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## Organized trash placed on ballot

St. Paul voters will decide future of program Nov. 5

By JANE MCCLURE

St. Paul's long fight over the city's new system of organized residential trash collection will move to the November 5 general election ballot following an August 22 ruling by the Minnesota Supreme Court ordering city officials to hold a referendum on the system. The ruling puts the controversy over organized trash into the political arena in what is already a hotly contested City Council election, and some opponents of the system have vowed to make the council's approval of the mandated system a campaign issue.

St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter issued a statement that same day declaring that city officials would honor the high court's ruling and hold the referendum. Organized trash collection will continue without interruption while the city awaits the Supreme Court's full ruling on the possible future of organized trash in St. Paul.

At an August 23 press conference, Carter warned voters that rejecting organized collection at the polls could lead to much higher property taxes. He said the city's general fund would have to pick up the estimated \$27.1 million annual cost of the trash program for the duration of the five-year contract with trash haulers. That would require a 17.4 percent increase in St. Paul's property tax levy, Carter said.

Carter's comments led to accusations by opponents

TRASH REFERENDUM ►2



## Luring them in.

Ray Ruiz of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (above) introduced Aaron Cuevas, 3, to fishing on the banks of the Mississippi River in Hidden Falls Park. The August 17 fishing primer was co-hosted by the DNR and the National Park Service, which provided the gear and bait. At left, NPS ranger Gordon Dietzman holds a redhorse fish that was caught by Felix Cano, 6.

## Mayor wants to reduce Ayd Mill Road to two lanes

Plan would come with new bike and pedestrian lanes

By JANE MCCLURE

St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter has proposed narrowing Ayd Mill Road from four lanes to two as part of a planned mill and overlay project on the 1.5-mile city street. Included in Carter's proposed 2020 city budget, the \$5.2 million project would replace the two traffic lanes currently headed north with new pedestrian and bike trails.

Though the change was hailed by the St. Paul Bicycle Coalition and those who are concerned about the effects of carbon emissions on climate change, the redesign has been criticized by those who believe it would cause traffic backups on Ayd Mill Road and force drivers onto neigh-

boring streets. Carter's plan has also received a mixed response from the three City Council members whose wards abut Ayd Mill Road.

Carter's plan would put two-way traffic on Ayd Mill Road's two southbound lanes and restripe the northbound lanes for bikes and pedestrians. About 24,000 motor vehicles travel on Ayd Mill Road daily, many of them between I-35E on the south and I-94 on the north. The street has been in a deteriorated state for many years, and city crews regularly have to patch its numerous cracks and potholes. The street was slated for a \$3.5 million mill and overlay project this fall, but Carter has asked the Public Works Department to substitute that project with one that would make Ayd Mill Road a "more complete street."

The idea of a reconfigured Ayd Mill Road was raised after the City Council in April approved the mill and overlay project. The Union Park District Council (UPDC) passed a resolution

in May calling for the city to study multi-modal traffic on Ayd Mill Road prior to any investment beyond the mill and overlay project. Henry Parker, who chairs the UPDC's Transportation Committee, said the city needs to do more than simply resurface the street.

According to Public Works Department spokesperson Lisa Hiebert, the engineering work required for Carter's plan is already underway. The reduction in traffic lanes will not only mean changes to the surface of Ayd Mill Road, but its traffic signals and entrance and exit ramps, too. The Public Works sewer division will execute the drainage work on Ayd Mill Road this fall. The street maintenance division will continue to patch potholes and apply skim paving where needed.

The city has been spending about \$250,000

AYD MILL ROAD ►3

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## 1 ◀ TRASH REFERENDUM

of organized collection that the mayor was trying to scare voters.

The Minnesota Supreme Court heard oral arguments for and against the trash referendum on August 20. The day of the hearing, the City Council announced a special meeting for August 24 to consider the wording of the ballot question. The Supreme Court had been asked to provide a yes-or-no ruling on the ballot question before that date so that the city could meet the deadline for placing items on the November 5 ballot. The court promised a more detailed ruling in the future.

Prior to the ruling, Carter had vowed to continue organized collection whether or not a referendum was held. The mayor had said that the five-year contract with the haulers would remain in place and that the city would pay haulers from budget reserves or the general fund. However, the Supreme Court has left the current system in place pending the outcome of the November 5 referendum.

St. Paul's organized trash collection program was launched in October 2018 after winning City Council approval the previous fall. The private haulers who had negotiated as a group were assigned zones and collection days. Since then, several of the smaller haulers have sold their market share to one of the other haulers. In fact, only six of the 15 haulers who entered into the contract talks are left in the consortium.

All single-family homes, duplexes, triplexes and fourplexes in St. Paul are mandated to participate in the organized trash collection program. The new system replaced St. Paul's longstanding policy of allowing residents to hire their own garbage hauler and negotiate their own fee and level of service.

Supporters of the organized system contend the new system is more equitable in terms of costs with uniform rates for residents. They also like how it has reduced to one the number of garbage trucks serving a particular neighborhood. Opponents have cited higher costs, a lack of choice, the inability to share a trash cart with a neighboring home or apartment, and poorer service from some haulers.

Prior to the City Council's approval of organized trash, opponents of the mandate had gathered a petition with more than 6,000 valid signatures asking that the program be placed on the ballot. The City Council rejected the petition. In February St. Paul residents Bruce Clark, Peter Butler and Ann Dolan sued the city, contending that denying the referendum was a violation of the city charter. Ramsey County District Court Judge Leonardo Castro ruled in May in favor of the plaintiffs and a citywide referendum. The city appealed that

ruling to the high court, maintaining that state law gives cities the authority to contract for municipal trash collection.

Supreme Court justices had sharp questions for both sides on August 20, focusing on the role of the city charter, the public process prior to the approval of organized collection, the five-year length of the contract and the ultimate fate of trash collection. Several justices asked why the city did not honor the citizens' petition or provide for its contract with the haulers to be subject to a possible referendum.

"(The city) could have negotiated a contract that anticipated these things because they knew there was a referendum provision," Justice Paul Thissen said.

Justice Barry Anderson, addressing the city's attorneys, said, "There is no language in any of those state statutes that you cited that said the citizens shall have no right to petition for a referendum."

Attorney Mark Bradford, who was representing the city, replied that the law is clear on who gets to decide how to handle garbage collection. That power is with the City Council, not residents, he said.

Bradford maintained that citizens did have a say on organized collection at two City Council public hearings. But once a contract has been prepared, "there's room for only one at the table," he added, and that was the city administration, not the public.

"The people don't have the right to enter into the contract," Bradford said. "The contracting authority is vested in the executive branch of the government."

Greg Joseph, who was representing the opponents of organized collection, based his argument on the city charter and its provision giving citizens a right to petition for a referendum and vote on issues. That right must be respected, he said. If the right leaves the city in an unsettling place in respect to its contract with the haulers, Joseph said, "the city put itself in that position."

Joseph noted that the will of the people and of the City Council will be in conflict from time to time. He emphasized the need for the city to follow its own charter. "Is there a line between the electorate and the City Council?" he asked. "No. The voice of voters is not discretionary."

Justices asked what would happen if voters reject organized collection. "What happens on November 6 if this referendum is successful?" asked Justice Natalie Hudson. "Who picks up the trash and who pays?"

If the ordinance is repealed, Bradford said, and the city keeps organized collection in place, "the electorate will not be required to pay anything for their trash collection services, so (the city would) have to pay for it."

## City alley plowing gets cool reception

BY JANE MCCLURE

Visions of a city-run residential alley plowing program appear to be melting away. A St. Paul Department of Public Works study has found that many respondents to a recent survey do not want city plows clearing their alleys.

While about 40 percent of respondents see a city-run program as a way to make sure the alleys get plowed, about 80 percent worry about increased costs and 72 percent believe their alleys would not be plowed as often under a city-run program compared to private contractors.

Results from the newly released study have been forwarded to the City Council and Mayor Melvin Carter's administration for their review. Public Works spokesperson Lisa Hiebert said if alley plowing were to be instituted, it would not be until the winter of 2021-2022 at the earliest.

Calls for a city-run program were first raised during the winter of 2017-2018 when recycling trucks had a difficult time getting through alleys. A smaller number of calls for city plowing were logged after organized trash

collection was implemented last October.

Historically, the city of St. Paul has never plowed alleys. At the request of the City Council, Public Works commissioned a study of alley plowing with assistance from the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute. The survey was available online from April 17-May 3 and was also mailed to a random 250 households with alleys. The research team analyzed a total of 7,834 completed surveys.

Sixty-six percent of respondents with an alley indicated that they have an alley captain in charge of coordinating plowing service. Twelve percent stated that their alley is not plowed at all. Respondents who have alley plowing arrangements generally favored not having a city takeover and are unwilling to pay more than around \$15 per winter.

Those without alley plowing arrangements were more inclined to support a city-run program. Some said it would depend on the cost and quality of the service, but were skeptical due to the city's current issues with street plowing and problems related to organized trash collection.

The 45-page report on alley plowing can be found at [stpaul.gov/alleyplowing](http://stpaul.gov/alleyplowing).

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Ayd Mill Road, shown here in 2013 looking south from the Selby Avenue Bridge, gets congested as it narrows to two lanes at the north end. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

## 1 ◀ AYD MILL ROAD

per year patching potholes and otherwise keeping Ayd Mill Road navigable, yet it is still in poor condition, according to Kathy Lantry, the director of Public Works.

City Council member Rebecca Noecker, whose Ward 2 includes the West End and Summit Hill neighborhoods, said she is waiting for more information on Carter's plan for Ayd Mill Road before taking a position.

However, City Council member Dai Thao, whose Ward 1 includes the Snelling-Hamline and Lexington-Hamline neighborhoods at Ayd Mill Road's north end, said, "I'm 100 percent against this not-well-thought-out proposal."

Thao is calling for a cost-benefit analysis of the plan. He is also raising red flags about safety for bicyclists and pedestrians. "You cannot force traffic into residential neighborhoods and not expect to put bicyclists, kids and other people at risk," he said. "It's already too dangerous to cross Snelling, Lexington and Dale Street. It's already too dangerous with cars zooming through our residential neighborhoods."

Thao compared the Ayd Mill Road plan to the city's controversial organized trash collection program. They both have good intentions but unintended and costly consequences, he said. "When that happens, people in Public Works better be held accountable," he added.

City Council member Chris Tolbert, whose Ward 3 includes the Highland Park and Mcalester-Groveland neighborhoods at Ayd Mill Road's south end, said the redesigned roadway "could provide a needed north-south connection (for bicyclists) through the area. However, I'm concerned that we could have spillover traffic into adjacent neighborhoods. We need to know more about how that traffic would be addressed."

Tolbert noted that the city recently approved an extension of the Lexington Parkway bike lanes north of Randolph Avenue. "Lexington was hit hard by traffic before the south end of Ayd Mill Road was connected to I-35E," he said, "and I'd be concerned if more

drivers used that street as a city thoroughfare again."

"No street has represented our struggle with our streets more than Ayd Mill Road," Carter said in his August 15 budget address. According to him, the changes he has proposed will make Ayd Mill a street that is used by all and ultimately less expensive to maintain.

"We all know that some will mock the notion of investing in sidewalks and bike lanes," Carter said. "But here's the simple truth: Our city has grown by nearly 30,000 people since 2010, and we're projected to add another 30,000 over the next 20 years. Unless our local streets can absorb 30,000 more single-occupancy vehicles, our only choice is to fundamentally shift our ideas about how people get around."

Carter's plan would be the first major change to Ayd Mill Road in almost 20 years. First opened to traffic in 1960, the street was envisioned as a directly connected link between I-35E and I-94. However, neighborhood opposition, especially at the north end of the road, kept direct connections to the freeways from being built.

Then in 2002, Mayor Randy Kelly pushed through a controversial plan to directly connect Ayd Mill Road to I-35E at its south end to reduce traffic congestion on Lexington Parkway and other residential streets between I-35E and I-94.

The City Council also adopted a plan to reconstruct Ayd Mill Road as a two-lane parkway with direct connections to I-35E on the south and the I-94 frontage roads on the north, but that \$40 million project never got funded.

Carter's plan would address a longstanding desire to install bike lanes along Ayd Mill Road with the ultimate goal of connecting the bike lanes to Minneapolis' Midtown Greenway. However, the Canadian Pacific Railroad has repeatedly balked at the notion of having bike and pedestrian trails anywhere near the railway along Ayd Mill Road. Moving the bike and pedestrian trails to the city-owned right-of-way would eliminate that hurdle.

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# Public hearing continues on Ford redevelopment impacts

BY JANE MCCLURE

Close to 100 people turned out on August 20 for the first of two open houses on the Ford alternative urban areawide review (AUAR). The 293-page draft report outlines the redevelopment scenarios for the Ford Motor Company's former assembly plant in Highland Park along with the potential environmental impacts of that redevelopment and possible measures for mitigating those impacts.

A second open house on the AUAR is scheduled for 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, August 27, at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Its focus will be on transportation.

Master developer Ryan Companies is hoping to begin work on the Ford site in the spring of 2020, according to Tony Barranco, the company's senior vice president for development. He urged local residents to review the AUAR, learn about the issues and weigh in with their comments.

The AUAR considers the former 122-acre Ford plant, the adjacent 13-acre Canadian Pacific Railroad yard that once served Ford, and the four acres of the Highland Village Center just northeast of the Ford site.

The draft report outlines dozens of technical steps that can be taken to mitigate the potential impact of redevelopment on the Ford site, which when fully built out is expected to include 3,800 new homes, 150,000 square feet of new retail and office space and 50,000 square feet of institutional space.

The AUAR outlines the various types of permits needed for such issues as slope stabilization, the protection of wetlands, the installation of water and sewer lines, stormwater drainage, water treatment, erosion control,

and dust and noise mitigation during construction.

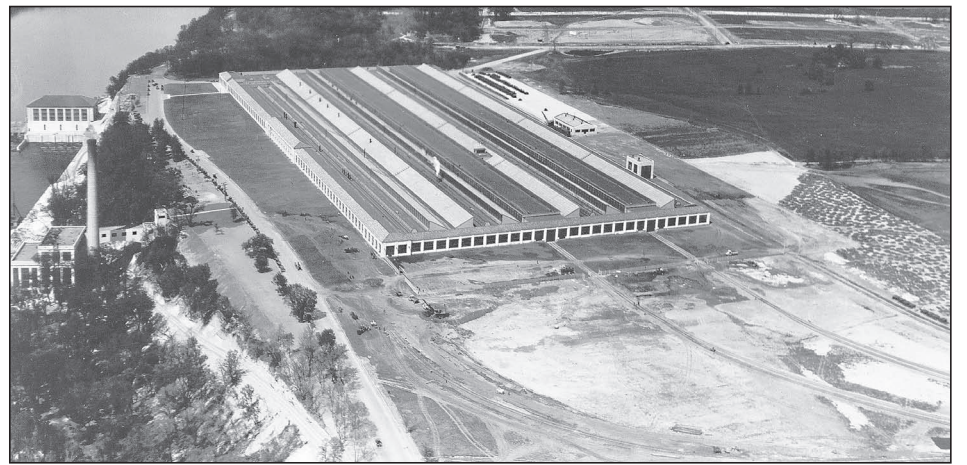
According to city planner Menaka Mohan, two scenarios have been studied through the AUAR—the city's master plan for the Ford site and Ryan's amendment of that plan. The city's plan differs somewhat from Ryan's. It includes 4,000 new housing units, 300,000 square feet of retail and office space, and 150,000 square feet of institutional space.

The first open house on the AUAR addressed land use, geology and soil, water resources, contamination and hazardous materials, historic properties, visual impacts, air quality, noise, and plants and wildlife. The topics did not appear to be highly controversial, although there was strong interest in the pollution cleanup work being done on and around the site by Ford and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Several questions from those attending the hearing addressed the tunnels and silica sand mine beneath the Ford site. The entrances to those underground areas have been sealed, and they are far enough below ground to make the Ford site safe for redevelopment.

The full AUAR is available online at [stpaul.gov/ford-auar](http://stpaul.gov/ford-auar). Public comments on the document are being accepted until 4 p.m. Wednesday, September 18. They may be emailed to [fordsiteplanning@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:fordsiteplanning@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or mailed to Menaka Mohan, Ford Site Planner, 25 W. Fourth St., Suite 1400, St. Paul, MN 55102.

City staff and consultants will respond to all comments. A final AUAR is expected to be published in November. Approval of the document is in the hands of the director of St. Paul's Department of Planning and Economic Development (PED).



An aerial view of Ford Motor Company's assembly plant in Highland Park circa 1924, when it was still under construction.

## Historical survey of Ford site sought

BY JANE MCCLURE

A review of historic properties that is being conducted as part of the ongoing Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) for the 135-acre site of Ford Motor Company's former assembly plant has resurrected an obscure chapter in the history of the Highland Park neighborhood.

Both the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and State Archaeologist's Office have asked that the Ford site be scrutinized for any remaining artifacts of Old Rum Town, a small settlement that sprang up in the 1830s across the Mississippi River from Fort Snelling.

Old Rum Town was occupied by squatters who had constructed a few houses on the site and sold liquor to soldiers, much to the consternation of Fort Snelling's commander. Historian Donald Empson noted that at least one old map places Old Rum Town near the intersection of present-day Mississippi River Boulevard and Elsie Lane.

The reference to Old Rum Town in comments on the Ford AUAR surprised some local historians, including West End resident Jim Sazevich. "The map I have with Old Rum Town marked has it outside of the Ford Plant's boundaries," he said. "I'm puzzled as to why it's cited as needing study."

State law requires an AUAR to describe any historic structures, archeological sites and traditional cultural properties on or in proximity to the site being studied. The AUAR must cite any historical designations or known artifact areas or archaeological features and identify the impact redevelopment might have on those historical features both during and after construction. It also must identify the measures that will be taken to avoid or minimize any adverse effects.

The Ford Plant's earliest buildings were constructed in 1924. Some preservationists had hoped to save the original assembly plant building, but a 2007 historic survey

HISTORICAL SURVEY ► 5

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# St. Paul creates division to enforce sick time regs, new minimum wage

By JANE MCCLURE

St. Paul City Council members voted 6-0 on August 14 to establish a Division of Labor Standards Enforcement and Education within the city's Human Rights Department to enforce ordinances tied to a \$15 per hour minimum wage and regulations on earned sick and safe time. The vote followed a hearing at which some supporters said employers are already trying to skirt the rules.

Earned sick and safe time went into effect in July 2017. It requires St. Paul employers to provide one hour of sick and safe time for every 30 hours worked. The ordinance was adopted to allow time off for people to deal with their own health issues or those of family members. The ordinance also allows time off for domestic violence or abuse situations.

The city's Human Rights Department received 35 complaints in 2017 and 53 in 2018 regarding violations to the earned sick and safe time ordinance. Workers' rights and labor groups have pushed for more oversight of those complaints, but St. Paul has just one investigator looking into them.

Another staff member is being hired to deal with minimum wage issues, but advocates say more staff is needed. The first group of workers covered by the minimum wage ordinance will see their pay increase in 2020. The ordinance will be rolled out over several years following its adoption in 2018.

Ward 2 council member Rebecca Noecker tried to get four investigators added to the new Division of Labor Standards Enforcement and Education, but other council members voted it down. They said they wanted to wait and see if they can add to the staff during the ongoing 2020 budget process.

In his proposed 2020 city budget, Mayor Melvin Carter has added \$79,560 for increased staffing for the transition to a higher minimum wage. Not all of the new division's work will be enforcement. Another focus will be education, with a marketing plan to reach businesses, especially those where violations are most likely to occur. That includes the use of posters in a wide range of languages that urge workers to know their rights.

There will also be a toolkit for businesses

and resources that include forms for record keeping as well as compliance checklists for both minimum wage and earned sick and safe time. The division will also have an on-line portal that will provide information for employees and employers, and make it easier for complaints to be filed.

The city will require more detailed reporting on violations and compliance, as well as economic and market impacts of the policies as of 2021. The data gathered will include business openings and closings, job numbers, worker earnings and impact on poverty levels.

Noecker and council members Jane Prince and Dai Thao sponsored the ordinance setting up the new division. Thao was absent for the final vote.

Noecker said the city needs to put its money where its mouth is and start supporting ways to enforce the two policies for workers. She expressed frustration with larger companies that are trying to avoid following the rules. One target for the city has been international and national restaurant chains.

Council members attended a gathering in May where more than a dozen fast food workers spoke out about violations to the earned sick and safe time ordinance. One worker said he actually was told he needed to go to his workplace, a Taco Bell on Snelling Avenue, to prove that he was ill.

The Centro de Trabajadores Unidos en la Lucha/Center of Workers United in Struggle (CTUL) has waged a high-profile campaign regarding earned sick and safe time, including the need for more investigators to handle complaints and the lack of information in languages other than English. The Service Employees International Union Local 26 held an event right after the CTUL gathering in May, claiming that some of its employees were reclassified as independent contractors, in part to skirt the earned sick and safe time mandate.

On August 20 the city opened a 90-day public review and comment period regarding the final rules and business resource materials that will be in place prior to next year's start of the minimum wage ordinance. The public can provide comments on the materials between now and November 22 at [stpaul.gov/minimumwage](http://stpaul.gov/minimumwage).

## 4◀ HISTORICAL SURVEY

found that the Ford site was not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

The Ford Plant's buildings and their foundations have since been removed. The AUAR states that subgrade demolition and abandonment meant that excavation was generally done to a depth of six feet, with deeper excavation in areas where basements, pits and tunnels were removed.

The State Historic Preservation Office and State Archaeologist's Office are also concerned that the Ford AUAR include a study of any sites that might be significant to the history of the local American Indian population.

"The study area is located in close proximity to the Mississippi River and its confluence with Minnehaha Creek, as well as being within one mile of multiple archaeological sites," said Jennifer Tworzyanski, an assistant to the state archeologist. "Because of these factors, the study area has a high potential for containing unrecorded archaeological sites." The state archeologist's staff have recommended that a qualified archaeological survey be conducted in and around the Ford site to see if redevelopment could damage unrecorded sites.

The State Historic Preservation Office would also like to see another historical survey of the Ford site. Sarah J. Beimers, the office's environmental review program manager, pointed out that the office was never asked to review the 2007 historical survey of the Ford Plant before it was demolished.

City staff and consultants working on the

Ford AUAR contend that there is nothing left to be studied on the site, given the initial development of the Ford Plant and the demolition that has taken place there since it closed. "Due to the highly disturbed nature of the site, no archaeological resources are anticipated within the 122-acre Ford site parcel," the AUAR stated. The only area with undisturbed soil is the 13 acres of the Canadian Pacific Railroad spur, and though it is part of the AUAR, that property is not currently being eyed for redevelopment.

The State Historic Preservation Office has asked that the Ford AUAR consider the impact on such nearby historic properties as the Minnesota Soldiers Home Historic District, the Minnehaha Historic District, the Ford Parkway Bridge, and the old Ford hydro-electric plant and Lock and Dam No. 1. The two historic districts and the Ford Bridge are already on the National Register of Historic Places. The hydro plant and lock and dam are eligible for historic designation.

The AUAR notes that all of the referenced properties are outside of the study area and that the Mississippi River, the vegetation along the river, and various zoning restrictions for the Ford site will prevent any adverse impact on those properties.

The historical resources on and near the Ford site have never been adequately studied, according to Sazevich. "The level of archaeological work that was needed has never been done there," he said. However, the opportunity for such work has likely passed, he added.

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# Mayor Carter eyes 1.6% increase in city spending in 2020

By Jane McClure

St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter's proposed 2020 city budget includes more than \$3.5 million in savings and spending reductions, including more than \$1 million in cuts to public safety. The cuts have helped hold the proposed 2020 property tax levy to \$164 million, a 4.85 percent increase from the \$156 million levied in 2019. The total city budget for 2020 is \$621.9 million, a 1.6 percent increase over 2019.

The St. Paul City Council began reviewing the proposed city budget on August 21. It will hold a listening session on the budget at 6 p.m. Wednesday, August 28. According to council president Amy Brendmoen, the intent of the hearing is to gather public comments before the council adopts its maximum property tax levy for 2020 on September 18.

In his August 15 budget address, Carter said his budget represents an effort to limit property tax increases while making strategic investments that reflect his philosophy for balancing competing needs. "We don't just want new dollars," he said, "we want new thinking." The mayor's new thinking is especially apparent in the areas of public safety, transportation and economic development.

The Carter administration began its 2020 budget deliberations with an estimated \$17 million gap in city revenue and spending. The gap is due in large part to increased costs for salaries and benefits for city employees, which make up 79.9 percent of the general fund. Carter's proposed cuts include eliminating five of the nine police officer positions the city added in 2019. Those five positions are currently vacant, Carter said, and even with the cuts, the Police Department has more officers than it has ever had.

According to the mayor, adding more police officers does not necessarily result in a

## Carter proposes 4% hike in library budget

Mayor Melvin Carter has proposed a \$700,000 increase in the St. Paul Public Library's budget for 2020, to almost \$18.7 million. Included in that increase is \$97,022 to provide a full-time social worker to help library patrons who are homeless, have mental health issues or are dealing with other challenges.

The social worker was actually hired 18 months ago on a trial basis using an outside grant. The mayor's budget would make the position permanent.

Carter used his August 15 address on the library budget to tout the success of his 2019 program eliminating the fines for overdue materials. While that initiative has meant the loss of \$215,000 in fine revenue for the

city, Carter said, it has also saved \$250,000 of library staff time to collect the fines.

Eliminating the fines has made it possible for the 43,000 citizens who had their library privileges suspended for excessive fines to check out materials again. Carter said he had wanted to phase in the fine elimination gradually, but library staff told him they wanted to have it happen quickly. "It was exciting to make that happen," the mayor said.

Library checkouts jumped as much as 20 percent in the first six months of 2019 at the Arlington Hills Library alone, according to St. Paul Public Library director Catherine Penkert. Public libraries across the city have seen increased use, and more people are renewing or getting library cards.

"We used to think that late fines made people bring their books back," Carter said. But the truth is, many people just stay away, he added.

cilities at Como Park is expected to raise an additional \$100,000. The Parks and Recreation Department expects to raise \$325,000 through a new \$5 per day fee for children who take part in the Rec Check Program. However, that program will continue to be free for low-income households that qualify for free or reduced-price lunches at school.

The city's Department of Safety and Inspections is expected to bring in an additional \$291,000 thanks to increases in animal licensing fees, revenue from sheltering animals for neighboring cities and 2 percent increases in business license and building permit fees.

Carter has earmarked \$250,000 to expand recreation center hours and adapt to changes in the St. Paul Public Schools start times. Another \$79,500 will pay for a new staff member to monitor the mandated increase in the minimum wage for public and private sector employees in St. Paul. That increase to \$15 per hour is being phased in beginning in 2020. The 2020 budget also includes \$160,675 for a new deputy director of human rights to focus on training city employees in the areas of diversity and inclusion.

Parking meters across the city would be upgraded to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act at a cost of \$350,000. Carter has also proposed spending \$750,000 to add electric vehicle charging hubs through a partnership with Hourcar, the city of Minneapolis and Xcel Energy.

With the \$7.6 million or 4.85 percent increase in the city's property tax levy in 2020, the owners of a median-value \$199,800 home in St. Paul would see a \$55 increase in the city's portion of their property tax bill—from \$833 to \$888. When fee increases for street maintenance, water and sanitary and storm sewers are included, the increased cost would total \$82. That is if city trash and recycling fees remain flat, as Carter has proposed.

reduction in crime. "A city that fails to address the root causes of crime—the economic and social isolation that keeps people feeling desperate—can never hire enough police officers," Carter said. "Our goal of making St. Paul an even safer city demands a proactive strategy to identify and interrupt the cycles that keep us responding to crisis after crisis."

The St. Paul Fire Department will also see staffing cuts, including a fire training position, three vacant fire medic cadet posts, one vacant administrative post and one vacant public education coordinator. Proposed cuts for the Police Department total \$490,903. Total cuts for the Fire Department are \$559,733.

Other cuts for 2020 include removing funding for the downtown Holiday Lights and WinterSkate programs and reducing the staff for maintaining flower baskets in parks and along streets. The Public Works Department's street and bridge maintenance budget would see cuts in the areas of pavement markings, signal pole painting and refuse pickup. Other city departments are reducing staff and consultant budgets.

Carter is holding the budget for street reconstruction, repair and mill and overlay projects at \$20 million for 2020, the same as in 2019. He conceded that that is not enough in light of the deteriorated condition of the city's streets and an estimated \$1 billion backlog in street maintenance costs over the next 20 years. "None of these reductions are ideal," Carter said. "They represent a very difficult and challenging set of decisions, over which my team and I have agonized greatly."

The proposed 2020 budget also calls for about \$656,000 in new revenue, according to Susan Earle, city budget director. The new ability to make donations by credit card in fa-

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# Catch onto the CBD craze in time for college

The dog days are drawing to a close, the Minnesota State Fair is nigh and pretty soon a new crop of students will be filling dorm halls and quads for studies and more than a little fun.

Whether they want to ace classes in a new and challenging environment or maintain a proper eye on mental health, many students across the state should consider CBD products this semester. Thousands of ordinary adults in the U.S. find the non-psychoactive marijuana relative helpful for their focus, insomnia and anxiety.

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relaxing benefits of marijuana without the mind-altering high.

Getting to sleep with a new, snoring roommate may be a bit easier after a few drops of CBD oil, and many people use it to ease headaches after a hang-over, too.

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An 1848 painting by artist Seth Eastman shows the Falls of St. Anthony prior to the commercial development that would largely tame this stretch of the Mississippi River.

## Corps questioning future use of St. Anthony Falls lock and dam

BY ROGER BARR

About 80 people turned out on August 13 at the Mill City Museum to learn about the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' current study of the future of the Upper St. Anthony Lock and Dam on the Mississippi River in downtown Minneapolis. A second public meeting on the study was held on August 19 at Dowling School on West River Parkway in Minneapolis.

"I was very pleased with the turnout," said U. S. Army Corps of Engineer project manager Nanette E. Bischoff. "Engaging the public in this effort will help us determine what the role of the Corps will be at Upper St. Anthony Falls."

Completed in 1963 as part of the Upper Minneapolis Harbor project, the Upper St. Anthony Lock and Dam is federally owned and managed by the Army Corps of Engineers. Its primary purpose was to aid navigation, but also to support recreation, Bischoff said. The lock and dam also mitigates flooding, provides hydroelectricity and aids the city of Minneapolis in drawing its water supply from the Mississippi.

Commercial use of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock had been declining since its peak in 1990, and the lock was ordered closed to navigation in 2014. Concern about invasive carp migrating further north up the Mississippi River was another factor in its closure. The dam is still used for flood mitigation and to help maintain the necessary river depth for supplying water to Minneapolis.

Three years ago the Army Corps was authorized to study whether it was in the public interest to maintain the lock and dam under federal ownership. The Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1 near the Ford Bridge were also included in that study. However, the study of the latter two locks and dams was postponed when Congress passed the America's Water Infrastructure Act last October.

That act authorized a separate and immediate study of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam with the additional alternative of selling the lock and dam while continuing its use for flood mitigation. A separate study to determine the future of the Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam No. 1 will begin in 2020.

The Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam was constructed in 1956, and Lock and Dam No. 1 was constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1917. The adjacent hydroelectric dam was completed by Ford Motor Company in 1924.

The study of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam will identify opportunities, problems, objectives and constraints associ-

*Northeast Minneapolis resident Robert Lace favors restoring St. Anthony Falls to its natural state. "St. Anthony Falls was once the major falls on the Mississippi River," he said. "The falls is really gone. It's now a concrete ramp."*

ated with each of three alternative futures for those facilities. A final report will be issued by the Corps in the spring of 2020, followed by public comment in June and July.

The Corps' will make a final recommendation by the end of 2020. If it recommends that the lock and dam be disposed of in whole or in part, Congress will be asked to make a final decision.

About a dozen individuals testified on the lock and dam study on August 13. Northeast Minneapolis resident Robert Lace favors restoring St. Anthony Falls to its natural state. "St. Anthony Falls was once the major falls on the Mississippi River," he said. "The falls is really gone. It's now a concrete ramp." He suggested that the Corps of Engineers, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the city of Minneapolis, American Indian tribes and others work together to "re-create the falls" and make it "a tourist attraction."

Cordelia Pierson, who represents the metropolitan region on the Mississippi River Parkway Commission, noted that the area surrounding the Upper St. Anthony Lock and Dam has state and national historic designations. The locks, she said, would be an ideal place for an interpretive center, and any future developer would need to respect the historic character of the area.

Gary "Bucky" Monson, principal and CFO of Crown Hydro, a privately owned firm, said he believed the federal government should "maintain ownership and management responsibilities" for the Upper St. Anthony Lock and Dam.

Although the August 13 and 19 meetings were not recorded, "the comments we received at the meetings and those that are sent in later will help us as we move forward with the study," Bischoff said.

For information on the Mississippi River lock and dam studies or to comment on them, visit [www.mvp.usace.army.mil/MplsLocks-Disposition](http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/MplsLocks-Disposition). Public comments will be accepted until October 20.

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# Viewpoint

## Project creates portrait of historical character of Highland

BY JACKIE MOSIO

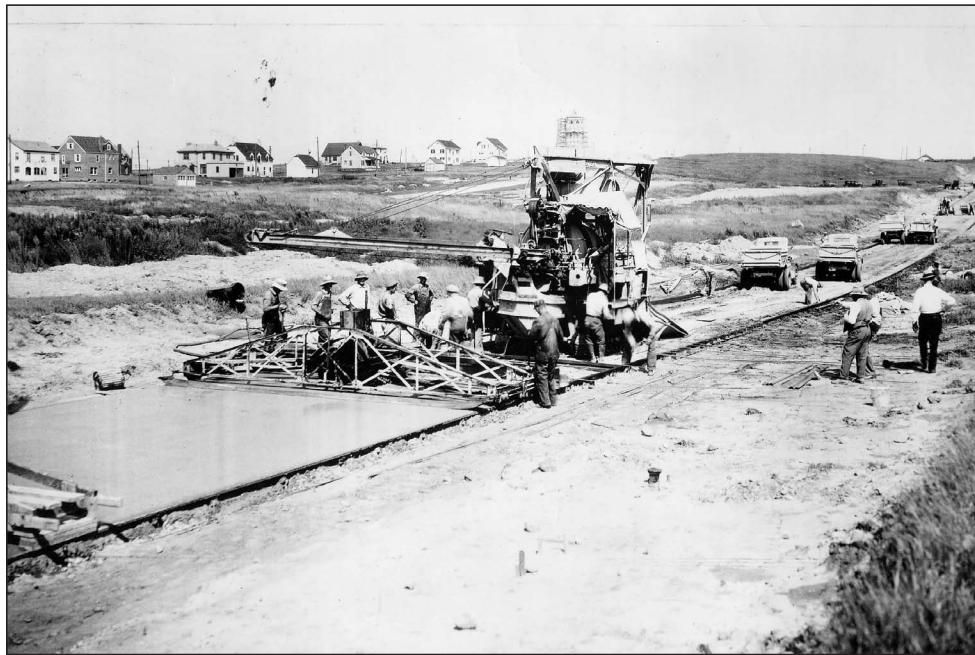
**D**o you belong to a family who has lived in the Highland Park neighborhood for more than one generation? Do you know a family who has? Multi-generational families seem to be characteristic of this area despite its youth relative to other neighborhoods in St. Paul.

These families and their stories are one focus of the newly launched Highland Heritage Project.

A Highland Heritage Project task force is now gathering the stories of Highland Park's multi-generational families. If your family has lived in Highland Park for two or three generations, the task force would like to hear from you. Many of those who grew up in the neighborhood moved away, but returned to Highland Park with their families later in life. The task force would also like to hear from them.

The Highland Heritage Project is not just about nostalgia, but about documenting who and what is here now and the changes that are to come. Is Highland's unique character a product of its history? Its residents? Will looking into our past give us a better understanding of who we are as a community and what we can become? The Highland Heritage Project will deal with these and many other questions. Answering them will hopefully identify opportunities.

At our meeting on August 13, the Highland Heritage Project formed new



The paving of Rome Avenue in Highland Park in 1927 with the partially completed Highland Water Tower in the background. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

task forces to work on various aspects of Highland's history. Those aspects include the histories of the many religious institutions in Highland, the businesses that have contributed to our community, the ongoing Ford legacy effort, the indigenous people who have lived here, the early settlers and the land itself.

Efforts are underway to secure funding for a written history of Highland. All that can

be done to preserve and honor our history is valuable, not only to current residents but to future residents as well. This could be a meaningful project for our community and a way to share the special character of Highland.

Have you ever wondered about the history of your house? Where the local street names come from? What Ford Parkway was called before Ford Motor Company built its

assembly plant in Highland Park? (According to old maps, it was St. Catherine Avenue.)

Highland has been home to many fascinating personalities and stories, some famous and others infamous. Anyone with an interest in that history is welcome to contribute to this effort or even join in the development of the project. Especially important is reaching out to people who might not be reachable via email, Facebook or other social media. They are often the ones with great, not-to-be-missed stories. Photos and other memorabilia are welcome, along with individual research that may include talking to neighbors, business owners, older residents or people who have moved away.

Highland Heritage Project's mission is to gather, document, preserve and honor the legacy of our community. We aspire to interpret our past, understand our values and create community by fostering a sense of place and history that reflects the soul, heart and character of Highland Park. The project is sponsored by the Highland Community Initiative, which was developed in the wake of the meeting that brought 120 local residents to Lumen Christi Church on December 1, 2014, to talk about values and vision in anticipation of the redevelopment of the former Ford Plant.

For more information on the project, contact Jackie Mosio at 612-396-3644, Annice Gregerson at nanniceg@gmail.com, or visit [highlandcommunityinitiative.org](http://highlandcommunityinitiative.org).

## Inbox

### A bold plan for Ayd Mill Road

St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter's new plan for Ayd Mill Road's future is a bold yet fiscally responsible idea that balances a number of competing interests. Due to deferred road maintenance dating back several mayors and other factors, such as the high percentage of tax-exempt properties in St. Paul, our city cannot afford to keep up its roads at the level citizens want. And because Ayd Mill Road is located on an old stream bed, it is prohibitively expensive to maintain in its current configuration.

Under Mayor Carter's plan, Ayd Mill Road will still be available for those who need a short cut across the city, but it will be more affordable to maintain. And as a bonus, the city will enjoy an additional, safer route for pedestrians and bicyclists through our city that is likely to become as popular as the Midtown Greenway in Minneapolis. Lower noise levels for surrounding neighborhoods will be the icing on the cake. This is a great idea. Thank you, Mayor Carter!

*Elizabeth Wefel  
Macalester-Groveland*

### Driving toward financial abyss

It is hard for a retired non-commuter to understand the St. Paul Public Works Department's claim that \$51 million per year for 20 years is necessary to keep St. Paul's 762 miles of streets within acceptable performance ratings. It is not hard to understand that such a figure, even if exaggerated, is not affordable for a city of close of 320,000 with an extraordinary proportion of tax-exempt property.

Like most American communities, for a century we have built out St. Paul as if the automobile were manifest destiny. Only now do we learn of the prohibitive ongoing cost of that choice. It is telling that St. Paul, like most cities in America, has no responsibility and therefore no budget for transit, yet is facing a financial abyss catering to cars. So here is an idea:

Imagine every residence within a 10-minute walk of a grocery store, pharmacy, clinic, library, hardware store, park, rec center, K-12 schools, restaurants and other services.

Imagine these districts all connected by transit such as the A, Green and Blue lines. Well, that is what the Ford site in Highland Park will be when redeveloped. However, due to our cherished fantasy of driving as a sacred right, most new residents and visitors will use cars. That, multiplied by all such areas in the city, is what leads Public Works to warn of deferred street maintenance of \$1 billion over 20 years—financial bondage to the most expensive type of surface transportation system in history.

The only fair, effective and rational way to pay this bill is to pass it along to drivers. This can be done through increased gas taxes, a vehicle mileage tax, or zone-based congestion pricing similar to London's, Stockholm's and, if they do not gut it with loopholes, soon New York City's. If drivers do not like it, drive less. Then get the city to move, over time, to what might be called proximity zoning—putting vital goods and services within easy walking distance of every resident. Then get St. Paul, at long last, involved in transit.

To many this is asking for a revolution. But not doing it is asking every taxpayer for his or her share of \$1 billion over 20 years—unaffordable to most and a gross injustice to those who do not drive or drive little.

St. Paul is not the only U.S. city learning the prohibitive cost of cars. Let us be a leader out of this fiscal trap.

*Mathews Hollinshead  
Highland Park*

*Editor's note: The writer is a transit representative on the Metropolitan Council's Transportation Advisory Board.*

### An unwarranted fear of traffic

St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter's plan to eliminate two lanes of traffic on Ayd Mill Road has caught a lot of attention in the last week. Much of the discussion has been around the fear of increased traffic on local streets due to people looking for more expeditious routes between I-35E and I-94.

I am not worried about traffic increasing on local streets like Lexington Parkway or Snelling Avenue. Neither of these streets is the same as it once was. Lexington's traffic lanes have

been reduced significantly and will be even more problematic for people looking for a fast shortcut once it has been realigned at its southern end and is no longer a straight shot from West Seventh Street. Snelling is much the same as it has become more commercial and we've added traffic calming.

If you map the routes between I-35E and I-94, alternatives where you stay on the highway only add minutes. I'm not sure why someone would get off the highways and use local streets that are more confined, have stoplights and ultimately won't reduce travel time.

*Robert Wales  
Highland Park*

### A vision for the future

The climate crisis we face is a global problem, but it requires local solutions. One such local solution to the existential threat of climate change is the proposed conversion of half of Ayd Mill Road to a bike and pedestrian path, which not only provides St. Paul residents with more low-carbon options to move around the city, but saves taxpayers money in the long-term since heavy suburban car traffic on one side will not continually force us to pay for resurfacing. I'm as happy as a clam about St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter's bold proposal, and when it's finally built, I'm going to take my Lime down to Ayd Mill Road and ride 'til I can't ride any more.

*Tyler Blackmon  
Highland Park*

### Chill out, kids, and have a latte

I read with amusement about the strong opposition to a new Starbucks being proposed on the corner of Hamline and Randolph avenues (*Villager* Inbox, August 14). There is concern about traffic congestion, pedestrian safety and the impact on local businesses and neighborhoods. All concerns that I share, by the way.

It was amusing because I recognize many of the people



## 8◀ INBOX

opposing the Starbucks development as the same people who are overwhelmingly in favor of the planned high-density development on the Ford site. I have attended countless meetings with these folks who have scoffed at concerns raised about the exact same issues as they relate to the Ford redevelopment: traffic congestion, pedestrian safety and the impact on local businesses and neighborhoods.

"Yes, in my backyard!" "The higher the density the better!" And my all-time favorite, yelled at one meeting to older Highland residents who were calling for less density: "What do you care? You'll all be dead before it gets finished."

So I guess I would say to those same high-density proponents who are worried about a 2,100-square-foot Starbucks with 14 parking spaces and a drive-through lane changing the look and feel of the neighborhood: Chill out, kids, and have a latte.

**Lisa Erbes**  
Highland Park

## Bye-bye, billboards

Kudos to St. Paul Corner Drug for removing the twin billboards that have loomed over the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood for so long. *Villager* readers, look up as you go by the intersection of St. Clair and Snelling avenues. Check out how much sharper and cleaner it all looks now that such last-century eyesores are gone. And others with such retro advertising in our readership area, come into the 21st century. Find other, less unsightly ways to attract customers to your message. Thanks again, Corner Drug.

**James McKenzie**  
Macalester-Groveland

## Village showing signs of neglect

I have been saddened by the neglected appearance of Highland Village in recent years. I was embarrassed recently to walk up to the Village with out-of-state visitors. I saw the neglect through their eyes.

Tree stumps line Cleveland Avenue with graffiti on them. Boulevard stumps that have been removed have been replaced by weeds. One home has two spots where the trees used to be where the weeds are over 4 feet tall. Sakana restaurant's frontage and drive is surrounded by weeds. Grass is growing through the cracks in the cement on most corners, especially surrounding Horace Mann School.

St. Paul, please, start replacing the many trees you have removed. Business and home owners of Highland Village, please pull your weeds. With the anticipated growth of Highland Village, the trees will be our defense against increased carbon emissions.

**Mary Lane**  
Highland Park

## A traffic nightmare on Rome

My neighbors and I on Rome Avenue are enduring at least 10 times the amount of traffic we usually have on our street since construction began on August 12 at the intersection of Fairview and Montreal avenues. Drivers race past three signs warning them that the road is closed. They ignore the detour signs at Ford Parkway and Fairview. Then they barrel down Fairview until they realize they can't go any farther and turn right or left onto Rome.

My neighbor and I contacted Ward 3 City Council member Chris Tolbert's office a few days ahead of the August 12 start date. His

office didn't know the reason for the road closure. We were told to contact Xcel Energy, which we did. So far no answer. Meanwhile cars go whizzing by all day on a street that is usually quiet. Rome doesn't lead to any direct way to go north or south, so there's a lot of turning around, heading into alleys and general confusion. If there are cars parked on both sides of the street, cars can only proceed one by one, with traffic backing up while others wait. It's a nightmare. The city isn't taking much responsibility, nor is Xcel.

Please, neighbors, if you're trying to drive south of Ford Parkway, use the designated detour. Our local streets are not designed as a thoroughfare.

**Judie Ritchie**  
Highland Park

## CDC hasn't earned our trust

A letter from April King (*Villager* Inbox, August 14) says we should blindly trust the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, when in reality the CDC has been captured by the industry it is meant to regulate. The CDC's own scientists—a group called SPIDER (CDC Scientists Preserving Integrity, Diligence and Ethics in Research)—put a list of complaints in a letter to the CDC chief of staff and provided a copy to the public watchdog organization U.S. Right to Know:

"It appears that our mission is being influenced and shaped by outside parties and rogue interests," the letter states. "Congressional intent for our agency is being circumvented by some of our leaders. What concerns us most is that it is becoming the norm and not the rare exception. These questionable and unethical practices threaten to undermine our credibility and reputation as a trusted leader in public health."

The CDC has kept details of laboratory mishaps with deadly viruses and bacteria secret, which was covered in a *USA Today* series. CDC employees colluded with Coca-Cola executives to shift blame away from sugary drinks. Just last year, Dr. Brenda Fitzgerald, CDC director, resigned over tobacco and other financial conflicts of interest.

One of the biggest CDC whistleblowers to come forward is Dr. William Thompson, covered in the documentary *Vaxxed*. In 2014 Thompson revealed that CDC scientists had found a statistical link between autism and vaccines and covered it up. Lawyers tried to subpoena him in court, but then-director Frieden blocked him from testifying.

U.S. Representative Bill Posey (R-Florida) in 2015 called for an investigation of the CDC's research into the Mumps-Measles-Rubella (MMR) vaccine. The director of the CDC at the time when the alleged MMR fraud took place, Julie Gerberding, was rewarded by Merck with a job in its vaccine division. In 2018 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services admitted that for 30 years it failed to provide a single vaccine safety report to Congress, in direct violation of federal law.

"The CDC is not an independent agency, it is a vaccine company," according to Robert F. Kennedy Jr. "The CDC owns over 20 vaccine patents. It sells about \$4.6 billion of vaccines every year. There have been four separate federal investigations that have been scathing in their criticism of the financial ties of the vaccine industry to the CDC."

**Kristin Heinmets**  
Highland Park

*Editor's note: The writer is a member of the board of the Vaccine Safety Council of Minnesota.*

## VILLAGER

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**Maurice F. Mischke, 1920-1991**

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## Editors

Dale Mischke  
John Wadell  
news@myvillager.com

**Letters to the Editor**  
letters@myvillager.com

**Display Advertising Sales**  
Tim Carroll  
Bob Stjern  
displayads@myvillager.com

**Classified Ads**  
Jennifer Gordon  
wantads@myvillager.com

**Graphic Designers**  
Craig Schuster  
Jennifer Gordon

**Administrative Assistant**  
Jennifer Gordon  
jgordon@myvillager.com

**Publisher**  
Michael Mischke  
mmischke@myvillager.com

**Subscriptions**  
subscriptions@myvillager.com

**CONTRIBUTORS:** Roger Barr, Matthew Davis, Kevin Driscoll, Janet Lunder Hanafin, Anne Hauth, Brian Johnson, Frank Jossi, Mary Maguire Lerman, Jane McClure, Lou Michaels, Steve Michaels, Anne Murphy, Melenie Soucheray, Brad Stauffer, Jennifer Stewart, Bill Wagner, Carolyn Walkup, Leslie Walters, Tilly Wilson, Dave Wright.

## CIRCULATION

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# Off to the races

## Total of 28 candidates file for City Council in St. Paul's seven wards

BY KEVIN DRISCOLL

All seven St. Paul City Council incumbents are running for re-election this fall, and with a total of 28 candidates in the race, all seven will be facing opposition in the November 5 general election. Following the close of the two-week candidate filing period on August 13, here is how the races are shaping up in each of the city's seven wards:

### Ward 1

Dai Thao, a six-year incumbent on the City Council and former IT professional for the Minneapolis Crisis Nursery, is facing three challengers in his bid for a second four-year term. They include Abu Nayeem, a Frogtown activist and native of Bangladesh who graduated from the State University of New York with degrees in economic analysis and environmental economics and from the University of California-Berkeley with a master's degree in agricultural and resource economics; Anika Bowie, a consultant and facilitator with the Darris Consulting Group, former educator in the St. Paul Public Schools and graduate of Hamline University with a degree in criminal and social justice; and Liz De La Torre, a sexual assault victims advocate and legal service coordinator in the St. Paul-Ramsey County Public Health Department and a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls with a degree in international relations and political science.

### Ward 2

DFL incumbent Rebecca Noecker, a former public school teacher, is facing four opponents in her bid for a second term: Lindsay



Ferris Martin, a social media consultant with a background in marketing, public relations and small-business consulting; Helen Meyers, a member of the Socialist Workers Party, Walmart employee and veteran union and political activist; Bill Hosko, the owner of a downtown cafe and art gallery and a former candidate for mayor and City Council; and perennial candidate Sharon Anderson.

### Ward 3

Two-term DFL incumbent Chris Tolbert, an assistant Hennepin County attorney, is being challenged by attorney Patricia J. Hartmann. A former board member of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council, Hartmann graduated from Hamline University with a degree in philosophy and earned her law degree at Hamline University School of Law.

### Ward 4

DFL incumbent Mitra Jalali Nelson, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, former classroom teacher and former aide to then-Congressman Keith Ellison, was elected to the City Council in a special election in

2018. She is facing two opponents in her bid for a four-year term, including Chris Holbrook, a graduate of St. Cloud State University and a sales account manager for a building material wholesaler; and Tarrence Robertson-Bayless, a major in the Minnesota National Guard and graduate of St. Cloud State University with a degree in bio-medical science.

### Ward 5

DFL incumbent and current City Council president Amy Brendmoen is seeking a third term against three opponents, including Bob Blake, a member of the Red Lake Nation, graduate of Metropolitan State University with a master's degree in advocacy and political leadership and owner of Solar Bear, a solar energy installation firm; Jamie Hendricks, a lab technician with a certificate from St. Paul College who also manages the North End Free Pantry; and Suyapa Miranda, an independent consultant and former senior director of community impact at the American Heart Association with a degree in modern and classical languages from the University of St. Thomas and a master's degree in advocacy and political leadership from Metropolitan State University.

### Ward 6

Six candidates are vying for the seat vacated last December by longtime City Council member Dan Bostrom, including Kassim Busuri, who was appointed to fill the final year of Bostrom's term with the understanding that he would not seek election in 2019. A community organizer, director of the Minnesota Da'wah Institute and a youth violence prevention consultant, the Somali-born Busuri

graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in political science and earned a master's degree in education and leadership from Minnesota State University. Challenging him are Terri Thao, a program director at Nexus Community Partners with a degree in international relations and Russian from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree in public policy from the U of M's Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs; Nelsie Yang, a political organizer for Take Action Minnesota with a degree in social work from Minnesota State University; Alexander Bourne, a former businessman and former student at Xavier University; Greg Copeland, former city manager of Maplewood, former member of the St. Paul Charter Commission and Capital Improvement Budget Committee, and former chair of the Republican Party of St. Paul; and community organizer Danielle Swift.

### Ward 7

DFL incumbent Jane Prince, an attorney in private practice, is being challenged by three candidates in her bid for a second term. The challengers including Mary Anne Quiroz, Philippine-born co-founder of the Indigenous Roots Cultural Center and graduate of the University of Minnesota with degrees in family social science and Spanish; David Thom, a retired mechanical engineer and current owner of the Groomsman dog-grooming service in Minneapolis; and Kartumu King, who with her father fled her native Liberia in 1989 in the midst of a civil war, earned an associate's degree in health information technology at St. Paul College and has worked in both the private and nonprofit sectors.

## Ten candidates vie for the four open seats on School Board

BY KEVIN DRISCOLL

Ten candidates have filed to run for the four open seats on the St. Paul School Board this year. Joining incumbents Zuki Ellis and Steve Marchese on the November 5 general election ballot are Chauntyll Allen, Charlotte Castro, Tiffany Fearing, Jessica Kopp, Jennifer McPherson, Elijah Norris-Holliday, Omar Syed and Ryan Williams.

With no primary election, the top four vote-getters will be elected to the four-year terms on the School Board. Stepping down at the end of the year will be one-term incumbents Jon Schumacher and Mary Vanderwert.

Ellis, 44, the School Board's current chair, is running for a second term. A Hamline-Midway resident, she is a graduate of Metropolitan State University with majors in ethnic studies and social science and works as a national trainer for Parent Home Visits.

Marchese, 52, is seeking his second term on the School Board. An attorney in private practice, he lives in the Summit-University neighborhood and serves as the public service director for the Minnesota State Bar Association. A graduate of Yale University, he received his law degree at New York University School of Law.

Allen, 45, a resident of Hamline-Midway, works as an educational assistant at Como Park High School and has coached basketball for 20 years in the St. Paul Public Schools and the city's Parks and Recreation Department. She is currently enrolled at Metropolitan State University as a student of psychology and African American studies.

Castro, 39, a resident of downtown, works as a systems analyst for Loffler Companies in Bloomington. A graduate of the College of St. Benedict with a degree in communications, she earned a master's degree and teaching

certificate at Bethel University.

Fearing, 33, a resident of the West End, works as an administrative assistant for a downtown law firm. She earned an associate's degree in multimedia technologies and web design at Rasmussen College.

Kopp, 45, a Hamline-Midway resident, is a former middle school and high school English teacher. She earned a master's degree in secondary education at the University of St. Thomas and has served on a variety of civic boards and leadership teams. She was named to the city of St. Paul's Neighborhood Honor Roll in 2015 and 2018 for her work connecting schools and communities.

McPherson, 37, a Payne-Phalen resident, works for Twin Cities Public Television. She studied cosmetology at St. Paul College and Vatterot College. She also studied theology at the Apostolic Bible Institute in Oakdale and became an ordained minister in 2017.

Norris-Holliday, 23, lives on the West Side and works as a licensing technician at Securian Financial. A 2019 graduate of Winona State University with degrees in public administration and political science, he is currently enrolled at Minnesota State University in Mankato pursuing a master's degree in public administration.

Syed, 45, a Summit-University resident, works as a pharmacy technician for Health-East. He earned his certificate as a pharmacy technician at Century College and now owns the small business Chili Time Coffee on St. Paul's East Side.

Williams, a West End resident, is an associate educator and child care assistant in the Minneapolis Public Schools. He earned an associate's degree at Normandale Community College and is working toward a license for teaching social studies in grades 5-12. He did not state his age.

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# Home Improvement

## Retooled as Rethos

Preservation group builds on success with name more fitting to its purpose

By Frank Jossi

**K**nown for issuing an annual list of the state's 10 most endangered historic properties, the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota has adopted a new name to better reflect its mission to promote the reuse of old buildings. Now called Rethos, the state's leading historic preservation, education and advocacy organization offers more than 60 hands-on classes and workshops annually, instructing homeowners and others in the repair and maintenance of old buildings.

"Our class attendees have tripled in the last three years, and we're growing rapidly, not just in the Twin Cities but in Greater Minnesota as well," said Natalie Heneghan, Rethos' education coordinator.

Education is a key component of Rethos, according to Doug Gasek, executive director. "The education program is huge for us. It's a great way to teach people how to take care of older buildings, and that really fits with our mission," he said.

The nonprofit organization began offering a small number of classes in 2013 and 2014. The classes have focused on the common problems faced by the owners of older houses, including repairing old windows, plaster and trim, updating electrical wiring, general home maintenance, boilers and furnaces, the finer points of painting, and the role of inspectors.

"Some of these topics might seem daunting for first-time home buyers," Heneghan said. "They may have purchased an older house, and it's not like the apartment where they used to live. A lot of these projects may seem to be beyond their abilities or too expensive, but with a little access and a little instruction we send folks off much more confident that they can tackle these projects at home."

The classes can cost as much as \$40, but tools and supplies are provided. Some classes are less expensive due to grants and partnerships with other agencies. Rethos will often hold the classes in older homes where participants can watch the experts do the repairs.

Most of the homeowners who have attend-



Rethos executive director Doug Gasek and an unidentified student take part in a masonry repair workshop offered by the former Preservation Alliance. PHOTO COURTESY OF RETHOS

ed classes live in houses built between 1880 and 1945, Heneghan said, though much of the information is relevant for mid-century homes. Rethos' instructors are practitioners in the trades—plasterers, window restoration specialists, wood refinishers, architects, contractors or city inspectors. "They're just as

passionate about their work as teaching other people about it," Heneghan said. "They're willing to spend a Saturday morning with homeowners who are interested in their craft."

Rethos' classes have drawn the interest of

RETHOS ► 12

## Rethos' classes turn homeowners into do-it-yourselfers

**R**ethos, the former Preservation Alliance of Minnesota, will be offering the following classes for homeowners and would-be do-it-yourselfers in upcoming months:

**If Walls Could Talk**, 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 3, Minnesota Tool Library, 1620 Central Ave. NE., No. 126, Minneapolis. Contractor and Realtor David Donnelly will discuss what to look for when adding or remov-

ing a wall, how a basic wall is built, and how to install and repair plaster and sheetrock.

**House of Style: Understanding Historic Interiors**, 1:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 17, Keller Williams Realty Integrity Lakes, 1350 Lagoon Ave., No. 900, Minneapolis. From Craftsman to Colonial Revival, Four-square to Federal and beyond, historic preservationist Erin Hanafin Berg will discuss the qualities that define old house styles and the common layouts, features, materials and finishes of homes built from 1880-1969.

**Painting and Trim**, 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 17, Minnesota Tool Library, 755 N. Prior Ave., Suite 9. Contractor and Realtor David Donnelly will have a small set of walls to show the proper way to paint, how to install

trim boards for doors and windows and how to finish with proper caulking.

**Cabinets to Countertops: Kitchen and Bath Design**, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 24, Royal Foundry Craft Spirits, 241 Fremont Ave. N., Minneapolis. Designer Ann Haws will highlight the unique qualities of historic kitchens and bathrooms, current design trends and how to blend old and new.

**Home Maintenance: Ask the Expert**, 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 1, Minnesota Tool Library, 1620 Central Ave. NE., No. 126, Minneapolis. Contractor and Realtor David Donnelly will discuss tips and tricks for taking care of a house and how to tackle a rehab project from financing to the final coat of paint.

**Hot in Here: Understanding Boilers and Furnaces**, noon-1 p.m. Thursday, October 3, Common Roots Cafe, 2558 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis. Discover how furnaces and boilers work, how to maintain them and how to address common issues.

**Inspector Insights**, 1-3:30 p.m. Thursday, October 17, Keller Williams Realty Integrity Lakes, 1350 Lagoon Ave., No. 900, Minneapolis. Taught by home inspector Tessa Murry, this class will offer an overview of the elements of a house, from chimneys, roofs and porches to electrical, plumbing and foundation.

For more information or to register, visit [rethos.org/events](http://rethos.org/events).

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# Home & Garden Clippings



This remodeled Franklin Ellerbe-designed home at 1133 Ashland Ave. is on the annual Homes by Architects Tour.

The 12th annual **Homes by Architects Tour** sponsored by the American Institute of Architects-Minnesota will be held from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, September 21-22. The self-guided tour will showcase 13 new and newly remodeled homes in the Twin Cities area designed by AIA members. Visitors will be able to meet the architects at each home, discuss their design and learn about the process firsthand. Tour tickets are \$20, \$15 in advance or \$10 for an individual home. For more information or tickets, visit [homesbyarchitects.org](http://homesbyarchitects.org).

**"Contemporary Living in the Homes of St. Paul's Gilded Past"** is the theme of the biennial house tour that will be presented by the Ramsey Hill Association from 3-8 p.m. Thursday, September 19. The self-guided tour opens the door to more than 18 private homes and public spaces in St. Paul's historic Ramsey Hill neighborhood. The homes reflect a variety of architectural styles, including Richardsonian Romanesque, Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Victorian and classic East Coast rowhouses. The James J. Hill House, St. Paul Cathedral

and St. John the Evangelist and Virginia Street Swedenborgian churches will also be open for touring. A trolley will run between the stops on the tour. Tickets are \$35 on the day of the tour at the James J. Hill House and St. John the Evangelist Church, or \$30 in advance at Kowalski's and the two Frattalone's Ace Hardware stores on Grand Avenue or by visiting [ramseyhill.org](http://ramseyhill.org).

**If you're having a problem with pest or disease damage** on your plants, bring along a fresh sample (same-day cutting) or a clear photograph of the damage to a free diagnostic clinic. The clinics are being offered from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays through the end of September at the University of Minnesota Extension Building, 2020 White Bear Ave. in Maplewood. Ramsey County master gardeners will identify the problem and advise you on how to correct it with little to no chemical use. For more information on the clinics or how to gather samples, visit [ramseymastergardeners.org](http://ramseymastergardeners.org).

## 11 ◀ RETHOS

Realtors who sell older homes and are looking for continuing education credits. An upcoming class addresses why older homes are more sustainable. Another focuses on the interiors of older homes and what styles they express, from Federal to Craftsman and Colonial Revival to Four-square.

Rethos offers more than just classes. In rural Minnesota, it manages Artists on Main Street, a program that provides grants for murals, walking tours, landscaping and other projects. The Bush Foundation and Springboard for the Arts have partnered with Rethos on a program

showcasing art projects in 11 cities.

At the Capitol, Rethos lobbies for maintaining Minnesota's historic tax credit, which has led to the restoration of hundreds of properties. As a nonprofit organization, Rethos also partners with developers to help them take full advantage of state and federal tax credits. The preservation group maintains a list of "old home certified" Realtors and a list of contractors specializing in older homes and buildings. It also publishes a quarterly newsletter.

For Rethos, preserving history also includes fun activities, such as the brewery tour it offered earlier this year to explore the rich history of brewing on and around

St. Paul's West Seventh Street. "We looked at the brewery history and the houses where brewers lived and where the beer gardens were," Heneghan said.

The variety of activities the organization sponsors is one of the reasons for its recent name change. The scope of Rethos has moved beyond preservation. And besides, the former name sounded like a government agency, Gasek said.

The new name brings together "ethos," the spirit or essence of community, with the prefix of re-investing, reusing, rehabilitating and reimagining. "There are a lot of those words that embody the work we do," Gasek said.



Instructor Ezra Gray teaches students at a home in St. Paul how to repair a pocket door that does not open and close smoothly. PHOTO COURTESY OF RETHOS



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# District Council News

## Highland Park

highlanddistrictcouncil.org • 651-695-4005

**Fall drop-off event**—There is still time for senior citizens to sign up to have their unwanted household items picked up and delivered to the citywide drop-off event being organized by the Highland District Council. The event will be held from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, September 28, on Shepard Road between Alton and Davern streets. Early- and late-morning shifts are also available for those who are interested in volunteering. For more information, call the HDC office or visit [tinyurl.com/yxudurqr](http://tinyurl.com/yxudurqr).

**Highland Together**—The next Highland Together gathering will be from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 11, at Agelgil Ethiopian Restaurant, 2585 W. Seventh St. Residents are invited to meet their neighbors and enjoy free appetizers and a beverage.

**New newsletter**—The Highland District Council just released the first issue of its new email newsletter. To sign up to receive it, visit [tinyurl.com/yya7wu63](http://tinyurl.com/yya7wu63).

**Upcoming meetings**—Board of directors, 7 p.m. Thursday, September 5; and Transportation Committee, 7 p.m. Tuesday, September 10. Both meetings will be held at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. For all future meetings, refer to the calendar on the HDC's website.

## Macalester-Groveland

macgrove.org • 651-695-4000

**Mac-Grove Fest**—The annual Mac-Grove Fest will be held from 2-6 p.m. Saturday, September 7, at Groveland Park on St. Clair and Prior avenues. The festival will feature food, music, dance, arts and other activities. For the full schedule, see [macgrove.org/macgrovefest](http://macgrove.org/macgrovefest).

**Board update**—The next meeting of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council's board of directors will be streamed live via Facebook on Thursday, September 12, to be more accessible to the public. Go to [macgrove.org](http://macgrove.org) for updates.

**Citywide drop-off event**—Volunteers are being sought for St. Paul's final citywide drop-off event of the year from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, September 28, on Shepard Road between Alton and Davern streets. Those who volunteer for a shift will receive a free lunch and a \$20 voucher for dropping off their own load of household items. Email [mgcc@macgrove.org](mailto:mgcc@macgrove.org) or visit [macgrove.org/cleanup](http://macgrove.org/cleanup).

**Mac-Grove business roundtable**—Local business leaders are invited to join the com-

munity council's business representatives for a fall roundtable discussion at Macalester College from 8-9:30 a.m. Wednesday, October 2. Coffee and pastries will be provided. Register at [mgcc@macgrove.org](mailto:mgcc@macgrove.org).

**Future is Grand**—The new Future is Grand Task Force is asking members of the public to share their experiences of living, shopping and dining on Grand Avenue by visiting [rebrand.ly/grandexperiences](http://rebrand.ly/grandexperiences) through the month of August. The survey takes about 10 minutes. Responses will remain anonymous. Email [thefutureisgrand@grandave.com](mailto:thefutureisgrand@grandave.com).

**Save the date**—Join neighbors and meet with other renters over some appetizers and beverages during a Mac-Grove renter happy hour on Wednesday, September 18. More details to come.

**Get involved**—The Macalester-Groveland Community Council currently has openings on its board for at-large business, renter and student representatives. The board also has three standing committees that meet once a month. Those who attend three consecutive committee meetings can become voting members. Visit [macgrove.org/committees](http://macgrove.org/committees).

**Upcoming meetings**—Housing and Land Use Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 4, location to be determined; Community Building Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, September 9, Edgumbe Recreation Center; and Transportation Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, September 23, Edgumbe.

## West Seventh

fortroadfederation.org • 651-298-5599

**A toast to German heritage**—St. Paul's Oktoberfest will return to the grounds of the historic Schmidt Brewery from 4-10 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, September 13-14. Produced by the Summit Avenue-based Germanic-American Institute, the family-friendly event will include music and cultural stages, bed and Dachshund races, a stone-lifting competition, a Kinder Carnival and, of course, beer. For more information, visit [saintpauloktoberfest.org](http://saintpauloktoberfest.org).

**Upcoming meetings**—There was no board of directors meeting in August. The next meeting of the West Seventh/Fort Road Federation will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, September 9, at the federation's office, 882 W. Seventh St., Suite 6. For details, contact executive director Emily Northey at 651-298-5599 or [emily@fortroadfederation.org](mailto:emily@fortroadfederation.org).

**Stay in touch**—People are being invited to "like" the West Seventh/Fort Road Federation on Facebook and subscribe to its electronic newsletter on its website.

## Business Briefs

**Yellowbird Coffee Bar** has opened at 1168 Selby Ave. The new business had been a dream for husband-and-wife owners John Peterson and Suzette Schommer Peterson for 15 years. Ever since they moved into the Lexington-Hamline neighborhood, "we've wished for a local coffee shop," Suzette said. "And not just a coffee shop, but a place that feels like a second living room to relax and catch up with friends and neighbors." Yellowbird offers a variety of traditional coffee and espresso drinks along with several specialty beverages. Its coffee comes from True Stone Coffee Roasters on Prior Avenue, its pastries from P.J. Murphy's Bakery on Randolph Avenue, its sandwiches, soups and salads from Nelson's Cheese & Deli on Como Avenue and Atikis Flight Catering on Selby, and its milk and ice cream from Kapper's Big Red Barn in southern Minnesota. Yellowbird will hold a grand opening celebration from noon-7 p.m. Sunday, September 15, with live music, a puppy "pup up," face painting, trivia contests and more. For information, visit [yellowbird-coffeebar.com](http://yellowbird-coffeebar.com).

**Green Dot Sign**, an e-commerce business that provides eco-friendly signs, has been created by Macalester-Groveland residents Simon and Gretchen Nussbaum. Simon Nussbaum previously owned a traditional sign and graphics company in suburban Chicago, but got tired of all the plastic waste. He said the new company reduces plastic consumption and makes use of wood and non-toxic 3D printing to create signs that are 99 percent biodegradable. As Green Dot Sign grows, the couple aspire to construct a green production facility in St. Paul and to hire individuals with a passion for environmental sustainability.

**Erin Lavelle** of South Minneapolis has been hired as artistic director for the Art Shanty Projects. Lavelle is a public artist, producer and past participant in the organization's annual on-ice program. The 2020 event will be held over four weekends in January and February, when artists will transform Lake Harriet into a village of ice fishing shanty-like structures. For information, visit [artshanty-projects.org](http://artshanty-projects.org).

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# The Kiosk

## Sunday/September 1

**THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB** will gather in the parking lot of Joseph's Grill, 142 S. Wabasha St., for a five-mile hike to Pickerel Lake and back again beginning at 2:30 p.m. New members are welcome. Call Sharon at 651-207-5926.

## Tuesday/September 3

**AN ASSORTMENT OF FRESH** fruits and vegetables will be distributed free of charge from 2-4 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. This service is sponsored by the Fabulous Friends Club. The food is from Second Harvest Heartland. Recipients only need to bring their own grocery bags. Call 651-338-8866.

## Wednesday/September 4

**THE CARD CLUB** will open a new season of bridge, 500 and cribbage today at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 700 S. Snelling Ave. New members are welcome to join in the competition at 8:30 a.m. every Wednesday. Participation is free. Following the games, an optional lunch is served at noon for \$10.

## Friday/September 6

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

## Sunday/September 8

**THE 25TH ANNUAL** St. Paul Classic Bike Tour will roll out between 7:30 and 9:15 a.m. from the corner of Cretin and Grand avenues. Three courses of varying lengths will be followed. Riders can sign up online until September 4, with same-day registration available at the starting line. For information, visit [bikeclassic.org](http://bikeclassic.org).

**DOING WHAT'S BEST** for our aging parents will be discussed from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Jewish Community Center,



**Awe-inspiring.** Logan Stramdmarm, 2, revels in the sight of a monarch butterfly resting on a flower outside Our Lady of Peace hospice following the release of hundreds of its kind on August 15. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

1375 St. Paul Ave. Cosponsored by the Jewish Family Service and Shalom, the conversation will be led by retired Mayo Clinic elder care specialist Dick Edwards. The cost is \$18 and refreshments will be provided. To register, visit [stpauljcc.org](http://stpauljcc.org).

**VIRGINIA STREET CHURCH**, Selby Avenue and Virginia Street, will hold an open house from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Tour the historic sanctuary, listen to live music and have your questions about the Swedenborgian faith answered. Children's activities and refreshments will be available.

## Monday/September 9

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE** Rena Moran and Senator Jeff Hayden will hold a town hall meeting on the African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality bill from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Camphor United Methodist Church, 585 Fuller Ave. Joining them on a panel will

be Kelis Houston of Village Arms, Ramsey County Commissioner Toni Carter and parent Latonia Robielcki. The legislation aims to stop the arbitrary removal of black children from their homes by child protection services. Call 651-296-5158.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY**, a program for people in recovery from addiction, is meeting every Monday evening at Central Baptist Church, 420 N. Roy St. A meal is served at 5:45 p.m. A large group meeting follows at 6:30 and a small group meeting at 7:30. Call 651-646-2751 or email [nuessle@centralbaptistchurch.com](mailto:nuessle@centralbaptistchurch.com).

**ARCHBISHOP BERNARD HEBDA** will lead the third annual Ecumenical Prayer Service for Racial Justice and Peace from 7-8 p.m. at St. Peter Claver Church, 375 N. Oxford St. Religious leaders, law enforcement officers, educational leaders, civil rights activists and elected officials have been invited to this free public service.

The program will include choral music and brief comments from dignitaries. For information, call 651-646-3021.

## Tuesday/September 10

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

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

## Wednesday/September 11

**LIVING WELL** with diabetes, cancer, heart disease, fibromyalgia, arthritis or other chronic conditions will be covered in six workshops meeting from 1-3:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, today through October 23 on the lower level of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 700 S. Snelling Ave. Sponsored by Fairview Health Care and the Juniper Organization, the program is free of charge. To register, visit [fairview.org/livingwell](http://fairview.org/livingwell) by September 2.

**A ST. PAUL SCHOOL BOARD** candidates forum will be presented from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the University of St. Thomas's McNeely Hall, Cleveland and Summit avenues. All 10 candidates have been invited to take part. The forum is being hosted by the Union Park District Council.

## Thursday/September 12

**A FREE SUPPORT GROUP** for persons with anxiety disorders meets from 6:30-8 p.m. today and the second and fourth Thursday of every month in Room 108 at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 700 S. Snelling Ave. For information, call 651-645-2948.

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# On the Town

## Chroma Zone

World-class mural and art festival brings creativity of Midway district to the street

By ANNE MURPHY

If the walls in St. Paul's Creative Enterprise Zone (CEZ) could talk, they would be abuzz with news about the Chroma Zone Mural & Art Festival. From September 6-14, the former industrial area in St. Paul's West Midway district will celebrate the arts as never before. Muralists of local, national and international renown will transform the exteriors of at least 12 buildings, helping to illustrate the CEZ's status on the cutting edge of creativity.

The first-ever public mural festival in Minnesota, Chroma Zone will bear witness to the CEZ's growing reputation for supporting people who make a living in the arts. The eight-day festival will encourage art and conversations about art, according to Catherine Reid Day, a Macalester-Groveland resident and one of the founders of the CEZ.

"Art is a conversation in itself," Reid Day said. "And people viewing artwork speak to one another about their impressions. Experiencing art together allows them to ask questions and find common interests. (Chroma Zone) is designed to be experiential and intimate. You'll see artists at work and view their work on a big scale."

The CEZ extends from the intersection of Raymond and University avenues west to St. Paul's city limits, south to I-94, east to Prior Avenue and north to the railroad tracks along Energy Park Drive. St. Paul's first Cultural District outside of downtown, the area was dubbed the CEZ about a decade ago after Reid Day suggested promoting the old industrial zone as a place where creative and enterprising people could establish themselves in affordable spaces. Reid Day came up with the idea when two buildings in the area housing artists were foreclosed on. "There was a major disruption in the creative community," she said.

CEZ cofounder and board member Jack Becker, who is also the founder of Forecast Public Art, described Chroma Zone as a conversation starter and a sustainer for the CEZ. The festival, he said, is intended to stimulate discussion about the value of the area as a home to creative individuals and businesses. "It's all part of building a community from the ground up," he added.

Others involved in bringing Chroma Zone to the CEZ were Forecast Public Art executive director Theresa Sweetland and Mike Davis and Wes Winship of Burlesque of North America, the mural and arts festival's other main sponsor.

"The inspiration largely comes from a dream the three of us have pursued for over a decade to have a world-class street art festival in the Twin Cities," said Sweetland, a resident of Minneapolis' Nokomis neighborhood. "We've all watched as street art has become an international phenomenon. Successful festivals have popped up in cities across the country, but they've struggled to find a home in the Twin Cities. We have an incredible arts community here with talented muralists and street artists. Having a festival creates a platform for local artists to be recognized, brings in national and international talent to inspire and spark dialogue, and builds opportunities for local artists to branch out to festivals in others places."

"Street art is an art form that has always come from young people—as a way to be seen and to express themselves in their own neighborhood in their own bold and rebellious way," Sweetland said. "This is the art form that most resonated with me as a young person and still does because it breaks all of the standards about art and who gets to be an artist. Street art festivals need to honor that history and draw on the energy and talent that comes from the young. I hope this festival shows that artists can come from all backgrounds, experiences, training



Gathered behind Chroma Zone Mural and Art Festival producer Catherine Reid Day are fellow sponsors and organizers Angela Casselton, Alissa Gray, Wes Winship, Theresa Sweetland, Tim Kessler, Kaitlyn Knapp and Jill Paulak. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

and places and that young people can see themselves in the art and find inspiration."

"The festival is a part of a global movement," Reid Day said. "Muralism is a way to help creative communities. It can brighten gritty industrial and mixed-use areas. It can help a community like ours grow."

The muralists who will be leaving their mark on the CEZ are Biafra Inc. and the trio of Christina Vang, Teeko Yang and Oskar Ly of St. Paul; the Minneapolis duo of Claudia Valentino and Daniela Bianchini; Eric J. Garcia, Chuck U and Martzia Thometz of Minneapolis; Brooklyn's Cey Adams and Mr. Kiji; Priscila De Carvalho of Queens, New York; Ewok of Santa Ana, California; Mariela Ajras of Buenos Aires; and Fadlabi of Oslo. When they are done, they will have painted 15,000 square feet of walls in eight days.

"There were two open calls for muralists," Reid Day said. "We had over 100 applicants."

"It's exciting for this neighborhood to make a major statement that the CEZ is a place that values creativity," Reid Day said. "We hope the festival will bring attention to the incredible talent and

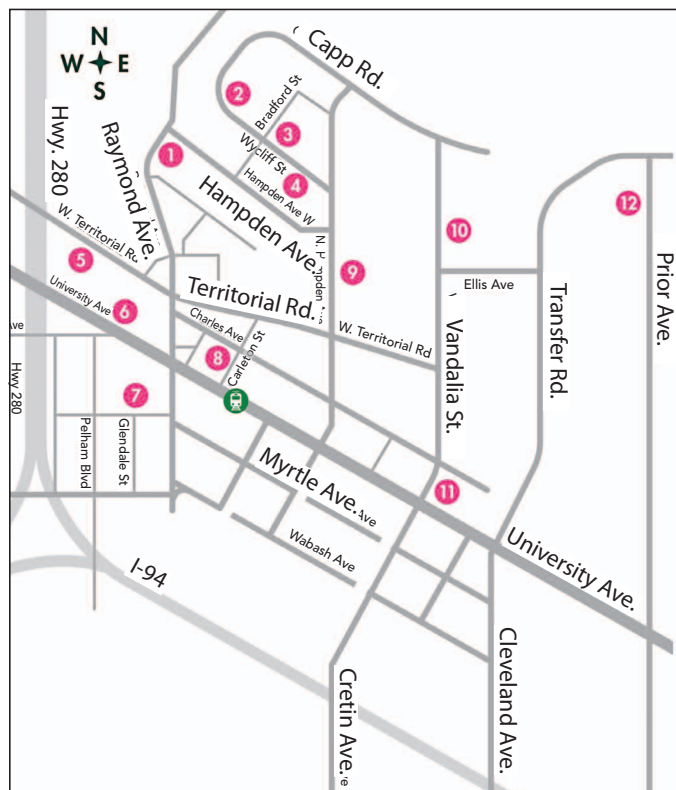
innovation already taking place in galleries, businesses and schools in this part of St. Paul. I also hope people feel pride of ownership in each of the murals that are being created and take the opportunity to learn more about the artists behind the murals."

Chroma Zone will include a week's worth of programs throughout the CEZ, including a kickoff party from 6:30-7 p.m. Friday, September 6, at Dual Citizen Brewing; a Little Mekong Night Market from 5 p.m.-midnight Saturday and from 3-10 p.m. Sunday, September 7-8, at Raymond and University avenues; artist talks, demonstrations and exhibits on September 9-12; guided mural tours; open studios; a tap room crawl; and Blocktoberfest 2, a street festival with live music, craft beer and food trucks from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, September 14.

"I hope that people enjoy the festival," Sweetland said, "but that they also become ambassadors by telling others to check out the murals, leading their own mural tours, seeking out ideas and inspiration in other places or their own backyards and building something collaboratively."

"This is the fastest growing and youngest neighborhood in St. Paul," Reid Day said. "And the festival speaks well to a young audience. You don't have to spend a lot of money, and you'll be with people who want to have conversations about art and sustaining a creative community."

"We're very excited about the CEZ's future," she said. "We hope the mural festival will become an annual event. We have a request pending with a national foundation for funding that would make that possible." For information, visit [chromazone.net](http://chromazone.net).



The pink circles above indicate the locations of the 12 murals that will be painted in the Creative Enterprise Zone.

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# On the Town Briefly

## Dance

**Live from Philadelphia** comes the modern dance troupe Sharp in a performance of raw human emotion at 8 p.m. Sunday, September 8, at SteppingStone Theatre, 55 N. Victoria St. Presented by the St. Paul and Sabes JCCs, the program will include the genre-defying "Puzzle" as well as "669," a full-length piece inspired by Sir Nicholas Winton's rescue of 669 mostly Jewish children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia. Tickets are \$18 at the door, \$15 in advance at [stpauljcc.org](http://stpauljcc.org).

## Theater

**Shame of Thrones: Stupidity War** is playing through October 12 at the Brave New Workshop, 824 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis. The satirical revue takes aim at the humiliation, chagrin, mortification and ignominy so prevalent on social media and the self-loathing that comes from being Minnesotan. Leading the charge are writers and performers Lauren Anderson, Denzel Belin, Doug Neithercott and Taj Ruler. Show times are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, and 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturdays after Labor Day. Tickets are \$25-\$36 with discounts for students and seniors. Call 612-332-6620 or visit [bravenewworkshop.com](http://bravenewworkshop.com).

**Frank Theatre** will open its 31st season on September 6 with two short plays by Caryl Churchill. *Escaped Alone* combines small talk and the horrors of modern life for an elliptical view of the apocalypse. *Here We Go* is a poetic triptych about mortality and the afterlife. Wendy Knox directs the plays, which star Katherine Ferrand, Barbra Berlovitz, Maria Asp, Patrick Bailey and Janis Hardy. Show times are 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 2 p.m.

Sundays through September 29 at Gremlin Theatre, 550 N. Vandalia St. Tickets are \$30, \$25 for students and seniors. Visit [franktheatre.org](http://franktheatre.org).

**The charmingly dark musical *Ride the Cyclone*** will open on September 14 at the Jungle Theater, 2951 Lyndale Ave. S. in Minneapolis. An original version of the drama by Jacob Richmond and Brooke Maxwell, the musical tells of six teenagers in a Canadian choir who die in a freak accident and are given the chance in limbo to compete for a return to their earthly existence. Following previews on September 11-13, show times are 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and 2 and 7:30 p.m. Sundays through October 20. Tickets are \$40-\$50. Call 612-822-7063 or visit [jungletheater.org](http://jungletheater.org).

**Cruise the Mississippi River** while enjoying a drink, taking in the scenery and solving a murder mystery. Fearless Comedy Productions will present the immersive drama *Murder on the Mississippi* from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, September 18, aboard the Jonathan Padelford. The mystery is set in 1856 when many immigrants were traveling upriver to the growing towns of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Tickets are \$25. For reservations, visit [parkconnection.org](http://parkconnection.org).

**Backstabbing, bitterness and murderous revenge** threaten a rag-tag group's attempts to resurrect a defunct tennis club in *The Clemency of Tito's Tennis Club*. The adaptation of Mozart's *La Clemenza di Tito* is being performed outdoors by Mixed Precipitation. It intersperses Mozart's classic arias and duets with New Wave and synth-pop hits by Devo, Pat Benatar, Berlin and Yaz. Show times are 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, August 31 and September 1, at Alexis Bailly Vineyard, 18200 Kirby Ave. in Hastings; 2 p.m. Saturday, September 28, in Swede Hollow Park, 657 E. Beaumont St.; and 2 p.m. Sunday, September 29, at



**Landmark Live.** Small Glories, the roots powerhouse of Cara Luft and J.D. Edwards, will perform at 8 p.m. Friday, September 6, in Weyerhaeuser Auditorium at Landmark Center. The Canadian duo deliver songs of love and loss with soaring vocals, clawhammer banjo, guitar and harmonica. Tickets are \$25 at the door, \$20 in advance, or \$70 for the series of four Landmark Live concerts also featuring Eliza Gilkyson on October 11, the OK Factor on November 15 and Carrie Elkin on December 20. Visit [landmarkcenter.org](http://landmarkcenter.org). PHOTO BY AARON IVES

Loring Park Garden of the Seasons, 1382 Willow St., Minneapolis. Tickets are by donation with \$10-\$20 suggested. They include a variety of edible treats from chef Tracy Yue of One Dish at a Time. Visit [mixedprecipitation.org](http://mixedprecipitation.org) or call 800-838-3006.

**Smokey Joe's Cafe**, Broadway's longest-running musical revue with 40 songs by Lieber and Stoller, hits like "On Broadway," "Stand By Me," "Hound Dog," "Spanish Harlem" and "Love Potion No. 9," will open a two-week run on September 10 at the Ordway Music Theater.

Directed and choreographed by Emmy Award winner Joshua Bergasse, the production stars Ben Bakken, China Brickey, Reese Britts and Dwight Leslie. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through September 22. Tickets are \$48-\$122. Call 651-224-4222 or visit [ordway.org](http://ordway.org).

## Music

**Music as free** as the waves lapping the shores of Como Lake can be heard this summer in the open air of Como Pavilion, 1360 N. Lexington Pkwy. The concerts begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. The schedule includes the Harmonic Relief choir on August 28; native blues band Blue Dog, August 29; JazzFly featuring Kendra Glenn, August 30; Latin Billies, August 31; Capital City Wind Ensemble, September 3; Miss Myra and the Moonshiners, September 4; and the Julian Manzara Quartet, September 5.

**The Mears Park Mystery Band**, St. Small and Joe Hunt will perform from 6-9:30 p.m. Thursday, August 29, in Mears Park, Sixth and Sibley streets. Admission is free. Bring a lawn chair or blanket for seating. Several food trucks will be there, and craft beer, cider and wine will also be available for purchase. Visit [lowertownsounds.com](http://lowertownsounds.com).

**"Hapsburg House Party,"** the music of Handel, Mozart, Scarlatti and their 18th-century contemporaries Marianna Martines and Maria Theresa Agnesi (Pittotini), will be performed by the Leap Ensemble in three concerts from September 11-14. Led by soprano Andrea Leap, the ensemble includes violinists Margaret Humphrey and David Leung, violist Anne Ainomäe, cellist Käthe Jarka, oboists Merilee Klemp and Brendon Bushman

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and harpsichordist Tami Morse. The music begins at noon Wednesday in the Thelma Hunter Recital Room at Landmark Center (admission is a suggested donation of \$10); 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Baroque Gallery of the Minneapolis Institute of Art, 2400 Third Ave. S. (free); and 8 p.m. Saturday at the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. (\$20 and \$15).

## Books

**Next Chapter Booksellers**, 38 S. Snelling Ave., will play host to free readings with William Kent Krueger and his novel, *This Tender Land*, at 7:30 p.m. September 4; Nancy Hedin and her novel, *Stray*, 7 p.m. September 6; the celebratory release of *The Testaments*, Margaret Atwood's sequel to *The Handmaid's Tale*, beginning with refreshments at 10:30 p.m., a talk by the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault at 11:30 p.m., and a group reading of the first chapter at midnight on September 9. Call 651-225-8989.

**SubText Books**, 6 W. Fifth St., will play host to free readings and discussions with authors Julie Zhou and her story collection, *Generics*, at 7 p.m. August 28; Deborah Baker and her biographical epic, *The Last Englishmen*, 7 p.m. August 29; and Susan Steinberg and her novel, *Machine*, 7 p.m. September 13, preceded by a reception at 6:15 p.m. Call 651-493-2791.

**Ames Sheldon**, author of the award-winning historical novel *Eleanor's Wars*, will read from the sequel, *Don't Put the Boats Away*, in a free program at 7 p.m. Thursday, September 12, at Storied Owl Books, 2059 Randolph Ave. Set in the years after World War II, it tells of an American family reeling from the death of their "golden boy" Eddie in the war.

## Exhibits

**"Dior to Disco: Fashion in the Era of Second Wave Feminism"** is being displayed through September 15 at the Goldstein Museum of Design, located in Gallery 241 in McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave. The exhibit explores the impact that Second Wave Feminism had on the clothing women wore in the mid-20th century. Admission is free. A closing celebration will be held from 3-5:30 p.m. Thursday, September 12. Call 612-624-7801.

**"The Builders: Shaping Minnesota's Architectural Landscape on the Color Line,"** the story of the African-American architects whose work helped shape the Twin Cities we know today, is being told through October 27 at Mill City Museum, 704 S. Second St. in Minneapolis. Created by the African-American Interpretive Center of Minnesota, the exhibit includes maps and blueprints of the work of St. Paul city architect Clarence "Cap" Wigington, renowned stoneworker Casville Bullard and architect and stained-glass artist William Hazel. Admission is free. For gallery hours, call 612-341-7555.

**"Changing Planes: Anything Will Fly If You Throw It Hard Enough,"** the sculpture and pottery of Kyle Fokken and Ernest Miller, is being displayed through October 18 at the Raymond Avenue Gallery, 761 Raymond Ave. Admission is free. Call 651-644-9200.

**The American Pottery Festival** will return on September 6-8 to the Northern Clay Center, 2424 E. Franklin Ave. in Minneapolis. The show and sale of more than 1,500 works by 25 artists from across the country will run from 6-9 p.m. Friday (admission is \$25); 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday (\$5); and 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sunday (\$5). All-day workshop passes are available for \$65 on Saturday and \$40 on Sunday. Visit [northernclaycenter.org](http://northernclaycenter.org) or call 612-339-8007.

**"What is Forbidden?"** a juried exhibition

featuring 60 alumnae of the Women's Art Institute, will be displayed from September 7 through October 19 in the Catherine G. Murphy Gallery at St. Catherine University. The show reflects the intensive approach of the 20-year-old WAI, which moved from the Minneapolis College of Art and Design to St. Catherine in 2012. The art ranges from painting and ceramics to installation and performance. Admission is free. A public reception will be held from 5-7 p.m. Saturday, September 14. Visit [gallery.stkate.edu](http://gallery.stkate.edu).

**"History Is Not Here,"** paintings, drawings, photography, sculpture, book art, installation and video by 17 artists who reject history as a fixed category and look to alternative imagery to examine various social, cultural and political positions, will be displayed from September 12 through January 5, 2020, in the Main Gallery of the Minnesota Museum of American Art, 350 N. Robert St. Co-presented by Mizna, a St. Paul-based Arab cultural organization, the exhibit is curated by Heba Y. Amin and Maymanah Farhat. Admission is free. Visit [mmaa.org](http://mmaa.org) or call 651-204-0700.

## Family

**Highland Park Library**, 1974 Ford Pkwy., will offer the following free programs: Baby Storytime at 10:15 and 11:15 a.m. Wednesdays; Nature Smart, a trading post in natural science, 4 p.m. Wednesdays; Createch, high-tech fun for teens, 3:30 p.m. Thursdays; and Children's Storytime, 11 a.m. Saturdays and 10:30 a.m. Mondays. Call 651-695-3700.

**Gibbs Farm**, 2097 Larpenteur Ave., a museum of 19th century Dakota and pioneer life, is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays through October. A special Saturday program will focus on cross-stitching on August 31. Admission is \$8, \$7 for seniors, \$5 for children ages 4-16. Call 651-646-8629.

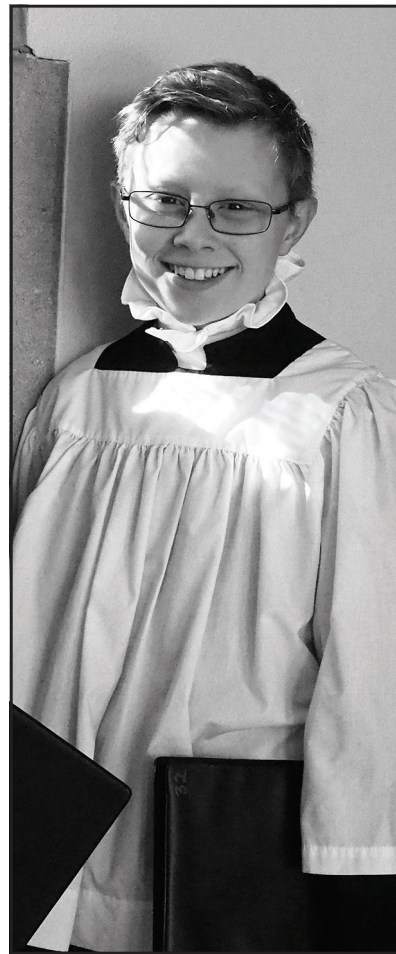
**Merriam Park Library**, 1831 Marshall Ave., will offer the following free programs: board game competition for all comers, 2-4:30 p.m. Wednesdays; Family Storytime, 10:30-11 a.m. Fridays; You Can Make It, hands-on craft activities, 3-4:30 p.m. Mondays; and Paw Pals, a chance to read with a friendly dog and her master, 6-7 p.m. Thursday, September 5. For more information or to register for Paw Pals, call 651-642-0385.

## Et cetera

**Come sing the Mozart Requiem** this fall as a member of the St. Catherine Choral Society. The Choral Society is a large mixed chorus made up of St. Catherine University students, faculty, staff and experienced singers from across the metropolitan area. Auditions for new members are underway. Rehearsals begin September 5. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call the director, Patricia Connors, at 651-690-6688.

**Mississippi River Paddle Share** is offering everything you need to kayak on the river on weekends through the end of September, weather permitting. The cost is \$25 for a single and \$40 for a tandem kayak rental. Visit [paddleshare.org](http://paddleshare.org).

**It's a bird! It's a plane!** It's a...Juicy Lucy? Forty intrepid teams will compete on Saturday, September 7, in Red Bull Flugtag, a human-powered flying competition at Harriet Island Park. Thirty-two of the teams are from Minnesota, including Das Fliegendlucy of the Nook in Highland Park. The teams will launch their homemade craft from a 30-foot-high platform and soar as far as possible over the Mississippi River. They will be judged by a panel of celebrities on distance, creativity and showmanship. The event will run from noon-4 p.m. The viewing area will open at 10:30 a.m. Admission is free. Visit [win.gs/flugtagSTP](http://win.gs/flugtagSTP).



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**11:15 a.m. - Picnic and games  
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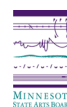
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This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



# Crime Report

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

## Highland Park

**Burglary**—A home was broken into on the 1800 block of Pinehurst Avenue during the evening of August 10-11.

—Around \$10,000 in tools were reported stolen from a construction site at a residence on the 1900 block of Montreal Avenue at 8:52 p.m. Wednesday, August 14.

**Theft**—Vehicles were stolen on the 2300 block of Youngman Avenue on August 5, on the 1500 block of Ford Parkway between August 6-8, on the 1600 block of Ford Parkway on August 9-10 and on the 500 block of South Cleveland Avenue on August 19.

—All four wheels were stolen from a vehicle on the 600 block of South Snelling Avenue between 10:30 a.m.-2:50 p.m. Friday, August 9.

## Lexington-Hamline

**Robbery**—A man was robbed at gunpoint on Hamline and University avenues at 6:29 p.m. Thursday, August 8.

## Macalester-Groveland

**Burglary**—A Macalester College building at 30 Macalester St. was broken into at 2:27 a.m. Saturday, August 10.

—Multiple items were stolen from a garage on the 1100 block of Palace Avenue during the evening of August 15-16.

—A vehicle was stolen from a garage on the 400 block of South Pascal Street during the evening of August 16-17.

**Theft**—Laptop computers were reported stolen from a vehicle on Fairview and St. Clair avenues on August 10, and at Macalester College on August 13.

## Mendota Heights

**Burglary**—Two residences were burglarized on the 2000 block of Glen Toro Road on August 5-6. Other burglaries were reported on the 500 block of Hiawatha Avenue on August 8 and on Lilywood Lane on August 10.

—A toolbox was stolen from a garage on the 800 block of Westview Court between August 10-13.

**Theft**—Several items were reported stolen from a vehicle on the 1000 block of Highway 13 at 7:38 p.m. Thursday, August 15.

**Assault**—The driver of a vehicle was arrested for assault after driving over the foot of

## Man charged with stealing from church

Christopher Paul Seiple, 48, of New Brighton, was charged by Dakota County District Court on August 12 with four counts of theft by swindle in connection with stealing more than \$33,000 from St. Peter's Church in Mendota between November 2018 and May 2019 while he was employed there as the director of operations.

According to the criminal complaint, police responded to a report of suspected theft from the church last month after an audit uncovered several suspicious transactions involving Seiple. Several checks issued to vendors by Seiple on behalf of the church were for invoices that had already been paid. The checks were deposited using a mobile application into his personal account.

Seiple admitted that the checks were unauthorized and fraudulent. He told investigators that he was behind on his mortgage and had been purchasing up to \$400 worth of scratch-off lottery tickets a day.

His first court appearance was set for October 7 in Hastings.

an officer at 1:09 a.m. Sunday, August 4, on the 1000 block of Mendota Heights Road. The driver fled, but was later arrested at his home.

**Miscellaneous**—Officers were called to check on two people who were slumped over in a car at 1:04 p.m. Sunday, August 11, on the 1000 block of Highway 13. The two drove away at a high speed and police ended their pursuit in the interest of public safety. The license plate on the suspects' vehicle reportedly belonged to a junked car.

—An off-leash dog ran into the street and caused a motorcyclist to crash at 3:34 p.m. Wednesday, August 14, on Acadia Drive and Pilot Knob Road. A second dog then bit the cyclist. The person handling the dogs was cited for city ordinance violations.

## Merriam Park

**Robbery**—A woman said her purse was snatched by two boys at 12:08 a.m. Wednesday, August 7, on the 1800 block of University Avenue.

**Burglary**—A break-in was reported at Breakthru Beverage Minnesota, 489 N. Prior

Ave., at 5:28 a.m. Monday, August 5.

**Theft**—A vehicle was stolen on Dayton Avenue and Mississippi River Boulevard during the evening of August 11-12.

**Miscellaneous**—The University of St. Thomas closed its John Roach Center for the remainder of the day after receiving a bomb threat at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, August 20. Classes were relocated and the building was searched, but nothing suspicious was found.

## Snelling-Hamline

**Robbery**—A strong-arm robbery was reported near Ace Cash Express, 1532 University Ave., at 4:47 p.m. Sunday, August 18. The victim said he had to fight off two males who tried to steal his wallet.

**Theft**—A 37-year-old man was arrested for trying to steal more than \$500 in merchandise from the Midway Walmart at 3:34 p.m. Tuesday, August 6.

—Vehicles were stolen on the 1400 block of Portland Avenue on August 7-8 and the 1300 block of University Avenue on August 10.

—A couple left their child behind at Peking Garden Restaurant, 1488 University Ave., at 7:29 p.m. Sunday, August 11. They had returned by the time police arrived, but were refusing to pay their bill. They were cited for theft and released.

## Summit Hill

**Robbery**—A robbery at gunpoint was reported at Domino's Pizza, 1110 Grand Ave., at 4:59 a.m. Monday, August 5.

**Burglary**—Residential burglaries were reported on the 500 block of Lincoln Avenue on August 6, and on Lincoln Avenue and Victoria Street on August 8.

—Two garages located on the 700 block of Goodrich Avenue were broken into around 4 a.m. Monday, August 19.

**Theft**—A woman on the 300 block of Grand Avenue reported being swindled at 10 a.m. Friday, August 9, after receiving a call from what she thought was Xcel Energy that she owed \$700 in utility bills. She paid the caller with two money cards. Police urge people to never wire money or provide debit or credit card numbers to an unverified source. For information, visit [xcelenergy.com/scams](http://xcelenergy.com/scams).

—More than \$1,000 in merchandise was stolen at Phresh Spa Salon, 937 Grand Ave., between 4:55-5:03 p.m. Friday, August 9.

—A vehicle was stolen on the 900 block of Linwood Avenue between August 11-15.

**Miscellaneous**—Police officers responding to a call found two females holding down a 19-year-old man for breaking their windshield at 11:46 p.m. Tuesday, August 6, on the 400 block of Grand Avenue. The suspect was placed in custody for criminal damage to property.

## Summit-University

**Burglary**—Residential burglaries were reported on the 700 block of Marshall Avenue on August 4-5, on the 700 block of Dayton Avenue on August 5 and on the 600 block of Hague Avenue on August 16.

**Theft**—A laptop computer, iPad Mini, cash and other items were stolen from a vehicle on the 500 block of Selby Avenue between noon-12:45 p.m. Monday, August 5.

—A utility trailer was reported stolen on the 800 block of Concordia Avenue at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 7.

—A power pole saw was stolen from a pickup truck on the 200 block of North Lexington Parkway between 6:30-7:05 p.m. Wednesday, August 14.

—A vehicle was stolen on the 300 block of Laurel Avenue on August 15-16.

**Sex crime**—A rape was reported on the 200 block of Dayton Avenue at 4 a.m. Monday, August 12.

**Assault**—A male was bleeding heavily after being stabbed in the face at 12:11 a.m. Saturday, August 17, on the 700 block of Concordia Avenue. He was taken to the hospital.

## West End

**Burglary**—Apartment break-ins were reported on the 100 block of Forbes Avenue on August 5 and on the 400 block of North Smith Avenue on August 7.

—A suspect broke into a feeder house and stole power line cable from the Xcel Energy plant at 155 Randolph Ave. at 4 a.m. Friday, August 9. A live line also was chopped with a hatchet. Damage was estimated at \$10,000.

**Theft**—A backpack with earbuds, wallet, keys and sunglasses was stolen from a vehicle on West Seventh and Walnut streets between 6-7:10 p.m. Tuesday, August 6.

—A motorcycle was stolen on the 700 block of Stewart Avenue during the evening of August 7-8. Another vehicle was stolen on the 1000 block of Otto Avenue on August 10.

—A Louis Vuitton bag with cash was stolen from an apartment on the 400 block of Spring Street during the evening of August 13-14.

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# Sports



## The Wright Call By Dave Wright

### Former big-league ump calls it like it is

It was on August 25 seven years ago in Phoenix that major-league umpire Tim Tschida worked his 3,358th and final regular-season game (843rd behind the plate). The game was a relatively unremarkable 9-3 win for San Diego over the host Diamondbacks.

The next day Tschida flew home, his career as a major-league umpire over. "I don't remember having any problems that night," said Tschida, a St. Paul native who started umpiring when he was still in high school at Cretin-Derham Hall. "I just knew it was time to go."

Tschida may have felt fine that night, but that hadn't always been the case. Counting his minor-league games, he had spent three decades traveling from city to city three or four days at a time as an umpire. Along the way, he had been drilled by more foul balls than he could possibly count. As a result, he suffered from headaches, ear trouble and other assorted health issues.

"I don't think I was ever officially diagnosed with a concussion," Tschida said, "but I remember three specific times I got hit and had to be evaluated. I passed all the tests."

It may never have been a concussion, but Tschida began to be bothered by vertigo and neck problems. Umpiring in the big leagues is tough enough when you're healthy. (One old-timer once called it "the only job I know where you have to start out perfect and then get better.") Now try doing it when you're not in the best of health and you can envision the problems.

As time went on "the foul balls got progressively worse," Tschida recalled. Eventually, he was told one more foul ball to the head could have potentially serious ramifications down the road. That was all Tschida needed to hear. So, at age 52, Tschida headed home and retired. "You want to go on your own terms," he said.

After getting used to not being on the road, Tschida is now a regular bartender at Mancini's on West Seventh Street and

WRIGHT CALL ► 20



Central High football coach Scott Howell taps on the upper areas of a helmet designed to reduce the possibilities of a player suffering a concussion.

PHOTO BY  
BRAD STAUFFER

## Prep football preview

### Head protection is utmost on local coaches' minds

BY BILL WAGNER

It's hard to talk about high school football these days without mentioning the controversy over concussions, especially given all the recent publicity surrounding the effects of brain injuries on professional football players.

Local prep coaches are emphatic that the game needs to move forward in a safer manner and that no athlete be endangered by a concussion. However, some coaches also feel that football has become a scapegoat for proponents of other sports that risk brain injuries themselves.

Longtime Central High School coach Scott Howell noted that concussion protocols have changed greatly since he played football for the Minutemen in

the 1980s. "The days when a guy says, 'I just got my bell rung' and gets right back on the field are gone," he said.

According to Howell, education and technology have made the sport safer, and certified training staff are on site during both games and practices. Still, he laments that participation in football has been sharply reduced by the fear of a concussion.

Howell said some local youth recreational teams are down to only 14 players or so and that it won't be long before St. Paul Public Schools combine their football teams. "It's sad and it's getting worse every year," he said.

"I think we have to get parents better educated," Howell said. "We have to reassure them (about safety). I don't think it's that tough of a sell."

Roosevelt coach Adam Flanders said if there's any questions now about an injury, players are sent right to the trainer. Players also are no longer coached to tackle by leading with the head.

"There are ways to reduce the chances of (concussion) through the development of neck and shoulder muscles," Flanders said. "And now we coach to lead with your chest and shoulder, and to have your eyes up at all times."

Flanders admitted that Roosevelt's numbers have dropped sharply from the varsity on down, but he still believes that the benefits of football outweigh the risks.

Henry Sibley coach Tom Orth cited the reduction of body contact and the

FOOTBALL PREVIEW ► 20

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19◀ FOOTBALL PREVIEW

growth of practice apparatus such as tackle rings as methods to avoid concussions. Still, he believes football is picked on unfairly. According to him, statistics show there is a greater instance of concussions in girls’ soccer than in football. “But football gets the focus,” he said.

New Cretin-Derham head coach Chuck Miesbauer said that equipment manufacturers seem to be doing their part. “There’s a race to create the perfect helmet,” he said. “There’s no running away from the research about concussions, and the awareness factor can be a game-saver.”

Here’s a look at how the local high school teams stack up for this fall’s football campaign:

CENTRAL

**League:** Twin City Maroon  
**Last year’s record:** 5-5  
**Coach:** Scott Howell

**Key players:** senior offensive lineman/outside linebacker Ethan Mills, junior tight end/defensive end Curtis Favors, junior quarterback Gavin Gothard.

**Team strengths/weaknesses:** Howell likes his team’s off-season work ethic and thinks Central’s offense is ahead of its defense early this fall. Depth will be an issue due to low numbers.

**Outlook:** “We’re young,” Howell said. “We have a lot of juniors, but we should get better as the year goes on.”

CRETIN-DERHAM HALL

**League:** Metro East  
**Last year’s record:** 5-4  
**Coach:** Chuck Miesbauer

**Key players:** senior running back Tony Underwood, senior running back/cornerback Zion Guerra, senior wide receiver Amari Carter, senior tight end Will Burke, senior offensive lineman John Greenheck, senior linebacker Cam Jackson.

**Team strengths/weaknesses:** CDH has great athletes on both sides of the ball, especially on offense. Miesbauer cautioned that the Raiders will be learning a new system. They do have seven seniors, but also some players to replace.

**Outlook:** Miesbauer expects his defense to come along as the season progresses. “I’m a great believer in defense,” he said.

HENRY SIBLEY

**League:** Suburban Maroon

**Last year’s record:** 0-9  
**Coach:** Tom Orth

**Key players:** junior quarterback Cameron Latvis, senior linebacker/running back Daryel Bell, senior linebacker Da’Qwan Jones, senior linebacker Levi French.

**Team strengths/weaknesses:** Sibley should be solid at quarterback and on defense, but will be young on offense.

**Outlook:** Orth believes his team will be improved. The question is how much. “If we can avoid injuries, we can be a very competitive team,” he said.

HIGHLAND PARK

**League:** Twin City Maroon  
**Last year’s record:** 2-8  
**Coach:** Dave Zeitchick

**Key players:** senior lineman Colin Duquette, senior wide receiver/defensive back Dawit Lemma, senior running back/safety Jayci Mason, senior cornerback Robert Caldwell.

**Team strengths/weaknesses:** The Scots have some good returning talent, but a lack of depth could be an issue.

**Outlook:** Zeitchick hopes his young players will learn on the job quickly. “I think we’ll be competitive,” he said.

ROOSEVELT

**League:** Twin City Blue  
**Last year’s record:** 3-6  
**Coach:** Adam Flanders

**Key players:** senior nose guard/offensive lineman Frank Rucker, senior running back/linebacker Damarion Lacy, junior quarterback August Butler, junior wide receiver Dennis Holte, senior wide receiver/linebacker Harrison Kinnen, senior lineman Isaac Rubey, junior linebacker Oliver Mueller.

**Team strengths/weaknesses:** Coach Flanders doesn’t have a large quantity of players out for the team, but he likes the quality. “We have some experience,” he said, “but we’re going to need a lot from those guys.”

**Outlook:** The Teddies will have to overcome some inexperience and hope the new players can learn quickly. “In grades 9-12, a lot of these guys are first-year players,” Flanders said.

SMB WOLFPACK  
(SPA/Minnehaha/Blake)

**League:** Twin City Maroon  
**Last year’s record:** 13-0  
**Coach:** Chris Goodwin

# High school football roundup

Central

Aug. 30 vs. Henry.....  
Sept. 6 at Como Park.....  
Sept. 13 vs. Johnson.....  
Sept. 20 at Southwest.....  
Sept. 27 vs. Highland Park.....  
Oct. 5 vs. Mpls. North.....  
Oct. 11 at Washburn.....  
Oct. 16 at SMB Wolfpack (Blake).....

Cretin-Derham Hall

Aug. 29 at Osseo.....  
Sept. 6 vs. East Ridge.....  
Sept. 13 at Roseville.....  
Sept. 20 vs. White Bear Lake.....  
Sept. 27 at Woodbury.....  
Oct. 4 vs. Mounds View.....  
Oct. 11 at Stillwater.....  
Oct. 16 vs. Totino-Grace.....

Henry Sibley

Aug. 29 at Hastings.....  
Sept. 6 vs. St. Thomas Academy.....  
Sept. 13 at Irondale.....  
Sept. 20 vs. Park of Cottage Grove.....  
Sept. 27 vs. Simley.....  
Oct. 4 at Apple Valley.....  
Oct. 11 at Bloomington Jefferson.....  
Oct. 16 vs. Tartan.....

Highland Park

Aug. 29 vs. Southwest.....  
Sept. 6 at Henry.....  
Sept. 13 vs. Como Park.....  
Sept. 20 at Johnson.....

Sept. 27 at Central.....  
Oct. 5 vs. Washburn.....  
Oct. 11 at Mpls. North.....  
Oct. 16 vs. Mound Westonka.....

Roosevelt

Aug. 30 vs. Concordia Academy.....  
Sept. 6 at St. Agnes.....  
Sept. 13 vs. South.....  
Sept. 20 vs. Breck.....  
Sept. 27 at Edison.....  
Oct. 4 vs. Humboldt.....  
Oct. 11 at Harding.....  
Oct. 16 at Academy Force.....

St. Thomas Academy

Aug. 29 vs. Coon Rapids.....  
Sept. 6 at Henry Sibley.....  
Sept. 13 at Mahtomedi.....  
Sept. 20 vs. Apple Valley.....  
Sept. 27 vs. Hastings.....  
Oct. 4 at Park of Cottage Grove.....  
Oct. 11 vs. Hill-Murray.....  
Oct. 16 at Chaska.....

SMB Wolfpack  
SPA/Minnehaha/Blake

Aug. 30 at Columbia Heights.....  
Sept. 6 vs. Spectrum.....  
Sept. 13 at St. Croix Lutheran.....  
Sept. 20 at Providence Academy.....  
Sept. 27 vs. Bloomington Kennedy.....  
Oct. 4 at Richfield.....  
Oct. 11 vs. Mound Westonka.....  
Oct. 16 vs. Central.....

**Key players:** senior quarterback/defensive back Jalen Suggs, senior wide receiver Terry Lockett, senior linebacker/wide receiver Kaden Johnson, sophomore strong safety Trevon Howard.

**Team strengths/weaknesses:** There’s talent aplenty as the Wolfpack return after winning last year’s state Class AAAA title. The team has no discernible weaknesses in its lineup.

**Outlook:** Coach Goodwin, who moves up to head coach this year after being the team’s offensive coordinator, is candid about what his team’s objective is this fall. “Our goal is to repeat,” he said.

ST. THOMAS ACADEMY

**League:** Suburban Maroon  
**Last year’s record:** 12-1  
**Coach:** Dan O’Brien

**Key players:** junior running back Dan McFadden, senior quarterback/wide receiver Joe Deyak, junior quarterback Baker Reding, senior wide receiver Gabe Sirek, senior offensive lineman Tommy Brandt, senior linebacker Ben Reppenhagen, junior defensive lineman Garrison Soliday, senior linebacker Steve Betts.

**Team strengths/weaknesses:** The Cadets, who finished as runners-up for the state Class AAAAA title last fall, will have a competent offense as that unit is heavy with seniors. Still, second-year head coach O’Brien is somewhat concerned. “Our depth is razor-thin in several spots,” he said. “We did lose 17 starters, but this is an opportunity for new kids.”

**Outlook:** STA always seems to find a way to replace a graduation challenge. This year should be no exception.

19◀ WRIGHT CALL

also helps out Highland Park native Tim Weiss at Giggles’ Campfire Grill at the Minnesota State Fair.

Tschida still stays in contact with his former umpire colleagues and has a great appreciation for what they do—and how they have to do it. It may not seem like it, but things have changed dramatically in Major League Baseball since Tschida retired. When he left, replay was only used to decide fair or foul balls for possible home runs. Now it’s used for nearly everything but determining balls and strikes. Visits to the mound were endless in Tschida’s time. Now each team is limited to six such trips (not counting pitching changes) as part of an effort to speed up games.

“We all realize replay (as currently used) is to our benefit,” Tschida said. “Umpires want to get the play right. The stats show they’re right a lot more than they’re not. If you need to look at a replay six or seven times to determine if a runner was out or safe by a hair at first, fine. But the guys aren’t using replay as a crutch. You still have to call what you see.”

In a 2009 American League playoff game, Joe Mauer hit a twisting fly down the left-field line that umpire Phil Cuzzi called foul. Replay showed that it should have been a ground rule double. Tschida was the crew chief for that series and was stationed on the right-field foul line that night. Nothing could be done and the game went on.

The same was true a year later when umpire Jim Joyce missed a play at first base that cost Detroit pitcher Armando Galarraga a perfect game. Afterward, Joyce admitted his error. The next day, Galarraga presented the lineup for that day’s game to Joyce. The two shook hands and the case was closed.

In 2019, both of those calls could and likely would have been reviewed.

One other aspect of the game has changed umpiring at the MLB level. The shift of three infielders to the left or right of second base has caused umpires to reposition themselves so as to not get in a fielder’s way. As a result, calls at second base are often made from behind the bag, a change from previous techniques. “You spend 20 years doing things a certain way and now you have to reset everything you’ve learned,” Tschida said.

Tschida was a big-league ump for 28 years and thinks there will be fewer guys like Joe West, who is now in his 42nd year as a major-league official. “The game is played at a higher level every year,” Tschida said. “The bottom line is nothing prepares you to work at the major-league level.”

## Two separate seasons collide

Two recent games played within 24 hours of each other and just a couple of miles apart with vastly different results offered an insight into the mindset of local sports fans.

The first was an NFL exhibition game at U.S. Bank Stadium, where the Minnesota Vikings beat the Seattle Seahawks 25-19. The most notable moment of the game probably occurred when Viking cornerback Holton Hill delivered a head-to-head blow on Seattle’s quarterback. Such things are frowned on and Hill was promptly sent packing for the night. It’s expected he’ll get a hefty fine tacked onto the eight-game suspension without pay he already was slapped with by the NFL for violating the league’s rules on substance abuse.

The rest of the game didn’t offer much because, except

for a couple of series at the start, the participants were subsgunning only for backup positions. However, that didn’t stop the radio stations and other assorted media types from lengthy pre- and post-game analyses.

With one game a week and six days to talk about it, football does this sort of thing all the time. A word to the wise: Chill out, folks. The big boys don’t take the field for a couple of weeks. We’ll know more about the Vikings then.

The second game was at Target Field where the Twins, who are engaged in a riveting race with Cleveland for the AL Central title, scored early and late but not enough in a 6-4 loss to the White Sox.

Following baseball requires patience that football fans usually don’t have. The best baseball teams usually lose 60-70 games during the course of a season. That includes losses to teams with lesser records.

The consolation for a tense loss in baseball is there’s usually a game the next day. Win that contest and the previous day’s agony is over. It’s been a while since the Twins have been involved in a pennant race where each game seems to be the most important one of the year.

That doesn’t mean things won’t get even more tense come September. However, it’s worth remembering that it was only last year that the roles were reversed and it was the Twins who were trying to play spoiler while looking at some new faces.

So here’s some advice to baseball fans: Settle in, go with the flow and enjoy what will occasionally be a bumpy ride. That’s what sports are all about.

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



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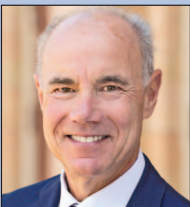
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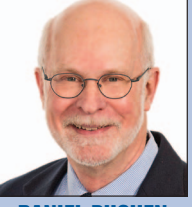
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**508 MONTCALM PLACE**

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**QUALITY & LOCATION!!!**

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**ROOM TO ROOM!!!**

546 Montcalm Pl: Spacious 5 bedroom maintained in impeccable condition. Entertainment sized living and dining rooms, main floor family room, king sized master bedroom suite, and delightful back yard and deck.

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**NEW LISTING!**

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**New Price!**

**1869 EAGLE RIDGE #9 MENDOTA HEIGHTS**

Beautiful townhome in idyllic Mendota Heights location! This home shows off 2 large bedrooms each with their own en suite plus another 1/2 bathroom on the main, with large kitchen, and formal dining room!

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**1419 PALACE, SAINT PAUL**

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**HOME OF FRANK B. KELLOGG!**

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

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**New Price!**

**SUNNY 2ND FLOOR CONDO!**

This 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo has fabulous views. Hardwood floors, wood burning fireplace, 3rd floor guest suite. 302 Summit Ave unit F.

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**FABULOUS MEDITERRANEAN!**

This Lake Elmo home has it all! 4 bedroom, 3 baths, 3 car garage on 2.7 acres. Completely renovated 3320 square feet. 5171 Hilltop Avenue North, Lake Elmo.

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**CLARENCE JOHNSTON MANSION!**

This magnificent home has over 14,000 square feet, 10 bedrooms, 17 bathrooms, rich mahogany paneling, huge beamed ceilings, you will love the superb carriage house.

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