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Melvin Rush, 93, shows off the Navy comforter that proudly covers his bed at the Wellington in Highland Park. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

WWII veteran Melvin Rush is the epitome of a survivor

BY DAVE PAGE

Melvin Rush unstrapped his Mae West and stripped off his uniform. If he was going to escape the raging flames following the massive explosion aboard the USS John Penn, the 18-year-old would need to dive into the ocean off Guadalcanal and swim underwater until he was past the flames. He knew the life vest would hold him up and the clothes would slow him down.

Though he didn't think about it that night of August 13, 1943, the hours he spent as a kid swimming in the Brazos River after sneaking away from the Texas orphanage where he'd lived for the past decade probably saved his life. Hundreds of other sailors

serving on the John Penn died that night. Now 93 and living at the Wellington Senior Living in Highland Park, Rush is quick to point out that his survival didn't make him a hero. The men ferrying ammunition to shore who turned back to rescue what sailors they could deserved all the recognition, according to him.

"Their landing craft were filled with ammunition and could've easily exploded," he said, choking up a little. "Now that's bravery."

Amazingly, Rush wasn't wounded. One of only 35 survivors on the John Penn, he was sent to New Zealand to be outfitted with new gear.

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Friends of Mississippi River push for cleanup of Ford Plant landfill

MPCA has yet to determine risks posed by riverside dump

BY JANE McCLURE

The Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR) is calling for Ford Motor Company to excavate and remove an old industrial waste landfill near the Mississippi River before selling that parcel and the rest of the 144 acres of Ford's former assembly plant in Highland Park. FMR contends that there are significant risks in the waste being so close to the river. The organization met with the Highland District Council in May and will return to the HDC when more information on the pollution becomes available.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has worked with Ford and its environmental consultants for decades on a study and the cleanup of pollution at the plant, and the MPCA contends that its ongoing well monitoring has not detected a public health risk.

"We're continuing to collect samples from monitoring wells and continuing to study that data," said Amy Hadaris, who is leading the cleanup efforts on the Ford site for the MPCA. "We're monitoring the site and looking at what can be done to protect the river and groundwater."

A decision has not been made on what to do with the old landfill, which is known as Area C. A report from Ford's environmental consultants is due later this year or early next year, according to Ford and the MPCA. The report will outline and evaluate various options for cleanup according to federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards, Hadaris said.

According to FMR, the MPCA's Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup Program lacks the staff and resources to adequately address the pollution at the Ford site. FMR executive director Whitney Clark said that while the intent is not to disparage Ford, its consultants or the MPCA, "we're concerned that all of the risks haven't been addressed. We believe there is a need for much more exhaustive analysis." The Ford site, Clark added, may need to be put on the EPA's Superfund list of polluted sites.

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Permits OK'd for Snelling-St. Clair apartments

Decision paves way for new six-story building

BY JANE McCLURE

TJL Development LLC may proceed with its plans for a six-story, 118-unit apartment building on the southeast corner of Snelling and St. Clair avenues following the St. Paul Planning Commission's unanimous approval of two conditional use permits for the project.

Barring an appeal to the St. Paul City Council, the new building will replace a surface parking lot and two one-story buildings that formerly housed Sweeney Cleaners and Rosemark Bakery. The new building will have 4,100 square feet of retail space on the first floor and a total of 87 enclosed parking spaces underground and on the first floor. Three larger apartments are planned for the first floor fronting on Snel-

ling. The remaining 115 apartments are a mix of market-rate efficiencies, one- and two-bedroom units with balconies or decks that fit into the building's stepped-back design.

Possibly standing in the way of the project is a dispute over Cinema Ballroom's lease on the corner parking lot, now pending before the Minnesota Supreme Court. The Supreme Court could decide to let stand an appeals court ruling that favored redevelopment of the parking lot or it could uphold a district court ruling that favored Cinema Ballroom's lease.

The Planning Commission's Zoning Committee voted 8-0 on May 10 to recommend approval of TJL Development's conditional use permits following a lengthy public hearing. Almost a dozen local residents attended the hearing, most in opposition, and letters and emails were running 40 to 35 against.

"These are really tough issues," said Planning Commission chair Betsy Reveal. "It's a significant change to an established neighborhood."

However, she added, the project "is in the best interest of the city." The demand for new housing is high, Reveal said, and the new building will increase housing density on a major transit corridor.

Several commissioners praised the building's design.

"And if not on Snelling Avenue, where?" asked planning commissioner Kris Fredson.

"I get that change can be really hard," said Jim LaValle of TJL Development. In planning the project, he said he strived to address neighborhood concerns.

The property is zoned for two categories of traditional neighborhoods (TN): TN3 at the north end and TN2 at the south end. The height of the building will be 68 feet four inches at the north wall. TN3 zoning allows a maximum height of 55 feet without a conditional use permit. The height of the building at the south wall will be 47

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Landlords balk at the higher costs of organized trash system

With a cart for each unit, monthly fees 'skyrocket'

By JANE McCLURE

St. Paul homeowners and the landlords of single-family homes, duplexes, triplexes and fourplexes have until June 1 to select a cart size and level of service under the city's new organized trash collection system that is scheduled to begin on October 1. However, some landlords have been pushing back against the program, citing higher costs and cumbersome restrictions, including the requirement to provide one trash cart for every dwelling.

St. Paul City Council members said they still support the move to organized trash collection, but would like the city's Department of Public Works to look into the issues raised by landlords and to revisit the possibility of cart sharing. "I sense that there's some real pain with this," said Ward 1 City Council member Dai Thao. "Some of these alley spaces are very tight."

The new system of organized trash collection affects all residences of from one to four units. (Owners of larger multifamily buildings will continue to contract with their own

private trash haulers.) The new system does not allow households to share a trash cart, so landlords whose tenants share a trash cart or dumpster now will have to provide a separate trash cart for each unit.

Some landlords do not have the space to provide so many trash carts in addition to the multiple recycling carts they are already accommodating. Other landlords say their tenants do not need separate carts, and that if they were allowed to share a cart they would be more likely to reduce their waste and recycle more. Some landlords own rental property in various neighborhoods across the city. Under the new system it is likely they will no longer be able to have the same hauler serve all of their buildings but will be sending monthly payments to several haulers.

"The mandated no-cart-sharing policy will cause trash removal costs for small multifamily buildings to skyrocket," said Eric Lein, whose family owns several small rental buildings in St. Paul. "I suppose that's a nice subsidy for the majority who are single-family homeowners, but it's not nice for tenants who are seeking affordable housing."

Lein cited his family's triplex at 547-549 Grand Hill. Tenants there now share a 95-gallon cart. That property's trash collection costs are now \$21.06 per month or \$252.72 per year

including taxes and the county solid waste fee, Lein said.

If, under the city's new organized trash system, Lein chooses for his tenants weekly pickup of the smallest of the three cart options—the 35-gallon one—his costs will be \$25.49 per month or \$305.88 per year for each unit, for a total annual cost of \$917.44. If Lein was able to choose weekly pickup of a single 95-gallon cart for his three units, his annual cost would be \$434.40.

The higher trash collection charge "is a cost that many landlords cannot absorb and will have to pass on to tenants," said Alisa Lein, Eric's daughter. "At a time when landlords are trying to keep rents affordable, this is contrary."

According to Lee Behrens, the new supervisor of St. Paul's solid waste program, it would be too cumbersome to administer a trash collection system that allows some people to opt out of the service or to share a container with another household. It would also be in conflict with the contract the city negotiated with the 11 private trash haulers that will be dividing the city among themselves.

The city mailed out postcards earlier this month informing citizens of the various cart sizes, frequencies of pickup, and monthly service costs. These options include weekly

pickup of a 95-gallon cart at a monthly cost of \$34.15, weekly pickup of a 64-gallon cart at a monthly cost of \$32.03, weekly pickup of a 35-gallon cart at a monthly cost of \$23.44, and every-other-week pickup of a 35-gallon cart at a monthly cost of \$20.28.

Property owners will be charged an additional annual fee of \$24.60 through their property tax statement to cover the costs of administration, education and carts.

Property owners may choose their cart size and level of service by returning the postage-paid postcard, calling 888-287-7998 or visiting the website cartsize.net. If a response is not received by June 1, the city will assign the household a 64-gallon cart.

City Council members gave Public Works Department staff some grief about the return address for the postcards being a Grand Rapids, Michigan, address. "I've had complaints (about that)," said Ward 3 City Council member Chris Tolbert. "People would like this service to stay in-state."

Behrens explained that the postcard survey was set up through the cart manufacturer and distributor, not the city.

For more information on organized trash collection, call 651-266-6101 or visit stpaul.gov and click on "Government," "Departments" and "Public Works."

1◀ MELVIN RUSH

Rush had already lived through some tough times and would face more before the end of the war without losing his positive attitude. It's an outlook on life that continues to uplift those around him.

Born in Texas in 1924, Rush recalled being told that his mother strapped him to her back when she and his older siblings picked cotton. At the start of the Great Depression, his father died. His mother couldn't take care of her seven children alone and sent the four boys to live in an orphanage in Waco.

Rush's three older brothers lied about their ages and joined the military. Two went into the Army and one into the Navy. Rush said he joined the Navy in early 1943 to "balance" the numbers between the two branches. At that point, he'd never seen an ocean.

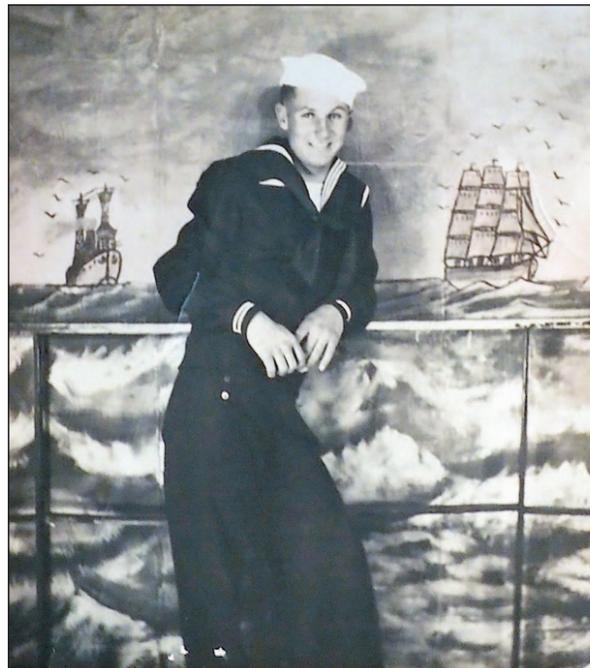
Initially, he was shipped to San Diego for three weeks of basic training. "Long enough to get 21 shots," Rush said, rubbing his arm as though he still could feel the needles.

On the rifle range, he "couldn't hit a damn thing, so they made me a 20 mm gunner" during his first deployment to the Pacific, he said with a smile.

Rush was eventually transferred to the supply ship John Penn. The transport carried critical supplies from Fiji and New Caledonia to the Solomons. "It was mostly boring," he said, "but you had to keep on your toes."

U.S. Marines had invaded Guadalcanal in the Solomons on August 7, 1942. The Japanese finally abandoned the island on February 7, 1943. Although the Battle of Guadalcanal had officially come to an end, the fighting wasn't over and supplies continued to pour in.

On the night of August 13, 1943, the John Penn dropped anchor off Lunga Point, the scene of some of the most brutal fighting on



A photo of Melvin Rush shortly after he completed boot camp in 1943. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Guadalcanal. The ship began offloading 155 mm ammunition to the new base being constructed there. "The shells were stacked below and on the decks," Rush said. "You couldn't get anywhere."

Soon after operations began, word went out that Japanese planes were coming in. "Flares started going off," Rush said. "It seemed like all the guns in the fleet started firing."

Rush couldn't shoot his own 20 mm cannon because the Japanese torpedo bomber he was tracking was so close to the water that he feared he'd strike friendlies. But when the plane lifted out of its approach run, "Everyone started firing," Rush recalled.

Hit by U.S. gunfire, the Japanese pilot

turned the bomber around and streaked back toward the John Penn. The plane crashed near the bow of the ship at 9:30 p.m., blowing up all the ammunition stored nearby. On the wall of Rush's bedroom today, a photograph taken from Guadalcanal shows the terrible explosion.

The crew of several hundred was ordered to abandon ship. Rush doesn't recall how long he was in the water, but he still credits his survival to the landing craft operators who risked their lives to save his.

While he was recovering from that incident, he learned that his brother Onis had been sent on a reconnaissance mission in Sicily as part of Operation Husky. "He was the only one to return from the patrol," Rush said. "It got to him. He spent the next 13 years in an asylum in Waco."

In mid-1944, after 18 months of service, Rush returned to the states on leave. His mother had relocated to Missouri, so he headed there. It took three days by train from San Diego.

"You had to have ration cards for everything," Rush remembered. "Food, gas, tires." He said Red Cross volunteers along the way gave military personnel sandwiches, apples and coffee.

At the end of his leave, Rush made his way back to San Diego, learned to weld and was assigned to the repair ship USS Belle Isle. The ship was anchored off Okinawa, which had been invaded the previous month in the largest amphibious assault in WWII's Pacific Theater. Admiral William "Bull" Halsey ordered

the ships of the Third Fleet to lift anchor and slip out of the path of a typhoon being tracked by Navy forecasters and anticipated to pass over Okinawa.

The new amphibious operations command ship, the USS Ancon, was in the area, and its radar and other equipment allowed it to more accurately predict the storm's track directly into the retreating ships. Unfortunately, that information didn't reach the fleet's scattered captains in time to allow them to change course. The delay proved fatal.

"The wind actually broke the speed gauge," Rush remembered. "The waves were something like 60 feet tall. We lost quite a few ships."

By the time the fleet reassembled off Okinawa, many ships had been damaged, and the Marines ashore were running out of supplies as they fought the entrenched Japanese in an 82-day battle that inspired the film *Hacksaw Ridge*. Rush and his fellow sailors helped distribute what supplies they could find.

Rush served until the end of the war and was in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945, when the Japanese surrendered. "All the American carriers launched their planes," Rush said. "What a sight to see."

Rush's mother had passed away while he was at sea, but he went back to Missouri anyway, where he met "a beautiful Yankee girl" at a barn dance. Mavis was Irish and from St. Paul, where her father owned a meat market.

"She wanted to go back to St. Paul," Rush said, so they did. He got a job with an auto dealer and raised "four wonderful daughters."

Rush considers his service during the war unworthy of note, but his U.S. Navy bedspread and photographs of him and his brothers in their uniforms show how proud he still is of his and his family's contribution to the war effort.

Memorial Day salutes

The following are a few of the local events being held to commemorate Memorial Day weekend:

The death of empire builder James J. Hill will be remembered during programs from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, May 26, at the Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. When Hill died at age 77 in his home on May 29, 1916, he left behind a personal fortune of \$63 million and his death was front-page news across the country. Visitors will hear about

his storied career and the public's reaction to his death. Guests can view photographs and newspaper articles, and a small selection of memorial volumes, including one created by Tiffany and Company. Admission is \$6-\$10. Call 651-297-2555 for reservations.

A Memorial Day tribute to Minnesota's soldiers past and present will be observed from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday through Monday, May 26-28, at historic Fort Snelling. Costumed staff members and reenactors will interpret different eras of military history through their uniforms and equipment as well as weapon demonstrations. The event

is part of the fort's season-opening weekend celebration. Admission is \$6-\$12. Call 612-726-1171.

Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery, 2945 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis, will hold its 150th annual Memorial Day/Decoration Day observance at 10 a.m. Monday, May 28. In addition to music and a keynote speaker, members of a Civil War reenactors group will be on hand with fifes, drums and black-powder muskets. There will be crafts for the kids, plus refreshments, with a history talk and tour of the cemetery at 1 p.m. Visit friends@friendsofthecemetery.org

The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis will commemorate Memorial Day with outdoor Masses at 10 a.m. Monday, May 28, at the following cemeteries: Resurrection at 2101 S. Lexington Ave., Mendota Heights, with VFW Post 6690 and Hamline Legion Post 418; Calvary at 753 Front Ave., St. Paul; St. Mary's at 4403 Chicago Ave., Minneapolis; St. Anthony at 2730 Central Ave. NE, Minneapolis; and Gethsemane at 8151 42nd Ave. N., New Hope. For information, visit catholic-cemeteries.org/upcoming_events.aspx.

1 ◀ SNELLING-ST. CLAIR

feet, which with its various setbacks is between 4 feet 8 inches and 6 feet higher than TN2 zoning would otherwise allow.

According to city planner Mike Richardson, the building's setbacks are meant to minimize the impact of the tall building on the single-family homes to the southeast. "As you go in with setback, you can go higher," he said.

Richardson recommended that the permits be approved, saying that they meet all of the city's requirements. The sole condition attached to the permits was that the project's final site plan conform with the plans approved by the Planning Commission.

No one appeared at the hearing in support of the project.

Testifying against it was neighbor Kathy McGuire, who said her primary concern is the building's impact on abutting properties. Cinema Ballroom is located directly across the alley, as are several Brimhall Street homes. According to McGuire, an apartment building of that



TJL Development's latest plan for a six-story, 118-unit apartment building at Snelling and St. Clair avenues.

size should have more buffer space between it and single-family homes.

Tenants will be able to look from their apartments into adjacent homes and yards, said Warwick Street resident Peg Flanagan. She and other neighbors said they would like to see new development, but not at the scale that has been proposed. "This is a corner that should've been redeveloped years ago," Flanagan said, "but it doesn't need to be this tall."

The city does need to promote affordable housing, said Ander Oisen,

a resident of the Snelling-Hamline neighborhood, "but this development is not affordable at all. I might have to move if developments like this keep happening."

Oisen's father, Macalester-Groveland resident John Oisen, said TJL's development is out of scale for the neighborhood. "This is twice the size and twice the number of stories of the largest nearby buildings," he said.

City staff performed a shadow and traffic study to gauge the impact of the proposed development

on the neighborhood and found no issues, according to Richardson.

Reveal asked LaValle about groundwater issues, noting that LeCesse, the Florida-based developer that had proposed redeveloping the same site two years ago, had claimed that it could not provide any underground parking because of the high water table at the site. LaValle said he had encountered the same water issues when TJL Development built the four-story Finn mixed-use building in Highland Village a couple of years ago. TJL employed a

dewatering system at the Finn, and LaValle said he would do the same thing at Snelling and St. Clair.

Fredson asked if LaValle would consider adding more retail space. Bumping the retail space up to 8,000 or 9,000 square feet was considered, LaValle said. However, the local business district has several vacant storefronts currently, and another developer is planning a one-story retail building just to the south.

"We thought there might be a risk with overbuilding for retail," LaValle said.

1 ◀ FORD PLANT LANDFILL

FMR has hired its own geotechnical consultants to look at the Ford property and pore through the thousands of pages of completed environmental studies. One preliminary conclusion reached by FMR through site sampling is that Area C shows an "uncontrolled, environmental risk" as waste could be pushed into the area's aquifer and into the river through a rinsing process, according to Clark.

"I've always said that before Ford leaves the site they need to take the pollution with them," said Ward 3 City Council member Chris Tolbert. As for excavating and removing the waste in Area C, Tolbert said he is waiting to see the next reports from Ford's consultants and the MPCA.

According to recent reports by the city, Ford consultants and the MPCA, Area C was a dumping ground for such industrial wastes as construction rubble, paint sludge and old paint and solvents at Ford. Materials excavat-

ed from two other landfills at the Ford Plant also ended up there.

Ford used the Area C landfill from 1945-66. Various reports estimate the waste pile to be about 25 feet from top to bottom. About 30 to 60 feet of fill has been placed on top of the waste, including concrete and soil construction debris from Ford in the 1960s.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers deposited rubble there during the reconstruction of Lock and Dam No. 1 in 1975. About 19,000 cubic yards of concrete, 10,000 cubic yards of sandstone and 18,000 cubic yards of sand generated as part of a lock and dam rehabilitation project were also placed there in 1981. In the mid-1980s, Ford placed more debris and soil there from construction of its paint building. In 1985-87 the site was covered with an 8-inch-thick concrete cap.

The buried Ford waste is believed to contain paint waste, solidified paint sludge, scrap steel, brick, concrete block, wood chunks and contaminated soil. The primary contaminants

associated with these materials include metals such as lead, cobalt, cadmium, manganese, chromium and non-chlorinated solvents such as toluene, methylethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone and xylene. Paint and painting processes are believed to be the source of most of the contaminants.

Metals and non-chlorinated solvents are consistent with compounds that have been detected during sampling, according to the reports. The reports also list several volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds, metals, organics from gasoline and diesel fuels, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

According to Hadaris, Ford and its environmental consultants will submit a report to the MPCA once its cleanup work is done, and the state will determine if the cleanup is satisfactory. Hadaris said that Ford is cleaning the property atop the bluff to a standard that allows for residential as well as commercial developments. As for the property beneath the blufftop, the options are pending.

The last report on environmental conditions at Area C and the rest of Ford's property was issued a year ago. The city of St. Paul, FMR, the National Parks Service and the Capitol Region Watershed District were all invited to comment on the report, and the MPCA responded to their comments earlier this year. All four commenters raised concerns about Area C, how the underground waste and local groundwater are being addressed, and how pollution will be mitigated.

"Robust groundwater monitoring at Area C is ongoing," Hadaris said. The MPCA, she added, is continuing to study how changes to the water table, the Prairie du Chien-Jordan aquifer and the Mississippi River create hydrostatic issues and pressures on the buried waste. Unlike the blufftop property, the riverside property cannot be built on because it is so close to the river, Hadaris said. The steam plant there could be reused, but nothing new could be built, she said.

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Support grows for senior housing at Riverside site

By JANE McCLURE

The transformation of the former Riverside School property into a senior housing campus is expected to take a big step forward when the J.A. Wedum Foundation's request for a rezoning, conditional use permit and variance for the property at 900 Albion Ave. is heard by the St. Paul Planning Commission's Zoning Committee at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, May 24 at City Hall.

The committee's recommendation could be taken up by the full Planning Commission as soon as June 1. The commission's actions on the conditional use permit and variance would be final unless either one is appealed to the City Council. The council will hold a hearing on the rezoning request, most likely in late June or early July.

The 5.4-acre triangular site at Lexington Parkway and West Seventh Street would be rezoned from single-family residential to traditional neighborhoods three (TN3), which allows building heights of up to 55 feet. Project manager Scott Black of Essential Decisions Inc. said a conditional use permit would allow a height of up to 65 feet. He estimated that the building would

be about 58 feet tall.

A variance also is being sought from the requirement to have an entrance on a main thoroughfare. Black said having a front door along a busy street like West Seventh is considered inappropriate for a senior living facility that will include memory care units.

The rezoning covers the entire site but only one of two buildings of senior housing is being planned at this time. A five-story, 163-unit, market-rate building is the first one proposed. The majority of the units would be for independent living, but there would also be some for assisted living and memory care. The goal is to open the building in 2020.

A second building would be closer to Albion Avenue. When that building goes up and what it looks like will be influenced by the demand for the units in the first building. The preliminary plans show a four-story structure.

The Highland District Council (HDC) voted earlier this month to support the rezoning, permit and variance requests. The West Seventh/Fort Road Federation gave its support on May 14.

The property is located in Highland Park, but sits on the border with the West End. The nearly



A five-story, 163-unit building is the first of two being proposed for the senior housing campus at the former Riverside School site at 900 Albion Ave.

century-old Riverside School building was torn down last August after having sat vacant since 2014.

The plans met few questions from the two district councils. One question at the HDC meeting centered on parking. The site will have about 65 underground spaces. Black estimated that the building could have about 200 residents, as some units will be shared by couples, but he said not many people have vehicles in senior complexes. Others give up a vehicle as time goes on, especially if a complex provides transportation to shopping and other destinations.

"Giving up that car gets easier as time goes on," Black said.

Federation board members asked about including affordable housing units in the buildings. Black said

that, unfortunately, many of the federal and state programs that provided funding for affordable senior housing have ended. He said the goal will be to keep rents as low as possible. Rental rates have not been announced.

Federation board member Wendy Underwood said that while she likes the project, TN3 zoning is meant to promote mixed-use. The building proposed by Wedum is all residential.

Ramsey County is planning to make changes to Lexington Parkway next year to eliminate a long-time traffic hazard at the intersection of Lexington, West Seventh and Montreal Avenue. A cul-de-sac would be created on Lexington north of Montreal Avenue. Lexington, which is a country road,

would then be rerouted through the former school property and across West Seventh, which is a state highway, to connect with what is now Elway Street and would become an extension of Lexington.

The main entry to the first senior building would be from a loop driveway off of the current Lexington. A secondary entrance would be on the new Lexington. There would be a terrace at the corner at West Seventh and new Lexington, and a secure memory garden at the building's other end along West Seventh.

The first floor of the building along West Seventh would be a "town center" for residents of the facility, with a dining room, a coffee shop/bistro, and fitness and activity rooms.

BZA denies an irregular lot split for new Macalester-Groveland home

By JANE McCLURE

A Macalester-Groveland homeowner's bid to split his lot and build a new house next door was denied by the St. Paul Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) on May 7 on a 4-1 vote.

The corner lot at 1226 Berkeley Ave. is 79.8 feet wide. The minimum width for a residential lot in St. Paul is 40 feet, but owner David Hovda wanted to retain a side porch on his existing house by creating a jog in the property line. Both new lots would be 39.8 feet wide at their north and south ends, but 35.8 feet

and 44 feet wide, respectively, in the middle.

The BZA majority objected to the two irregularly shaped lots. Hovda's proposed lot split was also opposed by several neighbors. BZA staff recommended denial. The Macalester-Groveland Community Council took no position on the matter.

BZA member Luis Rangel-Morales was the sole vote in support of the lot split. "It seems like a waste to make someone tear down a porch," he said.

According to Hovda, his proposed second lot was a separate parcel at one time and would

support a new house. The existing house has a detached garage that is accessed off of Griggs Street. Hovda planned to build a new garage behind the existing house and have the new two-story house use the existing garage.

Much of that area of Macalester-Groveland was platted in the late 19th century, according to Hovda, and other lots on the same block are less than 40 feet wide. His new house would match the front and side yard setbacks of other houses in the area as well as their design, he said.

St. Paul zoning administrator Yaya Diatta

said that while the city has a goal of creating new housing and that a new house would fit on the site, he saw no practical difficulties that justified granting a variance for each of the lots. "The plight of the landowner is really self-created," Diatta said. "This is a choice and not something unique to the property."

More than two dozen neighbors signed a petition against the proposed lot split. "Most of us in the neighborhood feel that the lot is too small for a single-family home," said Lisa Raduenz, who lives nearby.

Robin Asbell, gourmet chef, author of 11 cook books, culinary teacher, Star-Tribune food columnist, world traveler, artist, and lover of life. It comes as no surprise that she also happens to be a fan of our eyeglasses.


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More money found for new Summit Ave. bridge, Lexington Pkwy. reroute

By Jane McClure

Additional money for replacing the Summit Avenue bridge over Ayd Mill Road and for rerouting Lexington Parkway at its southern end are among recent additions to St. Paul's proposed \$49.6 million Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) for 2019. The city's CIB Committee recommended approval of the budget on May 14, sending it to the City Council for a final determination.

The city's 2018-2019 CIB process has been truncated as elected officials and the 18-member CIB Committee develop a new process for approving capital improvements. Instead of sorting through the usual 100-plus requests for funding submitted by city departments and neighborhood groups, the focus will be on getting a few major projects underway and maintaining the city's current assets. The new CIB process will be rolled out for the 2020-2021 funding cycle, which begins next year.

The City Council approved the 2018-2019 CIB budget last December. The changes to be considered later this year reflect additional outside funding, budget shifts within the Department of Public Works and related project assessments. The changes represent an additional \$2.8 million for street, trail, bridge, sidewalk and pedestrian safety projects, and they have the support of Mayor Melvin Carter.

The Lexington Parkway project involves the reconfiguration of the intersection of Lexington, Montreal Avenue and West Seventh Street, which has been the site of many motor vehicle crashes. Improving the intersection has been on the wish list of the Highland District Council list for years. The opportunity came with the sale of the former Riverside Elementary School site, which is being redeveloped for senior housing.

The city, Ramsey County Department of Public Works and Minnesota Department of Transportation are all involved in the plan to reroute Lexington through the former school property to a new intersection with West Seventh east of where those streets now intersect. The intersection of Lexington and Montreal would be closed, and Lexington would be extended south to Montreal and then on to Shepard Road along the old Elway.

The CIB Committee has recommended adding \$300,000 in Municipal-State Aid (MSA) funds for the work to reroute Lexington



The northern portion of a planned rerouting of Lexington Parkway would be funded in 2019 under a recommendation by St. Paul's CIB Committee.

ton to West Seventh in 2019. The extension to Montreal is penciled in for 2021.

The reconstruction of the Summit Avenue bridge over Ayd Mill Road is getting a \$1.5 million increase in MSA funds. The \$7.24 million project is drawing on several funding sources for work in 2018 and 2019.

A third local street improvement with an adjustment is a mill and overlay project in downtown with \$1 million in MSA funds and another \$1 million in assessments from abutting property owners. That includes sections of 9th, 10th and St. Peter streets and possibly part of Kellogg Boulevard with street striping to complete the Capital City Bikeway.

Projects approved earlier for 2019 remain the same. The local projects include \$1 million for Fire Station 20 on University Avenue near Vandalia Street and \$1.12 million to reconstruct Fairview Avenue between Shields and University avenues.

The lion's share of the proposed CIB budget is going to various capital maintenance and ongoing projects in the departments of Planning and Economic Development, Safety and Inspections, Parks and Recreation and Public Works and the public library. Community development corporations will also see funding for ongoing housing rehabilitation and commercial building improvement.

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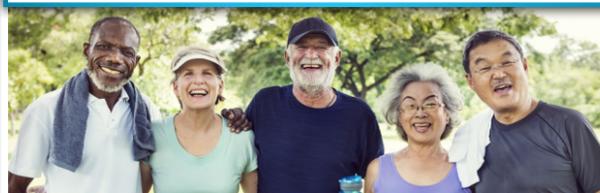
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Summit Hill's native prairie is in need of another restoration

Invasive species and a lack of volunteers have left little more than memories of the Morgan Prairie

By JANE McCLURE

The Samuel Morgan Prairie, which took root more than 20 years ago in St. Paul's Summit Hill neighborhood on a slope below the Linwood Recreation Center, is in need of a new champion. City Parks and Recreation officials are hoping volunteers will step up to restore and maintain the native prairie or help create a new prairie atop the Linwood bluff.

It was 1997 when a woman and her dog found native prairie wildflowers growing on the slope between Linwood Park and Pleasant Avenue. That discovery inspired local residents, the Summit Hill Association (SHA), Great River Greening, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the St. Paul Department of Parks and Recreation to restore the small prairie. The volunteers cleared out the invasive plants and trees and helped the native plants flourish. The prairie was dedicated in June 2003 and christened in honor of Morgan (1911-2000), a longtime Summit Hill resident and conservationist.

Volunteers have maintained the prairie over the past two decades, even helping parks staff with two controlled burns. Other groups, including the Capitol Region Watershed District and the Minnesota Conservation Corps, have helped with prairie projects.

However, turnover on the SHA board and a shrinking of city resources has left the prairie to the whims of nature. New trees have sprung up on the slope and such



Vandals have left the interpretive sign for the Samuel Morgan Memorial Prairie in as rough shape as the native prairie itself on the slope below the Linwood Recreation Center in Summit Hill. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

invasive species as smooth brome grass have begun crowding out the native plants. A sign recognizing Morgan's contribution to the local environment is now faded and pocked with dents and bullet holes.

The SHA and its Environment Committee have been discussing what to do with the prairie, including letting it return to its preproject state. "It's a shame that it's in its current condition," said SHA board member Shannon O'Toole.

Adam Robbins, environmental coordinator in the city's Parks and Recreation Department, said there is no deadline for making a decision on the prairie, but he would like to

know if there is interest in maintaining it on its current site or perhaps starting a new prairie elsewhere in the park.

City Parks and Recreation staff have thrown down seeds in recent years to maintain prairie plants on the slope, but the invasive species are a continuing problem. "We're not able to beat the brome grass," Robbins said.

Another challenge is the slope, Robbins said. According to him, native prairies typically need a lot of volunteers to maintain, and the steep slope poses an extra challenge.

The SHA board has referred the issue to its Environment Commit-

tee, but the committee will not be able to address the matter until later this summer. Its members are currently involved with a rain garden project and on a replanting of the terrace gardens at Linwood with the help of Linwood-Monroe Arts Plus students.

Samuel Morgan has been described as one of the champions of Minnesota's outdoors. He was born in Duluth and raised in St. Paul. After graduating from Harvard Law School in 1936, he returned to St. Paul and cofounded the Briggs and Morgan law firm.

Morgan worked tirelessly on parks and conservation issues. He

Turnover on the SHA board and a shrinking of city resources has left the prairie to the whims of nature. New trees have sprung up and such invasive species as smooth brome grass have begun crowding out the native plants.

helped spearhead the establishment of Afton State Park, Fort Snelling State Park and Lilydale Regional Park. He worked on the expansion of other state parks and the coordination of the regional parks and recreation system now overseen by the Metropolitan Council.

Morgan helped found and guide various parks organizations, including the Minnesota Parks Foundation in 1967 and the Metropolitan Park Reserve Board in 1969. He served on the Minnesota Council of State Parks and was its president in the 1960s. The council and parks foundation merged in 1987 to become the Minnesota Parks and Trails Council, now the Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota. The Samuel Morgan Trail along Shepard Road, which was established in 2011, is also named for him.

"We're still committed to maintaining and improving some kind of view from the Linwood blufftop," Robbins said, "but we have to look at whether it's feasible to continue to maintain the prairie where it is."

Volunteers interested in helping to maintain the Samuel Morgan Prairie or working on another prairie project at Linwood are invited to contact Robbins at 651-632-2457 or adam.robbs@ci.stpaul.mn.us.

Linwood-Monroe parents, staff consider renaming school

Namesake James Monroe falls out of favor because of his ownership of slaves

By JANE McCLURE

A proposal to change the name of Linwood-Monroe Arts Plus School in St. Paul is meeting pushback from Monroe High School alumni and residents of the neighborhood around Linwood-Monroe's upper campus at 810 Palace Ave. The pushback appears to have postponed a presentation on the proposed name change scheduled before the St. Paul School Board in June.

Linwood-Monroe principal Bryan Bass said he has been directed by the School Board to seek more public comment on the name change, which would also affect the school's lower campus at 1023 Osceola Ave.

Bass met in May with the Summit Hill Association and the West Seventh/Fort Road Federation. Neither district council has made a recommendation on the name change. However, Bass agreed that there is a need for more conversation about it.

The parents of Linwood-Monroe students first proposed the name change, noting that the school's namesake, James Monroe, was a slave owner. The fifth president of the United

States, Monroe (1758-1831) was a veteran of the Revolutionary War who also served as governor of Virginia, U.S. senator, U.S. secretary of state and U.S. secretary of war.

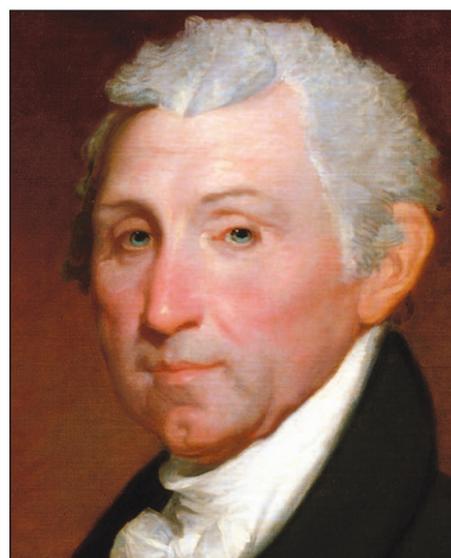
Linwood-Monroe is a PreK-8 public school formed through the 2008 merger of Linwood Elementary School and Monroe Community School. Monroe was built in 1926 as a junior high. In the 1940s it became a high school, but closed in 1978 due to declining enrollment. It later reopened as a community school. The Monroe building now houses students in grades 4-8. The Linwood building houses students in grades PreK-3.

"There's a lot of passion and support for the Monroe name," said West Seventh Federation board member the Reverend Walt Wietzke. He recalled the repeated attempts by the School Board to close Monroe School and how the neighborhood fought back time and time again to keep it open.

Bass said if the school's name is changed, it would happen at both campuses. The upper and lower schools are currently undergoing \$23 million in renovations, and changing the name could be done as part of that project.

"We have to ask, does our name reflect our mission and who we are as a school?" Bass said.

Linwood-Monroe's Parent Teacher Association has been discussing the name change for several weeks. According to Bass and Monroe



President James Monroe

parent Steve Heitzig, there is strong sentiment that "Monroe" is not an appropriate name for what is a very diverse school. James Monroe's legacy as a slave owner is "shameful and appalling," Heitzig said, and the name does not reflect "the ethos of a remarkable school."

Alumni of the school contend that the Monroe name has deep meaning for them and for the West End neighborhood. They too recall the times that they and the West Seventh Federation worked hard to keep the school open

in the face of attempts by the School Board to shut its doors.

What frustrates some Monroe alumni is that the Linwood-Monroe Parent Teacher Association discussed the name change for some time without consulting the alumni. The alumni have met several times in recent weeks and are circulating petitions to retain the Monroe name or at least have more input on a name change.

The alumni point out on their petition's website that James Monroe, while he owned slaves, "was not a strong proponent of slavery," but a pragmatist who knew that slavery could not be abolished at the time of the Constitutional Convention without endangering "the fragile union" of the original United States.

The alumni also cite Monroe's leadership in negotiating the Louisiana Purchase that opened up a large area of the present United States to settlement, including most of Minnesota. As president, Monroe also authored the Monroe Doctrine that forbade European nations from establishing any more colonies in North and South America.

Pat Tester Weiser, a 1965 graduate of Monroe High School, questioned what the name change would accomplish. "You can't rewrite history," Weiser said. "And if you don't know history, you're doomed to repeat the mistakes that were made in the past. Monroe School is woven into the fabric of this neighborhood."

News Briefs

Red Rabbit receives licenses to hop over to Grand Avenue

The St. Paul City Council approved liquor on-sale, Sunday liquor and liquor outdoor service area (patio) licenses on May 16 for the Red Rabbit restaurant at 788 Grand Ave. The restaurant is expected to open in July in the building that formerly housed the Wild Onion. The request for licenses was sent to a legislative hearing officer in April after city staff received a letter of objection.

The Summit Hill Association recommended approval of the licenses after meeting with Red Rabbit owner Luke Shimp. SHA members asked that some conditions on the Wild Onion's licenses, including a requirement that security be provided, not be imposed on the Red Rabbit.

The SHA also supported longer patio hours for the new restaurant. Patio hours will end at 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and at 10:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. The Red Rabbit will close at 1 a.m. The Wild Onion closed at 2 a.m.

Conditions on the license do include annual approval of the permit needed for sidewalk tables, a limit of 44 patio seats and 24 sidewalk seats, maintenance of the existing rear patio wall, and service of alcoholic beverages on the patio only when patrons also order food.

County proposes upgrade for busy Edgcumbe-Sheridan site

The intersection of Edgcumbe Road and Sheridan Avenue will have its traffic signals modified and a stretch of Edgcumbe will get some traffic calming changes as a result of action taken on May 15 by the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners.

The project is one of six that the County Board added to its 2018 Transportation Improvement Program. Combined, the county is allocating more than \$700,000 to the projects, with the Highland intersection receiving \$98,000. That amount will be matched by the St. Paul Department of Public Works.

Edgcumbe Road in that area connects to Highway 5 and the Twin Cities freeway system. Neighbors have complained for years about high traffic speeds on Edgcumbe. The Edgcumbe-Sheridan intersection is near the Homecroft Early Learning Center and Homecroft Park, and many families use the crossing to get to and from the park and school.

Adding left-turn lanes at Edgcumbe and Sheridan has been proposed to slow traffic. The traffic signal at the intersection also would be replaced with audible signals for people who are visually impaired.

Before a final decision is made on how to reconfigure the street, the project is likely to be reviewed by the Highland District Council. No date for the work has been set.

New owners look to take over Vine Park Brewing on West 7th

The West Seventh/Fort Road Federation recommended on May 14 that the city waive a 45-day waiting period on the hearing process for new licenses for Vine Park Brewing, 1254 W. Seventh St. New owners Touyer Moua, Tou Thau and Jai Thor appeared at the meeting with longtime owner Andy Grage, who will retain a minority stake in the business.

Moua said nothing will change in how Vine Park operates. It will continue to provide the opportunity for customers to come in and make beer and wine.

Vine Park is unique in Minnesota as an on-premise brew business. It sells beer for carryout, but does not have a tap room or bar, and that will not change. It has been in the neighborhood since 1995 and has been at its current location since 2004.

The transfer of ownership requires changes to wholesale beer distributor and malt off-sale licenses. It has already gone through state and federal approval processes and now needs city approval.

County OKs licenses for sale of Tav on Ave to new owners

The St. Paul City Council granted licenses on May 9 for an ownership group led by veteran restaurateur Mike Tupa to purchase Tavern on the Avenue, 825 Jefferson Ave. The business was granted liquor on-sale, liquor on-sale Sunday, patio liquor, 2 a.m. closing, entertainment and charitable gambling licenses.

Tupa met earlier this spring with the West Seventh/Fort Road Federation, which recommended approval of most of his requests. One concern that the federation and neighbors have is the 2 a.m. closing due to previous problems with loud noise, fights and incidents of gunfire outside of the business.

Tupa said having the 2 a.m. closing is important, but he intends to change the business model to a more family-friendly bar and restaurant. Ward 2 City Council member Rebecca Noecker said the new owners have responded to neighbors' concerns and should be given a chance to try the 2 a.m. closing, which is limited to Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, holidays and special events.

Because neighbors filed objections with the city, the license request was sent to a legislative hearing officer. The officer recommend-

ed several conditions, which the City Council approved. They include providing security at closing to ensure that patrons leave the premises and the parking lots without causing a disturbance. Loitering will not be allowed. Hours are spelled out for security. A video camera and lighting plan are also required.

Signage is to be posted at all entrances and exits to remind patrons that they are in a residential neighborhood and should behave accordingly. No amplified music will be allowed outside of the building and trash needs to be picked up along local streets.

Merriam Park neighbors balk at Xcel's clear-cutting of trees

Neighbors and volunteers are raising objections after several trees that they planted along St. Anthony Avenue west of Snelling Avenue two years ago were cut down by Xcel Energy on May 15. The new trees had been planted in a 25-foot area that the city and state cleared out in 2016.

When the trees and bushes were lost two years ago, residents went to the Union Park District Council for help. They worked together to get the trees replaced at a cost of more than \$10,000. Neighbor Lyn Rhodes, who worked with other volunteers to replant the trees, said she and other neighbors tried to stop the Xcel work on May 15, but failed. Xcel contends that it only cut trees with a 5-inch girth. The utility typically cuts down or trims trees near power lines.

Neighbors are encouraging people to contact the city, state and Xcel to complain, Rhodes said. It is not known yet how or if the trees can be replaced.

News Briefs were compiled by Jane McClure.

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Viewpoint

St. Paul turns its back on what made it great

BY MICHELLE BERG

I was mildly surprised to learn of the rapid approval of the conditional use permit (CUP) requested by Jim LaValle for additional height for his proposed new development on the southeast corner of Snelling and St. Clair avenues. Most people in the area would like to see new development at that corner, but not at the scale LaValle is proposing.

The fact that there has not been a proper traffic study to determine the impact on bicyclists who will access the dedicated bike lanes in the neighborhood nor the impact on children walking to the many area schools seems willfully short-sighted.

The scale of the six-story, 118-unit apartment building is disturbingly at odds with the modest 1½-story bungalows within an alley span of the site and is therefore in direct violation of the aesthetic considerations that a CUP demands. Additionally, the main motivation for this CUP, as stated by Mr. LaValle in recent meetings, was necessitated by his financial return-on-investment plan. However, this motivation is also specifically prohibited by the guidelines for granting developers a CUP.

Those who attended the May 10 hearing before the St. Paul Planning Commission's Zoning Committee to raise their concerns about the project were made to wait for as long as 2½ hours. Most of those people had to leave before their voices were heard. Those who remained spoke under a strictly enforced two-minute rule. They did so amid such condescending remarks from the Zoning Committee as "change is hard" and "people don't like change." Their words demonstrated a closed-mindedness about the seriousness of the issue for those residents whom it most concerned and created an atmosphere that trivialized the democratic process in having those concerns respectfully and carefully reviewed.

There has been no public discussion in these many hearings about the problems of neighborhood disinvestment due to overdevelopment. In view of the studies available about other cities that have suffered the fallout of exactly this kind of overreach, this seems careless and cavalier on the part of the Planning Commission and its Zoning Committee.

The more I am involved in my neighborhood's district council and other grassroots politics, the more I am witness to a kind of shameless bias on behalf of developers and other moneyed people. As such, my vision and hope for St. Paul has been inextricably altered.

Five siblings in my family of 10 have already left St. Paul. I have been a die-hard, house-proud St. Paulite for most of my life. I have a deep allegiance to my alma mater, St. Paul Central High School, where there has been an uninterrupted stream of students from my family in continuous attendance from 1942 to 2016.

As a professional tour guide, I am familiar with seven two-hour tours about St. Paul history and share them with heartfelt interest. I wrote a critically acclaimed one-woman show about growing up working class in St. Paul. However, I am at my wits end about the absolute tone-deafness that is worn as a badge of honor on behalf of the increased-density-at-all-costs city agenda.

The City Council and its attending subcommittees seem content to bang the drum for broad-stroke power brokers implementing what can only be characterized as systematic spot rezoning on behalf of certain favored developers. The fact that these developments are often promoted as affordable housing when they are really renters-by-choice buildings is even more disingenuous. City officials think only of generating quick tax revenue. They do so at the expense of entire neighborhoods. They are breaking the backs and the spirits of their constituents.

Lately, I have been searching for another place to live. Change is hard, and I'm in careful consideration about where my own change of heart will take me. In the meantime, I will continue to serve my constituents in my wee position in various grassroots groups. I remain dedicated to the tenets of democracy, even when they are embarrassingly absent from public process.

Michelle Berg is a resident of the Macalester Groveland neighborhood.



Inbox

Where's the affordable housing?

The trend in St. Paul development is clearly the more apartments the better. Each issue of the *Villager* has articles about the rezoning of yet another site for apartment buildings. In selling the idea of these developments, we are always told about the dire need for "affordable, high-density housing." And yet, with each new construction project, all we see are signs touting "luxury" apartments with monthly rents starting above \$1,000 (and I'm being conservative). I did a quick Google search of area apartments and could not find anything under \$800 for a studio.

Is this considered affordable? And to whom? If we are so concerned about providing affordable housing, then where is it? Which of the new planned developments is going to actually provide it?

It seems the high-density proponents would have us all believe that these new apartment buildings are for our own good. It seems the only ones who will benefit from these developments that are popping up like mushrooms all over town are the people who are developing them, the people selling the land they sit on and, of course, the city of St. Paul.

The rezoning of the Ford site is full of promises of at least some affordable housing. I remain skeptical that it will actually happen, but will be happy to be wrong. But that is many years off and does nothing to alleviate the problem now. Meanwhile, we continue to sacrifice the character and livability of our city in the name of affordable housing.

Do not kid yourself: This is about money, not concern for lower-income people.

*Lisa Erbes
Highland Park*

Ford toxins in need of cleanup

With all the uproar about the 3M site in the east metro, perhaps it's time to revisit pollutants at the Ford site. Wouldn't it be a good idea to figure out how bad it is before building out the site?

A May 3 presentation by the executive director of the Friends of the Mississippi River before the Highland District Council made clear that Area C, a hump of garbage and industrial waste between the Ford site and the Mississippi, is a lot more hazardous than most Highland Park residents realize. It appears that the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) measured the threat posed by Area C toxins when the river was low and the risk of pollution least. However, during and following 10-year flood conditions, this

nasty hump of toxic waste releases cyanide, PCBs, thallium and other heavy metals into our river and groundwater.

Detailed slides from the presentation are available at livesaintpaul.com. The data show that the waste is periodically flooded and drained, sampling and analytical problems obscure the risks, and the regulatory standards proposed by Ford and adopted by the MPCA are not appropriate.

When it comes to the fish we are eating, water we are drinking and rivers where we boat and swim, are we all right with this level of risk? Is it wise to build a 21st-century community cheek by jowl with this toxic hump? Leaving this mound of toxins in our backyard is not an option. Pollution does not observe property boundaries and will leech out again and again as it already has.

*Howard J. Miller
Highland Park*

Too tall for St. Clair-Snelling

I oppose TJJ Development's proposed six-story apartment building at St. Clair and Snelling avenues. A six-story building is way too tall and overwhelming for this neighborhood. Businesses in this vicinity already have scarce parking for their customers.

Mary Huber is correct in saying, "I don't think it's the right size" (*Villager*, May 9). In that same article, Kathy Childers said, "I'd like to see it come down a story." I think a four-story building would most adequately fit the area.

I predict that the so-called affordable apartments will be unaffordable. The rental price will likely be no different than the unaffordable housing this developer built in Highland Village. The City Council must oppose this proposed project.

*Sue Shetka
Macalester-Groveland*

Say no to mowers and blowers

Among the most sublime aspects of spring are the sounds of bird song at dawn, children at play, and gentle rain. Unfortunately, far too often, and through summer and fall, we prioritize the tones of 100-plus-decibel leaf blowers (often multiple blowers used at once) and mega riding mowers (seriously, on a city lot?) in the ever-elusive and environmentally unsound pursuit of the perfect lawn.

City-mandated trash service does not measure up

By KATHLEEN DEMING

In 1970 when I took up residence in my present Macalester-Groveland home, there was organized city trash collection in St. Paul. However, citizens found that unacceptable, so we went with private haulers for decades. The private hauler with whom I first contracted, Mr. Humphrey, owned his own truck and provided splendid service. We had a personal connection, and I'd take cold drinks out to him and his worker on hot days.

After Mr. Humphrey retired, the trash haulers I had seemed to consolidate and get bigger and more corporate. About 12 years ago, two people on my alley took on the task of signing up almost all of the residents on the block with a single trash hauler for the best negotiated fee, but we still had the option to switch haulers if that was no longer the best deal.

For all these years I've been sharing a trash container with a neighbor. Now what comes

down the pike? Another city-mandated service and fee for trash collection that I neither want nor need. The minimal yearly fee is to be \$267.96. That's a ridiculous cost for about five gallons of household trash per month. And what's with the yearly "administrative fee"? After the city turns the sectors over to the haulers, they're out of it.

Under the new system, no provision is being made for people who generate so little trash that they can share a trash bin. Nor is any provision made for people who live a portion of the year elsewhere to discontinue the service. This is typical of government programs: One size fits all, and if it's not your size, tough. For people like me who are on limited incomes, the trash collection fee will be a hardship. This service, unlike newspaper or mail delivery, can't be turned off. It's just another municipal money-grab.

Recycling in St. Paul used to be provided at no fee to residents by Recycling Unlimited, a private company, until 1984 when the city saw millions of dollars coming down

the federal pipeline for recycling and put Recycling Unlimited out of business. But that's a long, dirty story.

A Minneapolis friend told me recently that for \$25 a month he gets trash collection, recycling collection, composting, the disposal of an occasional large item, plus city plowing, and the city even provides free wi-fi. St. Paul powers-that-be: Where is the service for what we'll be paying?

I urge citizens to protest this additional mandated service by contacting the St. Paul Department of Public Works, attention Ellen Biales, 1500 City Hall Annex, 25 W. Fourth St., St. Paul MN 55102. I've already notified Public Works that I'm opting out of the trash collection service. It's past time for protest; it's time for some civil disobedience. I plan, if the trash cart is forced on me, to stand it on its lid in the alley with a sign attached saying that I'm not paying for the service. If necessary, I'll take the unwanted cart downtown on the bus and leave it at City Hall.

8◀ INBOX

My neighbor pays a lawn service to walk around her yard for a minimum of half an hour each week all summer long to chase approximately 25 leaves into my yard where, mercifully, they're allowed to rest in peace.

Please. No. Stop! Let's create yards without lawns, care for our lawns ourselves, or find an individual or business that prioritizes a quiet service. If you don't think this is necessary, I respectfully ask you to take the time to be in your home when your lawn service is present and find out what you routinely ask others to tolerate. Or simply imagine that you're sitting at your desk at work and three gentlemen wielding high-powered leaf blowers proceed to clean the floor for approximately one hour.

Fellow Twin Citians, most of us have very manageable lawns, most of us value our quiet and our hearing and, yes, the quiet and the hearing of others, including the contractors we pay to clean our yards and the neighborhood children who are most vulnerable to environmental hazards of all kinds and who aren't typically equipped with ear protection. In this complex world composed of so many problems that seem beyond the scope of the individual to solve, I have but one remaining word for you: Rake.

Meg Fleming
Summit Hill

Even if he wanted to, he wouldn't have any idea how to go about restricting access. That man hasn't got a dog in the fight unless he has started counting your votes for 2020. Money speaks loudly in the U.S., and there is nary an officeholder who will forfeit his or her access to the deep well of money known as the gun lobby.

Patrick F. Quinn
Macalester-Groveland

Be a lifesaver

Most people have a bucket list of things they want to experience or accomplish before they die. Typical bucket lists include skydiving, mountain climbing or writing that best-seller. Wouldn't it be wonderful if, before you entered eternity, you could help save one of the 10,000 babies who are aborted every year in Minnesota? Sadly, many people haven't even tried one of the simple ways to help save babies. It's called sidewalk counseling, reaching out to an abortion-minded woman when she's entering an abortion clinic and persuading her to spare her child's life.

Sidewalk counseling is constitutionally protected, and it has saved thousands of lives. Put it on your bucket list. The unborn child you save will be glad you did.

Ann Redding
Fuller, Minneapolis

Powerless against the gun lobby

The past few months have shown the determination of students who are emotionally drained from the killing in Parkland, Florida, and have refused to sit down and shut up. The saddest part about the demonstrations isn't their intentions or will power. It's what we adults must convey about what we know won't come of their efforts.

Kids, don't expect the politicians to make measurable progress on controlling access to weapons. Don't expect Mr. Trump to lift a finger.

Peace through strength

Regarding "Korean peace and the president," the letter from Patrick F. Quinn (*Villager* Inbox, May 9):

It is sad that Mr. Quinn hates President Trump so much that he not only fails to recognize his part in the process but also misrepresents his stand on sanctions. Does Maximum Pressure Initiative ring a

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VILLAGER

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Maurice F. Mischke, 1920-1991

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Visit myvillager.com for deadlines.

theVillagerMN

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9◀ INBOX

bell, or putting the carrier fleet in place to show his resolve? President Trump enlisted China to help. He has espoused peace through strength, not through appeasement or bribes of money and energy. As for the Nobel Prize that may or may not come, it is better applied here than given to a president just because he was elected and never really made any peace.

*Gregory Jaeger
Macalester-Groveland*

Parking in a kinder, gentler city

Parking enforcement in St. Paul teeters on the edge of hostility. While parked off West Seventh Street, I was cited for parking within 15 feet of a crosswalk. I was 10 feet away. Are parking regulations published anywhere?

In the kinder, gentler world in which I thought I was paying taxes, painted curbs used to mean “no parking” and signage was functional. In today’s aggressive enforcement regime, there are no warnings and the workers ticket with such efficiency that it creates the impression they are trying to win a productivity contest.

Can we graduate to a system of more multispace meters? I don’t love these solar-powered technology bots, but individual meters are more costly. “Permit only” neighborhood parking seems outmoded as well. If you live within a permit zone, park wherever your permit allows (including in a multispace meter location) and exempt anyone displaying a neighborhood permit.

Maybe data phones can start instantaneously debiting your checking account when you stop for more than 15 minutes on any St. Paul street. Call it an incentive to take public transportation, walk or ride your bicycle. Alternatively, can we make every other ticket a warning ticket? In this manner, St. Paul will start to seem more generous and less hostile while educating the public about our poorly labeled parking schemes.

*Karl Gerstenberger, Chef
Waldmann Brewery and Wurstery, West End*

Editor’s note: Section 157.03 (a) (7) of the St. Paul city code states that “no person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle within 20 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection.” For more information, visit stpaul.gov and, under the heading “Government,” click on “Codes and Ordinances.”

Independent thinker for Ward 4

Last fall, with a clear majority of St. Paul voters, I voted proudly for our new Mayor Melvin Carter. One factor that drove me to support him was the reek of backroom manipulations attacking Mr. Carter. As with hundreds of others, I put up my Carter lawn sign.

In the recently concluded DFL Ward 4 convention, bully politics were a bit more nuanced, but still left a familiar aroma. Mayor Carter’s I’ve-got-50-votes pre-convention endorsement of Mitra Jalali Nelson had the added weight of his office behind it. The DFL’s so-easy decision to keep 2017 holdover delegates, still flush from Carter’s November victory, to vote in this year’s Ward 4 convention was a choice for party

over community.

To be true to its character, Ward 4 needs to send a skilled and independent thinker to the City Council, not a party functionary. Folks, it’s time to get some lawn signs, write some checks and advocate for the Ward 4 candidate we deserve: Shirley Erstad.

*Jim Hulbert
Macalester-Groveland*

Unnecessary drug additives

I went to the pharmacy last week and looked at the “inert” ingredients in major drugs. Can anyone explain to me why Baby Tylenol contains high-fructose corn syrup as well as a host of other junk? There are propylene glycol and red dyes and what not. I tried to order a substitute for Pepto-Bismol without the junk, and they wanted \$130 for a 16-ounce bottle. Even doctors will tell you to stay away from many of these additives. What’s the reason for it, and why doesn’t anyone in the medical field speak up about it?

You might say this is a naive question. I don’t need a lecture about the dangers of Western medicine. I want bismuth salicylate without the unnecessary junk added.

*Harold Samtur
Highland Park*

Contraceptives as medicine

I am one of millions who will suffer if the Trump administration succeeds in repealing the Affordable Care Act’s birth control benefit. As a person with endometriosis, I have been forced to rely on birth control medications to manage debilitating symptoms. Access to birth control medications is basic health care without which my education and career would have been impossible, as the pain and other symptoms of endometriosis are often incapacitating.

Before the Affordable Care Act required that insurance companies cover contraceptives without a co-pay, I had to jump through hoops every year to prove to my insurance company that my birth control prescription was medically necessary and only intended to treat my endometriosis, not to prevent pregnancy. That is ridiculous and unnecessary.

More than 1.1 million Minnesotans are at risk of losing this essential health care if the Affordable Care Act’s birth control benefit is rolled back. We cannot let that happen. States across the country have been taking steps to protect and even expand contraceptive coverage. It is time for Minnesota to join them.

*Lindsay Brice
Macalester-Groveland*

A livable city, even in winter

I would like to thank the St. Paul Public Works Department for all its work this winter plowing the bike path along Mississippi River Boulevard. As a morning runner and a bike commuter, I was grateful to find the path freshly plowed every morning. It kept me running and riding all winter long.

*Stephen Rose
Merriam Park*

The New Colossus of the Midwest

BY ANNA K. WILEY

Give me your uncertain and your ambitious,
Your emotionally on edge and your financially secure,
who live layered levels high in the huddled masses
of apartment buildings off Interstate 94

Where dog companions, fastidiously groomed and fed,
are paraded on Saturdays and Sundays
when the weather is good and their owners can forget
whatever it is they do from Monday to Friday.

Give me your youth
who wander up and down between neighborhoods,
between classes, between jobs, between
relationships, between landlords, between
personalities, between their dreams—
their belongings in soft packs that hold the possessions
that sustain form and function for the days and nights
that define living in a place that is a stopover from,
a stepping stone to, a hedge against society’s expectations.

I’ll take them in, run a credit check on them,
help them survive just as others survived
when they came from who knows where
to the city— to escape, to succeed, to start again,
to drop out, to find a niche.

My streets and alleys, building and shops
that define the city set the time and place
for a new generation. Old neighborhoods
of delicate brick and stone give way
to new lifestyles. Ornate memories of the past
become renovated classical apartments.
A family mansion now leases to lawyers
and insurance companies. Small storefronts
serve as massage parlors and veterinary offices.
Trendy bars, coffee shops, ecologically minded restaurants
are tucked here and there, havens for collective minds.

As one group moves out, other groups move in
and change the purpose,
rearrange the landscape,
increase the pace or slow the beat,
cut out the trees and add asphalt,
tear out the asphalt and restore a park,
add too many cars, but insist on bike lanes;
hang silver rings from their noses, glide along
on a single line of small wheels
attached to molded footwear,
in headlong flight, yearning to be free to be.

*A recent immigrant to the Twin Cities from Bloomington,
Indiana, Anna Wiley is a resident of Minneapolis’ Hiawatha
neighborhood.*

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West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan
Area Schools

**THANK
YOU
VOTERS!**

On May 8, residents voted to allow School District 197 to issue building bonds for additions, renovations and repairs at all elementary and middle schools and Henry Sibley High School.



www.isd197.org

Commission OKs permit for larger Tobasi Stop in Summit-U

BY JANE MCCLURE

The St. Paul Planning Commission approved a conditional use permit on May 18 to allow Tobasi Stop to build a larger gas station and convenience store at its current site on the northeast corner of Selby Avenue and Fisk Street.

The project continues to face opposition from neighbors who contend the business is a magnet for crime, loitering and littering. They also object to having a duplex at 801 Selby Ave. torn down to make way for the new building.

The Planning Commission's Zoning Com-

mittee and Summit-University Planning Council both recommended approval of the permit. Nine neighbors sent letters in opposition and three appeared at a committee hearing on May 10 to speak against it.

Conditions placed on the new development include a requirement that a decorative fence, landscaping or combination of the two be placed along Selby and Fisk Street, and that the site be kept free of debris and litter.

The commission waived a requirement that the new building have a 10-foot buffer area between the building and an adjacent residential property line. The distance will be 6 feet.

City planner Tony Johnson said the issues neighbors have raised with lighting, fences and landscaping would be addressed as the project goes through city staff review. He said he will continue to work with store ownership on the site plan.

Abdallah Tobasi, who has owned the gas station and convenience store since 1992, said he is willing to continue to work with neighbors so that problems do not occur. He said the current 1,400-square-foot building is cramped and inaccessible to people with disabilities. According to him, the store serves about 800-900 customers per day and is open

from 7 a.m.-11 p.m.

"I'm limited to what I can have in the store now," Tobasi said.

A new building of 6,646 square feet would allow space to stock products not currently offered, Tobasi said. He would like to keep tobacco products separate from the rest of the store, and from children who come in to buy snacks.

Neighbors said if the expansion must move ahead they would like to see more of a buffer between the business and their homes, more security and more control on loud noises emanating from outside the business.

New homes on the rise across area

BY JANE MCCLURE

Tom and Mike Distad and Ben Terry hope to break ground this summer on a three-story, 11-unit apartment building at 2222 Stewart Ave. The project is one of a handful of smaller apartment buildings that are scheduled to be constructed locally this year.

Developer Graham Merry of Cullen Real Estate LLC has two smaller apartment buildings in the works this year—a three-story, three-unit apartment building on the former site of Sister Rosalind's Massage and Wellness Center at 639 S. Cleveland Ave. and a four-story, eight-unit building at 2044 Grand Ave.

Smaller developments have a role in helping to meet St. Paul's growing demand for multifamily housing, according to Tom Distad. City Council member Chris Tolbert agrees. "If we're going to address the growing demand for housing in St. Paul, we have to look at a lot of different options," Tolbert said.

The building at 2222 Stewart represents the first foray into apartment development for the Distad brothers, two veteran Realtors who have been friends with Terry since their grade school days at Highland Catholic.

"This is one of a few buildings we'd like to develop," Tom Distad said. "We've got our eyes on a few other sites."

The 10,000-square-foot Stewart Avenue site is currently vacant. It was one of several properties rezoned to Traditional Neighborhood 2 in 2015 as part of the city's Shepard-Davern Area Plan to promote development, and it is the first multifamily dwelling to emerge in that area since the zoning changes were adopted.

The \$1.3 million building will have 11 one-bedroom units and eight off-street parking spaces. The apartments would range from 600 to 750 square feet and have rents from \$1,300 to \$1,400 per month. No zoning variances are needed for the project. A site plan review is now being conducted by city staff.



Hands across the decades. Sam Peterson (left), Luke Paar and other members of the 5th-grade class at Highland Catholic School played cards with residents of an assisted-living wing at Carondelet Village in Highland Park last week. The multi-generational exchange began as a Lenten service for Highland Catholic, but it was so successful, the school has made it a weekly feature of the curriculum. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

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Dist. 197 voters approve \$117M bond referendum

Design work begins on school improvements

BY KEVIN DRISCOLL

Voters in the West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan Area Schools overwhelmingly approved a \$117 million bond referendum on May 8 that will enable District 197 to pay for additions, renovations and repairs at all eight of its schools, particularly Henry Sibley High School.

The final tally was 3,601 (62 percent) in favor to 2,180 (39 percent) opposed out of 5,783 votes cast. Turnout was 21 percent of the registered voters.

The bond will take 22 years to pay off and will increase property taxes by about \$87 a year on a median-priced home of \$237,200 beginning in 2019.

"We're very grateful to our residents for supporting our students, staff members and schools by passing the referendum," Superintendent Peter Olson-Skog said in a post-election press release. "These funds will enable us to complete necessary and overdue building maintenance and repairs, modernize learning spaces, and update our fine arts and athletics facilities."

District communications director Carrie Hilger said the next step is the design phase. "Larger projects, such as the redesign of the Sibley science and music areas, will require further study, architectural design work and

input from our stakeholders before construction can begin," she said.

Though no specific timeline has been set, subcommittees will be working on various phases beginning as soon as the end of May.

Group 1 has already taken up design tasks and will work through August on projects at Garlough, Moreland and Pilot Knob elementary schools, Friendly Hills Middle School and Henry Sibley. Group 2 will work from September-December on Mendota and Somerset elementaries and Heritage Middle School.

Sibley will get 40 percent of the new funding (\$48 million) for such improvements as a new lit football/soccer field and track to replace the one at Matson Field, which will continue to be used for middle school activities. A new swimming pool also will be built at Sibley to replace the one at Heritage. The pool at the middle school will be removed to make room for multipurpose performance and recreation space.

Improvements at Sibley also will be made to the locker rooms, dugouts, concession and ticket booths, scoreboard and bleachers. The high school will see improvements to its performing arts and music areas, auditorium, science labs, commons areas, school store, and career and technical spaces. Small group breakout spaces will be cre-



The \$117 million referendum will pay for renovations and repairs at all eight school buildings in District 197, including a multipurpose turf field and track, new pool and other improvements at Sibley High.

ated, health and fitness areas will be expanded, and handicapped access will be improved.

Enhancements also will be made to parking lots, landscaping, concrete walks, drainage, fencing, lockers, doors, elevators, flooring, mechanical systems, plumbing, ventilation, lighting and public address systems.

The cafeterias will be expanded at Heritage and Friendly Hills, and handicapped accessibility will be improved. The middle schools also will see improvements to commons and media production spaces, landscaping, concrete walks, fencing, doors, lockers, elevators, flooring and gym equipment. Heating and cooling piping, ventilation, lighting

and public address systems also will be upgraded.

All of the district's elementary schools will get similar improvements to lighting, public address and fire alarm systems, drainage, landscaping, walks, retaining walls, tuck pointing, sealants and painting. They also will see handicapped accessibility improvements, the resizing of kindergarten classrooms and renovations in spaces for grades 1-4.

Garlough, Somerset and Pilot Knob will get separate bus and parent drop-off areas, while Garlough and Somerset will get improvements to their kitchen and serving areas. Somerset will get a two-story classroom addition along with ren-

ovations necessary to provide handicapped access to a portion of building added in 1936 and the creation of a dedicated gymnasium.

"We are also eager to get to work on our maintenance and repair projects," Hilger said. "Most of these do not require design work and the community may see some maintenance projects starting yet this summer. Just what those projects are is yet to be determined."

The district is anticipating that all projects will be completed by the fall of 2021. Updates on the construction process will be provided at isd197.org, Hilger said those who are interested in participating in the design process are invited to go to the website for information.



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Crime Report

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

Highland Park

Robbery—A strong-arm robbery occurred at the Potbelly Sandwich Shop, 2130 Ford Pkwy., at 9:10 p.m. Saturday, May 5.

Burglary—An attempted burglary was reported at Zantigo, 2545 W. Seventh St., at 2:40 a.m. Wednesday, May 9.

Theft—A trailer was stolen on the 2200 block of Stewart Avenue at 6:14 p.m. Thursday, May 3.

—Stolen vehicles were reported on the 1300 block of East Maynard Drive on May 6 and from an underground garage on the 1700 block of Graham Avenue on May 12-13.

—A package was seen being stolen from a porch on the 2100 block of Highland Parkway at 7:13 p.m. Friday, May 11.

Assault—An assault occurred on Ford Parkway and Cleveland Avenue at 12:49 p.m. Monday, May 7.

Weapons—Gunshots rang out on the 2200 block of Rockwood Avenue at 11:54 p.m. Friday, May 11.

Miscellaneous—A 16-year-old girl was arrested for disorderly conduct after screaming and cursing at staff at Highland Park High School at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, May 3. She was taken to the juvenile unit and released to a parent.

—Illegal dumping occurred at the Sibley Manor Apartments, 1300 E. Maynard Ave., on Friday, May 4.

—A 50-year-old man was arrested for felony DWI after officers responded to a call about suspicious activity at the Homecroft Learning Center, 1845 Sheridan Ave., at 9:03 p.m. Saturday, May 5.

Lexington-Hamline

Theft—A vehicle was stolen on the 1100 block of Dayton Avenue on May 13-14.

—An iPhone 6s, credit card and ID were stolen from a woman's cart while she was shopping at the Midway Target between 1-1:45 p.m. Tuesday, May 15.

Weapons—Two vehicles, one on the 1200 block of Ashland Avenue and another on the 1200 block of Laurel Avenue, had their windows shot out with a pellet gun between 7:05-7:43 p.m. Thursday, May 3.

—Gunfire was reported on the 100 block of North Griggs Street at 9:10 p.m. Saturday, May 5.

Macalester-Groveland

Robbery—A strong-arm robbery occurred at 3:30 a.m. Monday, May 7, on Howell Street and St. Clair Avenue.

Theft—An iPhone and HP laptop computer were stolen from a vehicle on the 1200 block of Berkeley Avenue at 5:56 p.m. Friday, May 4.

—Eight microphones were reported stolen at the St. Paul Conservatory of Music, 1524 Summit Ave., at 3:11 p.m. Monday, May 7.

—Four bowling balls, two bowling bags and bowling shoes were stolen from a vehicle on the 1900 block of Summit Avenue during the evening of May 9-10.

Sex crime—A rape was reported on the 300 block of South Mississippi River Boulevard at 12:24 p.m. Friday, April 27.

Assault—A 31-year-old man was arrested for felony assault and making terroristic threats at 7:03 p.m. Tuesday, May 8, on the 1500 block of Sargent Avenue. The complainant said the suspect was her daughter's ex-boyfriend. She said he sprayed graffiti on the patio, pushed her down when she confronted him and threatened to burn down the house.

—A 37-year-old man was cited for assault and theft at Kowalski's Market, 1261 Grand Ave., at 8:15 p.m. Saturday, May 12.

Bicyclist dies in crash with bus on Summit

A fatal crash involving a bicyclist and school bus was reported at 2:10 p.m. Wednesday, May 9, at the intersection of Snelling and Summit avenues. The crash killed bicyclist Alan Grahn, 75, of Minneapolis. No injuries were reported to the 30 students who were being bused home from Ramsey Middle School. Police spokesman Steve Linders said the students were escorted off the bus and to nearby Macalester College, where a different bus came to take them home.

Grahn reportedly was wearing a helmet, but died at the scene. The man driving the bus was employed by First Student and was being interviewed by investigators. Linders said no drugs or alcohol were believed to have played a role in the crash. Preliminary findings indicated the bus may have been turning from Summit to northbound Snelling when it struck the bicyclist.

Linders said it was the fifth crash and first fatality involving a bicycle and vehicle in St. Paul this year. Last year there were 99 such crashes and one fatality.

Miscellaneous—A male kicked in the door of an apartment on the 1800 block of Randolph Avenue at 7:03 p.m. Tuesday, May 8. The resident was not at home, but said the suspect was her boyfriend.

Mendota Heights

Murder sentence—Lucifer Vincent Nguyen, 45, of New Hope was sentenced on May 11 to 545 months in prison in connection with a home invasion, armed robbery of a senior facility and the murder of Beverly Cory, 48, in an office building last July in Mendota Heights. Nguyen pled guilty on May 8 to one count of murder in the second degree and two counts of aggravated robbery in the first degree. At his sentencing, statements were read by members of Cory's family and a friend, and by the homeowner who was robbed at gunpoint prior to the murder.

Burglary—A business was burglarized and several items were stolen on the 700 block of Main Street at 3:42 a.m. Tuesday, May 8.

Theft—An officer spotted a vehicle with tabs that did not belong to it on the 1000 block of Esther Lane at 12:35 a.m. Tuesday, May 1. The owner admitted to stealing the tabs off another vehicle and using them on his plates.

—A bronze vase was reported stolen from a grave marker at Resurrection Cemetery on Thursday, May 8.

—A suspect stole the charity donation jar at a business on the 1000 block of Highway 110 at 7:21 p.m. Wednesday, May 9.

—A witness saw someone steal her neighbor's mail on the 1000 block of Knollwood Lane at 8:47 p.m. Wednesday, May 9.

Miscellaneous—The driver and passenger of a vehicle were cited for having open bottles of beer in a vehicle parked on the 1000 block of Highway 13 at 11:28 p.m. Tuesday, May 1. Marijuana also was confiscated.

—Two people were observed in a closed park on the 1000 block of Highway 13 at 11:24 p.m. Thursday, May 3. One had an active warrant and was arrested.

—A juvenile male was cited for underage drinking, possession of alcohol and a curfew violation when he was stopped while carrying a 24-pack of beer at 12:23 a.m. Saturday, May 6, on Concord Way and Heritage Drive.

—Officers were called to the 1000 block of 2nd Street at 5:51 p.m. Tuesday, May 8, regarding a male yelling and disturbing the peace. A knife was recovered along with narcotics. The suspect was arrested for disorderly

conduct and one of the females he was with was charged with drug possession.

Merriam Park

Burglary—Augustine's Bar & Bakery, 1668 Selby Ave., was broken into at 3 a.m. Monday, May 7. A witness said a white Impala occupied by two males approached the business. The passenger exited the vehicle, damaged the restaurant's door and entered the business.

—The drive-through window was broken in an attempted burglary of Arby's, 1810 University Ave., at 12:58 a.m. Wednesday, May 9.

—A burglary occurred at Episcopal Homes, 1840 University Ave., between 5-6 a.m. Monday, May 14.

Theft—A gold necklace valued at \$4,000 was stolen from Our Lady of Peace, 2076 St. Anthony Ave., at 10:30 p.m. Saturday, May 5.

—A computer was stolen at the University of St. Thomas between 11:34 a.m.-4:35 p.m. Tuesday, May 8.

—Mail was stolen on the 1700 block of Dayton Avenue at 12:46 p.m. Friday, May 11.

Assault—A man was assaulted on the 400 block of North Wheeler Street at 4:36 a.m. Thursday, May 10.

—A 24-year-old man was arrested for assault after fighting with officers who were called to assist in removing him from the Days Inn, 1964 University Ave., at 6:13 a.m. Tuesday, May 15.

Miscellaneous—Squads were called to Oakley and Lynnhurst avenues on a report of a man pushing a woman in Iris Park at 5:10 p.m. Saturday, May 5. The 24-year-old man was arrested on a felony warrant for robbery and for giving false information to police.

Snelling-Hamline

Burglary—A vehicle was stolen and an occupied residence was burglarized on the 1400 block of Portland Avenue during the evening of May 7-8.

Theft—A stolen vehicle was reported on the 1400 block of University Avenue at 11:07 a.m. Friday, May 4.

—A purse was stolen at TCF Bank inside the Midway Cub Foods at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 5.

—A cellphone and other property were stolen at O'Gará's, 164 N. Snelling Ave., between 1:45-2:15 a.m. Sunday, May 6.

—A vehicle was reported stolen at the Midway Herberger's at 4:54 p.m. Saturday, May 12.

Assault—An assault involving a weapon occurred on Snelling and University avenues at 9:47 a.m. Friday, May 4.

Miscellaneous—A 64-year-old man was cited for drinking in public at 5:17 p.m. Thursday, May 10, on Snelling and St. Anthony avenues.

—A woman was cited for disorderly conduct after she screamed expletives at Midway Walmart staff and at an off-duty officer in the electronics section and then again when she was being escorted from the building at 8:43 p.m. Saturday, May 12.

Summit Hill

Robbery—A robbery at gunpoint occurred on Goodrich Avenue and Milton Street at 1:13 p.m. Sunday, May 13.

Burglary—The front door was shattered during a break-in of Sprint Wireless Express, 1064 Grand Ave., at 3:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 8.

Theft—Two thefts from autos occurred at the Grand Ole Creamery, 750 Grand Ave., between 9:17-10:08 p.m. Thursday, May 3. Items stolen included a baseball glove and hat, documents and an insurance card.

—A purse containing \$1,000 in cash was reported stolen on the 500 block of Grand Avenue at 10:32 p.m. Sunday, May 6.

—A wallet was stolen at Willwerscheid Funeral Home, 1167 Grand Ave., during the evening of May 7-8.

—A stroller was stolen at Victoria Crossing West, 867 Grand Ave., between 5:30-6:30 p.m. Monday, May 14.

—An ultrasound machine was reported stolen from a vehicle on the 700 block of Linwood Avenue at 10:15 p.m. Tuesday, May 15.

Assault—Three adults suffered minor injuries following a disturbance at the Linwood Recreation Center, 860 St. Clair Ave., at 7:37 p.m. Sunday, May 6.

Miscellaneous—Mailboxes were ripped off on the 500 block of Lincoln Avenue between 2-5:15 p.m. Sunday, May 13.

—Felony damage to property was reported at a residence on the 200 block of South Milton Street at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 15.

Summit-University

Burglary—The James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave., was burglarized between 1-2:30 p.m. Friday, May 4. The suspects entered restricted floors of the property and more than \$1,000 in damage was done.

Theft—Stolen vehicles were reported on the 200 block of North Victoria Street on May 5-6, on the 900 block of Carroll Avenue on May 8, on Selby and Western avenues on May 14, and on the 600 block of Carroll on May 15.

—A package was stolen on the 500 block of Selby Avenue between 1:15-5:45 p.m. Tuesday, May 8.

—An iPhone 10 was stolen from an apartment on the 700 block of Concordia Avenue between 10 a.m.-noon Wednesday, May 9.

Assault—A 23-year-old man was arrested after police received a report of a female being assaulted by a man with a bat at 12:50 a.m. Friday, May 4, on the 100 block of North Chatsworth Street.

—An aggravated assault with a knife was reported on the 100 block of North Milton Street at 11:19 a.m. Sunday, May 6.

Weapons—Gunfire was reported on the 600 block of Selby Avenue at 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 2.

West End

Burglary—Highland Nursery, 1742 W. Seventh St., was broken into between 3:49-10:54 a.m. Monday, May 7.

—An apartment was broken into on the 800 block of Randolph Avenue between 6:33-9:20 a.m. Tuesday, May 8.

Theft—A vehicle was stolen on the 300 block of Superior Street between May 2-4.

—A purse was stolen at Children's Hospital between 6:25-7 p.m. Tuesday, May 15.

Sex crime—A rape was reported on the 300 block of North Smith Avenue at 11:06 a.m. Tuesday, May 8.

Assault—An intoxicated person was cited for felony assault and making terroristic threats against officers on West Seventh Street and Western Avenue at 9:18 a.m. Thursday, May 3.

Weapons—Bullet holes were found on the side of the EMC building, 875 Montreal Way, at 8:35 a.m. Sunday, May 6.

—Six gunshots were reported on Bay Street and Stewart Avenue at 2:07 a.m. Monday, May 7.

Miscellaneous—The windows of a house were broken out on the 400 block of Goodhue Street during the evening of May 7-8.

The St. Paul Police Department will host its second Women in Uniform recruitment event from 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, May 23, at its new training facility at 600 N. Lafayette Road. The department invites girls and women ages 14 and older to learn about a career in law enforcement. Officers will provide insight and answer questions on recruit training, balancing work and life, and career growth. For information, call 651-266-5545 or visit stpaul.gov/stepforward.

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Family fun District

Grand Old Day

Grand tradition Popular street festival will step out for its 45th year on June 3

BY FRANK JOSSI

Grand Old Day will mark its 45th year on Sunday, June 3, with an expanded schedule of events ranging from a classic car show to wrestling in addition to the long-standing entertainment and family venues that have made it the first rite of summer for more than a quarter million Twin Cities revelers each year.

The festival technically begins at 8 a.m., but really gets going at 9:30 a.m. when the Grand Old Day parade steps off and travels the 2½ miles of Grand from Dale Street to Fairview Avenue. St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter will serve as the community grand marshal, while Andy Gesell, senior vice president of BankCherokee, will be the Grand grand marshal. More than 100 organizations will be represented in the parade, and a panel of judges will be looking for the top unit to be awarded the Best in Show trophy.

“We love the parade and we’re excited about having the mayor lead it,” said Connie DeLage, executive director of the Grand Avenue Business Association (GABA). “We’re excited to once again be the Twin Cities’ opening summer festival and we’re making really good plans to keep people engaged on the avenue that day and promote member businesses.”

After the parade passes, the Entertain-

ment, Health & Wellness, Grand Market and Family Fun districts will have plenty of activities, along with 150 vendors selling food, crafts and other items.

“We’re doing a lot of great new programming to expand our demographics,” said GABA president Jason Koenig of Keller Williams Integrity Realty. “We wanted to recharge our Grand Old Day attractions to reach more neighborhood residents and other patrons of the event.”

Organizers wanted to bridge the gap between the music-oriented east end of Grand by adding more “vibrancy and life” to the west end of the festival, Koenig said. He credits fellow GABA board member and Toppers Pizza owner Brad Vinton for bringing in FIRST Wrestling, growing the arts and crafts district and adding a Cops ‘n’ Rodders car show.

FIRST Wrestling will have a group of 25 grapplers competing from noon-5 p.m. in the U.S. Bank lot near Grand and Lexington Parkway. “It’s a very theatrical event, with wrestlers who have great personalities, sort of like All-Star Wrestling,” Koenig said. The lot will also have craft beers and disc jockeys spinning music.

Cops ‘n’ Rodders, which will feature classic cars, raises money for the St. Paul Police Department’s canine unit. The event will run all day in the Kinderberry Hill Family Fun District centered at Ramsey Middle School



Wyatt Mitchell, 3, excitedly pointed the way for dad Nathan at a previous Grand Old Day.



Brian Glader and Dori Hietala savored sunshine and food as they strolled Grand Avenue with some 250,000 others at last year’s Grand Old Day. PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

at Grand and Cambridge Street. The district, which will extend from Snelling Avenue to Wheeler Street, will also feature musical entertainment, face painting, water wars, pony rides, dance demonstrations and craft projects from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. New this year is an \$8 wristband good for all-day bouncing on the inflatables.

Another treat in store for visitors to the Family Fun District is in the form of a new Salted Nut Roll-flavored ice cream courtesy of Grand Ole Creamery and Pearson’s Candy.

The family district is being cross-promoted this year with the Flint Hills Family Festival being held the same weekend in downtown St. Paul. Koenig said families are being encouraged to check out both festivals on Sunday.

He is also excited by the return of Boogie Wonderland, a Grand Old Day favorite. The group will perform from 2-5 p.m. on the GABA stage in the Walgreens parking lot on Grand and Grotto Street.

There will be six festival beer gardens in the Entertainment District between Lexington and Dale, where those 21 and older must purchase a wristband to gain entrance. The wristband price has increased from \$8 to \$10 to cover the rising cost of putting on the event. However, Grand Old Day-goers can buy them online for \$7 in advance.

“It’s still a deal considering how many different bands Grand Old Day visitors can see in an afternoon,” Koenig said.

GRAND OLD DAY ► 16

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The Viva Knievell cover band will be the headliner on Dixie's Stage from 4:15-6 p.m. during Grand Old Day.

Full day of Grand entertainment

The 45th annual Grand Old Day will feature almost continuous music on seven stages spread out along 2½ miles of Grand Avenue on Sunday, June 3.

At all six festival beer gardens, guests must be 21 or older and purchase a wristband for \$7 online in advance or \$10 during the event to gain admission. Wristband sale booths will be located near the entrance to each festival garden, and identification will be required.

For the second year, the music at Billy's on Grand, the Red Rabbit (formerly Wild Onion) and Dixie's between Victoria and Dale streets will be extended until 7 p.m. The rest of Grand Old Day will shut down at 5 p.m.

The Family Fun Stage at Ramsey Middle School on the western end of the festival will feature free music for all ages.

The live musical lineup includes the following:

FESTIVAL GARDENS

Dixie's Stage

Grand and St. Albans

Noon-1 p.m.—Crankshaft

1:15-2:15 p.m.—Boom Boom Stevie & the Knockouts

2:40-3:45 p.m.—Church of Cash

Johnny Cash Tribute

4:15-6 p.m.—Viva Knievell

Walgreens Stage

Grand and Grotto

2-5 p.m.—Boogie Wonderland

Pier 1 Stage

Grand and Grotto

House music, with beer, Cayman Jack cocktails and a laid-back atmosphere.

Red Rabbit Stage

Grand and Avon

Noon-3 p.m.—White Iron Band

4-7 p.m.—Tim Sigler

Billy's Stage

Grand and Victoria

Arc Flash Hazard (TBA)

Brat Pack Radio (TBA)

West side Band (TBA)

U.S. Bank Stage

Grand and Lexington

Noon-4:30 p.m.—F1rst Wrestlers will host a series of matches. There also will be craft brews and DJs spinning music.

FAMILY FUN DISTRICT

Kinderberry Hill Family Fun Stage

Grand and Cambridge

10 a.m.-5 p.m.—Spectrum Dance dance lessons and demonstration, along with a kids' DJ and programming all day on the stage. There also will be food and other activities taking place in the district for the kiddos and their families.

For more information, visit grandave.com/grand-old-day or call 651-699-0029.

15 GRAND OLD DAY

By popular demand, the festival gardens at Dixie's, the Red Rabbit (formerly Wild Onion) and Billy's east of Victoria Street will remain open again until 7 p.m. The remainder of Grand Old Day, including the stages at U.S. Bank, Pier 1 and Walgreens, will shut down at 5 p.m.

All Energy Solar will be presenting the Grand Market craft fair between Snelling and Hamline avenues. The fair began modestly last year, but has grown to 25 vendors this year. Koenig said the increase is a reflection of the growing interest in locally made products.

The Health & Wellness District, running from Lexington to around Ayd Mill Road, will feature booths by health providers and several

professional sports teams, including the Minnesota United FC, Wild, Timberwolves, Lynx, Saints and Rollergirls. The public can take photos with team mascots, engage in sports activities, see a demonstration from iLove-Kickboxing and more.

"This expanded area is a one-stop spot for sports and personal wellness with activities for all ages," DeLage said.

Those who want to avoid the hassle of trying to find a parking spot during Grand Old Day can catch a free ride to the festival on Metro Transit by downloading a pass for the day on grandave.com. People also can park for free in the University of St. Thomas ramp at Grand and Cretin avenues. Free shuttle rides will run during the day along Summit Avenue between Cretin and Grotto.



There will be plenty of returning favorites, like the parade, as well as new attractions when Grand Old Day takes to the street for its 45th year on Sunday, June 3.

PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

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Grand Old Day in the mid-1970s when Grand Avenue was not closed to traffic and parade units had to march around parked cars.

A look back at Grand Old Day highlights through the years

By JANE MCCLURE AND JOHN WADELL

Attendance at Grand Old Day has risen dramatically over the past 45 years—from 30,000 in 1974 to more than a quarter million in recent years—making it a popular first rite of summer for many Minnesotans and the largest one-day street festival in the Midwest. Sidewalk sales and open houses in the early years have given way to live music, parades, a cornucopia of food and people watching that rivals that of the Minnesota State Fair.



Cleaning up Kowalski's lot after the '87 fest. PHOTO BY MIKE LONG

Here's a glance at some of the Grand Old Day celebrations of the past:

1974—Grand Old Day debuted as a fundraiser for the Children's Hospital Association's Free Bed Fund. There was ample parking and no need to close the street to cars.

1977—The Grand Old Day parade began, then referred to as a "promenade" by GABA, which had taken over as the event's organizer.

1978—The growing popularity of the festival caused Grand to be closed to motor vehicles for the first time.

1981—Bed races were introduced. Other highlights included a baseball clinic, children's talent show, dog training demonstration and bridal fashion show.

1984—U.S. Cycling Federation races were held on the Short Line (now Ayd Mill Road). Afterward, irate neighbors blamed GABA for letting the festival become a "mob scene."

1986—The festival broke the quarter-million attendance mark for the first time.

1987—Miscommunication resulted in garbage being left on the avenue the day after the festival and it took two days to clean up the mess.

1988—Kids Are Grand was added as a multi-block family festival centered at Ramsey Junior High.

1989—A banner caught the wind and pulled a streetlight down on a worker at a beer stand. He was awarded \$1.2 million following a lawsuit.

1990—The parade was moved up 15 minutes to avoid conflicting with Soviet Union President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to the governor's mansion on Summit Avenue that day.

1992—A record 300,000 people turned out for the festival and drew a record number of complaints about drinking beer on the street.

1993—The controversy over public drinking prompted the creation of on-street "beer zones," which quickly became overcrowded and the barricades were trampled.

1994—More than a dozen fenced-in beer gardens were created as drinking beer in the street continued to be debated.

1995—The use of wristbands (for \$1 back then) to control beer garden patrons was tried for the first time and deemed a success.

1996—Early risers saw the Olympic Torch carried down the avenue prior to the start of Grand Old Day.

2001—The parade marked the coming-out party for "Charlie Brown Around Town" statues and included a scaled-down AstroTurf field near Grand and Oxford.

2004—GABA decided to tap into the reality show phenomenon by mounting the Grand Wedding, where engaged couples were invited to compete for gifts.

2005—Undiscovered Divas and the Strongest Man on Grand contests were introduced.

2006—A Diva Dog Park gave people a place to bring their pets to cool off and the festival beer gardens were reduced to seven.

2008—Grand Old Day marked its 35th year with the addition of International, Art and Sporting districts to go along with the Entertainment and Family Fun districts.

2010—The Oxygen Network brought its "Dance Your A** Off" tour, based on its reality TV show, to the festival.

2011—The parade was changed to once again start at Dale and end at Fairview after several years of going the opposite way.

2013—The 40th annual festival featured the addition of a Home & Garden District, a few beer- and wine-tasting events and a more aggressive approach to recycling.

2016—GABA rolled out Grand Old Days for the first time, with sidewalk sales on Saturday followed by the traditional festival on Sunday.

2017—The two-day expanded festival experiment failed, so organizers went back to the basics of hosting a one-day party and allowed the festival beer gardens at the Wild Onion, Dixie's and Billy's to remain open until 7 p.m.

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District Council News

Highland Park

highlanddistrictcouncil.org • 651-695-4005

Garage Fest—The 2018 Highland Park Garage Fest is scheduled from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday and Saturday, June 1-2. Maps of all seller locations and sale items will be available after May 29 on the Highland District Council website.

Organized trash collection—St. Paul will be launching its citywide garbage collection system on October 1. All residential properties with one to four units will need to have garbage service with a city-designated hauler under the new system. Property owners will also need to choose a cart size and service level by June 1. For information, visit stpaul.gov/departments/public-works/garbage.

Movie in the park—The HDC's first movie in the park of the season will feature *The Karate Kid* at Hidden Falls Park beginning at 9 p.m. Friday, June 1. Go to the HDC website for dates and times of movies throughout the summer.

Upcoming meeting—HDC's board of directors will hold its next meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 7, at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy.

Macalester-Groveland

macgrove.org • 651-695-4000

Alley Garden Awards—Nominations are not being accepted this year for the Macalester-Groveland Community Council's annual Alley Garden Awards, since all gardens will be viewed during the June 21-28 judging period. For information, visit macgrove.org/what-we-do/aga.

Macgrove Moves—A new season of MacGrove Moves has begun. To participate, people are being asked to leave their cars at home and walk, jog, bike or take public transit to their destinations at least 15 times between now and June 30. They may turn in up to three log sheets by the end of June (or a total of 45 trips) to be entered in a drawing to win prizes. Download log sheets at macgrove.org/mgm.

Mac-Grove Fest—Exhibitors are now being accepted for Mac-Grove Fest, which will be held from 2-6 p.m. Saturday, September 8, at the Groveland Recreation Center fields. The registration deadline is July 13. Visit macgrove.org/what-we-do/macgrovefest.

Upcoming meetings—Housing and Land Use Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 30, Groveland Recreation Center; Community Building Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 11, Edgumbe Recreation Center.

Summit Hill

summithillassociation.org • 651-222-1222

Cleanup kudos—The many volunteers who showed up for the Summit Hill Association's neighborhood cleanup on May 5 collected more than 20 large bags of garbage and took a trailer full of garden waste to the Ramsey County compost site.

Grand Old Day—The public is invited to visit the SHA booth at the corner of Oxford Street and Grand Avenue during the 45th annual Grand Old Day on Sunday, June 3. There they can register to vote and purchase neighborhood history books and tickets for this fall's Summit Hill House Tour.

Linwood rain garden—With funding from the Capitol Region Watershed District, the SHA has enlisted the help of 2nd-grade science students from Linwood Monroe School to overhaul the rain garden at the Linwood Recreation Center. Students started growing seedlings and on Wednesday, May 23, they will plant them in the rain garden. The students will also hear about the Adopt-A-Drain program and will join local artist Annie Hejny to create art pieces using run-off water and sediment. Those who would like to help are invited to grab their gloves and join them in the rain garden.

Summit-University

summit-university.org • 651-228-1855

Neighborhood cleanup—The Summit-University Planning Council is partnering with the city of St. Paul to host a cleanup event from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, June 2, in the Sears parking lot, 425 Rice St. Accepted items will include electronics, household appliances, small engines and bicycles. Some small fees will be charged. Document shredding also will be available. Help is needed for morning and afternoon shifts and to pick up items from the homes of elderly residents. Volunteers will receive snacks and one free drop-off of material for their efforts. For information, call the SUPC office or visit tinyurl.com/y8uqwlht.

Union Park

unionparkdc.org • 651-645-6887

Marshall Avenue zoning—The Union Park District Council will host a public forum on the West Marshall Avenue Zoning Study from 6:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, June 5, in McNeely Hall at the University of St. Thomas. There will be a presentation by city officials and an opportunity for small group discussions on specific sections of Marshall. Walking tours of Marshall will be led on June 10 and 14. Visit unionparkdc.org/our-work/committees/land-use for more information.

A comprehensive look—The public is invited to join the UPDC for a discussion with St. Paul city planner Lucy Thompson on the city's comprehensive plan at the regular board meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 6, in Otto Hall at Episcopal Homes, 1860 University Avenue.

Upcoming meetings—board of directors, 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 6, Otto Hall at Episcopal Homes, 1860 University Ave.; Transportation Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 11, Griggs-Midway Building, 1821 University Ave., Suite 330.

West 7th

fortroadfederation.org • 651-298-5599

Housing survey—The West Seventh/Fort Road Federation is encouraging all residents to fill out a housing survey at z.umn.edu/West7survey. The results will be used in considering future housing opportunities in the neighborhood.

Garden tour and plant sale—The West End Neighbors' Garden Tour will be held from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, June 9. Guides of the gardens and a history of the neighborhood can be picked up at the start of the tour at the Federation office, 974 W. Seventh St. Prior to the tour, a presentation on pollinators will be given by naturalist Dave Crawford at 7 p.m. Friday, June 7, in the North Garden Theater, 929 W. Seventh St.

Board notes—Federation board members on May 14 supported rezoning 900 Albion Ave. for senior housing, a variance for one fewer parking stall than required at 1177 W. Seventh St., licenses for Vine Park Brewing under its new ownership, a sign variance for the Keg and Case Market, and a conditional use permit for Fire Station 10. The next board meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, June 11, at 974 W. Seventh St.



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The Kiosk

Thursday/May 24

HEALTHY BRAIN AGING, dementia and Alzheimer's disease will be discussed by Dr. William Frey of HealthPartners Center for Memory & Aging in a free seminar at 11 a.m. at Kessler & Maguire Funeral Home, 640 W. Seventh St. Refreshments will be served and a light lunch will follow the program. Call 651-224-2341.

THE ADULT BASIC EDUCATION program at the St. Paul Public Schools' Hubbs Center will be introduced during an open house from 3-5 p.m. at the center, 1030 University Ave. Hubbs offers courses for ELL and GED students, classes in math and writing, and college readiness and job training programs. Visit spps.org/hubbs.

WANT TO IMPROVE your speaking skills in a light-hearted and supportive atmosphere? Join Midway Toastmasters. The club meets from 6-8 p.m. every Thursday at Seventh Street Social, 2176 W. Seventh St. No reservations are necessary.

"FORGING THE FARMER-LABOR Coalition," a presentation on the Farmer-Labor movement in Minnesota and the formation of the most successful third party in U.S. history, will be offered at 7 p.m. at the Rice Street Library, 1011 Rice St. Tom O'Connell and Randy Croce will speak and show clips from their documentary in progress. Admission is free.

Saturday/May 26

A BLOOMIN' PLANT SALE will be held from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Spirit of Hope Catholic Community, 2035 Charlton Road in Sunfish Lake. Shop for a wide variety of perennials, native plants and vegetables and more than 50 varieties of tomatoes. Master gardeners will be on hand to answer questions. All proceeds will go to charity.

Sunday/May 27

A NEONICOTINOID-FREE plant sale will be held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Temple of Aaron, 616 S. Mississippi River



Hot time in a cool parish. St. Mark's faithful found plenty of ways to keep warm at the parish's annual festival on May 19. For Stella Hrabe (top) and friends, it was jumping rope or hula-hooping. Boyd Mayfield, 9, and dad David (above) rode the Tornado. Meanwhile, Pastor Humberto Palomino showed some of the younger members of his flock the form that won the big prize. PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

Blvd. A wide variety of annuals, perennials, vegetables and herbs will be available.

Tuesday/May 29

THE CHALLENGES of raising a child with mental illness will be discussed in a facilitated support group meeting from

6-7:30 p.m. today and the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 700 S. Snelling Ave. Call Jonathan Wagner at 651-210-9549.

"WHO'S BUYING UP ST. PAUL?" the politics and economics behind the transformation of the city's landscape, will

be discussed by David Lanegran, professor emeritus of geography at Macalester College, in a free program at 1 p.m. at the Roseville Library, 2180 N. Hamline Ave.

Thursday/May 31

"THE OPIOID HEALTH CRISIS: Looking for a Solution" will be addressed by Dr. Stephen Delisi, associate dean of the Hazelden Betty Ford Graduate School of Addiction Studies, at 7 p.m. at Fairmount Avenue United Methodist Church, 1523 Fairmount Ave. Admission is free and open to all. Call 651-699-1335.

Sunday/June 3

WILD FOOD FANDANGO, a gourmet feed with live music, will be held from 1-8 p.m. at the Keg and Case Market, 928 W. Seventh St. Fourteen chefs will vie for top honors. Tickets are \$55, \$95 for VIP treatment, \$15 for music only. For information, visit wildfoodfandango.com.

LEARN ABOUT THE LAY Carmelites in a free program at 1 p.m. on the lower level of Nativity Church, 324 S. Prior Ave. Baptized adult Catholics who want to grow spiritually are eligible to join. For more information, call Michael at 651-645-7362.

Tuesday/June 5

FORMER ST. PAUL MAYOR George Latimer will discuss politics, city life and our changing times in a free program at 1 p.m. at the Roseville Library, 2180 N. Hamline Ave. A resident of Merriam Park, Latimer led the city from 1976-90. He also served in the Clinton administration as assistant secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Thursday/June 7

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE on Mental Illness will introduce its services for adults and children with mental illnesses and their families during an open house from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at NAMI Minnesota, 1919 University Ave. For reservations, call 651-645-2948 ext. 113.

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Food for thought

Local Dining for Women chapters eat in to help out others worldwide

BY MELENIE SOUCHERAY

The simple idea behind the nonprofit organization Dining for Women is this: Women who would normally dine out and socialize with friends, family and neighbors instead eat in, socialize and donate the unspent cash to help oppressed women and children around the world.

Mary Amdahl, a Macalester-Groveland resident and former elementary school teacher, learned about Dining for Women (DFW) while she was doing a stint with the Lutheran Volunteer Corps in Baltimore.

"It's a collective-giving organization that works for women and girls in developing countries," Amdahl said. "It promotes gender equity, education and reduces poverty."

Marghe Tabar of Highland Park said the women they help are quite often the financial supporters of their families. "You raise the level of the family and the women, then you raise the whole community,"

she said.

The South Carolina-based DFW organization was created in 2003 by Marsha Wallace. In those 15 years, it has raised more than \$1.5 million to help transform the lives of women and girls in developing countries.

"I think their focus will continue to be on small projects that can make a big difference," Amdahl said. "A lot of what they look for in projects is, 'How is this going to be monitored so we know how they use the money? Was it successful? And can it be replicated somewhere else?'"

Every month, members of the 800 DFW chapters across the U.S. meet to learn about a grassroots organization that has been awarded a DFW grant. Some of the programs supported in the last year include READ Global in Bhutan; Mali Health in Bamako, Mali; and the Women's Justice Initiative-Patzun in Chimaltenango, Guatemala. DFW has also established partnerships with UNICEF and the Peace Corps.

Last month, chapter members



Leaders of the Highland Park chapter of Dining for Women include, from left, Nancy Barber Walden, Mary Fleming, Deb Manderfeld and Marghe Tabar. PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

learned about African Women Rising (AWR) in the Acholi region of Northern Uganda. With the help of a DFW grant, AWR is teaching Northern Ugandan women and South Sudanese refugees how to sustainably grow food in small, home plots called permagardens. As a result, the African women are ensuring nutritional security for their families.

The national DFW organization maintains 12 regions across the United States. Minnesota is in the Heartland region along with seven other Midwest states.

St. Paul alone is home to two DFW chapters. Amdahl leads the Merriam Park chapter, which meets on the second Saturday of the month. The Highland Park chapter, which meets on the last Thursday of the month, is led by Tabar, Mary Fleming of Highland, and Deb Man-

derfeld and Nancy Barber Walden of Merriam Park.

Manderfeld recalled with a chuckle the evening in January 2012 when she saw a national news story about DFW, which then had about 30 chapters.

"I went online and signed up. I listed Mary (Fleming) as the co-leader without even asking," Manderfeld said. "I didn't have to. Mary and I have known each other for more than 35 years."

The pair tapped like-minded neighbors and friends—a group of a dozen or so every month, though they have many more on their roster—who usually get together in Fleming's home. Attendees bring dishes and beverages to share. They chat, eat, chat some more, then learn about the featured recipient of a DFW grant. A basket is set out for donations.

Amdahl returned to St. Paul from Baltimore in 2008. She became active in a variety of nonprofit initiatives in and near Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the Midway. The DFW seed that was planted years earlier started to grow with the Merriam Park chapter.

Although the chapter is not a formal Bethlehem Lutheran project, they meet at the church with the support of the pastor because it can

accommodate a large group.

"I started with people in this church," Amdahl said, "because they're my friends. They've brought their friends in. I think we have about 50 people who've come, but not that many regularly."

However, there is a hardcore group, Amdahl said. They are women who can always be counted on, even in the face of this spring's blizzard.

The DFW experience has affected the St. Paul women. "I'm a teacher," Amdahl said. "Teaching and learning are a big deal for me. Every month I learn something about an area of the world that I never knew about and an issue in that part of the world that women and girls have to deal with."

Barber Walden said she has become more conscious of "just the abundance of what we have. You turn the tap on the water; you wait for it to heat up. Then you see these women and their whole day is getting water and firewood, and they still have the time to raise orphans as well as their own children and still make a livelihood through the things we're sponsoring."

For more information on an established DFW chapter or to start a new group, visit diningforwomen.org.



Mary Amdahl fills her plate at a buffet of the Merriam Park chapter of Dining for Women at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Behind her, from left, are Liz Drumm and Mary Weber (seated), and Phoebe Waugh and Cathy Lue (standing).

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On the Town

Returning to the scene

Hagstrom's latest landscapes draw on his impressions from 12 trips to the South Pacific

BY LARRY ENGLUND

Professor Fred Hagstrom has been teaching art at Carleton College in Northfield since 1984. A resident of St. Paul's Summit Hill neighborhood, he has also been taking groups of 25 students on extended field trips to New Zealand and Australia.

"I teach the students how to bind their own sketchbooks," Hagstrom said, "so the trips become mobile drawing classes where we go out to national parks and draw." In addition to drawing, the field trips delve into the history and culture of the indigenous Maori people of New Zealand and the aboriginal peoples of Australia.

Hagstrom has taken 12 such trips since 1996, and he has a stack of his own sketchbooks from the experiences. "But I'd never done prints or more finished work based on those experiences," he said.

That changed after his last trip. Hagstrom created several prints from that trip, and he will be showing six of them in "Parts Unknown," an exhibit opening on June 2 at the Groveland Gallery in Minneapolis. The show will include new works in various media by Hagstrom, Robert Dorlac and Barbara McIlrath. The works are all landscapes that are "at once abstract, yet still familiar," according to the gallery.

Hagstrom grew up around Mound, graduated from Hamline University, and received a master's degree in fine art from the University of Nebraska in 1982. After teaching in Cleveland for a couple of years, he joined the faculty at Carleton.

Hagstrom's early work was mostly traditional prints. "In the mid-80s to 1990s, I was doing very large pieces, woodcuts that

were a full 4-by-8-foot sheet of plywood," he said. About 12 years ago, he started working with poets, pairing his images with their words in books. "Then I got interested in doing historical subjects," he said, hand-making books and creating limited-edition works of art. "Usually, I work up the text for historical subjects from archival sources," he said. "I find open-source images online, turn them into prints, pair that with text, print the books, then do all the binding."

Hagstrom's first non-poetry book was 2010's *Deeply Honored*, about a Carleton student who came from a Japanese internment camp. "I've done books about the legacy of nuclear testing in the Pacific and just did a book on World War I nurses," he said. His *Passage*, about the transatlantic trade in African slaves, won the Minnesota Book Artist Award in 2014. His next book will be done in partnership with the Nisei Veterans Committee, a Seattle group that was formed when Japanese-American soldiers returning from World War II were not allowed to join the VFW.

Hagstrom has created and collaborated on 17 books to date. They can be found in collections at the Minnesota History Center, Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis Institute of Art, New York Public Library and colleges and universities across the U.S. He calls his books 10-minute histories that "make this big story into a concise thing so that people can get an impact from them in a short time," he said.

The six prints that Hagstrom will be showing at Groveland Gallery are all scenes from New Zealand. Three of them "are different states of the same scene," he said, "a place near Auckland called Bethells Beach. I've drawn it many times,



Summit Hill printmaker Fred Hagstrom stands behind his press and some recent prints. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Three of the prints that Hagstrom will be showing at Groveland Gallery "are different states of the same scene," he said, "a place near Auckland called Bethells Beach. I've drawn it many times, and now I'm interpreting it in prints."

and now I'm interpreting it in prints—both in intaglio, which is etching, and woodcut."

The three prints show a bay and the surrounding hills as viewed from a hillside. Each is done in different styles and colors, suggesting different times of day and weather and evoking various moods, he said.

Hagstrom pointed to a second set of prints, "Over there is Maunganui

Bluff, a sacred place to the Maori," he said. "It's very meaningful to me. On my trips I arrange for us to stay with a Maori tribe. We stay there for three days, and they're so generous and welcoming. Because I keep coming back, I know their families really well. I've watched them growing up."

Appreciation for indigenous culture is part and parcel of Hagstrom's class trips to the South Pacific. "One of the goals of the trips is learning how to be a thoughtful traveler, going beyond general tourism to show the link between the physical environment and the cultural environment. When we visit the Maori, we see how they've taken care of their land. The experience of the Maori and the aboriginal people under colonization was difficult. So we learn about that, and the students are smart enough to realize those lessons transfer back to the U.S."

"At one place in Australia, we walk for 2½ hours though this giant gorge and come to a place where there's 1,000-year-old rock

art," Hagstrom said. The students learn about the people who created the rock paintings and why they painted them in that spot. "It's really different than anything you can do on campus," he said.

Hagstrom's next trip to New Zealand and Australia will be his last with the students. "That'll be sad," he said, "but it's a big responsibility when you have the safety of 25 people to consider. We go snorkeling on the Great Barrier Reef, we hike over volcanoes."

"I don't know how many of those kids are ever going to draw anymore, but afterwards, they look at shadows and light differently," he said. "People generally don't think about how important our visual sense is to us, but you do when you draw. That's a really liberating thing."

"Parts Unknown" will remain on view at the Groveland Gallery through July 14. An opening reception will be held from 2-5 p.m. Saturday, June 2. For information, visit grovelandgallery.com or call 612-377-7800.

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On the Town Briefly

Theater

Acting Black, Carlyle Brown's one-man show that riffs on the roots of American racism and its consequences for society, will be performed by Brown at 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, May 24 and 25, at the Lowery Lab Theater, 350 St. Peter St. Part performance art, part standup comedy, the hour-long production is at turns hilarious and haunting as it explores the appropriation of the African-American narrative. The performance will be followed by a discussion about race. For tickets, priced at \$25, call 612-339-4944 or visit illusiontheater.org.

Linda Kelsey and John A.W. Stephens star as an aging professor and a young slacker who make unexpected discoveries about themselves and each other in *Taking Shakespeare*. The drama by John Murrell is playing through June 3 at the Gremlin Theatre, 550 N. Vandalia St. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$28 with discounts for seniors and those under age 30. Visit gremlintheatre.org or call 1-888-71-TICKETS.

History Theatre is presenting through June 3 the world premiere of *Lord Gordon Gordon*, a musical story of flim-flammy and romance by Jeffrey Hatcher and Chan Poling, creators of the History Theatre hit *Glensheen*. Mark Benninghofen, Jennifer Baldwin Peden, Gary Briggie, Jennifer Maren, Adam Qualls, Jim Ramlet and Randy Schmeling star in this true story of a 19th-century con artist who swindled his way into the hearts and wallets of some very well-to-do Minnesotans. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays on the stage at 30 E. 10th St. Tickets are \$25-\$52. Call 651-292-4323 or visit HistoryTheatre.com.

The Room With Closets, a dance-theater work based on A. Pablo Iannone's book by the same name, will be staged by Sparkle Theatricals from May 23-26 at the Southern Theater, 1420 Washington Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Directed by Jon Ferguson, the drama tells of joyous flights of fantasy and grim political reality in a life divided between continents, cultures and government regimes. Show times are 7 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday and 7 and 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Tickets are \$24 at the door, \$20 in advance, \$12 for students and seniors. Call



For whom the cell tolls. Erika Kuhn plays the Other Woman and Lois Estell is Jean in *Dead Man's Cell Phone*. Playwright Sarah Ruhl's comic look at modern technology and its tendency to both unite and isolate people will be performed from June 1-9 by the Lex-Ham Community Theater. Show times are 7:30 p.m. June 1, 2, 7, 8 and 9 and 2 p.m. June 2 and 3 at Dreamland Arts, 677 N. Hamline Ave. Ticket are \$19, \$15 for students, or whatever you can afford on June 7. Visit lexhamarts.org.

612-326-1811 or visit southerntheater.org.

Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill, playwright Lanie Robertson's intimate look at the life of blues singer Billie Holiday through the songs that made her famous, will open on May 26 at the Jungle Theater, 2951 Lyndale Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Jazz singer Thomasina Petrus portrays Holiday as she recounts her story on the evening of one of her last public performances. She will be backed by a live trio. Marion McClinton directs the drama, which will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$37-\$47. Call 612-822-7063 or visit jungletheater.com.

Dat Black Mermaid Man Lady, an interactive performance piece by Sharon Bridgforth that celebrates multiple ways of embodying gender and spirit, will be presented from June 1-24 at Pillsbury House Theatre, 3501 Chicago Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Directed by Ebony Noelle Golden, it stars Aimee K. Bryant, Florinda Bryant, Pavielle French and Kenyai O'Neal, who

sing, move, tell stories and call on the audience to chant, holler, march, build altars and otherwise celebrate life. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays, June 3 and 10, and 3 p.m. Sundays, June 17 and 24. Tickets are \$5-\$25. Call 612-825-0459.

The Awesome '80s Prom, an interactive drama that brings audiences back to the Senior Prom at Wanaget High School in 1989, will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, June 1-23, at the Camp Bar Cabaret, 490 N. Robert St. From the cocky captain of the football team to the awkward geek to the hottie head cheerleader, all of your favorite 1980s movies characters will be there, dancing, flirting and doing whatever it takes to get elected prom king or queen. Tickets are \$29 and \$39. Call 800-838-3006 or visit BrownPaperTickets.com.

Postmortem will open on June 1 at Theatre in the Round, 245 Cedar Ave. S. in Minneapolis. The play by Ken Ludwig tells of an actor who draws on his 30 years of

experience portraying Sherlock Holmes on stage to solve a real murder at his castle home. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through June 24. Tickets are \$22 with discounts for students and seniors on Fridays and Sundays. Call 612-333-3010.

Dance

Following sold-out performances in February at the Southern Theater, *Invisible* will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 24 and 25, in Anne Simley Theater in the Drew Fine Arts Center at Hamline University, 1536 Hewitt Ave. The hour-long dance, theater and media work creates an alternative narrative on women navigating the aging process. With media images by Steve Paul and a soundtrack by Michelle Kinney and Chris Cunningham, it stars 11 women ages 25-77: Mary Easter, Becky Heist, Ann Marie Wittenberg, Sharon Picasso, Thern Anderson, Sandy Agustin, Roxanne Wallace, Kaori Kenmotsu, Kealoha Ferreira, Leila Awadallah and Paula Mann. Tickets are \$15. Visit brownpapertickets.com.

Music

Como Lakeside Pavilion, 1360 N. Lexington Pkwy., will play host to free concerts by the following, all at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise indicated: Minneapolis Police Band, May 24; roots music of Annie Mack, May 25; old-school country of Dixie Dix, May 26; West Metro Big Band, May 27; Minnesota State Band, 5 p.m. May 28; Northeast Community Band, May 29; 7 Cats Swing, May 31; Jaedyn James and the Hunger, June 1; Twin Cities Community Gospel, 4 p.m. June 2; Shoreview Northern Lights Variety Band, June 3; Vallee de Croix chorus, June 4; St. Paul Police Band, June 5; and Tina Schlieske singing songs of Frank, Nina and Billie, June 6. Visit stpaul.gov/musicintheparks.

Soundset, the 11th annual hip-hop festival featuring over 40 musical acts, b-boy and b-girl competitions, art exhibits, a skateboard showdown and custom car show, will return to the Minnesota State Fairgrounds from 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Sunday, May 27. Among the headliners are Atmosphere, Logic, Migos, Erykah Badu, Hieroglyphics, Wu-Tang Clan,

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Artists from around world engage children

Int'l family festival returns June 1-2 to downtown St. Paul

Twin Cities kids will have a front seat on some of the most outstanding performing artists in the world when the Ordway presents its 18th annual international children's festival on June 1 and 2. The newly rechristened Flint Hills Family Festival will feature nonstop entertainment from 5-9 p.m. Friday and from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday in and around the Ordway Center in downtown St. Paul.

Performing indoors will be Lightwire Theater in *Moon Mouse: A Space Odyssey*, Campagna T.P.O. in the immersive and imaginative *Panda's Home*, the Mexican folk and American pop band Moona Luna, and Arch8 in the acrobatic dance piece *Tetris*.

Dozens of free music, dance and theater acts will be presented on the outdoor World Music and World Dance stages. More than 20 Twin Cities arts, cultural and educational organizations will be on hand to engage children in



The streets, parks and plazas around the Ordway Center will serve as exhibit hall and stage for visual and performing artists from near and far on June 1 and 2.

PHOTO BY LAURA ALPIZAR

arts and other activities. Jugglers, stilt walkers, face painters, balloon artists and henna artists will demonstrate their skills, and public art in the form of 23-foot-high inflatable rabbits and block-long interactive murals will be

displayed. A family-friendly street dance will begin each evening at 7 p.m.

For a complete festival schedule or to purchase tickets for the indoor shows, visit ordway.org/festival2018 or call 651-224-4222.

Jaden Smith, A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie, Tyler the Creator and Ice-T. Tickets are \$86 at the gate, \$92 plus fee at bit.ly/Soundset2018.

Fleetwood Mac's 1977 studio album "Rumours" will be performed in its entirety by the eight-man vocal ensemble Cantus in five concerts from June 1-8 at the Cowles Center, 528 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis. The program will open with a few other pop tunes before the singers, backed up by a live band, present their original arrangements of the 11 songs on the album. The show will close with covers of songs by Destiny's Child, Queen and Daft Punk. Joining Cantus will be Lee Blaske on keyboards and woodwinds, Jeremy Boettcher on bass and David Schmalenberger on drums. Show times are 7:30 p.m. on the two Fridays, Saturday and Thursday and 3 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$27-\$37. Visit cantussings.org or call 612-435-0055.

Studio Z, 275 E. Fourth St., Suite 200, will play host to the 113 Composers Collective performing "Face Wails in Mouth" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 2. Tickets are \$15, \$5 for students, free for children. Call 651-755-1600.

Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 3045 Chicago Ave. S. in Minneapolis, will present its annual Bach Tage concerts on June 2 and 3. At 4 p.m. on Saturday, oboeist Stanley King will accompany baritone Andrew Kane and soprano Heather Cogswell in Bach's Cantatas No. 82 Ich habe genung and No. 202 Weichet nur, betrübte Schatten. At 5 p.m. on Sunday, Alto Krista Costin and tenor William Pederson will join the Bach Tage Orchestra and Chorus, conductor Kathy Romey and organist David Cherwien in Bach's Komm, du susse Todesstunde and Andreas Hammerschmidt's Schaffe in mir, Gott, ein reines Herz. Admission is free. Call 612-827-5919.

Champagne, dessert, lively conversation and 18th-century music played on period instruments will be yours to enjoy at a fundraiser for Lyra Baroque Orchestra on Tuesday, June 5, at the University Club, 420 Summit Ave.

Soprano Maria Jette and harpsichordist Tami Morse will join a chamber of Lyra musicians. The doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the music begins at 7:30. Tickets are \$100, \$175 for two or \$300 for four. Visit lyrbaroque.org.

Israeli vocalist Shuly Nathan will join the St. Paul JCC Symphony in a free concert at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 6, at Mount Zion Temple, 1300 Summit Ave. The program includes "Jerusalem of Gold," which Nathan helped make famous, other songs by Naomi Shemer, and Mendelssohn's "Scottish" Symphony No. 3 in A minor. Conductor Amir Kats will offer a concert preview at 7 p.m.

Film

Trylon Cinema, 2820 E. 33rd St. in Minneapolis, will screen the following: *The Odd Couple* (1968), Neil Simon's classic comedy starring Walter Matthau and Jack Lemmon, 7 p.m. May 25, 9:15 p.m. May 26 and 5:30 p.m. May 27; *The Front Page* (1974) starring Lemmon, Matthau and Susan Sarandon, 9:15 p.m. May 25, 7 p.m. May 26 and 7:45 p.m. May 27; *The Fortune Cookie* (1966) starring Lemmon as a TV cameraman who is steamrolled by an NFL superstar, 3 p.m. May 27, and 7 and 9:30 p.m. May 28 and 29; *The Survivors Guide to Prison* (2018), a documentary about two men who spent decades behind bars for murders they did not commit, 7 p.m. May 31; *Gilda* (1946), starring Rita Hayworth as a woman who must choose between her marriage and a tormented love, 7 and 9:15 p.m. June 1 and 2, and 3 and 5:15 p.m. June 3; and *The Battle of Algiers* (1966), a documentary-style film about the 1950s Algerian war for independence, 7:30 p.m. June 3, and 7 and 9:30 p.m. June 4 and 5. Tickets are \$8. Call 612-424-5468 or visit trylon.org.

Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy the following films under the stars compliments of the St. Paul Department of Parks and Recreation: *Karate Kid* on June 1 at Hidden Falls Park, north gate; *The Emoji Movie*

on June 8 at the Martin Luther King Recreation Center, 271 N. Mackubin St.; and *The Princess and the Frog*, June 9, Griggs Recreation Center, 1188 Hubbard Ave. The free screenings will begin around dusk.

Family

"**Towers of Tomorrow**," 20 of the world's most astonishing skyscrapers recreated with breathtaking detail in Lego bricks by Ryan McNaught of Australia, are being displayed through September 3 at the Science Museum of Minnesota, 120 W. Kellogg Blvd. Toronto's CN Tower, Philadelphia's Comcast Technology Center, Los Angeles' Wilshire Grand Center, Chicago's Willis Tower, Taiwan's Taipei 101, Kuala Lumpur's Petronas Towers, China's Shanghai Tower and Australia's Eureka Tower are among the marvels of engineering and design that have been reconstructed at a scale of 1:200 with more than half a million Legos weighing over 3,000 pounds. Visitors may build their own skyscrapers with the more than 200,000 loose Legos available in the exhibit area. Admission is \$18.95, \$12.95 for seniors and children ages 4-12. Call 651-221-9444 or visit smm.org.

Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy., will offer the following free programs: Baby Storytime, 10:30 a.m. every Wednesday; Createch, high-tech fun for teenagers, 3:30 p.m. every Thursday; children's storytime, 11 a.m. every Saturday and 10:30 a.m. every Monday; GED classes, 5:45 p.m. every Tuesday; Amharic storytime, 6 p.m. every Tuesday; Nature Smart, a trading post in natural history, biology and geology, 4 p.m. Wednesday, May 30; Yarn Night for all ages and abilities, 6:15 p.m. Thursday, June 3. Call 651-695-3700.

ArtStart will present its 11th annual EcoArts Fest from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, June 2, at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge in Bloomington. The free event will feature a host of interactive activities



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Dodge Nature Center, 1701 Charlton St. and 365 W. Marie Ave. in West St. Paul, will offer the following: Morning on the Farm, a chance to care for the animals and perform other chores at the farm and enjoy a hot breakfast of farm produce, 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Saturday, June 2 (admission is \$12 for all ages); Dodge's Amazing Race, an obstacle-course challenge for teams of two and four adults, 6-8:30 p.m. Friday, June 1 (\$20). To register, call 651-455-4531.

Books

SubText Books, 6 W. Fifth St., will play host to free readings and discussions with author Cary J. Griffith and his book about the Boundary Waters fire of 2007, *Gunflint Burning*, at 7 p.m. May 23; editor M.L. Cavanaugh and his book, *Strategy Strikes Back: How Star Wars Explains Modern Military Conflict*, at 7 p.m. June 7. Call 651-493-2791 or visit subtextbooks.com.

The Merriam Park Book Club will meet on Monday, June 25, to discuss *In the Lake*

of *the Woods*, the novel by 1968 Macalester College graduate and Vietnam veteran Tim O'Brien. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave. New members are welcome. Call 651-642-0385.

Exhibits

"St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers: The Enduring Gift," a showcase of the work of nature photographer Craig Blacklock, is being displayed through June 24 at Mill City Museum, 704 Second St. S., Minneapolis. The exhibit marks the 50th anniversary of the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Admission is free. Call 612-341-7555.

Summit Avenue Walking Tours highlighting the Gilded Age mansions that line the street and the people who built them and owned them, are being offered by the Minnesota Historical Society on weekends through September. The 90-minute tours step out at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. on Saturdays and noon and 2 p.m. Sundays from the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. The cost is \$14, \$12 for seniors and college students, \$10 for children ages 5-17. Visit mnhs.org/calendar.

2281 Gallery, a new exhibit space at 2281 Hampden Ave., is showing 17 paintings by abstract expressionist Bret Anderson. The gallery is free and open to the public from 5-8 p.m. Fridays, 2-8 p.m. Saturdays and 2-6 p.m. Sundays. Call 651-245-4191.

Raymond Avenue Gallery, 761 Raymond Ave., is exhibiting the pottery of Nick Earl and the paintings of Sandra Peterson through July 20. Earl's wheel-thrown pots are influenced by Korean, Japanese and English folk traditions. Peterson projects human emotions in her renditions of wild animals. Call 651-644-9200.

"Nature in a Dream State," 40 pieces of floral and landscape photography by Edie Karras, is on view from 5:30-6:45 p.m. Thursdays and from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays through June 2 at Vine Arts Center, 2637 27th Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Call 612-728-5745.

Selected paintings, drawings, photographs, sculpture, jewelry and other artworks by St. Paul Public Schools students are on view through June 3 at the Indigenous Roots Cultural Arts Center, 700 E. Seventh St. The exhibit is open to the public free of charge Mondays through Fridays from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Fifty-five artists will be exhibiting their original paintings in the NorthStar Watermedia Society's 16th annual show and sale from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, June 1-2, in the Fine Arts Building at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. The free event will feature demonstrations by watercolor painters at 10 a.m., noon, 2 and 4 p.m. each day, a scavenger hunt for children and prize drawings for original artwork every hour. Visit northstarwatermedia.com.

A two-hour walking tour that delves into the almost 200-year history of St. Paul's Lowertown neighborhood, from its days as a sleazy river port and bustling rail hub to that of industrial center, arts enclave and urban village, will step out at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 2, from the corner of Kellogg Boulevard and Robert Street. Explore the area's architectural gems and learn about the barons, thieves, capitalists and hipsters who made a living here. The tour costs \$14. For reservations, visit cart.mnhs.org.

Relive Minneapolis' railroad history during a 105-minute walking tour of the city's riverfront stepping out at 1 p.m. Sunday, June 3, at Mill City Museum, 704 S. Second St. From the laying of Minnesota's first railroad in 1862 to the building of the Stone Arch Bridge

and Milwaukee Road Depot, learn about the industries and people that filled the freight and passenger trains in Minneapolis. Along the way, discover clues to the vanishing of the trains and learn of the future of rail. The cost is \$14. For reservations, call 612-341-7582.

"St. Paul ReViewed," a summer-long exhibit of Minnesota's capital city through the eyes of its artists, will open with a public reception from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, June 7, at Landmark Center. The show includes three installations: "Our St. Paul: Celebrating 125 Years of the St. Paul Camera Club" in the North Gallery; "Explorations," photographs by Michelle Daniels and Brad Daniels, in the second floor gallery and third floor balcony; and "All About St. Paul: A City in Watercolors" by painter Jeanne Kosfeld, which will be previewed on June 7 before opening on July 19 in the North Gallery. Several pieces from Landmark Center's permanent collection will also be shown, including Bill Hosko's oil on canvas "Daybreak in Rice Park," Anna Metcalfe's porcelain and iron work "Letters to Landmark," and Norbert Marklin's photo mural "St. Paul Skyline Triptych." Landmark Center will also offer a series of related arts workshops, including The North Shore: Photographing Lake Superior with Bob Lundquist of the St. Paul Camera Club from noon-1 p.m. Thursday, June 7, in Courtroom 326; Getting Started in Nature Photography with Peggy Boike of the St. Paul Camera Club from 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, June 16, in Courtroom 326; Introduction to Night Sky Photography with Terry Butler of the Saint Paul Camera Club from 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, June 23, in Courtroom 326; and St. Paul Photography Field Trip with Michelle Daniels and Brad Daniels from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, June 28. The exhibits and workshops are free, but reservations are required for some of the workshops. Contact Judy Brooks at jbrooks@landmarkcenter.org or 651-292-1239.

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Sports



The Wright Call

By Dave Wright

O'Neill to retire from CDH hockey

The sound of baseballs being hit could be heard in the background when he picked up the phone. "I have to throw batting practice in a couple of minutes," Jim O'Neill said. That seemed strange since the caller knew that O'Neill had retired as head baseball coach at Cretin-Derham Hall a few years ago.

"Tony (Cicalelo, head coach) needed some help a while back," O'Neill explained. "I can still throw from 40 feet away."

Thus ended his retirement from the sport and O'Neill was back on the bench at the Taj Mahal of high school baseball fields on the corner of Hamline and Randolph avenues.

So one can't help but be a bit suspicious of where O'Neill will be this winter. CDH recently announced he was stepping down as the school's head hockey coach after being involved with that program for nearly four decades.

"That's a long time," O'Neill said. "I feel lucky. I get to leave on my terms. There are good kids coming back and good kids coming into the program."

Matt Funk, who had guided St. Paul Academy's puck fortunes, including a first-ever state hockey tournament appearance last year, will take over as co-coach of the Raiders with Charlie Basco, who was at O'Neill's side for the past 16 years.

"It'll be strange (next year)," O'Neill admitted. "It's been 38 years of Saturdays going to games."

O'Neill, who played hockey for CDH and graduated from there in 1974, was an assistant hockey coach at first. During that time and when he became head coach starting with the 1982-83 season, the Raiders always had decent teams, but rarely were considered state tourney material.

That all changed in March 1988. CDH, the St. Paul City Conference champion that year, was in the Section 4 final playing South St. Paul. CDH goalie Finbar Murphy was superb all night, but the Packers scored with 20 seconds to go in the third period to take a 3-2 lead. South St. Paul fans littered the ice and it took 10 minutes to clean it up.

"We had time to calm everybody down," O'Neill recalled.

WRIGHT CALL ► 26

Fueling the Fire

College players bring play to next level with new women's semipro soccer team in St. Paul

By MATTHEW DAVIS

University of Minnesota senior midfielder and former St. Paul Academy star Molly Fiedler has childhood memories tied to the new Fire SC 98 semipro women's soccer team she'll play for this summer.

"I'm really excited to play with the Fire," Fiedler said. "I played for the Fire (youth program) for about a year when I was 12, which is how I heard about it becoming a semipro team."

Fire SC 98, which was born in honor of the 20th year of the Twin Cities Fire youth soccer club, will begin its inaugural season in the Women's Premier Soccer League (WPSL) with its home opener against the Dakota Fusion from Fargo at 7 p.m. Friday, May 25, in Sea Foam Stadium at Concordia University-St. Paul.

The WPSL is the world's largest women's soccer league with more than 100 teams throughout the United States and Canada. The teams feature college players looking to showcase their talents and compete at a high level of play. The league is still amateur, so the players do not receive pay.

"I'm looking forward to playing semipro because it's going to take my play to



Gopher midfielder and former SPA star Molly Fiedler (No. 7 in red) battles against teammate McKenna Buisman during an intrasquad scrimmage of the new Fire SC 98 women's premier soccer team at its home turf at Concordia's Sea Foam Stadium. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

the next level," said Kaylyn Billmeyer, a Fire defender from St. Olaf College. "I'm also excited to play with women who play all over the country and who each bring their own style to the game."

"Semipro can provide a great opportunity to watch competitive women's soccer during the summer," Fiedler said. "This league, and specifically this team, can give young women an opportunity to watch high-level soccer and maybe give them something to aspire to."

Fiedler starred for SPA from 2010-2014, earning all-state honors three times. Since then she has become a reliable midfielder for the Golden Gophers women's soccer team, earning second team all-Big Ten honors as a junior last fall.

The Fire has multiple Division I

soccer players on its roster, including Gophers Makenzie Langdok, Emily Heslin and McKenna Buisman. Other local college players include St. Thomas goalie Olivia Elvidge, St. Catherine defender Amanda Carey, and Concordia forward McKenzie Buck and goalie Emily Nelson. Other players come from other MIAC and NSIC programs.

"This will be a really competitive team that will do well in the league," Fiedler said. "I'm excited to see what the season holds."

Familiarity with some teammates could help Fiedler and her crew. In addition to her Gophers teammates, she has played with some of the other team

FIRE SC 98 ► 27



Minnehaha Academy senior midfielder Grace Heiting just before scoring in the first half of the Redhawks' 17-6 win over Holy Angels on May 12. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Tough Redhawks get going this season in girls' lacrosse

By BILL WAGNER

The Minnehaha Academy girls' lacrosse team opened its season on April 24 with a 17-1 drubbing of Holy Angels, the team's first-ever win over the Stars. Since then, the Redhawks have been on a tear. They were 8-1 overall, losing only to sixth-ranked Blake, and were among the top dozen teams in the state as of mid-May.

"Our girls were tired in that game and Blake was very crisp," coach Hannah Lundstrom said about the 23-10 loss to the Bears. "They connected with every single pass, but I think we showed that we could play with them."

Lundstrom, who played lacrosse for the University of Minnesota-Duluth and is now in her fifth season as Minnehaha's head coach, noted that the Redhawks could end up facing Blake again in next month's state tournament. That's how upbeat she feels about this year's club.

"This group of girls has some of the toughest players I've ever worked with," said Lundstrom, who described the 2018 Redhawks as "the best I've ever had here."

The team, which competes in the Independent Metro Athletic Conference, also has another signature win to its credit this season with a 13-9 victory over Breck.

"That team has always been a tough one for us, so that was a good win to get," Lundstrom said.

Minnehaha also defeated East Ridge, a Suburban East foe with a large enrollment, in a 17-8 cakewalk, and topped Eastview, St. Croix Prep, Visitation/SPA, Southwest Christian and Holy Angels a second time. Through May 14, the Redhawks had outscored their opponents 147-82.

Lundstrom said that 50 percent of her team hails from Minnehaha, about 40 percent from

MINNEHAHA GIRLS' LACROSSE ► 27

Good follow-through

Constant improvement has been par for the course for STA golfers

BY BILL WAGNER

Greg Vannelli may be best known locally for co-coaching St. Thomas Academy to five state boys' hockey titles over the years. However, he has also coached some good Cadet golf teams in state competition for the last four seasons.

STA hasn't won a state links title yet, but if recent history means anything, it's getting close. During the last four years the Cadets have moved up from sixth, fifth, fourth and third last season, and Vannelli is hoping that progression continues.

"Maybe this'll be our year," said Vannelli, whose team has all of its top scorers returning from last year.

The Cadets have shown good consistency this season and Vannelli complimented his players for staying focused and in top form during the early spring when unseasonably cold and snowy weather held such a firm grip for so long.

"The weather set everybody back," he said, "but our kids have done a really nice job of adjusting. It was good to see that we didn't take a step back once we were able to start playing again."

Perhaps the biggest test for his squad this year, Vannelli said, was the Tri-State Invitational held at Edinburgh earlier this spring. The tournament, which was hosted by Eden Prairie, drew 22 schools and the Cadets finished third. STA also took second at the Edina Invitational and was in first place in the Metro East Conference as of May 11.

Vannelli likes the path that his players are on as the Section 3AAA tournament approaches on June 1 at Bunker Hills. The state meet will follow at the same course on June 12-13.

"But to win state, you usually have to go

through the Lake Conference," he said.

STA competes in Class AAA, where the state title has traditionally gone to such Lake Conference teams as Wayzata, Minnetonka, Edina and Eden Prairie.

Still, the Cadets have been rated among the top 10 in their class throughout this season. Their depth starts with juniors Brady Arnett and Muzzy Donohue, who share the top spot, according to Vannelli. They've spent all spring pushing each other.

As an example, on May 10 the Cadets defeated Tartan and North St. Paul in a three-way match. Arnett was the medalist with a 33 in the nine-hole event. One day earlier, STA beat South St. Paul and North St. Paul, with Donohue medaling with a 35. Donohue also medaled with a 32 in a win over Hill-Murray and Simley on May 15.

Last year, Arnett led the Cadets to the team bronze medal by finishing fourth at state, while Donohue took 10th. At the Tri-State meet, it was Donohue who tied for first with a 3-under-par 70.

Vannelli pointed out that Donohue, one of two golfers on the squad who also plays hockey for the Cadets, has been to the state golf tournament every year since 7th grade. He has had three conference matches this spring in which he has shot under par.

As for Arnett, Vannelli said he consistently shoots between 70-75 and has finished under par twice this season. "He's very steady. He never has a bad round," he said.

The Cadets also have three golfers at the Nos. 3-5 spots with the slimmest of difference between them: junior Henry May, sophomore Andrew Boemer (the other hockey player on the squad) and senior Jack Rowe, who all log rounds of between 74-79. The No. 6 player, junior Drew Jackson, typically shoots rounds of 76-82.



Juniors Brady Arnett and Muzzy Donohue have been standout golfers for St. Thomas Academy this season. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

It appeared as the season entered the home-stretch that STA was on its way to meeting one of Vannelli's objectives. "In our conference matches, we try to get to 140," he said. In

the two triangular-meet victories on May 10 and 11, the team logged a 4-over-par 148 and a 2-under-par 142.

25 ◀ WRIGHT CALL

The puck finally dropped and with five seconds left Raider Kent Repke found an opening and tied the game. A three-sport athlete named Chris Weinke scored in the first minute of overtime and CDH was suddenly in its first state tournament.

The Raiders made it back twice to downtown St. Paul, including winning the Class AA title in 2006 with a 7-0 rout of Grand Rapids. In the other years, CDH was always competitive. This winter, they went 21-4-2, losing to Wayzata in the Section 6AA semifinals 3-2. The Raiders generally were overshadowed by St. Thomas Academy in hockey during his year as head coach, but O'Neill rarely took any heat about that.

CDH had a few hockey stars—Ryan McDonagh has had a long NHL career with the Rangers and Tampa Bay—and a slew of excellent Division I and III college players. O'Neill, Basco and longtime assistant Mark Rancone, who was the head coach before O'Neill, simply chugged along quietly and efficiently with the goal of being a better team in February than they were in December. That usually turned out to be the case, so why would there be any grumbling?

During the past year, however, O'Neill began to think seriously about giving up coaching hockey. "It's always year to year," he said. Funk was happy at SPA, but he let it be known that if O'Neill wanted to step down, he'd be interested in the job. "His kids are going to school here," O'Neill said. "It just made sense."

In the press release announcing the move, Funk said, "As someone born and raised in St. Paul, I know how special CDH is to the community and I'm excited to be a part of it. As a staff, we hope to continue to build on the legacy and championship culture that coach O'Neill and CDH stand for."

Basco is staying on and Brian Murphy, a 2001 CDH grad who had been at Totino-Grace, is returning to his alma mater as well. Both will be associate head coaches.

"It'll be like having three head coaches on the bench," O'Neill said. He paused for a second, then added, "but I'll be around if they need anything."

Hockey and journalism lose a big fan

You didn't have to necessarily like Nick Coleman to respect his work. Coleman, the older brother of former St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman, died last week at the age of 67 after suffering a stroke. The obituaries properly took note of his long career as a columnist and reporter at the *Star Tribune* and *Pioneer Press*. Much of his writing covered the hardboiled world of politics.

But the man knew a good story whenever he came across it. Nick was the guy who was in part responsible for Rod Carew leaving the Minnesota Twins to sign with the California Angels. His reporting on Calvin Griffith's speech in Waseca lit a firestorm. Griffith had ruffed on several subjects that upset a lot of folks, including Carew. Still, it was good, honest reporting and Coleman let the chips fall where they may.

What many people may not have known about Coleman is that he was a passionate and knowledgeable hockey fan. I saw him often at high school games, particularly at section playoffs. He'd often show up at Augsburg Arena for MIAC games because, as he explained one day, he wanted to see if his hunch was right about certain players' skills. He also played as often as he could on the old Twin Cities media hockey team.

Though it was not his beat, he often wrangled press passes for NHL games at Met Center, mostly so he could chat with former NHLers like Gump Worsley and former Marshall goalie Jack McCartan, who were on hand to scout players for their respective teams.

Modern journalists probably shun the idea of actually liking a team or a certain player. Coleman had no problem being an enthusiastic fan, particularly of Cretin-Derham Hall

and Notre Dame teams. However, he was also a journalist who understood that occasionally you had to write a story that would probably hurt somebody. But if it was true, that took precedence over personal feelings.

Worsley was a piece of work

Lorne "Gump" Worsley, who died in 2007, would have turned 88 last week. Like Coleman, he was a relic of a different era. He was passionate about hockey and his position as a goalie. He often took goals scored on him personally, frequently fishing the puck out of the net and drop-kicking it into the stands. He abruptly quit the Montreal Canadiens when it was still one of the best teams in the NHL because he hated to fly. Still, retirement bored him and when the North Stars called looking for help a couple of months later, he came west and went back into the nets at age 40.

He stayed for four seasons and later scouted for the team, but his passion never waned. One night, a fellow approached Worsley in the press box.

"You played goal in the first NHL game I ever saw," the fellow said.

Worsley said politely, "Oh, when was that?" "December 26, 1965," came the response. "It was against Detroit at the Olympia."

Worsley immediately got agitated. "Was that the night that fat (bleep Alex) Delvecchio scored in the final minute to beat us 1-0?"

The fellow nodded his assent.

"I saw that shot coming from the point and somehow that (bleep) got a stick on it and it changed direction," Worsley growled. "Only time I ever lost a game in the last minute."

Then he softened into a smile. "But we beat them in the Stanley Cup Final that year," he said. "That's all that really matters."

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

25 ◀ MINNEHAHA GIRLS' LACROSSE

Gentry Academy in Vadnais Heights, and a handful from DeLaSalle in Minneapolis and Heritage Middle School in West St. Paul.

The roster is filled with players with great athletic skills, including senior midfielders Chloe and Grace Heiting, who as twin sisters are mirror images of each other in more ways than one. They both can move and are smart, both with the ball and without it.

"They're incredible athletes and kids," Lundstrom said. "They've played together for so long, each knows where the other is going to be. They're just right on top of it."

The Redhawks also have another impact midfielder in 8th-grader Jaylen Rosga, who is comparable to the Heitings when it comes to skills. "Jay is right there with them," Lundstrom said. "All three of our midfielders are athletes. They can all run. They can all play anywhere on the field."

If Rosga's name is familiar to local prep sports fans, it should be. She is the daughter of former Cretin-Derham Hall and Minnesota Gopher football player Jeff Rosga.

Through the first seven games of the season, Grace Heiting had 41 points (23 goals and 18 assists) while sister Chloe had 38 (25, 13) and Rosga had 32 (20, 12).

The Redhawks also have younger players on their defense corps, but it's impossible to tell from how solidly they play. They include freshmen Nora Thomey and Emma Barborak, 8th-grader Claire Nelson and junior Ingrid Roof. Lundstrom said the multitasking quartet can read the flow of a game.

"They have a feel for the play and are able to respond quickly," she said. "They play with aggressiveness. They know how to communicate about where the ball is and where you need to get your help."

Lundstrom also said that the leadership skills of senior captains Anna Northenscald and Laura Shea were an invaluable asset to the team.

Sophomore Taly Gentolizo is not only in her first year as a goalie, it's her first year playing lacrosse. Still, she's looked right at home with a .385 save percentage through May 9. The other netminder, junior Sidney Schoonover, is in her first year playing goalie, but had a .347 save percentage. Lundstrom said that both "rookies" were learning rapidly. "They're both doing great," she said.

Lundstrom likes how her team has jelled even though the players come from other schools. "It's great having talent from different places coming together," she said.



Minnehaha midfielder Jaylen Rosga scores in the second half of the Redhawks' win over Holy Angels on May 12. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

25 ◀ FIRE SC 98

members in club soccer.

Fire goalkeeper Julia Clifford, who plays for St. Cloud State, said she has seen the new club's chemistry develop in a short amount of time.

"Everybody's been clicking really well and from the scrimmages we've had it's like we've been playing together since we were 12 years old," said Clifford, who played semipro soccer for the Minnesota Twinstars in Minneapolis last year.

Several other Fire players besides Fiedler developed in the Twin Cities Fire youth club. Fire co-coach Aaron Tilsen said the success of that program's alumni played a central role in forming a

semipro team.

"We've probably sent 150-200 players on to college from our youth soccer, and they've always said to me when they come back after their freshman year, 'Hey, can I come practice? Hey, what I can do this summer?'" Tilsen said.

Former youth players had the option of playing with the Fire program in the Minnesota Women's Soccer League, an adult amateur league. While that league offers a chance to play a couple games a week, it doesn't offer the same level of competition that the WPSL does.

Both Tilsen and fellow head coach Mickey McNeill are co-founders of the Twin Cities Fire youth program and previously coached soccer at Central High

School along with college teams.

The Fire have five home games this season at Concordia, playing in the North Conference of the Heartland Division in the WPSL. After the May 25 home opener, they'll host the Torrent from Milwaukee at 4 p.m. on May 26, Chicago City at 7 p.m. on June 16, the Redstars Reserves of Chicago at 4 p.m. on June 17 and the Minnesota Twinstars at 7 p.m. on July 7. Details can be found at firesc98.com.

"Our team will be a dark horse in the central region," Billmeyer predicted. "We don't have a ton of experience playing in this league, but we have the talent and the drive that'll allow us to compete at a high level right away."



Team-mates Taylor Bare (27) and Claire Radatz mix it up during a scrimmage. The Fire's home opener is May 25 at Concordia U.

PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Sports Shorts



Laura Smith tries out equipment at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. The JCC recently opened its new fitness center and is anxiously anticipating the opening of its new aquatics center on June 4. The openings are part of a nearly \$15 million expansion to the center's 53-year-old building. PHOTO BY LOU MICHAELS

The Minnesota Wild is now accepting registrations for its fifth season of the Little Wild Learn to Play program. The 2018 edition of the program will expand to 20 locations across the state, including the TRIA Rink, the Wild's practice facility in downtown St. Paul. The program is for first-time boys' and girls' hockey players who will be ages 5-8 as of September 1. The cost is \$125, which includes four hours of on-ice sessions in September, a full set of CCM hockey equipment, and a free ticket to a Wild preseason home game. Equipment fitting will take place in August. Visit wild.com/littlewild for information.

The Great River Water Park in the Oxford Community Center, 270 N. Lexington Pkwy., will be closed for maintenance from July 4 to September 3. Call 651-642-0650 for more information.

The Highland Park Community Center boasted city volleyball champions in all three age divisions during the spring season. The 12U team stunned the West Side Boosters in back-to-back three-set matches to claim the crown and finish the season with a 23-1 record. The 14U team recovered from a quarterfinal loss in the double-elimination tournament by sweeping its final four matches to claim the title and finish the season with a 21-1 record. The 18U team defeated defending champion Arlington in straight sets to win the title en route to a 20-0 season.

The St. Paul Saints will welcome ballpark visitors to view and purchase creations by local artists at Andy's Gallery during this season's home games. Two art booths will be set up on the CHS Field's concourse behind home plate. The artists showing their work for each game will be announced over the public address system and pictured on the giant video screen. The free arts program is managed by The Show Nonprofit. Local artists may sign up to display their creations by emailing katiemory@theshowgallerylowertown.org.

Finalists for the 2018 Winfield Awards were recently announced. The awards recognize outstanding St. Paul high school students of color. The female finalists are Raiyne Adams of Como Park High School, Asiah Atiq of Highland Park, K'Lynn Lewis of St. Agnes, Autam Mendez of Cretin-Derham and Josapheena Thao of Johnson. The male finalists are Jack Branby of Highland, Jalen Jackson of Central, Keylan Jackson of Johnson, Brett McNeal II of Twin Cities Academy and Berket Olson of Highland. The awards will be presented at 5 p.m. Sunday, June 3, at the Intercontinental St. Paul Riverfront Hotel, 11 E. Kellogg Blvd. The keynote speaker is Ron Johnson II, former football player for the Minnesota Gophers and Baltimore Ravens and current co-host of Viking Game Day Live on Fox 9 and a KFAN radio host. Tickets are \$40 and may be reserved by calling 651-457-4304.

Allianz Field on Snelling and St. Anthony avenues has been selected as a host venue of the 2019 Concacaf Gold Cup next July. It is one of 15 venues in 13 major cities across the United States chosen to host matches in the event, which is the region's premier soccer championship, crowning the best national team in North, Central America and the Caribbean. The 19,400-seat Allianz Field is more than 50 percent complete and is expected to be finished in February. United season ticket holders for 2019 will be offered a chance to purchase pre-sale tickets for the Gold Cup. More details are expected to be released this fall.

"Dancing With the Stars" professional ballroom dancer Louis Van Amstel will visit the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave., at 9:30 a.m. Friday, June 8, to help celebrate its newly opened health and wellness wing. He will lead a free LaBlast dance workout class. All are welcome to attend and stay for a meet and greet, a nutrition seminar and other classes afterward. For information, visit stpauljcc.org or call 651-698-0751.

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Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo in Gallery Tower. Located on the 15th floor, the unit features expansive views of downtown Saint Paul. With nearly 1,400 square feet there is ample space for any lifestyle.



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Unbelievable opportunity to live in the Summit Ave. Historic District! This condo is part of the Horace P. Rugg Mansion built in 1887 and boasts 4000 sq. ft. with 3 spacious BR's on one level with 3 baths and a separate 2 car garage. A must see!



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Beautiful 2 1/2 story home located in the heart of sought-after Macalester-Groveland. 4BR, 2BA. Loaded with charm and character. 3rd floor expansion with tree-top views. Contact David Noyes Jr for a private showing at 651-233-0748 or [dnoyesjr@cbburnet.com](#) [www.NoyesRealEstateGroup.com](#)



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NEW IN MAC-GROVELAND!
Lovely 3BR, 2BA 2-story with main floor sun room and LL family room. State of the art cherry kitchen with granite and stainless, beautiful built-in corner cabinets and all new windows, new baths, plus lovely patio with pergola and privacy fenced yard.



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SOLD
GREAT NORTHERN'S OWN JAMES J. HILL!
This unit complete with 2BR's, 1BA, and 2 garage spaces offers walls of windows, river views, and vaulted ceilings. Secure building with all amenities - Walkable to all that is Lowertown - Absolutely smashing!



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JUST LISTED!!!
1675 Scheffer: 3 bedroom with updated eat-in kitchen, new roof and furnace, delightful front porch, fenced yard with oversized double garage, and terrific potential.



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EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTY!!!
295 Salem Church Rd: Spectacular Sunfish Lake home offering 12,447 sq. ft. to be used for your largest entertainment need but designed for comfortable everyday living as well. 5 fireplaces, 9 BA's, and an 8 car heated garage.



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1709 BOHLAND AVENUE
Sun filled home on premiere Highland Park street. Only three owners. Grand piano sized living room with fireplace - large formal dining room. First floor family room opens to kitchen.



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Steps to Highland Village - Classic Tudor style with three bedrooms, two baths, two car garage - same family since 1941.



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1087 SMITH AVENUE
Excellent West St. Paul location - beautiful stucco rambler - three bedrooms on main floor - extra large lot - two car garage plus extra parking.



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EXECUTIVE RENOVATION-LIKE NEW CONSTRUCTION!
6BR/6BA, 4 car gar., 4 finished levels. 5500 sq ft. 2 master suites. Kitchen boasts SS appl, marble island, prep kitchen/pantry. Wine cellar, bar, 2 mudrooms, Wirsbo heated concrete floors. New mechanicals. Amazing. 1330 Edgcombe Road.



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HOME OF FRANK B. KELLOGG!
This stately Crocus Hill home features 9,000 sq ft, breathtaking interiors, inlaid and pegged floors, a 1/2 acre lot with reflecting pool and a carriage house. This was an ASID showcase home in 2004 and is a designated National Historic Landmark. 633 Fairmount Ave.



SARAH KINNEY
651-282-9621 • \$2,295,000



HISTORIC ROW HOUSE!
This beautiful brick end unit, built in 1882, has been completely restored. Features include over 3,000 sf, 3/BR, 3/BA, 2 fireplaces, arched and stained glass wndws, high-end appls and great details. Currently a duplex, but could be easily converted to single family. 198 Kent St.



SARAH KINNEY
651-282-9621 • \$795,000



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



SARAH KINNEY
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NEW
CLASSIC PRAIRIE SCHOOL DESIGN!
Sophisticated and elegant, this architect designed home features bright, open spaces with 5BR/5BA, master BR suite with fireplace, exquisite interiors and quality craftsmanship throughout. An artful blend of maintenance free living and classic design. 777 Linwood Ave.



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