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Neighbors appeal approval of Grand apartment project

Fear building near UST would add to student parking issues

By Jane McClure

A much-debated Grand Avenue apartment building will be the focus of an appeal to the St. Paul City Council on July 10 at City Hall. Neighbors are contesting a 5-2 vote by the city's Board of Zoning Appeals on June 3 to approve two variances for MCR Property Holdings. The developer wants to construct a three-story building with four, four-bedroom units at 2150 Grand Ave. A single-family home would be demolished to make way for the apartments.

Neighbors contend that the building would attract student renters from the nearby University of St. Thomas and add to the congestion on the area's streets and alleys. Two larger apartment buildings have gone up on the same block in recent years and house mostly college students.

The property is zoned for medium-density, multifamily use. One of the approved variances allowed a lot size of 6,388 square feet instead the minimum 9,000 square feet required for a new multifamily building. The other allowed a seven-space parking lot to have no setback from the alley and a 2-foot setback from the west property line instead of the minimum

GRAND APARTMENTS ►3



In safe hands. Officer Charlie Busch gives 1-year-old Loroyoal Anderson a big thumbs-up during a Safe Summer Nights barbecue hosted by the St. Paul Police Department on June 13 at the Linwood Recreation Center. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Mayor digs in, vows to appeal court order for referendum on organized trash

By Jane McClure

Organized residential trash collection will continue uninterrupted in St. Paul as city officials and opponents of organized collection continue to wage a legal battle over the program. Mayor Melvin Carter has vowed to appeal a May 30 ruling by Ramsey County District Court Judge Leonardo Castro that requires the city to suspend organized collection on June 30 and hold a referendum on the program in a special election or in conjunction with the city election on November 5.

Carter said it may require dipping into the city's budget reserves to cover the cost, but organized collection will continue and the owners of single-family homes and apartment buildings of two to four units should not cancel or switch their garbage service.

The City Council met in closed session on June 12 to discuss the city's next steps. A challenge to Castro's ruling would go to the Minnesota Court of Appeals, which could decide the future shape of St. Paul's trash program and whether or not it will be on the ballot.

Castro's ruling could mean as much as

ORGANIZED TRASH ►3

Design standards create a palette for Ford redevelopment

Guidelines for buildings, landscaping get public hearing on June 28

By Jane McClure

Proposed design standards for the 122-acre site of Ford Motor Company's former assembly plant in Highland Park will be addressed in a public hearing before the St. Paul Planning Commission at 8:30 a.m. Friday, June 28. The guidelines address such issues as landscaping, building proportion and scale, exterior building materials and how buildings relate to the streets they face.

During the years of planning for the rede-

velopment of the Ford site, people said they wanted a design that complements the surrounding neighborhood, according to senior city planner Mike Richardson. "We need to make sure that whatever gets built meets those expectations," he said.

"We're trying to leave some room for creativity and imagination," added principal city planner Lucy Thompson, "yet emphasize the need for high-quality materials that will last over time."

"Our team knows that the design standards are an important part of the process, and we're supportive of the effort to date," said Tony Barranco, senior vice president for development for Ryan Companies, the master developer of the Ford site. "We're also continuing to make sure that the process doesn't create un-

intended consequences, particularly conflicts between the master plan and design standards that require future revision or amendments."

Once adopted by the City Council, the design standards will become part of the Ford site master plan that the council approved in 2017 and amended this spring at the request of Ryan Companies. "The design standards should be seen as a supplement to the Ford site master plan and the zoning code requirements," said Mike Lamb, a leader of urban design and planning for LHB Design, a consulting firm hired by the city.

The design standards lay out three types of streets on the Ford site: a "front street" or multi-modal street accommodating motor vehicles but giving priority to pedestrians with limited garage and service access; a "ve-

hicle access street," or side, rear and service streets or alleys that are multi-modal and accommodate motor vehicles with garage and service functions; and a "pedestrian-bike street" that bans all motorized vehicles except emergency ones.

Eight parks and other open spaces are planned for the Ford site, and the standards for their design vary in landscaping, fencing and other features. The streetscapes are diagrammed to show how they should be designed with landscaping and accommodations for pedestrians and bicyclists. Pedestrians are given priority throughout the Ford site.

Different design guidelines apply to each

FORD SITE DESIGN STANDARDS ►3

BOOMERS & BEYOND



The beep goes on ►13

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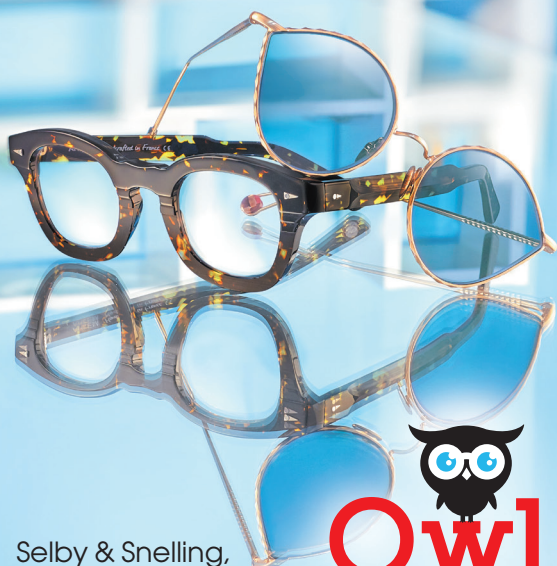
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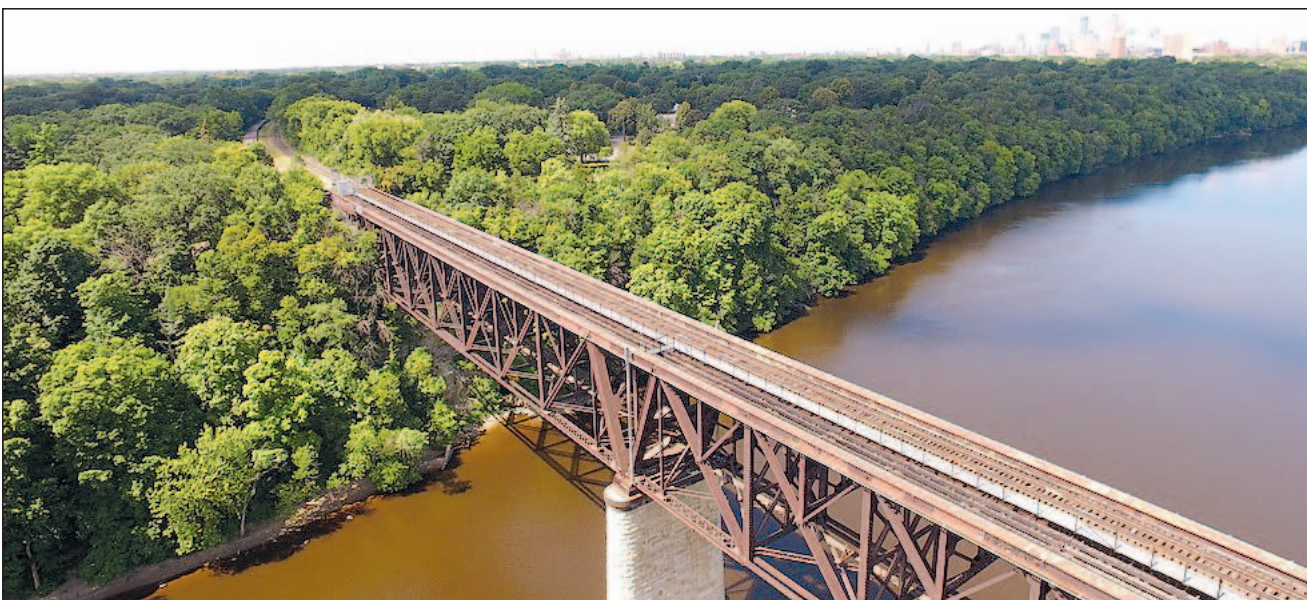
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Revamping the Canadian Pacific Railroad bridge over the Mississippi River (pictured above looking west) for bike and pedestrian use would cost between \$7.4 million and \$27.5 million, according to the Midtown Greenway Coalition.

Study revives interest in Greenway extension

Railroad bridge redesign
would link Mpls./St. Paul
bike and pedestrian trails

By JANE MCCLURE

An off-road bicycle connection between the Midtown Greenway in Minneapolis and a proposed bike and pedestrian trail along Ayd Mill Road in St. Paul is back on the table. The Midtown Greenway Coalition on June 6 released a feasibility study, which indicated that revamping the Canadian Pacific Railroad bridge over the Mississippi River for bicycle and pedestrian use would cost between \$7.4 million and \$27.5 million, depending on which of four options would be chosen.

Midtown Greenway executive director Soren Jensen described the bike trail extension as a "world class" enhancement of the Twin Cities' bicycle infrastructure that would eventually provide an off-road trail from Minneapolis' Uptown to St. Paul's downtown.

The Midtown Greenway is a 5.5-mile trail that runs one block north of Lake Street from Uptown to the Mississippi River. It is owned by Hennepin County and maintained by the city of Minneapolis. Extending the trail across the Mississippi and along the CP Rail line through Prospect Park and Union Park

to St. Paul's West End and downtown along the Sam Morgan Trail has been a long-time dream for local bicyclists.

The Union Park District Council (UPDC) has been watching the bridge study closely. A \$3.5 million mill and overlay project has been scheduled for this summer on Ayd Mill Road, and the UPDC voted on June 5 to ask the St. Paul Department of Public Works to conduct a transportation study of Ayd Mill Road before any more money is invested in Ayd Mill Road beyond the mill and overlay work.

According to Henry Parker, who co-chairs the UPDC's Transportation Committee, the Ayd Mill Road study should focus on various transportation options along that 1.5-mile city street.

When the Ayd Mill Road mill and overlay project was announced earlier this spring, St. Paul Public Works director Kathy Lantry said there will eventually be a study of transportation options for Ayd Mill Road, but no timeline has been established for it.

Mill and overlay work involves grinding off the top few inches of a street and then laying down a new road surface. The work is usually good for about 10 years, but with an average of 24,000 vehicles per day and its location in a valley with natural springs, Ayd Mill Road gets more wear and tear than the average city street.

The St. Paul Bicycle Plan, which was

adopted in 2015, also identifies a bike route along Ayd Mill Road for future study. City staff and CP Rail have discussed the acquisition of railroad right-of-way for a bike and pedestrian trail, but have not reached any agreements. CP Rail has long been opposed to having bicyclists and pedestrians so close to a still-active rail line.

The Midtown Greenway Coalition study was funded through a \$46,000 crowdsourcing effort. CP Rail, which owns the Mississippi River bridge and the railroad right-of-way beside Ayd Mill Road, is not commenting on the study. The river bridge is also used by Minnesota Commercial Railroad.

The least expensive option studied for the Greenway extension would be to cease using the river bridge for railroad traffic and convert it for use by bicyclists and pedestrians (\$7.4 million). Other options involve shared use of the bridge with a 10-foot railing separating the bike lanes from the tracks (\$9.9 million), constructing a new bridge deck adjacent to the existing deck (\$22.4 million), and a partial reconstruction of the bridge to accommodate the two uses (\$27.5 million).

Kimley-Horn conducted the study for the Midtown Greenway Coalition without the benefit of actually being on the bridge. CP Rail would not allow the consultants on the bridge during the study.

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1 ◀ ORGANIZED TRASH

\$13 million in additional city expenses in 2019 to cover all residential trash bills after June 30. The ruling technically suspends the fees the city charges the 73,000 households included in the organized trash collection program.

The city is arguing that it cannot legally break its five-year contract with the haulers consortium called St. Paul Trash LLC. At a news conference after Castro's ruling, Carter said city officials may have to move the funding of residential trash collection from fees to property taxes, although that could not happen before 2020.

Castro ruled that the City Council violated St. Paul's city charter by rejecting a valid petition to put the program up for a vote. Citizens opposed to organized collection had collected signatures on two separate petitions challenging the two city ordinances that established organized collection. The second petition was deemed by Ramsey County Elections staff to have 6,469 signatures, a number that exceed-

ed 10 percent of the total votes in the previous city election, which under the city charter is enough to require a referendum. St. Paul officials argued that the city's five-year contract with the haulers consortium trumps the city charter, but Castro disagreed.

Two groups opposed to organized collection, St. Paul Trash and St. Paul CARTless, asked the mayor on June 10 to hold one or more town hall forums before spending more taxpayer money on organized collection.

In a letter to the mayor, the groups stated, "It is frustrating that at every turn the city has sought to quash this democratic process. All we are asking is the opportunity to vote and let our elected officials know how we feel about this program that has been imposed on us to the detriment of citizens who consciously avoid creating garbage, renters in multi-unit dwellings and low-income residents feeling the effect of rising trash costs. It is imperative that you solicit feedback from your constituents prior to filing the appeal."

As of June 14, no town hall forums had

been scheduled. However, St. Paul Trash will hold an informational open house and fundraiser from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, June 22, at J & S Bean Factory, 1518 Randolph Ave.

For decades, St. Paul residents arranged for their own trash collection, negotiating the level of service and fees, or they hauled their trash themselves to garbage transfer stations. Following studies conducted by the Macalester-Groveland Community Council and several neighborhood meetings, city officials negotiated a contract with the 15 private haulers then operating in the city and signed the contract in the fall of 2017. Only seven of those haulers remain in the consortium; the other eight have chosen to sell their routes to other companies.

Organized collection began in October 2018. The program has been popular with residents who dislike having multiple garbage trucks traveling down their streets and alleys and with those who are getting a better rate through the citywide program. However, many others preferred the freedom of negoti-

ating their own rates or being able to share a trash cart with a neighbor or to reduce their solid waste to such an extent that they do not need trash collection at all.

The City Council on June 5 introduced an ordinance that would make it possible for residents to share a trash cart again and would provide more flexibility when people seek to suspend their trash service during vacations. Since organized collection began, the city has been barraged with complaints about the inability of neighbors to share trash carts. The city and individual haulers have also been criticized for making it difficult for residents to suspend service when they are out of town.

The proposed ordinance, which will be the subject of a public hearing before the council at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 19, would restore a city code section that states, "This section shall not preclude abutting property owners from cooperating for arranging for collection services from a licensed hauler, nor other arrangements for reasonable interruption of service."

1 ◀ FORD SITE DESIGN STANDARDS

zoning district on the Ford site in the areas of landscaping, fencing, streets, sidewalks, benches and chairs, and building entries, doors and windows. Nine different building types are outlined with varying standards for lots, yards, private spaces and building facades.

Gateway West, the area near the intersection of Ford Parkway and Mississippi River Boulevard, is designed with an "arrival feature" that welcomes people to the area. It will have a large open space with buildings facing it. Gateway East at Montreal and Cleveland avenues has design features to complement the ballfields and other nearby open spaces.

The area around Ford Parkway and Cretin Avenue is divided into Urban Plaza, Diagonal Way and Civic Square spaces. The intent is to promote vibrant designs with first-floor residential and commercial uses that tie into public activity around a plaza or in the open space leading to the central water feature.

Structures in the Central Open Space around the large water feature are meant to frame what will be a major part of the new neighborhood.

That area is expected to attract a lot of public activity with designs that accentuate walking, biking and sitting.

The Pedestrian and Bike Street frontage along much of the new extensions of Saunders and Beechwood avenues is designated for buildings that are in proportion to the narrower, limited-mode rights-of-way. The intent is to avoid the "canyon effect" of blank walls and garage and service access.

Two frontages are planned along Mississippi River Boulevard. One is patterned after the existing buildings along that road to the north and south. Near the curve that overlooks Hidden Falls Regional Park, the design standards are intended to provide a clear delineation between private property and the public property to the south.

To view the design standards, visit tinyurl.com/yyg66oz2. Written comments on the design standards may be emailed to mike.richardson@ci.stpaul.mn.us or mailed to St. Paul Planning Commission, 25 W. Fourth St., Suite 1400, St. Paul, MN 55102. Indicate "Ford Design Standards Public Comment" on the subject line of all written submissions and include your street address for the public record.



The proposed design standards for the former Ford Motor Company assembly plant in Highland Park include parameters for landscaping the eight parks and open spaces (left) on the 122-acre site.

1 ◀ GRAND APARTMENTS

4-foot setback from any lot line.

The project first went before the BZA in April as having two-bedroom apartments with study rooms. BZA members and neighbors objected, saying that the study rooms could easily be converted to bedrooms. The project was then submitted with four bedrooms per apartment.

The project has the support of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council and a recommendation of approval from city staff. The BZA initially voted the variances down 3-4, then approved them 5-2 following a motion to reconsider.

"It seems we run into this issue a lot," said board member Daniel Miller. "The city wants more housing density, yet parking issues come up time after time."

Board member Danielle Swift, who said she feels strongly about adding housing, accused neighbors of being against students. She said some of their objections were "really petty."

"The fact remains that the project needs variances for the size of the lot," said board member Diane Trout-Oertel, who joined Robert Clarksen in voting against the variances. "It's clearly cramming a lot in."

MCR Property Holdings is also building a five-story, 61-bed apartment building at the northeast corner of Marshall Avenue and Moore Street. The father-son development team of Jon and Max Schwartzman presented the Grand building plans to the BZA.

Max Schwartzman said the project would fill a need for new upscale housing in St. Paul.

"We think this is a very good project and it fits what's going on on Grand Avenue," Jon Schwartzman said. He tried to get Clarksen

recused from voting on the Grand variances because Clarksen was a neighbor of the Marshall-Moore project, but Assistant City Attorney Peter Warner said Clarksen could vote. Clarksen was not part of a group of neighbors who mounted an unsuccessful legal challenge to the Marshall-Moore project.

In letters and at hearings on the variances, neighbors said the recent influx of apartment buildings in the area has strained streets with spillover parking by renters. Several neighbors said spillover parking during the school year has kept local streets from being routinely cleared of leaves and snow.

"Our street this winter was a nightmare," said Lincoln Avenue resident Flannery Delaney.

"Every new property on the 2100 block of Grand that has been built in the last decade has required variances," said Lincoln neighbor

Justin Revenaugh. "What's the point of having zoning laws if they're routinely ignored?"

David Gibson, who lives on Lincoln behind the proposed building, questioned where snow would be stored on the property. The developers said snow would be hauled away if needed.

"I'm concerned about striking a balance," said Summit Avenue resident Rachel Westermeyer. "There's just no room left on this block."

Macalester-Groveland neighbor and student landlord Cathy Plessner spoke in favor of the project. She cited the city's comprehensive plan and its call for more housing density citywide.

"We're all going to have to be more comfortable with discomfort," she said.

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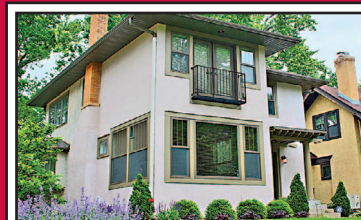
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Highland District's 10-year plan gets public hearing June 28

By JANE MCCLURE

A new 10-year plan to guide development and private and public investment in the Highland Park neighborhood will be addressed in a public hearing before the St. Paul Planning Commission at 8:30 a.m. Friday, June 28. The proposed plan features a strong focus on pedestrian improvements as well as public art and historic preservation.

The 42-page Highland District Plan will replace the current 2007 plan. It will also supplement the master plan that is guiding redevelopment of Ford Motor Company's former assembly plant in Highland Park and the Shepard-Davern Area Plan that was approved in 2007 and amended in 2015.

The Highland District Council (HDC) began work on the district plan in the fall of

2016. A task force of 19 local residents and business people was formed in the spring of 2017. The HDC submitted the plan to city staff for review in early 2019 and gave its final approval in April.

"We've had a lot of great input on the plan, and it's ready to move forward," said Frank Jossi, a task force member who recently stepped down as chair of the HDC's Community Development Committee.

"It's a really good plan," said Kevin Gallatin, who served as HDC president during the planning process. "It strikes a balance for the community going forward."

The plan addresses land use, transportation, parks and recreation, housing, environmental resources, historic preservation and public art. It includes dozens of objectives, strategies to achieve those objectives and potential partners for each objective.

The top objective of the transportation section is to "put the pedestrian first in all planning." It calls for support of the city's new Pedestrian Plan, expansion of pedestrian safety measures and slower speeds on streets. Other transportation objectives include increased accessibility for bicyclists, encouraging the use of mass transit and using traffic management to reduce congestion.

Another objective of the plan is to maintain and enhance Highland's quality of life by, among other things, working with developers, property owners and businesses to promote pedestrian-friendly building design features, such as transparent windows on the ground floor, off-street parking behind buildings, having buildings abut the front sidewalk, minimizing conflicts between motor vehicles and pedestrians and working with businesses to create small green spaces or gath-

ering spaces in commercial areas and at key intersections.

The plan encourages a mix of retail and service businesses that meet the needs of local residents. It supports land uses and transportation strategies that create visual and physical connections between different parts of the neighborhood. One of these strategies is the development of walking and biking trails along the former Canadian Pacific Railroad spur between the former Ford plant and the intersection of West Seventh Street and St. Clair Avenue.

The plan calls for maintaining and expanding parks and other recreational facilities in Highland, promoting active lifestyles and protecting natural resources. It advocates public-private partnerships to share open spaces and

HIGHLAND DISTRICT PLAN ►5

Pedestrian plan strides toward healthier, more resilient St. Paul

By JANE MCCLURE

St. Paul's first-ever citywide Pedestrian Plan won the unanimous approval of the City Council on June 5, setting the stage for a coordinated effort to improve pedestrian infrastructure, education and safety. The plan, which has been in the works for two years, now becomes part of the city's comprehensive plan.

The vision behind the plan is to make St. Paul more walkable, healthy, resilient and connected, according to Fay Simer, who leads pedestrian planning in the city's Department of Public Works. The plan focuses on connecting the city's sidewalk system, providing safer street crossings, and employing education and enforcement programs that promote safe walking and driving.

St. Paul has about 1,080 miles of sidewalks,

but only six to eight miles are replaced in a typical year. However, the 2019 city budget doubled the spending on sidewalks to \$1 million. There are still about 327 miles of streets that lack sidewalks on both sides, including 60 miles of arterial streets. Those areas have been designated on a map that is being used as part of the city's 2020-2021 Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) process.

The plan has three main goals, Simer said. One is to make walking safer and healthier for everyone. A second is to connect neighborhoods in all parts of the city, with investments in the areas of greatest need first. Related to that goal is improving snow and ice removal on sidewalks.

A third goal is to "get it done" and not have the plan just sit on a shelf. City departments have been tasked with working to make the

plan a reality.

Ward 2 City Council member Rebecca Noecker said her biggest issue is also to make the plan a reality. That can be done by prioritizing pedestrian safety in street design, incorporating pedestrian improvements in street mill and overlay work, advocating for specific projects and seeking outside grants, she said.

The plan cites four city programs that should continue: Stop for Me, an effort to promote safe street crossings through law enforcement; Safe Routes to Schools, an effort to plan improvements to allow children to get to and from school safely; regular pedestrian and bicycle counts; and Paint the Pavement, a program to decorate street surfaces and thereby slow traffic.

Only two people spoke at a public hearing on the Pedestrian Plan on June 5. However,

the City Council received 22 pages of comments on the plan prior to the hearing. Two people who weighed in were Highland Park residents Nate Hood and Heidi Schallberg.

Hood recommended giving sidewalks a higher priority than on-street parking in cases where boulevard trees conflict with the construction of new sidewalks. "If trees are desired to be kept by the neighborhood, a sidewalk could be installed by decreasing the width of the street to include only one-side parking," he said.

"Snow and ice removal needs to be a higher priority," Schallberg said. "As our climate changes and our winters warm, our snowstorms will become heavier. These snowfalls break up anything resembling a fragment of a pedestrian network long after the streets have been cleared."

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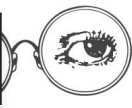


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The Thai Cultural Council of Minnesota added to the sights and sounds of this year's Grand Old Day parade on June 2. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Last-minute scramble pays off with a Grand Old Day worthy of its name

By JANE MCCLURE

Perfect weather, a good-sized crowd and a can-do spirit characterized the 2019 Grand Old Day. St. Paul's first rite of summer made a comeback on June 2 after the sponsoring Grand Avenue Business Association (GABA) announced the cancellation of the event in April, citing lack of funds, vendors and volunteers. Days later that decision was reversed, after a Grand Old Day Anyway movement sprang up to promote a pub crawl for the same day.

GABA's board reconsidered and the event went on. Business owners and neighbors rallied to raise \$75,000 in a matter of days.

"We couldn't have had a better day," said Bob Lawrence, GABA vice president and chair of this year's festival.

Attendance was estimated at just under 250,000, a jump from the 200,000 who attended in 2018. Sales of wristbands, which were needed to get into the festival gardens, were up about 15 percent.

St. Paul City Council and Macalester-Groveland Community Council offices reported not receiving any complaints this year. The Summit Hill Association received one complaint about a loud generator.

The St. Paul Police Department was also pleased with this year's festival. "Grand Old Day went extremely well," said department spokesperson Steve Linders. "The weather was wonderful, the crowd was large and there were no arrests or serious incidents."

Vendors and businesses that chose to stay open on Grand Old Day were also generally pleased with the event. Sales were mixed, though some said the purpose of the event is

more about exposure.

GABA board member and Red Balloon Bookshop owner Holly Weinkauff said her store's sales were up about 25 percent. She was happy that GABA was able to pull the festival together in such a short time.

"We didn't know if we could do it," said Weinkauff, who praised Grand Avenue businesses and volunteers for stepping up.

Good weather, more family-friendly attractions and the publicity surrounding the cancellation and resumption of Grand Old Day all contributed to the strong attendance, Lawrence said.

"That did create attention," he said about the cancellation. "I heard a few people ask if we had cancelled Grand Old Day on purpose to bring it back. I can assure you that's not the case."

"It took a lot of hard work, but we were able to pull it off," Lawrence said. "Everyone was really happy with how it went and there were no big issues that came up."

GABA expects a \$100,000 profit from the festival, which will help keep the business association operating. GABA ran into financial trouble earlier this year and has gone from three to one paid staff member. Interim board president Allison Penner-Hurst said now that Grand Old Day is done, GABA will be taking a look at its structure and future.

Grand Old Day Anyway co-organizers Andy Rodriguez and Ashley LeMay were also pleased that this year's festival came off without a hitch. LeMay reported that a food drive held during the parade netted enough food and funds to provide more than 2,600 meals for families in need.

4◀ HIGHLAND DISTRICT PLAN

recreational facilities.

The plan recommends increasing the diversity of housing and advocates the preservation of naturally occurring affordable housing, the development of denser housing along transit routes and ensuring that new and renovated housing blends into the surrounding neighborhood.

The plan's section on environment and water resources calls for maintaining open spaces and encouraging ways to reduce pollution. One objective is to reduce the pollution carried by stormwater runoff into groundwater and the Mississippi River.

The public art section calls for an inventory of public art in the neighborhood and identifying opportunities for new installations. Another objective is to identify all of the venues for performing arts in the neighborhood and provide civic spaces for arts-related events.

The historic preservation section recommends the preservation of designated historic structures and the reuse and repurposing of historic structures as a way to preserve their history. The neighborhood currently has five sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places—the Highland Water Tower, the Ford Bridge, the William and Catherine Davern House, and St. Catherine University's Derham Hall and Our Lady of Victory Chapel. The district plan identifies 14 additional sites that may be suitable for local or national historic designation.

The HDC has tried for years to find funding to rehabilitate two historic structures on Montreal Avenue—the Highland National clubhouse and the old bathhouse that served the first Highland Park swimming pool—but to no avail.

To view the Highland District Plan, visit tinyurl.com/y69mskaa.

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News Briefs

Spring flooding shortens summer season in city parks

A long spring flooding season continues in St. Paul, with one street section and parts of several parks still closed as of mid-June. The heavy winter snowmelt and spring rains have vexed crews in the city's departments of Public Works and Parks and Recreation. Shepard, Warner and Childs Roads reopened last month, but Lilydale Road and Water Street between Highway 13 and Harriet Island Regional Park remain closed and are not expected to reopen until the end of June.

According to Parks and Recreation staff, while private permitted events have been held at park facilities, parts of the riverfront parks remain closed, including the boat launches and paths of Hidden Falls and Crosby Farm regional parks. Park users need to keep a lookout for signs and barricades indicating the closed areas and stay out of those areas.

Cleanup of flood debris is expected to continue for some time due to the amount of silt that floodwaters left in the parks.

Time may have run out on proposed Cleveland bike lanes

Hopes for a new dedicated bicycle lane on Cleveland Avenue between Mississippi River Boulevard and Magoffin Avenue may be dashed. The St. Paul Department of Public Works is planning a mill and overlay paving project on Cleveland between river road and Yorkshire Avenue this fall. Although the city will add bicycle or other new street markings when the mill and overlay work is done, Public Works officials were not willing to consider new bike lanes without a full public discussion. Instead, they will have share-the-road arrows or "sharrows" added to that stretch of

Scooters charged up for next go-round in St. Paul

Electric scooters appear to be the vehicle of choice for young St. Paulites who like a quick and inexpensive ride around town. Between August and November of last year, more than 64,000 scooter rides were logged during the city's introduction to the trendy shared mode of transportation.

Two companies are providing 1,000 scooters on St. Paul streets this summer, up from 300 last year. As a result, the total number of rides for 2019 is expected to vastly increase, according to information reviewed by the St. Paul Planning Commission's Transportation Committee on June 3.

This year, the scooters are being provided by Lime and Spin. A third company, Bird, has been negotiating with the city, but had not yet finalized a contract.

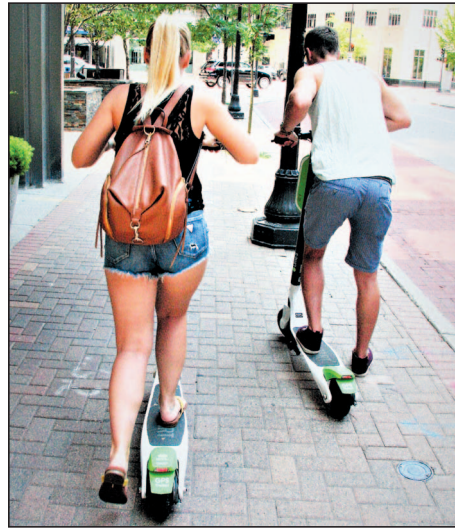
The "dockless" scooters are allowed to be out from April to November in St. Paul. They can be parked on sidewalks after being charged. A smartphone app is used to locate, unlock and pay for riding the scooters.

Scooters are gathered up every night by contractors who take them home, recharge them and put them back on the street.

The city charges companies \$100 for each scooter they operate. The funds are used to manage the vehicles, and provide enforcement and education. One ongoing com-

Cleveland as recommended in the St. Paul Bicycle Plan.

The Highland District Council (HDC) and its Transportation Committee discussed the bike lane in May and June. The Transportation Committee passed a resolution on June 11 asking for more advanced notice of Public



Look for even more scooter sightings in St. Paul this summer. PHOTO BY LOU MICHAELS

plaint has been about people riding scooters on sidewalks and light-rail platforms instead of streets.

There is an additional 25 cents tacked onto trips that start or end in a park. One complaint last year was regarding the large numbers of scooters and bikes left in parks.

There also were complaints about scooters and bikes that were left blocking sidewalks, which makes it difficult for people with disabilities to get around. The city charges a \$35 fee to move a scooter and a \$20 daily fee for storing it at the Public Works garage.

Works projects in the future, but it tabled the bike lane request. The resolution will be considered by the full HDC on July 19.

Highland residents and former HDC board members Nathaniel Hood and Brandon Long are asking that striped bike lanes be considered on Cleveland from Magoffin to Missis-

sippi River Boulevard, with sharrows between Magoffin and Yorkshire.

Cleveland is about 42 feet wide, so adding bike lanes on each side of the street would mean losing parking on one side. Public Works is also planning new corner bumpouts in the area for pedestrian safety, and they would also make new bike lanes problematic.

Postponing street repaving is no longer an option in St. Paul

The St. Paul City Council on June 12 voted to rescind its longstanding practice to allow local residents to opt out of street reconstruction projects. The policy has been amended over the past 25 years. However, until now it allowed residents to petition to postpone their area's street repaving project, moving it from the front to the back of the line.

The city's street repaving program has been steadily reconstructing the city's deteriorated streets. Some streets have never been paved, but are just oiled from time to time. Under the program, the streets get new paved surfaces, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, driveway aprons, boulevard trees and streetlights.

City Council members Amy Brendmoen and Chris Tolbert introduced the resolution eliminating the opt-out policy. They contend that postponing street work leads to higher costs later along with additional street maintenance costs.

The project most recently postponed through the opt-out policy was in the Woodlawn-Jefferson area of Macalester-Groveland. Residents there feared the loss of more than 50 trees from the repaving project and the construction of sidewalks along streets that do not have sidewalks currently.

News Briefs were compiled by Jane McClure.



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St. Paul Public Schools' budget for coming year increases by 4.2%

By KEVIN DRISCOLL

The St. Paul School Board was poised to approve a \$794 million budget for the 2019-20 school year on June 18, as this edition of the *Villager* was going to press. That figure represents a \$32.2 million or 4.2 percent increase over the district's 2018-19 budget.

Though it was touch-and-go for a while toward the end of this year's state legislative session, work on the school district budget wrapped up quickly once state lawmakers agreed during a May 24 special session to provide most of what the St. Paul Public Schools claimed it needed.

The \$543 million increase in state aid allotted to Minnesota's public schools for next year includes a 2 percent or \$388.8 million increase in the per-pupil funding formula in each of the next two years, a \$90.7 million increase for special education programs and \$46.8 million more for Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) tuition.

The St. Paul Public Schools will be getting an additional \$5.2 million per year in per-pupil money, \$2.2 million for special education and \$2.3 million for VPK tuition, according to district finance chief Marie Schrul.

The school district is projecting its 37,000-plus enrollment to drop by 929 students this fall. That decline will cost the district \$6.9 million under the state per-pupil formula. In response, district administrators are planning to eliminate 27 teaching positions and 31 educational and teaching assistant jobs. However, there are 297 vacancies in those positions currently, so no teaching staff will have to be laid off, though some may need to move to different schools.

In addition to the loss in enrollment, fewer St. Paul students are expected to qualify for

free and reduced-price lunches, and that drop in students from low-income households is expected to cost the district \$5.5 million in federal Title I revenue. Cushioning those losses will be the \$17.3 million increase in excess levy money approved by St. Paul voters last November.

The St. Paul school district's overall budget is divided into seven areas, including the \$578.6 million General Fund, the General Fund Fully Financed (\$45.7 million in grants and other programs permanently funded), Food Service (\$29.3 million), Community Service (\$23.2 million), Community Service Fully Financed (\$6.1 million), Building Construction (\$67 million) and Debt Service (\$44.1 million).

The General Fund includes the \$258.8 million that will be going directly to district schools, primarily for teaching staff. Three other General Fund pools include School Support Services (\$199.8 million), District-wide Support (\$116.2 million) and Administration (\$3.8 million).

In her report to the School Board, Schrul said that \$10.6 million of the \$17.3 million excess levy increase will be devoted to contractual obligations (including inflation) for schools and targeted programs. Much of the rest of the new levy money will be devoted to SPPS Achieves, which is the implementation of a new Middle School Model that will ultimately have teams of teachers and advisers working to meet the academic, social and emotional needs of an assigned group of students with a focus on college and career pathways.

Other wrinkles for the coming school year include teacher contract negotiations beginning July 1, the opening of a new district middle school in Woodbury and the implementation of new school start times in the fall.

City eyes \$15M in capital projects

By JANE MCCLURE

The city of St. Paul's Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) Committee will vote on June 24 on its recommendations for capital spending in 2020-2021. The recommendations, which were reviewed by the CIB Committee on June 10 and at a June 17 public hearing, will then be forwarded to Mayor Melvin Carter and the City Council for consideration in the 2020 city budget.

Only a few local projects have been recommended for funding by the CIB Committee. Set aside for another year were the \$8.2 million replacement of Fire Station 20 at 2179 University Ave., the \$1.5 million in improvements to Kellogg Mall Park and a \$900,000 upgrade to Mears Park.

The realignment of Lexington Parkway near its intersection with West Seventh Street and Montreal Avenue did not make the CIB cut either. However, that project will move forward with \$600,000 for property acquisition from money left over from the shelved Woodlawn-Jefferson street reconstruction project.

The proposed CIB calls for \$6.2 million per year for large projects, \$4.45 million per year for such annual programs as railroad crossing safety improvements and citywide maintenance needs, and \$4 million per year in federal Community Development Block Grants. The sole local project recommended for CDBG funding is the Rondo Community Land Trust's scattered site affordable housing program, which is in line for \$180,000 in 2020 and \$180,000 in 2021.

Thirteen large projects made the CIB cut. The largest is the replacement of the east-bound Kellogg Boulevard Bridge. The CIB includes \$2.5 million in 2021 for the \$22 million project on Kellogg in front of RiverCentre and the Science Museum of Minnesota. Federal and state funds will also be tapped for

the bridge project.

Another local project recommended for funding in 2020 is \$61,000 for sidewalks on the north side of Randolph Avenue between Toronto Street and Shepard Road. Ramsey County will match that amount one to one.

The largest recommended project citywide is the replacement of Fire Station 7 on the East Side. The station was built in 1930 and lacks adequate space for fire rigs, ambulances and separate living quarters for male and female firefighters. It is in line for \$3.066 million in 2020 and \$2 million in 2021. These allocations are enough to fund a portion of the project with the remainder expected in 2022-2024.

Until 2015, the CIB process in St. Paul was long, involved and heavy on citizen engagement, with three volunteer task forces assigned to review projects in the areas of community facilities, streets and utilities, and residential and economic development. More than 100 projects were reviewed by the task forces every other year. The amount of city staff and volunteer time that process required prompted then-Mayor Chris Coleman to commission a study to consider possible changes to the process.

The task forces are now gone. Instead, projects submitted for funding in 2020-2021 were reviewed by a group made up of city staff and CIB Committee members. In 2020, the CIB Committee and city staff will review a small pool of community-based projects. The funding to be shared by that pool has been suggested at \$500,000.

CIB Committee members had mixed reactions to the new process. Paul Raymond said he appreciates that smaller projects will not have to compete with large projects such as fire stations and recreation centers. However, Joel Clemmer said he would like to see city departments work harder to engage people in the process.

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Viewpoint

Waking up to crisis management in the city that never sleeps

BY DAVE WRIGHT

A Minnesotan visiting New York City can learn a lot from the experience. Want adventure? Try driving on that metropolis’ streets and freeways. The exercise requires agility, guts and a total lack of fear.

I was headed to a family wedding in the New York area earlier this month, traveling via Lyft. Our driver, a man named Jacquelin, skidded to a stop in Brooklyn. It seemed that somebody had parked his car in the middle of a narrow street, blocking the traffic lane and with the doors locked. Jacquelin studied the matter for a minute, told us passengers not to worry and proceeded to back up, then made his way around the parked car by way of the sidewalk.

A couple of days later, I ventured out of Brooklyn and found myself at the corner of Seventh and Broadway. It was 10 p.m. on a Monday, and there were more people on the street than in downtown St. Paul on St. Patrick’s Day. The New York crowd was better behaved, too.

You can buy a bagel or a slice of pizza on almost every corner in Manhattan. Several of the pizza places double as breakfast haunts, serving meals 24/7.

There are other idiosyncrasies. In Brooklyn, for example, most of the bistros stay open until 4 a.m. on weekends and they will only accept American Express credit cards or cash. There are city streets where you cannot park from 1:30-4 in the afternoon. The reason? That’s when the street sweepers come through.

There is excess everywhere in New York. But on my trip I discovered another side of the city that’s rarely mentioned. New York has withstood more than its share of serious crises over the years, and it knows how to respond whenever another one should occur.

My wife and I had just checked into our room at the Paramount Hotel in Manhattan on June 10 when we heard a crash so loud it knocked a book off our table. It was 1:45 p.m., a little early for revelry, even in Manhattan. I looked out the window and within seconds saw a sea of police cars and fire engines racing up Eighth Street. By 2 p.m., the word was out that a helicopter had crashed into a building at Seventh and 51st—five blocks away.

Memories of 9/11 quickly sprang to mind. It was a rainy afternoon, but the building that was hit was on fire and people were pouring into the streets below. Within 15 minutes, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo was on television telling viewers that the police had everything under control. Shortly thereafter, New York Mayor Bill de Blasio and the city’s chief of police joined Cuomo to reassure folks that indications were there was only one person in the helicopter—the deceased pilot.

Within an hour, we had the pilot’s name—Tim McCormack—and knew that he had dropped a passenger off at a nearby helipad and had taken off just 11 minutes before the crash. By the time the regular television newscasts came on at 4 p.m., things were already returning to normal. New Yorkers breathed a sigh of relief and headed out for happy hour or to catch a train for home.

The lesson here is simple. New York City and its neighboring boroughs are massive by our standards. Things cost a lot more there than they do here. (The “early bird” special for parking in Manhattan is only \$56.80 per day—if you’re out by 5 p.m.) Traffic jams on bridges and streets are a way of life, even at 11 p.m., and bicyclists share the city streets with SUVs. In five days in New York City, not one driver was observed talking on a cell phone. On the sidewalks, it seemed that every other pedestrian was doing so. However, the people who live in New York City are, at times, no different from the folks who reside in St. Paul.

God willing, this will never happen here, but if a helicopter pilot headed for Holman Field gets disoriented in bad weather and crashes into a building in downtown St. Paul, the local powers that be would do well to consider how New York City handled just such a situation last week. Everybody was worried but nobody panicked.

As it should be.

Dave Wright is the Villager’s sports columnist.

Make ours a world where children are a joy

BY SUSANNA PARENT

Kathleen Deming, in her letter “A respite from the crowded city” (*Villager* Inbox, June 5), mentions the book *The Population Bomb*, which triggered her and her husband’s decision not to have any children. First, I want to apologize to the Demings on behalf of all those who told them they were being selfish. No couple should be judged for not having children. However, I’m saddened that she considers their decision not to have children “the single most significant thing” they could do.

We’re lucky in Minnesota to have a mix of communities with a wide range of population densities, from the metropolitan feel of downtown Minneapolis to the natural beauty of the North Shore. Growing up in rural Wisconsin and now living in St. Paul, I’ve been blessed to experience the benefits of both types of living. One of the benefits of living in the city is the diversity of the people living close together, encouraging the sharing of cultures, interests and opinions.

According to a recent article at *MinnPost*, the U.S. fertility rate is now 16 percent below the population replacement rate. In 2017 Minnesota’s fertility rate was 1.872, well below the rate of 2.1 required for a population to maintain its numbers. In other parts of the world,

countries are offering incentives to have larger families. According to the BBC, Hungary’s population is falling by 32,000 a year, and now women with four or more children will be exempt from paying income taxes. The prospect of decreasing population brings to light a different set of issues, including a shrinking tax base and a disproportionate percentage of the population living out their golden years without a large enough working population to fund Social Security.

Ms. Deming and her husband believed it to be selfless to choose not to have children, and that was certainly their right. I would ask that they consider and respect that for others, bringing the miracle of life into the world is the single most significant thing they can do to bring more joy into the world. While I can relate to the joy that a quiet park can bring, I ask that she also try to find joy in a busy park filled with the shouts and laughter of children. They are the ones who will still be around long after she and I have passed. Certainly, they will face their share of challenges, just as every generation before has. But it’s a big, beautiful world out there, and you never know what they might accomplish if we give them a chance and bring them up in a world that’s glad they’re here.

Susanna Parent is a resident of Ramsey Hill.

Inbox

Hooray for St. Paul Trash

Congratulations to St. Paul Trash, a stalwart assemblage of St. Paul citizens who collected more than 6,000 signatures on a petition to place the city’s compulsory organized trash collection scheme on the ballot for voter approval (*Villager*, June 5). The judge’s ruling that the city must allow a referendum on the matter is a stunning victory. Despite serious obstacles thrown up by the city to thwart a voter referendum, St. Paul citizens prevailed in claiming their democratic right to decide about this flawed citywide trash pickup program.

The city has a long history of disregarding and subverting citizens’ concerns when they conflict with its agenda. St. Paul Trash deserves credit for not only putting trash collection on the ballot, but for demanding accountability long absent from the city.

*Kate M. Hunt
Highland Park*

Organized trash can be tweaked

As longtime residents of St. Paul, we’re frustrated by the efforts of the St. Paul Trash group. Despite the city conducting a year-long process seeking public opinion on the proposed trash plan, this small group is now claiming they didn’t have an opportunity to provide input. In fact, there were numerous opportunities to provide input throughout 2016 and 2017. Now, instead of pursuing rational options to make adjustments to bring parity to the service so it better meets the needs of all residents, they are pursuing only legal recourse, which hurts all residents, haulers and the city by ending service on June 30.

St. Paul Trash represents a small minority (primarily landlords of multi-unit dwellings), yet is pushing its agenda as if it represents the whole. We believe its efforts would be better spent by working with the city to find mutually agreeable solutions versus the messy situation it has created that negatively affects all residents.

*Melinda Brevia and Aaron DeWitt
Summit-University*

For a city takeover of trash

I had to laugh when the biggest issue for the residents of our fine city is garbage. Then I became sad, because there are so many other larger issues, many endangering our lives, that need attention.

In 2002 we moved back to St. Paul from Minneapolis,

where we had lived for 30 years. We saw no garbage bill during that time, as Minneapolis treated this as a utility and garbage was covered by the Public Works Department. They took everything, and when we moved we put out over 20 bags of recycling with the garbage. There was no extra charge over the reasonable fee on my property taxes.

St. Paul at least has been trying, but the trash haulers’ lawyers appear to have outsmarted the city with the contract. Our city should maybe pass a bonding bill to buy out the remaining trash businesses and run it like a utility. I believe the city missed the boat on this issue well over 50 years ago.

*Gary Thompson
Highland Park*

Sacrifice trash for common good

There have been numerous letters to the editor complaining about the new organized trash system in St. Paul. I am strongly in support of the system. The old system, with many trucks going all over the city and different haulers going down the same streets was so harmful to the environment. Climate change is happening so rapidly that we need to take action soon if there is going to be any hope of minimizing an environmental disaster.

During World War II, huge sacrifices were placed on citizens. We need huge sacrifices to be placed on citizens again. Asking for voluntary sacrifices is not going to be enough. I appreciate the work of our city leaders in reducing the number of garbage trucks traveling our city. We cannot wait for everyone’s needs to be met. They didn’t during World War II, and we must stop doing so now.

A Native American proverb states, “Treat the earth well. We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.”

*Larry Hampel
Highland Park*

On immigrants and trash

The letter from Bill Mahlum regarding immigration seems to suggest that some people are against immigration in Minnesota (*Villager* Inbox, June 5). I disagree. It is the *illegal* immigration that is opposed, while most legal immigrants are welcome.

Another letter in that issue from Ron Pearson seems to be in favor of socialized trash hauling. When we had Highland Sanitation collecting our trash, the company offered us a



City of 10,000 potholes

I have complained about alley potholes to St. Paul City Council member Chris Tolbert since last fall, and due to nothing happening, ducks have now taken up residence in the alley just north of Juliet Avenue near Cleveland Avenue. The potholes are too deep if ducks can enjoy bathing in them.

*Linda Mulhern
Macalester-Groveland*

8◀ INBOX

discount if everyone on the block would sign up with it. Highland Sanitation was also more desirable because it didn't have as many regulations and didn't come up with phony excuses for not picking up our trash. By the way, Highland also plows our alley and is very good at that too.

*Vernon R. Jorgensen
Macalester-Groveland*

For a bike lane on Cleveland

Do not feed into the falsehood that a bike lane would delay Cleveland Avenue's much-needed road repair scheduled for this fall. You may not know that homeowners are to pay 50 percent of the cost of the mill and overlay project. For most of us along Cleveland, this means we will be getting a separate bill later this year for likely \$2,000 based on street frontage. Homeowners on Stryker Avenue and Victoria Street received average bills of \$3,000 to \$4,000 per household for mill and overlay work there.

The city decided to add pedestrian bumpouts at most of the corners on Cleveland, which adds \$10,000-\$20,000 per corner. Eliminating just one side of the bumpouts would reduce the cost as well as allow for a north-south bike lane while retaining one side of parking. (Cleveland north of Magoffin Avenue would maintain two lanes of parking.)

Like other neighbors, we have so much excess parking we have become a parking hub for airport commuters. South of Magoffin, one lane of parking is plenty, leaving 135 spots. Adding a bike lane would also help slow down traffic, which Cleveland desperately needs.

Please contact City Council member Chris Tolbert and ask to proceed with road repairs but to hold off on one side of bumpouts so we can at least consider a bike lane in the future. We deserve to be part of the decision if we're going to be paying for half of the road.

*Kourtny Wedeking
Highland Park*

Reckless spending on education

The state of Minnesota spent approximately \$5 billion in the last decade attempting to close the achievement gap between low-income students and wealthier students. However, according to a recent story in the *Star Tribune*, there is minimal evidence that the funds have had any impact on academic progress. In fact, the state doesn't even have a clear way to evaluate how those funds are being used by each school district.

It's alarming that the state would continue to pump money into so-called education improvement projects when it can't even properly evaluate if contributing \$5 billion in 10 years has had any impact on closing the achievement gap. Would a private company blindly contribute \$5 billion over a decade toward its mission if it couldn't properly evaluate if spending that kind of money added any substantial value? No.

This reckless spending is exactly what happens when government overlooks other factors, such as different cultural views of education. Reallocating funds via the government isn't going to solve the achievement gap.

*Christopher Schwass
Highland Park*

Remedy for whatever ails us

Our governor said that if elected he would "fully fund" education. One can only assume with the massive state budget approved by our enormous Legislature, he has made good on that promise. Either way, the tax increases are, to be sure, forever. Hereafter, the young ones will master their lessons and achieve academic success. Now that that problem has been solved, we have learned that all along, as the educators told us over and over again, the problem was simply a lack of tax money.

So what is the next problem to knock off, governor? Obesity, climate change, fatherlessness, feral youth, crime, drugs, potholes? With enough grit and determination and tax money, we can whip all of them one at a time.

*T.J. Sexton
Highland Park*

Water: Use it or lose it?

I was appalled to read in the June 5 issue of the *Villager* about the water utility shut-offs for non-payment or even for non-use when billing is current. Who are the tadpoles with no common sense who sit in their ivory cubicles and make up such nonsense? Surely they are not aware that according to a recent survey, 28 percent of Americans live alone, and that real life intervenes when we are making other plans: lengthy illness or disability from accident, having to close out the estate of a deceased relative in another locale, not to mention snow birds who leave our winter wonderland for many cold months at a time.

What are we to do to take care of lengthy absences and non-water use in our homes? Hire plumbers to install valves that allow a spigot in the house to drip a quart of water a month to show usage?

I hope our mayor will see to the quick replacement of people who come up with such idiotic ideas. Having such dim bulbs working for the city in any capacity does not make his light appear to shine any brighter.

*Kathleen Deming
Macalester-Groveland*

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VILLAGER

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Maurice F. Mischke, 1920-1991

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2019

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CENTRAL SENIOR GRADUATION PARTY

Central High School hosted their Overnight Graduation Party June 4th with amazing community support. THANK YOU to those who helped plan, organize, and work this event. The graduates enjoyed a safe, fun, and affordable evening because of the kind contributions of time, talent, and donations from families, staff and friends of CHS. We also want to thank the following businesses for their generous donations of food, supplies, and funds. The community involvement helped make this evening a huge success!

Blue Plate Restaurants	Izzy's Ice Cream	Ramsey County Public/Environmental Health
Buffalo Wild Wings	Jamba Juice	Red Balloon Bookshop
Central HS Parent Advisory Council	Jimmy John's (Snelling)	Regina's Candies
Chipotle Mexican Grill (Grand)	Kowalski's	Sencha Tea Bar
Concordia University	Macalester College	Snuffy's Malt Shop
Cub Foods	MyBurger	Speedway
Davanni's Pizza	The Naughty Greek	St. Paul College
Dunn Bros. (Grand)	New Asia	Toppers Pizza
Ginkgo Coffeehouse	Nothing Bundt Cakes	Trader Joes
Hoa Bien restaurant	Phillip Duff @ Marudas	The Villager
Holiday Stationstores (Marshall)	Punch Pizza	Western Bank

Thanks to these businesses for supporting Central High School and the Graduating Class of 2019!



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL



Summit Avenue Garden Stroll. A formal French garden, a fanciful English garden and a large community garden are among the highlights of the annual Summit Avenue Garden Stroll scheduled from noon-4 p.m. Sunday, June 30, along 1½ miles of St. Paul's most magnificent residential street. Twelve gardens will be on the tour, including the private oasis of Shari and Roger Wilsey at 944 Summit Ave. Tickets for the stroll are \$10 in advance and \$15 on the day of the event. Visit the Summit Avenue Residential Preservation Association website at sarpa.org.

District Council News

Union Park

unionparkdc.org • 651-645-6887

Union Park renter social—The Union Park District Council will host a social for renters in the neighborhood from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 27, at Bark and the Bite, 2186 Marshall Ave.

Pedestrian safety—A "Stop for Me" pedestrian safety event will be held from 6-7 p.m. Thursday, July 25, at the intersection of Saratoga Street and Selby Avenue.

Upcoming meetings—Environment and Parks Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 19, Merriam Park Recreation Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave.; Neighborhood Involvement Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 24, Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave.; Transportation Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 8, Conference Room 127 at 1821 University Ave.; and board of directors, 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 10, Otto Hall at Episcopal Homes, 1860 University Ave.

Highland Park

highlanddistrictcouncil.org • 651-695-4005

Jazzed About Highland—The Highland District Council and Highland Business Association will host their fifth annual summer jazz concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 20, in the parking lot of Langford & Karls Chiropractic on Cleveland Avenue and Highland Parkway. Joyann Parker will perform. Food and beverages will be sold beginning at 6 p.m. There will also be prizes and family activities sponsored by local businesses. Those who attend are being encouraged to bring lawn chairs.

National Night Out—The St. Paul Police Department is sponsoring an early bird registration contest for the 36th annual National Night Out. Parties that register by June 30 will be entered. One party from each of the city's planning districts will win a party starter pack for National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6. To register go to stpaul.gov/nno.

Citywide cleanup—A citywide drop-off event will be held from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, September 28, on Shepard Road between Alton and Davern streets. Volunteers are needed and will receive lunch and a voucher to dispose of one load for free. Call the HDC or visit the website for details.

Highland Fest volunteers—Highland Fest is looking for volunteer support for its 36th annual celebration from July 19-21. For infor-

mation and to sign up to help, visit signupgeenius.com/go/20f054aa5a628a1f85-highland3.

Ford site design—The St. Paul Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on proposed design standards and related zoning code amendments for redeveloping the Ford site in Highland Park at 8:30 a.m. Friday, June 28, at City Hall. Copies of the documents can be found at tinyurl.com/y5lpycre.

Upcoming meetings—Community Engagement Committee, 7 p.m. Monday, June 24; Transportation Committee with Ryan Companies and the city talking about the Ford site AUAR process, 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 9; Community Development Committee, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 16; and board of directors, 7 p.m. Thursday, July 18. All four meetings will be held at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy.

Macalester-Groveland

macgrove.org • 651-695-4000

Mac-Grove Fest—Registration is now open to sponsor or exhibit at the 2019 Mac-Grove Fest that will be held from 2-6 p.m. Saturday, September 7, at Groveland Park. For information, visit macgrove.org/macgrovefest.

Century building plaques—The community council continues to offer owners a chance to purchase plaques identifying their building's age. All buildings constructed in 1925 or before are eligible. Visit macgrove.org/100years.

Alley Garden Awards—Residents are being encouraged to transform the space in the back of their properties for the community council's annual Alley Garden Awards. Judging will take place June 20-27. Learn more at macgrove.org/aga.

Native Garden Awards—Nominations are being accepted for the Native Garden Awards, which recognize landscapes that incorporate at least 50 percent native plants. Submit nominations at macgrove.org/nga.

Get involved—The community council currently has openings on its board of directors for Grid 2 and at-large business, renter and student representatives. Or join one of the board's three standing committees, which also meet once a month.

Upcoming meetings—Transportation Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 24, Edgumbe Recreation Center; and Housing and Land Use Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 26, Groveland Recreation Center.



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Highland Park Little League

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Jimmy John's

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Luci Ancora

Lunds & Byerlys

Menchie's Frozen Yogurt

Minneapolis Boulderling Project

Minnesota State Fair

Minnesota Zoo

The O'Shaughnessy -
St. Catherine University

P.J. Murphy's

Pizza Lucé

Potbelly

Punch Neapolitan Pizza

Regina's Candies

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HOME IMPROVEMENT



1

update/add bathroom
with addition or
basement space



2

paver patio, new
deck or landscaping
and garden



3

add curb appeal
with new front door
or windows



4

kitchen remodel,
update appliances
or lighting

The Villager's upcoming Home Improvement issues will reach over 106,000 readers at a time when they're ready to start getting busy around the house. According to a recent survey of Villager readers,* 56% planned to purchase home furnishings in the next 12 months, 33% home improvements, 26% major home appliance, and 33% lawn and garden supplies. And they'll be looking to the Villager for ideas on where to go to purchase them. Placing your ad in front of them now would be like hitting the nail on the head.

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UPCOMING HOME IMPROVEMENT ISSUES

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Crime Report

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

Highland Park

Burglary—A home was broken into on the 2000 block of Scheffer Avenue on June 3-5.

Theft—A vehicle was stolen on the 1300 block of Kenneth Street between May 27-29.

—A backpack with multiple items was reported stolen from a vehicle at Bakers Square, 2239 Ford Pkwy., at 9 a.m. Saturday, June 1.

—A contractor had \$3,500 in power tools and an iPad stolen from this truck between 7-7:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 4, at St. Catherine University.

—A canvas boat cover and set of golf clubs were stolen from a vehicle on the 1600 block of Hillcrest Avenue between June 7-9.

Lexington-Hamline

Theft—A 38-year-old man was arrested for trying to steal more than \$500 in merchandise from the Midway Target at 4:31 p.m. Friday, May 31. A 28-year-old woman also was arrested for trying to steal \$819 in items from the same store at 5:29 p.m. Friday, June 7.

—Jewelry, wallets and other property valued at more than \$3,000 was stolen from an Airbnb on the 1200 block of Ashland Avenue during the evening of June 1-2.

—A vehicle was stolen at Skyway Tower, 1247 St. Anthony Ave., between 1 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday, June 7.

Assault—A 38-year-old man was arrested when he threatened security personnel with a knife after being stopped for shoplifting at the Midway Target at 10 a.m. Friday, May 31.

Miscellaneous—A 30-year-old man was caught spraying graffiti on a building on Dunlap Street and University Avenue at 11:58 p.m. Thursday, June 6.

Macalester-Groveland

Burglary—An occupied residence was broken into on the 1300 block of Goodrich Avenue during the evening of June 5-6.

—Clair's Automotive Service, 1341 St. Clair Ave., was broken into at 2:45 a.m. Thursday, June 6.

—Several items and a vehicle were stolen from an apartment on the 1800 block of Grand Avenue between 4-5 a.m. Sunday, June 9.

Theft—Vehicles were stolen on the 1800 block of Juliet Avenue between May 28-30, on the 1400 block of Wellesley Avenue on May 29-30 and on the 1100 block of Randolph

Avenue on May 30.

—A starting pistol and Civil War revolver were stolen from a residence on the 1500 block of Osceola Avenue between 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday, May 29.

—An iPad was reported stolen from a vehicle on the 1100 block of Grand Avenue at 9:39 p.m. Wednesday, May 29.

—A purse was stolen from a vehicle on Mississippi River Boulevard and Summit Avenue between noon-1:05 p.m. Friday, May 31.

Weapons—A gun was found in the bathroom trash can of the BP Station, 1191 Randolph Ave., at 7:55 p.m. Tuesday, May 28.

Miscellaneous—A 20-year-old man was arrested for DWI after his vehicle was found stuck in a large hole at a construction site on Grand and Cleveland avenues at 12:49 a.m. Saturday, June 8.

Mendota Heights

Robbery—A male was robbed of his wallet at gunpoint by four male suspects on the 2000 block of Dodd Road at 7:40 p.m. Monday, May 27.

Burglary—A suspect entered through the garage and stole a purse from inside a residence on the 1000 block of Knollwood Lane at 4:02 a.m. Friday, May 31.

Miscellaneous—Police received a report that a coyote attacked a dog on the 1500 block of Highway 13 at 8:54 p.m. Thursday, May 23.

—A pickup truck sustained an estimated \$8,000 in damage on the 1400 block of Clement Street during the evening of May 29-30.

—A running vehicle was discovered with its doors open and no one around at 6:29 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, on the 700 block of Highway 13. A large amount of narcotics were found inside the vehicle.

Merriam Park

Burglary—A television was stolen from an apartment on the 1800 block of Carroll Avenue between June 7-9.

Theft—The catalytic converter was stolen from a vehicle on the 1800 block of Portland Avenue between 12:30-5:05 a.m. Wednesday, May 22.

—Trailers were stolen on the 1800 block of Iglehart Avenue on May 27 and on the 300 block of North Wilder Street on May 30.

—A bicycle valued at more than \$1,000 was reported stolen on the 1500 block of Summit Avenue at 9:27 p.m. Tuesday, May 28.

—Vehicles were stolen on the 1900 block of Feronia Avenue on June 6 and on the 1700

block of University Avenue on June 9. Two juvenile suspects were arrested in the latter case.

—A laptop computer was stolen from a vehicle on the 200 block of North Snelling Avenue between 4-5 p.m. Friday, June 7.

Sex crime—A rape was reported at 4:53 a.m. Saturday, May 25, on Pelham and Mississippi River boulevards.

Assault—A female was assaulted on the 1600 block of University Avenue at 12:48 a.m. Thursday, May 16.

—An aggravated assault with a knife occurred on Snelling and University avenues at 6:37 a.m. Sunday, June 2.

Snelling-Hamline

Burglary—A burglary was reported on the 1400 block of Portland Avenue at 8:33 p.m. Saturday, June 1.

Theft—A MacBook and Xbox were stolen from a vehicle on Snelling and University avenues between 6-9 p.m. Saturday, May 25.

—An envelope containing more than \$1,000 in cash was stolen from the Midway Walmart between May 26-31.

—A woman in her 20s-30s stole three new iPhones from the Midway Walmart at 10:11 p.m. Monday, May 27. She fled in a 2001 blue Ford Expedition.

Summit Hill

Burglary—A residence was broken into on the 800 block of Grand Avenue during the evening of May 31-June 1.

—Tools and keys were stolen from a garage on the 1000 block of Fairmount Avenue during the evening of May 31-June 1.

Theft—The catalytic converter was stolen from a vehicle on the 1000 block of Osceola Avenue during the evening of May 27-28.

—A laptop computer, battery, notary stamp and other items were stolen from a vehicle in the U.S. Bank parking lot, 1071 Grand Ave., between 3:45-4:20 p.m. Tuesday, May 28.

—A vehicle was stolen on the 800 block of Lincoln Avenue between May 28-29.

Summit-University

Burglary—Laundry Doctor, 662 Selby Ave., was broken into on May 31-June 1.

—A chainsaw was stolen from a residence that was broken into on the 800 block of Concordia Avenue on June 2-3.

Theft—A trailer with two jet skis was stolen on the 400 block of Portland Avenue between 3-10:45 p.m. Wednesday, May 29.

—A gun was reported stolen on the 800

block of St. Anthony Avenue at 10:53 p.m. Sunday, June 2.

—Vehicles were stolen on the 600 block of Portland Avenue on June 1-2 and on the 1000 block of Ashland Avenue on June 5.

—Baseball equipment and tools were stolen from a vehicle on the 700 block of Selby Avenue between noon-3 p.m. Wednesday, June 5.

Sex crime—A rape was reported on the 100 block of Virginia Street at 3:18 a.m. Sunday, May 26.

Miscellaneous—A St. Paul Public Works employee reportedly threw asphalt over a fence and onto the I-94 off-ramp, damaging a passing vehicle at 9:27 a.m. Monday, June 3, on Concordia Avenue and St. Albans Street.

West End

Burglary—A residence was burglarized on the 300 block of Sturgis Street between 6:30-8:30 p.m. Saturday, May 25.

—A desktop computer and cash drawer were stolen from Apostrophe Salon, 468 S. Osceola Ave., on May 30-31.

—A juvenile was arrested for breaking into a house on the 800 block of James Avenue at 12:23 p.m. Friday, May 31.

Theft—An iPhone and purse were stolen on the 200 block of West Seventh Street during the evening of May 26-27.

—A muffler was stolen from a vehicle on the 900 block of Randolph Avenue during the evening of May 27-28.

—Vehicles were reported stolen on the 100 block of Douglas Street on May 28-29, on the 1500 block of Adrian Street on May 30 and on the 200 block of Goodhue Street on May 31-June 1.

—A 24-year-old man was arrested for driving a stolen vehicle at Speedway, 1734 W. Seventh St., at 2:33 a.m. Saturday, June 1.

—A stereo, amplifier and tools were stolen from a vehicle on the 400 block of South Chatsworth Street between 3:05-3:45 a.m. Monday, June 3.

—A suspect stole a purse from a stroller and fled on a bicycle on Armstrong Avenue and View Street at noon Monday, June 3.

Sex crime—Rapes were reported on the 300 block of North Smith Avenue at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 4, and on Michigan and Richmond streets at 4:55 a.m. Wednesday, May 15.

—A 38-year-old man was arrested for exposing himself and trying to pick fights with people in the parking lot at Cossetta's, 211 W. Seventh St., at 8:23 p.m. Sunday, June 9.

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Boomers & Beyond */Living on the upside of 50*

The beep goes on: Blind athlete promotes his brand of baseball for anyone willing to listen

BY BRIAN JOHNSON

Longtime Highland Park resident Kevin Moldenhauer had an uncanny knack for being able to see a baseball with his ears, so to speak. From the 1970s to the early '90s, he became a local legend in the then-emerging sport of beep baseball.

Moldenhauer, 61, who has been blind since birth, is modest about his accomplishments in the sport. When pressed, the newly retired public school teacher reluctantly admitted that he was a "good" player, though he hastened to add that there were "a lot of good players around here."

Others are more effusive in their praise of a man who is considered to be one of the pioneers of the sport. During his heyday in the '70s and '80s, Moldenhauer played in the World Series of beep baseball a dozen times. He put up some gaudy numbers in the batter's box and was a standout fielder, according to Dennis Stern, who coaches a recreational beep ball program in St. Paul. During his prime, Moldenhauer got a hit in roughly seven out of every 10 times he came to bat—

without being able to see the ball.

"Our current beep baseball team is the Minnesota Millers," Stern said. "In the World Series last year in Eau Claire, our top two hitters hit in the .500s. Kevin, in several World Series back in the '70s and '80s, hit in the .700s. And he was just as good on defense as offense. When I first met him, I was amazed at his ability to run where the ball was, slide in front of it, block it and pick it up."

Off the field, Moldenhauer worked as a teacher of Braille and technology skills to visually impaired students. He was employed by Intermediate School District 287, which offers special education programs in 11 school districts in Hennepin County and only retired this month after 32 years with the district.

"I got to spend an awful lot of time with a lot of students," he said. "I had an opportunity to really get to know people and interact with them. It was very, very fulfilling."

Though he no longer plays beep baseball, Moldenhauer continues to be an ambassador for the sport.

Beep baseball originated in Ohio in the early 1970s, according to Stern, and the first beep baseball

World Series was held in 1976.

Moldenhauer played from 1977 to 1992, though he took a couple of years off during college. Playing competitively for a team based in St. Louis Park and Minneapolis, he embraced the sport at a time when it was just starting to take off.

"The first beep ball championship was held in St. Paul in 1976," said Moldenhauer, who also competed in weightlifting and served as a weightlifting instructor for many years. "The St. Paul team won. And then in 1977, '78 and '79 the team from Minneapolis and St. Louis Park won three straight titles. We always had between two and four teams in the Twin Cities until the early '90s when the sport kind of went away for a while."

Minneapolis and St. Paul boasted four "really competitive" beep baseball teams in the 1970s and 1980s, Stern said. The teams were so competitive, in fact, that they began to steal each other's players, he added.

"The teams maybe had eight players each on their rosters," Stern said. "According to what I've heard, the competition became so fierce they kind of put themselves out of business. There was no beep ball



Former beep ball standout Kevin Moldenhauer, pictured with pitcher Jim O'Connor, serves as an ambassador for the game.

PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

here from 1993 until 2004."

Stern, a longtime resident of Mendota Heights, played a big role in reviving the sport locally in 2004. Since that time, 100 or more visually

impaired athletes have participated in recreational leagues and another 25 to 30 have played the sport in a

BEEP BASEBALL ► 15

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For ‘life-cycle celebrant,’ death is a passage deserving of personal touch

BY JANET LUNDER HANAFIN

Anne Murphy describes her line of work as a “life-cycle celebrant.” The Highland Park resident creates rituals for family occasions or personal milestones such as the birth of a child, retirement and moving into a new home. Her services include arranging a home vigil upon the death of a loved one.

“Death is a rite of passage,” Murphy said, “and a rite of passage needs to have some sort of ceremony to mark it.”

Funeral services in the U.S. have undergone a transformation. While many families still observe the traditional rituals of a church, synagogue or mosque, others prefer to create more personal gatherings to commemorate a loved one. The venues for those memorial services include museums, restaurants, parks and pubs.

Years ago, the usual practice was to lay the deceased person out at home and hold a wake or vigil for friends and family. Murphy would like to see that practice become common again. “When you’re grieving, it’s nice to have a structure and a form,” she said.

Murphy calls her business A Thousand Hands. “When we’re born, we’re supported,” she said. “And when we’re dying, we’re supported by our loved ones, people in our spiritual community, our neighbors. All these hands are there to help as you journey out of this world. I believe that in the non-physical world there are also helpers, maybe ancestors, who are there to lend a hand to this ushering.”

When she is asked to create a ritual for a home vigil, Murphy will spend half an hour or so with members of the family to explore ideas and see if her services fit their needs. If

they decide to go ahead, she meets with the family and possibly friends and colleagues to learn more about the person who has died and collaborate on the design of a memorial event. “I start getting an idea of who this person was, how the family wants them to be celebrated, the components that we want to bring in,” she said.

Murphy once helped design a vigil for a young man who died suddenly in his sleep of a massive heart attack. His friends told her how important music was in his life and that they had been singing karaoke the night before he died. During the ceremony, they all sang a song he loved, “You Gotta Have Faith” by George Michael.

“I tend to work with people who are spiritual but not necessarily religious,” Murphy said. She often combines spiritual text and poetry in a memorial event. Her goal is to lift up and celebrate the person who has died and recognize the grief of those who are mourning.

Many people do not know that a home vigil is possible or even legal these days, but bringing a loved one home or to another familiar place gives the family time to recognize the death and begin to adjust to their loss, according to Murphy. She usually coordinates her services with funeral homes, and knows where and how to take care of the paper work that is necessary following a death.

When Highland Park resident Susan Showalter died suddenly just before Christmas, her husband David and the couple’s two daughters worked with Murphy to stage a home vigil. They cleared out the sunroom, their favorite space in the family home, and Murphy set up her massage table and brought in



Anne Murphy of the Highland Park business A Thousand Hands designs personal rituals for families to mark the death of a loved one. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

ANNE MURPHY ► 15

Amid CBD boom, retirees are some of the most excited customers in America

From recovering after years of Vicodin use to easing concerns over insomnia and arthritis, seniors are taking advantage of the recent explosion of CBD products across the U.S.



In a recent extended profile, Yahoo! Finance catalogued a number of retirees who have turned to CBD and other hemp products for the sake of issues that have long plagued their day-to-day living. [1] This is easier ever since hemp was legalized in 2018 and the market for CBD is expected to reach \$16 billion by 2025.

You can read all about the benefits to seniors can hope to see from trying out CBD by checking out previous coverage at the Nothing But Hemp blog using the link below. [2]

Meanwhile, check out the Yahoo! Finance piece for a collection of stories from retirees who have found

what they were looking for in CBD use.

“I don’t ever go to the doctor anymore,” Stephanie Camillo, 64, told Yahoo! Finance. “Now I don’t take anything, just my CBD.”

Previously, she had been using pain pills including ibuprofen and Vicodin for her pain since she worked on her feet all day at a grocery store deli counter. Since she retired, she only uses CBD oil. [1]

Huge numbers of people across the country and wider world use CBD for their chronic pain, soreness, appetite loss and other problems that can compound as the body ages. Currently, almost 50 million Americans are over the age of 65. [2]

New research that suggests as many as 7% of Americans use CBD products, and 40% of those are over the age of 40, which lands those of us headed toward or enjoying retirement in the prime spot to give CBD a shot. [1]



NOTHING BUT HEMP

Lois Raynow, a 78-year-old, is another CBD user Yahoo! Finance interviewed for their story. She uses it for anxiety and arthritis, among other concerns.

She not only uses CBD for a number of uses, but has evangelized her entire family to try it out, and even gives it to her nine-year-old labradoodle, Daisy. [1]

“Daisy has thyroid issues and Cushing disease, and also has allergies and her energy level wasn’t really high,” Raynow told Yahoo! Finance. “But I noticed since she’s been taking it her energy level is much better, and I think it might be helping the allergies too.” [1]

The story goes on to give tons of useful tips on how best to use CBD and seek out the best products for your particular needs.

Among these is the cumulative nature of how CBD use works, building up over time in the body until it is most effective. That’s why it is so important to keep up regular doses at set times of day to make the most of your CBD use.

Sources

[1] <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/retirees-jumping-cbd-boom-loving-185256650.html>

[2] <https://www.nothingbuthemp.net/post/what-can-seniors-expect-from-using-cbd>

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Opus adjusts proposal for five-story senior complex along Lilydale bluffs

BY KEVIN DRISCOLL

The Opus Group presented a series of changes to the Lilydale Planning Commission on June 12 regarding its plan to construct a five-story senior apartment complex on the vacant River Bluffs Center property on Highway 13.

The commission voted unanimously to forward the plan to the City Council for consideration at its meeting at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 25, at City Hall.

The River Bluffs Senior Housing project is being proposed as a planned unit development (PUD) that would include a mix of independent, assisted-living and memory care units. It would be constructed on the site of the 5.7-acre strip mall that was once home to Moose Country restaurant and around 16 small shops. Though the buildings remain, all of the tenants moved out nearly a year ago.

In narrowing the proposed new senior building, Opus reduced the number of units to 140 (instead of the previous 150) and kept most of the building out of the 40-foot setback from the river bluff, according to Opus architect Dean Newins. He said encroachment on the Highway 13 side of the project was also reduced by cantilevering the building.

Commissioners expressed relief at the solution. It also pleased Friends of the Mississippi River, according to its corridor program director, Colleen O'Connor Toberman. The advocacy group had previously expressed concern over erosion of the river bluff.

Among the concerns about Opus' original plan presented to the commission on May 22 was that the building was too close to the bluff and to Highway 13. The site is within the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area, which has its own set of development regulations.

Another concern was the 57-foot height of

the building. A city ordinance sets the standard at 35 feet with a maximum of 50 feet. Opus did not make any changes to the building's height and is still asking for a variance.

O'Connor Toberman said FMR was "OK with that" since Opus repositioned and tiered the building so that the highest point is away from the river.

Lilydale city planner Phil Carlson said the new plan has an increased front-yard setback with landscaping along much of the front of the building. There will also be a 20- to 25-foot-wide yard area between the building and Highway 13. A trail connection is included and Opus is discussing with state officials and adjacent property owner Thompson Lightning how to extend it further west to connect with an existing trail.

There will be 145 parking spaces, including 75 on the first level of the building and another 70 in a surface parking lot on the northeast end of the property. The building itself has been changed from an "E" to an "S" shape, with gardens and terraces at different levels.

The only other major concern was Opus' plan for dealing with storm water runoff. The original plan was to have most of the water flow under the building over the bluff and into the river. Opus is now proposing a series of water retention ponds on the bluff side of the building, where water will flow to the river via two existing "outfalls."

However, city engineer Jeff Weiss said that approach would violate multiple city policies. According to him, the City Council should only approve the project if its stormwater management plan was revised to direct runoff to the highway right-of-way.

O'Connor Toberman said FMR was also unhappy with Opus' latest storm water management plan. "But I know both the city and Opus will be working on it together," she said.

14◀ ANNE MURPHY

four large urns of flowers. The funeral home dressed Susan's body in comfortable pajamas and brought her home from the hospital. She was laid out on the massage table and covered with a favorite Indian blanket.

The family anointed her body with lavender oil, her favorite scent, and had a private time to say their goodbyes. They sang a beloved song that Susan had sung to her grandchildren and read a meditation. Her husband rubbed lotion on her feet, lotion that had been purchased as a Christmas present before her death.

The family spread the word through a telephone tree that a vigil would be held at David and Susan's home. Friends and neighbors brought food, and Susan's favorite snacks of white wine and Doritos were plentiful. Some mourners were surprised to learn that the body was in the house, but many chose to visit the sunroom. They picked flowers out of the urns to lay on her body, and by the close of the vigil her body was decked with roses.

"There was an energy in that space, in that room, in that house, that was so beautiful," Murphy said. "This is what I often see—a beautiful combination of sadness and celebration."

The next day Susan's body was moved from her home to a funeral van over a path of rose petals and transported to Stillwater for a water cremation. At the end of January, the family held a memorial service and celebration of her life at their church.

"Susan's spirit guided our thoughts on how best to honor her life," David said. "The positive comments I received were a big deal. People didn't know this was even possible. They said how fitting it was for her."

According to Murphy, the family of a person who has died can experience secondary grief at the swiftness with which the body is removed after death. The next time they see their loved one, the person has been embalmed or cremated and is ready for burial.

"You can slow down the process," Murphy said. "I'm suggesting giving families time to have the loved one at home and to care for the body." That allows those who are grieving to experience the transition from life to death to finally letting go of the body, she said.

The home vigil is all about reimagining the cultural narrative of death, Murphy said. As people recognize the sorrow of the bereaved, they celebrate the life of the one who has died and that person's new role as an ancestor who has gone before into the realm that is beyond death.

13◀ BEEP BASEBALL

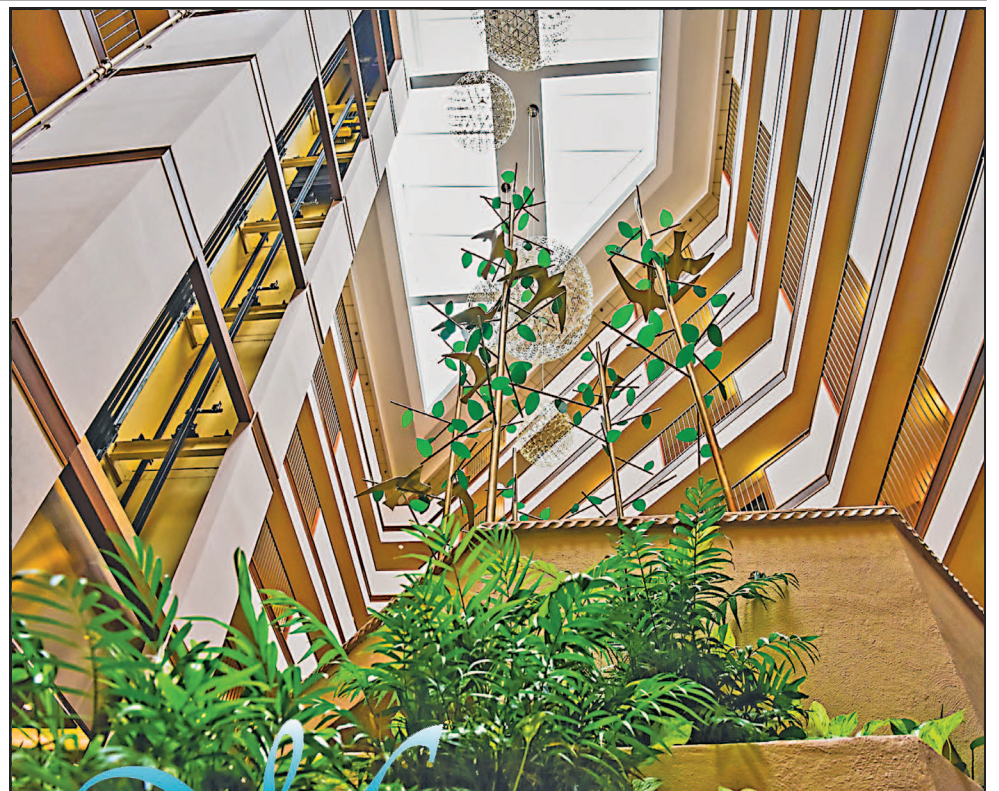
more competitive league.

The local beep ball recreational league is playing a full schedule of games this summer, according to Moldenhauer. The teams play on Friday nights and Saturday mornings at the Carondelet Fields on Albert Street across from Cretin-Derham Hall.

There are about 30 teams in the country who play the more competitive brand of beep baseball, according to Stern. Last year, the Minnesota Millers placed 11th out of the 21

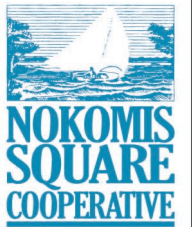
teams at the beep ball World Series. A couple of the Millers may be in their 40s, but most are "young jocks" in their early to mid-20s, Stern said.

Reflecting on his time as a young jock, Moldenhauer said he had a lot of fun in beep baseball. "One thing that's hard for people who are blind or extremely visually impaired is to get into an area where it's easy to move around and run," he said. "We did a lot of running in beep ball. As a team sport, it was a unique opportunity, and it still is."



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Demand continues to exceed supply for new senior housing

Despite new apartment projects that are under construction locally

By JANE MCCLURE

Two large apartment complexes are scheduled to open in St. Paul over the next several months to a year, offering both market-rate and affordable housing options for this area's growing senior population.

Ground was broken for the first phase of Lexington Landing, which is privately funded, on a cold January day on the southern part of the triangular Riverside School site at the intersection of West Seventh Street, Montreal Avenue and Lexington Parkway. The property is now owned by the J.A. Wedum Foundation and will be managed by PHS Management.

The five-story senior apartment building will feature 98 market-rate independent living units, along with 36 assisted living and 21 memory care units. Half of the building's independent living units already have been spoken for, according to Paula Palmer of Senior Housing Partners. That company is working with Wedum and PHS on marketing for the apartments. Essential Decisions Inc. is the developer.

"As soon as people saw activity on the site, we began getting inquiries," Palmer said. "There's a strong demand for senior housing in that area and there's much word-of-mouth about this project."



A rendering of the five-story Lexington Landing senior housing complex that is now going up on West Seventh Street near Montreal Avenue.

Palmer said new residents are expected to start moving into the building by the summer of 2020. The complex also will include a two-story Town Center with gathering spaces, restaurant-style dining, bistro, wellness center and other amenities. Underground heated parking will also be available.

The options at Lexington Landing will allow residents to remain living in the complex if their health or living needs change.

The second phase of Lexington Landing will be constructed closer to Albion Avenue and separated by a rerouted Lexington Parkway. When that building goes up, how it is configured and what it looks like will be influenced by the demand for the first building.

Dominium Development plans to open the doors of its senior building at the Legends at Berry Place next spring at 700 Emerald St., on the site of a former lumberyard near

St. Paul's border with Minneapolis. The four-story building will have 242 affordable rental units priced at 60 percent of the area's median household income and the waiting list is filling up fast.

Dominium has drawn on city and state funding to help cover the construction costs of Legends at Berry Place. Some of its amenities there include a community room with full kitchen and fireplace, beauty salon, library, theater, fitness center, craft and card room, and underground heated parking.

Despite the two new projects under construction, the demand for senior housing locally continues to exceed the supply. That demand is anticipated in St. Paul's 2040 Comprehensive Plan, which the City Council is expected to adopt this month. The city's Advisory Committee on Aging (ACOA) led the charge on raising issues about "aging in community" and planning

for more senior housing options during the planning process. A recent committee report on Reframing Aging was used in the plan's development.

Kathy Kelso, a Macalester-Groveland resident and former ACOA chair, said the city needs to carefully consider the need for affordable and accessible housing for seniors. She praised the plan for its attention to senior housing issues, but also said the city needs to start planning now to keep up with the ever-growing need for senior housing.

Ward 3 City Council member Chris Tolbert, who chairs the city's Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) board, said the city is currently grappling with a housing shortage, especially in affordable rental units. Affordable senior units are a need he is hearing more and more questions about, he said.

"We have seniors who need housing and they're being priced out of

the luxury and market-rate buildings," Tolbert said. "They don't want to or cannot stay in their homes, and they're limited as to where they can go. It's a growing and critical need."

Unless the city provides subsidies for housing projects, as it did for the latest Dominion project, Tolbert said, city leaders cannot require that housing for people of all ages be affordable. Plans for the redevelopment of Ford Motor Company's former assembly plant in Highland Park call for some affordable senior housing.

Housing affordability is an issue the city's Planning Commission is grappling with, too. The commission is discussing ways to require that developments, including senior housing projects, provide at least some affordable units. Planning Commission chair Betsy Reveal said that can only be done by making changes to the zoning code. Until then, she said there is not a lot the commission can do.

What has been described as a "silver tsunami" of people wanting to move into senior housing has become a challenge throughout the Twin Cities. It estimated that almost 2,500 senior housing units will be coming online in the Twin Cities this year, but that is not nearly enough to meet the demand.

The Metropolitan Council, which tracks regional demographic trends, projects that by 2040 one in every five residents in the Twin Cities will be age 65 or older, rising from 307,000 people in 2010 to 797,000 in 2040.



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Thursday/June 20

“HOW RELAXATION TRAINING Promotes Healthy Sleep” will be explored in a free class from 2-3 p.m. at the Shaller Family Sholom East Campus, 740 Kay Ave. Refreshments will be served. For reservations, call 651-328-2117 or email gbutzmann@sholom.com.

A FARMHOUSE TOUR that delves into the family history of original owners Jane and Heman Gibbs will be offered from 6-8 p.m. to visitors ages 21 and older at the Gibbs Farm, 2097 Larpenteur Ave. The \$20 cost includes a complimentary beverage and light refreshments. For reservations, call 651-646-8629.

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.

Friday/June 21

A JIGSAW PUZZLE PARTY open house will be held from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. in the atrium of Building 19 at the Minnesota Veterans Home, 5101 Minnehaha Ave. S. in Minneapolis. A fundraiser for the Alzheimer’s Association, the event will feature dozens of puzzles that guests can help solve as well as a puzzle-swap table and a display of vintage jigsaw puzzles.

Saturday/June 22

FREE MENDING SERVICES will be available from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Get up to three fabric items repaired in this clinic cosponsored by Mobile Menders. First come, first served.

Tuesday/June 25

JOIN FRIENDS of the Mississippi River in planting native shrubs, wildflowers, sedges and trees from 6-8 p.m. in the gorge off West River Parkway in South Minneapolis.



Summer’s in bloom. Bright pink peonies welcome visitors to Brian and Bonnie Olson’s yard, a stop on the 12th annual West End Garden Tour held on sunny Saturday, June 8. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

No experience is necessary. Tools and gloves will be provided. To register and receive directions to the work spot, contact Amy Kilgore at 651-222-2193 ext. 31 or akilgore@fmr.org.

Thursday/June 27

ST. PAUL CITY ATTORNEY Lyndsey Olson will hold a public meeting on a new Neighborhood Justice Program from 5-6:30 p.m. at Riverview Library, 1 E. George St. The program, which is expected to be launched later this year, will use a restorative justice model as an alternative to traditional criminal prosecution. Come learn about the program, ask questions and offer your views. Visit stpaul.gov/neighborhood-justice-program.

Saturday/June 29

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS will be

accepting blood donations from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Holy Spirit Church, 515 S. Albert St. Walk-ins are welcome, but reservations are recommended. Visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-733-2767.

Tuesday/July 9

LA LECHE LEAGUE of the Midway-Como area will hold its monthly meeting for pregnant and nursing mothers from 7-8:45 p.m. at Hamline Church United Methodist, 1514 Englewood Ave. Babies, toddlers and support persons are welcome. Breastfeeding, parenting and pregnancy will be discussed. Call Heidi at 651-659-9527.

Wednesday/July 10

WANT TO LINE DANCE? Veteran dance instructor Dariel Allen offers a class from 10:30-11:30 a.m. every Wednesday at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 700 S. Snelling Ave.

No registration is necessary. The cost is \$5.

LONGFELLOW GARDEN CLUB will present a free tour of four gardens this evening that demonstrate just what you can do with a small yard. The tour begins at 6:30 p.m. Tour maps may be picked up between 5:45 and 6:30 on the big rock by Epworth United Methodist Church, 3207 37th Ave. S. in Minneapolis.

Thursday/July 11

ST. PAUL POLICE will be serving grilled meat and side dishes at a Safe Summer Nights barbecue from 5-7 p.m. at the Martin Luther King Recreation Center, 271 N. Mackubin St. The public is invited to join in the free picnic, meet with their local police officers and take part in activities for children.

Friday/July 12

FARE FOR ALL’S monthly distribution of fresh produce and frozen meat will take place from 10 a.m.-noon at the West Seventh Community Center, 265 Oneida St. The food will be available in packages priced from \$10-\$25. Cash, credit and debit cards are accepted. Call 651-298-5493.

Tuesday/July 16

JOIN FRIENDS of the Mississippi River from 6-9 p.m. in tending the three-acre demonstration prairie at Crosby Farm Regional Park. The prairie includes 1,000-plus native plants. Volunteers will weed and otherwise care for the plants. Training and supplies will be provided. To register, contact Amy Kilgore at akilgore@fmr.org or 651-222-2193 ext. 31.

Thursday/July 18

A FARMHOUSE TOUR that delves into the family history of original owners Jane and Heman Gibbs will be offered from 6-8 p.m. to visitors ages 21 and older at the Gibbs Farm, 2097 Larpenteur Ave. The \$20 cost includes a complimentary beverage and light refreshments. For reservations, call 651-646-8629.

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Tilly's Table

By Tilly Wilson

From sushi to hot dogs: Eatery is quite a Kyatchi

BY TILLY WILSON

When I was invited by the *Villager* to review Kyatchi, a Japanese restaurant in St. Paul's Lowertown, and was told to be sure to try its hot dogs, I was skeptical. You generally don't see hot dogs (pronounced "hot dogs" in Japan) in that country's cuisine. It can be tricky to run one down in the heart of Tokyo, though I believe I saw a hot dog advertised in a 7-Eleven in Shinagawa a couple of weeks ago.

So four of us descended on Kyatchi (meaning "catch") to taste and learn more a few weeks ago. My partner, Bo, was kind enough to invite two of my best gal pals. Upon our arrival, we were greeted by Sarah, a part-owner and an all-round gracious host. She helped establish the Prince Street restaurant about 18 months ago in addition to its original Minneapolis restaurant.

Kyatchi is quintessential Lowertown with its casual artist's loft feel. Its location, next to the St. Paul Farmers Market and CHS Field, is ideal for dining after flower shopping or before a ball game. You can sit at the bar where there are stools for maybe eight, at one of many indoor tables or on the small, elevated streetside patio.

The menu, aside from the hot dogs, is genuine Japanese, and Kyatchi does Japanese well. Chef Hide Tozawa has made his mark by only serving fresh, sustainably sourced fish. You won't find a blue fin tuna's belly anywhere in the establishment. Kyatchi is also committed to regionally sourced sustainable produce.

At the recommendation of our server, we began our meal with small plates of Gyoza (pork dumplings, \$9) and the vegetarian Kara-Age (marinated and gently fried tofu served with lemon and Japanese mayonnaise, \$5.75). The Kara-Age were excellent and reminded this native Illinois girl of state fair cheese curds but with a guilt-free edge. With a cold beer—Kyatchi has 16 on tap, including several Japanese brews—these tasty morsels make a great plate to share. Kyatchi also serves a variety of tempting salads and ramen noodle and rice dishes.

We next tried the Kushimono (\$3-\$7.75 per skewer). Shiitake mushrooms are good at the best of times, but grilled perfectly they're both delicate and flavorful. Here, too, Kyatchi didn't disappoint. Nor were we disappointed with the Butabara; my guests devoured the skewers of Berkshire pork belly in no time.

Seafood followed, and Bo was in a hurry to prove his credentials on sushi. However, the ladies chose to follow our server's advice, and were rewarded for it. Kyatchi takes pride in its extensive offerings of Sushi and Sashimi. The highlights



Caught at Kyatchi: The Yakisoba Dog with Japanese potato salad (above) and the happy-hour Chirashi (left).

PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

for a New York vanilla cheesecake with chocolate or miso caramel (\$7.75), and it's a knockout. You may also be tempted by the Ginger Panna Cotta (\$8.50) or Orange Rolled Cake (\$9).

But back to the hot dogs.

"Why hot dogs," I asked Sarah.

"Why not?" she replied.

Why not, indeed. The proximity to CHS Field would seem to be a fitting reason. In any case, Kyatchi serves hot dogs with a variety of topping options—from the stir-fried soba noodles on the Yakisoba dog (\$10.25) to the mushrooms sautéed in butter and soy with parmesan on the Kinoko dog (\$11.25).

A good hot dog, of course, begins with the dog, and Kyatchi uses only Limousin beef that is sourced sustainably—whatever that means for the poor cow. The first time, it was delicious. After three visits, however, I did find some inconsistency in the grilling of the hot dogs. To my palate, the dogs tended to be overcooked. Nevertheless, the overall flavor and the creative toppings make them worth a try.

Japanese cuisine is not everyone's cup of tea. However, Kyatchi retains its credibility as an authentic Japanese restaurant, but with a menu that will satisfy almost anyone.

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On the Town

As the wheel turns

Art at St. Kate's ceramicist comes into her own

BY ANNE MURPHY

Each piece of Joanna Buyert's pottery takes shape in the same way that she has fashioned her career—slowly and carefully, with much thought and precision inspired by a love of beauty and practicality. Those qualities will be on display when Buyert takes part in the annual Art at St. Kate's from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, July 13, on the lawn of St. Catherine University.

This is the second year that Buyert will be exhibiting in Art at St. Kate's. The juried art fair features the works of 100 artists and craftspeople from the Upper Midwest. It is sponsored by the Artists' Circle and the Textile Center of Minnesota.

Buyert lives in the Schmidt Artists Lofts on West Seventh Street and works at her Fringe & Fettle Ceramics studio there. "I heard about Art at St. Kate's from other artists," she said. "They were really impressed, and I have been, too. It's really well-organized and well-curated."

Linda LaNasa of Grand Hand Gallery is equally impressed with Buyert's pottery. LaNasa has served as the artist liaison at the Grand Avenue gallery for the past 12 years, and Buyert was the featured artist there in March. "Joanna stands out for her work and her personality," LaNasa said. "She has an old-fashioned type of kindness, and it shows in her pottery."

"Her pieces are nostalgic," LaNasa said, singling out her

"As I put more and more time into it, my work began to support beauty in the design of practical pieces. I learned that I wanted my pieces to be a reflection of me. That included cooler, softer shapes and colors."

hand-held juicers, colanders and berry bowls. "Her forms are soft to the eye. There are influences of the romantic and the nostalgic. She has a tray with a lace pattern. You look at that and think, 'That looks like my grandmother's apron.' There are childhood memories in the beauty of her everyday pieces."

Buyert has been interested in art since childhood. "My father was a craftsman. He was a construction engineer, but he did woodworking and remodeling," she said. "My mother did rosemaling and decorative painting. And I was always drawing."

Buyert attended the University of Northwestern-St. Paul. "I studied art and fell in love with pottery there," she said. After graduating in 2007, she worked for 3½ years for a pottery company in the Twin Cities. "I learned a lot about clay," she said. "I started making pots after hours, but I wanted to do more creatively. So I left and went to my family's cottage in Wisconsin. I worked at the cabin

for six months full-time."

It was there that Buyert discovered what she wanted her pottery to be. "As I put more and more time into it, my work began to support beauty in the design of practical pieces," she said. "I learned that I wanted my pieces to be a reflection of me. That included cooler, softer shapes and colors. I'm more subtle."

It wasn't long after she returned from Wisconsin that Buyert moved into the Schmidt Artist Lofts. "I heard from a friend about the lofts," she said. "I was drawn right in. It's such a cool historic building."

Since taking up residence at the Artist Lofts five years ago, Buyert has married and changed her last name from Craw. She has also refined her creative process. Now, she said, "when I have an idea for a new design, I usually spend a few days imagining and clarifying my vision and then go directly to clay and skip any sketching. I go through a series of drafts in which I'll make a piece and repeatedly critique it and see what's not quite meeting its purposes. And then I'll make it again."

"I'll think about the curves of each pot, analyze its weight distribution, imagine how curve changes would affect it in various ways. It's a priority that the pot feels well-balanced when held, and if raising or lowering the height of the pot will improve its function. I usually do that over and over again before I'm satisfied with each piece."

The July 13 show will be the



Ceramicist Joanna Buyert turns out a porcelain bowl prior to glazing in her studio at the Schmidt Artists Lofts. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

12th annual one presented at St. Catherine by the Artists' Circle, an association of fine artists and craftspeople living and working in Minnesota and western Wisconsin. "We think people keep coming to our show because of the high quality of the art," said Emily Chesick of the Artists' Circle. "Our shows are run by artists for artists, and we think that can be felt and appreciated by patrons as well as the artists. We have terrific artists again this year."

The Artists' Circle grew out of the Craft Connection Gallery that was sponsored by the Minnesota

Crafts Council. After the MCC closed and with it the craft fair it had presented at St. Catherine's, the Artists' Circle sought to revive it. "I contacted St. Catherine and asked if we could create an art fair on their campus using their name," Chesick said. "We're honored that they've graciously allowed this."

"The St. Kate's crowd was such a good crowd last year," Buyert said. "I heard from people how glad they were to be there and how much they liked what they found."

Admission to the art fair is free. For more information, visit artistscircle.org.

Downtown resounds to the best in jazz from near and far

Some of the best local jazz musicians and a host of outstanding national performers will take the stage when the 21st annual Twin Cities Jazz Festival returns to downtown St. Paul from June 20-22. The music will play from four outdoor stages—two in Mears Park, one outside Union Depot and one next to TPT's studios at 172 E. Fourth St. Close to 50 other acts will be performing in downtown nightclubs and other venues across the city on those three days.

The festival kicks off on Thursday with a celebration of Cuban music featuring pianist Jorge Luis Pacheco and singer Mayito Rivera fronting the local 11-piece ensemble Charanga Tropical. Headlining Friday's lineup will be young saxophonist and singer Grace Kelly and Minneapolis-born singer José James in a Bill Withers tribute. Saturday's highlights include Israeli percussionist and pianist Yoge Shetrit, six-time Grammy nominee and singer Nnenna Freelon, Motor City reed man James Carter with organist Gerald Gibb and drummer Leonard King Jr., and multi-instrumentalist Aurora Nealand appearing with New Orleans pianist Tom McDermott.

What follows is the schedule for the four outdoor stages. Admission to those concerts is free. For the complete festival schedule, visit twincitiesjazzfestival.com.



Jazz saxophonist and singer Grace Kelly will appear on the Main Stage in Mears Park at 6 p.m. Friday, June 21.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TWIN CITIES JAZZ FEST

THURSDAY, JUNE 20 (in Mears Park)

6 p.m. Mayito Rivera and Charanga Tropical
8 p.m. Pianist Jorge Luis Pacheco

FRIDAY, JUNE 21

Main Stage in Mears Park:
4 p.m. Roy Hargrove Tribute
6 p.m. Grace Kelly
8:30 p.m. José James plays Bill Withers

Fifth Street Stage in Mears Park:
5 p.m. Salsa del Soul
7:15 p.m. Jack Brass Band

Youth Stage at Union Depot:

4 p.m. Minnesota Jazz Education
5 p.m. Jazz Around Minneapolis
6 p.m. Apple Valley High School R&B
7:30 p.m. Joan Hutton Jazz Project

TPT Street Space:

4 p.m. Jennifer Grimm
5:30 p.m. Thomasina Petrus
7 p.m. Maurice Jacox
8:30 p.m. Jana Nyberg 5
10 p.m. Bruce Henry and the Evolution of African-American Music

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

Main Stage in Mears Park:

2 p.m. New Sound Underground
4 p.m. Yoge Shetrit
6 p.m. James Carter Organ Trio
8:30 p.m. Nnenna Freelon

Fifth Street Stage in Mears Park:

3 p.m. Gypsy Mania Hot Club Quartet
5 p.m. Selby Ave Brass Band
7:15 p.m. Maryann and the Money Makers

Youth Stage at Union Depot:

1 p.m. Joe's Jazz Camp
2 p.m. Walker West Combo
3 p.m. Experience Jazz Combos 1,2,3
4:30 p.m. Dakota Combo
5:30 p.m. High School for Recording Arts
7:30 p.m. Adam Meckler Orchestra

TPT Street Space:

2 p.m. Aurora Nealand & Tom McDermott
3:30 p.m. Bob Deflores screens rare and historic jazz films
5:30 p.m. Aja Parham Group in a tribute to Sarah Vaughan
7 p.m. Lila Ammons Jazz Group
8:30 p.m. Rio Nido
10 p.m. Maud Hixson and French 75

On the Town *Briefly*

Books

Next Chapter Booksellers, 38 S. Snelling Ave., will play host to readings and discussions with poets Tony Plocido, Jas Abramowitz, Jeremy O'Neal, Lia Rivamonte and Amoke Kubat in a Bridges program on June 20; author Peter Hessler and his book, *The Buried: An Archaeology of the Egyptian Revolution*, June 24; author Barbara Bourland and her novel, *Fake Like Me*, June 25; Thom Hartmann and his book, *The Hidden History of Guns and the Second Amendment*, June 29; poets Thomas R. Smith, Mark Connor, Carter Norman, Suzanne Swanson, Tekkan and Sara Dove Wudall and the launch of the anthology *Startled by Joy*, 2 p.m. July 7; Melvin Carter Jr. and his autobiography, *Diesel Heart*, July 9; and a reading from contributors to the anthology, *Healing the Divide: Poems of Kindness and Connection*, July 10. The programs are free and begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Call 651-225-8989.

SubText Books, 6 W. Fifth St., will play host to readings and discussions by former U.S. Senator Dave Durenberger from his book, *When Republicans Were Progressive*, on June 19; Brian Johnson from his true crime story, *Murder in Chisago County: The Unsolved Johnson Family Mystery*, June 26; Lesley-Ann Brown from her book, *Decolonial Daughter: Letters from a Black Woman to Her European Son*, July 10; and Beatriz Williams and her novel, *The Golden Hour*, July 18. The programs are free and begin at 7 p.m. Call 651-493-2791.

Dance

Momentum, new works by four emerging Twin Cities choreographers, will be presented at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, July 11-13 and 18-20, in Frey Theater at St. Catherine University. The first weekend will feature "estrogendystopia/euphoricdysphoriaA" by J. H. (Judy) Shui Xiān, a study in the life of people of trans-feminine identity; and "StagNATION" by Herbert Johnson III, a quartet that explores the capabilities of human body and mind in a dystopian society. Weekend two will feature "crystal, smoke n' spirit(s)" by Leslie Parker, inciting memories of self-love and feminist theory as



Rare as a day with Junie. Go back to school with *Junie B. Jones* and rediscover the virtues of friendship, kindness and a healthy dose of spunk. This musical adaptation of the books by Barbara Park will open at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 27, at SteppingStone Theatre, 55 N. Victoria St. Twenty-two performances are scheduled through July 14. For tickets, visit steppingstonetheatre.org or call 651-225-9265.

healing from past trauma; and "Atlantis 13" by Jonathan van Arneman, the reimagining of a whitewashed history where black bodies share a knowledge of self. Tickets are \$25 at the door, \$20 in advance at theooshaughnessy.com or 651-690-6700.

Exhibits

Explore St. Paul's historic downtown and riverfront on free guided walking tours beginning at 10 a.m. Wednesdays from June through September. The Heart of the City Tour will travel down St. Peter Street past some of the city's most famous landmarks and influential buildings on June 19. The

Museum of American Art, 350 N. Robert St. It features large-scale paintings, drawings and other works that map the complexities and contradictions of American culture. A Native American, Kahlhamer was adopted by a German-American family, was raised in Arizona and Wisconsin, and spent his early adulthood as a musician living on the road before settling in New York City. His work explores the particularities of the American landscape. The exhibit will remain on view through August 25. Admission is free. Call 651-797-2571 or visit mmaa.org.

"The Four Sarah Sibleys," an exhibit and tour that tell the stories of Minnesota fur trader and governor Henry Sibley's mother, sister, wife and daughter, who were all named Sarah, will begin at noon on Saturdays from June 22 through September 2 at the Sibley Historic Site, 1357 Sibley Mem. Hwy. in Mendota. Among the highlights on the tour are handwritten letters by Sarah Jane and Sarah Alexandrine and a self-portrait by Sarah Jane. The cost is \$6. For reservations, visit dakotahistory.org or call 651-452-1596.

"Once Upon a Summer's Day," a Garden Club of America flower show to broaden the knowledge of gardening and share the beauty of floral design, horticulture, photography and the botanical arts, will be displayed from June 24-27 at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Admission will be free from 10 a.m. 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 25, and from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday, June 26.

Family

Dodge Nature Center, 1701 Charlton St. and 365 W. Marie Ave. in West St. Paul, will offer a Snakes and S'mores Family Campfire from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, June 24 (cost is \$7 per person); a turtle program for children ages 3-8 and parent, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 11 (\$10 per child); Family Farm Tour, 10-11:30 a.m. Saturday, July 13 (\$7 per person); songs, stories and roasted marshmallows around a campfire, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, July 22 (\$7 per person). Call 651-455-4531 or visit dodgenaturecenter.org.

St. Paul playgrounds are playing host to free outdoor movies this summer. The schedule includes *The Incredibles* on June 26 at Palace Community Center, 781 Palace Ave.; *The Incredibles 2* on July 18 at Hancock

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Recreation Center, 1610 Hubbard Ave.; and *Honey, I Shrunk the Kids* on July 19 at Highland Park Community Center, 1974 Ford Pkwy. The films will roll at dusk, but children's activities will be available well before the show. For more information, visit stpaul.gov/moviesintheparks.

Gibbs Farm, 2097 Larpenteur Ave., a museum of 19th century Dakota and pioneer life, is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays through October. Weekday farmhouse tours will be available between 6 and 8 p.m. Thursdays, June 20 and July 18. Special Saturday programs will focus on archaeology on June 22, prairie plants on July 6, and Victorian tea parties on July 20. Free homemade ice cream will be served with tours every other Sunday. Patriotic sundaes will be featured on June 30 and root beer floats on July 14. Admission is \$8, \$7 for seniors, \$5 for children ages 4-16. Call 651-646-8629.

A drop-in program where children ages 7-11 can participate in building activities and learn the properties of science, technology, engineering and math will be offered at 10:30 a.m. Friday, June 28, at the Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy. Parents may join in this free, weekly program presented by Snapology. Call 651-695-3700.

Intergenerational Play Time with stories, songs and live ukulele music will be offered from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 16, at the Minnesota Veterans Home, 5101 Minnehaha Ave. S. in Minneapolis. The free program is open to babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their parents. Call Erin at 612-548-5751.

Theater

The Lightning Thief, a musical adaptation of the Percy Jackson novel written by Rick Riordan, is playing from June 18-23 at the Ordway Music Theater. A son of Poseidon, Percy Jackson has monsters on his trail and newly discovered powers he can't control as he embarks on a quest to find Zeus' lightning bolt and prevent a war between the gods. Following a sold-out run in New York City, where it garnered three Drama Desk Award nominations, *The Lightning Thief* is a family-friendly, action-packed adventure set to an original rock score. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 2 p.m. Saturday. For tickets, call 651-224-4222.

The small-town musical *Jefferson Township Sparkling Junior Talent Pageant* will open on June 21 on the thrust stage at Park Square Theatre, 20 W. Seventh Place. Written by Keith Hovis, the drama tells of Frannie Foster Wallace, who blames all of her failures in life on losing out 20 years earlier on the chance to become Jefferson's Sparkling Junior Champion. Directed by Laura Leffler, it stars Zach Garcia, Kelly Houlehan, Ryan London Levin and Leslie Vincent. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through July 28. Tickets are \$25-\$60 with discounts for seniors, military personnel and those under age 30. Call 651-291-7005 or visit parksquaretheatre.org.

History repeats itself with the return of the 4th of July comedy *George* from June 27 to July 6 at the Phoenix Theater, 2605 Hennepin Ave. in Minneapolis. The Sheep Theater production reimagines the American Revolution if General Washington had died at the outset and the other founding fathers had to cover their tracks and save America from King George III and the dastardly Benedict Arnold. The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$20, \$17.76 on July 4, \$15 for students, \$10 for children. Visit brownpapertickets.com.

Shakespeare's comedy of jealousy and ego, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* will be performed by the Classical Actors Ensemble from June 21 through July 21 in Twin Cities

parks. The drama follows aging bon vivant Sir John Falstaff as he tries to woo two married women for their money while they play trick after merciless trick on him. Directed by Joseph Papke, the production is set in the 1960s with youth culture in full bloom and Falstaff desperately trying to remain with it. Locally, the free, family-friendly show will be staged at 7 p.m. Friday, June 28, at Matthews Park, 2318 29th Ave. S. in Minneapolis; 7 p.m. Thursday, July 11, at St. Clement's Church, 901 Portland Ave.; 7 p.m. Friday, July 12, in Como Park at Como Boulevard and Churchill Street; 2 p.m. Sunday, July 14, on Raspberry Island; and 7 p.m. Friday, July 19, in Newell Park, 900 N. Fairview Ave.

Cruise the Mississippi River aboard the Jonathan Padelford while enjoying a drink, taking in the scenery and solving a murder mystery. Fearless Comedy Productions will bring an immersive theatrical experience to life in *Murder on the Mississippi* from 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays, June 26 and July 24; Thursday, August 22; and Wednesday, September 18. The mystery is set in 1856 when traffic on the river was at an all-time high with immigrants moving north to the growing towns of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Tickets are \$25, \$20 for members. For reservations, visit parkconnection.org.

Glensheen, a musical retelling of the murder mystery that gripped Minnesota four decades ago, will return from July 6 through August 4 to the History Theatre, 30 E. 10th St. Jen Maren and Dane Stauffer reprise their roles as primary suspects Marjorie and Roger Caldwell. Wendy Lehr, Gary Briggie and Ruthie Baker also star in playwright Jeffrey Hatcher and composer Chan Poling's compassionate, satirical and entertaining look at the 1977 murder of Duluth heiress Elisabeth Congdon and her night nurse Velma Pietila. Directed by Ron Peluso, the production will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays, 1:30 p.m. Thursdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. For tickets, call 651-292-4323 or visit historytheatre.com.

Samuel J. & K. will open on July 12 at Gremlin Theatre, 550 N. Vandalia St. A compelling drama about race, identity, home and brotherhood, the drama by Mat Smart tells of two adoptive siblings from suburban Chicago who travel to Cameroon, the birth country of one of the siblings, and are forced to navigate a foreign culture and the complexities of brotherhood. Directed by Brian Balcom, it stars Paul LaNave and Wariboko Semenitari. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays through August 4 and 7:30 p.m. Monday, July 22. For tickets, call 1-888-718-4253 or visit gremlintheatre.org.

Mozart's *Così fan tutte* will be performed by the Mill City Opera from July 12-24 in the open air Ruin Courtyard of the Mill City Museum, 704 S. Second St. in Minneapolis. Sung in Italian with English supertitles, it stars Heather Johnson, Sarah Larsen, Andrew Wilkowske, Karin Wolverton, Javier Abreu and Sidney Outlaw. Show times are 7:30 p.m. July 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22 and 24. An hour-long children's performance will be offered at 10 a.m. July 17. Tickets are \$50-\$125. Call 612-875-5544.

Film

Apollo 11: First Steps Edition, a giant-screen version of Todd Douglas Miller's critically-acclaimed documentary about NASA's first manned mission to the moon's surface, is being shown through August 4 in the Science Museum of Minnesota's Omnitheater, 120 W. Kellogg Blvd. Tickets are \$9.95, \$8.95 for children ages 4-12 and seniors. For reservations, call 651-221-9444 or visit smm.org.

"One Giant Leap," a planetarium production that puts audiences on the surface of the moon with Apollo 11 astronaut Neil Armstrong, is being presented all summer long at



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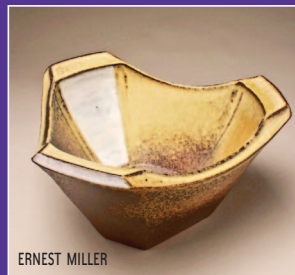
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the Bell Museum, 2088 W. Larpenteur Ave. The show transforms archival footage of the moon landing of 1969 into a 360-degree experience. Visit bellmuseum.umn.edu or call 612-626-9660.

Rondo: Beyond the Pavement, a documentary about the decimation of St. Paul's mostly African-American neighborhood for freeway construction in the 1950s and 1960s, will be shown four times in the coming month. The film includes interviews of those who remember the old neighborhood and were displaced by its destruction. Their stories of resilience will be screened at 6 p.m. Thursday, June 20, at Model Cities, 839 University Ave.; 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 26, at the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center, 270 N. Kent St.; dusk on Friday, July 12, outside the Jimmy Lee Recreation Center, 1076 Iglehart Ave.; and 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 17, at the Weisman Art Museum, 333 East River Pkwy. in Minneapolis. Admission is free, and a discussion will follow the screening.

Napoleon Dynamite (PG-2004) will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 29, at the Ordway Music Theater. Following the screening of this indie classic will be a free-wheeling conversation with cast members Jon Heder (Napoleon Dynamite), Jon Gries (Uncle Rico) and Efren Ramirez (Pedro). For tickets call 651-224-4222 or visit ordway.org.

Music

Northrop Auditorium's Plaza reverberates with the live music of Minnesota bands from noon-1 p.m. Wednesdays this summer. A campus tradition since the 1950s, the series includes the New Riverside Ramblers on June 19; Dan Newton's Café Accordion Orchestra, June 26; Innocent, July 3; the Fragrants led by John Munson, July 10; and the Mae Simpson Band, July 17. In case of rain, visit northrop.umn.edu for information about a new location or cancellation.

"Groovin' in the Garden," an eight-week series of free concerts, has returned from 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays to the grounds in front of the Como Conservatory. The schedule includes rock, country and pop music by the April Fools on June 19; the Celtic folk, alternative country and Americana of the Sweet Colleens, June 26; indie rock by the Shackletons featuring brothers Colin, Cameron and Evan Campbell, July 3; New Orleans-inspired Main Street Bayou, July 10; and the melodic pop-folk and twangy Americana of the Katy Vernon Band, July 17. Pack a picnic supper and bring a blanket



Guitar harmony. Grammy winner Pat Donohue (right) teams up with fellow finger-style guitarist Jerry Kosak in a concert of acoustic and slide guitar at 7:30 p.m. Saturday June 22, at the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. Tickets are \$17.50-\$22 and include a 6:30 p.m. tour of the mansion. Visit tinyurl.com/y3em2btX.

for seating. Lawn games, a climbing wall and bouncy house will be available for children. Food and beverages may be purchased. In case of rain, the concert will be moved inside the Conservatory.

Music as free as the water lapping the shores of Como Lake is being performed this summer at Como Pavilion. The concerts begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. The schedule includes Mestifonia with Leonoris Causa on June 19; Ticket to Brasil, June 20; Beer Choir sing-along, June 21; St. Anthony Civic Orchestra at 3 p.m. and St. Louis Park Community Band at 7 p.m. June 23; North Suburban Chorus, June 24; Medalist Concert Band, June 25; guitarists Billy McLaughlin and Jeff Arundel, June 26; Minnesota Sinfonia, June 27; Como Pops at 3 p.m. and Minnesota Boychoir at 7 p.m. June 30; Brooklyn Park Community Band, July 1; Roseville Big Band, July 2; Beer Choir sing-along, July 3; Como Pops at 3 p.m. and Daddy Squeeze plays Hank Williams and Fats Domino at 6 p.m. July 4; Stan Bann's Big Bone Band, July 7; Fridley City Band, July 8; North Star Barbershop Chorus, July 9; Minnesota Sinfonia, July 10; Beasley's Big Band, July 14; Dirty Shorts Brass Band, July 15; Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies, July 16; Fellow Pynins, July 17; and Dean Magraw and Davu Seru, July 18.

The Lowertown Sounds summer concert series continues from 6-9:30 p.m. Thursdays.

Two or three acts are featured each evening, including Cuban singer Mayito Rivera and Charanga Tropical and pianist Jorge Luis Pacheco on June 20; the Flamin Oh's and Tom, Dick and Harry, June 27; Maudlin and the St. Paul School of Rock, July 11; and Annie Mack and Nikki and the Ruemates, July 18. Bring a lawn chair or blanket for seating. Local craft beer, cider and wine will be available for purchase, and several food trucks will be selling their wares. Visit lowertownsounds.com.

Minneapolis troubadours Ann Reed and Larry Long will present an evening of songs and stories for the summer solstice from 7-10 p.m. Friday, June 21, at Moon Palace Books, 3032 Minnehaha Ave. S., Minneapolis. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door.

Tribute Fest, a evening-long engagement featuring the music of five tribute bands, will begin at 5 p.m. Saturday, June 22, at the Minnesota Music Cafe, 499 Payne Ave. The lineup includes Kissin Time (a tribute to Kiss' early years); Motel Sixx (Motley Crew); Cheap Trixx (Cheap Trick); Heartless (Heart); and Sir Psycho (Red Hot Chili Peppers). The doors open at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$15, \$10 in advance. Call 651-776-4699.

The St. Paul Conservatory of Music, 1524 Summit Ave., will present several concerts and master classes as part of its inaugural St. Paul Chamber Music Institute from June 23 to July 7. Workshop faculty include members of the Jasper String Quartet, who will perform works by Haydn, Julia Wolfe and Beethoven in the opening concert at 7 p.m. Sunday, June 23. A faculty recital with Susie Park on violin, Renee Skerik on viola, Tom Rosenberg on cello and Timothy Lovelace on piano will feature the music of Schubert, Rebecca Clarke, Beethoven, Ravel and Mendelssohn at 7 p.m. Friday, June 28, in the Fine Arts Center at Macalester College. The Jasper String Quartet will be

joined by Rosenberg and Skerik in works by Shostakovich and Brahms in the closing concert at 7 p.m. Saturday, July 6. Tickets are \$10 each or \$25 for all three concerts. Visit thespcm.org.

Legendary pianist and composer Bill Evans' live recordings at the Village Vanguard in 1961 with bassist Scott LaFaro and drummer Paul Motian will be celebrated by the Larry McDonough Quartet in concert from 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, June 25, at Black Dog Cafe, 308 E. Prince St. Joining pianist McDonough will be Greg Stinson on bass, Dean White, drums, and Richard Terrill, sax. Call 651-228-9274.

Live music has returned to Landmark Center's skylit cortile from noon-1 p.m. every other Thursday. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy the free sounds of Crow's Delight on June 27; and the Peter Kogan Trio, July 11.

Studio Z, 275 E. Fourth St, Suite 200, will play host to composer Scott L. Miller and pianist Taavi Kerikmäe in a demonstration of Kyma sound design and an electromagnetic piano system at 6 p.m. and a concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 28. Tickets are \$15, \$10 for seniors and students. Call 651-755-1600.

Bands on the Boulevard, a free outdoor concert series, will run from 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesdays at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Bring a lawn chair, pack a picnic supper or purchase food on the terrace and enjoy the rhythms of Porcupine on July 2; Heiruspecs, July 9; and Monica LaPlante, July 16.

For the Love Project, a free hip-hop festival, will present four bands, 16 emcees, three deejays and two dance groups from noon-10 p.m. Saturday, July 6, in Mears Park, Sixth and Sibley streets. Taking the stage will be the bands Heiruspecs, Haphduzn, Lady Midnight and Dwynell Roland; deejays Just Nine of Astralblak, Frank Castle and Sarah White; and dancers New Black City and the Sampson Bros.

Et cetera

Minnesota's French-Canadian heritage will be celebrated at the Feast of St. Jean-Baptiste, from 5-7 p.m. Sunday, June 23, at the Sibley Historic Site, 1357 Sibley Mem. Hwy. in Mendota. Bring a picnic supper and something to sit on and enjoy the live music of Francine Roche and Mark Stillman, guided dancing, group singing and children's games. Tours of the historic homes of Jean Baptist Faribault and Henry Sibley will be available. Admission is free.

'Glensheen' kills it with wit.
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Sports



The Wright Call

By Dave Wright

Locals stand out in state tournaments

The spring high school sports season always closes with a rush of state tournaments taking place within a few days of each other. In addition to the state baseball playoffs noted elsewhere on these pages, local athletes were busy competing at state in track and field, golf and lacrosse with varying degrees of success.

The state track and field meet on June 7-8 at Hamline University's Klas Field was blessed with terrific weather that led to some impressive performances. Nova Classical Academy had the top local effort with a first-place finish in the 4x800 meter relay in the Class A boys' meet. Sophomore Theo Andre and juniors Noah Johnson, Tavin Zeise and Dare Akinmusire finished with a time of 8:03.05. Akinmusire also took third in the 800-meter race with a time of 1:56.23.

Minnehaha Academy senior Maxwell Gifford placed second in the 1,600-meter race in Class A. His time of 4:24.33 was nearly four seconds faster than his seeded time. Gifford also placed fifth in the 800-meter race with a time of 1:59.38. Fellow senior Isaac Reed made his first discus throw of 148-01 stand up for sixth place.

Junior Isaac Collins of Christ's Household of Faith took fifth in the Class A long jump with a leap of 20-11.50.

It was Highland Park's turn in the spotlight at the boys' Class AA meet. Sophomore Godsword Simon zipped to a 10.91 showing in the 100 meters to finish in third. Junior Oliver Paleen had a time of 4:19.49 in the 1,600 meters that was good for sixth place.

At the girls' Class A meet, Minnehaha got a fifth-place effort by junior Annika Johnson in the 400 (58.86 seconds) and seventh place in the pole vault by sophomore Linnea Askegaard. Her 10-6 leap was a foot higher than her seeded effort.

At the girls' Class AA meet, Henry Sibley sophomore Caroline Anderson tied for third place in the high jump with a 5-4 performance. Tireless Highland Park freshman Molly Moening was seventh in the 3,200 meters in 11:08.88 and eighth in the 1,600 in 5:09.21. Cretin-Derham Hall junior Sydney Jackson was ninth in the 400 meters in 58.61.

STA takes third in state golf meet

For years, Greg Vannelli and his brother Tom could be seen on the bench for St. Thomas Academy as co-coaches of the hockey team that made several state tournament runs. At Bunker Hills Golf Course on June 9-10, Greg came close to having his name etched as the coach of a state golf champion as his Cadets led the Class AAA team competition after the first day. STA ended up finishing with 602 strokes to take third behind Edina (595) and Waconia (597).

Senior Muzzy Donohue, a state Mr. Golf finalist, tied for the lowest score of the day by firing a first-round 70 and followed it up with a 77 to finish tied for seventh in the individual competition. Junior Andrew Boemer tied for 12th at 149 and senior Brady Arnett tied for 17th at 151.

Raiders, Cadets compete in state lacrosse

Although they both ended their season with losses, it was a glorious spring for the Cretin-Derham Hall girls' and St. Thomas Academy lacrosse teams.

The Raiders (9-7) advanced to the state tournament where they dropped the first-round game 20-4 against top-ranked Eden Prairie on June 11. That put them up against fifth-seeded Stillwater in the consolation bracket. CDH struck first and held the lead for several minutes, but then the Ponies went on a scoring streak to lead 10-3 at the half. The Raiders made it 10-5, but Stillwater went on another run to win 16-6.

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Baseball playoffs

Cadets advance to first state AAA title game

BY BILL WAGNER

St. Thomas Academy has earned a place where it's never been before—the title game of the Class AAA state baseball tournament. The third-seeded Cadets will face fifth-ranked Benilde-St. Margaret in the final at 4 p.m. Thursday, June 20, at Target Field.

STA, which is making its fifth state tournament appearance, defeated Little Falls 3-1 in the opening round and Austin 9-5 in the semifinals on June 13-14 to make it to the title game. First-year STA head coach Matt Kelly said at the outset of the season that he thought his team could accomplish much this spring, and was delighted with how things have transpired during the postseason.

"Our talent has always been there," Kelly said, "but it's more about the mindset of buying into the team philosophy. We're the kind of team that can do whatever it takes to win."

The Cadets (20-9) showed outstanding discipline at the plate against Austin as they amassed nine hits and drew six walks. Senior Joe Goulet had two hits for the Cadets and knocked in three runs. Fellow senior Carter Henry also had two hits and scored two runs.

STA broke out to a 6-0 lead early in the game. Austin whittled the STA lead to 6-5 after six innings, but the Cadets came right back in the seventh to make it 9-5 on senior Callan Happe's two-run triple.

Kelly saluted junior second baseman Judd Fenlon and Henry for their ability to get on base and use their speed. He also gave tribute to senior relief pitcher Vince Hubbell for his performance in the win, and named senior catcher



St. Thomas Academy's Michael Goblisch (5) scores as teammate Callan Happe (2) celebrates in a 3-1 win over Little Falls during the opening round of the state Class AAA baseball tournament on June 13. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Alex Casale as deserving of the team's "unsung hero" award.

Kelly said senior pitcher Duke Coborn, who struck out 11 in the win over Little Falls, would start against Benilde-St. Margaret's in the title game.

Kelly noted that the Red Knights (16-9) somewhat mirror his own club. "Their pitching is their strong suit," he said. "And offensively, they're also a lot like us. They have a lot of guys who can do a lot of things well."

Minnehaha returns to AA baseball final

BY BILL WAGNER

Minnehaha Academy could very well be facing its most challenging game of the season when it seeks its third Class AA state baseball title in the last four years at 1 p.m. Thursday, June 20, at Target Field.

The second-seeded Redhawks (20-4) will play top-ranked Duluth Marshall (25-1) for the title. Minnehaha earned its trip to the final by defeating La Crescent-Hokah 12-5 in the quarterfinals and St. Peter 9-1 in the second round.

The Redhawks, who are making their fifth straight state tourney appearance, will be taking on Duluth Marshall for the second time this season, having handed the Hilltoppers their only defeat in April.

Minnehaha has had its usually strong pitching and defensive games going this year, but it really didn't have any swag in its bats until the playoffs. In the first round, the Redhawks pounded out 16 hits, including five in the first inning, while jumping to a 4-0 lead. La Crescent-Hokah was only behind 6-5 going into the bottom of the third inning, but the rest of the game belonged to the

Redhawks. Junior Dylan Kiratli and senior Brock Brumley each had three hits to pace the victors.

Against St. Peter, more of Minnehaha's newfound offense asserted itself. Senior Noah Dehne had three hits and two RBI, including a two-run homer. Kiratli had another three-hit game while driving in two runs. Senior Bennett Theisen, a University of Minnesota commit, pitched 6⅓ innings to get the win for Minnehaha. He gave up just one run and struck out 11 in the process.

Redhawks coach Scott Glenn hadn't yet decided who would be his starting pitcher for Thursday's championship game, but figured he would either give the ball to Brumley or Theisen. Either way, he felt confident the team would be in good hands. "Both have had incredible high school careers," he said.

The starting pitcher for the Hilltoppers will be Ben Pedersen, the flame-thrower who is a Baltimore Orioles amateur draft selection. The last time these two teams played, the Redhawks scored only one run off Pedersen, but worked the counts so well that Duluth Marshall eventually had to pull him. Minnehaha then teed off on the Hilltopper relievers.

Glenn was happy that his team had shown such good offensive discipline against Pedersen, but added that he might want to see more aggressiveness against Pedersen this time. Regardless, he predicted a barnburner of a final between the two teams.

"Remember, the first time we played them, we weren't hitting at all," Glenn said. "(Pedersen) is a special player. He can throw three pitches, and we all know how tough his fastball is."

While emphasizing how important team offense was, Glenn said Dehne and Kiratli were worthy of special mention. Dehne is always a power-hitting threat when he comes to the plate, and Glenn said Kiratli had really stepped it up.

"I'd say he's been our best hitter in the state tournament," Glenn said. "A big part of that is confidence. He's just been killing the ball."

Glenn added that he couldn't really pinpoint any big reason for his team's vastly improved offense.

"We've been hitting better than we have all year," he said. "I wish I could point to what's causing it, but for whatever reason, our confidence level is through the roof."

Surging Spartans take silver in grueling state boys' tennis final

BY BILL WAGNER

St. Paul Academy finished a hard-fought second in the team competition of the state high school Class A boys' tennis tournament on June 4-5 at the Reed-Sweatt Tennis Center in Minneapolis.

The Spartans dominated Thief River Falls 6-1 and Rochester Lourdes 7-0 in the first two rounds and looked strong going into the finals against top 10-rated Mounds Park Academy. However, despite putting up a fierce fight in a grueling affair that could have gone either way, the Spartans fell to the Panthers 4-3.

Veteran SPA coach Viet Pham felt a little down about his team not winning state after advancing to the tournament for the fourth straight season and taking third place last year. Still, he was quick to add that there was

not much to complain about.

"I'm extremely proud of the boys at every position," Pham said. "We just came up a little short. The guys did everything they could."

The Spartans got off to a slow start this spring, but rode the crest of a late surge deep into the postseason. The first round at state against Thief River Falls proved to be a good tune-up, with juniors Nathan Sobotka and Max Soll, freshman Kai Sih and junior Brennan Keogh winning in singles, and junior Sameer Bijwadia/sophomore Liam Lynch and senior Riley Tietel/seventh-grader Maik Nguyen emerging victorious in doubles.

Optimism grew in the second-round sweep of Rochester Lourdes, setting the stage for what proved to be a barnburner against Mounds Park in the final. The Spartans knew they'd be facing a very deep team led by No. 1

singles player Parker Law, but they felt ready.

The finals boiled down to a duel at fourth singles between Keogh and Mounds Park's Vlad Vutov. The final score was 6-7 (7-5), 7-5, 6-4 for Vutov in a battle that took almost four hours to decide. Pham came away with nothing but admiration for Keogh despite the loss.

"It was a battle of attrition," Pham said. "Brennan was the player who was taking all the risks. If those two played 10 times, I guarantee that Brennan would win nine of them."

Another match that was key against Mounds Park was at first doubles, with Jerusalem Thao and Dillon Vue defeating SPA senior Jeffrey Huang and sophomore Luka Shaker-Check 6-3, 1-6, 7-6 (7-5). The Mounds Park duo trailed in the third set before rallying to win in a tiebreaker.

The only match that Mounds Park did not

have to grind out to win was at first singles, which found Law getting the best of Sobotka 6-2, 6-0.

In the individual state competitions that followed on June 6-7, Keogh/Huang won the doubles title, with Lynch/Shaker-Check taking third. Sobotka won the consolation title in individual singles.

The Spartans got their torrid streak going at just the right time before the postseason, entering state with seven straight wins and a 9-3 record in dual matches.

Pham, who had only two seniors on the roster, said there was good reason his team did so well this year. "That's what happens when you buy into the process like our kids did," he said. "They did everything we asked of them. That last loss was tough, but I can only keep thinking about how proud I am of all of them."

Dream ends early for young Visitation team in state softball tourney

BY BILL WAGNER

Visitation was hoping to continue its Cinderella postseason, but instead saw its glass slipper shatter in a 16-3 pounding by Mankato West in the opening round of the Class AAA state softball tournament on June 6 at Caswell Park in Mankato.

The young Blazers, who entered the tournament with an 11-14 record, had knocked off the top three seeds in sections to advance to state for the third time since 2015 under coach Dan Jameson. They knew it would be an uphill climb at state against top-ranked Mankato West, who came in sporting a 23-1

record. But, as it turned out, they could never get a foothold.

Vis had ace pitcher Izzy Griffin ready to go in the opening round, but the Scarlets quickly built an 8-0 lead. The sophomore hurler was hit hard and often, and the Blazers failed to bring their best defensive game.

"They just kept pounding us," said Jameson, who had no seniors on his roster this spring. "We were overmatched. It is what it is. That team is as solid as solid can be."

The Blazers went on to lose 8-0 to fifth-seeded Benilde St. Margaret's in the consolation round, ending their run. Mankato West, meanwhile, lost to second-seeded Northfield

8-3 in the championship game.

"That surprised me," Jameson said.

On a positive note, he said his junior- and sophomore-laden squad should be able to use the experience at state to its advantage next year. Jameson singled out junior catcher Jenna Hoops not only for her solid offensive game against Mankato West, but for a generally stellar season. He said Hoops would be a strong candidate for all-state honors this season.

The team's under-.500 record heading into state could be attributed largely to the fact that the Blazers played such a challenging schedule. Jameson noted that six opponents his team faced either in scrimmages or in confer-

ence games made it to state this spring in one class or another.

"I've always believed that when you play good teams, you get better," he said.

The Blazers carved out quite a sectional en route to making state. Going in as the seventh seed, Vis defeated second-seeded Highland Park, third-seeded South St. Paul and top-seeded Holy Angels to advance to the section championship round.

There the Blazers would have had to lose twice to be denied a state berth. They lost to Holy Angels 14-4 in the first game of the title round, but then were able to fend off the Stars in the second game to win 6-2.

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In boys' lacrosse, the Cadets (15-4) trailed Mahtomedi 8-6 after three quarters in the opening round before erupting for five unanswered goals, including senior Luke Williams' sixth and seventh of the game, for an 11-8 win.

In the semifinals, top-ranked Benilde-St. Margaret's overwhelmed STA 10-3. Then in the third-place game, the Cadets trailed 4-0 to Eden Prairie at halftime. Sophomore Baker Reding scored four second-half tallies, but the Eagles matched him to claim an 8-6 decision.

Blues' win offers hope for Wild

Good teams learn from their mistakes, and from what other teams do well. So it is that Minnesota Wild fans should take heart from the recent Stanley Cup Playoffs. The St. Louis Blues rose from having the worst record in

the National Hockey League on January 3 to the top of the mountain five months later by winning three road games in the championship round en route to hoisting the Stanley Cup last week.

Once in the playoffs, the Blues won it the old-fashioned way: They got outstanding goaltending from rookie Jordan Binnington and didn't let past mishaps deter them one iota.

Hockey is a game of momentum. When one team has it, it needs to push the pedal to the metal. However, it's also a game of patience and learning from past mistakes.

St. Louis was far from perfect in the final series. The Blues lost a pair of games at home by lopsided scores of 7-2 and 5-1. In both games, St. Louis got into trouble by falling behind early and, later, putting Boston on the power play. When it came to Game 7, the Blues did neither. Thanks to Binnington, they weathered the expected Boston storm out of the gate and took advantage of opportunities when the situations

presented themselves to grab a 2-0 first-period lead.

From there, they behaved themselves, taking no penalties in the final two periods to give the Bruins an opportunity to run their potent power play.

It's a lesson a wise old owl like Wild coach Bruce Boudreau already knew. Now the folks who will be shelling out money for tickets this fall hope the players got the message as well.

This was no "Miracle on Ice." This was a smart organization changing the course of the season midstream, finding something that worked and sticking to the plan no matter how many mini-pitfalls occurred. It also was a team that stayed healthy—something that should never be discounted.

In due time, we'll see if the guys who play at the X were paying attention the past two months or simply enjoying themselves on the golf course.

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

Molly Maher is a guitar stringer, song slinger and acoustic guru at Willie's in St. Paul. From Work Day to Gig Night, she always looks great in her Spectacle Shoppe glasses. Keep an eye on her at mollymaher.com



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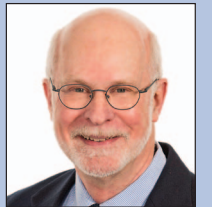
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508 MONTCALM PLACE

Lovely 3BR, 3BA 2-story on one of Highlands most desirable blocks. Nicely updated kitchen & baths. Private master BA. 2 fireplaces. Main floor family room walks out to deck. HW floors, new furnace and freshly painted. **HURRY!**

TJ PIERRET
651-755-6669 • \$525,000



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OWN FOR LESS THAN RENTING!

Situated only minutes from both downtown Minneapolis and Saint Paul, this 2BR, 2BA condo has so much to offer! Featuring newer mechanicals, in-unit laundry, a private deck and wood burning fireplace. Located in the highly desired Roseville School District.

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952-486-3697 • \$155,000



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Home to only it's 3rd owner, this 2BR, 1 BA home is a delight! Situated in desirable Highland Park, this home features original hardwood floors, updated bath, large flat backyard and new roof/windows/siding! Bring your finishing ideas for the bsmt to build instant equity.

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NEED MORE SPACE???

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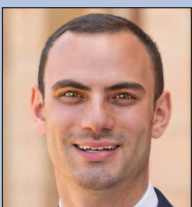
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EXPECT TO BE ENVIED!!!

743 Goodrich Ave: Stunning 5 bedroom brick home designed by Clarence Johnston featuring a spectacular kitchen, entertainment sized living and dining rooms, cozy main floor den, and an amazing 3rd floor game room.

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PREMIER HIGHLAND LIST!

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5BR, 4BA late mid-century gem with all originality intact and in absolutely mint condition! Numerous improvements include inground pool, 3 car gar, windows and more! Majestic bluff views and conveniently located to everything! Rare opportunity! Call Lolly for details.

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CLARENCE JOHNSTON MANSION!

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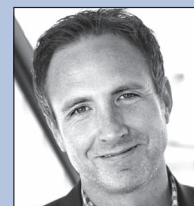
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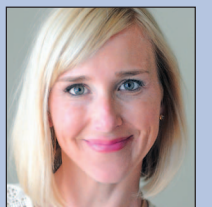
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