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Conservatory of Music to move to St. Paul's Church

It's part of larger plan for a performing arts center

By JANE McCLURE

The St. Paul Planning Commission approved a conditional use permit on March 9 that will allow the St. Paul Conservatory of Music to move this spring into the education building at the former St. Paul's on the Hill Episcopal Church, 1524 Summit Ave.

The conservatory must vacate its space in the Exchange Building in downtown St. Paul by the end of March. St. Paul developer John Rupp recently sold that building and purchased the church property. Moving the school to Summit Avenue is the first phase of his long-term plan to convert the church into a performing arts center.

The conservatory will use the two-story, 11,000-square foot education building, which includes offices, a library and a fellowship hall. It will conduct small group lessons and host small concerts there as well as in the church.

St. Paul's also will be used by Cities Church, whose congregation worshipped at Minnehaha Academy before a gas explosion extensively damaged its Upper School campus last summer. Cities Church is currently leasing space at Concordia University-St. Paul.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH ►2



The engineers of tomorrow.

Eleanor LaSalle, 10 (right), trims the nose cone of her air-powered vehicle prior to racing it (above) during Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day at St. Thomas Academy on March 10. STA instructor Caroline Little (above right) conducted the event for the youngsters from the Girl Scout Troop based at Randolph Heights Elementary School. PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER



Police unveil new approach to using force in arresting possible suspects

By KEVIN DRISCOLL

The St. Paul Police Department has unveiled a new use-of-force policy that includes "essential reforms" in confrontations with the public to better distinguish between simple noncompliance and actual aggression and to de-escalate the situation whenever possible.

"This is a whole new approach to policing," said St. Paul Police Chief Todd Axtell at one of several recent meetings to gauge the public's response to the proposed policy. The new use-of-force policy is spelled out in a 35-page document, which is about one-eighth the length of the former policy. It is part of the Police Department's new efforts to promote transparency, Axtell added, written "with clear and concise language that reverses the approach taken before."

The Police Department's former use-of-force policy directed "officers to act individually as quickly as possible to ensure the safety of self, suspect and others by repeated loud commands," said Sergeant Troy Green, who trains officers in the use of force. "The new approach is a team approach. It's to call for backup officers, use de-escalation techniques and reduce the level of force whenever possible."

POLICE USE OF FORCE ►3

St. Paul businesses are wary of a hike in minimum wage

Some question whether it is the best approach to reducing poverty in city

By JANE McCLURE

Dozens of St. Paul business leaders attended a St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon on February 27 to discuss the potential impact of a proposed citywide increase in the minimum wage to \$15 an hour. The Chamber has not taken a position on the wage increase, which St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter has made a priority in his first year in office.

St. Paul businesses are currently subject to the statewide minimum wage, which is \$9.65 an hour for large employers and \$7.87 an hour for small employers. The lower minimum wage also applies to all workers under the age of 18 and workers under the age of 20 who are in a 90-day training period.

Some business owners questioned if simply increasing the minimum wage would truly pull people out of poverty. One speaker called for a more comprehensive approach to helping people who are living in poverty. By some estimates, as many as 40 percent of St. Paul residents are now living below the poverty line.

Other speakers pointed out that raising St. Paul's minimum wage could create a competi-

tive disadvantage for businesses near municipalities that are governed by the lower statewide minimum wage.

Business owners already take many risks, another speaker said, and they may not be able to afford a minimum wage increase. Another complained of the many governmental mandates with which businesses already have to comply, including a recent citywide requirement to provide earned sick and safe time to all their employees.

From the comments, it became clear that the impact of a minimum wage increase would vary by the types of business. Small businesses may be forced to lay off employees or reduce their hours. Businesses that are part of a national or regional franchise may not

be able to raise their prices to cover a wage increase. Employers may be dissuaded from hiring workers who are inexperienced or have backgrounds that can leave some doubt as to their employability.

Leading the discussion at the Chamber luncheon was a panel that included Allen Bellas, a professor and economist at Metropolitan State University; Steven Hine, director of labor market information for the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development; and Pahoua Yang Hoffman, executive director of the Citizens League.

The Citizens League recently completed a study on the minimum wage increase for the

MINIMUM WAGE ►2

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Made to order ►17

TRACKING THE PLANS FOR RIVERVIEW

St. Paul City Council joins the growing chorus for a modern streetcar line on West Seventh Street ►2

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City Council supports \$2 billion plan for Riverview streetcar line

By JANE MCCLURE

A \$2 billion streetcar line connecting downtown St. Paul's Union Depot to Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and Bloomington's Mall of America won the near-unanimous support of the St. Paul City Council on March 7 as the preferred alternative for improved transit in the Riverview Corridor.

Several dozen people turned out for the public hearing that preceded the City Council's 6-0 vote (council member Dan Bostrom was absent). However, the public comments made it clear just how controversial the proposed streetcar line is.

The "modern" streetcars would run on tracks in mixed traffic. They would follow West Seventh Street between downtown and the western city limits, cross the Mississippi River on the existing Highway 5 bridge or a new bridge adjacent to it, and connect to the light-rail Green Line near Fort Snelling. The hope of local officials is that the federal government will pick up half of the construction costs with the rest coming from the state and local governments.

The streetcar line already has the support of the city of Bloomington and the Metropolitan Airports Commission. That leaves just Ramsey and Hennepin counties still to recommend a locally preferred alternative to the Metropolitan Council.

Ward 2 City Council member Rebecca Noecker said it is her hope that streetcars would not only bring improved transit to the area, but much-needed improvements in pedestrian safety.

"This is the best alternative for the neighborhoods, for the city and for the region," said Ward 3 City Council member Christ Tolbert.

Ward 7 City Council member Jane Prince said that while she supports the route and the

choice of streetcars, she is concerned about a loss of on-street parking, sidewalk space and driveway access—issues that have been raised by businesses and neighborhood groups along West Seventh. Project planners will need to work closely with affected businesses and local residents, Prince said.

St. Paul city planner Anton Jerve pointed out that the choice of a preferred route and mode of transit "is not the end of the technical analysis. It merely sets the stage for several more years of detailed studies."

What alarmed opponents of the project was Jerve's comment that only 20 percent of the streetcar line might run in mixed traffic—the stretch northeast of Randolph Avenue. The rest of the tracks could be laid in a dedicated right-of-way.

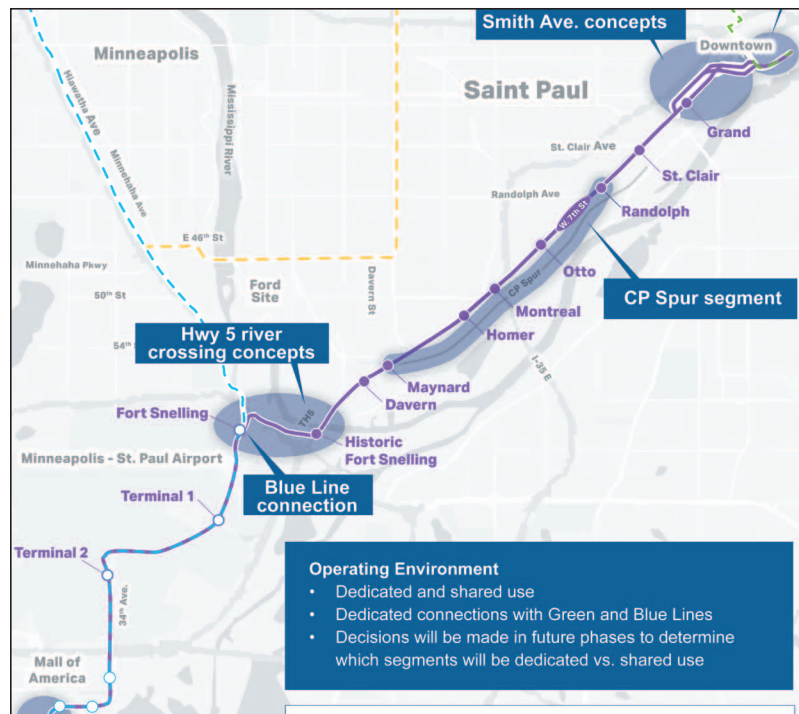
"Eighty percent in dedicated right-of-way? That's a problem," said West End resident Diane Gerth. With that design, businesses would lose more on-street parking and access to parking lots and alleys, she and others said.

Ashley Nichols, who owns Jandrich Floral on West Seventh, said her business has no off-street parking and she has had to fight to keep a 15-minute parking limit on the street in front of her shop. "You'll put me out of business if you approve this," she said.

"We won't have enough room (with the addition of a streetcar line)," said Sue Hustings, owner of Highland Nursery on West Seventh. "You can't put a square peg in a round hole."

Construction of the new streetcar would not begin until 2024 at the earliest. However, the impact of several years of construction with traffic detours and street and sidewalk closings concerns many businesses.

The West Seventh/Fort Road Federation would prefer a new bus rapid transit line over streetcars, according to its president, Becky Yust, both for the lower cost and how it would fit on West Seventh.



The streetcar line that has been proposed for the Riverview Corridor would run on tracks in mixed traffic and in its own right-of-way between downtown St. Paul and a connection with the light-rail Blue Line near Ford Snelling.

The West End Business Association also prefers bus rapid transit, according to its president, Kent Petterson. "We want improved transit now," not 10 years from now, Petterson said. "East Seventh Street is getting improvements while our street must wait."

Joan Pasuik of Macalester-Groveland said a new bus rapid transit line could provide a needed connection between West Seventh and East Seventh, spurring development on both sides of downtown. A fixed-rail streetcar would also raise havoc with a planned bikeway along West Seventh, Pasuik added. "Fixed rail and bicycles don't play together," she said.

The proposed streetcar line had strong support at the hearing from several quarters, including the St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce, Visit St. Paul, the Minnesota Wild, Transit for Livable Communities/St. Paul Smart Trips and the Highland District Council (HDC).

Lisa Moe, the CEO of Stuart Companies, which owns and manages more than 800 market-rate, affordable and senior apart-

ments along West Seventh, said her company views the proposed streetcar line as a great benefit for its 1,200-plus tenants. However, her company would like to see a transit stop added at Madison Street.

Transit improvements are needed along the Riverview Corridor, according to Amanda Willis, who lives near West Seventh. Willis rides the Route 54 bus to work every day and "it's always packed," she said.

Visit St. Paul president and CEO Terry Mattson and Bill Huepenbecker of the Minnesota Wild and Xcel Energy Center said that having a fixed-rail streetcar line serving downtown would be a strong selling point in attracting more events to the Xcel and RiverCentre complex.

HDC president Kevin Gallatin spoke in support of the streetcar line as well as the studies that have been recommended for improving transit service to Highland Village in the short and long term. "The need for improved transit service in Highland is immediate," Gallatin said.

1◀ ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

Rupp's plans for the performing arts center will have to return to City Hall. He has explored seeking a historic use variance for the church, which has long been known for its outstanding acoustics. He is also determining what approvals are needed from the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission.

The 104-year-old church is located in the Summit Avenue West Historic District. It was designed by Emmanuel Masqueray, who also designed the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis and the Cathedral of St. Paul.

The conditional use permit for the use of the church's education building was supported by the Macalester-Groveland Community Council's Housing and Land Use Committee on February 28 and by the Planning Commission's Zoning Committee on March 1. However, it was opposed by the Summit Avenue Residential Preservation Association

(SARPA).

Four SARPA board members objected to the permit on March 1. They said some neighbors on Summit were not adequately notified of the permit request. They also feared that Rupp's plans for a performing arts center would bring a large-scale commercial use to the avenue.

"We believe that the grander vision for the building's reuse has not been well thought out," said SARPA board president Carolyn Will.

"We have 'residential' in our name because that's what we're all about," said board member Thomas Darling. He said the conditional use permit for the music school is "simply a foot in the door" for the larger performing arts center, which he described as a "real threat."

Other board members said they would like to see an entire plan considered for the property, not just the music school. Rupp and his supporters said the long-term vision for reus-

ing the church is still being developed.

Zoning Committee members said that while they appreciated the issues raised by neighbors, the performing arts center was not what was before them.

St. Paul's Church has 12 off-street parking spaces, which were considered adequate for the conditional use permit. Consultant Harry Chalmers said he and Rupp are now in discussions with Macalester College to see if college parking lots can be shared.

The Conservatory of Music has about 250 students ranging in age from infants to octogenarians. It also serves about 300 students in the St. Paul Public Schools through an outreach program. The school's busiest times are 3:30-8:30 p.m. on weekdays.

"We're a school that I wish everybody knew about," said Laura Nortwen, the conservatory's administrative director. She said the conservatory is happy to be returning to the area where it got its start.

The school first opened on Grand Avenue almost a century ago. It was part of the University of St. Thomas until 2001. The school then moved downtown to share space with the now defunct McNally Smith College of Music and later to the Exchange Building.

St. Paul's Church dates from 1857 and had its first home in Lowertown, where CHS Field stands today. Its relocation to Summit Avenue involved dismantling the old building and reusing its limestone, steeple, pews, altar and stained-glass windows. The first service at St. Paul's on the Hill was held in 1913. The education building was constructed in the 1940s.

An aging and dwindling congregation forced the church to close in 2015. A Spanish-speaking Episcopal congregation that was also using the church relocated to First Lutheran Church on St. Paul's East Side.

St. Paul's Church has sat vacant while the Episcopal Church in Minnesota worked with a real estate agent to sell the property.



A tip was left on the bar following lunch at Sweeney's Saloon.

PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

1◀ MINIMUM WAGE

St. Paul City Council and Mayor Melvin Carter. The City Council has expressed support for a citywide increase in the minimum wage, but has not indicated the size or breadth of that increase. The city of Minneapolis raised its minimum wage to \$15 per hour last year, though the increase is being phased in over seven years.

The Citizens League report indicated that per capita, St. Paul has more people living in poverty than any municipality in Minnesota. Hoffman joined Bellas and Hine in calling for further study of the impact of a minimum wage increase in

the city.

"It isn't just high school kids flipping burgers who are earning the minimum wage," Hine said. "We see older workers struggling more than we have in the past."

According to Hine, two parents would each need to earn more than \$16 per hour to cover the basic needs of an average family without additional government assistance. A single working parent would need to earn more than \$29 per hour to support the average family, he said.

Among the potential impacts of a minimum wage increase, Hine said, is that the lowest-skilled, hardest-to-employ workers would find it more difficult to find or retain a job.

Bellas warned of the impact of a large wage increase on other governmental programs for the poor, including Medicaid and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families. According to him, a wage increase could hurt families more than help them by raising their incomes above the qualification level for governmental support in housing, health care and nutrition. The loss of benefits may not happen all at once, Bellas said, but the impact could be dramatic.

The Chamber forum was videotaped and will be shown on St. Paul Neighborhood Network's cable television channel. For information on show times, visit spnn.org.

1 ◀ POLICE USE OF FORCE

"Officers should enter a situation with the expectation of de-escalating the tensions," said fellow trainer Sergeant Sean Zehar.

The new policy comes on the heels of Melvin Carter's inauguration as mayor of St. Paul. During his campaign for office, Carter proposed a "community-first police reform initiative" to increase accountability and trust in the police, implement innovative community policing strategies, and increase the investment in crime prevention.

"Since taking office, I've met with Chief Axtell to review the department's use-of-force policies and I know that many of our proposals align," Carter said. "This is a strong step in the right direction to strengthen community trust, and I appreciate the entire department's responsive leadership to community concerns."

Those concerns were apparent during the question-and-answer session at the public meeting. One African-American man said he "didn't feel safe with police around. I'm often disrespected as a law-abiding, taxpaying citizen." A white woman said she has been afraid to call "911" because of the bias she sees in the police. "What good is the new policy if it doesn't address bias?" she asked.

Bias is addressed throughout the Police Department's policy manual and in the Police Academy, St. Paul police said. "In our recruiting of new officers, character has become a major watchword," Sergeant Green said. "We want to know our officers are going to be able to react without bias or prejudice."

To adopt the guidelines to using force laid out in the new Response to Resistance or Aggression policy, the police officer must be able to make a quick assessment of the situation, including the severity of the crime at

issue, whether the person poses an immediate threat to the officer or others, whether the person is actively resisting arrest or trying to avoid arrest by flight, and how the person's age, size and strength compare to the officer's.

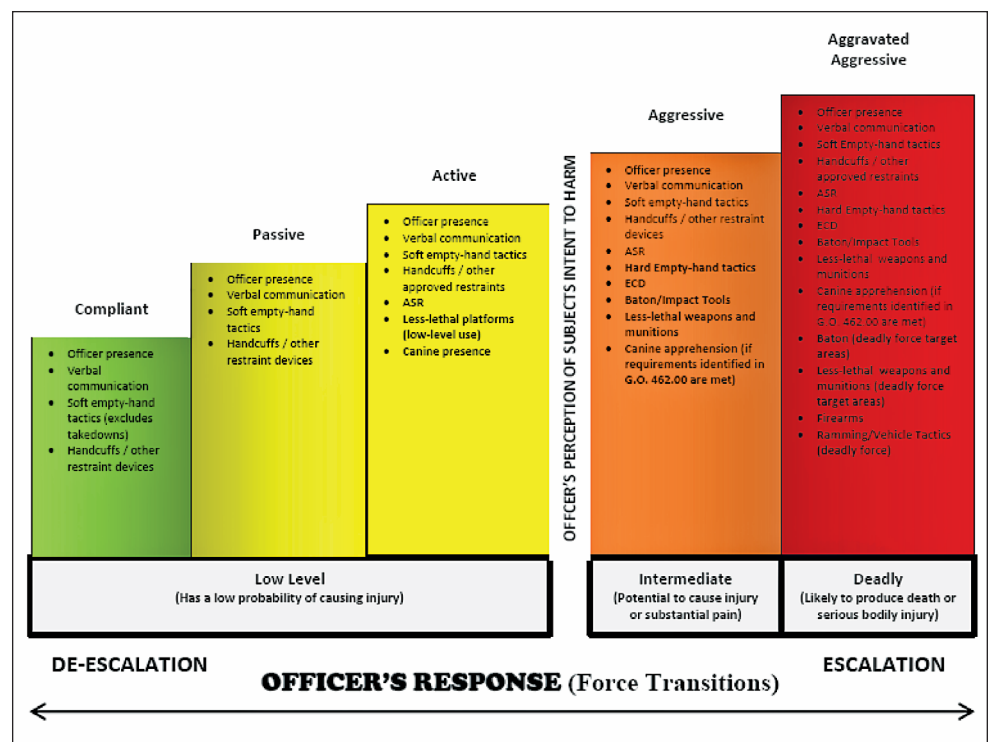
The new policy calls on the officer to determine if drugs or alcohol or the mental capacity of the subject is having any influence on the situation. The officer must consider the amount of time available to make a decision, whether the subject has access to any weapons, whether other officers or resources are available to help de-escalate the situation.

The new policy defines five levels of resistance to the police. When a person contacted by an officer is "compliant" and acknowledges direction or orders, or "passive" and not complying with an officer's commands but taking only minimal action to prevent arrest, the new policy directs the officer to use normal-volume verbal communication, soft "empty-hand" tactics (excluding takedowns) and handcuffs or other restraint devices.

In the case of more active resistance, such as "verbal or physical actions (that) are intended to prevent an officer from placing the person in custody and rendering the situation safe but are not directed at harming the officer," an officer may use mace or a K-9 unit.

In the case of "aggressive" resistance where the subject displays the intent to harm the officer, themselves or another person or attempts to prevent an arrest by "taking a fighting stance, punching, kicking, striking, attacking with weapons or other actions," the officer may use "hard empty-hand tactics, a stun gun, a baton or other impact tool and K-9 apprehension."

With "aggravated aggressive" resistance, in which a person's actions include a firearm, the use of a blunt or bladed weapon or extreme physical force and are likely to result in death



or serious bodily harm to the officer, the person or another, the officer may use "firearms or ramming and other vehicle tactics" that are considered to be deadly force.

Twin Cities-based Communities United Against Police Brutality (CUAPB) presented a detailed analysis of the new use-of-force policy at the public meeting. The group stated that although there are "many good things" in the policy, the language is not strong or specific enough. In several cases, the phrase "an officer should" ought to be changed to "an officer must," CUAPB stated. The policy leaves too much to the discretion of the officer when it comes to determining the proper use of force, the group explained.

The St. Paul Police are planning to publish

an updated use-of-force policy in early March that incorporates some of CUAPB's suggestions, according to Senior Commander Rob Thomasser, who heads up the department's Internal Affairs Division. Those changes will also be incorporated in the spring training that every Police Department employee attends, Thomasser said.

"The police will continue to take community feedback on this policy, and there is no deadline to submit comments," he said. The department, he added, has published an interactive policy manual on its website that allows the public to comment on the use of force and every other policy of the police department.

For information and to comment on the policy, visit stpaul.gov/departments/police.

Snelling-St. Clair site eyed for new one-story commercial building

By JANE MCCLURE

The Macalester-Groveland Community Council's Housing and Land Use Committee on February 28 reviewed preliminary plans for a new one-story retail building on the current site of Lund & Lange Florist, Seoul Salon and St. Paul Frame-Ups at 270-276 S. Snelling Ave.

Developers Paul Tucci and the 272 S. Snelling Partnership would like to break ground on a new 8,000-square-foot building in May. No zoning changes or variances are sought.

Tucci also worked with Oppidan Investment Company on the development of the one-story building at Snelling and Stanford

avenues that houses Mac's Fish Chips Strips, St. Croix Cleaners and RahMn.

One or more restaurants could be part of the proposed development, Tucci said. The building would have a brick exterior and may be set back a few feet from the Snelling sidewalk. It would have 30-36 off-street parking spaces off the alley and possibly a small patio.

Dave Pasiuk of the Macalester-Groveland Land Use Committee said he was concerned about pedestrian safety, with motorists entering and exiting the parking lot via a driveway off of Snelling Avenue. He asked that signs warning motorists about pedestrians be added. Tucci said that can be done. Tucci said it is also possible that motorists exiting the drive-

way could be restricted to right turns only.

The site of the new development was rezoned last year from business to mixed-use traditional neighborhoods use as part of a larger Snelling Avenue zoning study.

Last June the City Council rejected a request by Florida-based LeCesse Development Corporation to rezone 246-286 S. Snelling Ave. to allow for the construction of a six-story apartment building with some retail on the first floor. LeCesse's plans were shelved following the City Council vote and in the face of a legal fight over the vacant lot at the southeast corner of Snelling and St. Clair avenues.

The legal dispute, which reached the Minnesota Court of Appeals, involved a lease that

nearby Cinema Ballroom holds for the corner parking lot. Turk Trust, which purchased the property for LeCesse, wished to terminate that lease. Cinema Ballroom contested the termination, but the court ruled last month that the lease could be terminated.

Meanwhile, the owners of the properties and businesses at 246-286 S. Snelling Ave. were left in a holding pattern. Some were hoping to sell to LeCesse and retire. Sweeney Cleaners and Rosemark Bakery have closed. Craig Hamm, who owns Lund & Lange and the property at 270-276 S. Snelling Ave., continues to operate his flower shop. "I haven't really decided anything and am waiting to see how this plays out," he said.

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Allianz Field scores large sign variances

By JANE MCCLURE

The St. Paul Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) approved more than 6,000 square feet in variances on February 26 for temporary and permanent signs at Minnesota United FC's new Allianz Field now under construction at Snelling Avenue and I-94.

A variance of 4,680 square feet was approved for temporary signs on fences around the site. The city allows 250 feet of temporary signs, but 4,167 square feet of such signs were installed without a permit last year to promote the team and the stadium contractors. An additional 763 square feet of temporary signs were also requested. The signs were approved on the condition that they come down once the stadium is completed next year.

The BZA also granted a variance of 1,410.5 square feet to allow 3,187 square feet of permanent signs on the 17-acre stadium property. The signs will be on the stadium's lower levels as well as on pylons and in the plaza planned at Snelling and St. Anthony avenues.

One concern the BZA had about so much permanent signage is whether it would affect longer-term development



A view of the bleachers going up at the new Allianz Field soccer stadium that is under construction in the Midway. PHOTO BY LOU MICHAELS

of the site. While parking lots will be paved west of the stadium initially, plans call for those areas to be eventually developed with buildings. As a result, there is a possibility that the stadium may have to lose signs already installed so the additional buildings could have signs.

Though the BZA vote on February 26 was final, it likely will not be the last one on the Major League Soccer stadium's signs. The St. Paul Planning Commission is expected to be asked this spring to amend the city's regulations to allow almost a dozen sports sponsorship signs at the entry gates of the stadium. The Union Park District Council's Land Use Committee discussed that pending request last month.

Sports sponsorship signs are permitted as accessory uses for such things as advertising businesses on outfield fences

at ballparks. However, the signs cannot be illuminated.

The city also has discussed the possibility of allowing dynamic signs at the stadium, said city zoning administrator Yaya Diatta. St. Paul adopted a package of stringent regulations in 2012 regarding those electronic signs, which can change messages and display pictures. The city allows companies to install dynamic signs on existing billboards along freeways, including I-94, in exchange for reducing other billboards in the city.

Diatta said the city has not ruled out having to change the sign regulations to allow the dynamic signs. However, the stadium site is not far from apartments and homes and one city regulation is that dynamic displays must not be in the visual field of a residential or traditional neighborhoods zoning district.

Sustain chair fined for stolen 'Stop Ford' signs

By JANE MCCLURE

Acrimony between two groups involved in the debate over the redevelopment of Ford Motor Company's former assembly plant in Highland Park has led to a Ramsey County Conciliation Court ruling over missing signs. The court ordered \$190 be paid to the owner of the signs, but that is unlikely to end the conflict between Sustain Ward Three and Neighbors for a Livable St. Paul over the housing density proposed for the site.

Ford is looking to sell the 144-acre property to a master developer and had set a deadline of February 23 to submit bids. It has not announced how many bids it received. The review process is expected to take weeks, if not months.

Sustain Ward Three and Neighbors for a Livable St. Paul have sparred over plans for the Ford site for several months. Sustain Ward Three supported a city-approved plan that could accommodate up to 7,000 new residents on the site, while Neighbors for a Livable St. Paul has called for reduced density.

Neighbors member Jim Ginther filed a case in small claims court last December against Sustain chairman and Highland District Council member Brandon

Long. The case was heard in late January by Conciliation Court referee Penny McFadden, who issued her ruling last month. By early March, Long had paid the \$190 settlement.

Ginther, whose home on Colby Street backs up to the Ford property, was awarded \$110 for the 11 missing "Stop the Ford Plan: Rethink the Development" signs he had purchased for himself and several neighbors as well as \$80 for filing fees and other costs. Ginther said he was satisfied with the settlement.

"I wanted to put the spotlight on Sustain Ward Three and the Highland District Council (HDC)," Ginther said. The HDC last year supported the higher-density Ford master plan that ultimately won city approval.

Long denies taking the signs. "Unfortunately my neighbors have chosen to use the court system to seek restitution for yard signs placed in the city right-of-way because they disagree with my position on the Ford zoning," he said. "I hope we can all move forward and be good neighbors."

Ginther was not the only one to have his signs stolen during the months of debate over Ford site planning. Neighbors member Pat McGuire said about 80 of

the group's 800 signs were taken.

Long, who lives on South Cleveland Avenue not far from Ginther, contends he has been targeted by the Neighbors group. He said the court case was an attempt to intimidate and humiliate him. "I feel like they're trying to make an example of me," he said.

Ginther said some of the signs were stolen in late October and others were taken on November 27. In the latter incident, he said he went for a walk before 3 p.m. and returned by 4 p.m. to find the signs, which were attached several feet up in trees, had been removed.

What sparked the dispute between the two men was a Twitter post by Long that went up shortly after the signs were stolen. It stated: "Wonder who had the time today to bring a step ladder out and rip down Livable signs illegally stapled high up on trees in the public right-of-way?"

Long told McFadden he did not take down the signs and said he posted the tweet because it was "impossible" to not notice the signs were missing.

A witness testified to McFadden that Long looked like the person he had seen taking down the signs. Long said he is a "pretty average-looking young male" and that someone else removed the signs.

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Not bluffing

Moose Country, strip mall to close by end of April to make way for housing development

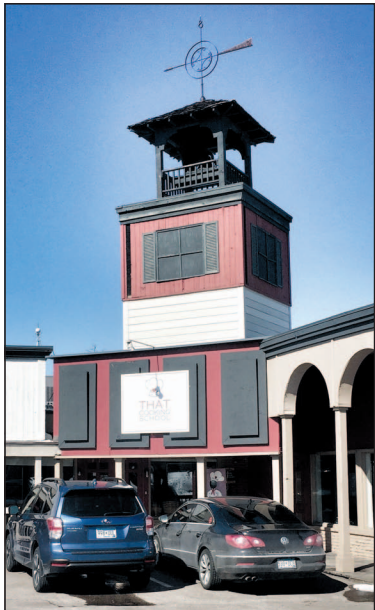
By KEVIN DRISCOLL

Tim Nichols likes what he sees when he looks out from River Bluffs Center, a strip of quaint shops nestled on a ridge that stretches along Sibley Memorial Highway near I-35E in Lilydale.

"It's a unique site, one of the last of its caliber, with unobstructed, spectacular views of the Mississippi River," said Nichols, a principal at Lifestyle Communities LLC, a Bloomington-based multifamily and senior housing development and marketing firm.

The 5.66-acre site is being sold to Lifestyle by Joe and Linda Schaefer, who own the mall as well as Moose Country Whiskey & Food that anchors its west end. The Schaefers, who have said they plan to retire, have owned the restaurant since 1984 (it was originally called Pony's American Bar) and bought the former Diamond Jim's Mall in 2004. The Schaefers were also partners in the Wild Onion bar and restaurant on Grand Avenue, but sold their shares in that business in early 2017.

Lilydale city clerk Mary Schultz confirmed the impending sale of River Bluffs Center and said city staff have spoken with Lifestyle about its plans for the property, "but they haven't presented us with any-



A bell tower sits atop That Cooking School at River Bluffs Center.

thing formal."

Nichols said the closing of the sale is expected around May 1. "We won't be announcing anything specific right now," he said. "We're moving fast on pre-development planning and should be rolling out our plans in mid-summer."

The initial plans call for a four-story housing complex, including a mix of apartments and townhomes, "for people who want to stay in the



Joe and Linda Schaefer are selling Moose Country Whiskey & Food and the River Bluffs Center to Lifestyle Communities. The closing is contingent on all of the current tenants vacating the site by May 1.

neighborhood," Nichols said. "We want to find a niche with a good price point in the type of multifamily housing that's already in the area."

He said it is a tricky site because of its location. "We have to be careful to include Department of Natural Resources-mandated setbacks from Highway 13, the bluffs on the other side of the property and the heights of buildings," he said.

The closing is contingent on all 16 of the current tenants vacating the 56-year-old strip mall by May 1. "I just wanted a clean sale and to not have to deal with that side of it," Nichols said. "There won't be any retail in the new development."

Moose Country will close on April 30. The Schaefers are inviting longtime regulars to a farewell party on April 19-22.

Some of the businesses in the mall have already moved. Bill

Miller, manager of Sunfish Cellars Wine Shop, said his company purchased the Buon Giorno and I Nonni Italian eateries at 981 Sibley Memorial Hwy. on the other side of I-35E from River Bluffs Center. "We're now located inside Buon Giorno," he said.

Other businesses have set plans. Dive Guys owner Matt Wilkie said he will maintain operations in the Twin Cities by renting warehouse space in Chaska. "We'll also be opening a shop in Merrifield, Minnesota, to service our clients in the Brainerd Lakes Area," said Wilkie, who is a Highland Park native.

Dive Guys clears weeds along lakeshore properties and in water features at golf courses and multifamily residential buildings. It also has a side business selling golf balls that it retrieves from ponds.

Other businesses in the River

Bluffs Center are still trying to find new homes.

"We have no plans yet, but we're looking," said Ken Reed, who owns the Joke Joint Comedy Club with his wife and a friend. "We want to be closer to St. Paul than Minneapolis, so we're looking at downtown St. Paul, Inver Grove Heights, Mendota Heights, West St. Paul and Eagan."

Reed said he needs 5,000 square feet of space, preferably one belonging to a former restaurant. The Joke Joint location at River Bluffs was originally Diamond Jim's, a popular nightclub that operated from the early 1960s to the late 1970s.

Other businesses are taking a wait-and-see attitude. "We'll be moving, but not until the day before closing," said Perfect Ash manager Roger Bell. "We're waiting to see if the sale goes through. We've been through this before."

Proposed disc golf course expansion discussed by HDC

By JANE MCCLURE

The Highland District Council (HDC) Community Development Committee will discuss the proposed expansion of the nine-hole disc golf course in Highland Park at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 20, at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy.

According to St. Paul City Council member Chris Tolbert and Clare Cloyd of the city's Parks and Recreation Department, the expansion from nine to 18 holes is still just a proposal, but residents who live near the disc golf course are skeptical.

More than three dozen neighbors met on March 1 with Tolbert. They noted that a large oak tree near the disc golf course had been cut down by city staff earlier that day.

The Parks and Rec Department did not send a representative to the meeting. However, Cloyd said afterward that the oak tree

had been in decline and had to be removed for safety reasons.

"One oak tree was removed (on March 1) by our forestry staff due to its compromised condition," she said. According to her, the cutting had nothing to do with the disc golf course. In fact, later this month city crews will remove 27 ash trees in the park that are also in decline or infested by the emerald ash borer, Cloyd said. About 40 trees will be planted in their place this spring.

The Highland Park neighbors were also upset about the publicity that a disc golf tournament in May at the supposedly newly redesigned disc golf course in Highland Park has received. Promoting the event was Airborn Golf, a Highland Park-based business owned by Cale Leiviska, who helped the city design the proposed 18-hole course.

According to Cloyd, the city has asked that promotion of the May disc golf tournament be stopped unless it is approved by the city.

"People do this from time to time," Cloyd said. "When we're made aware of an event or idea that has not gone through the proper permit process, we request that it not be promoted further until approved."

Tolbert told the neighbors that no decisions have been made about the disc golf course's expansion. The Highland District Council and the city's Parks and Recreation Commission would need to review the plan first. The final decision is in the hands of the City Council.

Tolbert said that while he is listening to the neighbors' concerns, he has heard from many people who would like to see the disc golf course in Highland Park redone. According to him, the city's intent is to make the area around the disc golf course more suited to active recreation.

According to Cloyd, some new ideas for the disc golf course might be tested temporarily before any permanent changes are made. Any

testing would be followed by more discussions with local residents and park users, she said.

Parks and Recreation conducted a survey last year asking people about improving the disc golf course. The neighbors on March 1 said they should have been included in the survey. "No one ever asked us as neighbors, as park users, what we wanted," said Stewart Shacter.

Several neighbors said the course could be improved without expanding into areas of the park that are currently used for passive recreation and without creating hazards for people who are not disc golfing. Others said their cars have been hit and damaged by flying discs. Still others mentioned a pattern of criminal behavior in a parking lot adjacent to the disc golf course.

Tolbert said he has asked parks staff and the St. Paul police to give the parking lot area more attention.

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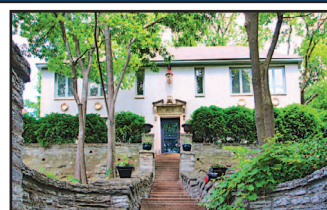
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O'Gara's plans new mixed-use building on Snelling Ave. site

By JANE McCLURE

Two years after the opening of the five-story Vintage on Selby, the area around the intersection of Snelling and Selby avenues is in store for more big changes. O'Gara's Bar and Grill is expected to be demolished later this year on the southeast corner and replaced by a new O'Gara's on the ground floor and up to three floors of apartments above. Meanwhile, the longtime Dairy Queen a block away on the southwest corner of Snelling and Hague Avenue could be replaced by a Red Savoy's Pizza restaurant.

Both projects will be reviewed by the Union Park District Council's Land Use Committee during its meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 19, at 161 N. Snelling Ave.

This year's St. Patrick's Day may be the last one celebrated inside and outside of the brick facade of O'Gara's, which first opened on March 1, 1941. The bar and grill is planning a four-day celebration from March 13-17 with live Irish music and a special menu of Irish repasts.

O'Gara's redevelopment has generated a lot of chatter on social media, with some neighbors excited and others worried about rising property values and the higher taxes and higher rents that could result. Feelings have also been mixed about the pizza restaurant, with some neighbors supportive and others hoping for a mix of residential and commercial uses on that site.

Changing economics in the restaurant business and the need to downsize O'Gara's are driving the redevelopment plans there, ac-

cording to Dan O'Gara, the third-generation owner of the bar and grill. His plan is to tear down his complex of three buildings between Hague and Selby as well as three adjacent houses on Hague that the O'Gara family also owns.

"We know it's going to be a big change for the neighborhood, and we want to approach it carefully," O'Gara said. He and codeveloper Ryan Companies will be discussing their ideas for the redevelopment with neighbors rather than presenting a fully developed plan, he said.

Ryan Companies led the recent development of the Vintage on Selby apartments, the Whole Foods Market, the Associated Bank and Starbucks coffee shop on Snelling between Selby and Marshall avenues.

"We're looking forward to working with O'Gara's and the neighbors again on this great corner," said Tony Barranco of Ryan Companies. "Building off the success of the Vintage on Selby, we expect this redevelopment will add to the incredible vibrancy of Union Park, creating a mixed-use project anchored by a reimagined O'Gara's neighborhood pub and restaurant."

O'Gara said he liked how Ryan Companies worked with the neighborhood on its previous developments and wants to follow the same method for his family's property. "I like getting neighborhood input first," he said. "We don't want to rush this."

O'Gara's bar and restaurant, banquet rooms and performance space total about 20,000 square feet. The new O'Gara's bar and restaurant would have about 6,000 square feet, in-



A neon sign on the original building at O'Gara's Bar and Grill cites the founder of the now 77-year-old establishment.

cluding a dining room with seating for about 40. The building would have enclosed parking on the first floor for O'Gara's patrons and underground parking for tenants.

"This (downsizing) would get us back to our roots as an Irish neighborhood pub," O'Gara said. The bar and restaurant would have a capacity of about 300 patrons, or about a third the size of the current operation.

O'Gara's performance space, known as the Shanty, used to host live music as many as six nights a week. "But young people don't go out to listen to music as much as they used to," O'Gara said. Plus, the new restaurants and brew pubs in the neighborhood have given patrons more options. "To continue to com-

pete," O'Gara said, "we've got to change with the times."

Dan's grandfather, Jim O'Gara, opened O'Gara's in the small building just north of the parking lot. His son and Dan's father, the late Tim O'Gara, took over from Jim and greatly expanded the bar and restaurant into the adjacent buildings that once included furniture, appliance and television stores and an auto repair service. The most famous former storefront was the Family Barber Shop operated by the father of "Peanuts" cartoonist Charles M. Schulz. As a child, Schulz and his family lived in an apartment upstairs from the barber shop and the present O'Gara's.

Schulz, who died in 2000, visited the Selby-Snelling corner for the last time in 1994. His drawing of Snoopy in a barber's chair, a slew of historical photographs of the corner, and O'Gara's old tin ceiling, belt-driven ceiling fans, main bar and large mural painted by Jim O'Gara will all be stored during construction and reinstalled in the new pub.

O'Gara's property was rezoned for mixed-use traditional neighborhoods a year ago as part of a larger rezoning on Snelling Avenue. However, the three adjacent Hague lots will need to be rezoned. O'Gara said he would like to see the houses moved to new lots rather than demolished.

As for the proposed Red's Savoy restaurant across Snelling, it is not clear whether any special city approvals will be required beyond a site plan review. Various developers have looked at the site since it was put on the market in 2017. The Dairy Queen there had been operated by the same family for 52 years.

Commodore appeal is denied, but Rupp says he will keep dining room open

By JANE McCLURE

The Commodore Bar and Restaurant, 79 N. Western Ave., may no longer use its 84-seat west dining room, the St. Paul City Council ruled on February 28. The council voted 6-0 to deny owner John Rupp's appeal of an earlier Board of Zoning Appeals decision.

The BZA ruled that the Commodore's west dining room was never legally established as a restaurant space and that Rupp may need to apply to the St. Paul Planning Commission for a nonconforming use permit. The permit application would require a review of parking in the area, and parking congestion is a concern for residents in the neighborhood around the Commodore.

Rupp said after the hearing that he will continue to use the dining room and to challenge what he considers to be an incorrect decision by city staff. City Council member Dai Thao, whose Ward 1 includes the Commodore, said that he and his staff will work with Rupp to bring the space into compliance with city ordinances.

The Commodore Bar and Restaurant and the adjacent Commodore Squash Club are located in a residential zone and are considered to be legal non-conforming uses. The bar and restaurant reopened in the fall of 2015 after years of being used for special occasions only. Prior to reopening, the restaurant went through a series of inspections that included the west dining room. "And then three days after I opened, I was told I had no permit and

no zoning approval," Rupp said. "For 40 years this has been an established use."

The six-story Commodore Hotel first opened in 1920, and included a dining room. The Commodore's art deco bar opened in 1934 following the repeal of Prohibition. The squash club was built in 1976 on the west side of the hotel. Plans for the club included a lounge and restaurant.

In 1978 two natural gas explosions extensively damaged the Commodore, and the hotel was closed. The building was converted several years later to condominiums with the bar and restaurant remaining on the first floor. In 1987 the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission gave the squash club a building permit to add windows to the disputed dining room. A floor plan submitted to city officials

then showed an exercise room, storage area and two offices. City records from 2000 show exercise equipment in the space.

Rupp contends that the west dining room, which he took ownership of in 2001, was included in the 2012 building permit he obtained. He said he was told by city staff that the lounge and restaurant had been continuously covered by the liquor license he obtained after buying them in 1984.

City officials disagreed, arguing that the west dining room was never legally established as a restaurant and that because it was unused for more than a year, a new nonconforming use would have to be established. "A liquor license and a building permit have no bearing on a zoning matter," said Jerome Benner II of the BZA staff.

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News Briefs

Another lot split on 1900 block of Iglehart is denied

A 132-year-old home in Merriam Park may have gotten another reprieve. St. Louis Park-based Dream Homes Inc. was notified on March 6 that its request to subdivide the lots at 1905-1911 Iglehart Ave. was denied by the St. Paul Department of Safety and Inspections. Dream Homes had planned to build four new homes on the property, but city officials said the lots are not large enough.

Dream Homes may appeal the decision within 10 days, but no appeal had been filed as of late last week.

This is the city's second denial of a lot split request there. Several weeks ago, developer Jon Schwartzman of Hopkins was told he could not subdivide the lots for a proposed townhouse development.

The group Save Our St. Paul Neighborhoods is looking for someone to buy and possibly move 1905 Iglehart. The house is considered to be a prime example of the Italianate house once popular in St. Paul. It was designed by prominent German-born St. Paul architect Augustus F. Gauger.

Proposed residential permit parking changes reviewed

More than a year of study of resident-only permit parking changes in St. Paul has been released for public review. The city's Department of Public Works has brought forward several ideas for making the permit parking system easier to understand.

The changes would make the hours of no parking without a permit consistent across all permit-parking districts. It would also make the number of resident and guest permits allowed per household more consistent. In addition, some smaller parking districts may be eliminated and others may be consolidated.

Two meetings are planned to review the provisions of the permit parking districts near the University of St. Thomas. The first will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 20, in the 3M Auditorium of the Owens Science Hall at St. Thomas. The second is planned before the Macalester-Groveland Community Council's Transportation Committee at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 26, at the Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St.

St. Paul issues ultimatum for unregistered Airbnbs

The owners of an estimated 400 unlicensed short-term rental properties in St. Paul had best come forward. The city's Department of Safety and Inspections has announced that St. Paul property owners who list rentals on Airbnb, VRBO and other online platforms for short-term rentals need to register with the city or face sanctions.

The City Council adopted new licensing regulations for short-term rentals last year in hopes of having them in place before the February 4 Super Bowl. The regulations were brought forward by Ward 3 City Council member Chris Tolbert, who had received several complaints about short-term rentals in residential neighborhoods, raising concerns about increased traffic, parking congestion and noise.

Almost 80 property owners have licenses with the city, and close to 40 additional applications are pending. Warning notices were mailed out in early March to many others who have not registered. Those who have not been issued a city license have 30 days to comply or face a fine and a misdemeanor or petty misdemeanor charge.

The licensing requirements vary by the size of the rental property and whether or not it is owner-occupied. The requirements include

provisions for property inspections, fire certificates and insurance.

Light-industrial firm opposes permit for 60 new apartments

A plan to redevelop a former Midway meat packing plant as apartments has been challenged by a neighboring property owner. American Consulting Services, doing business as American Engineering Testing (AET), has appealed the St. Paul Planning Commission's approval of a conditional use permit for the redevelopment of the long-vacant plant at 2103 Wabash St. for more than 60 apartments.

AET has purchased the adjacent Rihm Kenworth trucking business on the southwest corner of Cleveland and University avenues and is planning to build a five-story commercial building there. Its appeal states that creating a residential use next to its light-industrial building would impede AET's ability to expand its business and redevelop nearby properties.

AET employs more than 400 people. It bought the longtime trucking business property last April and recently completed an expansion of its nearby building at 550 N. Cleveland Ave. AET is also planning to move its drilling service business to University and Cleveland and contends that such an intensive, high-traffic operation would conflict with a residential building.

I-94 noise wall planned between Fairview and Prior

A new noise wall on the south side of I-94 between Fairview and Prior avenues won the support of the St. Paul City Council on March 7. The project is being planned by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), which has yet to design the wall. Construction is tentatively scheduled for 2022.

MnDOT held a neighborhood meeting on the project last fall. Property owners who would be directly affected were asked to vote on it. The majority supported it.

The city will cover 10 percent of the cost of engineering and constructing the noise wall through its Capital Improvement Budget. The remainder will be paid by MnDOT through its Metro Division Highway Noise Abatement Program.

RAS Restaurant is fined \$500 for license violations

RAS Restaurant & Lounge, 2516 W. Seventh St., has been fined \$500 by the St. Paul City Council for committing several license violations.

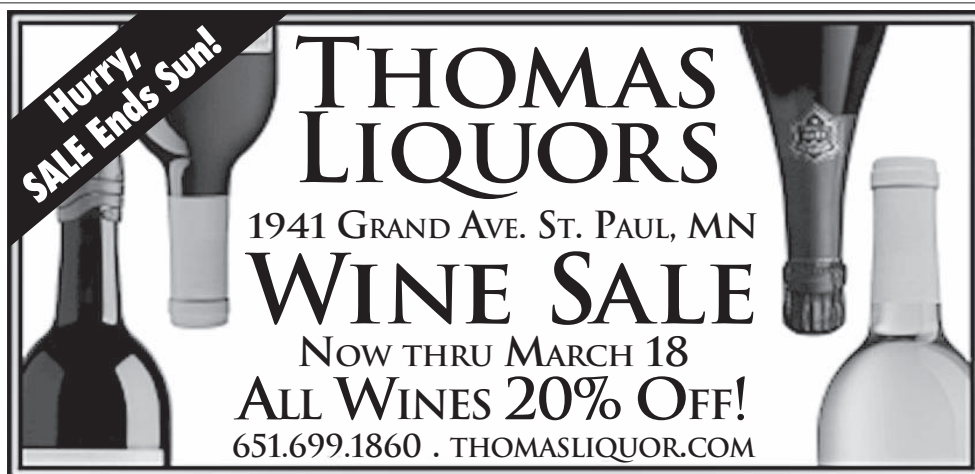
RAS holds city licenses for entertainment, on-sale liquor, 2 a.m. closing, patio service and gambling. It was one of several St. Paul establishments to seek permission to extend its hours during the recent Super Bowl. A pre-Super Bowl inspection by the St. Paul Police Department uncovered two license violations. The business manager said the violations would be corrected, but they were not.

One violation involved the prolonged parking of vehicles with expired tabs in the business' lot. The other violation was a failure to install barriers to prevent cars from parking on an adjacent vacant lot.

News Briefs were compiled by Jane McClure.

Correction

A story in the February 28 *Villager* on plans to add more sidewalks in Highland Park should have stated that once people walk past the sidewalk in front of Dawn Zaidel's home on Saratoga Street, they have to walk onto a neighbor's driveway and into the street.



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Viewpoint

Patrons of St. Paul's bar-restaurants will want a tip credit too

BY MATT GRAY

There is a growing concern in bars and restaurants in St. Paul about the possibility of the city following Minneapolis' lead and raising its minimum wage to \$15 per hour. Owners are strategizing about how to remain afloat in a market that increases their labor costs by 25 percent or more. Tipped employees are concerned about changes to the business model that will result in the elimination of tipping. However, a minimum wage increase will impact not only bar and restaurant owners and their employees, but the patrons who frequent those establishments. Increased labor costs could significantly alter the dining and drinking experience.

The first place diners could see an adjustment is in menu prices. It is logical that prices must increase to cover some of the additional labor costs. Your \$15 burger becomes a \$20 burger. Your \$5 beer becomes an \$8 beer.

Next, owners will be forced to minimize labor costs. Many owners will resort to cutting staff. Instead of having three bartenders working on a Friday night, there may be one or two. Managers will be expected to take on hosting duties. Servers will be managing eight tables rather than four. The kitchen staff will be reduced from six line cooks to four. All of this purposeful short-staffing will result in longer wait times.

However, these changes alone will not be enough to cover the drastic labor cost increase. One of the last resorts, and one of the major concerns for tipped employees, is a potential shift from gratuities to a mandatory service charge where 15 to 20 percent is added to each patron's bill. The service charge would be in lieu of tipping.

One of the major drivers of a tipped employee's income is hard work. If servers or bartenders enhance a patron's experience through genuine, attentive and timely service and their knowledge of food and drink to ensure a memorable event, we are rewarded with a tip. I believe wholeheartedly that patrons want to show gratitude for a job well done. A service charge would end this relationship between a patron and a server or bartender. Without tips, we will be less motivated to give quality service to our guests. The incentive of servers or bartenders to hone their craft will disappear. The patron's power of choice will be stripped away.

For some establishments, these business changes may not be enough to maintain their already slim profit margins. Bars and restaurants will close. Mandated labor cost increases may force dramatic changes to the full-service business model. The type of experience patrons have when going out is on the verge of a transformation.

There is a way to minimize labor costs and preserve the current hospitality culture. It is called a tip credit. A tip credit allows an employer to pay tipped employees a base hourly wage that is slightly below the minimum wage. The assumption is that an employee's tips will make up the difference. In the event the base wage plus tips does not meet the minimum wage, the employer will cover the difference. A tip credit attached to a \$15 minimum wage ensures that everyone makes a minimum of \$15 per hour.

A tip credit is a win-win. Every employee is guaranteed to make at least \$15 per hour. Tipped employees retain their tipped income. Cooks and dishwashers get a well-deserved raise. Bar and restaurant owners do not have to revamp how their establishment operates. Patrons may continue to enjoy food and beverages in the fashion they all know and love.

We who work in bars and restaurants in St. Paul want a tip credit. If they enjoy the current drinking and dining experience in St. Paul, patrons should want a tip credit, too.

Matt Gray has been working in the restaurant industry in St. Paul for over 15 years and is currently employed at a restaurant in the Summit-University neighborhood.



There's no limiting the number of signs at Allianz Field.



Inbox

Welcome expansion of disc golf

In response to the concerned neighbors who are against expansion of the disc golf course in Highland Park at what they seem to think is the expense of other park users (*Villager Viewpoint*, February 14):

I am not a disc golf player, but in college I lived with some. Highland Park is a wonderful resource, as is Como Park, Newell Park, Mattocks Park, Edgumbe Park, Merriam Park, etc. St. Paul is blessed with an assortment of great parks on whose grounds you can play Frisbee or Hackie Sac, take walks under beautiful trees, and just sit and enjoy the great Minnesota seasons. Several of these parks are just down the road from Highland Park. We also have several lovely public golf courses, a gorgeous public zoo with large picnic areas and a botanical garden. We have only one public disc golf course, which is free for all residents to utilize.

I live just down the road, and I enjoy watching the disc golfers. They are there, rain or shine, three out of our four seasons, every day that I drive past. This level of outdoor usage should be lauded and rewarded. I see people of all ages and walks of life enjoying this space to the fullest. I see a resource that is needed and should indeed be cared for and expanded upon. In the *Villager* op-ed piece, I see a selfishness in the people who refuse to simply drive a half mile, in almost any direction, to find more of what they appear to feel they are owed—more general public park space.

Thank you, St. Paul Parks and Recreation Department. You are able to see what you have, what you don't have much of, and what you need to address, and you have done so. I look forward to the expansion.

*Thomas McSherry
Macalester-Groveland*

For full disclosure at hearings

The City Council, without public discussion, has changed an important procedure regarding testimony at public hearings (*Villager Viewpoint*, February 14). Public testifiers before the City Council are no longer required to provide their full names and addresses on the record. This recent change is neither democratic nor transparent.

And it appears that City Council President Amy Brendmoen initiated, and the rest of the City Council allowed, the procedural change without any input from the public.

Among the many reasons for transparency in public processes is to give the public the opportunity to comment on how governing bodies do the people's work, the ability to

observe how their elected representatives are thinking and deciding matters via public discussion and decision-making, and the capacity to hold government officials accountable for their positions via recorded votes.

As such, this recent change in procedure should have been introduced as a resolution, subjected to public testimony, discussed by council members and put to a vote by those members.

Like government officials, testifiers on public policies have a responsibility to be accountable for their testimony. The personal safety of individuals who have identified reasonable concerns should be addressed case-by-case without changing longstanding procedures.

Requiring testifiers to identify themselves and provide complete addresses gives members of the public, including journalists, the opportunity to vet the information provided in the testimony, contact testifiers for further or updated information, access information for networking and reporting purposes, and verify the claims and bona fides of the testifiers. Although testifiers may be required to sign in, those sign-in sheets are often difficult to decipher and those watching the hearings do not have immediate access to them.

We urge the City Council to rescind this procedure.

*Don Gemberling, Member
St. Paul STRONG Steering Committee*

Editor's note: The people who testify at public hearings before the St. Paul City Council are now being instructed to give their full name and the neighborhood in which they live before testifying, according to City Council member Amy Brendmoen. They are also being asked to write their full name and street address in the ledger after testifying.

An uncommonly good bookstore

Regarding Garrison Keillor and the apparent boycott of his Common Good Books store at Snelling and Grand avenues: Can we think about restorative justice for Mr. Keillor rather than boycotting a store that is inspiring, offering many books not found elsewhere and staffed by wonderful people who love books? Boycotting could lead to closure, which would be a loss for St. Paul, which is fortunate in having its independent bookstores.

*Anne Forest
Summit-University*

8◀ INBOX

The high cost of salting the streets

As a life-long resident of St. Paul who has lived through almost 70 years of winter conditions, I submit this commentary to folks who think that salting our streets and sidewalks is the answer to all life's problems. Let me please remind you that salt destroys our lakes, streams, rivers, groundwater, wetlands, cars, sidewalks, roads, etc. It is highly corrosive, very damaging and highly expensive. Enough salt in our water supply, and it will no longer support life. As you drive down some of our most severely damaged streets, remember that salt is helping to cause the damage.

We incur a huge expenditure in fuel consumption, labor costs, wear and tear on vehicles and road repair (not to mention the impact on our carbon footprint) each time we run our salting trucks up and down our city's more than 1,000 miles of streets. There is perhaps a time and a place for salting the streets, such as when the roads are iced over. But to salt streets just to melt snow makes the roads wet, slushy and even more slippery.

Why do we feel that we must have bare pavement on our roads throughout the winter? I remember when spring came just once a year, not after each new snowfall.

Barry Riesch
St. Anthony Park

Support for gun control growing

I was in the overfilled room at the state Capitol last week to hear the House Public Safety Committee consider two gun violence safety bills. I talked to several people wearing gun-rights shirts and asked them if they supported background checks for all gun sales. Many said "yes." Many said they supported background checks at gun shows and even with private gun sales. A few said they had problems with a couple of small items in the bill, but agreed in general. I was reassured that these folks felt that the bill could be passed out of the committee.

At the end of the hearing, the Republican-controlled House tabled both bills from moving on. For crying out loud, how many people need to die from gun violence before Republican lawmakers wise up and stop kicking this life-and-death matter down the road? About 100 people a day die from gun violence in America. It appears the lawmakers did not listen to the many young people, some of whom testified at the hearing, and the gun owners who have now come out to support common-sense gun violence safety legislation.

I thank Dave Pinto, my state representative in District 64B, for his leadership in bringing up these bills against a stagnant and unresponsive Republican-controlled Legislature.

Gary Thompson
Highland Park

New laws won't prevent gun violence

The automatic reflex from the DFL after the school shooting in Parkland, Florida, is more laws on law-abiding gun owners that wouldn't have prevented that shooting. The shooter passed his National Instant Criminal Background Check and the waiting period. It was the government's failure to report him to the National Instant Criminal Background Check database and the local sheriff and the FBI's failure to take this troubled man seriously that caused a lot of deaths.

Universal background checks? Will the gangs and people hell-bent

on causing harm get them? I doubt it. Waiting periods? I kind of doubt that, too.

Minnesota DFL House bill HF3022 calls for a ban on many types of firearms. So the next time anti-Second Amendment groups say they don't want to take your guns and they just want some common-sense gun safety, call them on it. These bills would create more and more layers of costly government, and the people who want to do us harm will not be affected. Why not spend this money on the people who really need our help?

Gary Fischbach
Highland Park

Guns as a check on government

In the post-Reconstruction South, if every person of color could have exercised the rights of the Second Amendment, would the deprivations of Jim Crow have been so egregious? Instead, local and state ordinances were selectively enforced to limit or disarm anybody who lacked economic or political power. In other parts of the nation, similar laws restricting the ownership of repeating rifles and pistols by American Indians, certain immigrant groups and trade unions were enforced and went unchallenged.

Criminals never have problems with gun-control measures—and in fact benefit either from the sale or possession of illegal guns or the assured vulnerability of their victims.

What seems to be lost in all of this is the necessity of gun ownership as a crucial check on government. You do not need 30-round magazines or 45-caliber bullets to hunt for game or make holes in paper targets. You do need the right of ownership of weapons to ensure that in the future someone in power, because you are powerless, decides that you should sit in the back of the metaphorical bus or get in the boxcar.

It seems unthinkable that we should have to be prepared to stand up to the might of our own armed forces. Yet in my lifetime we all have witnessed the military takeover of many sophisticated and evolved democracies (Spain and Portugal in the 1930s, Chile and Greece in the 1960s, Argentina in the 1980s). The hallmark of all of these takeovers has been the acquiescence of the unarmed.

I do not want to have to own or to carry a gun, yet I do not want any who do—criminal, government or otherwise—to be sure that I am unarmed.

Thomas Dunne
Downtown St. Paul

Annie, drop your gun

The hottest topic of late for our legislators is controlling assault weapons. I'm curious why our legislators are speaking of limiting the purchase of assault rifles to those age 21 and older. What do we do with the younger people who already own them? If the intention is to take assault rifles away from 18- to 20-year-olds who are not new buyers, it will make for a very long and nasty fight in our courts if that isn't spelled out in the new law.

There is much talk about "hardening" the schools. In many cases schools are already hardened, with locks on the doors, security cameras and identification badges required. It is much easier to say that we will put bulletproof glass in the windows than to do it. Many of our school windows simply will not accept a piece of bulletproof glass since the frames are not built for this level of resistance. In many cases, a school would require completely new windows.

VILLAGER

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Maurice F. Mischke, 1920-1991

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9◀ INBOX

The granddaddy of all the stupid ideas is to arm teachers. Even a highly trained police officer will often miss the target in an emergency situation. The truth is, arming teachers with a weapon will probably just turn them into the primary target of the nefarious intruder.

And finally, our new national psychiatrist, Dr. Trump, wants to ferret out every “sicko” and prohibit them from purchasing weapons. Of course, those who are waving this flag have no idea what constitutes the sicknesses that would trigger this prohibition. Is it depression? What adult hasn’t at sometime experienced some level of depression?

The real dilemma in constructing this complex rule-making will be dealing with the die-hard Second Amendment supporters. What they see in the points enumerated above is the “iceberg” of intrusion. What we can’t see is the bulk of the iceberg that is hidden and constitutes a whole new world of weapon control.

*Patrick F. Quinn
Macalester-Groveland*

Gunning for the NRA

We’ve all heard of single-issue voters. The only ones I’ve talked to are the pro-life advocates who want to overturn the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision. I’m pro-life, but I also believe women should have a choice in this decision. However, I do see the value in their passion for the issue.

I think I need to become a single-issue voter in matters of gun control. If a candidate or office holder receives the money or the endorsement of the NRA, I should automatically vote for a different candidate, one who believes in sensible gun laws.

The majority of our elected officials in Congress and in the state Legislature seem to be under some hypnotic spell that prevents them from challenging the gun lobby’s extreme demands. But I think this is going to change. The 6-year-olds at Sandy Hook could not organize to make this change happen, but the high school students in Florida have the skills and common sense to defeat the NRA. By the time they organize the entire high school population in our country, they will have accomplished something historic.

I feel sorry for the politicians who have an allegiance to the gun lobby. I feel sorry for the gun manufacturers who will have to find a new occupation. If political candidates are endorsed by the NRA, it will be their kiss of death. We’re depending on the high school students of America to make this happen. I think it will happen. I hope it will happen.

*Lyle Nelson
West Side*

Building trust in the police

I have grave concerns about the use-of-force informational sessions that the St. Paul Police Department recently held. It was a positive step by Chief Axtell to call these meetings in the hopes of rebuilding police-community relations. I attended the meeting held at the Western District Police Headquarters. We listened to citizens express concerns about deescalation procedures, police accountability and implicit bias training. We heard citizens express their fear of the police rather than trust.

The officers who facilitated the meeting were armed. Do these officers feel threatened in their own building while conversing with unarmed citizens? I can’t imagine what it feels like to a person of color knowing that the phrase “I feared for my safety” justifies police shootings and misconduct. There is much work to be done if the St. Paul Police Department wants to replace citizens’ fear with trust.

*Greg Trentman
Lexington-Hamline*

For a Convention of States

We, the people, have an opportunity for constructive political change. Article V of the U.S. Constitution, the Convention of States, is a nonpartisan means to effect the change we so desperately need.

Now retired, I have had more time to read about and observe Congress ignoring the staggering U.S. debt crisis and practicing partisan politics as usual. The corruption and mounting unanswered campaign promises are undeniable. Both parties are guilty and have left me feeling impotent but also resolute.

I am not willing to be part of a generation responsible for leaving our children and grandchildren a legacy of debt, chaos and self-promoting partisan politics without intervention. I am disgusted with the Democratic and Republican politicians in Congress who continually use our hard-earned tax dollars to promote their political careers by pandering to K Street lobbyists and self-interests.

If we mismanaged our household economy the way they do the U.S. economy, we would be living in debt with no savings, no retirement funds and ultimately no way to survive catastrophe or untoward events in our lives or our children’s lives. Where is the common sense?

I recognize the ideological differences separating the Democratic and Republican platforms, but we should put those differences aside and acknowledge the common ground that is our children and their children. The partisan political practice has led only to division, resentment and chaos among us. We, the people, no longer practice constructive dialogue.

We, as citizens, have an opportunity to effect change. A Convention of States rally will take place at 2:45 p.m. Thursday, March 15, at the state Capitol. To learn more about it, visit conventionofstates.com. I hope to see you there.

*Dr. Isabelle Fertey
Highland Park*

Reining in Washington

Term limits on federal officials, a balanced budget amendment, curtailing the abuse of executive orders. If these kinds of measures resonate with you, there is a solution that is building momentum around the country and in Minnesota: the Convention of States Project.

Article V of the U.S. Constitution gives states the power to bypass Congress and propose amendments to the Constitution. This was a provision unanimously agreed to by the framers, who knew that Congress would never willingly reduce its own power. The current Convention of States (COS) project seeks to call a convention to propose amendments that would “limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, impose fiscal restraints, and place term limits on federal officials.”

The COS process is long and methodical in its approach, and the threshold for ratifying amendments is high, which helps ensure the integrity of the process. Twelve states have passed COS resolutions and the movement is growing, with more than 3 million supporters around the country, including a 50 percent increase of support in Minnesota within the last year.

COS is not a miracle solution to our political problems. However, its two main goals are significant and worthwhile: to restore a proper balance of power between the federal government and the states, and to build an engaged and active population who understands that the direction the country takes is their responsibility as citizens of a still free nation.

For more information, visit conventionofstates.com and join us at our rally in the rotunda of the state Capitol at 2:45 p.m. Thursday, March 15. Hope to see you there.

*Suzy Turbenson
Highland Park*

A Stark example

It appears that when no one on the St. Paul City Council will listen to our opposition on issues such as TN-3 rezoning and mandatory trash collection, the only thing we can do is drop the words and resort to action. Since the city now has a what-does-he-do-for-his-\$100,000-salary chief resilience officer in Russ Stark, I decided to show him that the concept of one-size-fits-all trash collection does not fit those of us who are elderly and buy, spend and waste little, recycle everything possible and have had shared trash collection for years with a neighbor.

To make my point, I put four weeks of trash in a small plastic bag in an 8-by-8-by-8-inch box and mailed it to him at City Hall for \$7.25 postage, which is a lot cheaper than the proposed \$20 per month minimum the city has its eye on collecting.

*Kathleen Deming
Macalester-Groveland*

Interpreting framers’ intent

Letter writer Norm Spilleth (“On the security of a free state,” *Villager* Inbox, February 28) would be well-advised to spend a little time reading the recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions having to do with the Second Amendment.

In Heller vs. Washington, D.C. (2006), the court did a lot of research into the origins of the Second Amendment, including looking at its various drafts, and concluded that the framers of the amendment absolutely intended to extend the right to bear arms to individuals and not just organized militias. Further, in Caetano vs. Massachusetts (2016) the court ruled, and not for the first time, that “the Second Amendment extends, *prima facie*, to all instruments that constitute bearable arms, even those that were not in existence at the time of the founding.”

These are the facts and the law as it stands, and that’s not

going to change easily nor soon. Nor should it. States have a limited right within the bounds of these legal opinions to ban certain weapons, but the operant term here is “limited.”

If you expect to engage gun owners in reasonable discussions about reasonable changes in firearms law, please start from a point of informed opinion and do a little more research before perpetuating the opinion that AR-15-style weapons are used for nothing except human slaughter.

*Brad Arshat
Highland Park*

Raise profile of women’s sports

Thank you, Cheryl Reeve, Minnesota Lynx head coach and general manager, for again calling attention to the lack of media coverage for women’s sports in Minnesota and nationally. Sportswriters and commentators have power in determining what matters and who gets the air time. I urge them to add more women’s sports content into their lineups.

I agree with Cheryl that a sustained commitment to women’s sports is a good business decision. The general lack of coverage means there is an audience out there ready for stories. It’s also a great opportunity to highlight more positive examples of skilled, strong and confident women. That’s something from which we could all benefit.

*Marie Huey
Macalester-Groveland*

Better luck next winter

I was catching up on my *Villager* reading when I came across the letter, “Missed opportunity for St. Thomas” (Inbox, January 31). The writer said that when he contacted the University of St. Thomas to recruit students to help shovel for the elderly, etc., he was told by the St. Thomas athletic director that they had no way to contact students. I thought it was déjà vu. Did St. Paul Superintendent of Schools Joe Gothard and St. Thomas officials go to the same school?

Please let me know if there is one student who is not on Facebook, Twitter or any other of the social media they use. Is there any student at St. Thomas without a cell phone? And St. Thomas does not have these phone numbers? I find that hard to believe.

Yes, this was a missed opportunity.

*Nancy Hone
Merriam Park*

Still ailing after all these years

The Minnesota History Center’s current exhibition “1968” is far from a nostalgic walk through the world of a half century ago. Certainly, one may reminisce about furnishings, fashions, music and media and feel the swell of pride in our putting a manned spacecraft in orbit around the moon. Baby boomers came of age in this golden era of post-World War II America, the affluent society. More people, more cars, more of everything. . .for some.

Yet always in the background and bursting into our lives and living rooms were Vietnam, civil rights, assassinations and the same inequalities and doomed foreign policies that continue to plague us today. Fifty years on, and the trappings and decor may have changed, but we are still ailing and perhaps failing. The parallels are disheartening.

Tom Brokaw called our parents the Greatest Generation (another Minnesota History Center exhibit). Are we to become known as the worst generation? Take back our country and make America try to be good again for everyone, everywhere.

*Tom Reasoner
West End*

Leave alleys to the private plows

Many years ago, the city of St. Paul utilized road graders to plow residential streets. The blades of those machines cleared snow down to the pavement. Those machines did a good job. However, once the city stopped using road graders for snow plowing, residential street plowing began to fall apart. The plows the city now uses do not clear snow down to the pavement. That results in packed snow that becomes an ice rink on residential streets.

Jason Emrick suggested that the city organize alley plowing in the near future (“Fair-weather recycler,” *Villager* Inbox, February 14). I say “no” to that idea. My alley is more uneven than my street and has a hill. Private alley plowers do a much better job than the city currently does with plowing my street. Many alleys are too narrow to accommodate a city plow. The city of St. Paul should never waste taxpayer money on alley plowing.

*Sue Shetka
Macalester-Groveland*

10 ◀ INBOX

The monarch of D.C.

With the Gilbert and Sullivan comic operetta *Pirates of Penzance* playing at Park Square Theatre, I recall the pompous Sir Joseph in *H.M.S. Pinafore*. Sir Joseph, First Lord of the Admiralty, is proud to have achieved high office without any qualifications whatever. His song brags:

I am the monarch of the sea, ruler of the Queen's Navee, whose praise Great Britain loudly chaunts (echoed by his following of sisters, cousins and aunts). When at anchor here we ride, my bosom swells with pride, and I snap my fingers at a foeman's taunts! (And so do his sisters and his cousins and his aunts.) But when the breezes blow, I generally go below, and seek the seclusion that a cabin grants (and so do his sisters and his cousins and his aunts).

Somehow, the boastful Sir Joseph reminds me of someone in high office at the moment, also surrounded by adoring relatives, also prone to snapping fingers in the face of real or imagined enemies. But this someone of today, of course, is ready at a moment's notice to rush unarmed into a school to confront an active shooter.

Just don't let him near a tame eagle again, or he might fall off his office chair when it flaps its wings!

Dutton Foster
Macalester-Groveland

A dedicated journalist

I want to give a shout-out to Jane McClure, the reporter who is at virtually every public meeting in St. Paul and covers local issues with grace and accuracy. Because of Jane, we know about housing projects on Summit Avenue, new apartments on Marshall Avenue, the bikeway on Lexington Parkway, Ward 4's interim City Council member, soccer stadium signage, rental rehabilitation loans, a streetcar on West Seventh Street, rule changes at the City Council and the shortage of senior housing, just to cite her articles in the February 14 issue of the *Villager*.

Jane is an excellent writer and a dedicated public servant. She is vital to our understanding of local issues.

Thank you, Jane!

Meg Arnosti
Macalester-Groveland

Is Crime Report inciting fear?

I'm unclear and concerned as to why you include the Crime Report in the *Villager*. It takes up quite a bit of the paper, and I would think our community would be better served by other content. The one-sentence explanation of the sources of this information is so vague that reliability and credibility are suspect. I would love to know if thought has been put into this section's inclusion or if it's just something that traditionally has been done. I'm concerned that the only outcome is incitement of fear.

Lori Lukasik
Macalester-Groveland

Editor's note: The Villager has been running the Crime Report since 2007, and readers continuously tell us that it is one of their most-read parts of the paper. That has been confirmed in a Villager reader survey as well as in the outpouring of emails we received when we once considered dropping the Crime Report due to the time and expense it takes to compile the information, which is drawn from police department blotters, district court criminal complaints and other sources. We believe, and police officials tell us they do as well, that residents are much better served by being informed of criminal activity in their neighborhood so they can watch out for their neighbors and lessen the chance of becoming victims themselves.

Do write, won't you?

The *Villager* welcomes letters to the editor and longer guest editorials. To be considered for publication, however, all commentary must be signed, include a telephone number for verification purposes and indicate the neighborhood in which the writer lives. You may drop off or mail your commentary to the *Villager* at 757 S. Snelling Ave., St. Paul, MN 55116, or email it to letters@myvillager.com. The *Villager* edits commentary for grammar, spelling and length. To spare yourself the unkind cut of the editor's pen, keep your commentary brief and to the point.



St. Patrick's

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2018

Wed MARCH 14

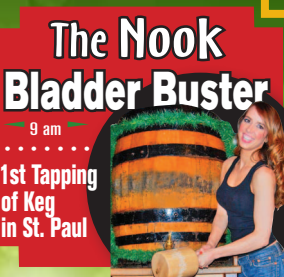
Beer & Bump Night
FREE Shot of Jameson w/ Guinness Golden Ale
6pm - 8pm

Thur MARCH 15

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Release the Craicen 4 - 5pm

Briz & Lady 5:30pm - 9pm

Release the Craicen 10pm - 1:30

PaddyWagon Live 3 - 6pm

Brian Boru Pipe 6:30pm

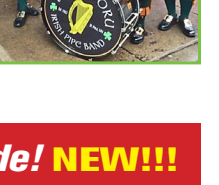
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Brian Boru Pipe 11:15pm









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Looking back at Booth Memorial

Heikkila tells of the former home for unwed mothers where her sister was born

BY JUDY WOODWARD

Sixty years ago, Americans pursued the ideal of the nuclear family with a marked single-mindedness. The ideal woman was preoccupied with creative home-making, dedicated to her children and above all married.

"In the postwar period, a woman's highest aspiration was to be a mother," said historian Kim Heikkila. "But they had such a narrow definition of what a good mother should be. Idealized motherhood was a path to civic identity, but it could also be used as a social weapon."

Those who, through choice or circumstance, fell outside of the norm paid a price in isolation and social stigmatization. That was never truer than for young unmarried women who became pregnant. The shame of an illegitimate child was so strong that parents literally hid their pregnant daughters rather than face the scorn of society. Their solution was the home for unwed mothers, where the young women gave birth, gave their babies up for adoption and returned home for what was termed "a fresh start."

Heikkila has traced the history of one such institution, the Salvation Army's Booth Memorial Hospital, a residence for unwed mothers located at 1471 Como Ave. from 1913-1973. In addition to a maternity hospital affiliated with the University of Minnesota, the facility offered high school classes for pregnant teenagers. The new mothers could also remain at Booth for three months after giving birth and learn domestic skills like sewing

and cooking.

Heikkila interviewed former residents and staff of Booth Memorial for an article that was published in *Minnesota History* last summer. She will discuss her research as part of the Ramsey County Historical Society's free History Revealed program at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 22, at the Roseville Library, 2180 N. Hamline Ave.

A resident of Highland Park, Heikkila, 49, brings the dispassionate approach of a professional historian to her subject. However, the motivation behind her research was largely personal. In 1961 her mother, Sharon Lee Moore, gave birth to a baby girl at Booth Memorial, a child whose existence remained a secret for over 30 years.

Moore was a journalism student at the University of Minnesota when she found herself in "trouble." Trouble for a young, unwed mother in those days often meant a hiatus of several months at a home like Booth until the woman gave birth and her baby—and the shame—could be left behind.

Moore kept her child a secret until 1994, when Heikkila's half-sister hired a professional investigator who scoured the heavily redacted records of her birth for the one clerical slip that eventually led to her mother. By then, Moore was married and had raised other children, including Heikkila, who was 26 at the time and a graduate student at the U of M.

Heikkila recalled her excitement. "Here was this new person in our lives," she said. Not only had she gained a half-sister, but her new sib-



Kim Heikkila holds a portrait of her mother, Sharon Moore Wikstrom, a resident of Booth Memorial Hospital in 1961 and the inspiration for her history of the St. Paul home for unwed mothers. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Heikkila's mother became pregnant at the high-water mark for places like Booth. Her half-sister was among more than 450 babies born at Booth in 1961, the vast majority of whom were given up for adoption.

ling had the same first name, Kim. It was only much later that Heikkila, by then an adoptive mother herself, wanted to know more about her mother's experience at Booth Memorial.

"My mother was never a baby person," Heikkila said, "but her reaction to my birth must have been tinged with sadness for the baby she couldn't keep. (As a teenager) she felt guilty for being pregnant to begin with, but she also felt guilty that she was unable to raise the child."

Heikkila will never know the full

story of Moore's first experience of motherhood. By the time she had the questions ready, there was no one to answer them. Her mother, who had been a reticent person anyway, died in 2009, so Heikkila sought the answers to her questions through historical research.

What Heikkila discovered was that her mother had become pregnant at the high-water mark for places like Booth Memorial. In 1961 the 46-bed facility was overflowing. Heikkila's half-sister was among more than 450 babies born at Booth that year, the vast majority of whom were given up for adoption.

Founded in 1898 in downtown St. Paul as a shelter for prostitutes and other "fallen women," Booth Memorial moved to Como Avenue in 1913. By 1920 it had redirected its focus from social outcasts to pregnant unwed women.

A Salvation Army history reports that 13,500 unwed mothers gave birth at Booth and its predecessor shelter over their 75 years, and about 75 percent of the babies were

given up for adoption. Demand for Booth's services was especially heavy in the 1950s and early '60s, but by the early 1970s social mores had begun to change. In 1973, the year that Booth discontinued its maternity services, more than three-quarters of the unwed mothers were keeping their babies.

The following year the hospital was repurposed and renamed Booth Brown House, a temporary shelter and transitional housing facility for vulnerable and disadvantaged youths that is still being operated by the Salvation Army.

Asked about the legacy of Booth Memorial Hospital, Heikkila said: "It's more complicated than good or bad. Each Booth girl had her own experience. I don't come away with condemnation or praise for Booth or the women involved. The main issue for me is that (because of social pressures) these young women didn't have the opportunity to make a real choice. They didn't have the chance to explore the full range of options that later became available."

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District Council News

Highland Park

highlanddistrictcouncil.org • 651-695-4005

Prospective board members—An informal session for those who want to learn about the responsibilities of serving on the Highland District Council board of directors will be held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 9, at the Highland Cafe & Bakery, 2012 Ford Pkwy. There people can ask questions of current board members, find out what programs the district council is involved in and how to get involved. The HDC's annual meeting and board elections will be held on Wednesday, April 18. For information, contact Kathy Carruth by calling the HDC office or emailing info@highlanddistrictcouncil.org.

Citywide Spring Cleanup—Hundreds of volunteers will gather across St. Paul from 9-11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 21, for the 32nd annual Citywide Spring Cleanup. People can participate on their own or with a group to help beautify the city. They can choose from several cleanup locations at parks and recreation centers, including the Highland Park Pavilion. To register go to stpaul.gov/citywidecleanup.

Upcoming meetings—Community Development Committee, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 20; Community Engagement Committee, 6:45 p.m. Tuesday, March 27. Both meetings will be held at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. There will be no HDC board meeting in April.

Macalester-Groveland

macgrove.org • 651-695-4000

Annual meeting and elections—The Macalester-Groveland Community Council will hold its annual meeting and board elections from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 12, in McNeely Hall at the University of St. Thomas. St. Paul city planner Lucy Thompson will discuss the 2040 comprehensive planning process that will guide the city's development for the next 20 years. City Council members Samantha Henningson of Ward 4 and Chris Tolbert of Ward 3 will be on hand, and elections will be held for at-large seats on the community council's board of directors. Visit macgrove.org/annualmeeting.

Mac-Grove mini-grants—The community council is hoping to award two to four mini-grants this year to increase involvement in activities that benefit the neighborhood. Eligible projects could be anything from public festivals and gardens to murals and pedestrian safety events. For information, call the office or email mgcc@macgrove.org. Applications are due by April 29. To apply, visit macgrove.org/minigrants.

Get involved—The community council currently has openings on its board of directors for at-large faith, at-large business and at-large landlord representatives. The council also has four standing committees that meet once a month. Those who attend three consecutive committee meetings can become voting members. For information, visit macgrove.org/node/341.

Upcoming meetings—Environment Committee, 7 p.m. Thursday, March 15; Transportation Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 26; Housing and Land Use Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 28, Groveland Recreation Center, 2021 St. Clair Ave.; Community Building Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 9. Unless noted, the meetings will be held at the Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St.

Summit Hill

summithillassociation.org • 651-222-1222

Growing with Linwood—The Summit

Hill Association is collaborating with Linwood Monroe Arts Plus Lower School, 1023 Osceola Ave., on a water stewardship education program. The program will feature members of the Master Water Stewards presenting hands-on learning activities for the school's 2nd-grade science classes. The SHA will provide students with equipment and seeds to grow additional plants for the Linwood rain garden as part of their classes. The SHA will also host a field trip for the students, their friends and family to add the plants to the Linwood garden and install plant identification markers. Local artist Annie Hejny will lead a WaterStories art activity that day to make paint using rainwater and sediment collected from the garden. Students will create a large canvas painting and will take home a small art piece to finish.

Board election—An election for open positions on the SHA's board of directors will be held at the regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 12, in the Linwood Recreation Center, 860 St. Clair Ave. Application forms can be found on the website. For information, call the SHA office.

Mark your calendar—The SHA will hold its annual neighborhood garage sale on Saturday, May 5 (cost is \$20). It will also hold a plant sale at the Linwood Recreation Center that day and its annual Progressive Supper that evening. For information and to register, visit the SHA website.

Union Park

unionparkdc.org • 651-645-6887

Micro-grants available—The Union Park District Council is inviting local residents, both individually and in small groups, to apply for grants of \$200-\$600 to complete improvement projects in the neighborhood. The application deadline is April 30. For details, visit unionparkdc.org/micro-grants or email julie@unionparkdc.org.

Bike safety and repair—The UPDC will host free bike safety and repair clinics from 2-4 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, at the Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave., and Wednesday, April 18, at the Midway YMCA, 1761 University Ave. Participants will receive a free tune-up and can practice simple repairs. The clinics will be giving away bicycling safety gear and several donated children's bikes, and will provide information about local bicycle advocacy groups, bike repair shops, and bike routes. The clinics are supported by St. Paul-Ramsey County Public Health's Statewide Health Improvement Partnership and Mr. Michael Recycles Bicycles.

Music and movement classes—The UPDC has teamed up with Playing With Music to offer music and movement classes at 10 a.m. on Saturdays at 161 N Snelling Ave. for children from birth through kindergarten and their caregivers. A Ukulele Club for children ages 5-8 is also being offered at 11 a.m. on Saturdays. For information or to register, email markosorvari@gmail.com.

Historic home project—Those who own historic homes in the Union Park neighborhood are invited to purchase an engraved plaque for their properties. The cost is \$95, which includes a \$25 tax-deductible donation to the UPDC. For information, visit unionparkdc.org/historichome.

Upcoming meetings—Land Use and Economic Development Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 19; Environment and Parks Committee, 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 21; board of directors, 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, Otto Hall at Episcopal Homes, 1860 University Ave. Unless otherwise noted, the meetings will be held at 161 N. Snelling Ave.

Stay in touch—The public is invited to "like" the UPDC on Facebook and subscribe to its e-newsletter, "Neighborhood Matters," by emailing julie@unionparkdc.org.

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Thursday, April 19, 2018 - 11:00 a.m.
Safeguarding Our Seniors:
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Thursday, May 24, 2018 - 11:00 a.m.
Memory Care & Aging

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Tony Wallin (shamrock jacket), Jason Finn, Tayler Kahlow, Jill Dotas and Lila Schue got a jump on St. Patrick's Day during the fourth annual Lucky Palooza street party on March 10 along a two-block stretch of West Seventh Street in St. Paul. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

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Get your green on for St. Patrick's

The lilt of Irish laughter will be in the air this week when folks hereabouts tip their hats to St. Pat's. Following are just a few of the local activities that have been scheduled for the annual wearin' o' the green:

The Worst Irish Tenor Contest will be held from 7-10 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, at Mancini's Char House, 531 W. Seventh St. Come hear the singing and see the newly crowned Miss Shamrock and Shamrock Princesses. Call 651-224-7345.

The Center for Irish Studies at the University of St. Thomas will host its annual St. Patrick's Day open house from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Friday, March 16, in the Special Collections Room of the campus library. New and rare books from the 9,200-volume Celtic Collection will be displayed. A brief program will begin at 12:15 p.m. Many of the displayed books and the readings in the program will involve Irish horses. Call 651-962-5662.

St. Paul's St. Patrick's Day Parade will step out for the 52nd year at noon Saturday, March 17, along Fifth Street from the Farmers' Market to Rice Park. The 2018 button (pictured) is available for \$5 at participating businesses to support the parade. Visit stpatismn.org.

Minneapolis' St. Patrick's Day Parade will mark its 50th year beginning at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, March 17, along Nicollet Mall. The annual Blarney Blast will follow at Westminster Presbyterian Church at 12th Street and Nicollet Mall. Entry is by either a 2018 Minneapolis St. Patrick's Day button/bead set or \$5. Visit mplstpat.org or call 763-234-0669.

The Irish heritage of turn-of-the-20th-

century railroad tycoon James J. Hill and wife Mary Mehegan Hill will be explored during themed tours between 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, March 17, at the historic Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. Stories of the Hills and their servants and their favorite Irish songs will engage visitors in the history of Irish-Americans in Minnesota. Admission is \$6-\$10. Call 651-297-2555.

The Irish Music and Dance Association will host its 37th annual Irish Celebration from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, March 17, and its 15th annual Day of Irish Dance from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, March 18, at Landmark Center. The events will feature traditional Irish music and dance, food and beverages, cultural seminars, crafts and children's activities. Admission is \$5-\$7. Call 651-292-3063.

The "Get Lucky" St. Patrick's-themed races will be held on Saturday, March 17, beginning and ending at CHS Field in St. Paul. A half marathon and 14K will begin at 9 a.m., followed by a 7K timed at 9:30 a.m. and 7K untimed at 9:45 a.m. Runners will wend their way through Lowertown and along Shepard Road before heading back. For more information, visit monsterrunseries.com/get-lucky-mn.html.

All Things Green Weekend will take place on Saturday and Sunday, March 17-18, at the Como Park Zoo & Conservatory. The weekend will include games, crafts, and zookeeper and gardener talks. Saturday will also be the opening of the Spring Flower Show featuring a large variety of tulips and lilies. For information, visit comozooconservatory.org.



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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—The construction site and trailer at Horace Mann Elementary School, 2001 Eleanor Ave., were broken into and copper tubing was stolen between 4-5 a.m. Friday, February 23.

—An attached garage was burglarized on the 2000 block of Upper St. Dennis Road between 12:30-2 p.m. Sunday, February 25.

—Two doors were damaged and two laptop computers were stolen during a home break-in on the 1700 block of Sheridan Avenue between 6:15-10:15 p.m. Monday, March 5.

Theft—The catalytic converters were stolen from one vehicle on the 1200 block of Juno Avenue on February 12-19, and from another vehicle on Griggs Street and Juno Avenue on February 18-19.

—More than \$1,000 worth of tools were reported stolen from a vehicle on Davern Street and Saunders Avenue between 6-9 a.m. Tuesday, February 20.

—A backpack and Lenovo ThinkPad were stolen at Tiffany Sports Lounge, 2051 Ford Pkwy., at 3:31 p.m. Friday, February 23.

—Stolen vehicles were reported on the 700 block of South Mississippi River Boulevard on February 25-26, on the 1300 block of Bayard Avenue on February 26-27 and on the 500 block of South Snelling Avenue on March 2.

—A white Jaguar was stolen from Hertz Rental Car lot, 1420 S. Davern St., at 7:05 a.m. Friday, March 2. The suspect was described as a 6-foot-tall black male with a thin build and wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt. Several suspects were also seen entering the lot and driving off with stolen vehicles at 3:29 that morning.

—More than \$1,000 worth of tools were stolen from a construction trailer at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave., between March 2-5.

—A laptop computer was stolen from a vehicle on Niles and Snelling avenues between 1-1:40 p.m. Monday, March 5.

Miscellaneous—Police were stationed at Cretin-Derham Hall on Thursday, February 22, after receiving a call the previous evening of a potential felony terroristic threat against the school. It was later determined that the threat was unfounded.

Lexington-Hamline

Burglary—A home break-in was reported on the 100 block of North Lexington Parkway at 5:25 p.m. Friday, March 2.

Theft—A stolen vehicle was stolen on Lexington Parkway and University Avenue during the evening of February 21-22.

Police urge motorists not to leave valuables in car

The St. Paul Police Department received more than 20 reports on the evening of Wednesday, February 21, from people who had their car windows smashed and items stolen from inside.

That's the bad news. Police said the good news, if any, is that these are crimes of opportunity and can be prevented. They urge motorists to do the following:

1. Don't keep valuables in their vehicles.
2. Always lock the doors of their vehicles.
3. Park in well-lit areas.
4. If they have a vehicle alarm, use it.
5. Look out for suspicious behavior.

Anyone with information about the recent rash of smash-and-grabs is asked to call the police at 651-291-1111. Those who see a theft in progress should dial 911.

Mother, son charged in West End hit-and-run that killed bicyclist

Dustin Joel Hegner Royce and his mother, Abbey Rose Hegner, were charged in Ramsey County District Court on March 2 in connection with a hit-and-run incident that resulted in the death of a bicyclist last November on St. Paul's West End. Royce, 28, of St. Paul faces two counts of criminal vehicular homicide, and Hegner, 47, of West St. Paul faces two counts of aiding an offender.

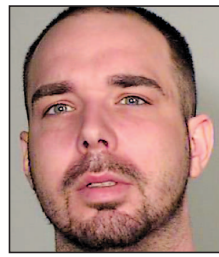
According to the criminal complaints, officers responded to the hit-and-run collision at 12:10 a.m. Monday, November 26, on Grand Avenue and West Seventh Street. Witnesses said the suspect's vehicle was traveling west on West Seventh when it ran a red light and struck Jose Hernandez Solano, who was biking home from his job at Brasa Rotisserie on Grand Avenue. Solano was biking south on Grand when he entered the West Seventh intersection on a green light and was struck. The suspect's vehicle proceeded on West Seventh without stopping.

Solano was unconscious and taken to the hospital where he later died from injuries that included a fractured spinal column and head trauma.

Debris at the scene and surveillance video



Abbey Hegner



Dustin Royce

eventually led investigators to the two suspects, whom they interviewed last December. Hegner said she sold the vehicle in November and denied any knowledge of the collision. Royce also denied involvement in the crash. To date, the vehicle in question has not been located.

Ramsey County Attorney John Choi said police and prosecutors "were able to piece together the series of events that resulted in this senseless tragedy and charge the people responsible—both for the incident and subsequent attempts to cover it up."

Choi added that the victim in the case had done everything right. "He was obeying traffic laws, wearing a safety helmet and had lights on the front and back of his bike, and yet he lost his life," he said.

Prosecutors were asking for \$50,000 and \$500,000 in bail for Hegner and Royce, respectively. Hegner faces a maximum sentence of five years and \$10,000 on each count, while Royce faces 10 years and \$20,000 on each.

—A snowmobile and trailer were stolen from the 1700 block of University Avenue between February 23-27.

Snelling-Hamline

Robbery—An attempted robbery occurred at Little Caesar's, 1532 University Ave., at 9:10 p.m. Friday, February 23. The suspect fled before police arrived.

Theft—A purse, laptop computer, headphones and cash were stolen from a vehicle on the 1300 block of University Avenue between 5:20-6:20 p.m. Monday, February 19.

—A Dell laptop computer was stolen from a vehicle at Concordia University's Sea Foam Stadium between 6-8:30 p.m. Friday, February 23.

Miscellaneous—Police responded to a report of a woman who was screaming at someone inside a vehicle and arrested a 50-year-old man for violating a no-contact order at 11:42 p.m. Thursday, March 1, at the Midway Cub Foods.

Summit Hill

Theft—More than \$500 worth of merchandise was stolen at Chico's, 1062 Grand Ave., between 3:30-4:30 p.m. Thursday, March 1.

Assault—A man was punched multiple times in the face at 1:30 a.m. Sunday, February 25, on the 800 block of Grand Avenue. The suspect fled in a vehicle before police arrived.

Miscellaneous—Police were called to a home on the 500 block of Lincoln Avenue at 2:10 p.m. Saturday, February 17, on a report of a student making threats. Officers were told the problem was being dealt with by the student's parents and school officials.

Summit-University

Theft—A trailer full of construction materials was stolen on the 500 block of Dayton Avenue during the evening of February 13-14.

—A \$6,200 Tiffany watch was reported stolen from a residence on the 100 block of Virginia Street on Tuesday, February 20.

—Volleyball equipment, a Kindle, a Pandora bracelet, a bridesmaid's dress, jewelry and other items were stolen from a vehicle on the 300 block of Selby Avenue between 7:25-8:45 p.m. Wednesday, February 21.

—Stolen vehicles were reported on the

1000 block of Marshall Avenue on February 23-24, on the 800 block of Dayton Avenue on March 2, on the 300 block of Laurel Avenue on March 6 and on the 700 block of Hague Avenue on March 6.

Weapons—Gunfire was reported near Grotto Street and Concordia Avenue at 10:46 p.m. Saturday, February 24. Two bullet casings were recovered.

—Police received multiple reports of gunshots near Iglehart Avenue and Oxford Street at 7 p.m. Sunday, March 4. Several shell casings were recovered, but no suspects or victims were located.

West End

Burglary—A snowblower was stolen from a garage that was broken into on the 500 block of South Chatsworth Street during the evening of February 24-25.

—A man was the victim of a strong-arm robbery at 7:47 p.m. Monday, February 26, at the Grand 7 Saloon, 315 W. Seventh St.

Theft—A wall-mounted electric heater was reported stolen on Tuesday, February 20, from the bathroom at SuperAmerica, 1125 W. Seventh St.

—A package was stolen from the entry of a home on the 700 block of James Avenue on Thursday, February 22. The loss was estimated at more than \$500.

—Stolen vehicles were reported at the RiverCentre parking ramp on February 25, on the 300 block of South Osceola Avenue on February 26 and on the 800 block of Watson Avenue on March 3-5.

—A cellphone was stolen from a purse at the Salvation Army, 401 W. Seventh St., between 12:43-1:46 p.m. Friday, March 2.

—Tools, cash, knives and a checkbook were stolen from a vehicle on the 700 block of Juno Avenue during the evening of March 3-4.

Assault—A juvenile was arrested for assault at Journeys Secondary School, 90 S. Western Ave., at 10:23 a.m. Thursday, February 22.

—A woman reported being assaulted at Burger King, 244 Grand Ave., at 3 p.m. Sunday, February 25.

—A victim was assaulted by two juveniles, one of whom had a knife, at 2:20 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, on West Seventh Street and St. Clair Avenue.

Weapons—Gunfire was reported at McDonald's, 551 Jefferson Ave., at 9:46 p.m. Friday, February 23. Evidence was recovered at the scene.

—Gunfire was reported on February 24 on Palace Avenue and Chatsworth Street, and on March 6 near West Seventh and Chatsworth streets.

Fire Calls

The following local calls were gathered from recent reports by the St. Paul Fire Department and other sources.

Highland Park—A 16-year-old girl was struck by a vehicle in the middle of the block while she was crossing Cleveland Avenue near Ford Parkway at 2:29 p.m. Sunday, February 11. She refused paramedic treatment.

Merriam Park—An accident involving injuries to a pedestrian was reported on Snelling and Spruce Tree avenues at 3:27 p.m. Tuesday, February 13.

—A bicyclist was taken to the hospital after being struck by a vehicle on Prior and St. Anthony avenues at 4:52 p.m. Thursday, February 15.

West End—A 48-year-old man was found lying in a snowbank after apparently being struck by a hit-and-run driver at 7:15 p.m. Monday, February 5, near Michigan and Duke streets. He was hospitalized with a broken jaw, pelvis and ribs and a punctured lung.

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Home Improvement

An upstairs bathroom features a large shower and double-wide concrete trough sink.



Lisa Lally and Elaine Kirkland toast the updated kitchen in their Macalester-Groveland home, which is one of 63 that will be featured on the Remodelers Showcase on March 23-25. PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

Made to order

Seamless Mac-Grove remodel featured on spring showcase

BY DAVE PAGE

A few years ago while sitting in their Long Island home and thinking about retirement, Lisa Lally and Elaine Kirkland found themselves not drawn to the sunshine of Florida or Arizona, but to the warmth of neighbors and the vibrant arts community in the Twin Cities.

"We had friends here and knew how welcoming it was," Lally said.

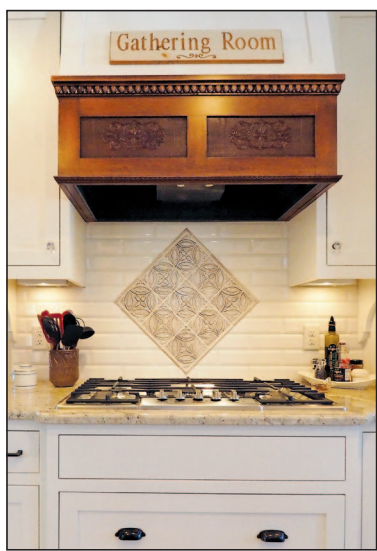
For two years, they conducted an online search of various locations within the metro area and decided on Macalester-Groveland.

"We made the right choice," said Kirkland, regarding the couple's move to St. Paul in spring 2016. "We love the walkability and the character of the vintage homes, and the fact that we're within a mile of three universities."

"And we both love winter!" Lally added.

They also fell in love with the woodwork inside their 1924 Dutch Colonial at 2132 Juliet Ave., but knew they would one day remodel the home's kitchen and bathroom.

The project came together sooner than they anticipated, and they were so pleased with the job done by McDonald Remodeling that they volunteered to include their home on the 2018 Parade of Homes Spring Remodelers Showcase. Theirs will be one of 63 homes open for self-



Parts of a pump organ restored by Kirkland's father were used for the vent hood over the stove.

guided tours during the weekend of March 23-25.

After deciding to tackle the remodeling project, one of the first steps Lally and Kirkland undertook was to interview several contractors during a home remodeling show in January 2017 at U.S. Bank Stadium.

"We were very impressed with McDonald's process," Kirkland said. "For five weeks we had a standing meeting every Monday for two hours to work with the designer on every aspect of the project, including such things as fixtures and appliances. We knew what everything would cost up front."

"We'd done some home improvement projects in New York," Lally added, "and we made a lot of emotional purchases because we needed something at the last minute. With McDonald, we made all the decisions before the renovation began and got exactly what we wanted."

In addition, McDonald gave the couple a day-by-day schedule of what would be done and who would be doing the work. The company predicted it would be finished by September.

"We moved in with some friends when the project started in June," Kirkland said, "and we moved back on September 1."

Although the couple had originally wanted a first-floor powder room, they quickly realized they could not have it and their dream kitchen without expanding the home's footprint, which would have been cost-prohibitive. "We figured if we got the kind of bathroom we wanted on the second floor, we could live without the powder room," Lally said.

McDonald's workers removed a wall between the dining room and kitchen to open up the space. The contractor's attention to detail included recommending brushed brass accents on the glass knobs for the kitchen cabinets. The brass accents complement the brushed brass faucet on the farm sink, and the glass knobs matched ones on

the second floor.

"The workers also did an amazing job of reusing the wood trim or matching it," Lally said.

She and Kirkland worked with Warners' Stellan to select a stainless steel refrigerator, separate cooktop and oven, dishwasher and microwave. However, the most meaningful part of the kitchen remodel was the vent hood.

"Many years ago, my father had restored a pump organ," Kirkland said. "I had hauled it around to various places, but we didn't have room for it here. One of my friends said I should respectfully dismantle it and use some of the wood somewhere." According to Kirkland, McDonald included panels and trim from the organ in the vent hood.

Space in the home's second-floor bath was taken up by a huge window, the water pressure was hampered by old cast iron pipes and the shower was cramped. McDonald replaced the window with a high ribbon window that still lets in southern sun and freed up space for a large mirror. Almost all the plumbing throughout the house was replaced to increase water pressure.

The company also added a pocket entrance door, which allowed the installation of a double-wide concrete trough sink. "We like the dual faucets," Kirkland said, "and we don't miss the fact that we can't fill the sink with water."

The bathroom also boasts a two-person glass-and-tile shower and in-floor heat.

Besides redoing the kitchen and bath, McDonald painted the home's downstairs and the upstairs hall, and refinished all the oak and maple floors. Workers also added a passage from the living room to the sun room at the back of the house.

"The traffic pattern is much better now," Kirkland said, "and we feel as if the sunroom is more a part of the house."

Both Kirkland and Lally said they could not say enough good things about McDonald. "Everyone was so friendly," Kirkland said. "They made it as painless as possible."

An important part of the remodel is that the couple wanted their 21st-century renovation ideas to be integrated seamlessly into their early 20th-century house. "We had an idea of what we wanted, but I'm not sure we could have put it into words," Lally said. "McDonald gave it to us."

The Remodelers Showcase will run from noon-6 p.m. Friday through Sunday, March 23-25. The tour is free, with the exception of a Minneapolis "dream home" where a \$5 donation is requested to support the Builders Association of the Twin Cities Foundation.

Guidebooks are available at all Holiday Stationstores. For information, visit paradeofhomes.org.

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Home Energy Squad energy auditor Kristin Syverud conducts a blower door test at a Highland Park home to check for air leaks. PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

Visit from Home Energy Squad helps residents save time, energy and money

BY FRANK JOSSI

Jim Johnson, a self-described “eco-nut,” had the Home Energy Squad investigate his 1917 home this winter for leaks and other energy-wasting problems. He had a similar audit done 15 years ago and figured it was time for an update.

“They didn’t find a lot except for air leaks into the attic,” said Johnson, a Merriam Park resident and professor of medicine at the University of Minnesota. “The attic insulation was suboptimal and there was room for improvement.”

Johnson used the Home Energy Squad, a program of the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE), to replace some standard light bulbs with LEDs and install weather-stripping on a door. He and his wife, Maggie Wirth Johnson, hired a contractor to install insulation in the attic.

“We’re more fanatical than most people about being as efficient as possible because of environmental concerns,” Johnson said.

Becky Olson, director of residential programs for the CEE, said the Home Energy Squad offers home inspections for \$70 and \$100. The standard option is more of a visual inspection, she said, in which Home Energy Squad workers replace LED bulbs, add door and attic hatch weather-stripping, install high-efficiency showerheads and faucet aerators, and adjust and add a blanket to water heaters.

The \$100 enhanced option adds blower door and thermal image testing to look for leaks. A combustion safety test and carbon monoxide check are also part of the option. Both services include an inspection of attic and wall insulation, along with a quote for insulation improvements.

“During the audit, we’re generating an insulation quote for them and we have five contractors in the metro area who’ve agreed to our pricing,” Olson said. “We’re able to give them a solid insulation quote right there and schedule a contractor at the same time.”



Energy counselor Sam Wagner trims weather-stripping at a Highland home.

Locally, improvements that are the most recommended are the addition of wall and attic insulation. Residents often believe they lose heat mainly through windows and doors, but “it’s mainly through the attic, between the house and the attic,” Olson said.

Home Energy Squad visits are heavily subsidized by Xcel Energy, CenterPoint Energy and local municipalities. “The full (enhanced) service really costs \$650,” Olson said.

After the initial visit, Home Energy Squad staffers return to offer their Energy Advisor services. They check on their clients’ progress, answer questions and connect them with contractors for additional work.

“They help with next steps in finding contractors and getting projects done,” said Stacy Boots Camp, recruitment and outreach coordinator for the CEE. The Energy Advisor is a unique service of the Home Energy Squad because sometimes clients need a little handholding to move forward, she said.

Business has been booming of late. “Right now the phone’s ringing off the

hook,” Boots Camp said. “But we always have a lot of calls in the fall and winter. It’s a little less active in summer.”

Beyond simple repairs, Home Energy Squad experts sometimes find the need for more expensive investments. Attic improvements might cost \$1,200, Olson said, but some homeowners need new furnaces and mechanical systems that can cost between \$5,000-\$10,000.

The CEE has a home energy loan program that clients can use to pay for improvements, Olson said. The loans run from \$1,000-\$20,000, with terms of up to 10 years, for investments such as new windows, heating systems, central air, light fixtures, exterior doors, attic air sealing, wall and ceiling insulation, water heaters and geothermal pumps.

For many years, the Home Energy Squad in St. Paul was operated by the Neighborhood Energy Connection. Last year, the NEC formally merged with the CEE, bringing together the two Home Energy Squad staffs.

The nonprofit organization operates in any city served by Xcel or CenterPoint and inspects around 7,000 homes annually. The staff of 35 or so employees work out of the former NEC office at 1754 University Ave.

Johnson is a satisfied customer, in part because he sees climate change as an important challenge that requires homeowners to invest in energy efficiency and clean energy. He has a solar array installed at his home and some months sells much of the energy it produces back to Xcel.

“I definitely have a positive attitude toward (the Home Energy Squad staff),” he said. “They were very responsive, answered questions, provided answers and facilitated very nicely. The experience was way high on the satisfaction meter. These guys are really good.”

For more information or to schedule a visit, call 651-328-6220 or see homeenergysquad.net.

Right at home

Highland two-story gets major upgrade while still maintaining its character

BY DAVE PAGE

When the current owners of 667 Josephine Place began their family five years ago, they decided to move from their loft apartment in St. Paul's Lowertown into more spacious digs. They really liked the Highland Park neighborhood south of St. Catherine University. Other family members lived nearby, the area had a small-town feel, and it was within walking distance of many restaurants and entertainment options.

However, they could not find a house with the kind of space they desired. They ended up purchasing a two-story Colonial whose exterior bricks and shakes and interior arches and woodwork impressed them. They felt the three-bedroom 1,350-square-foot house was wonderful in many ways, but was not set up for modern living.

Through the recommendation of friends, the couple contacted JKath Design Build + Reinvent of Minneapolis to create their dream abode, which will be featured in the 2018

Parade of Homes Spring Remodelers Showcase. It is one of 63 remodeled homes that will be open for public viewing from noon-6 p.m. Friday through Sunday, March 23-25.

The owners, who preferred not to be named, walked through several JKath renovations in the neighborhood and were particularly impressed that co-owner Jesse Kath did his own cabinet making and was "hands on" when it came to the projects he undertook. The couple said they also liked that Kath was keen on "keeping the character of the original house alive."

Because of the way the house sat on the lot, JKath was able to build a two-story, 750-square-foot addition off the side of the house rather than encroach on the backyard. The owners are happy with the way the exterior of the addition blends in with the original structure, noting that visitors have no idea that one-third of the house is almost 80 years newer than the rest.

In another nod to making the addition true to the house's origins, workers reused the brick from the



Jesse and Katie Kath of JKath Design Build + Reinvent show off the new kitchen at 667 Josephine Place, which will be featured on the Remodelers Showcase on March 23-25. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

home's original chimney on a surround for the living room fireplace as well as the back wall of the addition. Recycling the brick also saved money.

On the first level, the addition includes a kitchen with a center island and enough room to make it the focus of entertaining. The most eye-catching part of the kitchen is the hand-glazed terra cotta tile that

glows between the countertops and light gray cabinets.

Off the kitchen is a new kids' playroom that can easily transition to a home office or game room at some later date.

On the opposite side of the first floor, the original galley kitchen was turned into a mudroom with lots of storage for the couple's growing family.

A master bedroom suite with an expansive full bath and walk-in closets fills the second floor of the addition. The bathroom includes a glass-and-tile shower and reproduction claw foot soaker tub.

JKath also ripped up carpet and refinished floors on the second floor, and renovated the laundry

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19◀ REMODELERS SHOWCASE

room and den in the basement. As an unexpected bonus, the crawl space beneath the addition provides room for extra storage.

The owners are pleased with the end product, which they prefer to label as a “restoration rather than a renovation.”

Other local homes on this spring’s showcase include the following:

St. Paul

2132 Juliet Ave.—McDonald Remodeling opened up the walls of this cramped 1924 Dutch Colonial to create an open-concept kitchen with a classic mix of materials. The upper bath was reconfigured in its existing space to accommodate a double shower and sinks (see separate story).

1660 Laurel Ave.—Apex Construction Management built a main-level addition to this century-old gem featuring a

kitchen with restored vintage appliances, custom cabinetry, checkerboard tile floor, tall custom table and working antique wall phone. The home also features a period-appropriate tile bath, a charming rear porch and windows overlooking a colorful Norwegian sauna.

Mendota Heights

2245 Copperfield Drive—Russell Room Remodelers gave this 1990s home a much-needed kitchen makeover. It now has new hardwood floors throughout the main level, white cabinets with a large contrasting island finished with quartz countertops, and a tile backsplash to complete the transformation.

The Remodelers Showcase is presented by the Builders Association of the Twin Cities. Guidebooks are available at Holiday Stationstores. For the full list of homes on this spring’s tour, visit paradeofhomes.org.



A view from the stairway of the living room featuring refinished oak floors at the remodeled home at 667 Josephine Place. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Home & Garden Clippings

Tim Lemke Construction of Mendota Heights has been named a 2018 Contractor of the Year for the nine-state North Central Region by the National Association of the Remodeling Industry. Lemke was recognized in the kitchens \$100,000-\$150,000 category for a Prairie-style remodeling project at a home on Portland Avenue in Merriam Park. The same project earned it a Minnesota Contractor of the Year title last November. The project now is a finalist for national honors to be announced in Charlotte, North Carolina, on April 20. David Heide Design Studio of Minneapolis designed the project, which is featured in the recent issue of *SPACES* magazine.

Metro Blooms will be offering two workshops this spring on how to promote a weather-resilient yard. A 2½-hour Resilient Yard Workshop with one-on-one assistance from Blue Thumb Landscape Designers, Hennepin County master gardeners and master water stewards will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April

10, at the Longfellow Community Center, 3435 36th Ave. S. in Minneapolis, and at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 19, at the Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy. in Minneapolis. A 90-minute Turf Alternative Workshop with recommendations for a low-maintenance yard will be offered at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, at the Longfellow Community Center and at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 3, at the Nokomis Community Center. The cost for each workshop is \$15 per household. For reservations, visit metroblooms.org or call 651-699-2426.

Castle Building & Remodeling is offering free remodeling classes at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and at 10 a.m. on Saturdays. The upcoming schedule includes Prioritizing Home Improvements on March 17 and Creative Financing for Your Remodel on April 7 at its Longfellow showroom, 4020 Minnehaha Ave. S., Minneapolis; Planning a Kitchen Remodel on March 20 and Evaluating Your Home for Solar on April 10 at its South Min-

neapolis showroom, 5 W. Diamond Lake Road; Planning a 1/2 Story (Attic) Remodel at its Northeast Minneapolis showroom at 2600 Johnson St. NE; and Planning a Bathroom Remodel on May 8 at its St. Paul showroom, 362 S. Snelling Ave. Visit castlebri.com/education-class-schedule-sign-sheet or call 612-789-8509 (Minneapolis) or 651-699-4164 (St. Paul).

A Ramsey County Fix-It Clinic will be held from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at the West Minnehaha Recreation Center, 685 W. Minnehaha Ave. Residents can bring in small household appliances, clothing, electronics, mobile devices and other items to receive free help from volunteers to fix them. Items must be carried in—no oversized items will be allowed. Participants are encouraged to bring any tools and supplies they think might help with the job. Volunteer fixers also are needed. Email FixItClinics@ramseycounty.us or call 651-266-1199 for more information.



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Visit RamseyRecycles.com for details and a list of upcoming events.



Hosted by Alexis of myTalk 107.1!

Questions? Contact:
FixItClinics@RamseyCounty.us or 651-266-1199





The Kiosk

Thursday/March 15

A GARAGE SALE continues from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. every Thursday, Friday and Saturday, today through March 23, at VFW Post 6690, 1323 Sibley Memorial Hwy. in Mendota. Donations are accepted.

CONVENTION OF STATES project cofounder Mark Meckler and television host Pete Hegseth will speak at a rally at 2:45 p.m. at the Capitol to urge lawmakers to make Minnesota the 13th state to seek a new balance of power between the states and federal government through a convention of states as provided in Article V of the U.S. Constitution. For information, visit conventionofstates.com.

Friday/March 16

A FISH FRY will be held from 5:30-8 p.m. at St. Thomas More School, 1065 Summit Ave. The parish will serve up a delicious meal of fried cod, mashed potatoes, French fries, macaroni and cheese, coleslaw, roll and cookies. Beer, wine and soda will be available for purchase. Meal tickets are \$10, \$5 for children ages 5-12, or \$30 per family. Stations of the Cross will precede the fish fry at 5 p.m. in the church.

Saturday/March 17

A RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Luke Lutheran Church, 1807 Field Ave. To make an appointment to donate blood, call 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code "St Luke SP".

THREE SOMALI-AMERICAN mothers and state Representative Mary Franson will discuss the need for legislation to criminalize the cultural tradition of female circumcision as genital mutilation at a meeting of the Metro Republican Women. The meeting will open with breakfast at 8:30 a.m. followed by the program at 9 a.m. at Mendakota Country Club, 2075 Mendakota Drive in Mendota Heights. The cost is \$25 for nonmembers, \$15 for students. For reservations, visit metrogopwomen.org.

Sunday/March 18

MUGS FOR MARYAH, the third annual fundraiser for Crescent Cove, the new children's hospice in St. Louis Park that was the dream of former Cretin-Derham Hall and St. Thomas More student Maryah Tift, will be held from 1-4 p.m. at Bad Weather Brewing Company, 414 W. Seventh St. A silent auction, food truck and brewery tours will be featured. For more information, visit mugsformaryah.org.

"CHINA AND AMERICA: The New Political Equation" will be discussed at 1:30 p.m. at the Waters, 678 S. Snelling Ave. Sponsored by nonpartisan Global Minnesota, the Great Decisions program will consider how the U.S. can preserve its relationship with China while it seeks to rein in North Korea's nuclear missile program. For details, call 651-363-3040.

Monday/March 19

THE GARDEN CLUB of Ramsey County will discuss landscaping and garden design with renegade gardener Don Engebretson at its monthly meeting from 7:25-8:25 p.m. at St. Luke Lutheran Church, 1807 Field Ave. The public is welcome to attend.



Beating a drum for St. Patrick.

The Brian Boru Pipe Band wended its way down West Seventh Street during the Lucky Palooza festival on March 10, opening what promises to be a week-long observance of St. Patrick's Day in St. Paul.

PHOTO BY
BRAD STAUFFER

Tuesday/March 20

THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB will gather for a three-mile hike through the State Fairgrounds and the University of Minnesota campus beginning at 11:30 a.m. on the fairgrounds at Cooper Street and Dan Patch Avenue. New members are welcome. Call 651-455-0052.

A MENTAL HEALTH support group for adults ages 18-30 meets from 6-7:30 p.m. today and the first and third Tuesday of every month on the lower level of Macalester Plymouth United Church, 1658 Lincoln Ave. The group is facilitated by young adults with a mental illness and doing well in recovery. It is sponsored by the National Alliance on Mental Illness. For information, call Tess at 507-226-3369.

THE PAX CONVERSATIONAL SALON returns with a discussion about growing vegetables inside without special lights or a greenhouse. Lee Olson will explain how to turn sprouted seeds into delicious salad greens in 12 days. The conversation will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Mississippi Market, 1500 W. Seventh St. Admission is free, though donations are appreciated. Call 651-227-3228.

MILES LORD: The Maverick Judge Who Brought Corporate America to Justice author Roberta Walburn will tell of the road the celebrated jurist followed from the Iron Range to the U.S. District Court for Minnesota from 7-8 p.m. at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Admission is free. Call 651-259-3000.

Thursday/March 22

"A CHRISTIAN AND A MUSLIM in Conversation" with Abdirizak Jama and Professor Jon Armajani will be presented by the Institute of Theological and Interdisciplinary Studies at 7:30 p.m. in Weyerhaeuser Board Room at Macalester College. Admission is free and so is the buffet dinner that will be served at 6:30. Dinner reservations are requested. Call 651-430-0361 or 651-983-3846.

"ONE WOMAN'S COVERT WAR," the story of Betty McIntosh who as part of the OSS developed black propaganda against the Japanese in the China-Burma-India Theater of World War II, will be told by author Ann Todd from 7-9 p.m. in the Visitors Center at Historic Fort Snelling. Admission to this History Roundtable is by donation with \$5 recommended, free for students and veterans. Call 612-726-1171.

Saturday/March 24

A RUMMAGE SALE will be held from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. in the gymnasium at Highland Park Senior High School, 1015 S. Snelling Ave. Donations are still being sought. Items should be brought to the gym by March 23. All proceeds will go to the Highland gymnastics team. For information, email Lindsey at lindseymac02@gmail.com.

HOLOCAUST DENIAL as a cultural movement will be addressed by Mike Persellin in a free program from 10:15-11:45 a.m. in the Teen Room at the Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy. Sponsored by the Or Emet Congregation for Humanistic Judaism, the program is free and open to the public. Visit oremnet.org.

SWEET LAND OF LIBERTY author Thomas Sugrue of New York University will discuss the forgotten struggle for civil rights in the North in an hour-long history forum offered at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Admission is \$16. For tickets, call 651-259-3015.

Sunday/March 25

THE FOURTH ANNUAL Empty Bowl Fundraiser in honor of the late Macalester College ceramics professor Gary Erickson will be held from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Art Commons of the Fine Arts Center at Mac. Guests will be served a simple meal of soup, bread and a cookie and may choose from a large selection of handmade ceramic bowls to take home as a reminder that someone's bowl is always empty. Meal tickets are by donation with all proceeds going to the

Neighborhood House Food Market. For information, email shillsbo@macalester.edu.

Monday/March 26

VIETNAMESE IMMIGRANT, poet, children's author and spoken-word artist Bao Phi will address Race and Literature at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of Central High School, 275 N. Lexington Pkwy. The free program is sponsored by the Central Parent Advisory Committee.

Tuesday/March 27

LOCAL ELDERS are invited to Lunch, Learn and Laugh from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Seabury building at Episcopal Homes, 1830 University Ave. Pizza and salad will be served, and games of Bingo will be played with prizes for the winners. The cost is \$8 payable by cash or check. For reservations, contact Kire at 651-379-5102 or kmeyer@episcopalhomes.org.

THE POETRY OF MARY OLIVER will be recited and discussed during a Pax Conversational Salon from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Mississippi Market, 1500 W. Seventh St. Admission is free, though donations are appreciated. Call 651-227-3228.

Wednesday/March 28

CLIMATE CHANGE and its impact on conflicts in Rwanda, Darfur, Syria and Myanmar and sexual violence against women will be addressed by four World Without Genocide fellows from 7-9 p.m. in the Kelley Board Room at Mitchell Hamline School of Law, 875 Summit Ave. Admission is \$10, \$5 for seniors and students. Call 651-695-7621.

Thursday/March 29

HUMAN TRAFFICKING and what you can do to prevent it will be addressed by Ramsey County Attorney John Choi at 11 a.m. at Kessler & Maguire Funeral Home, 640 W. Seventh St. A light lunch will follow the free program. For reservations, call 651-224-2341.



Hot Dish

By Morgan Smith

Feeling expansive about the fare at Tiffany Lounge

In my somewhat embarrassing, gluttonous past, I can't remember a time when I didn't request a second helping at an all-you-can-eat Lenten fish fry. However, that string came to an end a couple of Fridays ago at Tiffany Sports Lounge, 2051 Ford Pkwy., where I was barely able to finish my first helping of Summit Pale Ale-battered Alaskan pollock, coleslaw and hand-cut fries.

Mind you, the fish was great. It was just that the portion was so generous, it was all I could handle.

I had stopped by Tiffany to check out the new 1,700-square-foot expansion of the Highland Village bar and restaurant which has been serving patrons for over 50 years.

"When we were doing the most recent renovation, we discovered the original building permit from 1966," said owner Blake Montpetit.

Blake's father, Danny Montpetit, bought the business in 1971. "At first, Tiffany was pretty much a bar for Ford Plant workers," said Blake, who went to work there in the early 1990s at the age of 17.

Danny expanded the bar into the storefront to the east in the late 1970s. Soon after, a kitchen was added. However, the most noteworthy change may have been in 1986 when Tiffany transitioned to a sports bar. Hailing from Somerset, Wisconsin, Danny made Tiffany a destination for Green Bay Packers fans with satellite broadcasts of all Packer games on the bar's multiple screens.

Minnesota-born Blake has attempted to remain above the fray when it comes to the Packers-Vikings rivalry. Nevertheless, he'd very much like local fans to consider Tiffany the best viewing spot in the Twin Cities for all things sporting.

In addition to televising the daily fare of professional sporting contests, Tiffany serves as the go-to place for University of Kansas basketball games. "We purchased a KU package from Direct TV in 1997," Blake said. "The first year was a bust, but the next year KU went to the Final Four and we began working with the university to market to local alumni. Now we have a loyal following."

Tiffany's recent expansion was to the west, into the former Jimmy John's space. That boosted the number of televisions in the place to 32, including three large projection screens. However, Blake is most pleased with the half-dozen six-person booths on the west side of the lounge, each of them equipped with two television monitors. "I don't think any other Twin Cities location has anything like it," he said.

The Montpetits had considered expanding Tiffany to the west 15 years ago, Blake said, but the family decided it wasn't



The Highland Park Gourmet Burger with hand-cut fries served at Tiffany Sports Lounge.

PHOTOS BY
BRAD STAUFFER

the right time. However, with the advent of the smoking ban in 2007 and the closing of the Ford Plant in 2011, the customer base was changing. "Before, we were a bar with food," Blake said. "Now we have a lot more families stopping in, and we wanted to have more space for them."

Sometime this summer, Blake plans to close for a short time in order to update the large rectangular bar inside the establishment. "It hasn't changed since 1966," he said. "We want to upgrade it."

The fish fry runs from 4-11 p.m. on Fridays through March 30, but there are plenty of reasons to visit Tiffany. While I was polishing off the pollock, my wife, Mecca, was thoroughly enjoying the Ahi Tuna Flatbread (\$14). The combination of tuna, avocado, spring mix, green onions, plum sauce and chipotle ranch dressing was piled high on what looked more like large crackers than flatbread, but Mecca was pleased. "The tuna was seared just as I like it," she said.

My friend Dave ordered the Cajun Shrimp Tacos (\$14)—three flour tacos filled with shrimp, mango pineapple salsa, avocado ranch dressing, pickled onions, Cotija cheese and sriracha. Despite the Cajun spices and the sriracha, the tacos weren't as hot as Dave had feared and he enjoyed them very much.

As I noted, unless you've given up good food for Lent, you can't go wrong with Tiffany's Fish Fry (\$12.99). The pollock is moist and lightly battered, and the fries are so good you'll want to spear the smaller ones with a fork.

Mecca and I also stopped by Tiffany for lunch on a Tuesday and sat in one of the new two-screen booths. The televisions weren't as distracting as I had thought, but then I do have an attractive wife.

Tiffany's \$8 lunch special is pretty attractive, too. Mecca

ordered the cheeseburger with fries—a large burger with a slab of cheese and those addictive fries. Despite my hungry-dog expression, she wouldn't even offer me a taste. And if the cheeseburger sounds tempting, stop by on a Tuesday night when a Burger Basket is just \$6.

There were other fine choices among the lunch specials, including the chicken sandwich and the fish tacos, but I went with the Cubano (\$12), a combination of pulled pork, sliced ham, Swiss cheese, sweet pickles and Dijon mustard on a ciabatta bun served with fries. The sandwich was tasty and more than filling, but after seeing Mecca's burger, I regretted not ordering one of the lunch specials.

I did manage to sneak away on another evening for Tiffany's Grilled BBQ Chicken Sandwich (\$12). Rather than my side of fries, I probably should have tried the onion rings, tater tots, seasonal vegetables or soup that are available for an additional \$2. But why mess with a good thing? The fries were great, and the BBQ chicken with cheddar cheese and onion on a sesame seed bun was juicy and perfectly seasoned.

As soon as I get over that stuffed feeling, I plan to head back to Tiffany for the chicken wings—one pound of regular or boneless wings for \$11. If it's a Monday night, the wings are just 71 cents apiece, priced in celebration of the year that Danny Montpetit bought the place.

Danny's grandson Brent, who graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Stout a year ago, is now the third generation of Montpetits to work at Tiffany and the fifth generation to work in the bar-and-restaurant business. With the family's long tradition of great bar food and its knack for keeping abreast of changing times, I wouldn't be surprised to find yet another generation of Montpetits behind the bar at Tiffany in 20 years or so.

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On the Town

Thinking inside the box

Collaborative art is a work in progress through the creative genius of 8 women



Margaret Olson (left), Jean Wright and Barb Frame display three of the collaborative works that will be featured on March 16 and 17 in the 15th annual "Art in a Box" at Pilgrim Lutheran Church. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

BY JANET LUNDER HANAFIN

Once upon a time, nine admittedly zany women decided to unleash their creative juices in a collaborative project, and Art in a Box was born. Barb Frame of Macalester-Groveland hatched the idea, inviting a couple of friends, who each invited a couple of friends, to join her in the scheme. It was intended as a one-time affair, but the women had such a good time they have kept it going for 15 years.

"The first night we met at my house, nobody had met everyone else, so it was fun to get to know each other," Frame said.

The collective of now eight women will present their annual show with public receptions from 6-8:30 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, March 16 and 17, at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1935 St. Clair Ave.

Every year the group chooses a theme, and each artist picks up a box or a bag to get started. Some years there is an identical object in each box or bag, and some years the women find their own starter object. The idea, Frame said, is for each woman to begin a work of art and then pass it on to the next artist to continue the project. The women each add something to the art projects, and when they have made their way through all eight artists, the works are done.

Throughout the creative process, the group meets monthly at a member's home for dinner and lots of laughter. And there, without discussing the present state of the art works, they pass them on to the next person before returning home to create as the spirit moves them. By November, the boxes have traveled to each member of the collaborative,

and dinner that month culminates in a great reveal as they discover just how the projects have morphed over the months.

"Everybody in the group has a pretty good sense of humor," said Jean Wright, a member of the collective from Macalester-Groveland. "Some of us go to great lengths and are creative and funny."

Over the years, four of the original members have moved away and one has died, but four others have joined the collective.

Not all of them come from art backgrounds.

Frame is a sign-language interpreter by profession who also carves elaborate pumpkins for Halloween. Another member is a calligrapher. Two are quilters. One works in the ancient visual art of encaustic. One is an accomplished rosemarler, another beads, and another does felting.

Margaret Olson of Macalester-Groveland, an original member, joked that she really isn't an artist but was welcomed to the group because of her cleverness. "There are all sorts of skills in the group," she said. "I think hard about the projects, and I get an idea, but I sometimes have to get help (from the others)."

Early on, the members had only tenuous connections. One of the things Wright has liked most about the group is getting to know

the others, people whom she would not have known otherwise. "We're such a diverse group," Wright said. "The women are fun, funny and genuine. We're very supportive of each other's art, and we teach one another."

The yearly themes for the boxes have included games, wire, playing cards, dishes, letters and boxes. Some themes, such as dolls and shoes, have been used twice but with very different results.

As the boxes make their way from one artist to another, the women record their progress with photographs and journal entries that describe what they are adding and why. At the end, Frame photographs the completed works and creates a book about the artistic journey so that each member has a permanent record. Frame admitted that it is difficult for her to show some restraint and add just enough to a project without going any further. "We've all learned not to have any expectations (for the final outcome)," she said.

Art lovers who attend the annual exhibits enjoy being able to examine the projects. The year the group had games as a theme, visitors were able to try them out, playing a board game called Camping with Cats and another called Jumping Java.

Wright especially enjoyed the two years

Wright especially enjoyed the two years that dolls was the theme. The first year, she started an art work with the head of a mop and a trip to the Ax-Man Surplus Store to get "some spring-like things." By the end, the work had "turned into a murder mystery with somebody building an electric chair for the doll."

that dolls was the theme. The first year, she started an art work with the head of a mop and a trip to the Ax-Man Surplus Store on University Avenue to get "some spring-like things." By the end, the work had "turned into a murder mystery with somebody building an electric chair for the doll," she said.

This year's theme is A Collaborative Art Venture with Stories. Frame started one art work with a limerick:

*There once was a girl from Nantucket,
Bored with her life she said, "Chuck it!"
I want to see states and parks
With pup Tilly who rarely barks,
And we'll carry all we need in a bucket.*

Frame's initial object was a little wooden shape that she transformed into a doll. She encouraged her collaborators to continue the rhyme with a tale about the girl from Nantucket as she journeyed around the U.S.

Frame's colleagues added other wooden dolls to the project, including four to represent the presidential figures on Mount Rushmore, several to represent a group of musicians in New Orleans, and one a Scotsman named Fergus.

"Collaborating is interesting," Wright said, "especially about art, because art is so personal. You learn to let it go. You never know what's going to happen."

"It isn't about the finished product," Frame said. "It's about the process."

Admission to the Art in a Box exhibit and reception is free and open to the public. The artists will be there serving homemade delicacies along with punch, tea and coffee.



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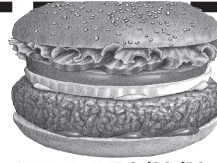
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Theater

A Raisin in the Sun, Lorraine Hansberry's classic drama about an African-American family that confronts adversity with passion, hope and a zest for living, will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, March 15 and 16, on the thrust stage at Park Square Theatre, 20 W. Seventh Place. Darius Dotch, Cynthia Jones-Taylor and Ivory Doubletree star. For ticket information, call 651-291-7005 or visit parksquaretheatre.org.

Collected Stories, a drama by Donald Margulies about how the friendship of two writers devolves into bitterness when one draws upon the life experiences of the other in her fiction, is playing through March 18 on the Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company's stage at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Maggie Bearmon Pistner and Ashley Rose Montondo star. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 8 p.m. Saturday and 1 and 7 p.m. Sunday. Tickets range from \$23-\$38. For reservations, call 651-647-4315 or visit mnjewishtheatre.org.

Multiple spaces at the James J. Hill House serve as the set for *Hamlet*. The Shakespearean tragedy about a Danish prince and his search for the truth behind his father's death is being staged by the Wayward Theatre Company at 7 p.m. Thursdays through Mondays through March 24 in the historic mansion at 240 Summit Ave. Tickets are \$30-35. Call 651-297-2555 or visit mnhs.org/event/5309.

Musical mayhem on the high seas, Gilbert and Sullivan's operetta *The Pirates of Penzance* is being performed through March 25 on the proscenium stage at Park Square Theatre, 20 W. Seventh Place. Adapted and directed by Doug Scholz-Carlson, the musical drama stars Bradley Greenwald, Christina Baldwin and Max Wojtanowicz. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. For ticket information, visit parksquaretheatre.org or call 651-291-7005.

The Canterville Ghost will open on March 16 at Theatre in the Round, 245 Cedar Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Playwright Marisha Chamberlain adapted this novella by Oscar Wilde about an English spirit who is appalled when an American family moves into his old manse and is determined to drive them out. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through April 8. Tickets are \$22 with discounts for students and seniors. Call 612-333-3010 or visit theatreintheround.org.

Working, a musical based on Studs Terkel's book by the same name, will be staged by the St. Catherine University Department of Music and Theater in collaboration with the University of St. Thomas on March 16-18 in the O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine. With a musical score by Steven Schwartz, Lin-Manuel Miranda and James Taylor, *Working* explores the hopes, dreams, and heartbreaks of everyday people. The curtain will rise at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$17. Call 651-690-6700 or visit oshag.stkate.edu.

Rocket Man, a play by Steven Dietz about a dissatisfied man who leaves everything behind in search of a better destiny, will be performed from March 17 through April 1 by Theatre Pro Rata. Directed by Stuart Gates, the drama stars Matt Wall, Anna Baker, Rachel Austin, Shana Eisenberg and Lanny Langston. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays through Sundays, 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 19, and 3 p.m. Sunday, April 1, at the Crane Theater, 2303 Kennedy St. NE. in Minneapolis. Tickets are \$14 to \$41. For



Dance the night away. Patrick Jeffrey and Andrea Mislan (left) of the Collide Theatrical Dance Company star in the History Theatre's production of *Dance 'Til You Drop*. The new play by Carson Kreitzer delves into the psychology of the dance marathon, a cultural phenomenon that came to prominence during the Great Depression. The couple play Callum deVilliers and Vonnie Kuchinski (right), a Minneapolis duo who attempted to set the world record for marathon dancing back in the day. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thursdays from March 24 through April 15 on the stage at 30 E. 10th St. Tickets are \$15-\$40. Call 651-292-4323 or visit historytheatre.com.

reservations, visit theatreprorata.org or call 612-234-7135.

The Kidlings, an original drama by Highland Park High School senior Zoe Challenger that revisits the very different lives of teenagers during the Great Depression, will be performed by Highland Park students at 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, March 22-24, in the auditorium of the high school, 1015 S. Snelling Ave. Tickets are \$8, \$6 for students and seniors.

Dirk and others still with us, an original drama by Macalester student Anna Bruijn, will be presented by the college's Department of Theatre and Dance at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 23 and 24, at Dreamland Arts, 677 N. Hamline Ave. The play examines how through stories and imagination one is able to keep close a loved one who has died. The cast includes Mac students Jane Fredman, Jesse Claire-McKown, Marisa Peredo and Elinor Jones. Admission is free but seating is limited. Call 651-696-6359.

Dance

Learn to line dance. Instructor Dariel Allen is conducting a class in line dancing for exercise and to help with balance and memory 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 per class. For more information, call 612-849-2775.

Choreographer Camille A. Brown will lead her company through ancestral stories that are both timeless and traditional, connecting history with contemporary culture, in concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 23, in the O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University. The program will feature "ink," the final installation in Brown's theatrical trilogy about identity, a dance set to blues, hip-hop,

jazz and swing music. Tickets are \$15-\$34 with discounts for students, seniors and veterans. Visit oshag.stkate.edu or call 651-690-6700. Company members will also take part in a free movement workshop rooted in the African-American vernacular at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 21, at TU Dance, 2121 University Ave. To register for the workshop, call 651-282-3115.

Books

The Great Books Discussions Group will examine Jean-Paul Sartre's short story "The Wall" at 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, at the University Club, 420 Summit Ave. Sartre was active in the French Resistance during World War II, and this story reflects that experience. The public is invited. Contact Margaret King at kingmuelken@q.com or 651-285-7550.

Peter Stenson will read from his new book *Thirty-Seven* in a free program at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, at Black Dog Cafe, 308 E. Prince St. The novel follows the adventures of 18-year-old Mason Hues, the last surviving member of cult whose quest for honesty and change leads to violence. Call 651-228-9274.

An open lab for writers to discuss their current projects with other writers or just work on their own is offered from 10:30 a.m.-noon every Thursday at the Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave. Call 651-642-0385.

Common Good Books, 38 S. Snelling Ave., will host free readings and discussions with authors Maya Dusenbery and her book, *Doing Harm: The Truth about How Bad Medicine and Lazy Science Leave Women Dismissed, Misdiagnosed and Sick*, at 7 p.m. March 15; Steve Ford and his book, *Keys to Inspiration: A Teacher's Guide to a Student-*



Centered Writing Program, 2 p.m. March 18; Thomas Fox Averill and his novel, *Found Documents from the Life of Nell Johnson Doer*, and John Reimringer and his novel-in-progress, 7 p.m. March 29. Call 651-225-8989 or visit commongoodbooks.com.

Free poetry workshops for writers of all abilities are being offered in March at St. Paul Public Library branches. Led by local poets, the workshops will begin at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 15, at Riverview Library, 1 E. George St.; 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 19, at Rondo Library, 461 N. Dale St.; 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 27, at Rice Street Library, 1011 Rice St.; 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 28, at Sun Ray Library, 2105 Wilson Ave.; and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 28, at Hamline-Midway Library, 1558 Minnehaha Ave. Workshop participants will produce a poem about their neighborhood, which will be read in a public program at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 11, at Arlington Hills Community Center, 1200 Payne Ave. Call 651-222-3242.

SubText Books, 6 W. Fifth St., will host readings and discussions with authors Katie Heaney and her memoir, *Would You Rather?*, on March 16; Miriam Karmel and her short story collection, *Subtle Variations*, March 21; and Steven Muenzer of Macalester-Groveland and his novel, *Rest at the Journey's End*, March 22. The programs are all free and begin at 7 p.m. Call 651-493-2791.

"Wisdom on the Folly of War" will be addressed on Tuesday, March 20, as part of the local observance of World Storytelling Day. Seven storytellers will take the stage at 7 p.m. in Weyerhaeuser Auditorium at Landmark Center, including Larry Johnson, past president of Veterans for Peace; Allan Bostelmann of Veteran Healing Memories workshops; the Reverend Harry Bury, an anti-war activist in the 1960s; Vietnamese immigrant and author Phuoc Thi Minh

Tran; Chante Wolf of the Women's Veteran Initiative; Veterans for Peace board member John Varone; and Nothando Zulu of the Black Storytellers Alliance. The event will open at 6 p.m. with an information fair featuring local storytelling organizations, Twin Cities PBS, the Minnesota Humanities Center, Veterans for Peace and other members of the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers. Admission is free, but reservations are recommended. Email Larry Johnson at larryjvfp@gmail.com.

Writers of poetry, essays and fiction, Jessie Chandler, Erica Christ, Bernard Ferguson, David Housewright and Tom Jeffers will present their works in the free Readings by Writers program at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 20, at the University Club, 420 Summit Ave. St. Paul poet Carol Connolly will emcee. For more information or dinner reservations, call 651-222-1751.

Exhibits

"1968" has opened a year-long run at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. The exhibit is filled with the sights, sounds and stories of that turbulent year in U.S. history. It opens with an illustration of how the bloodshed of the Vietnam War was broadcast into American living rooms and closes with Apollo 8's iconic image of an earthrise over the moon. Admission is \$12; \$10 for seniors, college students and veterans; \$6 for children ages 5-17. Call 651-259-3000.

"Women and their Wardrobes: Storied Lives," a celebration of working women of the 20th century through the exquisite wardrobes of three prominent Twin Cities women, is being displayed through May 13 at the Goldstein Museum of Design, located on the second floor of McNeal Hall at 1985 Buford Ave. Drawn from the Goldstein's permanent collection, the exhibit focuses on women's motivation for wearing certain items and the experiences that made those items special. The gallery is open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free.

"Parades, Palaces and People," a look back at the 132-year history of the St. Paul Winter Carnival in artifacts, photographs and art, is being displayed through April 2 in the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. Admission is \$2, or free with a tour of the historic mansion. Tours cost \$10, \$8 for seniors and college students, \$6 for children ages 5-17. Call 651-297-2555.

"The Irish Mission at Watson House," an exhibit showcasing the experiences of Irish immigrants, is on view through April 29 in the library at St. Catherine University. The exhibit was created by Maureen Murphy, professor emerita of Irish Studies at Hofstra University, to highlight the stories of Irish immigrant women, the obstacles they faced coming to America, and the efforts of the Catholic clergy to improve the immigration process for the more than 100,000 women. The exhibit is free and open to the public from 7:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Sunday. Visit library.stkate.edu.

"Organic Influences," porcelain, stoneware and earthenware pottery by Marjorie Wade and lithography, solar etching and mezzotints by Diane Hatchitt, are being displayed through April 27 at Raymond Gallery, 761 Raymond Ave. Call 651-644-9200.

Friends of Highland Arts will present its fourth annual Highland Arts Showcase on Thursday, March 15, a family-friendly evening of live music, theater and dance, spoken-word and visual art by the students of Highland Park High School. The program will be held in the auditorium of the high school, 1015 S. Snelling Ave. Doors will open

at 6 p.m. The stage performances will begin at 7 p.m. Admission is free and open to all.

"The Best 100," a juried exhibition featuring the best artwork by local high school students, is on view through March 23 at the AZ Gallery, 308 Prince St. The gallery is open from 5-8 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Visit theazgallery.org.

"Towers of Tomorrow," 20 of the world's most astonishing skyscrapers recreated with breathtaking detail in Lego bricks by Ryan McNaught of Australia, will be displayed from March 16 through September 3 at the Science Museum of Minnesota, 120 W. Kellogg Blvd. Toronto's CN Tower, Philadelphia's Comcast Technology Center, Los Angeles' Wilshire Grand Center, Chicago's Willis Tower, Atlanta's Bank of America Plaza, and New York City's Empire State and Chrysler buildings, Taiwan's Taipei 101, Kuala Lumpur's Petronas Towers, China's Shanghai Tower, and Australia's Eureka Tower, Infinity Tower and Q1 building are among the marvels of engineering and design that have been reconstructed at a scale of 1:200 with more than half a million Legos weighing over 3,000 pounds. Visitors will be invited to build their own skyscrapers with the more than 200,000 loose Legos available in the exhibit area. Admission to the museum is \$18.95, \$12.95 for seniors and children ages 4-12. Call 651-221-9444 or visitmmm.org.

"Archbishop John Ireland and the Catholic Church in America," an exhibit marking the 100th anniversary of Ireland's death, will open on Sunday, March 18, in Hayden Hall at the Cathedral of St. Paul. The exhibit includes photos and documents from Ireland's days as an immigrant, priest, chaplain and pastor along with artifacts from his tenure as archbishop of St. Paul and Minneapolis overseeing the construction of the Cathedral and the Basilica of St. Mary among other accomplishments. On view in the Cathedral museum will be Ireland's now 130-year-old mitre, his vestments and walking stick, his death mask, and his signature from an 1861 parish baptismal record.

Local artists Liz Carlson, Alex Chinn, Paul Damon, Chillon Leach, Dorothy Osterman and Justin Terlecki will hold a show and sale of their ceramics, paintings, prints, collages, jewelry and fiber art from 1-8 p.m. Saturday, March 24, in historic Charles Thompson Memorial Hall, 1824 Marshall Ave. Tours of the building will be available, and a portion of all sales will be dedicated to the building.

Family

Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy., will offer the following free programs: Baby Storytime, 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays; Nature Smart, a trading post for real and created items of natural history, biology and geology, 4 p.m. Wednesdays; Createch, high-tech fun for teenagers, 3:30 p.m. Thursdays; children's storytime, 11 a.m. Saturdays and 10:30 a.m. Mondays; Amharic Storytime, 6 p.m. Tuesdays; a workshop in Bengali soil dyeing with scarves, 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 20. Call 651-695-3700.

CoCo (2017, rated PG), Pixar's computer-animated fantasy adventure about a 12-year-old boy who is accidentally transported to the land of the dead where he seeks the help of his deceased great-great-grandfather to return him to the living, will be screened on Friday, March 16, at the West Seventh Community Center, 265 Oneida St. The movie rolls at 6:15 p.m. The concession stand opens at 6 p.m. Admission is free. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 651-298-5493.

Dodge Nature Center, with entrances at 1701 Charlton St. and 365 W. Marie Ave., will offer the following: Animal Tracking,



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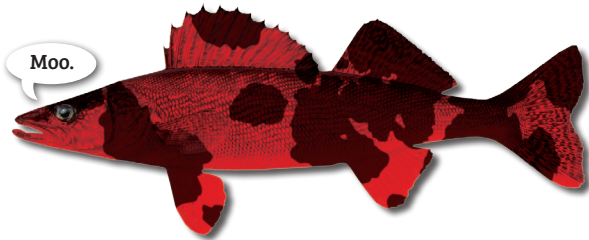
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Get up close and personal with the nyckelharpa, the 16-string national instrument of Sweden, when the Twin Cities Nyckelharpalag performs at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1935 St. Clair Ave. The nyckelharpa sounds like a fiddle but with more resonance. The group comprises 18 nyckelharpists and six other stringed instrumentalists. Admission to the concert is by donation. Scandinavian-style refreshments will be served afterward.

an hour-long program in identifying animal tracks and the stories behind them for children ages 3-8 accompanied by an adult, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 15 (cost is \$7); Maple Syruping, a hands-on program in turning tree sap into syrup, 1-2:30 p.m. Saturdays, March 17 and 24 (\$7, \$20 per family); Spring Break Day Camps for children in grades K-8, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. March 26-29 (\$50 per day, register by March 19). Call 651-455-4531.

Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave., will offer the following free programs: family storytime from 10:30-11 a.m. every Friday; You Can Build It, a drop-in program for kids to build things with a kit, 3-4:30 p.m. Fridays. Call 651-642-0385.

Annie: The Musical, the full Broadway production about a girl who escapes from a New York City orphanage and charms her way into the home of billionaire Oliver Warbucks, will be performed from March 16-25 by more than 30 youths in the Young Artists Initiative. The curtain rises at 7 p.m. Fridays, 2 and 7 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays at the Wellstone Center, 179 E. Robie St. Tickets are \$12, \$10 for seniors and students, or whatever you can afford at 7 p.m. March 17. Visit youngartistsmn.org.

Tales of the wise fool from various cultural traditions will be featured at a World Storytelling Day event from 10-11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 24, at Landmark Center. Admission is free. Call 651-292-3063.

An egg hunt, petting zoo, craft activities and games will be featured from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, March 29, at the Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. The cost is \$5 per person, free for children age 3 and under. Refreshments will be available. Call 651-298-5766.

Film

Dream Big: Engineering Our World is being screened through October 11 at the Science Museum of Minnesota's Omnitheater, 120 W. Kellogg Blvd. A celebration of human ingenuity and the compassion and creativity that drive engineers to create a better world, the film introduces four people who make their living as engineers: Menzer Pehlivan, a geotechnical engineer from Turkey; Angelica Hernandez, a Mexican immigrant whose interest in engineering was sparked by a high school robotics club; Steve Burrows, a structural engineer who takes his inspiration from the marvels of the ancient past; and Avery Bang, a young Midwestern woman who builds footbridges in underdeveloped

countries. Admission is \$9.95, \$8.95 for seniors and children ages 4-12. Call 651-221-9444 or visit www.smm.org.

Music

The Four Aces Guitar Quartet will perform new works, original arrangements, traditional folk melodies and pop music in a Minnesota Guitar Society concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 17, in Sundin Music Hall, 1531 Hewitt Ave. The popular Belgian band is stopping in the Twin Cities en route to Chicago where it will be headlining the Mid-America Guitar Ensemble Festival. Tickets are \$10-\$25. Call 612-677-1151 or visit mnnguitar.org.

Among the best musicians in the region ages 12-18, the SPCO Youth Chamber Music Finalists will perform in recital at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 18, at Sundin Music Hall, 1531 Hewitt Ave. The seventh annual competition will feature a jazz quintet in addition to chamber music. Admission is free.

Studio Z, 275 E. Fourth St., Suite 200, will play host to the following performances: Zeitgeist's eighth annual Early Music Festival, featuring music by the late African-American minimalist composer Julius Eastman, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 22-25 (tickets are \$15 and \$10, \$40 for the entire festival); Caprice Saxophone Quartet and the Graydon Peterson Quintet in a concert of classical, contemporary and jazz music, 7 p.m. Saturday, March 31 (\$15 and \$10). Call 651-755-1600 or visit studiozstpaul.com.

Acoustic finger-style guitarists Jerry Kosak, Elgin Foster and Dan Schwartz will be featured in three solo sets from 7-9 p.m. Friday, March 23, at the Schmidt Artist Lofts, 900 W. Seventh St. Admission is \$10, \$8 with a donation of nonperishable food for the Keystone Community Services food shelf.

The Louisiana band Jeffery Broussard and the Creole Cowboys will let the good times roll with a concert of zydeco music on Friday, March 23, at the Eagles Club, 2507 E. 25th St., Minneapolis. The doors will open at 7 p.m. A free zydeco dance lesson will be offered at 7:15. The music begins at 8 p.m. Admission is \$20.

The Seward Concert Band will present its spring concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 23, in the auditorium of Sanford Middle School, 3524 42nd Ave. S. in Minneapolis. The tentative program includes Four Scottish Dances by Malcolm Arnold, Symphonic Overture by Charles Carter, Nimrod from *Enigma Variations* by Edward Elgar, Give Us This Day by David Maslanka and

Marche Militaire Francais by Camille Saint-Saëns. Admission is by donation with \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors and \$4 for children suggested. The band also invites the public to a free performance at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 25, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 4537 Third Ave. S. in Minneapolis.

Live from Norway, the Women's Choral Society of the University of Oslo will perform at 4 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 3045 Chicago Ave. S., Minneapolis. Part of the chorus' first U.S. concert tour since 1948, the program will feature compositions by Grieg, contemporary music and Norwegian wedding marches and folk songs in new and traditional arrangements. Admission is free, though donations are welcome. Call 612-827-5919.

The Minnesota Boychoir will perform at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at Hamline Church United Methodist, 1514 Englewood Ave. Donations will be accepted at the door.

British composer Joby Talbot's "Path of Miracles," a choral work that echoes the long history of the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, will be performed by the Singers under the baton of assistant conductor Matthew Olson on March 24 and 25. The concerts will begin at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Westwood Lutheran Church in St. Louis Park and at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 25, at Nativity of Our Lord Church, 1900 Stanford Ave. Tickets are \$22-\$36, \$5 for students. Visit singersmca.org

Clarinetist Anthony McGill of the New York Philharmonic will join the string quartet of the Chamber Music Society of Minnesota in a program of Brahms and Mozart at 4 p.m. Sunday, March 25, in Sundin Music Hall, 1531 Hewitt Ave. Tickets are \$25, \$20 for seniors, \$15 for students, free for students in grades K-12 with the purchase of an adult ticket. For reservations, call 651-450-0527.

Et cetera

Lowertown Pop, a Minnesota makers market, returns from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at Union Depot, Fourth and Sibley streets. More than 50 local vendors will take part, including visual artists, craftspeople, bakers, distillers and musicians. Live demonstrations will be presented on the main stage, and a deejay will be spinning tunes. Tickets are \$10 at the door, \$8 in advance, free for children age 5 and under. Half of all ticket revenue will be donated to Walk Talk Connect, a nonprofit organization that raises awareness of rare brain and spinal cord tumors. Visit uniondepot.org.

Sports



The Wright Call By Dave Wright

Here's to leaving no stone unturned

At the end of each of these sports columns an email address is listed. Occasionally, your humble correspondent writes something that garners reactions from readers. Some are complimentary; others are not. Some have suggestions for future columns; others have suggestions for what I can do with past columns.

Writers frequently misjudge how readers will react to their words. Something you think might enrage folks often results in what the Soviet Union once referred to as "dignified indifference." Then you write something you think is light and upbeat, and you get blasted for it.

The latter turned out to be the case with the last column in this space. It wasn't for what was written, but rather for what was not. Let's just say some folks weren't happy that the sport of curling was left out of my summary of Winter Olympic results and they took the time to tell me about the glaring oversight.

There was a perfectly good reason for this, but let me state for the record that I'm a curling fan. I went to high school in Windsor, Ontario. The town is so nuts about curling that when the local rink was destroyed by a storm, a referendum to build a new rink passed with nary a protest. That made folks like me, who curled in a high school league, quite happy. I never claimed to be very good at the sport, but I'm fascinated by it and I tried very hard to get better.

Several years ago, the late Al Dexter organized a curling competition on an off-day combining members of the media and players on the Minnesota North Stars. Al was the public address announcer at Met Center and had deep ties to the St. Paul Curling Club.

I found myself on a team with Brad Palmer, a rookie on the Stars and a champion curler in his youth. Palmer was not impressed with my curling skills. He suggested I'd do better standing at the end of the ice offering encouragement to my teammates. He explained it thusly: "Sorry, I like to win."

But I digress. Curling didn't make the last Olympic summary here for a simple reason: Team USA's gold-medal victory came at 3 a.m. on deadline day. Fortunately for the editors, they've never had to find this out: Some of us don't do our best writing in the wee hours of the morning.

Knowing that would be the case win or lose, I regretfully let curling go and hoped nobody would notice.

I should've known better.

For the record, I did respond to my upset correspondents to explain the oversight and beg their forgiveness. Keep those cards and letters coming, folks. We do pay attention.

Why aren't people watching?

The National Football League recently released its attendance and television figures for the 2017 season. Both numbers are way down. The NCAA recently released its football numbers for the past season with the same result: viewership—in person and on the screen—is off considerably.

Football fans in the media have pondered why this should be so. Perhaps if they stepped outside their bubble, they could figure it out.

As we noted in this space the last time, sports are supposed to be entertaining. True, we don't like it when our teams lose, but we still enjoy the games and wish for better results the next time.

But it's harder to enjoy games when the players representing your teams aren't very likable. No matter where you stood on the issue, taking a knee during the national anthem at NFL games caused considerable consternation. However, that wasn't the only issue. Not everybody was as enamored as TV commentators were when players

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The Redhawks' Mia Curtis splits Concordia Academy defenders Ivane Tensaie and Grace Landvik as she drives to the basket in the first half of Minnehaha Academy's 64-51 victory in the Section 4AA final on March 9. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Girls' basketball playoffs Balanced Redhawks earn another trip to state tourney

BY BILL WAGNER

The Minnehaha Academy girls' basketball team doesn't care who gets the headlines, just as long as the team gets the win. That formula led the Redhawks to a 64-51 win over Concordia Academy on March 9 to earn their 11th trip to the Class AA state tournament in the past 14 years, all under coach Josh Thurow.

The big gun in the Section 4AA final for Minnehaha was senior guard Terra Rhoades, who pumped in 35 points. In the semifinals three days earlier, it was sophomore guard Mia Curtis who led the team with 25 points to key a 67-54 win over St. Agnes.

Both players are expected to be major contributors when the fourth-seeded Redhawks (21-7) take on fifth-ranked Norwood-Young America (27-3) in the first round of state at 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, at Target Center.

It really doesn't matter who puts up the big offensive numbers in any given outing for Minnehaha. "Tonight, I just happened to score a lot," Rhoades said following her outburst in the section final. "But you know what? I really love playing good defense, too."

Curtis, who had 74 three-pointers entering the Concordia game, had only nine points before fouling out with just over two minutes remaining. Still, opponents always have someone else to

worry about when facing the Redhawks if one offensive threat gets shut down.

Thurow only had to say one word to assess Rhoades' performance in that contest. "Unbelievable," he said. He added that she is also the team's best defender, but that the rest of the team did what was needed to pull out the win.

"We didn't shoot that well tonight," he said, "but we managed to get to 64 points and our defensive game plan was executed extremely well. I love a game like this."

Concordia, coached by Minnehaha Academy graduate Matt Pryor, came in with big hopes. The Beacons had

REDHAWKS ► 28

CDH makes long-awaited return to state

BY BILL WAGNER

Time was running out on the Cretin-Derham Hall girls' basketball team in its Section 4AAAA final against Woodbury on March 8, but it would not allow the clock to be its enemy.

The Raiders, who trailed by as many as 10 points early in the second half of the game, refused to knuckle under against the stubborn Royals and came roaring back to pull out a 54-52 victory. The win earned CDH its first trip to the state tournament since 2003.

The third-seeded Raiders (21-6) will face Roseville (22-7) in the first round of state at 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, at Target Center.

The section final came down to a

heart-pounding finish when a shot by Woodbury's Rachel Hakes just before the buzzer bounced around the rim for what seemed like an eternity before falling out as the clock expired.

CDH coach Joe Lynch said he was worried when the ball left Hakes' hand, but he also had to smile when thinking about how well his team had defended on that play.

"We told the girls to just put their hands up and don't foul," he said. "That was a tough shot that Hakes got off, but she's such a great player."

Hakes finished with 17 points, but the Raiders managed to turn in a star-lit performance of their own. Senior forward Autam Mendez answered the call when CDH fell behind early in the second half and Woodbury seemed about

to blow the game wide open.

Mendez capped off CDH's second-half comeback by giving the Raiders their first lead of the half at 47-46 when she hit a three-pointer with seven minutes remaining. On the next possession, Mendez penetrated and scored to make it 49-46 with 6:44 to play.

The Raiders never relinquished the lead. Earlier, Mendez had hit for another three-pointer that cut the Woodbury lead to 42-39. After that, sophomore Sydney Jackson hit for a three-pointer that tied it at 44-44 with 9:41 to play.

The Raiders defense was nothing short of sensational down the stretch, holding the Royals to only three points in the final four minutes of the game.

RAIDERS ► 28

STA regroups to take consolation crown in state hockey tourney

BY BILL WAGNER

The St. Thomas Academy got off to a rocky start in last week's Class AA state hockey tournament, suffering a 3-2 loss to Centennial after going up by two goals early. But then the Cadets showed why they were a consistent top 10-rated club all year by rallying furiously to beat Hill-Murray 6-4 and then disposing of St. Michael-Albertville 6-2 to skate off with the consolation trophy.

"We lost in the first round to an opportunistic team that never panicked," said STA co-coach Greg Vannelli. "Their goalie had a great tournament. The way the year ended up, we had the best record in AA (27-3-1). We had a wonderful group of seniors and a skilled team that worked hard."

STA senior Ray Christy echoed his coach's sentiments. "Obviously, it wasn't the outcome that we wanted," he said, "but we had a good season."

In the opener, the Cadets got first-period goals from Ben Stucker and Cade Huntley. Usually when a team is down by two goals against STA it's all over, since the team's defense and discipline are so strong. But not this time. With his teammates in front of him playing like demons, the Centennial goalie made several acrobatic saves. Meanwhile, the Cadets were often uncharacteristically careless when handling the puck in their own zone.

STA goalie Atticus Kelly was doing a good job in his own right as he also made a number of landmark stops. But Centennial scored one goal in the second period and tied it up in the third before punching home the game-winner off a rebound with 3:52 left to play. The Cadets were on the power play for nearly the last two minutes of the game, but they could not find the back of the net.

The Cadets faced off against Hill-Murray in the consolation game the next day still reeling from the Centennial loss. The Pioneers drilled three second-period goals behind Kelly, who didn't get the best of help in front of him. The Cadets were trailing 4-1 entering the third, the bright spot being a goal by Nico Vega at the 4:33 mark of the first period.

With less than 10 minutes remaining, the Pioneers were playing with confidence and the Cadets looked flat. Then STA unleashed a scoring flurry with five unanswered goals to skate away with the 6-4 win.

Ryan O'Neill lit the comeback fuse for the Cadets when he connected on the power play at 7:09. At 11:29 it was Rob Christy's turn to light the lamp. Then Vega got his second of the game to tie it and O'Neill got his second on a quick shot from the high slot on the power play at 13:57.

That seemed to utterly crush the Pioneers, who could muster little offense despite being presented



Ben Stucker scores the Cadets' second goal in the first period of their 3-2 loss to Centennial in the opening round of the Class AA state hockey tournament. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

with a two-man advantage for the last minute of the game. Hill-Murray could barely get the puck over the center line despite the manpower advantage. Ray Christy added an empty-net goal just eight seconds before the buzzer to make the final score 6-4. It was the third time STA had defeated the Pioneers this season.

Ray Christy said the comeback win was especially sweet. "When we made it 4-2, it really helped," the senior said. "We were saying, 'Let's get another one and see what happens after that.'"

"Their goalie was playing well," Vannelli said, "but we have a skilled team and we felt that we could get something going if we could just get the momentum back."

In the consolation championship game the next day, the

Cadets showed much more juice and discipline. Rob Christy paved the way with a goal in the first period at 4:50, but the Knights tied it shortly thereafter.

The second period was almost all St. Thomas as Rob Christy got his second goal and Brendan McFadden and Blake Holmes each scored. The Knights tallied to close the gap at 4-2 with six minutes to play in the period.

In the third, the Cadets served notice that the Knights were not to get any closer. Ray Christy scored at 10:17 on a power play, then brother Rob completed his hat trick with a power play goal at 13:44. Kelly stopped a total of 18 shots to post the victory.

Despite the one-sided nature of the final score, Vannelli paid tribute to the Knights, who were making

their first-ever state tournament appearance. "They were a very physical team," he said.

Ray Christy enjoyed playing on the same line as brother Rob for the first time all year. Rob, a junior, had a tough regular season, missing time with a bad back and a bout with mononucleosis.

"He's had some adversity," Ray said about his brother. "But he's OK now."

The Cadets made it to state after enduring a stubborn Eastview squad in the Section 3AA final. STA was down 1-0 late in the second period of that game, but Kelly's solid goaltending kept the Cadets in it before Chase Foley tied the game at 1-1 late in the second period. Luke Herzog then tallied twice in the 4-1 victory.

27◀ REDHAWKS

come close to defeating the Redhawks during the regular season, but Minnehaha's defense was so stingy during the section final that Concordia could never pull ahead. The Beacons didn't score a field goal until more than four minutes had elapsed in the first half. By that time, the Redhawks had jumped out with the eight points, and the Beacons never really recovered from that early cold spell.

Neither team shot well in the first half, but both clubs came out in the second intending to set the nets on fire. With the shots starting to drop, it looked as if the Beacons might stage a run to tie the score. However, every time Concordia pulled close Minnehaha seemed to erect an invisible wall in front of the basket.

Meanwhile, Rhoades was doing everything she could on the basketball court. She scored after grabbing an offensive rebound, hit a big three-pointer, drained the basket on a nifty stop-and-pop and went coast-to-coast for another basket.

In the last 2½ minutes, Minnehaha ran down the clock and hit its free throws



Minnehaha Academy senior guard Terra Rhoades steals the ball from Concordia Academy's Lydia Lecher during the Redhawks' 64-51 win in the Section 4AA final at Anoka-Ramsey. Rhoades led the team with 35 points. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

after Concordia was forced to foul to try to get the ball back.

Afterward, Rhoades said the Redhawks still had unfinished business—a state championship. Minnehaha

last won the title in 2010, which was before her time, and she wanted it.

"This is my senior year and I want to go out on a winning note," she said.

Rhoades believes that the Redhawks will give a good account of themselves when state starts this week. "We play amazingly well together," she said.

27◀ RAIDERS

In the final minute, Woodbury had three cracks at the hoop on the same possession before having to foul. Then, with the score 54-52 and three seconds to play, the Royals got the ball to Hakes, whose shot rattled around the rim but failed to go in.

CDH had started the game with decent shooting, but their hands went cold late in the first half. Lynch said that at halftime he and his coaching staff just wanted to settle the players down.

"We were a little tight out there," he said. "The first thing I said was, 'Share the basketball.' The second was, 'Hey, relax.'"

The Raiders trailed by five points at intermission and it didn't look like it would get any better when Lexy Paulson nailed a three-pointer to pad the Royals lead to 36-28. The deficit climbed when Carley West hit two free throws to make it 42-32 with 14:20 to play before CDH started its turnaround.

Lynch couldn't say enough about Mendez, who finished with a team-high 17 points to go with nine rebounds. "She wanted the ball tonight," he said. "We've been telling her all year what kind of player

she is."

Woodbury coach Megan Kirchenwitz felt that her team, which split two regular-season games with CDH this year, had lost control a bit after assuming the 10-point lead. "They got us for a couple of transition runs in the second half," she said.

Mendez got across-the-board offensive support from her teammates. Junior Frannie Hottinger added 16 points, while senior Haley Moore had nine.

The Raiders defeated Tartan 63-53 in the section semifinals, despite the Titans' effort to run the floor. That victory was paced by Hottinger, who erupted for 26 points, while senior Elizabeth Edinger added 14.

The Raiders were somewhat shorthanded off the bench going into the section finals because junior forward Allie Redding had torn her ACL and was out for the season.

However, Lynch pronounced all other hands healthy and ready for the Woodbury game. He also said fans can look for the Raiders to give it their all at state.

"I hope we go all the way," he said, "but we've got our work cut out for us."

Cadets finish a surprising third in Class A state swim meet

BY MATTHEW DAVIS

The fact that St. Thomas Academy did not finish among the top two teams for the first time in eight years did not come as a surprise to coach John Barnes following the Class A state boys' swimming meet on March 1-3 at the University of Minnesota Aquatic Center.

After graduating 15 seniors from last year's runner-up team, what surprised him was how well the Cadets did with such a young team and so many multisport athletes who only swim competitively during the high school swimming season.

"At the beginning of the year, I was hoping we could be a top-five team," Barnes said. "This group came probably further than any team I've had in almost 20 years here. The biggest thing was that they really began to believe

in each other."

STA finished the regular season with a 7-1 dual-meet record and took second place in the Class A state true team meet in January, which allows all swimmers on a squad to participate and score points. The Cadets capped off the season with a third-place finish at this month's Class A state meet.

The Cadets scored 205 points at the state meet, just 19 points behind second-place Winona. The cooperative team of Breck-Blake repeated as the state champion with a score of 347. STA had won the Class A title five straight years before coming in second to Breck-Blake last winter.

STA did not capture any individual titles in this year's meet, but it had several high finishes. Senior William Burns came up big by taking second in the 50-yard freestyle and third in the 100 free.

"Will had a great season, not only swimming, but he was a tremendous leader for the team," Barnes said.

Burns also swam on the 400 free relay team, which took fifth. Joining him were senior Joey Gerend and juniors Toby Sullivan and JT Howard.

Gerend took fourth in the 100 butterfly and joined Burns, senior Alex Farley and sophomore Mitch MacDonald to finish sixth in the 200 free relay.

Howard was second in the 100 backstroke and joined Farley, MacDonald and Sullivan in finishing third in the 200 medley relay.

Junior Joe Pedrolie was ninth in the 500 free, while sophomore Alexander Adams was seventh and fellow sophomore Evan Santrizos was eighth in the backstroke. All three underclassmen are expected to return to the Cadets' lineup next winter. STA graduates only three

seniors who swam at state.

"They want the program to continue going the way that we've been going," Barnes said. "We have another mountain to climb next year."

Karpenko kicks into gear

Minnehaha Academy sophomore Andrew Karpenko won the 200-yard individual medley at this month's Class A state meet with a time of 1:53.32. That was up from last year's third-place finish in the same event.

He also took second in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 56.89, which is fast enough to be considered for all-American honors. He was fourth in that event a year ago.

Karpenko scored a total of 37 points on his own, which put the Redhawks in a three-way tie for 18th place in final team scores.

27◀ WRIGHT CALL

overcelebrated their successes during games.

On the college side, when a star player is accused of assault—as happened with Reggie Lynch on the University of Minnesota men's basketball team—or the coach is accused of knowing about or simply feigning ignorance of under-the-table payments—as Rick Pitino of Louisville was—the bloom quickly comes off the rose.

We live in an era when we can be more choosy than we used to be. Personal seat licenses, which require fans to pay extra for the right to sit in a particular seat, are all the rage these days. When a team is a hot item, that works out OK. However, when a squad is struggling, like the U of M men's hockey team is, it's a different story. From the looks of it, there were more people in the stands when the Gophers hockey team played at old Williams Arena against American International two decades ago than there are at Mariucci these days.

Owners of professional sports teams or athletic directors at

Division I schools can come up with any number of ways to rationalize bad behavior. However, a lot of folks aren't buying it any longer. Fans want to like who they watch. More and more games are being played in front of semi-capacity crowds. People are watching games at the tavern, online or at home. Events like Super Bowl LII, which didn't bring in as much money as predicted, only come around once in a blue moon.

Unless they're still in the race, tickets for a Vikings home game against, say, Miami or Buffalo late in the upcoming season will be available for less than the price to park your car in downtown Minneapolis.

So far, this has—at least publicly—not bothered the bigwigs who run these local sports teams. The real reckoning will come when the advertiser who paid you \$20 million last year says that this year's figure will be considerably less. Or the well-heeled fellow who bought six suites last year says he now wants just one—and at a discounted rate.

The teams that can keep their prices down are in the best position to stay afloat. Around these parts, that would be baseball's Twins and soccer's Loons. Both play enough games

and have considerably fewer salary issues to offer tickets for lesser rates. Both also have the benefit of a public that likes them and will consider it gravy if they make it to the postseason. For now, they'll accept them being competitive and fun.

(For the purpose of this discussion, the St. Paul Saints are in a different sphere. Their devotees go for more than just the game itself.)

Perception is reality in the sports world these days. When it comes to deciding where to spend money on a sporting event, consumers have more information at their fingertips than ever before. There are some diehards who stick to their pro or college team no matter what, but that number seems to be dwindling.

The market tells all. From here, it looks like it's telling pro and Division I college teams to clean up their acts both on the field and off. Failure to do so will hit them where it hurts the most—in the pocketbook.

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

Sports Shorts

Highland Gymnastics will hold a fundraiser from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, May 5, at Highland Park High School, to benefit the Sawyer Woods Scholarship Foundation. The second annual event is being held in memory of Woods, a gymnastics club member who had just started her freshman year at Central High School in the fall of 2016 when she suffered a brain aneurysm and died. The fundraiser will feature local vendors and crafters, a silent auction and a raffle. Proceeds will help pay the cost for gymnasts who cannot afford the program. Businesses are being invited to donate items for the event. For information, email Lindsey Machtemes at lindseymac02@gmail.com.

Amelia Hornseth, a 2017 graduate of Nova Classical Academy, earned two all-conference honors at the Iowa Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships on February 23-24 at Central College. Hornseth ran the anchor leg of the distance medley relay team that placed second with a time of 12:43.94 and ran the first leg of the 4x800 relay team that took third at 9:56.25.

The Minnesota United FC will play the first home match of the 2018 Major League Soccer season against the Chicago Fire at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 17, at TCF Bank Stadium. Tickets are available at mnufc.com or by calling 763-476-2237.

Moms on the Run recently announced that Olympic runner Carrie Tollefson of Macalester-Groveland will be its fitness director. She will oversee the women-only company's fitness programming nationwide and will be head coach for the St. Paul-Highland Moms on the Run. Born and raised in Minnesota, Tollefson was a 13-time high school state champion in track and cross country, a five-time NCAA champion while competing for Villanova University, winner of three national championships and represented the U.S. in the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. Moms on the Run was founded in the Twin Cities in 2008 and now has 46 locations in six states.



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SPECIAL EVENTS

THE KIDLINGS, Zoe Challenger, Highland Park Senior High senior's original drama about teens and their relationships during The Great Depression. Production staged at Highland Senior High, 1015 Snelling Avenue South, 7pm, Thursday-Saturday, March 22, 23, 24. Tickets \$8; \$6 for students/seniors.

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HIGHLAND GYMNASTICS Rummage Sale. March 24, 8:00 am-1:00 pm. 1015 Snelling Ave. So. Got stuff? We're looking for donations. Bring unpriced items to the gym by March 23. All proceeds to Highland Gymnastics High School Team. Contact Lindseymaco2@gmail.com

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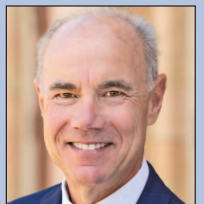
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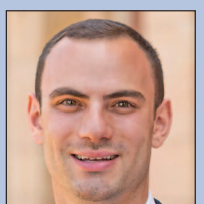
Crocus Hill 821 Grand Ave.
651-227-9144



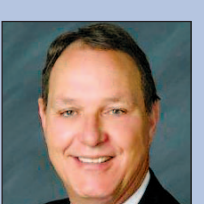
ABE GLEESON
651-329-1990



TOM EDELSTEIN
651-695-4300



HENRY EDELSTEIN
651-690-8536



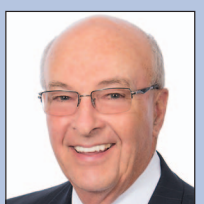
PETER DONOVAN
651-336-8050



MIKE & TOM DISTAD
612-275-1343



MORAGHAN DeROSIA
952-486-3697



JIM BURTON
651-690-8556



RICHARD BERGER
651-282-9649



KRISTA WOLTER
612-247-5106



1715 FORD PARKWAY

Wonderful twin home features gorgeous hard wood floors, 2 fireplaces, spacious kitchen, private master suite, 3+ bedrooms, finished lower level, gorgeous back yard!
GoodCompanyRealtyGroup.com

SUE JOHNSON CRS, GRI
651-329-1264



3800 EDMUND BOULEVARD

Classic Longfellow Tudor with delightful River Road nature views! This home was featured in 1931 House Beautiful Parade of Homes! Updated kitchen with granite countertops and more. Many updates! Beautiful private back yard oasis. An absolute gem!
GoodCompanyRealtyGroup.com

SUE JOHNSON CRS, GRI
651-329-1264 • \$475,000



1594 EDGUMBE ROAD

Gorgeous home you will not want to miss! 5BR, 7BA, and 2 car gar. on over half an acre! Boasts beautiful updates, stunning rms with ample amount of both private & social spaces. Two FPs, lovely backyard with expansive patio, & many other features you will adore. *click on www.teamedelstein.com

TOM EDELSTEIN CRS, ABR
651-695-4300



1736 SCHEFFER AVENUE!

Lovely 4BR, 2BA, 1 car gar. home in Highland Park! Exquisitely maintained house boasting a fireplace, hrdwd flrs, spacious rms, an updated kitchen, and screened in back porch to enjoy summer days! You will not want to miss seeing this home in person. *click on www.teamedelstein.com

HENRY EDELSTEIN CRS
651-327-0623



Sale Pending!

CLASSIC HIGHLAND PARK COLONIAL!

Very special 4BR/3BA home with an expansive main floor family room/kitchen. Great location within walking distance of schools, restaurants and parks. Spacious backyard and a 2 car garage. 1869 Pinehurst.
AnotherHomeSoldByMary.com

MARY KNUDSEN CRS
651-335-6619



Coming Soon!

SPACIOUS TUDOR!

Open and airy 3BR, 2BA home close to the river and Highland Village. Updated kitchen, main floor family room and large master bedroom. Nice yard and a 2 car garage. 2166 Hartford.
AnotherHomeSoldByMary.com

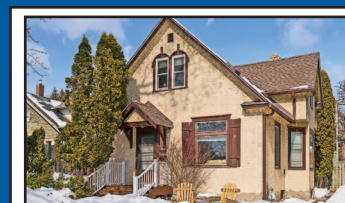
MARY KNUDSEN CRS
651-335-6619



COMO PARK CHARMER!

Sweet 3BR, 2BA home in a convenient Como location. Updated kitchen and main floor bath. Spacious master suite with 3/4 bath. Large yard. 1639 Grotto Street N.
AnotherHomeSoldByMary.com

MARY KNUDSEN CRS
651-335-6619 • \$240,000



OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITY!

Dynamic up/down duplex in a choice location! Spacious 2BR main level unit with hardwood, formal dining room, built-in buffet. Sun-drenched 1BR upper level unit with skylight. Fenced yard, 2-car garage. 1149 Grand Avenue. *click on www.teamedelstein.com

JOE UEDEL ABR, CNE
651-695-4304 • \$339,900



PRICE REDUCTION!

1477 Grantham Street - Cape Cod home with additions. Hilltop views in Saint Anthony Park. 4BRs, 3BAs. Hrdwd flrs, Sunroom, wood burning fireplace, bonus room, remodeled kitchen, finished lower level. Chicken coop included. Multiple gardens awaiting spring! Must see!

ANITA C. HILL
651-707-6408 • \$510,000



EASY LIVING!!!

901 138th Lane NE: Spacious detached townhome on the 18th fairway of the Majestic Oaks golf course. Bright open floor plan, large eat in kitchen, and delightful 4-season porch.

JIM BURTON
651-690-8556 • \$329,900



STUNNING!!!

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

JIM BURTON
651-690-8556 • \$3,999,000



JUST LISTED!!!

1780 Pinehurst Ave: Classic 4 bedroom Tudor style with updated eat in kitchen, updated baths, entertainment sized living and dining rooms with hardwood floors, king sized master suite, and newer landscaping.

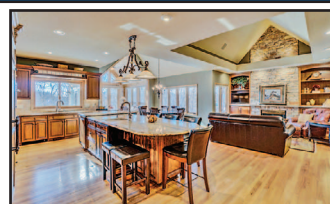
JIM BURTON
651-690-8556 • \$694,900



CROCUS HILL MASTERPIECE!

Double lot in prime location close to restaurants, and Grand Avenue. This Clarence Johnston designed home is sure to impress! 9 bedrooms/7 baths, 5 fireplaces, & architectural details galore. A must see!
www.EnjoyCrocusHill.com

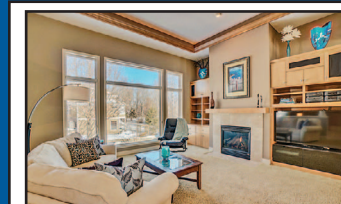
KRISTA WOLTER
612-247-5106 • \$995,000



WALKOUT RAMBLER IN ROSEVILLE!

This completely remodeled home has all the bells and whistles! Open, spacious layout with 3 fireplaces and main floor living. Upscale kitchen with cherry cabinetry, center island and plenty of space to entertain!
www.WalkoutRambler.com

KRISTA WOLTER
612-247-5106 • \$750,000



WALK-OUT RAMBLER!

Sleek lines combined with functional space make this home sure to impress. Luxurious main floor master suite features steam shower, whirlpool tub & walk-in closet. 3 car heated garage and more!
www.MahtomediCharmers.com

KRISTA WOLTER
612-247-5106 • \$579,900



DOUBLE LOT!!!

Rare opportunity to enjoy a double lot in the city! Situated in vibrant West 7th, this sun-drenched 4BR, 3BA home boasts a thoughtfully designed new kitchen, huge mudroom, beautiful landscaping, paver patio and new siding/fascia/gutters/windows/roof. 946 Tuscarora Ave. mmderosia@cbburnet.com

MORAGHAN DeROSIA
952-486-3697 • \$335,000



Coming Soon!

CHARMING COMO BUNGALOW!

This charming 1920's bungalow is just a few blocks from Como lake. Fantastic neighborhood! Wd flrs throughout with 2 BR and BA upstairs. Updated open concept kitchen. Family rm space in LL. Call for details! 1298 Avon St. N.

MICHAELA TOOHEY
651-253-6830
PHILIP WAHLBERG
651-336-2410



1941 FORD PKWY #101

Wonderful 2 bed 2 bath unit in Parkway Commons. Pet friendly unit on the main level. This is a corner unit with southern exposure. Coming on the market Thursday.

MIKE & TOM DISTAD
612-432-4771 • \$239,900



1709 BOHLAND AVENUE

Sun filled home on beautiful Bohland Avenue. Only three owners. Grand piano sized living room with fireplace. Formal dining room. First floor family room opens to kitchen. Nice sized main flr BRs. Upper level BR, and LL BR with egress wndw. Amusement room with fireplace.

KAREN KELJIK
612-414-3245/CALL/TEXT



1096 GOODRICH AVENUE

Classic Crocus Hill with modern updates. All charm remains...remarkable woodwork, central air...there are 4 porches...updated kitchen. Must see 1,000sf garage ...Lower level amusement room with 6 beer taps, newer roof. Space for 6 cars.

KAREN KELJIK
612-414-3245/CALL/TEXT

