out of some of the 28 vacant buildings still standing at the former military reservation. "There's a huge demand for first- and second-shift (child care centers and schools)," said Joseph, a Montessori educator and resident of Minneapolis' Nokomis neighborhood.

Liz Whitbeck, president of Women Veterans of Minnesota, was pleased that the task force left the door open to a new women's veterans museum at the site. "The nurses have something," she said, "but the rest of the seven women's services have no representation."

Fort Snelling Military Museum president John Fannon would like to see larger accommodations made for his organization at Fort Snelling. The museum needs room for an additional 100 pieces of heavy equipment, he said.

Sharon Day, executive director of the Min-

Fort Snelling/see page 5

Liquor licensees question target of underage drinking stings

by Jane McClure

St. Paul liquor license holders and a coalition of citizens groups working to reduce underage alcohol consumption agree that alcohol sales to minors must be curtailed.

What the two parties cannot agree on is how to accomplish that goal, and because of that the St. Paul City Council is expected to table a decision August 5 on whether to accept a \$3,000 grant from Minnesota Join Together.

The non-profit group has offered the money to the city to underwrite the costs of recruiting, training and paying underage decoys to carry out compliance checks in bars

and restaurants that sell alcoholic beverages. The decoys work with the police and city licensing staff to monitor whether the establishments sell alcohol to minors.

St. Paul licensing director Robert Kessler has asked the City Council to postpone action until August 19. City staff met with representatives of both sides on July 30 to discuss enforcement alternatives.

"We're looking at ways to focus on underage drinkers, the employees who serve them and moms and dads," Kessler said. Other people who knowingly provide alcohol to minors may also be targeted, he added.

More than 50 people showed up at a July 8 City Council meeting to show their support

for or opposition to accepting the grant. The matter was laid over that day following a heated meeting in Mayor Norm Coleman's office.

The controversy came as a surprise to supporters of the grant, who include Mothers Against Drunk Driving, neighborhood crime prevention groups and public health officials. "We didn't expect to run into this kind of opposition," said Jaime Martinez of Minnesota Join Together.

"Having a liquor license is a privilege, not a right," Martinez said. "When you have a license to sell, it's a contract with the community. The license holders say, 'we want to sell a product,' but when we ask that more be done

to make sure that that product is sold legally, they say 'uh-uh.'"

City license holders who serve alcohol to a minor can now be fined from \$500 to \$2,000 for a first offense. Subsequent violations cost them increasingly longer license suspensions and finally outright revocation.

To determine the severity of a penalty, the city of St. Paul uses a matrix based on an establishment's seating capacity, past license history and any special conditions that have been placed on a license.

St. Paul bar and restaurant owners contend that using outside money to pay for compli-

Underage/see page 5

**Inside
the
Villager**

GUEST EDITORIALISTS DEBATE the merits of privately funded stings that punish businesses that serve alcohol to minors 7

CHEF DIXON ALEXANDER hangs his apron in a cafe he can proudly call his own 12

'ROUND AGAIN, A NEW MATERNITY and infant clothing exchange, celebrates the circularity of life 16

NEW GRAND HILL GALLERY pays homage to its owner's love of open-air painting 33

MINNESOTA BASEBALL VIPs of old gather to honor Calvin and muse about—who else?—McGwire, Griffey and Maris 40

FORMER HIGHLAND GOLF CLUB president recalls his 63-year-old redesign of the local city-owned course 41

Airport noise/

from page 1

larger aircraft from using the runway, thereby increasing the use of the other two runways. Some days have seen as many as 30 additional flights over South Minneapolis neighborhoods, according to Roy Fuhrman, a technical advisor for the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC).

Not all of the residents at the meeting were buying that explanation. "All the stuff they're saying doesn't tell the whole story," said Diane Ballantine, a resident of the Longfellow neighborhood. "It's been horrible this summer, but our noise has increased drastically over the past four years."

"There's a new part of the city that's now fighting airport noise," said Betty Belfiore of the Standish-Ericsson neighborhood. "The original activists were in the Lake Nokomis, Diamond Lake and Lake Harriet neighborhoods, but that's changed because airport noise has changed."

The problem did not exist in her neighborhood a few years ago, Belfiore said. "Now we get the noise of take-offs, which can be much louder (than landings). And it's getting steadily worse. Soon there's not going to be peace for anybody."

For the past 15 years, MAC has attempted to distribute airport noise more equitably around MSP. In addition, many of the newer, "Stage 3" aircraft like the Boeing 757s and Airbus are able to make tighter turns and are veering off sooner after take-off.

In a few weeks, the Federal Aviation Administration is expected to approve a new north-south runway at MSP that should further the distribution of airport noise. The new runway, which is scheduled to open in 2003, will send about 37 percent of the airport's total take-offs and 17 percent of its landings over Bloomington to the south, according to MAC.

The new runway is expected to bring some relief to the South Minneapolis neighborhoods lying at the west end of the south parallel runway. However, most of the air traffic will likely be diverted from the Mendota Heights end of the parallel runways, according to MAC. And any relief for South Minneapolis is likely to be offset by the overall growth in airport traffic, which has been forecast by MAC at over 2 percent per year.

Since 1993, airlines using MSP have agreed to limit take-offs and landings between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., according to Bob Johnson, chairman of the Metropolitan Aircraft Sound Abatement Council (MASAC). Recently, that period was extended to 10:30 p.m. If flights are necessary during those hours, most of the airlines have agreed to fly only the quieter, stage 3 aircraft.

This summer's repair work on the south parallel runway has made it necessary for airlines to increase the number of flights taking off between 10:30 and 11:30 p.m., MAC officials said at a recent MASAC meeting.

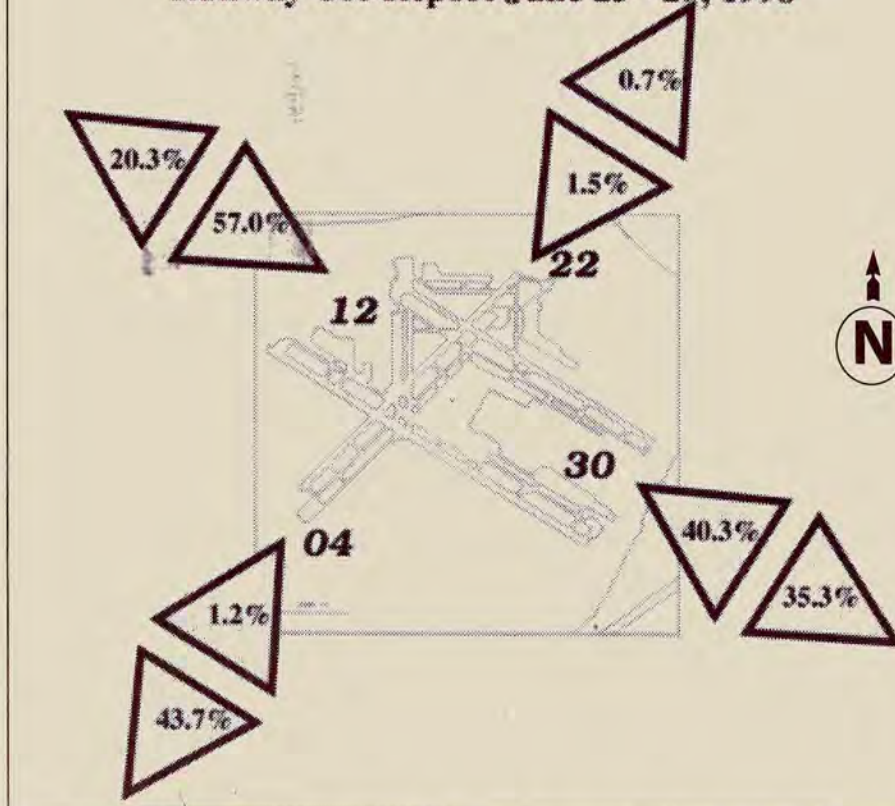
However, Johnson pointed out, the nighttime curfew is a voluntary curfew and carries no sanctions for violations. In fact, South Minneapolis residents have very little power to influence airport operations, according to MAC commissioner Steve Cramer.

A former Minneapolis City Council member, Cramer said that the airlines' rights to do business are protected by the laws of interstate commerce and those rights supersede the rights of South Minneapolis residents to a peaceful neighborhood.

Local governmental bodies like the City Council and MAC have no power to change that, Cramer said, and any agreements made by the airline industry to reduce noise or curtail operations are strictly voluntary.

"We can make improvements on the mar-

All Operations Runway Use Report June 23 - 29, 1998



The diagram above shows the distribution of air traffic around Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, by percentage, during one week last June. The airport had a total of 4,132 take-offs (indicated by the triangles pointing away from the runways) and 4,266 landings (the triangles pointed toward the runways) that week. South Minneapolis is located to the upper left, St. Paul to the upper right, Mendota Heights and Eagan to the lower right and Richfield and Bloomington to the lower left.

gins, but that's the best we can do," said Cramer, whose South Minneapolis home lies beneath a flight path. "It's going to stay noisy and that's the truth."

According to MAC, the repairs to the runway should be completed by August 15, offering some relief from the noise. However, the

higher noise levels are expected to return next summer when the east end of the south parallel runway is scheduled for repair.

Those who are interested in information about airport noise may visit MAC on the Internet at www.macavsat.org.

New St. Paul committee to query candidates on airport-noise issues

by Jane McClure

Residents of the Macalester-Groveland and Highland Park neighborhoods of St. Paul gathered on July 23 to swap stories about interrupted sleep, airplane headlights shining in windows, and Sunday church sermons stopped in mid-sentence.

The first meeting of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council's MSP International Airport Noise Committee on July 23

drew about 40 people to the Edgumbe Recreation Center. Those who were present also discussed the need to learn where Minnesota's gubernatorial candidates stand on airport issues.

Committee members said they would have liked to host a gubernatorial debate before the September 15 primary election, but with so little time remaining they decided to prepare a questionnaire instead. The candidate's answers will be made public before the pri-

mary, said committee chair John Halla.

The committee still hopes to host a gubernatorial debate before the November 3 general election. Questioning the candidates on airport issues is important because of the governor's influence on the makeup of the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC), Halla said. MAC oversees MSP and other smaller, regional airports.

In 1996, Governor Arne Carlson and the Minnesota Legislature cut short a six-year

study of the feasibility of building a new airport in southern Dakota County. Since that decision was made, the number of flights in and out of MSP has risen significantly, and runway extensions and other airport-related construction have had an increasing impact on surrounding neighborhoods.

The committee's next meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, August 27, at the Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St. The public is invited.

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Jim Burton 690-8440 \$219,900



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Jim Burton 690-8440 \$249,500



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Mary Hardy 225-3903 \$395,000



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Brad Palecek 225-3923 \$119,950



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Brad Palecek 225-3923 \$107,950



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567 Brimhall: Beautifully maintained 3-BR, 2-bath home totally redone. Spacious upstairs master BR with private bath, fenced yard, garage!
Mary Gallivan 225-3921 \$159,000



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1962 Princeton: Ideal for a young family! 3-BR, 2-story home boasts eat-in kitchen, hardwood floor under carpet, beautiful perennial garden and delightful playhouse!
Mary Gallivan 225-3921 \$205,000



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188 View Road: Fabulous newer home on a wonderful lot in Mahomet. Maple floors and woodwork, fabulous kitchen with granite, 4 BRs, 4 baths. Very spacious!
Mary Gallivan 225-3921 \$585,000



Spectacular Stucco.
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Mary Gallivan 225-3921 \$315,000



Como Classic.
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May Cederberg 690-8407 \$162,500



New On Market!
1235 Jefferson: Darling 2-BR home with hardwood floors, very appealing 90's decor, and redone ceramic bath. New roof, new kitchen floor, lower level second bathroom.
Mary Ann Adrian 225-3966 \$99,900



Hurry To See!
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Mary Ann Adrian 225-3966 \$105,000



Lots Of Space!
2399 Youngman: 3 BRs on one level and a fireplace in the lower level family room. Good eat-in space in the kitchen. Much of interior freshly painted.
Mary Ann Adrian 225-3966 \$109,900



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Mary Ann Buelow 690-8418 \$150,000



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Council upholds appeal of storm citation

by Jane McClure

Tarps on roofs, damaged siding, buckled sidewalks continue to serve as reminders of the May 30 storm that swept through Highland Park. Pinehurst Avenue residents Randi Madisen and Jeremy White have a couple of reminders of their own: a slab where their garage once stood and a property abatement order from the city demanding that their demolished garage be removed.

The couple will get another souvenir from the storm soon: a \$25 refund of their fee to appeal the property code enforcement order. The St. Paul City Council upheld the Madisen-White appeal of the city order on July 22 and refunded the fee.

Madisen and White moved from Brimhall Street to Pinehurst Avenue with their two young children just two days before the storm hit. "We bought the house on the 22nd of May and moved in on the 28th," Madisen said. "Of course, our old neighborhood wasn't even touched by the storm."

"There we were with two little kids, nothing unpacked, our garage blown down and electrical lines down in the backyard," she said. "We wanted to do the cleanup, but we couldn't find any of the stuff to do it with."

The city order to remove the garage was issued on June 3, but was sent to the previous property owner. Madisen said her family did not know about the order until they received a phone call from city staff the following week. By that time, Sussel Corporation had already been contracted to remove the garage and build a new one.

"It defies common sense to me that our inspectors should be out in an area that has just been devastated by a storm."

However, the city demanded that the couple remove the damaged garage by June 15, which prompted them to appeal the order to the City Council. Meanwhile, the couple cleaned up debris and secured the structure, which was on its side, as best they could. The garage was removed by the contractor later during the week of June 15.

Council members Mike Harris and Chris Coleman were irked at the notion that the city would cite property owners who were trying to clean up after the storm. Harris asked city staff to ensure that property owners who suffer from

storm damage are not penalized in the future. Gerry Strathman, the city's legislative hearing officer, and Charles Votel, head of the property code enforcement program, said they would look at changes in how inspectors issue abatement orders.

After the May and June storms, Votel said he instructed city inspectors to look for hazardous situations. "Ultimately, it's our job to protect the public's health and safety," he said. "We're sensitive to the problems that occur after a storm, but we have to balance that with the need to do our job."

The city issues abatement orders after complaints are received about the condition of a property. Notices are then mailed or left at the property. If a property owner does not take care of the problem in a specified time, the city does the work and bills the owner.

Harris still questioned why the city was so quick to cite. "It defies common sense to me that our inspectors should be out in an area that has just been devastated by a storm," he said.

"No wonder people start hating the government," Coleman said.

"We were pretty upset, but we've been happy with how everything turned out," Madisen said. "I think the city did try to respond to our concerns once they knew what the situation was."

Bill Muska, Grand Avenue businessman, innovator and leader, lived a life of creativity and courage



William Muska, World War II veteran, died Saturday, July 4, in Mendota Heights of heart failure at the age of 76. He maintained a sense of loyalty to the family businesses over the years. At one time, he owned Muska Electric Co. in Roseville and Muska Lighting Co. on Grand Avenue in St. Paul.

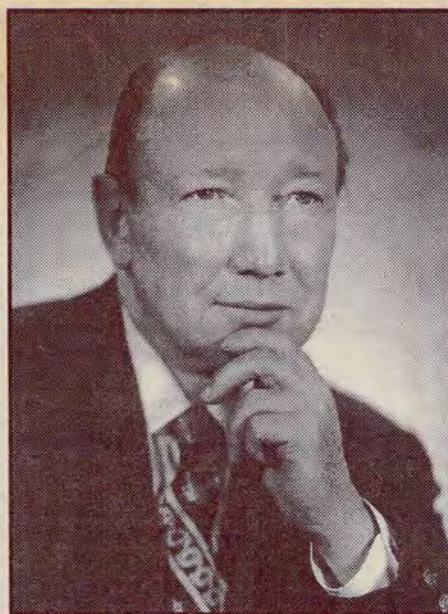
Bill was born on August 18, 1921 at 545 Marshall Ave., and started kindergarten at Webster School, where he first came in contact with English, as his parents Elsa and Tony spoke Czech at home. Shortly after that the family moved to a farm near Hastings where Bill learned things like how to steer a plow behind a horse. His father was partially blinded at a young age, so Bill took over most of the farm chores. In 1929 he moved back to St. Paul to live with Aunt Emily and Uncle Bill to continue school. In 1932 he returned to the farm, and his father, now mostly recovered from his illness, was able to drive Bill to Mechanic Arts High School where he graduated in 1939.

Young Bill wanted very much to attend the University of Minnesota, but was told the family had no money. His mother encouraged Bill to figure something out, and he did — starting a gas station on the farm. To build business, he promoted boxing matches on the property with many bouts featuring himself. His coach, Uncle Frank, who earlier had sparred with the famous Gene Tunney, trained him. Profits were made from concession sales during the bouts. If young Billy won, the losers promised to bring their business to Muska's.

He was now able to attend the U of M in the Engineering School, and in his second year he went undefeated and won the amateur boxing title at the "U." Soon he was promoted to Cadet Captain in ROTC, and in 1943 won the Welterweight All-Service Boxing Crown. He graduated with a degree in electrical engineering in three years, and then attended General Elec-

tric Radar School at Iowa State while staying at a local YMCA. As commanding officer of the 246th Signal Radar Maint. Unit, it was off to war in Sansapor, New Guinea, where his expertise in radar and all-night work stopped Japanese air raids. In Manila, Bill saw the horrors of war to equal any in today's WWII movie *Saving Private Ryan*. He later trained and commanded 3,000 Philippine troops in peacetime. Captain Muska was released from active duty in August of 1946, and returned to Minnesota to loan his father \$500 to start an electrical firm, where Bill worked and often gave safety seminars for inspectors and engineers.

One day Tony was doing a home repair in a house in St. Paul, when he and the lady of the house talked about their children. Her daughter, Martha, was then encouraged to take in a faulty toaster to young Bill at the shop on Grand Avenue. Sparks flew. Shy Martha, a Macalester College graduate, taught school in Delavan, Minnesota, and Bill visited her there. In 1949 they were married and son Donald was born on Oct. 6, 1950. He followed his father in the electrical business, and in 1971, joined the Navy serving his country faithfully. Daughter Carolyn was born Aug. 26, 1952 and graduated *summa cum laude* from Ohio University with a degree in photo-journalism, but later also followed her father in the electrical business, and in 1976 became the first woman to graduate from Dunwoody Institute in electronics — second highest in her class.



Martha became a homemaker, and after the kids were in school, she taught part-time in St. Paul schools.

In 1960, Bill was appointed to the Board of Directors of NECA, the National Electrical Contractors Association, and received a national award on the recommendation of then president, John F. Kennedy.

In later 1964, Bill, along with two others, Earl McHattie and Jim Shacker, filed a patent for self-grounding receptacles, safety devices in electrical outlets which are still being used today worldwide. In 1965 Bill took over Muska Electric.

In December of 1966 Bill was appointed to the Board of Directors of Liberty State Bank where he served for 22 years. Tim Macke, President of the bank said, "Bill was not only one of the smartest and most successful men I've ever known, but was also one of the nicest." David Fesler, Liberty's former owner and chairman, said, "Bill's business knowledge saved our bank lots of money over the years and his impeccable reputation was second to none."

In 1974 the NECA honored him with the Coggshall Award, one of his profession's highest honors. He was also elected a fellow in the Academy of Electrical Contracting, an elite industry group. In 1975 father Tony died and Bill, in need of more space, moved Muska Electric to 1985 Oakcrest in Roseville, but kept Muska Lighting at its current 700 Grand Avenue address. "Bill was very quiet and never boasted. He had worked with large corporations and was an expert on electrical codes," said Martha, his wife of 48 years.

She said her husband had an interest in promoting Grand Avenue, and in June of 1991 he served as grand marshal for the Grand Old Day Parade. Earlier he and Grand Avenue's Dr. Chopp, among others, initiated the first policemen to a walking beat of that unique street.

Though he retired from Muska Electric in 1986, he still maintained his ownership in Muska Lighting until January of 1998 when he sold the company to his employees as he had done with Muska Electric in 1986. Martha said her husband believed in giving back to his workers.

Muska Electric president Mahlon (Chris) Christensen said what he'll remember most about his former boss are "his honesty and devotion to customers and employees."

In 1987 Bill and Martha moved to Naples, Fla., and the Windstar Community where they enjoyed golf and meeting many special friends. Their summer residence was in Mendota Heights, and they enjoyed golf and fellowship at the Town and Country Club in St. Paul.

Besides Martha, Donald and Carolyn, he is survived by a sister, Elsa Bennett of West St. Paul, and her husband (and Bill's former business partner) Richard, and two nieces and a nephew.

"Bill loved everybody dearly and was very modest and unassuming," added Martha.

Tim Macke of Liberty State Bank summed it up when he said the people on Grand Avenue and all of St. Paul will miss him deeply. "A quiet man, his accomplishments were very loud and will speak for themselves for many years. His life shows what anyone can do, having little, but having a great desire to succeed and serve," added Macke.

Presented in loving tribute by his fellow board members and all of his friends at Liberty State Bank.

Fort Snelling's Upper Bluff /from page 1

nesota American Indian AIDS Task Force, suggested returning a portion of the site to the Ojibwe and Dakota tribes of Minnesota. For centuries before Fort Snelling was built, "this was an important place for us," said Day, whose group is interested in opening an American Indian charter school on the site.

Schools, museums, a conference center and bed-and-breakfast inns are among the new uses recommended by the task force. The mix of public and private uses holds the most promise for restoring the former barracks, officers quarters and administrative buildings and thus maintaining the historical character of Fort Snelling, task force members agreed.

The task force also recommended minor improvements, but no expansion, of the Upper Bluff's nine-hole golf course and softball and soccer fields. A new golf clubhouse and pro shop, weekly rental housing, hotels and other overnight accommodations, offices, a picnic shelter, food concessions, bakery, and technology, arts and job training centers are other potential new uses recommended in the task force's 100-page report.

The eight-member task force was appointed last year by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). As part of its study, the task force interviewed 50 people with past, present or potential interests in the Upper Bluff, which is bordered by Bloomington Road, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and Highways 5 and 55.

The Upper Bluff was made a part of Fort Snelling State Park 30 years ago. A federal deed restriction requires that it be used for

recreation only, but the DNR is confident that can be changed, according to Bill Weir, DNR regional park manager.

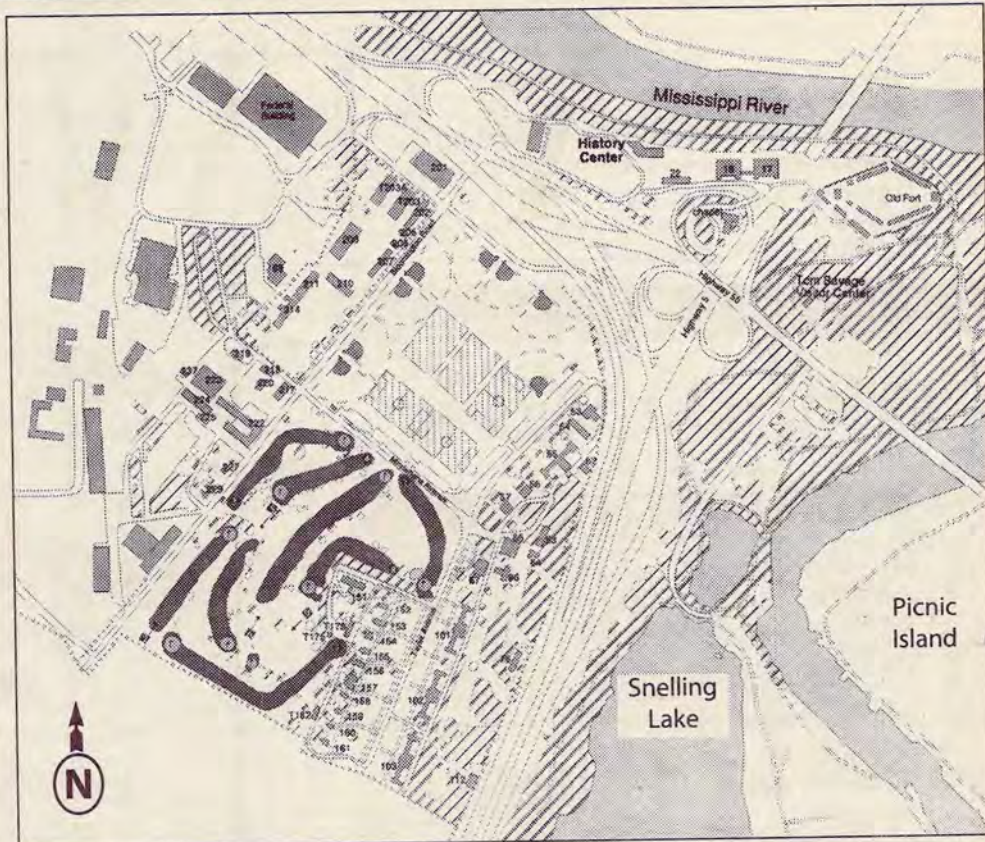
The final draft of the task force report should be ready by the first week of October, Weir said. According to him, the recommendations will probably be adopted quickly by the DNR. The agency has already requested \$400,000 from the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources. If approved, the money would be used to repair utilities and mothball buildings at Fort Snelling and to hire a team to oversee the reuse of the Upper Bluff, Weir said.

"We're anticipating that a partnership between various agencies and private interests will bring about the full realization of the reuse of the property," said Thomas Zahn, a historic preservation consultant and the task force's principal investigator. "We're not putting it entirely on the shoulders of the DNR or

the Minnesota Historical Society."

Bloomington resident Curt Walker, former manager of the Fort Snelling Golf Course, applauded the task force's recommendations. Several years ago Walker unsuccessfully sought to redevelop the golf course as a private entrepreneur. "I suspect that somewhere in these (recommendations) is the seed of success for the development of this property," he said. If the deed restriction is indeed lifted to allow other uses, "you'll find that more investors will consider lending money for a project," he said. "You have an infinitely attractive site for developments from all over the world."

To Whitbeck and Fannon, Weir suggested submitting a proposal outlining specific



A redevelopment plan for Fort Snelling's now largely vacant Upper Bluff (above left) has been applauded by prospective developers and historic preservation advocates alike.

needs and potential funding sources, like Joseph has already done for her Montessori schools. "I think that idea, along with so many others, are doable," Weir said. (But) museums are hard to finance. There aren't the dollars to renovate the buildings. Maybe that's (a target) for some kind of public-private partnership. Maybe the Legislature would be interested in funding such a thing."

Several people encouraged the state to purchase the 35 acres of federal surplus land west and south of Bloomington Road and to develop them along with the rest of the Upper Bluff. Jeff Olson, president of the Fort Snelling State Park Association, commended the task

force for working to preserve the historical character of Fort Snelling, considering that two-thirds of Minnesota's school children live within 30 miles of the fort.

"Your recommendation is not, 'Let's just torch it, and see how many 7-11s we can get in here,'" Olson said. "(That) and the car rental agencies from the airport and the postal processing center are the things that we've been fighting."

"Be aware that the recommendations are merely ideas presented to us as possibilities," Weir said. "Nobody is knocking on our door with dollars and plans to do this. It's going to take a couple years to put this together."

Underage-drinking stings are a sore point for liquor license holders /from page 1

ance checks—or "stings" as they call them—is not only unfair to liquor license holders, but sets a dangerous precedent. "Where do you stop once that door has been opened?" asked Pat Fleury, owner of Mr. Patom's Saloon on West 7th Street and chairman of the St. Paul Hospitality Association. "We're hearing a lot of concern about this from our members."

"With the grant, you have outside money coming in to influence how the city does business," Fleury said. "Anything is possible once that precedent has been set."

According to Fleury and John Berglund, executive director of the Minnesota Licensed Beverage Association (MLBA), bar and restaurant owners are not opposed to all compliance checks. "We understand that that goes with the territory of having a liquor license," Fleury said.

"We don't oppose stings if they're done for informational purposes and if there aren't any penalties for violations," Berglund said. "License holders need to know how well they're doing (in preventing underage sales)."

Berglund and Fleury said they are now

checking into the legality of the city accepting such a grant. "Can the city legally accept outside money for the purpose of penalizing individuals?" Berglund said. "If it's good public policy to do more compliance checks, shouldn't public money be used for it, not private money?"

St. Paul has accepted state grants for the past four or five years to carry out compliance checks on businesses that sell tobacco products. The \$3,000 grant from Minnesota Join Together would be the first the city has received for liquor license compliance. The money is part of an \$800,000 grant that was given to the group by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, a national organization that focuses on health issues.

Berglund said the MLBA does not support liquor license holders that knowingly violate the law. "But there's no other business where the owner is penalized if an employee makes a mistake," he said.

Minnesota Join Together disagrees with that argument. Martinez noted that liquor license holders are the only businesses in St.

Paul that have an agreement with the city to police themselves.

The MLBA has been working with the city for the past two years to train bar and restaurant servers. Part of the training involves the MLBA sending in underage decoys to purchase alcohol. If the bartender or server does not ask for proof of legal age, the establishment is notified and tested again, but no sanctions are imposed.

Sixty percent of the city's 187 on-sale license holders took the training last year. Twenty-five percent of them failed to ask for identification when MLBA decoys were subsequently sent in. "You have to question how effective that program is if 25 percent of the license holders aren't asking for identification," Martinez said. Statewide the failure rate is 50 percent, according to the MLBA's figures.

Berglund and Fleury question why the city does not do more to penalize underage people who try to illegally buy and consume alcohol. "These are the people we're at war with," Fleury said. "They keep trying to come

into our businesses and obtain alcohol."

"The laws are absolutely inadequate and even they aren't being enforced," he said. "We've been trying to get more attention on this issue, but it's been really difficult. The tide of underage drinking would be stemmed if the kids had to pay the same fines that the businesses do."

Martinez agreed that minors should be penalized for a violation, but he questioned whether that complaint is intended only to divert attention from the license holders responsibilities. "We hear complaints about underage patrons, but we don't see many of the bar owners doing anything themselves to solve the problem," Martinez said. "Do they follow up and call the police after they catch someone using a false ID? Do they follow the person out the door and get a license plate number?"

"They say the police don't care," Martinez said. "But if that's the case, license holders and communities need to let the police and City Council know that they want to see the law enforced."

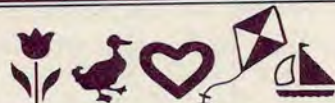
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VIEWPOINT

MISCH-MASCH

MICHAEL MISCHKE

With a little help from their Friends

It's getting so that nearly every publicly owned facility needs Friends to look out for it these days. Not that Friends are a bad thing; no indeed, Friends are a good thing. It just makes you wonder where our budgetary priorities are when so many private citizens find it necessary to rally to protect the public's interest in preserving those facilities that belong to us all.

The name of one of the local "Friends" is a bit of a mouthful: the Friends of the Parks and Trails of St. Paul and Ramsey County. Based in Highland Park at the home of longtime executive director and secretary Peggy Lynch, these Friends exist to protect and enhance those undeveloped tracts of open space that so many of us say we value, but that so many of us take for granted. In a fully developed urban area like Ramsey County, the pressure to develop what little open space remains is constant and intense. The Friends exist in part to resist that pressure.

Earlier this summer, the Friends fired off a letter to St. Paul Mayor Norm Coleman requesting that the city establish a moratorium on the leasing of any park land or recreation center until a coherent leasing policy can be developed, debated by the public, and approved by the City Council. The city has been operating with no such policy up to now.

To his credit, the mayor thought it a fine idea.

The Friends' concern comes on the heels of several contracts that the city has entered into with private parties to operate public facilities. Among the contracts are those with the Boys and Girls Club of St. Paul to operate recreation centers on the East Side and West Side, and with Inside Sports to operate a domed sports facility on the North End. That last agreement has since been canceled by the city because of Inside Sports' failure to make payments, leaving the city holding one very expensive bag.

Assuming that Circus of the Star is able to raise sufficient funds to build a proposed training and performance facility of its own (the youth circus now rents space in the gym at the Hillcrest Recreation Center), another such public/private contract is being contemplated for open space near the Highland Park pavilion and swimming pool.

What specifically concerns the Friends is the following:

- **The "no net loss of park land" provision in the City Charter.** Doesn't the long-term lease of park land and buildings to private groups in effect constitute selling the property and thereby violate the charter amendment that was passed in 1991? If it doesn't, doesn't the amendment need amending?

- **The purpose of leasing public facilities to private entities.** Is it because the city can't afford to operate them? If so, why not? Or is it because the city needs to raise money for its coffers? If so, exactly where is that money going?

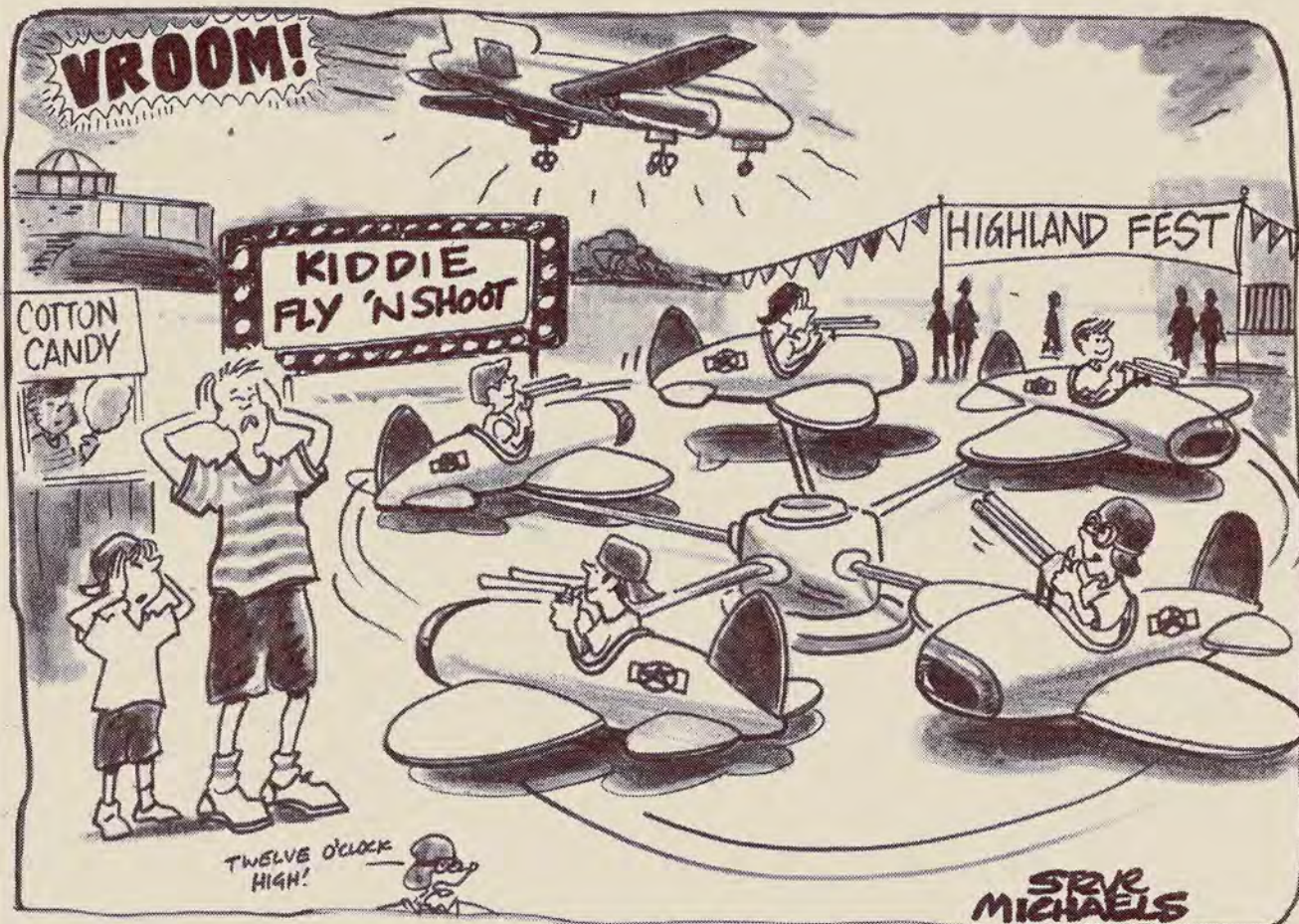
- **The criteria used to determine who is eligible to lease park property.** Is any individual or organization eligible, both for-profit and non-profit? Can membership dues be required to use publicly owned property? Should lessees be required to indemnify the city? Should bids be solicited when the city deems it advantageous to lease park property?

All of these are questions that need answers before another square foot of public property ends up in private hands.

Something for everyone

The Highland Art Fair was only 6 years old and Highland Fest still 11 years hence when your friendly neighborhood newspaper publisher was hired by his dad as editor of the *Villager*. It's hard to believe that this year marks Highland's 31st art fair and 14th full-scale festival. (If you're scoring at home, that makes it my 25th year here. My dad, may he rest in peace, has been gone seven years this month.)

In an era when every small town and every neighborhood in every big town seems to have an annual celebration, Highland Fest and the art fair around which it grew up has always succeeded in reflecting the makeup of the people who call Highland home: young, old and in between; aficionados of country, Dixieland and '60s rock 'n' roll; baseball players, runners and disc golfers. There's something for everyone on August 14-16 in Highland Village. Hope to see you there.



U.S. drug problem is rooted in prohibition

Dear editor,

I was delighted to see *Villager* publisher Michael Mischke taking on the ideology of the drug war in his "Misch-Masch" column of July 22. The results of this disastrous public policy are even worse than the shootouts and fire bombings in St. Paul, terrible as they are.

As a direct result of our prohibition of drugs, we now have more of our citizens in prison than any other country in the Western world. California and Texas spend more on prisons than on education. Property is being seized without due process. Our inner cities have become battlegrounds where the sellers of drugs kill each other over street-corner selling space.

It is the prohibition of drugs that causes the crime and violence, not the drugs themselves. This is a point too subtle for politicians to promote in their need for votes, so we continue with a Vietnam-style policy that is draining our treasury of billions of dollars because no politician has the nerve to say "stop."

Billie Young

Summit Hill

A liberal in conservative garb

To the editor:

It takes an amazing disregard for the truth and a great deal of hypocrisy for state Senator Deanna Wiener (DFL-District 38) to pose as a tax-cutter and controller of spending as she did during the announcement of her candidacy for lieutenant governor. She even had the gall in her press conference to advocate the repeal of the half-cent sales tax passed in 1991. When its repeal was proposed during the last session of the Senate, she voted against it.

Here are some other proposed tax cuts she voted against during the last session: a reduction in income tax rates to provide about \$1 billion in tax relief, a personal and dependent income tax exemption of \$500, elimination of the marriage penalty, expansion of tax credits for stay-at-home parents and an automatic refund of state surpluses.

She voted for the omnibus tax bill, which returned only a small fraction of the state surplus to taxpayers while spending an additional \$450 million from a future budget surplus. She voted for the bonding bill, which was laden with wasteful pork-barrel spending. She voted for the "emergency" special session spending bill, which spent millions of dollars on special-interest projects.

Her votes during the last session earned her a rating of 10 out of a possible 100 from the Taxpayers League of

VILLAGE POST

Minnesota. In 1997, she earned a score of 8 out of a possible 100 from Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility.

Neal Black
Eagan

We need fewer guns, not more

To the editor:

Many candidates for political office are calling for the right of citizens to carry concealed weapons. Some proponents of these laws claim that the Constitution guarantees us that right. That is untrue. The Second Amendment states: "A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

State militias are bodies of citizens organized by the government for military service—not lone individuals with guns. The U.S. Supreme Court has established the principle that the Constitution does not unequivocally grant each citizen the right to bear arms.

We need fewer guns on the street, not more.

Lorraine Hertz
Highland Park

An education in education

To the editor:

In May I had the pleasure of spending a day at Highland Park Junior High School as a substitute teacher. My assignment: teach a health class. The topic: human sexuality.

Although I am the mother of three girls and well-acquainted with the typical squeamishness teen-agers display when they hear the word "sex," it is one thing to talk about human sexuality privately with your own children and quite another to discuss the topic with a group of kids you have just met. So it was with some uneasiness that I entered the classroom on that morning.

I arrived early to examine the regular teacher's instructions and learned that the day's topic was dating. I breathed a sigh of relief and rolled up my sleeves, ready to lead, listen and learn from the class. But before we started our day's lesson, I asked the students to tell me about their school, what they

Writers differ on St. Paul's use of stings to stop liquor sales to minors

Pro: Stings, stiffer penalties needed to keep alcohol out of teen-agers' hands

by Jeff Nachbar

The Minnesota Join Together Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking is a statewide coalition of individuals and organizations committed to reducing underage drinking and the tragedies it causes. Alcohol use is associated with the leading causes of death and injury among young people. It is linked to juvenile crime and violent behavior and is a tremendous financial burden to law enforcement, social services and the juvenile justice system. Through grassroots efforts, Minnesota Join Together hopes to change public policies to make it more difficult for youths to gain access to alcohol. As part of our effort, we offer small grants to support communities in their efforts to keep alcohol out of the hands of youths.

Our awarding of a \$3,000 grant to the city of St. Paul's licensing department to help conduct compliance checks has created quite a stir recently. Members of the Minnesota Licensed Beverage Association (MLBA) and the St. Paul Hospitality Association have been attempting to derail the city's acceptance of the funds. This issue has generated a lot of media attention and provides an insight into the battles ahead on reducing illegal alcohol sales to underage youths.

Let me clear up a couple of misconceptions the alcohol industry would like you to believe about us. First, we are not "prohibitionists." We have no problem with adults over the age of 21 making their own decisions about their use of alcohol. Our focus is on keeping alcohol out of the hands of those under the legal drinking age. Secondly, we are not trying to "put retailers out of business." We are simply asking them to comply with the law.

Reducing illegal commercial alcohol sales is just one of our priorities. We also need to stop adults from "socially" providing alcohol to teens. We have identified changes to state law that would impose stiffer civil and criminal penalties on these adults. Space does not permit me to go into detail on these issues, which are all too familiar to residents of St. Paul.

Minnesota Join Together has awarded 22 grants to 20 communities in the last two

years. Approximately half of the grants have gone to community organizations and law enforcement agencies to help conduct compliance checks. Compliance checks, University of Minnesota research and other community-based checks have found the failure rate to be consistently around 50 percent. In St. Paul, where the alcohol industry has a contract to police itself, the data show a 25 percent failure rate. The fact is, compliance rates need to be improved dramatically to keep illegally purchased alcohol out of the hands of our youths. Compliance checks combined with reasonable penalties have been shown to improve compliance rates in communities across Minnesota.

Retail associations and the alcohol industry do not want local authorities to conduct compliance checks. Nor do they want any significant penalties if compliance checks are conducted. This is not surprising considering their dismal compliance rate and the fact that continued failure could lead to fines and ultimately to loss of their liquor license.

The alcohol industry has fought our efforts at passing a state policy that would require the conducting of regular compliance checks on all liquor license holders and has so far been successful at keeping mandatory compliance checks out of state law. That leaves local authorities to decide for themselves whether to conduct compliance checks.

In St. Paul, the alcohol industry is using an interesting argument. It claims it is looking out for citizens by challenging the city to not accept "special-interest" money. Even if improving the health of our communities by keeping alcohol out of the hands of youths is a special interest, it is ironic that the alcohol industry is positioning itself as the vanguard of the public interest when it comes to issues of special-interest money and politics. Common Cause released a report on alcohol money and politics in April. The report documented that the alcohol industry and related interests have given more than \$26 million to federal candidates and political parties since 1987.

The St. Paul City Council is expected to vote on this issue August 5. Meanwhile, the mayor's office, city licensing and police staff are working with advocates and the alcohol industry to work out a compromise. A comprehensive approach could do wonders to reduce underage drinking in St. Paul. The community must rise up and say, "We will not tolerate adults that give or sell alcohol to youths in our community!"

Jeff Nachbar is the project director of the Minnesota Join Together Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking.

Con: Stings smack of entrapment while failing to reduce underage drinking.

by John Berglund

The St. Paul Hospitality Association (SPHA) opposes blanket stings on the licensed sellers of alcohol because stings are misdirected and do not reduce underage drinking.

Consider the following:

1. The licensed sellers of alcohol wish never to sell to an underage person.
2. The SPHA, through its parent organization, has provided participating on-sale licensees (115 of them in 1997) with server training, inspections and informational stings. This program, which has been done in cooperation with the city of St. Paul, has seen the sell rate on stings decline 38 percent and has never prevented the city of St. Paul from conducting its own complaint-based stings.
3. The SPHA supports the reduction of illegal underage access to alcohol. It has never opposed stings that are complaint-driven and believes any real solution must be aimed at the underage person, whether it be by prevention or enforcement.
4. Eighty to 90 percent of underage people obtain alcohol from a friend of legal age, at home or at a home-style party. And many of these people, including those who are used by the city in a sting, are adults 18 to 20 years of age.
5. Police stings that blanket the entire alcohol-licensed community are at best creating a problem where none may have existed and it pits the city against businesses. At worst, it is illegal entrapment, which in criminal courts is decided case by case. It is not, as proponents would suggest, like a radar gun for speeders or a restaurant health inspection. A sting on liquor licensees tries to lure a person who is not intending to break the law into a violation.
6. Proponents claim that stings work in reducing the number of sales to underage drinkers. However, there is no credible evidence that stings have had any effect on reducing underage consumption. Consider what college student leaders have told the state Legislature:

- "If we never purchase alcohol from a bar or liquor store, it would in no way deter us from obtaining alcohol."
- "Fake IDs are easy to obtain; we know

of three sources to get good-looking fake IDs."

- "Most of the time we get alcohol from friends of legal age."
- "If we get caught with alcohol, there is no penalty or, if there is, it's usually \$50, which is pocket change for a weekend."
- "If we get caught with alcohol, our parents are not concerned."

Alcohol, unlike tobacco or illegal drugs, is legal to consume at any age if at home and a parent or guardian is present. The legal drinking age in Canada, Mexico and the Virgin Islands is 18. In Europe there often is no legal drinking age. Liquor sting proponents focus on the seller as opposed to the underage consumer and focus on mere consumption of an otherwise legal product rather than abuse and misuse.

In most crimes, there are victims and perpetrators. In the crime of underage drinking, the perpetrator of the crime is the underage person.

Liquor operators have extensively trained their staffs and talk to them constantly about the importance of checking IDs. The operators know the dram shop consequences for serving an underage person.

But then the unthinkable happens: Someone beats the system, figures out a way to get in and gets served a glass of beer. The underage person has just been successful in committing a crime. However, the instant that the crime is committed, the perpetrator has created another lawbreaker—the owner of the establishment that served them the beer. No matter how unwittingly, the liquor seller is guilty of a crime that may cost him or her plenty.

Now who is the victim? An uninvited person sneaks into your premises, commits a crime and you—the person the crime is committed against—are arrested. You be the judge: Who's the victim, who's the perpetrator, who should have the more severe penalty of the two lawbreakers?

At the present time, this is justice in the city of St. Paul: The underage person is treated as a minor problem, his crime as a college prank. As they say, kids will be kids; they all try alcohol now and then. The liquor operator is treated as a common criminal who should not be allowed to continue in business.

To penalize so heavily a licensed seller of alcoholic beverages in blanket citywide stings when very little or nothing is done to the underage perpetrator does not make sense and does nothing to solve the real problem.

Editor's note: John Berglund is the executive director of the Minnesota Licensed Beverage Association.

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Village Post

/from page 6

liked and what the challenges were. What an earful I got!

I'd like to thank the students for their insights and frank discussions. Without a doubt, working as a substitute teacher has taught me more about our schools' needs than I will ever learn in a committee hearing or a legislative report. It has renewed my faith in our kids and our teachers. They are to be congratulated for a job well done.

Sandra Pappas, State Senator
District 65

Kudos to HGRA

To the editor:

As the summer sports season draws to a close, we would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to all of those who make the Highland Groveland Recreation Association soccer and ball programs possible each and every season. Thank you to the coordinators whose endless hours of planning and organizing begin the process. Thank you to the volunteers who make phone calls, type lists, sort shirts and take care of loose ends. Thank you to all of the coaches who dedicate their time, patience, words of encouragement and overall spirit to our children. Thank you to the parents who cheer the children on. And last but not least, thank you to the children who provide the energy and enthusiasm necessary to form a great team.

Mary Beth, Tom, Tom Jr. and Sam Dooher
Highland Park

A global view of Ayd Mill Road

Dear editor,

Traffic and congestion. Noise pollution. Urban sprawl. Global warming. The occasional oil tanker that runs aground. We know the solutions. We must decrease our dependence on the automobile and fossil fuels. We must make land-use decisions that promote pedestrian and bicycle trips. We must start building a mass-transit system now that will accommodate our needs.

Do we have the will? The city of St. Paul must decide whether to continue to build upon the system that got us into this predicament or start in a new direction. Will Ayd Mill Road be incorporated into the interstate system? Be glad the

decision rests with the City Council. Be glad you can act locally to have a global impact.

Mike Madden
Merriam Park

Thanks to Cohen, Entenza

Dear editor:

I want to commend District 64 State Senator Dick Cohen, a member of the state Legislature's powerful bonding conference committee, and District 64A State Representative Matt Entenza, a member of the House K-12 education committee, for their efforts in the area of education during this past legislative session. Both legislators worked diligently in support of Achievement Plus, a St. Paul school program that integrates academic, family, health, social and recreational services for children and families during the school day, evenings, weekends and school vacations. Thanks to their efforts, a great many more children will receive the resources they need to succeed today and tomorrow.

Thomas Kingston, President
Amherst H. Wilder Foundation

Conservative, yes; chauvinist, no

To the editor:

When I heard that one of the self-proclaimed women's rights groups whined about the recent all-male Promise Keepers rally, I couldn't believe my ears. Why on earth would anyone attack a decent, gentle, trustworthy, pro-family group that merely encourages positive family values? Could it be that the all-woman opposing group feels insecure and is jealous that a male conservative organization is respected and successful?

These women need to know that, with few exceptions, the 1960s stereotype of the male chauvinist pig was created out of left-wing paranoia and overactive imaginations. There still remain women on the left afraid who embrace the chauvinist belief and seem to fear any conservative male. However, the vast majority of Americans have come to see that the anti-male climate of the '60s was greatly exaggerated. They have learned that abortion rights was and is a terrible mistake costing millions of lives and wounding millions of women.

There seems to be much anger and confusion surrounding

women's rights. It's fine to expect equal pay for equal work, but when decent, hard-working family-oriented husbands and dads are being bashed for their pro-family stance, something is horribly wrong.

One has to feel sorry for the Promise Keepers, who are clearly being unfairly judged. But I think we should also work to lessen the fears of the women who intimidate them. There is obviously something faulty in their thinking.

I would like to urge them to investigate their fears. Why not take the time to speak to those who are working for the rights of the unborn? There is so much that these women are not being told.

Helen Bressler
Belle Plaine

Bike lane has solved nothing

Dear editor,

St. Paul law forbids bicyclists in parks from riding two abreast. Minnesota law requires bicyclists riding on sidewalks to yield the right of way to pedestrians and to sound an audible warning before overtaking them.

These laws alone, had they been promulgated and enforced, should have eliminated any complaints about bicyclists' behavior on Mississippi River Boulevard's combined pedestrian-bicycling path. Last year, the St. Paul City Council felt it had to add yet another law—an 8 mph speed limit on the path. The council also had a southbound bike lane painted on the street to provide cyclists a safe and attractive alternative to the path.

Has this worked? Not in my experience. The number of cyclists on the path seems unchanged. The same is true on the street. What the southbound bike lane has attracted is in-line skaters, joggers and northbound bicyclists. These, combined with the city's failure to maintain the lane, has made it more dangerous than the unmarked street. My only close calls with cars on Mississippi River Boulevard have been while biking south within the lane and never north without the lane's "protection."

The City Council has done nothing substantive to alter the habits of bicyclists or pedestrians whose behavior may have aggravated the conflicts. The council gave the appearance of acting while avoiding actually solving any problems.

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Highland Park

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NEWS BRIEFLY

Council OKs plan to divide St. Thomas parking district

The St. Paul City Council approved a plan on July 22 that divides the resident-only permit parking district around the University of St. Thomas into 10 smaller districts. The changes will go into effect on September 1.

The area south of Summit Avenue will be divided into three districts, and the area north of Summit into seven. The changes, which have been in the works for several months, were supported by the Macalester-Groveland and Merriam Park community councils.

The St. Thomas permit parking district, which is more than 10 years old, was created to keep university students and faculty from parking in the neighborhoods around the campus. It was one of the first residential permit parking districts created in St. Paul and is the largest in the city. The size of the area has prompted complaints that people on the north end of the district use their parking permits to legally park in the south end, closer to the university.

That will no longer be the case as of September 1. The new setup will only allow permit holders to park in the district around their residence.

Group asks for removal of damaged billboards

Scenic Minnesota, an anti-billboard group, is appealing a decision by St. Paul city staff to allow Eller Media Co. to replace or repair six billboards that were damaged by the May 30 storm on Ford Parkway, Grand Avenue and West 7th Street.

The Highland District Council and the West 7th/Fort Road Federation voted in July to join in the appeal of the decision, which was made by the St. Paul Department of License Inspections and Environmental Protection (LIEP). The appeal will be heard by the St. Paul Planning Commission's Zoning Committee at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, August 6. It will be discussed by the full Planning Commission at 8:30 a.m. Friday, August 14.

Brian Bates, director of Scenic Minnesota and a resident of Macalester-Groveland, said the damaged billboards on Ford Parkway and Grand cannot be replaced because they are located in special sign districts that ban new billboards from being erected. The West 7th/Fort Road Federation, meanwhile, has applied for an interim special sign district that places a moratorium on new billboards.

Bates said city sign regulations state that billboards cannot be rebuilt if the damage is more than half of what it would cost to replace them. "To us, city ordinances spell out very clearly that the billboards should not be replaced," Bates said.

City licensing staff disagree with Bates' interpretation of the sign ordinances and the extent of the billboard damage. Wendy Lane of LIEP said the billboards can be repaired if the billboard company obtains the required city permits.

Task force to study policies on leasing St. Paul park land

St. Paul Mayor Norm Coleman recently announced that he will form a task force to examine city policies regarding the leasing of park land and facilities to private organizations.

Friends of the Parks and Trails of St. Paul and Ramsey County originally brought up the issue of whether the leases, some of which are for 30 years or more, violate a City Charter provision that calls for "no net loss" of city park land. The Friends also have expressed concerns about the length of the leases, repair and maintenance issues, and the lack of pub-

lic involvement in leasing decisions.

Although Coleman said he supports in concept the leasing of park land, he acknowledged that the Friends have raised several valid points.

"The task force will provide an evaluation of our current practices and recommendations for any modifications which could do more to insure the wise stewardship of our park lands and facilities," he said.

The leasing of park facilities has proved controversial in neighborhoods throughout St. Paul. The Boys and Girls Club leases city-owned park facilities on the East Side, West Side and Frogtown. The Frogtown lease was criticized when the club tried to keep neighborhood residents off of park land that they had enjoyed for years. That controversy was settled after the city amended its lease to allow public access.

Park land leasing could also become an issue when and if Circus of the Star builds a permanent practice and performance facility south of the Highland Park Pavilion's parking lot. The circus, which received a \$250,000 city grant for the project in 1997, is now attempting to raise the remainder of the funds to cover construction costs.

The task force is expected to include representatives from the Friends, the St. Paul Parks and Recreation Commission, the City Council, the Division of Parks and Recreation and the City Attorney's Office. Friends director Peggy Lynch, a resident of Highland Park, said she would like to see the task force also include some citizens at-large.

District 197 ends its search for business administrator

The District 197 School Board approved hiring Howard Carlson as its new assistant superintendent of business services on July 20. Carlson previously served as superintendent of the Mabton School District in central Washington. He is scheduled to start his new job on August 17.

The hiring ends a nationwide search to replace Jay Willemssen, who resigned in February. The district advertised twice for the job and received about 20 applications, but had difficulty attracting qualified candidates, according to School Board member Tom Weisbecker. The position pays a minimum of \$90,000 plus benefits.

Willemssen left District 197 after nine months to accept a similar post with the Edina school district, where he once worked as a controller. His resignation "had nothing to do with District 197," he said.

He succeeded longtime District 197 business manager Lois Rockney, who is now the interim assistant superintendent of fiscal affairs and operations for the St. Paul Public Schools.

Household hazardous waste collection set in Summit Hill

Ramsey County will open a household hazardous waste collection site on Thursday, August 6, in the parking lot of the Pleasant Avenue Ice Arena, located just south of the St. Clair Avenue hill. The site will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Fridays and 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturdays through August 29.

Items that will be collected include aerosol cans, auto fluids and filters, fluorescent lamps, insecticides, liquid paint, mercury waste, oil filters, old gasoline, paint strippers, rat poison, solvents and thinners, weed killer and wood preservatives. There is no fee to drop items off at the site, though proof of Ramsey County residency is required.

News briefs compiled by Jane McClure, Bill Wagner and John Wadell.

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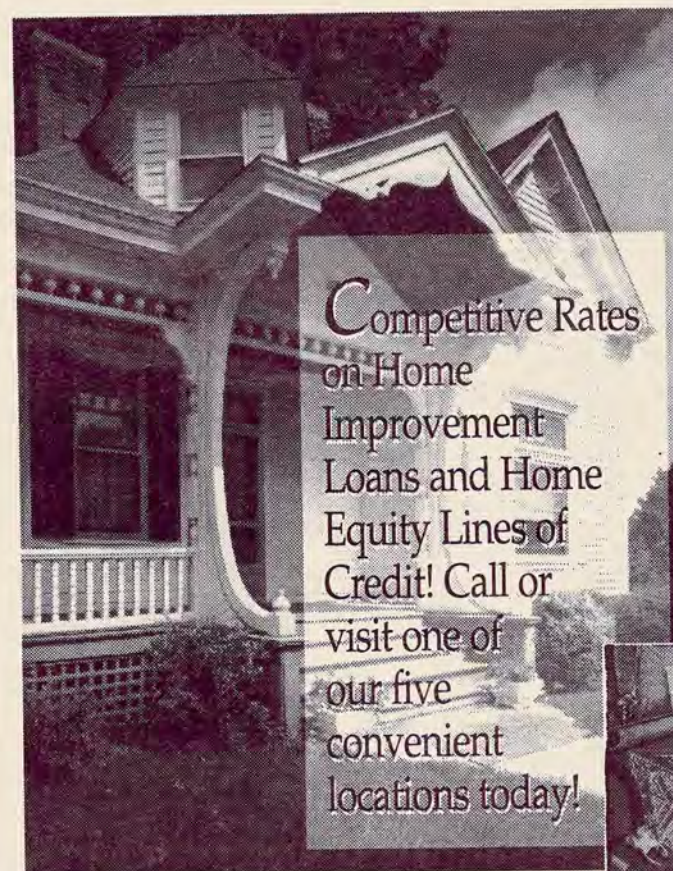


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Making sound decisions

Task force questions need for noise walls to lessen Ayd Mill's impact

by Jane McClure

If and when Ayd Mill Road is ever rebuilt, many people who live along its 3-mile length have concerns about the noise that increased motorized traffic could bring. How to protect those neighbors from vehicle noise was the topic of discussion at the July 20 meeting of the Ayd Mill Road Task Force.

The task force, which represents community councils, business associations and other groups in the neighborhoods surrounding Ayd Mill Road, is now completing work on an environmental impact study (EIS) of roadway alternatives. A draft of that study is expected to be available for public comment this month.

No specific recommendations will be made for noise mitigation in the study, said John Crawford of Strgar-Roscoe-Fausch (SRF), the consulting firm that is working with city staff on the study.

If a "build alternative" is chosen for the final study, noise impacts will be studied for that specific roadway alternative, Crawford said. If a "no build" option or a linear park is approved by the St. Paul City Council for the fi-

nal EIS, there will be no need to study noise impacts.

However, if questions from task force members were any indication, noise is already a concern in neighborhoods around Ayd Mill Road. "Even under no-build, could noise walls be built?" asked task force member Thomond O'Brien of Summit Hill.

If a neighborhood wanted noise barriers, it could make a request through the city's biannual Capital Improvement Budget process, said Mike Klassen of the St. Paul Department of Public Works. The city has no dedicated funds in place to pay for noise barriers, according to him.

Others asked if noise barriers could be built prior to construction if a "build alternative" is chosen. Additional questions were raised about ways to design the road to reduce noise and speed. Task force members also asked that more studies be done on how additional

traffic on Ayd Mill Road would affect Snelling Park, the small residential area northeast of Marshall and Snelling avenues.

A task force subcommittee, city staff and the consultants are recommending that any decision on noise walls be made by the af-

Noise monitoring and modeling that have been completed to date show that Ayd Mill Road will be above state noise standards in many places along its route by the year 2020.

affected neighborhoods. "Some neighborhoods may opt to not have noise walls and instead preserve the view from their homes," said Charlene Zimmer of SRF.

Any noise barriers built along Ayd Mill Road would need to be at least 6 feet high to be effective, Crawford said. "However, the higher the wall, the higher the

costs," he said.

Crawford said noise berms are slightly more effective than walls because of their mass, however berms require a much larger area. Natural vegetation is not as effective as a noise barrier, according to Crawford. "Vegetation would give you a visual barrier, but that

would be about it," he said.

The effectiveness of noise barriers was studied at three areas along Ayd Mill Road: at Hamline Avenue, at Fairmount Avenue and near the Wilder Park housing complex. Those areas were chosen to represent the variances in topography along the roadway. Noise barriers of various heights and types were studied for each area using noise monitoring equipment and a computer modeling program. In general, it was found that noise barriers located at the top of slopes would be most effective.

The four-lane roadway alternative was studied in the noise analysis because it is expected to generate the most traffic noise. The studies include projected traffic volumes for the year 2020.

The noise monitoring and modeling that have been completed to date show that Ayd Mill Road will be above the state noise standards of 65 decibels during the day and 55 decibels at night in many places along its route by the year 2020. However, Zimmer said, that is not unusual. "We have city streets that do not meet state noise standards now," she said.

Limited-stop bus route, other Ayd Mill Road transit options outlined

by Jane McClure

As the study of Ayd Mill Road reconstruction alternatives winds down, more demand is being heard for studying mass transit improvements. Transit advocates contend that improved bus service is the way to reduce motor vehicle traffic in the neighborhoods around Ayd Mill Road.

Some of the strongest support for transit improvements is coming from Neighborhoods First!, a group that also wants to see Ayd Mill Road converted to a linear park.

Steve Wilson of Strgar-Roscoe-Fausch (SRF), the consulting firm that is working with city staff on an environmental impact study for Ayd Mill Road, reviewed transit options with the Ayd Mill Road Task Force on July 20. Those options include:

- Creation of a peak-hour, limited-stop bus route. The route would start in Eagan at one of that city's two park-and-ride lots. It would travel up I-35E to a transit stop at the freeway and West 7th Street, then up Lexington Parkway to University Avenue, where passengers would be able to transfer to Route 50, a limited-stop route between the two downtowns.

Wilson said the new route would attract around 2,350 daily riders by the year 2020. However, most of those riders would be drawn from existing bus routes in the area. A limited-stop route on Lexington could be expected to remove about 100 autos from the neighborhoods around Ayd Mill Road during rush hour, he said.

The new route could also be linked to Route 54, which connects downtown St. Paul

to the Mall of America, and to Route 9, which extends from the Veterans Administration complex in South Minneapolis to the Hillcrest Shopping Center in the northeastern part of St. Paul.

- Creation of a similar peak-hour, limited-stop bus route that would follow the same route up to Energy Park Drive. The route would then branch off to Rosedale or to the Westgate Industrial Park.

One obstacle either route would have to overcome is St. Paul's prohibition of buses on parkways. Parks and Recreation superintendent Robert Piram has already indicated that he would oppose such a route on Lexington.

- Use of HOV lanes on Ayd Mill Road. Reconstructing Ayd Mill Road with one regular lane and one high-occupancy vehicle lane in each direction would likely have the most

impact during the peak hours of traffic, Wilson said. With that design, Ayd Mill Road would attract about 800 vehicles in the regular lane and 300 vehicles in the HOV lane during rush hour by the year 2020.

Some task force members were skeptical of the transit figures. Chip Welling, who represents the Merriam Park neighborhood, said he would like to see an independent study to confirm the projections for transit ridership.

Area residents who are monitoring the work of the task force also raised questions. Wilder Park resident Kirk Jeffreys asked whether anyone had looked at previous traffic studies to see if the projections ever materialized. "I wonder how truly useful these numbers are," he said. "Does anyone ever go back years later and compare the projections with reality?"

Ask Dr. Rice

by John D. Rice, M.D., Eye Physician and Surgeon

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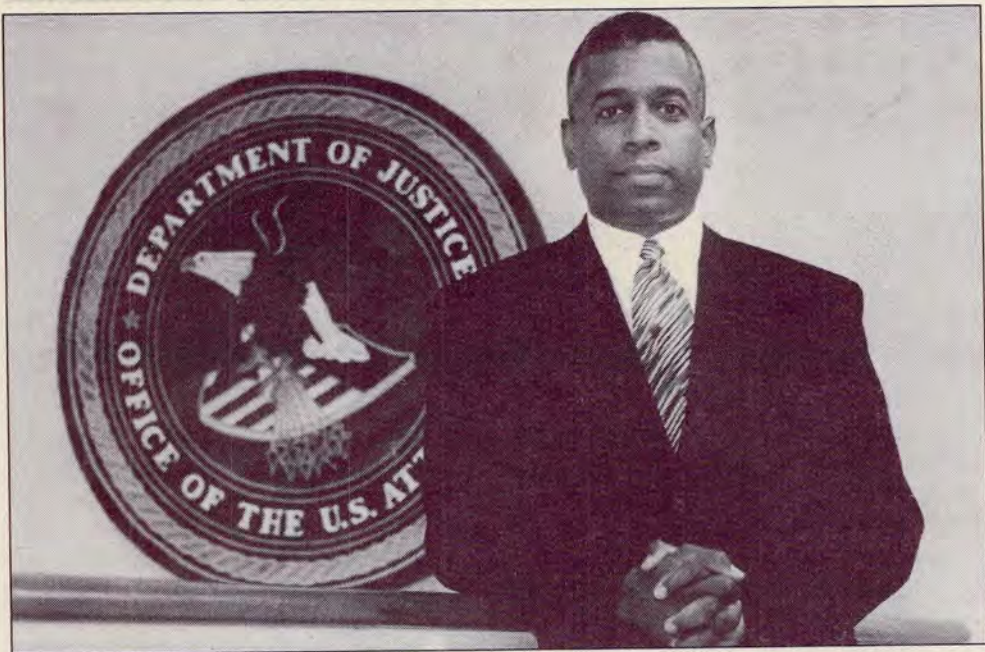
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Highland Park resident Todd Jones has been recommended to become Minnesota's 30th U.S. Attorney. Photo by Brad Stauffer.

Jones pledges proactive approach as state's chief federal prosecutor

by Bob Gilbert

Todd Jones of Highland Park has been recommended by U.S. Senator Paul Wellstone to become the U.S. Attorney for the District of Minnesota.

Jones, 41, who has had a successful career as a federal prosecutor, private attorney and Marine Corps lawyer, has been serving as the state's chief federal prosecutor ever since David Lillehaug announced his resignation in May to run for Minnesota attorney general. Jones' appointment is still subject to approval by the Senate Judiciary Committee and to confirmation by Congress.

Politics being what they are, Jones realizes that confirmation as the state's 30th U.S. Attorney—and the first African-American to hold the position—is no sure thing. However, he has subsequently received the blessing of U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno and U.S. Senator Rod Grams. Meanwhile, his nameplate is on the door and he is calling the shots.

Jones has 41 attorneys working under him to handle cases that involve such congressional legislation as fair housing laws, the Americans with Disabilities Act and civil rights laws. His office also defends the government in court when lawsuits are brought against federal agencies and each year brings to trial hundreds of people charged with committing crimes.

Traditionally, the U.S. Attorney's post has been a steppingstone to higher office. Jones said he has no such ambitions and has not been involved in politics since he campaigned for Jimmy Carter in 1976.

Jones, a Cincinnati native, came to St. Paul in 1975 to attend Macalester College. He lived on campus, was a resident advisor in his dormitory and earned a degree in political science. After graduating from the University of Minnesota Law School, he passed the bar and spent the next six years in the Marine Corps. He served as an infantry officer and later practiced law in the judge advocate's office.

He received professional trial experience while working on Marine court marshals, first as a defense attorney and then as a prosecutor. After his discharge in 1989, he worked as a senior associate for the St. Paul law firm of Oppenheimer, Wolff and Donnelly for three years. He saw active duty again during the Persian Gulf War in 1991 and then served as an assistant U.S. Attorney before heading back into private law as a managing partner with Greene Espel, a Minneapolis law firm. He and his wife, Margaret, have five children ages 2-13.

Given the choice of working in the private or public sector, Jones said he prefers the latter. "The reality of the law in private practice is that it's a business," he said. "You have to bill time, develop a client base and take care of the

overhead. Any private-sector attorney will tell you that the hardest part of the job is sitting down at the end of the day and literally accounting for your time.

"There are a lot of lawyers who are frustrated because they are bright people who went to law school for some public-service motivation," he said. "Unfortunately, many end up practicing law in the private sector where they fight about money, whose ox got gored, assessing blame and extracting a pound of flesh. In the public sector, you get to concentrate on the law and not worry about who's paying for your time."

Lillehaug brought Jones back into public service last year when the first assistant's job opened up in the U.S. Attorney's office. Lillehaug said he offered the position to Jones not only because of his legal expertise, but because of his administrative ability.

"Todd is a man of integrity," Lillehaug said. "He's very smart when it comes to knowing how to prosecute. As first assistant, he successfully prosecuted all kinds of civil and criminal cases."

Jones said he plans to continue the proactive approach to law enforcement that Lillehaug put in place, including the cultivation of relationships with block clubs, small business owners and schools to help eliminate problems with guns and drugs. Jones is involved with Minnesota Heal, an alliance of federal, state and local government officials, citizen groups and corporations that is attempting to lower the murder rate and create jobs in the inner city of Minneapolis.

"These kind of soft issues are not ones that you would normally see a U.S. Attorney getting involved in," he said. "But what good does it do to lock people up if you're not addressing the conditions that caused them to commit crimes in the first place?"

"When I look at individual criminal cases, I don't rub my hands together and say, 'Yeah! I put another one behind bars.' That's because most criminal cases involve tragedy. The victims have suffered and a lot of the individuals who committed these crimes made bad choices along the way. Often they have children, wives and mothers who they're leaving behind when they go to prison."

Even if he gets through the confirmation process, Jones will have to rely on the Democrats winning the presidency in 2000 to keep his job. The senior senator from the president's party submits the nomination for U.S. Attorney, which means Senator Grams will make the appointment if the Republicans win the White House.

Though Jones understands the precarious status of his job, he said he is too busy in his new position to worry about the political future. He said he is just happy to have been given the opportunity to make a difference.

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Recipe for success

Prominent chef now hangs his apron in a cafe he can proudly call his own

by Victoria McCurdy

When Alexander Dixon came home from the hospital following his birth 39 years ago, his older siblings immediately dubbed him Zander. Now the longtime Twin Cities chef has given birth to a second Zander: Zander Café, in the space formerly occupied by the Gathering at 525 Selby Ave.

"It started as an idea for a little coffee shop, but I get on these creative rolls and it kept growing," Dixon said.

Dixon has put a great deal of himself in his new baby. He and general manager Thomas Mullikin spent eight months planning the business and then redesigning and remodeling the space, primarily by themselves.

When asked what style they chose for the decor, Dixon laughed. "This guy comes in and starts giving us a hard time about how we were putting up dry wall," he said. "He says, 'You look like a bunch of kids building a clubhouse.' So I guess the style is clubhouse."

Without the services of a professional designer, Dixon and Mullikin put up new walls, created light fixtures that coil from copper tubing, built tables topped with brilliant handmade paper from Wet Paint on Grand Avenue, and screwed down varnished plywood squares for flooring. The distressed plaster walls by Stephanie Carlson and the striking photographs of olive trees from Spoleto, Italy, by JoAnn Verburg tie the room together.

Beneath the playful atmosphere at Zander Café is a serious devotion to food. "I think of preparing good food as an art," Dixon said. "I don't put salt and pepper on the tables because I think I season the food correctly and that people won't need them. You wouldn't wander into the Walker and add a little red paint to a De Kooning."

Wander into Zander Café and chances are you'll find Dixon at work in the open kitchen behind the wine and beer bar. One look at the menu will assure you that his creativity is not limited to the restaurant furnishings.

One look at the menu will assure you that Alexander Dixon's creativity is not limited to the restaurant furnishings.

"My cooking style has been called California cuisine and American," Dixon said. "I prefer to just say that I use bold flavors. I lean toward the foods of Southern France and the Mediterranean, though I do love curries."

The menu, which changes every week and a half or so, is simple. Last week it was three soups, four appetizers and two salads (all served with Whole

Foods' organic breads) and four entrees: grilled chicken breast with green olive tapenade and taleggio cheese, pepper-encrusted pork tenderloin with basil cream sauce and white truffle oil, grilled Ahi tuna with black sesame and ginger wasabi vinaigrette over sautéed napa, and grilled shrimp with saffron curry and Agrumato orange-scented olive oil served with couscous.

Zander Café is open for lunch from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and for dinner from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, and 6:00 to 11:00 p.m.



Owner and chef Alexander Dixon sets up a lunch order at his new Selby Avenue restaurant, Zander Café. Photo by Brad Stauffer.

Thursday through Saturday. Live jazz and blues artists are featured Thursday through Friday evenings, and coffee will be served in the morning beginning this fall. Lunches start around \$5.00 and dinner with an appetizer or salad runs about \$20.

Originally interested in singing and acting ("I wasn't very good," he said), Dixon left the University of Colorado to attend the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York. He did his internship at the New French Cafe in Minneapolis in 1980 and when he graduated in 1982 he returned to become its chef.

Dixon later worked as the chef at Faegre's, the Northstar Hotel and the Woodhill Country Club with detours to Nantucket Island in Massachusetts and Lake Geneva in Wisconsin.

Dixon is happy to be back in the Twin Cities and more specifically in St. Paul. His mother, who has been an inspiration to him, lives in the Ramsey Hill neighborhood and he has purchased a home there, too.

"My mother was considered a gourmet chef in the 1960s when it was hard to get your hands on a variety of ingredients," Dixon said. "But she used fresh produce and made things

that were considered very fancy at the time—hollandaise, sole almondine."

Dixon has also been inspired by the support he received from Selby and Grand Avenue business people. Dave Wildmo, the owner of Tavern on Grand, surprised Dixon by taking out an ad in the daily newspaper welcoming Zander Café to the neighborhood. The Vintage sent Dixon its extra applicants so that he would be well staffed. Fleur de Lis lent him a van to transport perishables when his power went out after a recent storm. Hardware on the Hill is "like our supply house," Dixon said. And 526 Salon and numerous other local businesses have been sending him customers.

"I'm not prone to emotion," Dixon said, "but as sappy as it may sound (the support) chokes me up."

Other area restaurants don't really view Zander's as competition, according to Dixon. "It's a what's-good-for-them-is-good-for-us attitude," he said.

Selby is rapidly developing a reputation as a place where people can go to enjoy a variety of good restaurants, Dixon said, and that's good for everyone.

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And they're off

Filing deadline opens the gate on a new field of political hopefuls

If not for statewide races for governor, attorney general, secretary of state, treasurer and auditor, the September 15 primary would hold little suspense for Villager area residents.

Local congressional and county judicial and commissioner races will not be contested in the primary, nor will local legislative races with the exception of District 65A. Come the November 3 general election, however, voters will have many candidates from which to choose.

Below is a rundown of the candidates who filed for office before the July 21 deadline:

Legislative

District 38A—DFL-endorsed Sandra Masin of Eagan and Republican-endorsed Tim Wilkin of Eagan.

District 39A—DFL-endorsed incumbent Thomas Pugh of South St. Paul and Republican-endorsed John Trojack of Mendota Heights.

District 62A—DFL-endorsed incumbent Lee Greenfield of Minneapolis and Orlando Ochoada of Minneapolis, a Republican.

District 62B—Republican-endorsed John Halverson of Minneapolis and DFL-endorsed incumbent Wes Skoglund of Minneapolis.

District 64A—DFL-endorsed incumbent Matt Entenza of Merriam Park and Republican Pat Muggenberg of Merriam Park.

District 64B—Republican-endorsed Ray Cleveland of Highland Park; and DFL-endorsed incumbent Michael Paymar of Macalester-Groveland.

District 65A—DFL-endorsed incumbent Andy Dawkins of Frogtown; DFLer Leonard Jackson of Lexington-Hamline; Lucky Rosenbloom of Frogtown, a Republican; and Republican-endorsed Fred Tennison of Hamline-Midway.

Congressional

District 4—Michael Neitzel of St. Paul, Libertarian Party; Dennis Newinski of Maplewood, Republican-endorsed; Carol Simmons Schulstad of Shoreview, Minnesota Taxpayers Party; Dan Vacek of St. Paul, Legal Marijuana Now Party; Heather Wood of St. Paul, Socialist Workers Party.

District 5—Kevin Houston of Minneapolis, Libertarian Party; Jason Kassel of Minneapolis, Anti-Federalist Party; Michael Pennock of Minneapolis, Socialist Workers Party; Martin Sabo of Minneapolis, DFL-endorsed incumbent; Frank Taylor of Golden Valley, Republican-endorsed.

Ramsey County

Attorney—DFL-endorsed Jim Farrell of St. Paul and Susan Gaertner of White Bear Lake.

District 4 Commissioner—incumbent and DFL-endorsed Sue Haigh of Summit Hill.

District 5 Commissioner—incumbent and DFL-endorsed Rafael Ortega of the West Side and Zach Ryan of Highland Park.

Sheriff—incumbent Bob Fletcher of St. Paul.

Judges—Two of the nine District Court seats up for grabs this fall are being contested, and those will be decided in the general election. Incumbent judge Walter Bowser of Highland Park is being challenged by Judith Tilsen of Merriam Park, and incumbent judge George Petersen of Arden Hills is being challenged by Kathleen Fixsen Hupalo of St. Paul's West Side. Running unopposed are incumbent judges James Dickinson and Paulette Flynn of Highland Park, Michael Fetsch of Macalester-Groveland, Kathleen Gearin and Michael Monahan of Summit Hill, Joanne M. Smith of Vadnais Heights and Salvador Rosas of the West Side.

Statewide

Governor—Republican-endorsed Norm Coleman and Republican challenger Bill Dahn; DFL-endorsed Mike Freeman and DFL challengers Mark Dayton, Hubert "Skip"

A primary primer

The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for voters to cast their ballots during the state primary election on Tuesday, September 15. Voters will select the Republican, Democratic-Farmer-Labor and Reform Party candidates for offices to be filled at the November 3 general election.

Residents may pre-register to vote in the primary through August 25. Those who have moved or changed their name since the last time they voted must register again. Voters are allowed to register on election day at their polling place if they provide proper identification.

For information about registering to vote, absentee balloting, polling locations, becoming an election judge or other election and voter services, call 651-266-2171 in Ramsey County, 612-673-2070 in Hennepin County or 651-438-4380 in Dakota County.

Humphrey, Doug Johnson, Ted Mondale and Ole Savor; Thomas Fiske, Socialist Workers Party; Frank Germann, Libertarian Party; Fancy Ray McCloney, People's Champion Party; Ken Pentel, Green Party; Jesse Ventura, Reform Party; and Chris Wright, Grassroots Party.

Attorney General—Republican-endorsed Charlie Weaver and Republican challenger Sharon Anderson; DFL-endorsed Ember Reichgott Junge and DFL challengers David Lillehaug and Mike Hatch; Ruth Mason, Libertarian Party; and Jim Mangan, Reform Party.

Secretary of State—DFL-endorsed Edwina Garcia and DFL challengers Dick Franson, Gregg Iverson and Jen Mattson; Republican-endorsed Mary Kiffmeyer and Republican challenger Don Koenig; Kenneth Iverson, Libertarian Party; and Alan Shilepsky, Reform Party.

State Auditor—Incumbent and Republican-endorsed Judi Dutcher; DFL-endorsed Nancy Larson and DFL challengers Jim Hansen and Donald Moe; Patricia Becker, Minnesota Taxpayers Party; Bob Odden, Libertarian Party; and Joseph Peschek, Progressive Minnesota Party.

State Treasurer—DFL-endorsed Betsy O'Berry and DFL challengers John Franzen, Robert R. Johnson and Carol Johnson; Republican-endorsed Kevin Knight and Republican challengers David Pearly Anderson, Juel Carlson and Joan Siers; Mitchell Berg, Libertarian Party; and James Dunlop, Reform Party.

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Mac-Grove joins SHA in opposing land-use plan's parking provisions

by Jane McClure

The draft of St. Paul's newly proposed land-use plan contains a wide range of recommendations concerning the future of residential and commercial development in the city, but the proposals involving parking are drawing the most attention in local neighborhoods.

Perhaps not surprisingly, the neighborhoods most affected by Grand Avenue's notorious parking shortage are among the most keenly interested in the outcome. The Summit Hill Association (SHA) voted last month to oppose a proposal in the land-use plan that would reduce off-street parking requirements for new and expanding businesses by as much as 20 percent.

The Macalester-Groveland Community Council also voted to oppose the parking proposal on July 16. Its board is also questioning changes that could send more vehicles down alleys shared by commercial and residential properties. Both neighborhood councils will take their concerns about the land-use plan to the St. Paul City Council in the weeks ahead.

The proposed land-use plan states, "In pedestrian-oriented neighborhood commercial centers, the city will support the provision of just enough commercial parking in small parking lots fitted into whatever space is unbuilt. The city will limit the number of curb cuts on commercial blocks. Parking lots shall be located at the side or rear of buildings, and primary business entrances should be oriented toward the sidewalk. As bus service improves, the city will reduce off-street parking requirements to businesses located on bus lines with frequent service."

If adopted and incorporated into the city's comprehensive plan, the recommendations would take effect when a property is rezoned or any new or expanded development occurs. "We like a lot of the ideas in the land-use plan," said Roger Bromander, chair of Macalester-Groveland's Housing and Land Use Committee. "However, we do have some concerns."

Many Macalester-Groveland board members support recommendations that call for an "urban village" style of development. The urban village design features compact, pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods with a mix of land uses and housing types designed to take advantage of mass transit.

Macalester-Groveland board members also like the attention the plan gives to pedestrian-oriented village centers. However, Bromander said some aspects of the village center could create hazards in alleys like those between Lincoln and Grand avenues that are shared by commercial and residential properties. Under the village center proposal, new commercial buildings would be constructed with no front-yard setback, which means they would butt up to the sidewalk. Off-street parking would be placed to the side and rear of the building. Large parking lots would be discouraged.

New parking lots beside and behind buildings need to be planned in such a way that commercial uses do not affect shared business-residential alleys, Bromander said. "Promoting more commercial use of an alley raises a lot of issues with safety and alley maintenance," he said.

The city currently has zoning regulations in place that prohibit new or redesigned commercial parking lots from having access to a shared commercial-residential alley. However, that could change if the land-use plan is adopted as proposed.

"It's unreasonable to place the burden of commercial traffic on alleys that were never intended or designed for intensive traffic," said former Macalester-Groveland board president Gaius Nelson.

The problem, he said, is that Macalester-Groveland's commercial strips were designed when the city's streetcar system was heavily used and few people owned cars.

"Over the years, residential areas have suffered greatly from the fact that most business patrons drive to their destinations," Nelson said. "That fact will not change."

City planners and transit advocates hope that easing off-street parking requirements will encourage more people to use transit and rely less on motor vehicles. However, in neighborhoods where congestion is already a problem, the recommendations are seen as only adding to the traffic and parking woes.

The St. Paul Planning Commission is expected to take action on the land-use plan this summer before sending it on to the City Council for approval. The Metropolitan Council is requiring all Twin Cities communities to have their land-use plans in place by the end of the year.

St. Paul considers ordinance aimed at eliminating conflicts of interest

by Jane McClure

Weeks of debate over conflicts of interest are expected to come to an end on August 5 when the St. Paul City Council votes on an ordinance that would affect city employees and elected officials who move on to other jobs. The ordinance also would put additional restrictions on City Council members who vote on issues that involve their current employers. St. Paul has a part-time City Council and a majority of its members hold outside jobs.

Council members Mike Harris and Jay Benanav drafted the original ordinance, but have since disagreed over whether the City Council should be able to grant waivers to it. A July 15 vote on an amendment to allow waivers passed 4-3, with Harris and council members Chris Coleman, Dan Bostrom and Jim Reiter in favor, and Benanav, Jerry Blakey and Kathy Lantry opposed. Deputy Mayor Tom Fabel brought forward the proposed waiver on behalf of the administration, arguing that the City Council should be able to grant waivers to the ordinance as long as they do not harm the public interest.

In arguing in favor of the waivers, Harris

said council members should have the power to decide when to vary from city policy. Coleman said the ordinance is not meant to punish employees or elected officials.

However, other council members said waivers could cause more problems than they would solve. "We probably shouldn't be in the business of deciding on waivers," Benanav said. "It creates a number of ethical issues."

Blakey and Lantry said waivers would make the ordinance too subjective. "I think it needs to be black and white," Blakey said. "Either you have a conflict of interest or you don't."

The need for a conflict-of-interest ordinance was raised earlier this year in the wake of controversies over the career paths of former city finance director Martha Larson, former Civic Center Authority chair Joe O'Neill, former mayoral aide Erich Mische and former City Council president Dave Thune. Larson left city employment to become finance director for the Minnesota Wild professional hockey team. O'Neill quit his volunteer post to become a paid lobbyist for the city on is-

Conflict/see next page

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Compatriots cater to late-night crowd at Paisano's pizza

by Victoria McCurdy

There's something about the smell of baking crust, bubbling tomato sauce and melting cheese that kicks the brain's hunger signals into overdrive. It's no different at Paisano's, the new pizza and hoagie shop at the corner of Selby Avenue and Dale Street. The aroma draws you in as you open the door.

"We make everything from scratch right here—the pizza dough, the sauce, everything," said co-owner Sherwood Gaines. The hoagies are made with homemade bread, "and we don't skimp on the meat," Gaines said.

The new restaurant joins the New Louisiana Cafe in the building constructed last year by Gaines and partner John McCarty. Paisano's, which takes its name from the Italian word for friend or compatriot, could describe the relationship between Gaines, McCarty and their third partner in the new restaurant, Kelly Zenk.

Gaines and McCarty own the Grandview Grille at Grand and Fairview avenues and the Uptown Diner at Hennepin Avenue and Lake Street in Minneapolis. The two had been talking for several years with Zenk about opening a place like Paisano's. Zenk, who owns Ginelli's Pizza in the TCF Towers in down-



Jesse Cain, left, Mike Lang, co-owner Sherwood Gaines, Joshua Cain and Scott Stelzig display a freshly baked pizza at Paisano's. Photo by Brad Stauffer.

town Minneapolis, "had the special recipe for the pizza," Gaines said.

Gaines and McCarty originally intended to lease the Selby-Dale space to Home Decor, a home furnishings store, but the deal fell through because of the delay in construction caused by poor soil conditions. "We got a

bum lot from the city," Gaines said. "That slowed us up."

In the meantime, Home Decor owner Mike Lang found a new space in Highland Village. However, Lang is now managing Paisano's.

"It's been our dream to start this pizza business," Gaines said. "We've been focused on

breakfast (with the other restaurants) and we wanted something new. We wanted to make it simple enough to take this formula, work it, refine it and replicate it across the country."

Gaines and McCarty are their own landlords for the first time and it suits them just fine. "We like to own the buildings rather than be at the mercy of a lease because when the lease is up so are you and all your hard work has gone for nothing," Gaines said.

Gaines is especially pleased to own more property on Selby. Ten years ago he purchased an apartment complex on the avenue despite the warnings of friends and family. Gaines said it was the smartest thing he has ever done. "A grand slam home run," he called it.

The warnings were repeated when McCarty and Gaines pursued ownership of the long vacant northeast corner of Selby and Dale. "People told us, 'You're stupid, you're crazy,' Gaines said. "This corner gets no respect. But I had a gut instinct. I'm really aware now of how great this neighborhood is going to be."

Paisano's, unlike the neighboring New Louisiana Cafe, will be a late-night presence on the corner. It is open from 4:00 to 10:00 p.m. on weekdays and until 2:00 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

Conflict-of-interest restrictions aimed at city employees, officials

sues that involved the hockey team and the new arena. Mische joined Media Rare, a public relations firm that has contracts with the Minnesota Wild and M.A. Mortenson, the company that advanced the \$100,000 NHL application fee for the Wild and won the contract to manage the construction of the arena. Thune signed a consulting contract with Mortenson last year before leaving office.

During the weeks that the City Council de-

bated the apparent conflicts of interest, RiverCentre director Chris Hanson also announced that he was leaving city employment for a position with the Wild.

If adopted, the ordinance would do the following:

- Restrict city employees and elected officials who move on to private employment from working on "significant" city projects that they were involved in while at City Hall. If

someone worked on a city project in the six months before leaving elected office or city employment, he or she could not work on the same project for another entity for one year. The ordinance defines a significant city project as costing \$50,000 or more.

- Prohibit City Council members from voting on matters that affect the financial interests of the companies they work for. Currently, abstentions are only required if council

members stand to directly benefit financially from the vote.

- Require elected officials and city employees who are contacted about private sector jobs with the potential for a conflict of interest to disclose that contact to their supervisors or the city clerk.

A companion City Charter amendment on conflicts of interest is currently being discussed by the St. Paul Charter Commission.

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'Round Again director Maureen Grau helps Lucera Castaneda pick out clothing for her 5-week-old baby, Estefany. Photo by Kristine Heykants.

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New maternity and infant clothing exchange celebrates circles of life

by Catherine Condon

Just months ago, the room was a dusty, cluttered storage space. Now its freshly painted white walls gleam. Stylish maternity clothes hang from sturdy racks. Infant sleepers are folded neatly on shelves. Tiny blankets rest snugly in wire baskets.

'Round Again, a free maternity and infant clothing exchange, opened last week in the basement of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1935 St. Clair Ave. It is the newest service of the Highland Mac-Groveland Family Center.

"The Family Center has been doing a lot of things from newborn on," said Maureen Grau, the center's pregnancy network coordinator. "We wanted to take one step backward—to expectant families."

Forty percent of the women who responded to a Family Center survey last February said there was a need for such a service, according to Grau. "A lot of churches have small outreach programs where they'll do crisis pregnancy support or find extra food or clothing for families, but no one seemed to be collaborating," she said.

The name 'Round Again is "a play on words," Grau smiled. "Moms get round, literally, and these clothes will hopefully go 'round and 'round in our community. People will use them, and when they're done they'll return them for others in our neighborhood to use."

The non-profit Highland Mac-Groveland Family Center, whose offices are located at 2390 W. 7th St., is one of nine such programs operated by the St. Paul-Ramsey County Children's Initiative. The center serves as an advocacy, educational and information and referral service for families.

Like the Family Center, 'Round Again does not serve a specific demographic group. Single mothers, low-income families and parents in crisis "are most welcome," Grau said, "but so is the mom down the street who has a wedding or a funeral to attend in three weeks. Who wants to go out and spend \$100 on a (maternity) dress? And they can't go in their plaid jumper to grandma's funeral. It's really just neighbors sharing with neighbors."

'Round Again started out with about 100 pieces of maternity wear and 50 pieces of clothing for infants from newborn to 24 months, most of it donated by neighborhood businesses and residents. Donations of nurs-

ing pillows, breast pumps and receiving blankets will also be accepted, but toys, cribs and car seats will not because of a lack of space.

For expectant mothers, skirts, pants and shorts are needed the most. "It seems people wear out their pants sooner than they do their tops," Grau laughed.

Volunteers staff the clothing exchange, which is open from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays and from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Fridays. Children are welcome to use the play area while their parents shop or volunteer.

'Round Again also has a bulletin board where mothers and mothers-to-be can exchange information. Grau is hoping it serves as a catalyst for forming play groups, walking clubs, baby-sitting cooperatives and other such programs.

"A lot of times it takes people a while to get to know others even though they may have lived in the neighborhood for years," she said. "Their jobs and their socializing have been elsewhere. Then all of a sudden they're home with little ones. For people to see each other here at 'Round Again and then bump into each other at Kowalski's or at the playground—often it's a nice ice-breaker."

Carol Coleman, Pilgrim Church's secretary, worked with Grau to set up 'Round Again. The service, she said, will be good for the neighborhood as well as for the 240-family church, though Pilgrim's members may participate more as 'Round Again volunteers than as consumers. "We have an older congregation," Coleman said.

On the other hand, the Twin City Hmong Alliance holds services at Pilgrim on Sunday afternoons. "I think a lot of those members may use the exchange," Coleman said.

Grau has notified 38 churches and synagogues in the Highland and Macalester-Groveland neighborhoods of the clothing exchange. "That's a huge communication vehicle," she said. She is hoping that in two years 'Round Again "will have a life of its own." Ideally, she said, "people will think of this when they're looking for an outfit or two, and they'll think of this the minute they're back on their feet after their babies are born and going through their closets."

Those who have maternity and infant clothing or supplies to donate to 'Round Again may arrange for pickup by calling the Family Center at 690-1645.



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Grand blooms with contest winners

A dessert-tasting competition yielded 20 delightfully decadent entries for the annual Blooming Days promotion on Grand Avenue on July 25. All of the entries were also available for tasting and judging by the public free of charge.

The celebrity judges—Sue Zellickson of WCCO Radio, Michelle Leise of *TC Taste Magazine* and Pat Burke of KSTP-TV—deemed the best overall dessert to be the Chocolate Chunk Cookie at Bread and Chocolate. Other finalists in no particular order were the Fresh Fruit Crostata at D'Amico and Sons, the Panecotta at Whole Foods and the Apple Raisin Bread Pudding at the Wild Onion.

The people's choice award competition produced a tie between the Baklava at the Acropolis Inn and the Key Lime Pie at Dixie's.

That same day, St. Paul's "Garden Guerrillas"—Shawn Bartsh, Bonnie Lawrence,

Karin Winegar, Jeanne Weigum and Karen Dalton—toured Grand Avenue to judge the Gardens of Grandeur competition.

In the business category, the best overall entry was deemed to be Irish on Grand's garden. The best of beds, borders, banks and boulevards went to Irish on Grand, Mella Day Spa and DeWitt Goldsmith. The best of boxes, barrels and baskets went to the Bibelot, Textilis and St. Anthony School of Dance. Honorable mention went to Traditions, the law firm of Karen Tarrant and Table of Contents.

In the residential category, the best overall entry was deemed to be Patty Garvey's garden. The best of beds, borders, banks and boulevards went to Garvey as well, and the best of boxes, barrels and baskets went to Robert Field and Paula Fahey.

The grand prize winner in the chauffeured \$500 Grand Avenue shopping spree was Amy McGill of Macalester-Groveland.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Ken Schaefer of Macalester-Groveland has been named a vice president of the St. Paul Bank, a customer-owned, co-operative bank serving rural America from headquarters in downtown St. Paul. A former First Bank employee, Schaefer joined the St. Paul Bank in 1995.

Julia B. Sand of Macalester-Groveland has been hired by the Jungle Theater of Minneapolis as general manager and vice president of development. A former executive director of the New Dance Ensemble, Sand also has worked in development and public relations for the Walker Art Center and the Playwrights Center.

Prestige Network Group, a referral service for business people, is now meeting from 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. on the first and third Wednesdays of every month at the Roastery, 769 S. Cleveland Ave.

Katie Szczeppek of Macalester-Groveland has been promoted to marketing creative director at *Mpls/St. Paul Magazine*. A graduate of the College of St. Catherine,



Ken Schaefer

Szczeppek began her career with the magazine in 1989 when she was hired to work on event planning and create printed promotional pieces.

Laurel Van Matre of Lower-town has started a home-based gardening business called Farm on a Hill. She grows vegetables, herbs and flowers for restaurants and residential customers, and specializes in wild flower gardens.

The Woodstock Furniture Factory Outlet recently opened at 731 N. Prior Ave. The company began making Adirondack and garden furniture kits eight years ago in a

the basement of a Highland Park home before moving to Minneapolis. The Woodstock line has since been expanded to include picnic tables, trellises, arbors, planters and other garden accessories as well as indoor furniture in the Arts and Crafts style.

Colleen Reitan of Macalester-Groveland has been elected president and CEO of Blue Plus, the HMO subsidiary of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota. Reitan, who has worked for Blue Cross for 16 years, will continue as vice president of corporate planning.

Edward J. Cleary of Highland Park has been named president of the Ramsey County Bar Association for 1998-99. A graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School, Cleary is director of the state Office of Professional Responsibility. He was appointed to the position by the Minnesota Supreme Court last July. Cleary previously was in private practice and served 15 years as an assistant public defender for Ramsey County.

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S P E C I A L S E C T I O N

Highland Fest 1998

Your guide to the music, art, food and festivities scheduled for Friday through Sunday, August 14-16, in and around Highland Village.



Highland Village's cup will overflow with music and merry-making during the weekend of August 14-16. At left, a fan is hoisted above the mosh pit during the Saturday afternoon concert at last year's Highland Fest. Above, festival-goers fill up on footlongs. And at right, youngsters do the moonwalk in the children's area. Photos by Mike Long.



Taking it to the street

Organizers plan for a more pedestrian-friendly Highland Fest

by Chris Smith

The biggest change in this summer's 14th annual edition of Highland Fest is not a who or a what, but a where.

In addition to adding a big-name musician and several new attractions, some of the traditional events are moving—into the street. Ford Parkway will be closed between Cleveland Avenue and the Highland Park Library from 3:00 p.m. Friday, August 14, to 6:00 p.m. Sunday, August 16, to accommodate the crowds for the Highland Art Fair and an expanded children's area.

"Safety," said Liz Flynn, chair of the Highland Fest organizing committee and a Realtor with RE/MAX Crossroads' Highland Office. "It's that simple. As the festival and art fair have gotten bigger and bigger, we've increasingly run the risk of someone getting hurt in traffic."

Though most of the festival activities in the past have been centered at Hillcrest Playground, the art fair booths have always been strung out along the sidewalks in all four directions from the Village's primary crossroads at Cleveland Avenue and Ford Parkway.

"Having everything more centralized will make it much safer and, we hope, more convenient for families and seniors," Flynn said. "It also should help some of the artists. Those at the far ends of the streets sometimes didn't get the foot traffic they'd hoped for."

Flynn said members of the St. Paul Police Department, Fire Department and City Council offices enthusiastically supported the change. The layout will feature four rows of booths in the street, stretching from Cleveland to Kenneth. "We'll have 120 artists, about the same number as last year," she said. "We'll see what the layout is like and whether we can accommodate more in the future."

The traditional Friday afternoon art fair opening is also being pushed back this year. Art fair exhibitors will be displaying their wares from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday and from noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

"Some of our top artists work during the week and have had to take time off to come to Highland Fest as early as Friday," Flynn said. "It was one of the top suggestions we heard from artists in years past. We were concerned about losing some of our better exhibitors."

The children's area will run all three days of the festival, as usual, but it will be set up on Ford Parkway between Kenneth Street and the library. Expanded attractions this year will include arcade games, miniature golf, a children's art tent and much more. Several of the children's activities are designed as fundraisers for schools and other neighborhood groups, according to Barb Ducharme, executive director of the Highland Business Association, sponsor of the festival.

One of the great things about Highland Fest is that not only does it give the Highland area great exposure and is hopefully good for the businesses, but it's becoming a real fundraising focus for local groups," she said.

This year's festival will include many venerable attractions as well as some new events, along with a more focused entertainment schedule.

"Last year we tried to present a diverse musical lineup," Flynn said, "and to be honest, many of them were not that well attended, so we decided to spend our money on bigger musical attractions this year."

One of the biggest will be a free Saturday night concert by rocker Martin Zellar, the former leader of the Gear Daddies. Other acts include the traditional Friday night performance.

Highland Fest/see next page

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Highland Fest takes to street /from page 19

mance by the Rockin' Hollywoods, the Saturday morning show by the Teddy Bear Band, music by the Stompin' Dixies and the Ben Woolman Trio on Saturday, and the Strollin' Dixies on Sunday.

Following the Friday and Saturday evening concerts will be an intense, low-altitude fireworks show launched from the softball infield at Hillcrest. The display, which has been tailored for a small area, was so popular when it was presented for the first time last year that festival organizers sought business sponsors to cap both nights with the rockets' red glare.

Another returning attraction is the Circus of the Star. The popular youth circus will perform inside the Hillcrest Recreation Center on August 7-9 and August 13-16. Shows will be presented at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and at 1:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. Circus of the Star also will be manning an outdoor booth that will feature mini-circus acts and other activities.

On Saturday, Highland Fest will get off to a fast start with running races that begin in the parking lot of Highland Village Center. A 10K run will begin at 8:00 a.m. and a 5K run-walk at 9:30 a.m. A children's half-mile Fun Run will get under way at 8:05 a.m. outside the nearby Fairview Highland Park Clinic. Men's softball, Little League baseball, three-on-three youth soccer and disc golf tournaments also will be held throughout the weekend.

The always popular kiddie parade will step out at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday at Hillcrest Playground. Children are invited to decorate their bikes, trikes, wagons and themselves to compete for prizes. Registration will begin at 9:15 a.m. that day.

Other children's events on Saturday include freestyle bike demonstrations by Twin City BMX, the Como ZooMobile, face painting, pony rides, a mime, the St. Paul Public Library's St. Paul Reads program and an Army Corps of Engineers mobile display on the history of the Mississippi River.

The children's art fair will also offer a chance for youngsters to try their hands at a variety of crafts on Saturday from noon to 2:00 p.m. and to make pottery from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. On Sunday, the children's art fair will feature puppet making and printmaking during the same time slots.

Other returning Highland Fest activities include free blood-pressure screenings and health information on Saturday morning sponsored by Fairview Highland Park Clinic; R.F. Moeller Jeweler's Color Fest '98, an annual gemstone show featuring designer jewelry by Judy Evans and Maria Canale as well as wax carving demonstrations by Moeller's own designer Noriyuka Nonaka; and tours of the Highland Water Tower. Festival-goers also will find a wide variety of food booths operating throughout the weekend.

A final attraction of special interest to some



Thousands will throng to Hillcrest Playground on August 14-16 to sample music, food and fun during Highland Fest weekend. Photo by Mike Long.

Highland Park residents will be a "Tree Tent." Expert advice on replanting in the wake of the May and June storms will be provided free of charge. Donations also will be collected at the tent to help in the reforestation of Highland's public lands. Buttons and T-shirts will be offered to those who contribute.

Highland Fest typically attracts about 50,000 people to Highland Village over the weekend, but Flynn is hoping for even more this year. "We think this year's changes will make it a really exciting and focused three days," she said. "We're expecting bigger crowds than ever."



Lena Ranier demonstrated her wire-walking skills during Highland Fest '97. Performances by the popular youth circus troupe for this year's festival will be stretched over the weekends of August 7-9 and 13-16. Photo by Mike Long.

Festival features circus acts both inside and out

Donations sought to raise big top

Circus of the Star will present its fourth annual Highland Fest performances from August 7-9 and 13-16 in the gymnasium of the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy.

The popular youth circus troupe will perform acts of skill and daring on the trapeze, low wire and teeterboard, along with acrobatics, clowning, juggling, unicycling and more.

Show times are 7:00 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and 1:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$5.00

for adults and \$3.00 for children, and are available at Hillcrest. Last year, all of the performances were sold out.

Circus of the Star also will have an outdoor information booth set up during Highland Fest. The booth, which will focus on the circus' "Raising the Big Top" capital campaign, will also feature mini-circus acts and other activities throughout the day. Donations to the capital campaign will go toward building a permanent facility adjacent to the parking lot of the Highland Park Pavilion.

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Martin Zellar and the Hardways

7 - 10 pm Saturday.
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Wristbands will be required to purchase any beer during evening concerts. They may be purchased for \$1 near the Beer Booth.

Free Fireworks Shows

Friday and Saturday evenings following the concerts

In Hillcrest Park. Sponsored by R F Moeller Jeweler on Friday; Ryan Companies and the merchants of Highland Village Center and Sevenich, Butler, Gerlach and Brazil, LTD accountants, on Saturday.

Highland Fest Tree Tent

Saturday and Sunday, 12 - 4 pm, Hillcrest Park

Learn how to replace trees lost in this Spring's Storms. Find out more about Urban Forestation. See what trees are best for your neighborhood. Sponsored by RE/MAX Crossroads Realty, The City of Saint Paul, The Saint Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium, the Friends of the Parks and the Highland Business Association.



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Friday, 7 - 9 pm

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Sunday, 1 - 3 pm

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Shifting gears

'Many Moods' CD celebrates new era of artistic freedom for Martin Zellar

by Bob Gilbert

Martin Zellar has come a long way from his early days as the leader of the Gear Daddies.

The Austin, Minnesota, native, whose autobiographical country rock songs in the early 1990s were praised for their emotional honesty and accurate depiction of small-town life in the Midwest, will be Highland Fest's featured act on Saturday night, August 15.

Hockey moms may recognize Zellar's ditty "I Want to Drive the Zamboni" from the ice rink. Others may have heard Jonny Lang's cover of the Zellar song "Lie to Me." Still others may remember Zellar's appearance with the Gear Daddies on David Letterman. The Gear Daddies broke up in 1992, but not before cutting such critically acclaimed recordings as "Let's Scare Al" and "Billy's Live Bait."

Now in his 30s, married and the father of two, Zellar has left behind the angst of his youth. While the end of one's salad days often spells doom for many rock 'n' rollers, Zellar's strength has always been his soul-searching lyrics and finely tuned melodies. They now reflect the perspective of a man with a deeper understanding of his life and the lives of those around him.

Zellar has been touring the Midwest this summer with his new band, the Hardways. They are currently in Texas performing in Dallas, Houston and Austin, but will be returning to Minnesota for Highland Fest before playing a homecoming concert in Austin on August 29.

With the 1998 release of "The Many Moods

of Martin Zellar and the Hardways"—his third album since leaving the Gear Daddies—Zellar has taken greater control of his art. The new album is on his own label, Owen/Lee Records. His previous two albums—the solo effort "Born Under" from 1995 and the 1996 "Martin Zellar and the Hardways"—were on the Rykodisc label.

"Martin now gets to choose what goes on the record and what the production sounds like," said David Krejci, a spokesman for Owen/Lee Records. "When you work for a major record label, they tell you how a song should sound and how it should be produced. They also require a grueling touring schedule, and that's not what Martin wanted."

"From an artistic perspective, everything is now in Martin's own hands and he appreciates being able to do what sounds right for him," Krejci said. "It's not as lucrative as working for a big record company, but it does offer him artistic freedom."

The Hardways are made up of Swedish native Patrik Tanner on lead guitar; Dominic Cilola, a high school buddy of Zellar and a former member of the Gear Daddies, on bass; Danny Neale on rhythm guitar; and Iowa native Marc Retish on drums.

"Many Moods" was produced by Tanner. Krejci characterized its sound as somewhere between a slick studio recording and the raw intensity of a garage band.

Most major record labels insist that their vocalists practice their parts over and over. Tanner and Zellar purposely avoided that, singing through the lyrics just once so that



Martin Zellar and his band the Hardways will perform cuts from their "Many Moods" CD from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Saturday, August 15, on the Highland Fest stage.

Photo by Tony Nelson.

they didn't sound emotionally dead when it came to recording.

Zellar and the Hardways recently contributed to a Bruce Springsteen tribute CD. They covered Springsteen's "Darkness On the Edge Of Town" on a CD that also featured the Smithereens, the BoDeans and the Bumpin' Uglies doing their favorite Springsteen tunes.

The album "Born To Run" first made Zellar a big fan of Springsteen. However, it was Springsteen's following album, "Darkness on the Edge of Town," that inspired him to become a singer and songwriter.

One can hear traces of Springsteen's songwriting style in Zellar's "Blown Kisses," which

is included on his newest CD:

When you total up the cost
Of all we gave away
And everything we lost

Don't want to hear the truth
Don't want to know what's real
I just want to crawl into my space
Erase everything I feel.

Zellar's Highland Fest performance, which is free of charge, will begin at 7:00 p.m. on the outdoor stage in front of the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Fireworks will follow the show.

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Michael Hennessey, Mime

12 - 1 pm. A street mime performance.
Sponsored by Edward Jones, Highland Office.

Pony Rides

12 - 3 pm.
Sponsored by Coldwell Banker Burnet.

Nature Crafts for Children aged 3 - 8

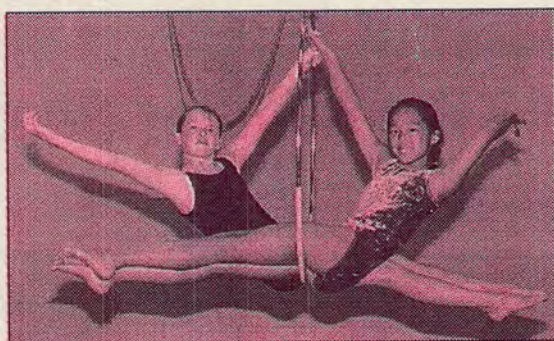
12 - 2 pm.
Highland Fest Children's Art Tent. Presented by Highland-Mac Groveland Family Center.
Sponsored by Highgrove Community FCU.

Children's Clay Crafts/Pottery Demonstration

2 - 4 pm. Highland Fest Children's Art Tent.
Sponsored by Highgrove Community FCU.

Saint Paul Reads Program

2:30 - 6:30 pm. Reading aloud to children, crafts associated with stories, and book giveaways. Sponsored by City of Saint Paul.



Circus of the Star Performers

All day. Children participating in Circus of the Stars' performances will show off some of their talents by the Circus Information Table

Sunday, August 16

Hi-C Children's Arcade

12 - 5 pm.

Circus of the Star performers

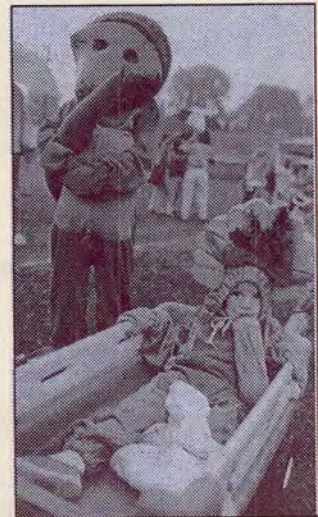
12 - 5 pm.

Puppetmaking with Children

12 - 2 pm. Highland Fest Children's Art Tent.
Sponsored by Highgrove Community FCU.

Children's Printmaking and Stationery Making

2 - 4 pm. Highland Fest Children's Art Tent.
Sponsored by Highgrove Community FCU.



Also for Kids.....

Children's Parade

Saturday, Aug. 15

9:15 registration

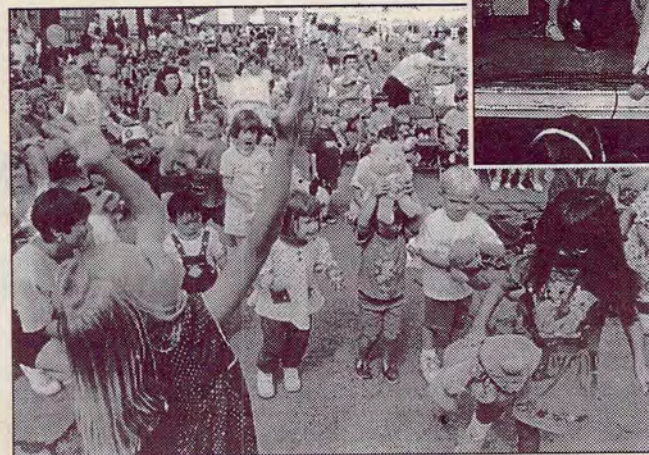
Parade 9:30 am

Dress up your bike, your wagon and yourself.
Hillcrest Park.
Sponsored by Edina Realty.



Teddy Bear Band Performs

10:30 am & 11:30 am.
Hillcrest Park. Sponsored by Liberty State Bank and Highland Shopping Center Merchants.



Sunday, August 16

Highland Fest 3V3 Soccer Challenge

All day. 3v3 soccer is for anyone who loves the game. Play is open to children aged 5 - 12.
Sponsored by Goals Oriented, Inc.





Mac-Groveland's best buy!

Main-floor brick fireplace, 3 BRs, beautiful hardwood floors. Sunny, bright, large eat-in kitchen. Third bedroom on upper level — recently decorated, private back yard — call for more information.

Dick Voss

690-8543

\$116,900



New list! Highland Park.

3+ BRs, 2 full baths, central air, hardwood floors, new steel doors and storms front and back, new windows in all bedrooms. Many, many updates. For results like this, call "Mr. Highland"!

Dick Voss

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\$115 K



The feel of country.

Located minutes from either downtown, Gem Lake is the place to be! 18 acres and 670 feet of shoreline, 5 BRs, tennis court and pool with farmhouse charm.

Carol Whitaker & Sally Bradford

690-8551



Quality! Charm! Stucco!

Superbly maintained 2+ BR home on Edgcombe Rd., delightful front porch, formal DR, hardwood floors/some carpet, cheerful kitchen, finished upper level, 2 baths, newer roof and water heater. Immaculate!

Jeannie Marver

690-8571

120's K



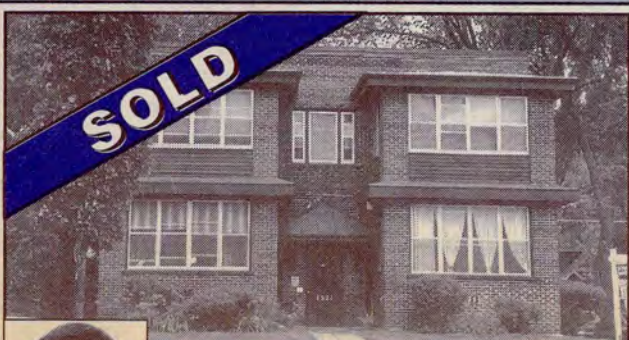
New 200' Snake River.

Enjoy the simple yet sophisticated ambience of this secluded northwoods contemporary. Year-round outdoor fun. Low maintenance. Amenities abound.

Kathleen Turner

282-9635

\$199 K



4-plex in prime area!

Four 2-BR units with hardwood floors, sun porches, a 4-car garage and lots of character. Located on a corner lot.

Steve Commers

450-5741

\$254,900



3 new townhomes.

Incredible views and top-quality finishing. Roof-top deck, 4 baths, 2-car attached garage, and 2,200+ sq. ft., building this fall.

Jim Seabold

701-4303

\$279,000

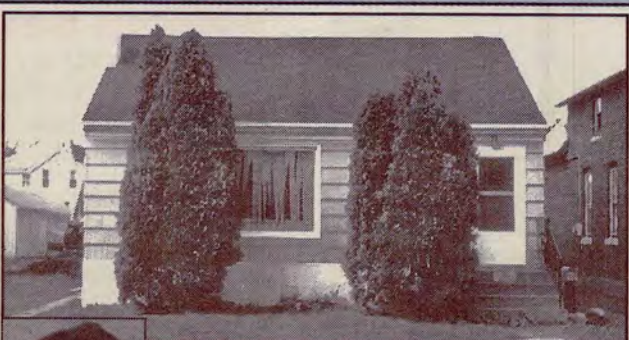


In Salem Hills Farm.

Inver Grove Heights beauty, stunning and bright, shows like new construction. Great family room with gas fireplace and wet bar, total 2,300 sq. ft. finished with 11,000 sq. ft. unfinished. 4 BRs, 3 baths.

Bob Yankovich

690-8570



First-time homeowner...

will appreciate the value of this larger 2+ BR rambler with full basement in West 7th District (738). Built in 1951 and nicely maintained, quiet street, new to market.

Gillisa McKiernan

690-8544



Old World charm!

Unique 4+ BR family home. Spacious living room with fireplace, formal dining room with built-in buffet, king-sized kitchen. Studio apartment walkout. And what a view!

Alan "T" Thalhuber
Betty Runyon

698-2481



Fabulous brick home!

Bigger than it looks! 4 BRs, 2 baths plus 2 fireplaces, excellent condition! Newer kitchen and family room, great yard, blocks to library, shopping, gyms and river.

Dick Distad

690-8516

\$269,900



Great opportunity to...

rehab an older tri-plex loaded with possibilities — good income, double garage, one block from historic Summit Avenue. One 2-BR unit, 2 efficiencies. 575 Portland.

Dick Distad

690-8516



Just listed — hurry!!

Absolutely gorgeous, totally rehabbed 3-BR, 1-1/2 story in heart of Mac/Groveland! Stunning master BR suite with 3/4 bath, double sink and lots of storage. 2+ car garage.

Gary Fabel

282-9613

\$149,900

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 Absolutely gorgeous, totally rehabbed 3-BR, 1-1/2 story in heart of Mac/Groveland! Stunning master BR suite with 3/4 bath, double sink and lots of storage. 2+ car garage.

Gary Fabel **282-9613** **\$149,900**

Local Traditions — Global Connections

Crocus Hill

227-9144

690-8507



Fest...

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lot

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Too New for Photo!



Prestigious Shadow Falls neighborhood...
of St. Paul. 3 BRs, 3 baths, brick exterior, circular front driveway, 2-car attached garage, main floor master suite, 3,000+ square feet!

Peter Donovan

690-8519

\$379,900



Elegant, spacious Tudor.
The home you've waited for! 4 BRs, 4 baths, oak floors throughout, white enamel woodwork, 2-car garage. Attached! Incredible ceiling plaster work. Private fenced yard. Built like a fortress on Summit.

Mary Orr

282-9661



"Lake-sized pond."
Modified 2-story with exceptional floor plan, 4 BRs, 3 baths, space galore, open great rooms, 3-car garage, walk to elementary school and parks, quiet cul-de-sac, almost new condition. Quiet serenity. Must see.

Mike "Mac" McAnally

690-ASAP

\$269,900



Jim/
Brian
Dorfsman

Quality-built 4-BR/2-bath split.

King-sized fireplaced living room, formal dining room, main floor family room, eat-in equipped kitchen, lower level den/4th BR. Newer roof, electrical, furnace, central air.

698-2481

567 Lexington



Lindsays

4-BR Victorian.

Large and gracious rooms, redone hardwood floors, spacious dining room with plate rail, freshly painted rooms, eat-in kitchen with butler pantry, third floor is large unfinished expansion. Priced right!

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Peter Donovan

Come choose your lot!

New construction townhomes! 2 BRs, 2 baths. Walkouts, lookout, cul-de-sac and on slab lots available! Model hours: Sat. and Sun. 1 - 5! Vaulted ceilings and more!

690-8519

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Denny Osborn

Doll house for sale!

Absolutely beautiful with spacious back yard, hardwood floors, brand new roof, newer furnace and easy access to airport, 35E or 494. Highland-Homecroft area. Call now!

690-8520

\$63,900



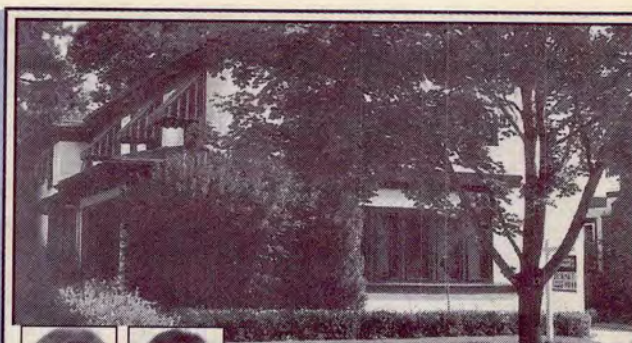
Sarah Kinney

Two blocks to river!

This lovely Tudor in desirable Shadow Falls features 4 BRs, 2 full baths, wonderful first floor family room, master suite and central air! 98 Exeter Place.

282-9621

\$269,000



Mary Zehring
and
Jane Austin McGrath

New on the market!!

Charming 4+ BR home with exceptional Crocus Hill location. Elegant staircase and center hall plan. Main BR has fireplace and full bath.

282-9642

\$385,000



Kathy Thomas Igo

Mendota Heights 1944 Crown Pt. Drive.

Wooded private yard. Watch the wildlife from your tiered deck. Four-level home in mint condition. Lots of built-in bookshelves and cabinets. Fabulous bathroom with whirlpool.

450-5746

\$182,900



Lolly
McNeely Salmen CRS
Rosemary McNeely CRS

Better than a "10"!

Spacious 2-BR, 2-bath bungalow in Mac/Groveland under \$120K. State-of-the-art 90's decor, gleaming wood floors, numerous improvements include new CA, exterior and interior paint — no work here!

690-8582

Under \$120 K



Rosemary McNeely CRS
Lolly
McNeely Salmen CRS

2109 Upper St. Dennis.

Distinctive 3-BR all-brick and stone ramblar with circular drive. Enjoy gracious entertaining in formal dining room overlooking in-ground pool and cabana. 5 baths.

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\$ Upper Bracket



Rosemary McNeely CRS
Lolly
McNeely Salmen CRS

New!! Mendota Heights!

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Robin Johnson and Patty Tobeck of A Bead of the Heart toast their upcoming appearance in the Highland Art Fair with beaded champagne flutes. Photos by Kristine Heykants.

Longtime friends satisfy their artistic muse with every bead of their heart

by Victoria McCurdy

Most people who frequent garage sales are apt to walk right by the pile of costume jewelry, the box of antique keys or the old board game. Yet these items are the raw materials for the artistic creations crafted by Joy Barrett, Robin Johnson and Patty Tobeck of A Bead of the Heart.

The longtime friends combine garage sale finds with such items as freshwater pearls, semiprecious stones and every kind of bead imaginable—from Czechoslovakian glass to pastel-colored bone—to create an eclectic array of beaded bracelets, earrings, necklaces, decorative wine glasses, hair sticks and miscellaneous gifts.

"We just feel older is often better," Johnson said of the materials they use. "The colors and cuts of the vintage glass beads, the unusual clasps.... Part of going to garage sales is the challenge of the hunt. You never know what you'll find."

A Bead of the Heart will have one of the 115 arts and crafts booths that will be set up on Ford Parkway between Kenneth Street

and Cleveland Avenue for the 31st annual Highland Art Fair. The juried art fair will run from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Saturday, August 15, and from noon to 5:00 p.m. Sunday, August 16.

"Most of our artists are local—from St. Paul and the surrounding area," said art fair chair Beth Berg, "and we want to keep it that way. Many of our artists have been here year after year."

All three partners in A Bead of the Heart grew up in St. Paul. Barrett and Tobeck met in their senior year at St. Agnes High School. Johnson and Barrett became friends 16 years ago while waiting tables at La Cucaracha. The three began making jewelry for themselves and friends about eight years ago.

"It had something to do with turning 30," said Johnson. Barrett had the idea of pooling their talents in a partnership.

"This year will be our seventh at Highland Fest," Tobeck said. "Our first year we rented what looked like a circus tent. It was huge. We didn't know about these 'easy-up' tents that

A Bead/see next page

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Les Gubman

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Just blocks from Lake Phalen, this spacious 4 BR, 2 bath ramble is finished to the last detail! Built-ins, fireplace, hot tub, home office with kitchen in lower level.



Julie Glass-Yares

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Unique retreat!

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Tom Edelstein

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A Bead of the Heart

/from previous page

take 10 minutes. It took three hours and six people to put the tent up that first year."

Toback, an insurance underwriter by day, is responsible for much of the intricate beaded work that A Bead of the Heart sells. She weaves tiny seed beads into bracelets, using variations of traditional Native American stitches. Toback's pieces often come together with an antique clasp. Some of the beads she uses are new, like the crystal beads from Germany and silver ones from the southwestern United States. Others are made of vintage glass that she picks up at garage sales.

"I'm known as the Garage Sale Goddess at work," Toback said. "I even have a sweatshirt with that printed on the front. Five of us from the office go to garage sales on Thursdays and Fridays during our lunch hour."

Johnson recently made the bead business her full-time career. After years of waiting tables at La Cucaracha on Grand and later Bridgeman's in Highland Park, she is now working at the Bead Monkey in Victoria Crossing West.

Johnson's private collection of beads has grown enormously over the years. "I have a whole room devoted to beads," she said. "Well, actually it's my bedroom-slash-bead room." Johnson's eclectic creations include wired and beaded wine, margarita and cordial glasses. "They make great wedding gifts," she said.

Despite moving to Denver several years ago, Barrett still tries to return for art fairs like the one at Highland Fest. Although trained as a graphic artist, she too is now working for a Denver bead store.

"Joy is very resourceful," Johnson said. "A couple of years ago at Highland Fest she had made these beaded hair sticks that hold your hair up in a twist. They were a big hit the first day and we sold out. So Joy ran down to the corn dog people and borrowed some of their sticks. That night she drilled, painted and

beaded them. They sold like crazy the next day, too."

Barrett often sends packages of her work for Johnson and Toback to sell at art fairs. Recently she has been making what she calls "spirit totems"—necklaces strung with bone beads.

"Joy is very resourceful," Johnson said. "A couple of years ago at Highland Fest she had made these beaded hair sticks. They were a big hit the first day and we sold out. So Joy ran down to the corn dog people and borrowed some of their sticks. That night she drilled, painted and beaded them. They sold like crazy the next day, too."

Veteran Highland Fest-goers will notice a big change this year. Motivated by safety concerns, Ford Parkway will be closed to motorized traffic east of Cleveland Avenue to allow browsers more freedom of movement and vendors more space to display their wares. In the past, the street remained open with artists and the crowds crammed together on the sidewalk.

"There were only some orange cones to protect the crowds from the traffic," Berg said. "This will be much safer."

A brochure listing all the artists and craftspeople by category and a map designating their locations will be available at the Highland Business Association's information booth during the festival weekend.



Johnson, Toback and partner Joy Barrett combine garage sale finds with freshwater pearls, semiprecious stones and specialty beads to create bracelets, necklaces, earrings, hair ornaments and other decorative items.

Portion of Ford Parkway will be closed during Highland Fest

Ford Parkway will be closed to motorized traffic from Cleveland Avenue to the Highland Park Library to accommodate pedestrians during Highland Fest '98. The parkway will close at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 14, and will reopen at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 16.

The Highland Business Association decided to close the street to make it safer for pedestrians to take in the 31st annual Highland Art Fair. In the past, the fair fanned out along the sidewalks in all four directions from the intersection of Ford and Cleveland. However, increasing crowds on the

congested sidewalks were increasingly forcing some people into the street.

During this year's festival, the art fair booths will be set up in the street between Cleveland and Kenneth, and pedestrian traffic will move down the center of Ford Parkway.

The section of Ford Parkway between Kenneth and the library will be reserved for an expanded schedule of children's games and activities. Barricades will be set up at Howell Street, but local traffic will be allowed to access Ford Parkway businesses and residences as far west as the library.

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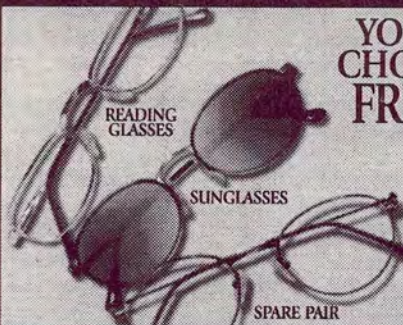
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PEARLE VISION

Staying in step

Highland Fest lineup offers plenty of activities for athletically inclined

by Bill Wagner

Sports have always played a big part of Highland Fest and this year's celebration will continue the tradition. Whether you're inclined to slip on your shin guards, lace up your running shoes, oil your mitt or just watch from the sidelines, here's a look at what you can expect during Highland Fest weekend on August 14-16:

3V3 SOCCER CHALLENGE

The second annual Highland Fest 3V3 Soccer Challenge will begin at 11:00 a.m. Sunday, August 16, at the Groveland Recreation Center, 2045 St. Clair Ave. A non-competitive event for children ages 5-12, the challenge was created last summer by longtime Highland Park coach Bill Driver as a way for youngsters to improve their soccer skills while having fun.

"It's a great activity without any pressure on the kids," Driver said. "The three-on-three format allows kids to learn the game and gives them a lot of touches of the ball."

The games are played on fields half the size of a regulation field with smaller goals to create a faster game and keep players from getting bored, Driver said. No goalies are used, which forces all three players to be involved in the action.

Each three-person team is guaranteed to play three games within a three-hour time period. The cost is \$5.00 per player. Participants will receive soccer trading cards and a

drawing will be held to win soccer balls and T-shirts.

Registration forms are available at recreation centers and the Jewish Community Center, or by calling Driver at 651-699-6226.

RIVER RUN

The Midway YMCA will host the annual Highland Fest River Run on Saturday, August 15. The 10K run will start at 8:00 a.m. outside Bruegger's Bagel Bakery in Highland Village Center. The route will follow Ford Parkway west to Mississippi River Boulevard and north to the Marshall Avenue-Lake Street Bridge before looping back to Bruegger's.

A 5K run-walk will begin at 9:30 a.m. also outside of Bruegger's, while a half-mile Fun Run for youngsters under age 12 will take place at 8:05 a.m. in front of the Fairview Highland Park Clinic at 2155 Ford Pkwy.

The River Run continues to draw more participants every year since it was rerouted in 1991. Last year, 890 runners turned out for the event, according to race coordinator Jeanne McMahon of the Midway Y. If the weather holds, she expects this year's race to again produce a bumper crop of contestants.

Awards will be given to the top three male and female finishers in the 10K run in each of the following age categories: 14-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60 and older. YWCA commemorative cups will be given to the finishers in the 5K and young participants in the Fun Run will receive a colorful T-shirt, ribbon and race bag.



Runners will take off from in front of Bruegger's Bagels in Highland Village Center for the start of the annual Highland Fest River Run on Saturday, August 15. Photos by Mike Long.

The registration fee for the 10K and 5K races is \$12 by August 12 and \$17 thereafter. The fee for the Fun Run is \$8.00. Registration forms are available at the Midway Y, the Fairview Highland Park Clinic, Blimpies in Highland and local Bruegger's shops.

Volunteers are being sought to help with registering runners, setting up, cleaning up and doing a number of other jobs. For information, call the Midway Y at 651-646-4557.

SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

Hillcrest Recreation Center director Colleen Law hopes to have 24 teams in the Highland Fest men's softball tournament on Saturday and Sunday, August 15-16. The double-elimination tourney will feature some of the best Class C, D and E teams from

the Twin Cities. They will compete at the Hillcrest, Edgumbe and Riverside playgrounds.

The tournament is co-sponsored by the Hillcrest Booster Club and Tiffany's Sports Bar & Grille.

The entry fee is \$125 per team and the registration deadline is August 7. Trophies will be presented to the top three finishers. For information, call Hillcrest at 651-298-5779 or Tiffany's at 651-690-4747.

LITTLE LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

The 10th annual Highland Fest Youth Baseball Classic will once again draw more than 80 teams from across the metro area to compete for trophies in six age divisions.

Sporting/see next page

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Sporting side of festival /from previous page

The tournament is being conducted over three consecutive weekends at the Ford Little League fields at Cleveland and Montreal avenues. The 10- and 13-year-olds played their tournament the weekend of July 30-August 2. The 11- and 14-year-olds will play Thursday through Sunday, August 6-9, and the 12- and 15-year-olds will play Wednesday through Saturday, August 12-15.

Most of the teams in the tournament are from the Twin Cities and their suburbs, but others have traveled in the past from as far away as Omaha, Nebraska, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, according to coordinator Dick Powers. Each team is guaranteed three games and trophies are awarded to the top three teams in each division.

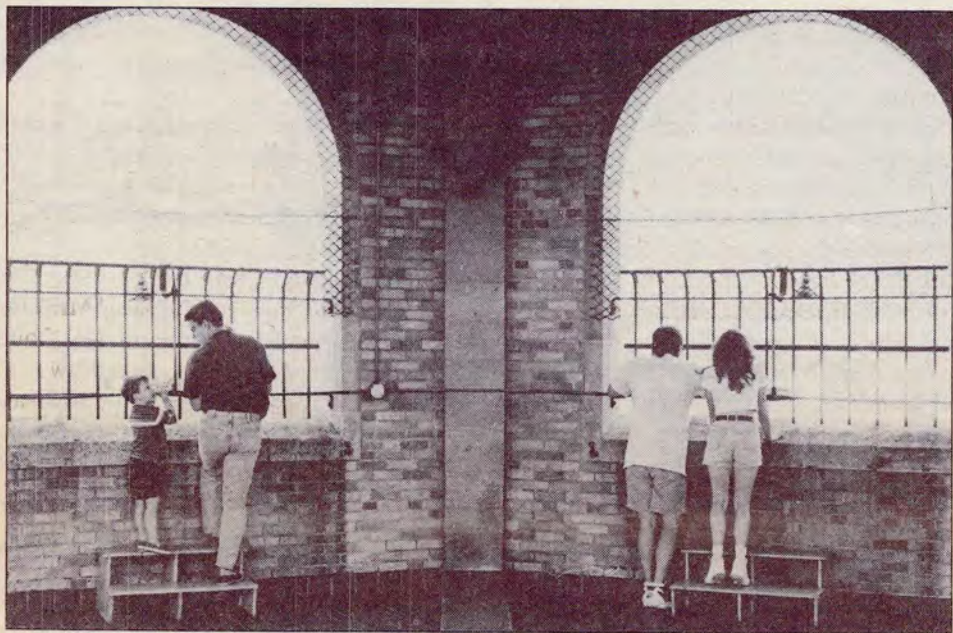
DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT

Disc golf enthusiasts will have a chance to flex their throwing arms during the Highland Fest Open on Saturday, August 15. Registration and an introduction to the sport will take place at 10:00 a.m. at the first hole of the Highland Park course, which is located at Montreal Avenue and Antonio Drive.



Some of the best Little Leaguers around will compete in the 10th annual Highland Fest Youth Baseball Classic.

Entry fees range from \$2.00 to \$5.00, depending on the various divisions based on age or skill. Prizes will be awarded. For information, call Scott Hanna at 651-690-5676.



Visitors enjoy the vista from the water tower's observation deck. Photos by Mike Long.

Highland Water Tower climbers will discover room with a view

A bird's-eye view from one of the highest perches in St. Paul will be yours to enjoy on August 15 and 16 compliments of the St. Paul Water Utility and Highland Fest. On that Saturday and Sunday, the brick-and-stone Highland Water Tower will be open to the public for self-guided tours from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Those who climb the 151 steps to the observation deck at the top of the tower will be rewarded for their efforts with a panoramic view of the surrounding area. And on a clear day that area encompasses nearly all of St. Paul and Minneapolis and many of their suburbs.

The 70-year-old water tower is situated on a knoll at the southeast corner of Snelling Avenue and Ford Parkway—the second highest point of land in the city limits. (A rock that sits on the Hillcrest Country Club at the northeast corner of St. Paul is a few feet higher.)

The tower was constructed in 1928 at a cost of \$70,000. Credit for the distinctive octagonal design is given to architect Clarence Wigington, who was hired in 1915 by the city of St. Paul. He was the first black architect in the country to be employed by a major city. The Highland landmark features stone arches, carved downspouts and benches on the stairway landings for those who would like a breather on the way up.

The tower is still being used to help increase water pressure in the Highland and Macalester-Groveland neighborhoods.



A playhouse version of the 127-foot-high water tower is being raffled off as part of Highland Fest. The drawing for the playhouse, which was built by Authentic Construction, will be held at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, August 16, at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Proceeds will be shared by the Hillcrest and Linwood recreation centers. Raffle tickets cost \$2.00 each.



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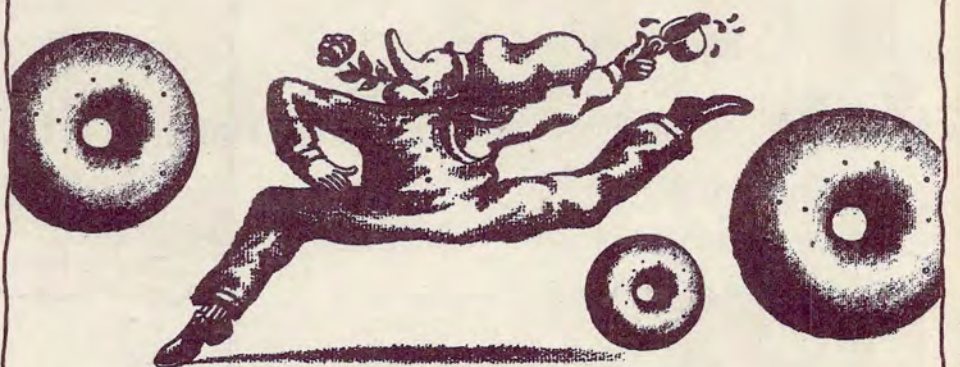
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THE HBA TODAY

BY BARBARA DUCHARME, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HIGHLAND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

HIGHLAND FEST STREET CLOSING

The Highland Business Association has received permission to close Ford Parkway from Cleveland Avenue to the Highland Park Library during the weekend of Highland Fest. The street will close at 3:00 p.m. Friday, August 14, and reopen at 6:00 p.m. Sunday, August 16.

Members of the Highland Fest committee first discussed closing Ford Parkway to all but pedestrian traffic during Highland Fest back in 1994. Each year, there have been near misses between cars and pedestrians. The width of the sidewalks in Highland Village, combined with the planters, decorative light poles, art tents and growing number of festival-goers was setting the stage for an accident. Pedestrians were dodging into the street to navigate through the art fair traffic.

Another problem is the abundance of curb cuts in the Village. A year did not go by without at least one elderly art fair-goer taking a spill. The city of St. Paul, Highland District Council and St. Paul Police Department, among others, suggested closing the street, but because of resistance from some businesses, the association chose not to pursue it.

The committee looked at temporarily narrowing Ford Parkway to one lane in each direction for Highland Fest '97. However, because that measure was unacceptable to the police, nothing was done for last summer's festival.

At the first organizing meeting for Highland Fest '98, the push began to close Ford Parkway between Cleveland and Kenneth, and to move the art fair to that block only. Art booths would be set up in the street, with pedestrian traffic moving down the center. Highland Fest committee members canvassed area business owners and managers to get their comments. The vast majority of them were either in favor of the change or at least agreed not to fight the closing. After discussing the change with the HBA board, the decision was made to head in that direction.

In March, committee discussions centered on another potentially dangerous problem: the flow of pedestrian traffic from the art fair to the children's area on Kenneth and the entertainment area in Hillcrest Park. The suggestion was made to close Ford another half block—to the Highland Library.



The Highland Art Fair will put on a new face for Highland Fest '98 when it moves into the street. Photo by Mike Long.

The children's area will be moved to that half block, making for safe, easy access for pedestrians to get to all Highland Fest activities.

The block party permit received from the city actually allows the association to close Ford Parkway from Cleveland to Howell Street. However, motor vehicle access will be allowed to businesses and residences between Howell and the library.

The Highland Fest committee plans to revisit the street closing issue again after this year's event. Suggestions or comments may be directed to Barbara Ducharme at the Highland Business Association, 2100 Ford Pkwy., or to festival chair Liz Flynn at RE/MAX Crossroads, 2100 Ford Pkwy. They also may be brought up in person during a Highland Fest evaluation meeting set for 8:30 a.m. Thursday, September 3, at Perkin's Restaurant in Highland Village.

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THE KIOSK

Wednesday/August 5

AN ICE CREAM SOCIAL will be held at 7:00 this evening at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 436 N. Roy St. There also will be live music.

A SIMPLE LIVING GROUP for those interested in "downsizing" their lifestyle will meet at 7:00 this evening at Minnehaha United Church of Christ, 4001 S. 38th Ave., Minneapolis. The topic of this month's meeting will be health and exercise.

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, 1375 St. Paul Avenue, will offer the following computer classes in August: an introductory class on basic graphic design from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, August 5, 12, 19 and 26 (\$75, \$60 for JCC members); a class to learn about the Internet and how to set up an e-mail account from 10:00 a.m. to noon on Mondays, August 10, 17 and 24 (\$45, \$30 for JCC members); and a class on learning how to use a genealogy program from 10:00 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays, August 12 and 19 (\$40, \$25 for JCC members). To register, call 651-698-0751.

A SUPPORT GROUP for people dealing with depression and mania and for the support-givers in their lives will meet from 7:00 to 8:30 this evening and on August 19 at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. For information, call Judy at 651-698-0751.

Thursday/August 6

BECKETWOOD COOPERATIVE, 4300 W. River Pkwy., Minneapolis, invites the public to an evening of outdoor music from 7:00 to 9:00 tonight. Merv's Dixielanders will provide the music. Ice cream, popcorn and lemonade will be served.

Saturday/August 8

THE 1998 ST. PAUL MARBLES Tournament will be held at 10:30 this morning behind Essence of Nonsense Ltd., a toy store at 1783 St. Clair Ave. Rounds of "Our Ringer," a two-person game, will be played. The second annual tournament is open to players of all ages. A \$5.00 entry fee is due by August 1. Free copies of the game rules are available at Essence of Nonsense. For information, call 651-698-7611.

A "TREASURE SALE" will be conducted by Altrusa International of St. Paul from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. today at the home of Olga Zoltai, 476 Summit Ave. Proceeds from the sale of items that have been donated by the members of the local chapter of Altrusa will support the international service organization's own community service projects as well as those of the East Metro Occupational Industrial Center, Model Cities, the Dorothy Day Center and a variety of literacy projects.

Sunday/August 9

A PICNIC will be held at 5:00 this evening at Boyd Park on Selby Avenue. Hot dogs and lemonade will be provided and neighbors should bring a dish to share. At 7:00 p.m. Songs of Hope, a group made up of children ages 10-13 from a wide variety of



A melting potluck. The Highland Mac-Groveland Family Center's third annual multicultural community picnic was deemed a success as families from a variety of ethnic backgrounds gathered on July 26 at the Highland Park Pavilion to share food, games and music from their respective countries. Pictured participating in a potato sack race, from left, are Marisol and Diana Olbera, and Lupe Castillo. Photo by Kristine Heykants.

cultural backgrounds, will perform. The event is free.

AN ICE CREAM SOCIAL will be held from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. today at Cleveland Avenue United Methodist Church, 225 S. Cleveland Ave. There will be face painting, balloons, music and a clown.

Monday/August 10

A PUBLIC MEETING will be conducted by the Ramsey County Charter Commission at 7:00 this evening in Room 550 of the West Building at the Ramsey County Government Center, 50 W. Kellogg Blvd. For information, call 651-266-8012.

A DRIVER IMPROVEMENT CLASS for those age 55 and older will be offered from noon to 4:00 p.m. today and tomorrow at House of Hope Church, 797 Summit Ave. The cost is \$16.50. To register, call toll free 1-888-234-1294.

Tuesday/August 11

A 55 ALIVE senior driver refresher course will be offered from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. today at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. The course is for those age 55 and older who have already taken the eight-hour class. The fee is \$8.00. Call 651-698-0751.

THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB will meet at 7:30 this evening in Carbone's parking lot at Davern Street and Randolph Avenue for a walk around the neighborhood. For information, call Chuck at 644-7502.

Wednesday/August 12

PROPERTY TAX REFORM will be discussed during a meeting hosted by state Senator Sandy Pappas, chair of the Senate Property Tax Division, today and Wednesday, August 19, in Room 15 of the state Capitol. For information, call 651-296-1802.

THE LONGFELLOW GARDEN CLUB will meet at 7:00 this evening at the Mother Earth Garden Center, 42nd Avenue and 38th Street, Minneapolis.

A FREE LANDSCAPE PAINTING CLASS will be held from 9:00 a.m. to noon today on Harriet Island. Staff from the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area will give a brief overview of the site's significance and then artists can set to work capturing the mighty Mississippi. Participants should bring their own painting or sketching materials. Call 651-290-4160.

Thursday/August 13

DODGE NATURE CENTER, 365 W. Marie Ave., West St. Paul, will offer "Honey Harvest: The Business of Beekeeping" from 6:30 to 8:00 this evening. The cost is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.50 for children. For reservations, call 455-4531.

Saturday/August 15

A WALKING TOUR of Irvine Park will step out at 1:30 this afternoon and tomorrow from the Alexander Ramsey House, 265

S. Exchange St. The cost is \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors and \$3.00 for children ages 6-15. For reservations, call 651-296-8760.

THE 13TH ANNUAL RIVER ROAD RUN, a motorcycle tour to benefit multiple sclerosis research, will be held today and tomorrow. Bikers will begin at the state Capitol and follow a scenic route through Minnesota and Wisconsin. More than 150 riders took part in last year's tour. The registration fee is \$25. Call the MS Society at 612-870-1500.

AN OPEN HOUSE will be held from noon to 4:00 p.m. today at the state Capitol. Guided tours will be given on the half hour with the last one leaving at 3:00 p.m. Visitors will see historical characters and hear their stories about the construction, decoration and artwork of the Capitol. For information, call 651-296-2881.

THE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL class of 1958 will hold its 40-year reunion today at the Town and Country Club. Call Joan Webster Mears at 651-453-1521.

"LAND CRUISE," the Temple of Aaron's 1998 annual fund-raiser, will take place at 7:30 this evening at the synagogue, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd. Comic singer Judy Kolba will be the featured entertainer. There also will be a gourmet dessert and fruit reception and a silent auction. For tickets, priced from \$25 to \$500, call 651-698-8874.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL IGBOFEST, a free festival celebrating the heritage and culture of Igbo-speaking people from Eastern Nigeria, will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. today in McCarthy Gymnasium at the University of St. Thomas. There will be storytelling, dancing, masquerades, ethnic foods and other Igbo traditions. Call 651-644-2010.

A FREE CAR SEAT INSPECTION will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. today at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1935 St. Clair Ave. Specialists trained by the national Safe Kids Buckle-Up program will examine the seats for proper installation and fit. Call 651-699-6886.

THE TEMPLE OF AARON, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd., will host a Shabbat Lunch and Learn study group today. The cost is \$5.00. Call 651-698-8874.

AN OPEN HOUSE will be held from 1:00 to 4:00 this afternoon at Ballaretrato Dance Theatre, 4259 S. Minnehaha Ave., Minneapolis. Other open houses will be held from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. August 17, 19, 25 and 27 and from 10:00 a.m. to noon August 22 and 29. Classes will begin September 8. Call 612-722-5491.

Sunday/August 16

"THE JAPANESE LANTERN LIGHTING Festival: An Evening in the Japanese Garden" will be held from 6:00 to 9:00 this evening at the Como Park Conservatory. There will be tours of the garden, the lighting of the lanterns, and an opportunity for children to create their own miniature gardens. There will also be Japanese food by Fuji-Ya for sale and Theater Mu will perform on Taiko drums. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted.

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Snelling-Hamline COUNCIL CAPSULE

SNELLING-HAMLIN GATEWAY

The Snelling-Hamline Community Council will hold a meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, August 17, to discuss the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) property on the southwest corner of Snelling and Concordia avenues. The property is currently being used as a storage site for MnDOT construction equipment.

Residents who are concerned about the safety and prominent visibility of the property will discuss options for improving the site and preventing panhandlers from congregating there. For information, call community organizer Sherilyn Young at 651-644-1085.

SNELL-HAM MAKES '48 HOURS'

The Snelling-Hamline neighborhood will be highlighted along with other St. Paul neighborhoods during a "48 Hours" segment scheduled to air at 9:00 p.m. Thursday, August 13, on Channel 4. In June, a CBS news crew was in town taking

SCHOOL NOTES

The Central High School class of 1988 will hold its 10-year reunion on Friday, August 21, at the Radisson Inn-St. Paul. For information, call 612-557-0177.

Minnesota Transition Schools, a charter school program now in its third year, will host open houses from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 12, at its two Minneapolis locations: 3244 S. 34th Ave. for students in grades K-6 and 2526 S. 27th Ave. for students in grades 7-12. The year-round program specializes in career and post-secondary education. Its facilities include flight simulation and photography labs, sound and video production space, a computer lab, woodshop and engineering programs. For information, call the elementary program at 612-729-9140 or the middle school and high school programs at 612-728-8915.

Highland Park High School is now working with Bernard C. Harris Publishing to create the school's first alumni directory. Current names, addresses and phone numbers are needed of graduates from all class years. Anyone with a reunion list, class

footage of neighborhood scenes, including a block club meeting, a block party, a neighborhood cleanup and a sex offender notification meeting.

SPEEDING ON SNELLING

The community council's board is interested in hearing from residents who are concerned about speeding motorists on Snelling Avenue. Those with concerns are asked to call 651-644-1085.

AYD MILL DRAFT STUDY

The Ayd Mill Road Task Force plans to release the draft of an environmental impact study on the roadway this month. Public hearings on the study will be held in September or October. The Snelling-Hamline Community Council will host a community meeting this fall to discuss the best use of the Ayd Mill corridor. For information, call 651-644-1085.

PLANT GRANTS

The Snelling-Hamline Community Council is offering apartment dwellers and landlords a hand in beautifying their buildings. The council will provide up to \$50 in matching funds per building to help pay for new flowers and plants. For an application, call Christine Yanchar at 651-644-1085.

newsletter or other resource containing such information is asked to call Harris Publishing at 1-800-286-4365, fax the company at 1-800-829-4142 or send updates by e-mail to: cdavenpo@bcharrispub.com.

Dr. Carla Breunig of Merriam Park was a member of the first graduating class of Northwestern School of Homeopathy at the University of Minnesota on July 18. Breunig, whose chiropractic practice is located at 970 Raymond Ave., is now eligible to take the national certification exam in classical homeopathy in November.

The St. Paul Early Childhood Family Education booklet "Families Today" has been mailed to parents. Pre-registration for fall classes are due by August 22. Those who do not receive a booklet may pick one up at the nearest St. Paul library. Classes will begin in early September. Call 651-293-6675.

The College of St. Catherine is seeking families to befriend new international students who will be arriving for the new school year on September 1. Families are asked to house a student her first night and invite the student to stay overnight a few times a year. An orientation session for the Friendship Family program will be held before students arrive. For information, call Amy Mukamuri at 651-690-6014.

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ON THE TOWN

And the Beads go on

Latest incarnation of a St. Paul band has found the formula for good live music

by Bob Gilbert

There aren't too many ways for a man to make a name for himself while he's still in his early 20s, but the four young men in the Beads are giving it their best shot. They're building a reputation for playing rock 'n' roll that anybody can dance to. Though they're not quite ready to quit their day jobs, they have been playing every Thursday night at Sweeney's Saloon, 96 N. Dale St.

The Beads are made up of Juavier Trejo on lead guitar, Nate Stevens on rhythm guitar and two Ramsey Hill residents, Casey O'Brien and Nick Dodd, on bass and drums, respectively. They consider themselves a party band, and over time their audience has become their friends. The band just happens to be on stage.

The Beads play mostly original music,

though they've also put their stamp on familiar cover tunes ranging from Marvin Gaye to Creedence Clearwater Revival. Asked why they spend so many nights in smoky clubs, the quartet has a ready response—it's fun.

The Beads pride themselves on their spontaneity. Collectively, they allow themselves the freedom to play what they feel, and because of that each of their songs takes on a life of its own. While that freedom can be a recipe for disaster, the Beads have grown to trust each other's musical impulses. Sometimes they even surprise themselves how good they sound.

Good manners is one of the things that makes that possible. The Beads compare their stage performance to a four-way conversation that no one dominates. On nights when they're really on, they're watching and listening carefully to what each other is playing. That's when the spontaneity

kicks in.

"Any good live band has a lot of flexibility," Dodd said. "We don't play the same song the same way twice because we're always trying different stuff. Once we get going, we never know where the song is going to go. It's like a trip. You can run around all over the place, but eventually you're going to get back to where you started."

"If Casey gets an idea in a song and runs with it, I have to try and figure out where he's going with it and try to complement it," Dodd said. "In that situation, Juav and Nate get into it and take it out someplace new for maybe two or three minutes and then at the end of it we look at each other and know when to come back into the tune."

Trejo and Stevens are the original members of the Beads. They grew up on the West Side and began playing together about six years ago. Their first gig was at the Babylon Coffee Shop on West 7th Street.

They didn't have a name yet, and when the owner agreed to let them play he asked for one. Trejo and Stevens turned to each other for an answer and found one in the bead necklaces that each of them was wearing.

"Juav (Trejo) writes all our songs," Stevens said. "He has a great voice and comes up with catchy tunes. I don't exactly know what makes a tune catchy, but they work."

A year ago O'Brien and Dodd joined the band and, according to Stevens, dramatically changed the Beads' sound. O'Brien and Dodd like jazz and funk. They're also members of Vanguard, an R&B and funk band that has been playing regularly at the Quest Club in downtown Minneapolis. They have a completely different feel for the songs the Beads play, Stevens said, and the beat they lay down is tighter and easier to dance to.

The Beads/see page 36



Drummer Nick Dodd, bass player Casey O'Brien and the rest of the Beads lay down a beat that has patrons at Sweeney's Saloon on their feet. Photo by Mike Long.

Artward bound

Grand Hill Gallery pays homage to owner's love of open-air painting

by Victoria McCurdy

Don't look for local artist Doug Nielsen at his shop, the Grand Hill Gallery, from Sunday to Tuesday unless you have an appointment. Chances are, Nielsen will be heading out of the city in his zebra-striped jeep for a little *plein aire* painting. Nielsen enjoys painting outdoors at favorite spots like the Mississippi River bottom or on his land on the North Shore.

According to Nielsen, *plein aire*, French for open air, is an ancient art form. "It's been around forever," he said, "but its popularity was fueled in the 1850s when paint became available in tubes so artists didn't have to grind their own colors. Painting became a great deal more portable then."

Nielsen travels light on his artistic excursions, typically taking only two boxes of equipment along to set up his outdoor studio. He drives into an area, walks to a spot with a stunning landscape and then captures it on canvas.

The walls of his gallery and frame shop at 333 Grand Ave. are a record of his travels: rocks jutting from the waves of Lake Superior, a lone deer pausing in a verdant thicket, a spring morning in a pasture.

Though Nielsen is passionate about painting, picture framing is his bread and butter. With years of framing experience and an artist's eye, Nielsen said he feels he has something unique to offer.

"It's the art of matching frames with the pictures, making them look their best, that's



Doug Nielsen enjoys getting outside for some *plein aire* painting. He is pictured in front of the mural he fashioned on the fence next to his Grand Hill Gallery. Photo by Brad Stauffer.

important," he said, "whether it's a painting your kid has done or a fine piece of artwork."

Nielsen cuts his mat boards by hand, a skill that pneumatic tools have replaced in many framing shops. He also cleans and restores

oil paintings and repairs old frames.

Nielsen ran local frame shops—including the Skyway Gallery, Beverly Osborne Gallery

Grand/see page 36

Family



A Comedy Film Series for families will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays in the St. Paul Student Center on the campus of the University of Minnesota, 2017 Buford Ave. The line-up will include the following: *Little Rascals* on August 5; and *Mary Poppins* on August 12. The cost is \$1.00 or free for students.

The Hungry Mind bookstore, 1648 Grand Ave., will offer the following authors and storytellers for children at 11:00 a.m. on Saturdays: Hilari Baatz on August 8; and Gail Nordstrom on August 15. Admission is free. Call 651-699-0587.

The Red Balloon Bookshop, 891 Grand Ave., will offer the following storytime activities at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays: Paul Mueller, owner of The Summit Fly Fishing Company, will demonstrate some fly fishing techniques and share a fish tale or two on Saturday, August 8; and the 3rd annual Little House Festivals Wilder's Little House series will take place from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 15. Admission is free. Call 651-224-8320.

Charlie Maguire, the Singing Ranger, will perform with Lisa Fuglie and Patty Shove at 7:00 p.m. Monday, August 10, in the Nicollet Island Amphitheater. For information, call 651-290-4160, ext. 230.

Nine Nights of Family Fun, a free concert series for families, will take place from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays through September 1 at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. The line-up will include the following performances: Ross Sutter with Scandinavian folk dancing on August 11; and Latin dancing with the Kiko Rangel Trio on August 18. Call 651-296-6126.

The Israeli Scout Friendship Caravan, which consists of 5 boys and 5 girls ages 16-17 presenting Israel through music, song and dance, will perform at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, August 11, at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. Admission is free. For information, call Joyce at 612-377-8330.

Gulliver's Tantrums will be presented by the group of 8-12-year-olds from St. Paul's inner city that participated in "Summer in the Cities," the five-week musical theater workshop, at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, August 12-13, at Ordway's McKnight Theater. Admission is free, but reservations are required by calling 612-874-0400.

"Lego Ocean Adventure," a new hands-on exhibit exploring what it's like to live and work in the ocean depths, will open Saturday, August 15, at the Minnesota Children's Museum. The exhibit will remain on view until December 6. Admission is \$3.95 for toddlers and seniors, \$5.95 for others. Call 651-225-6000.

History Hijinx programs for children ages 3-11 will be offered from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sundays at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. The line-up includes the following: children can design their own paper planes and fly them to a bull's-eye on the center's lawn on August 16. Admission is free. Call 651-296-6126.

Books



The Hungry Mind bookstore, 1648 Grand Ave., will host the following readings at 8:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted): Andrea Ashworth, author of *Once in a House on Fire* on Thursday, August 6. Admission is free. Call 651-699-0587.

A travel talk and photo exhibit will be given by Nikolas Werngren, author of the photo essay

ON THE TOWN

briefly



The Mimos Civilis Mime Company directed by Michael Hennessy will present a free outdoor performance of comic and poetic mime with a dash of audience participation at noon Saturday, August 15, in Hillcrest Park, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Call 612-722-3063.

Signs of Swedish Roots in North America, at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, August 11, at Books for Travel, Etc., 857 Grand Ave. For information, call 651-225-8006.

Dance



A Swedish Hustle and Disco Ballroom Dance will be held from 9:00 p.m. to midnight Saturday, August 8, at the Twin Cities Ballroom, at the corner of W. 7th and Walnut streets, downtown St. Paul. There also will be group lessons from 8:00 to 8:45 p.m. Admission is \$10, or \$5.00 for students with ID. For information, call 771-4718.

The TGIS Singles Social Club will hold the following smoke-free singles dances at 8:30 p.m.

on Saturdays: Dancer will provide the music for a dance on August 15 in the Grand Ballroom of the Thunderbird Hotel, 2201 E. 78th St., Bloomington. Admission is \$10, with a \$2.00 discount for those arriving before 9:00 p.m. Call 651-644-3443.

Music



Riverview Cafe, 3753 S. 42nd Ave., Minneapolis, is now offering live music on Friday and Saturday evenings. Call 612-722-7234.

Summer at Northrop, a series of free concerts beginning at noon outside Northrop Auditorium, will feature the Irv Williams Quartet on Wednes-

day, August 5; the Hyperdelics on Thursday, August 6; Prague '24 on Friday, August 7; Tim Sparks on Monday, August 10; Hispano on Wednesday, August 12; Bomba on Friday, August 14; and Urban Renewal on Wednesday, August 19. Call 612-624-2345.

Melodious Lunches, a noon-time concert series held on Thursdays in the Terrace Cafe on the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota, will continue with the following performers: Shelly Mitternack on August 6; and Greenwood Tree on August 13.

The Highland Business Association is sponsoring free music from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Thursdays at the kiosk on Cleveland Avenue and Ford Parkway. This month's line-up includes Blue River on August 6; David Simmons on August 13; and Members of the Central High School Band on August 20.

"Swing Night in the Caves," will take place from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. every Thursday at the Wabasha Street Caves, 215 S. Wabasha St. The line-up will include the following: The Minnesota Jazz Orchestra on August 6; and The Moonlight Serenaders on August 13. Free dance lessons will be given at 6:15 p.m. Admission is \$6.00. Call 651-224-1191.

David Simmons, composer at Joyful Church in Highland Park, will perform from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Saturday, August 8, at the Roastery, 769 Cleveland Ave.

Theater



Park Square Theatre has opened *The Fantasticks*, the longest-running musical in the world, in the Historic Hamm Building, 20 W. Seventh Place. Performances will continue at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays, at 8:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and at 2:00 p.m. Sundays until August 29. For

tickets, priced from \$8.00 to \$24, call 651-291-7005.

The Brave New Workshop is performing *Flanagan's Wake*, an audience-interactive comedy that centers around an Irish wake, at Kieran's Irish Pub, 330 S. 2nd Ave., Minneapolis. Admission is \$18 in advance and \$20 at the door. For tickets, call 612-332-6620.

Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* has opened at the Guthrie Theater. Running in repertory with Wilde's play will be Brian Friel's *A Month in the Country* running through August 27. *The Importance of Being Earnest* will run through August 30. For tickets, priced from \$15.50 to \$37.50, call 612-377-2224.

The Phantom of the Opera has opened at the Orpheum Theatre. Performances will continue at 8:00 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, at 7:30 p.m. on Sundays and at 2:00 p.m. Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays through August 22. For tickets, priced from \$15 to \$65, call 612-673-0404.

Buddy, The Buddy Holly Story has opened at the Ordway Music Theatre. Performances will be given at 8:00 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, at 2:00 p.m. Saturdays and at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. Sundays through August 9. For tickets, priced from \$24 to \$55, call 651-224-4222.

The Minnesota Fringe Theatre Festival, featuring 40 different productions and 160 performances, will be held Thursday, July 30, through Sunday, August 9, at six different venues in the Loring Park Theater District of Minneapolis. The festival has attracted troupes from across the United States. Some of the local companies performing are the Bald Alice Theatre, Ebullient Theatre Company, Fully Reciprocal Theatre Company, Moxie Theatre and November Blue Theatre Company. Admission is \$8.00 per show. A FringePass good for one performance of each show

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The Street of Crocodiles will be performed by England's Theatre de Complicite at 8:00 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, August 13-15, and at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. Sunday, August 16, at Theatre de la Jeune Lune. The play is based on the life of writer Bruno Schulz, who in 1942 was forced by the Nazis to sort books for banning and was later killed by a Gestapo officer. For tickets, priced from \$17 to \$24, call 612-377-2224.

may be purchased for \$50. For ticket information, call 612-823-6005 or visit the Web site at members.AOL.com/mnfringe.

The Lex-Ham Community Theater will perform the comedy *An Evening of Culture, Faith County II, The Saga Continues* by Mark Landon Smith at 8:00 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, August 6-8 and 13-15, in the E.M. Pearson Theater at Concordia University. For tickets, priced at \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for students, seniors and children, call 651-645-3207.

PlayLabs, The Playwrights' Center's developmental conference for new American plays and playwrights, will culminate with staged readings of five plays on Friday and Saturday, August 7 and 8, in Rarig Center on the West Bank of the University of Minnesota. The line-up will include the following: *The Ruling Passion* by Sherry Kramer at 10:00 a.m., *An Intimate and Terrible Aloneness* by Keith Antar Mason at 3:00 p.m., and *The Pavilion* by Craig Wright at 8:00 p.m. on August 7; *Stop Kiss* by Diana Son at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and *Typhoid Mary* by Bridget Carpenter at 8:00 p.m. on August 8. Admission is \$5.00 per play or \$20 for all five plays. For information, call 612-332-7481.

"**The World of Yiddish Theater** in Story and Song" will be performed by acclaimed actor Bernard Mendelovitch at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, August 16, at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. Free tickets will be available at the JCC front desk. For information, call 651-698-0751.

Hot Shoe Shuffle, a musical comedy from the Fred Astaire and Gene Kelly era but with a 90s spirit, will open Tuesday, August 18, at the Ordway Music Theatre. Performances will continue at 8:00 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, at 2:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays and at

7:30 p.m. on Sundays through September 6. For tickets, priced from \$24 to \$55, call 651-224-4222, or visit their Web site at www.ordway.org.

Film

A film series featuring great films of the decades will be offered at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays in the St. Paul Student Center on the campus of the University of Minnesota, 2017 Buford Ave. The line-up will include the following: *It Happened One Night* on August 7; and *Thelma and Louise* on August 14. The cost is \$1.00 or free for U of M students.

"**Cinema With Passion**," a festival of Hong Kong films, will take place on weekends at Metro State University, 700 E. 7th St. The festival will include the following: *Beast Cop* at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, August 9; *The Big Heat* at midnight Friday, August 7, at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, August 8, and at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, August 16; and *The Lucky Guy* at midnight Friday, August 14, and at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, August 15. Admission is \$6.00. Call 612-376-7715.

Exhibits

Highland Community Education students Rochelle Weiss and Sherman Schultz have their artwork on exhibit at the Penn Lake Library, 88th Street and Penn Avenue, Bloomington. They are students of Macalester-Groveland art instructor Chris Matteson. The exhibit, which also features the works of Matteson's art students from Bloomington and Minneapolis, will remain on view until August 20.

An exhibit of new works by 1997 McKnight Artist Fellowship recipients Linda Christian-

son and Matthew Metz will open with a reception from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Friday, August 7, at the Northern Clay Center, 2424 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis. The exhibit will remain on view until September 12.

Etc.

The **St. Paul Police Band** has openings in their clarinet and French horn sections. Rehearsals are held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays. For more information, call Mary Jo at 651-771-3442.

A **Minnesota Jewish Arts Directory** is being published by Rimon, the Jewish Metropolitan Council on Arts and Culture of the Minneapolis Jewish Federation. If you are a visual, performing or literary artist, or an arts administrator, scholar or educator who self-identifies as Jewish and would like to be listed in the directory, call Gina at 612-417-2353.

The **Uptown Art Fair**, the Upper Midwest's largest outdoor art fair, will take place from noon to 8:30 p.m. Friday, August 7, from 10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, August 8, and from 10:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Sunday, August 9, in the Uptown neighborhood of Minneapolis.

The **Powderhorn Festival of the Arts** will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 8, and from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 9, in Powderhorn Park in Minneapolis. Admission is free.

Minnesota Folk '98, an open-air festival showcasing the wide variety of folk cultures, from music, dance and visual arts to storytelling and games, will take place from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sunday, August 9, at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Admission is free. For information, call 651-296-6126.

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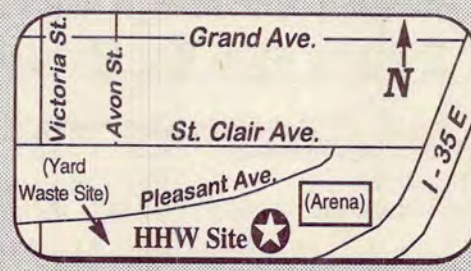
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The Beads go on/

from page 33

"Me and Casey have this weird psychic link on stage," Dodd said. "We know each other well, and when Casey is going somewhere in a song I know where he's going and when he's going to change and he knows what I'm going to do too. We usually change at the same time and we look at each other and grin and say, 'yeah, that's it.' I've never locked up with any bass player the way I've locked up with Casey."

The Beads expanded to seven members at one point last year, but after six months and 80 gigs they broke up. It was only recently that they reunited, minus three members.

"Rock 'n' roll bands are like families," Stevens said, "and like most families they suffer a lot of trials and tribulations. Ours was a big family and there was a big family

feud. There were a couple of personality conflicts that nobody felt like working on." It was Dodd, the oldest member of the band,

who made the peace and brought them back together as a quartet.

The Beads' early fans were the hippie crowd drawn to the music of bands like Phish and the Grateful Dead. But since they started playing at Sweeney's their fan base has expanded to include what O'Brien called "the white cat Tommy (St. Thomas) frat crowd" who are downstairs at the bar and come upstairs when they hear the music.

The Beads have plans to release a CD. There's also

some talk of an East Coast tour. But since they've only been back together for two months, they're content for now to enjoy playing together.

The Beads pride themselves on their spontaneity. Collectively, they allow themselves the freedom to play what they feel, and because of that each of their songs takes on a life of its own.

Grand Hill Gallery/

from page 33

and Images Under Glass—for 17 years before starting his own home-based business. The only problem was that business was too good.

"My wife got tired of having framing pieces on the dining room table," he said.

Nielsen began to search for a new location and centered his attention on a former gas station at the bottom of Grand Hill.

"I'd always thought it was a neat little space," he said. "I'd drive by and think, 'You know, somebody ought to do something with that little building.'"

It turned out that the layout was perfect, with room for his gallery, painting studio and framing workshop.

Nielsen negotiated free rent from his landlord while he fixed the sagging ceilings, removed bars from the plate-glass windows and refinished the exterior. Grand Hill Gallery of Plein Aire Paintings opened last fall.

Even with the facelift, Nielsen said he felt that the gallery—which is dwarfed by two large billboards—was still easy to miss. This past spring, he took advantage of a large nondescript white fence that ran along the west side of the property to draw attention to the gallery and his artistic hand. He painted a

garden on the fence complete with a curving path and weeping willow. Nielsen said his intent was to pull the observer's eye toward his shop. The painting has had the desired effect.

"When I was working on it, people were always driving by and waving and honking," he said.

Nielsen is a seasoned veteran at creating designs that grab people's attention. He is a three-time winner of the Grand Avenue Business Association's holiday window decorating contest. One year, he used foam core and sparkling lights to fashion a snowy scene. Another year, he fabricated Santa's sleigh flying through the ceiling, with reindeer coming back out the roof and brightly colored packages spilling out. He garnered another award for creating an ice castle out of foam panels.

"They were all convinced I was crazy," he said.

Nielsen said he plans to feature the works of other *plein aire* painters in his gallery and mount bimonthly shows. Currently, he rehanges his own artwork every few weeks to prevent the space from "getting stagnant." He also sells raku pottery by Angela M. Foley and imported crafts.

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SPORTS

CODY'S CORNER

TOM CODY



Taking my revenge on the golf gods

I don't consider myself a golfer anymore. I play three or four rounds a year—tops. My frustrations with the game have been well-documented in this column over the past couple of decades. In past summers, I spent more time in the 90s than the residents of Phoenix. Since I harbored no realistic hopes for any significant improvement, I pretty much just gave up golf five years ago.

However, that all changed in the last two weeks. On a family reunion weekend at Madden's Resort, I was cajoled into playing a few rounds by three of my teen-age nephews. Maybe I'll never hit a 3-iron straight, I thought, but surely I could certainly take on these guys head to head.

The first morning out, I managed to scrape together a couple of pars and shot an 89.

The next day, for some inexplicable reason, everything fell into place on the par-67 Madden's West Course. On the par-3 first hole, I hit a 3-wood to the green and drained a 20-footer for a birdie. It was back to reality on the next hole: I pumped two hooks into Itasca National Forest and finished with a snowman (8). Still, I made the turn with a 42 on the front nine—good enough to keep me interested.

With six holes to play on the back side, I was just 12 over par. "I've never broken 80," I mentioned to my playing partners on the tee, defying the golf gods in the process. "Six pars and I do it."

Two seconds later, the rain started to fall. I felt like the bishop in the movie *Caddyshack*. "I'm having the round of my life!" I screamed heavenward after parring holes 13 and 14. "We're not quitting!"

Then, to my nephews: "I don't think the heavy stuff is going to come down for a while yet. You kids will just have to tough it out."

I parred the 15th, 16th and 17th holes. On the 18th, the Cody family gallery started forming along the fairway. I smoked my drive into the woods, but found a fortunate opening. I pounded my second shot over the green and had to chip back. I was left with a nasty, 12-foot, downhill putt.

Silence fell over the North Woods as I lined up my putt. I tapped the ball and held my breath as it rolled slowly toward

Cody's Corner/see next page

Thar's gold in them thar gills

Luoma reels in second career as pro fisherman

by Chris Smith

Wally Luoma once caught a fish this big.

One day last May he caught six fish that big and won Cabella's Pro-Am Walleye Tournament on Lake Mille Lacs. In fact, he almost always catches fish that big on Mille Lacs.

"I haven't finished out of the money in the last 10 or 12 tournaments on Mille Lacs," said Luoma, a resident of the Cooper Neighborhood in South Minneapolis. "I think I'm probably the leading prize-winner there over the last five years."

Formerly a "team fishing" professional, Luoma is back on the solo circuit this year after half a dozen years off. This summer, weekend walleye tournaments will take him from Garrison, North Dakota, to Green Bay, Wisconsin.

"I just love it," Luoma said. "Fishing a tournament can be a lot of work—keeping track of everything and getting everything stowed and ready for the next morning. But like they say, the worst day fishing is better than the best day working."

Luoma grew up near Powderhorn Park, attended nearby Horace Mann Elementary School and for the past 22 years has been working on the maintenance crew at the Wilder School complex, which replaced Horace



Pro fisherman Wally Luoma shows James Anderson, 9, what to look for in a rod and reel while shopping at the Minnehaha Bait Shop in Minneapolis. Photo by Kristine Heykants.

Mann at Elliot Avenue and East 33rd Street.

Luoma's nickname, of course, is 'Walleye,' and he credits fishing for a lot more than supplementing his income. "Fishing and hunting kept me and my brothers off the streets," he said. "I grew up in the ghetto and a lot of my buddies went to prison or got into drugs and turned their minds into noodles."

"My dad always had time to take us fishing and hunt-

ing," said Luoma. "In the summer, we used to take off first thing in the morning to go fishing. We'd pack lunches and ride bikes down side streets with our rods to Lake Calhoun or Harriet or Nokomis."

In the years after high school, Luoma's summer pastime became softball, though he'd still wet a line with his brothers a few times each year. Then in the early '80s, after happening upon a

tournament on Mille Lacs, he decided to become a professional fisherman. "It was like someone hit me over the head and I saw stars," he said. "I saw the size of the fish they were bringing in and I said, 'That's it. That's what I want to do.'"

Luoma started entering tournaments and "got my butt kicked for a few years," he said. He and brothers Bob

Fishing/see page 39

Summer Time Blues

Beautiful August weather is too good to resist—we have to get out and walk, jog, garden, play softball, or enjoy other outdoor activities.

You feel like you're getting your exercise...but you may be neglecting strength training. The aerobics of softball or the stretching of gardening are great. But if you stay out of the weight room all summer, you'll feel the pain in the fall.

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Cody's Corner: In my hour of glory, the kids are bitten by golf bug /from previous page

the hole and curled along the side of the cup before tipping in. I pumped my fist in the air, just like the pros do on ESPN. The elusive 79 was mine.

KIDS BITTEN BY THE BUG

The trip to Madden's was underwritten by the Cody grandparents, but still proved costly for me. Two of my sons were exposed to the game of golf for the first time and both were hopelessly smitten. Suddenly, our summer plans revolve around the operating hours of local driving ranges. Neither kid seems to be a prodigy, but both can keep the ball in roughly the same ZIP code as the fairway.

Brendan, my little guy, immediately invested his life savings in used equipment from Play It Again Sports. He assembled a first-rate junior set of clubs, complete with a left-handed 5-iron that he found in the garage. (He's right-handed.) He has two sawed-off irons with athletic tape on the grips and a circa 1955 Julius Boros putter that came from grandpa's old bag. No, these aren't exactly Pings.

After an unsuccessful tour of the Highland 9-hole course, the boys discovered the perfect venue for the neophyte duffer: the Mendota Heights Par 3 on Dodd Road. The rates are reasonable and the course is short (1,100 yards from the tips). The ninth hole is listed at 90 yards, but with a good tailwind you could spit a watermelon seed from tee to green. If you or your kids are interested in learning the game, this is the place to go.

SUMMER ODDS & ENDS

• Lost in the hoopla over the chase for Roger Maris' home run record are a couple of other incredible performances this season. Juan Gonzalez's preposterous RBI numbers have the fans abuzz, but Hack Wilson's single-season mark of 190 will remain safe. It will be far harder to break Wilson's record than Maris'.

On the other hand, Seattle shortstop Alex Rodriguez might have a shot at 50 home runs given his current pace, which is unheard of for a middle infielder. Quietly, this guy has turned into the American League's most valuable player. No one has noticed him because Rodriguez hides in the shadow of superstar teammate Ken Griffey Jr.

But the most amazing performance of them all this summer is the New York Yankees' quest for the single-season victories mark. The name of the game is still winning, not home runs, not RBIs, not ERAs. The Yanks were 40 games over .500 by the All-Star break. There just doesn't seem to be any way for even George Steinbrenner to screw this up.

• There are three reasons to stay tuned to the Twins during the Dog Days of August: Todd Walker, David Ortiz and Paul Molitor.

Walker has a legitimate shot at the American League batting championship, especially if manager Tom Kelly can protect him from a few overpowering left-handers down the stretch. His main competitor—Rangers' catcher Ivan Rodriguez—should wilt a bit behind the plate in the Texas heat. The Twins stuck with Walker after a disappointing rookie season in '97. (Actually, they were stuck with Walker, after letting Chuck Knoblauch go to the Yankees.) However, things came out great for the local nine. Walker has proven to



Coach Mike Brown watched his highly rated Hamline American Legion baseball team go down to a disappointing 2-2 finish in last week's double-elimination district tournament. Photo by Michael Dvorak.

be the natural hitter that his Louisiana State resume suggested he was.

Ortiz is the closest thing to Kent Hrbek that the Twins can develop in these economic times. He'll be a three-year mainstay at first base, which is a long time in current baseball years. Ortiz can hit for average and hit with power, and he looks like he's enjoying himself while he's doing it.

Molitor continues to amaze. Since coming off the disabled list with broken ribs last month, he has slid headfirst into bases at least half a dozen times. Youngsters who haven't seen Molly play in person should do it before he calls it quits.

• Suddenly, Cris Carter has become "The Man" on the Twin Cities professional sports scene. The job has been held by people like Fran Tarkenton, Bobby Smith, Harmon Killebrew and Rod Carew over the years. Kirby Puckett was the last guy to hold the title, while Kevin Garnett and Stephon Marbury are the obvious heirs apparent. However, it's Carter who commands the most respect among Minnesota's pro athletes these days. His recent \$24 million, three-year contract guarantees that he'll remain a permanent fixture here. No one plays with more heart, more talent or more poise.

Carter's story has been told and retold, but it's still a fascinating one: A drug problem prompted his release from

the Philadelphia Eagles and the Vikes picked him up for \$1.00. His new contract will cost the team considerably more, but the deal makes sense. With Carter, Jake Reed and Randy Moss running the routes, the Vikes figure to have one of the best passing offenses in the NFL for the next few years. Still, it doesn't matter who's catching the ball if the quarterback isn't doing the job. Brad Johnson's recuperation is still the key to whether the Vikes can move the ball.

GONE TOO SOON

The Hamline American Legion baseball team was ranked among the top three teams in the state all summer. Coach Mike Brown's nine finished the regular season with an 11-2 record, good for a share of the District 4 title with North St. Paul. In the ensuing district tournament, Hamline was ousted with losses to Try-City and Rosetown.

"This was a unique group of kids," Brown said. "We usually have trouble with conflicts during the summer, but this group showed up ready to play all the time. We had some very strong experienced players and some younger kids who were willing to learn."

Hamline's one-two offensive punch came from catcher John Brody (St. Paul Academy '98) and shortstop Jack Hannahan (Cretin-Derham Hall '98). "Brody will play next year at Amherst College and Hannahan will be on scholarship at the U of M," Brown said.

Hamline got off to a good start in the district tournament, beating the Korean Vet Post 14-2. Pitcher Ian O'Connell (CDH '97) threw a five-hitter and knocked in three runs on two hits. Tri-City upended Hamline 11-2 in the second round. "Pitcher Brian Whinnery (CDH '98) had one tough inning and that was the ball game," Brown said. "We were baffled at the plate."

The club stormed back to eliminate neighborhood rival Attacks-Brooks 18-0. Hannahan had two hits and Brody added three, with pitcher John Marzolf (CDH '99) throwing the shutout. In the semifinals on July 29, Rosetown put a premature end to Hamline's season with an 11-6 win. "We left nine guys on base in the first five innings," Brown said, "and we never got that big clutch hit all night."

IN RESPONSE

The letter to the editor in the last issue of the *Villager* in favor of not using a pitching machine in Highland Little League games made a couple of good points. Indeed, the players' pitching skills did improve throughout the season by not using the machine. The strike zone widened a bit during league play and pitchers were able to keep the games somewhat competitive. However, I still contend that the machine would be better for the kids overall. The pitching got better, but the hitting, base running and defense didn't keep pace. Youngsters don't learn much about the game when all they do is walk or strike out.

My 10-year-old son Brendan pitched for the Orioles, not the Rockies, as the letter-writer surmised. He won a few games on the hill for the Birds, who were the regular-season league champs. Though he preferred to pitch, I would've rather seen him pick up more on the other facets of the game this summer.

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Fisherman tackles pro tour

/from page 37

and Dale then joined the team fishing circuit and had enough success to keep at it part-time. Then in 1990, when he and wife Jacquie bought a house on Mille Lacs, Luoma quit touring and contented himself with the numerous walleye tournaments held on that lake each summer.

One of the tournaments is the Wave Wacker Invitational, which he and Jacquie have fished as a team for the last three years. With as many as 220 boats entered, the competition is fierce, Luoma said, perhaps the toughest in the country.

Their first year, the Luomas managed a top-40 finish to earn some prize money. They've been top-20 finishers each of the last two years.

"My wife is not only my biggest supporter, but I love fishing with her," he said. "I'd rather fish with her than 90 percent of the pros out there. I don't know what it is, but I always do better when she's in the boat."

Luoma's success on Mille Lacs made him hungry for the professional tour, where purses have been growing precipitously. For winning Cabella's, Luoma took home \$15,000 and a new boat, motor and trailer, all of which he is selling since he, like every other top pro, is sponsored by a boat company and already has new equipment.

"But in two years the top prize for the Wave Wacker Invitational is going to be \$100,000," he said. "And walleye tournaments are spreading all over. There's going to be a lot more money coming into it."

For that reason, Luoma wants to establish

his credentials beyond Mille Lacs. Like other tournament sports, entry in the professional fishing tour is based on past performance. Sponsors are also attracted to success. Luoma currently has Warrior Boat Company of Maple Plain backing him.

"I'd take a few more sponsors, maybe be available to take them or their clients fishing, but I wouldn't want to turn into a walking billboard," he said. "There are some guys out there who have so many logos on them they look like race cars."

Summer is a busy time for Luoma. He works four 10-hour days in the city and then fishes the remaining three. "There are tournaments every weekend from May through September," he said. "And when I go to a new place, I try to fish for five to seven days before the tournament."

Though Luoma occasionally has to take time off from his job without pay, he credits the Minneapolis Public Schools for giving him the flexibility to pursue his passion while still working toward his pension. He'll have that in seven years and, though he enjoys the work, he doesn't plan to look back.

"I'm going to fish Upper Midwest tournaments in the summer, and in the winter I'll head south on a houseboat and fish walleye tournaments there," he said.

For now, Luoma puts away his rod and tackle in the fall and hunts, and in the winter he takes a break from outdoor sports, rarely even ice fishing.

"In winter I like to lock and load in my recliner with the remote," he said.

Success will come to those who fish

by Chris Smith

Successful fishing is simply a matter of doing it, according to professional fisherman Wally Luoma, and then doing it some more.

"My only real tip is to get out there," he said. "The more you fish a lake, the more you learn it. The more you learn it, the better you'll do. There's no secret. Even the pros don't fish well the first time on a new lake."

As for fishing holes, local anglers need look no further than South Minneapolis, where efforts to improve water quality and fishing are paying off, according to Luoma.

"The city lakes are coming along strong," he said. "They're getting cleaner and the (state Department of Natural Resources)

has done a good job of stocking them. You can catch decent northern, walleyes and muskies there."

Luoma credits fishing with helping him overcome the temptations he faced growing up, and he hopes it will do the same for other city kids. "Fishing gives them something to do," he said, "and having the chance to catch good fish in the city lakes will keep them at it."

"If I ever get rich, I'm going to take 100 underprivileged kids fishing," he said. "They'd have to earn the (fishing trip) through school or community work or something, but it would give them something to work toward. There's a lot of good kids out there who need something like fishing in their lives."

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Talking old Twins

Old baseball elite gather to honor Griffith—and the assault on Maris' home run record steals the show

by Dick Gordon

Calvin Griffith thinks the threat by Mark McGwire, Ken Griffey Jr., Sammy Sosa and Greg Vaughn to shatter Roger Maris' hitherto unbreakable season home run mark is the greatest thing that ever happened to baseball.

"Major league baseball needed something like this," said Griffith, the former owner of the Minnesota Twins who was inducted into Nick Mancini's local Hall of Fame last week.

The induction ceremony, which was held at Mancini's West 7th Street Char House, once again confirmed what a small world it is, especially between the foul poles.

Highland Park resident Angelo Giuliani, the first inductee in Mancini's hall some 20 years ago, made the presentation to Griffith. Back in 1938, professional baseball pioneer Clark Griffith, Calvin's uncle and adoptive father, engineered the trade that brought Giuliani, a young catcher and former St. Thomas Academy star, to the Washington Senators of which Griffith was the president and owner.

Giuliani didn't realize it at the time, but the trade would begin his long affiliation with the Griffith family. When Calvin moved the Senators to the Twin Cities in 1961, Giuliani became one of the first scouts for the new Minnesota Twins organization in addition to running the team's touring baseball clinics each summer. He was still serving in those capacities in 1984 when Griffith sold the club to Carl Pohlad.

Last week at Mancini's, those two diamond legends, now both in their mid-80s, were seated side by side at the head table and talking about their favorite sport—and the possibility that McGwire, Griffey and company could break the 61-homer mark that was set

by Maris in 1961, the same year the Twins made their debut at Metropolitan Stadium.

Griffith believes that "terrible pitching" has contributed greatly to the home run heroics of so many major leaguers this summer. Giuliani said he wonders if the big crop of taters is the result of a different type of bat or a juiced-up ball. Regardless, both agree that the home run chase is good for the game.

However, both men are quick to point out that we should never forget the one and only Babe Ruth, who made the home run such a vital part of baseball in 1920, right after the Black Sox gambling scandal imperiled the game's future. "Ruth saved major league baseball," Giuliani said.

"Baseball needed Babe Ruth back then," Griffith agreed, "just as it needed something like the present home run onslaught. There's nothing like the home run. It's what puts

fans in the seats."

Griffith said he didn't think the Twins' attendance would have taken off at the Met when the franchise moved here without the presence of sluggers Harmon Killebrew and Bob Allison in the lineup.

"Harmon was our bread and butter," he said, "but we had plenty of others who could belt the ball out of the park. The present-day Twins need some guys like that."

Griffith was a bat boy for his Uncle Clark's Senators in 1927 when Ruth hit 60 homers for the New York Yankees, a record that lasted until Maris broke it 34 years later. And speaking of records, Giuliani cited this one for the Griffith family during the presentation of the Hall of Fame plaque: "Clark Griffith started pitching in the National League in 1881. That means the Griffiths were part of the national pastime for over 100 years. That's unmatched and unbelievable."

At age 86, Griffith is not hesitant to express his opinions. He thinks the American League's designated hitter, which some baseball purists want eliminated, is "the greatest rule organized baseball ever passed."



Baseball associates for 45 years—first on the Washington Senators and then the Minnesota Twins—Angelo Giuliani and Calvin Griffith share a good word at a recent dinner in Griffith's honor at Mancini's on West 7th Street. Photo by Kristine Heykants.

The sold-out dinner at Mancini's drew several others who had past associations with Griffith and the Twins. Among them were former clubhouse equipment manager Ray Crump, who arranged the evening's program; 1961 first baseman Julio Bequer, the Cuban native and longtime Twin Cities resident whom Griffith befriended; Herb Carneal, the Twins' venerable play-by-play announcer; Tom Mee, who came from the old St. Paul Saints to head up the club's public relations department; Highland Park resident Leo Wells, a pre-World War II shortstop for the Saints and Chicago White Sox; and toastmaster Frank Quilici, who was Minnesota's rookie second baseman on the 1965 World Series squad and team manager from 1972 to 1975.

They all think Maris' record will be broken by either McGwire, who had 45 homers at press time, or Griffey, who had 41. As Quilici pointed out, "McGwire has two months to hit 17 homers." Then, turning to Bequer he said, "You and I could almost hit that many in two months, Julio."

Other baseball-savvy people at Mancini's also seemed confident that Maris' record will be broken this season, though they didn't agree on who would break it. Wells was

among those who leaned toward McGwire because of his sheer power. Griffith and Carneal said they favored Griffey because he had a better supporting cast to keep pitchers from intentionally walking him. Griffith said the American League's poorer pitching also should help Griffey.

At age 86, Griffith is still not hesitant to express his opinions. He thinks the American League's designated hitter, which some baseball purists want eliminated, is "the greatest rule organized baseball ever passed."

He said ticket and concession prices are too high to attract families to the parks, remembering fondly his days in Washington when a bag of peanuts cost 15 cents. He also remembers the early 1970s when he gave his first contracts that broke the \$100,000 threshold: \$115,000 to Killebrew and \$105,000 to Tony Oliva. Those are mere pittance to today's multimillion-dollar salaries, but in those days there were only five other major leaguers in the \$100,000 category.

In a concluding remark, Griffith said that most of today's team owners are "billionaires who know nothing about baseball."

Neither his fans nor his critics ever hung that tag on Griffith.

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Chip off the old block

Former golf club president recalls redesign of Highland links in 1935

by Mark Miller

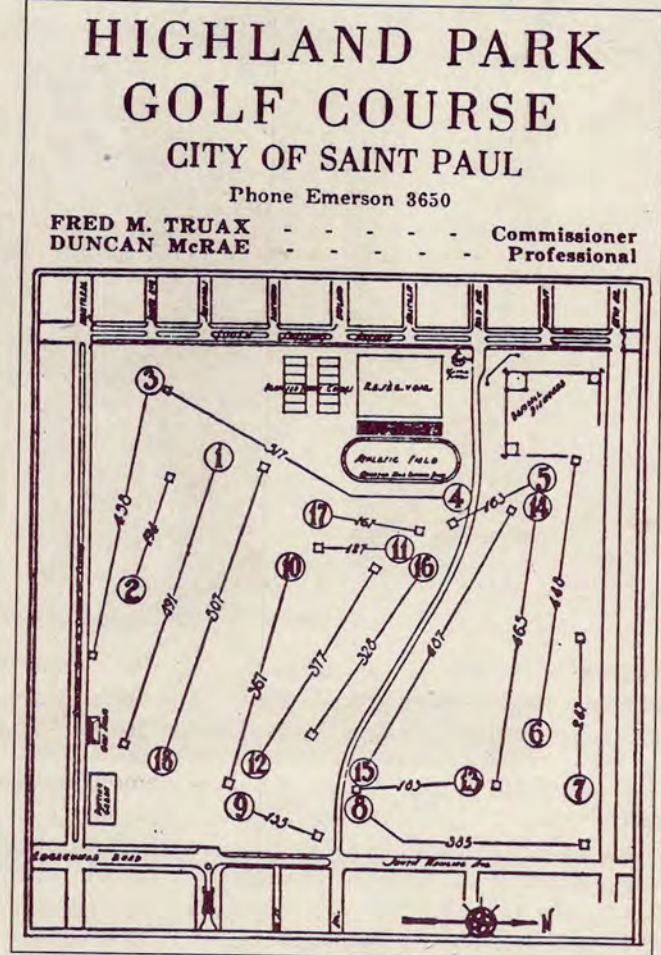
Don Garland is still waiting for someone to ask him how to redesign the Highland Park 18-hole golf course. After all, it is Garland who is responsible for the current layout of the links at Edgumbe Road and Montreal Avenue. As president of the Highland Golf Club, he initiated the last redesign of the course in 1934.

Garland, 93, grew up in the Summit Hill neighborhood and graduated from Central High School in 1922. He began playing golf as a young man. "I figured if you're going to walk, you might as well have a golf club in your hand," he said.

The Highland course had just recently been carved out of farmland and forest. Montreal and Hamline avenues were lined with cottonwood trees then, Garland said. They formed a majestic arch over the streets. A round of golf cost 50 cents, and caddies were available for an additional 75 cents. Among the local ground rules listed on the scorecard: "High-heeled shoes are strictly forbidden" and "When a ball actually lies in a gopher hole, wagon rut or hoof mark, the ball may be lifted and dropped without penalty."

Garland has hung on to several of those score cards from 1934. The original links were 6,221 yards long—but about the same as today—but consisted of seven par-3s, seven par-5s and four par-4s.

Back then, hole No. 3 wasn't the long par-4 it is today, but a 458-yard par-5



A Highland Park golf course scorecard from 1934 showed the layout of the course one year before it was redesigned.

with waist-high rough on the left side, Garland said. No. 7 wasn't a short par-4, but a par-3 measuring 232 yards. No. 8 was a 400-yard par-4 with its tee box set back at the corner of Hamline and Highland Parkway. No. 13 wasn't a dog-leg par-4, but a 163-yard par-3, and No. 14 played 521 yards with its tee set back in the present-day fairway of No. 13.

According to Garland, the Highland course was busy in the 1930s due to the increasing number of golfers and the many children using the

then new (now former) Highland swimming pool across Edgumbe Road from the clubhouse. "Kids used to get off the streetcar at Snelling Avenue and Ford Parkway and cut across the course to the pool," he said. "They used to get hit with golf balls all the time."

If it wasn't kids getting in the way, it was animals. When the Highland course was first designed, a fence encircling the grounds was proposed, but neighbors

Garland/see next page

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Young St. Paul scholars shine at Nat'l History Day

Congratulations to the state History Day winners who represented Minnesota and St. Paul at the recent national competition. The National History Day competition, held at the University of Maryland, was a gathering of more than 1,000 of the nation's best middle school and high school history scholars who competed for top honors in performance, media and display projects. The projects were the result of the contestants' research related to this year's theme of "Migration in History."

In 4th place in Junior Media was Christ's Household of Faith student Nathan Otten for his slide presentation, "Gangsters in St. Paul."

In 5th place was the Junior Group Performance by Ramsey Junior High School students Hannah Appelbaum, Alison Brazel, Rachel Hopsicker and

Zaneta Clark for "Anne Hutchinson."

In 6th place was the Junior Individual Performance by CHOF student Jonathan Bluhm entitled "Dillon O'Brien."

Also representing St. Paul were CHOF students Benita Alleman, Joshua Fiscus, Charissa Simonson and Walter Warneke with their video, "There and Back: The Migration of the Potato to Ireland and the Irish to Minnesota."

These scholars and the History Day Support Club would like to extend their sincere thanks to those who helped raise the funds necessary to send these young people to the national event. We should all be proud that there are still many businesses that support the young people of our community and their educational development.

Local businesses that contributed funds to defray the travel costs for these youths were: Signal Bank, Cherokee State Bank, Western State Bank, St. Anthony Park State Bank, Liberty State Bank, Great Harvest Bread Co., Pugsleasa Co., Restoration Hardware, Ramaley's Liquor, the Runner's Edge and Box Office Video. Other businesses that helped out were: Applebee's, Acropol Inn, Big Top Liquor, Benjamin's, Broomhouse Gifts, Con Amore, George's Shoe Repair, Green Mill Brewing Co., Hardee's, Hearthrob Cafe, Kowalski's, Lex Liquor Barrel, La Cucaracha, the New Louisiana Cafe, Macalester Bike and Skate, Mail Boxes Etc., McDonald's, Midway Liquor Store, O'Gara's, Paint Your Plate, Penseys, Sidney's, Snuffy's Malt Shop, Starbucks, the Tavern on Grand, Tulips, Villager Communications Inc., W.A. Frost & Co. and White Way Cleaners.



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Garland

from previous page

nixed that idea, according to Garland. "People who lived in the neighborhood walked their dogs on the course," he said. Garland himself had a confrontation with a particularly unfriendly canine. As Garland recalls, he used his wedge to win that hole, so to speak. "The dog was quite surprised," he said.

The Highland Golf Club in the 1930s had 25 members with handicaps of six or less, according to Garland. Competition in the club was intense, he said, but nothing compared to the 24-man team matches against the Keller Golf Club. "Keller's greens would hold a shot," Garland said, "but at Highland you had to let the ball run on the green. When Keller came to Highland to play, few of their players could break 80."

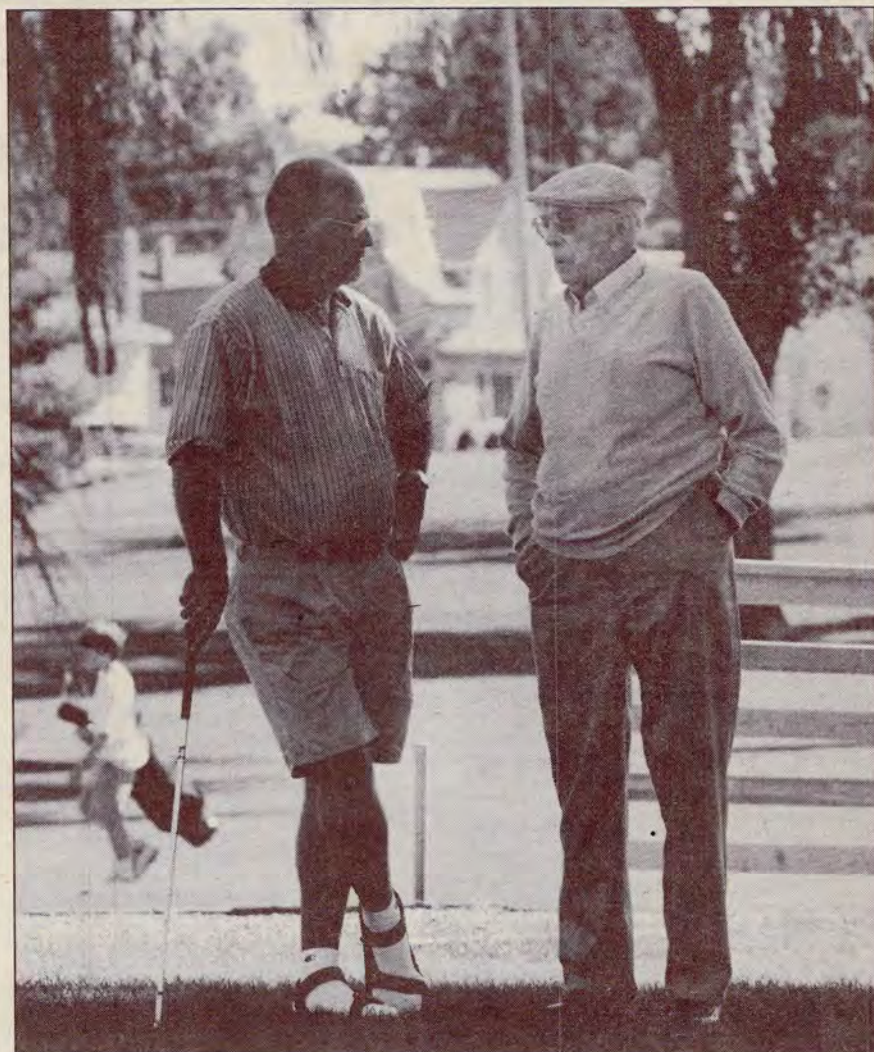
Garland, who made his living selling Worthington golf course equipment around the state, was one of Highland's better golfers, sporting a two handicap. He won the 1934 club championship. "My best score was 67," he said.

A regular member of Garland's foursome back then was Doc Baker. According to Garland, Baker was the first person to shoot a 62 at Highland, a course record that has since been equaled by Rick Ehrmanntraut and Tom Cotter. Garland said he watched Baker shoot a 60 at Highland, but it didn't count because it came in the middle 18 holes of a 36-hole qualifier for the National Public Links.

Highland had no underground sprinklers or aerification program in those days, Garland said, and in a dry summer the fairways grew hard and fast, leading to some prodigious tee shots. "If you hit a big drive, you could get home with a nine iron on No. 4," he said. "I saw one man drive (the green on) No. 12."

The course did have sprinkler boxes and hoses. "They would move them by hand," Garland said. "They had guys working nights—and overnight—to water the course."

In 1934 President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal was in full swing, and one of his pet projects, the Work Progress Administration (WPA), was bringing new roads and buildings to



Former Highland Park Golf Club president Don Garland and current course pro Bob Cotie discuss the game beside the creek that was part of Garland's original redesign of the course in 1935. Photo by Brad Stauffer.

cities and towns across the United States. "I noticed there was a WPA project going on over at Hiawatha (golf course in Minneapolis)," Garland said, "and I wondered why there wasn't one in St. Paul."

The city wasn't interested in such a project, Garland said, but St. Paul Parks and Recreation commissioner Fred Truax was. He deputized the Highland Golf Club, allowing it to authorize a redesign of the course in conjunction with the WPA. Garland served as the architect for the project, and the result was the course Highland has today. Along with larger tee boxes, the redesign gave Highland a new creek, additional par-4s and some new greens. "We built the 13th green after No. 8 at Keller," Garland said. "It used to have a trap at the left front."

We also put in benches on the tees of every hole with a brass plate saying which individuals and corporations donated money for the project."

Garland, who will turn 94 in November, quit playing golf about six years ago because of a bad knee. Ever the golf course architect, though, he has ideas for how to improve on his 63-year-old design of the Highland links. Garland suggests moving the parking lot closer to Montreal Avenue, building a new clubhouse with a pro shop attached and making better use of the land south of the clubhouse. As for the land across Edgumbe Road from the 18-hole course, where the old Highland Pool used to be, Garland would only say, "Frisbee golf is the silliest thing I've ever heard of."

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Humane Society of Ramsey County**Pet of the Month****"Rocky"**

Rocky, a lab cross, has a sweet disposition. He is two years old, enjoyable to walk, and good with children and other dogs. He is a friendly, playful, and active dog. If you are interested in adopting Rocky, please call the Humane Society of Ramsey County at 645-7387, ext. 105.



Humane Society of Ramsey County

1115 Beulah Lane, St. Paul, MN 55108

Open daily 12 - 6, Tuesday & Thursday 12 - 8

Due to publication deadlines, this particular animal may already have been adopted. Please call the Humane Society for further information.

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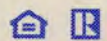
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