

# VILLAGER



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## City Council questions mayor's right to revive Lexington Station plan

Meanwhile, more affordable housing is sought for project

By JANE McCLURE

The debate over the six-story Lexington Station development at 411-417 N. Lexington Pkwy. has made its way from Saint Paul's City Hall to Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison's office. On April 28, the City Council voted 5-2 to ask Ellison for a legal opinion on the mayoral veto that was intended to allow the project to proceed. The council is questioning whether Mayor Melvin Carter has the authority to veto the denial of a site plan on appeal.

A project of Alatus LLC, Lexington Station would entail 288 apartments of various sizes over ground-floor commercial space. The site plan for the project was rejected by the Saint Paul Planning Commission on an 8-7 vote. Alatus appealed that decision to the City Council, which voted 4-3 to deny the appeal. Carter vetoed the council's action and, without a fifth vote, the council was unable to override the veto.

The \$57 million project is moving toward a summer groundbreaking, according to Alatus and property owner Wilder Foundation. It has required no rezoning, no variances and no public subsidies.

Last week Ellison's staff had not seen the City

LEXINGTON STATION ▶ 5



**A new beginning.** Former Somalis Ali Barsug, wife Maryan Farah and 5-year-old son Hanad were among the nearly 800 people who took the oath to become U.S. citizens on May 6 at Saint Paul's RiverCentre. It was the first naturalization ceremony to be held in-person there since last November. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

## Design keeps evolving for planned five-story building on Dixie's site

Changes made to traffic flow, but building height remains a concern

By JANE McCLURE

As the developers continue to prepare rezoning and variance requests for the Saint Paul Planning Commission, neighbors continue to debate a proposed five-story, \$32.5 million, mixed-use development on the current site of Dixie's on Grand, Saji-Ya and Emmett's Public House at 695 Grand Ave.

More than 60 people attended an online meeting on May 5 to hear the Summit Hill Association (SHA) board and Zoning and Land Use Committee discuss the project with the development team of Reuter Walton, ESG Architects and the Kenefick family.

The timeline for the project calls for the SHA to vote on the requests in June and send its recommendations to the Planning Commission for action as soon as July. Construction could start later this year, with the building opening to tenants in 2023.

The developers keep reviewing their changing plans with city staff. Those who participated in the online meeting had mixed reactions to the updates. Some neighbors believe the development team is working to address the many concerns raised at past meetings, and they want to see that work continue. One change in the plan that drew support was moving the parking access and the loading zone out of the Grand-Summit alley.

DIXIE'S DEVELOPMENT ▶ 5

# Keg and Case food hall reopens with a new mix of vendors

## Rebirth of West 7th St. market appears better positioned for success

By CAROLYN WALKUP

After a winter of dormancy brought on by the pandemic and a state-mandated shutdown, Keg and Case Market reopened on May 1 at 928 W. Seventh St. Led by anchor tenants Woodfired Cantina and Clutch Brewing, the latest iteration of Keg and Case features eight new vendors and 10 returning vendors who will be opening their spaces on various dates through May. The food and retail emporium should be

fully operational by June 1, according to Gates Lindquist, the market's executive director.

"With our new outdoor music series and movie nights, Keg and Case hopes to become a true community hub," Lindquist said. "We want to make it more approachable with more food at lower prices."

Tony Molaro, secretary of the West Seventh/Fort Road Federation, was pleased. "We're beyond excited to see it reopen," he said. Keg and Case serves as a kind of anchor for the West Seventh neighborhood, Molaro said, and it was packed on opening night. The lower prices at Woodfired Cantina and the new Purple Ice Cream are also better suited to the area, he added.

Woodfired Cantina, which replaced the fine dining at In Bloom, is a casual taco bar with

both indoor and outdoor seating. Customers choose from a variety of char-grilled meats and vegetables and assemble their own tacos. Owners Brian and Sarah Ingram expect meals to average about \$13. They plan to open a more upscale tequila bar on the upper level, but at a later date.

The Ingrams also operate Purple Ice Cream where most cones are priced at \$2 and \$3, or less than half the cost of a scoop when the space was occupied by Sweet Science Ice Cream. The couple also own Hope Breakfast Bar off West Seventh and the Gnome Craft Pub on Selby Avenue.

Clutch Brewing has reopened its brewpub on the upper level of Keg and Case. It has also added a large picnic area next to its beer truck outdoors. Patrons may take the beer and

hard seltzer purchased at Clutch anywhere within the market. A new food vendor, whom Lindquist declined to name until the lease is signed, will also set up adjacent to the beer garden and picnic area.

Other new vendors include Brand Builders Market; Jerusalem Mix, a hummus bar and Mediterranean cafe; Poppin' flavored popcorn, pretzels and pizza; Juice Wisely cold-pressed juices, smoothies and salads; Jumbos mini-sausages and burgers; Valley Sweets old-fashioned candy and fresh-spun cotton candy; and the Som Thai curry and pad thai restaurant.

They will join returning vendors Five Watt Coffee; Forest to Fork freshly grown

KEG & CASE MARKET ▶ 3

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# Saint Paul has some catching up to do when it comes to maintaining its streets

By JANE McCLURE

It may not surprise those who regularly drive or bike in Saint Paul, but many of the city's streets are nearing a critical juncture. If funding levels are not increased, 60 percent of them will be in serious or failed condition within 20 years and 90 percent will be in serious or failed condition within 30 years, according to a new report reviewed on April 28 by the Saint Paul City Council and Department of Public Works.

The report was released prior to the drafting of the city's 2022 budget. Officials hope it may help in securing financial assistance through the American Rescue Plan or other economic stimulus and job creation programs.

Saint Paul Public Works officials would like to accelerate the city's Residential Street Vitality Program (RSVP) that began in 1996. They would also like to develop a mill and overlay program to extend the useful life of residential streets. Streets that receive sealcoating and mill and overlay work can last up to 60 years without reconstruction. A street that does not receive regular maintenance will only last about 25 years.

"Now is the time for us to start doing mill and overlay projects," said city engineer Paul Kurtz. "Once your street deteriorates, it can go pretty quickly."

Saint Paul uses a pavement condition index (PCI) to rate the condition of every street in the city. The streets are rated on scale of 1-100 with 100 being best. The average ranking for

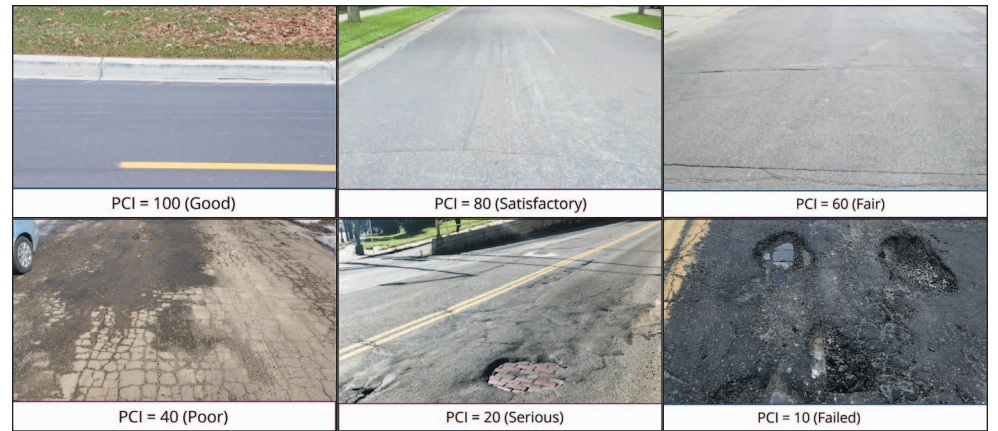
all of the city's streets is currently 58. Residential streets have an average PCI of 60.

The city began a major initiative to reconstruct its streets in 1985 in conjunction with a sewer separation project that was mandated by court order to keep raw sewage from flowing into the Mississippi River. The final sewer separation project wrapped up in 1995. With about 200 miles of city streets still needing work, RSVP was launched. The goal was to complete RSVP in 10 years.

Sixty-eight of the total 88 RSVP projects have been completed, according to Kurtz. With the help of private contractors, Public Works used to complete four to five projects each year. However, rising costs and the competition for funds from other capital improvements meant that no more than one or one-half of a project has been done in recent years. Under the current schedule, RSVP is not expected to be completed before 2051.

This year the city will complete the second half of the Griggs-Scheffer project. RSVP projects that have been scheduled in coming years include Cambridge-Princeton (2032), Portland-Victoria (2036-37), Finn-Jefferson (2038), Albert-Goodrich (2039), Ashland-Arundel (2040-41), Marshall-Dayton (2044-45), Grotto-Goodrich (2046-48) and the second phase of Woodlawn-Jefferson (2051).

The estimated cost of the 20 pending RSVP projects is \$878 million if done over the next 30 years. If the city had the resources to complete all of the projects this year, the cost would be \$342 million.



A photographic survey of Saint Paul's streets indicates the various conditions travelers may encounter.

Kurtz pointed out that the earliest street reconstruction projects done as part of the city's sewer separation program were completed 36 years ago and are in need of maintenance. The city fills cracks and potholes when they appear. It sealcoats residential streets every eight years. Sealcoating involves applying hot liquid asphalt to a street and covering it with fine aggregate.

More extensive mill and overlay work involves grinding off a few inches of pavement and replacing it with new pavement. The city does not typically do mill and overlay work on residential streets. However, Kurtz said, regular mill and overlay work could help by preventing water pooling and pothole problems and allowing crews to address utility and manhole covers that stick up above the street. Best practices call for mill and overlay work every 20-25 years, he said.

According to Public Works officials, two-thirds of the city's residential streets, or a total of 382.4 miles of roadway, could use mill and overlay work. However, it comes with a cost.

The city currently spends \$12.5 million per year on street reconstruction and \$4.5 million per year on sealcoating. It would need much more than that to accelerate the RSVP program and implement mill and overlay work on residential streets. Failing to provide additional funding will have "significant consequences" as more than half of the city's streets will be undrivable, according to Kurtz.

The City Council reviewed several scenarios for increased funding for streets on April 28. The best-case scenario would involve an additional \$36 million from city resources and \$10 million through assessments on abutting property owners. That would provide annual budgets of \$43.5 million for street reconstruction, \$15 million for mill and overlay work and \$4.5 million for sealcoating.

If the best-case is achieved, 80 percent of the city's residential streets will be in fair or better condition in 20 years, according to Kurtz. That would allow the city to meet the industry standard of an average PCI of between 65 and 70.

# City, county and school district to share \$507M of American Rescue Plan

By JANE McCLURE

U.S. Representative Betty McCollum met with local officials this spring to discuss the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan and how Ramsey County, the city of Saint Paul and the Saint Paul Public Schools can use their share of the federal largesse.

The Rescue Plan will provide about \$107 million for the county, \$172 million for the city and \$228 million for the school district to help them recover from the health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rescue Plan funds are less restrictive than the federal CARES Act money that local governments began receiving last year. The CARES Act only covered expenses directly re-

lated to the pandemic, such as personal protective equipment and emergency shelter.

The Rescue Plan provides local governments with support for pandemic-related needs, deferred needs and job creation. One focus could be retrofitting buildings for improved ventilation and other COVID-19 prevention initiatives. The Saint Paul Department of Public Works has suggested using some of the city's allocation for stepped-up street reconstruction and maintenance programs (see story above).

The money will begin to become available this month with another outlay in 2022. The funds must be spent by December 31, 2024.

The Ramsey County Board held a workshop in April on the Rescue Plan. County manager

Ryan O'Connor and chief financial officer Alex Kotze outlined the possible uses for the money. The County Board discussed a number of priorities, including workforce development, emergency shelters, affordable housing and public health needs.

The County Board had discussed a special property tax levy through its Housing and Redevelopment Authority earlier this year to help fund more affordable housing. "The affordable housing supply is the largest crisis facing the region," O'Connor said. The tax levy would provide an extra \$11.6 million per year.

O'Connor spoke of several county properties that could be redeveloped for new mixed-income housing. They include Boys' Totem Town in Saint Paul's Battle Creek neighbor-

hood and the Ponds at Battle Creek Golf Course in Maplewood. The golf course is slated to close in September. Boys' Totem Town closed in the past year as a juvenile detention facility, but has since been pressed into service as a shelter for homeless people with COVID-19 symptoms.

Commissioner Jim McDonough spoke of the need for robust citizen engagement and transparency as the county sets its priorities for spending Rescue Plan funds. Although citizens' support of county plans is important, he added, the needs are such that county officials may have to proceed without that support.



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**1◀ KEG & CASE MARKET**

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Brand Builders Market is a showcase for startup food and merchandise brands. Owners Aaron Courteau and Kate LaCrosse are featuring between 15 and 20 products at a time. The available brands will change quarterly. Some of the initial products are hemp clothing, cricket flour, chocolates, a Bloody Mary mix and handmade soaps.

Courteau described his shop as a retail incubator that will help producers introduce their wares to the public and potential investors. The producers will sometimes be on hand to meet customers and explain their products.

Shannon Donaghue’s Valley Sweets shop sells nostalgic and novelty candies, handmade chocolates and fudge. It also serves cotton candy on food-grade glow-in-the-dark LED sticks that buyers can take home.

Much of the outdoor entertainment at Keg and Case this summer will be geared to children, including story times, juggling classes, kids yoga and an after-dark Throwback The-



Shannon Donaghue of Valley Sweets rearranges the shop’s display of nostalgic and novelty candies at its new booth in Keg and Case Market, 928 W. Seventh St. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

ater showing old movies. Sunday afternoons will also be oriented to families. Musical entertainment for all ages will begin this month on weekends. DJs will kick off the series. Live bands will appear beginning in June.

Keg and Case Market is open from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday and 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday. Individual vendors’ hours may vary. For more information and an entertainment schedule, visit [kegandcase.com](http://kegandcase.com).

## Drive-thru closes at ‘Snarshall’ Starbucks

BY JANE MCCLURE

The fate of the drive-through lane at the Starbucks on Snelling and Marshall avenues remains unclear, as Saint Paul and Starbucks corporate staff review options for the coffee shop. Those options could include a change to the shop’s conditional use permit or permanently closing the drive-through option.

The drive-through was shut down in April after Starbucks employees objected to off-duty, uniformed police conducting morning traffic control there. The coffee shop remains open for walk-in customers, and motorists can also order coffee and have it brought out to their vehicles.

“We’ve temporarily closed the drive-through and shifted operations while the local team continues to discuss a long-term solution that meets the needs of this community,” said Starbucks spokesperson Reggie Borges.

No timeline for a solution has been set for one of the busiest Starbucks locations in the Twin Cities.

Off-duty Saint Paul police officers have not worked traffic control at the Snelling-Marshall Starbucks since April 11, the day Daunte Wright was fatally shot by a Brooklyn Center police officer. Civil unrest followed the shooting, along with looting and property damage to businesses in Minneapolis, Saint Paul and Brooklyn Center.

When the Police Department went back to regular off-duty traffic control at the shop, Starbucks indicated it no longer wanted officers there, said Sergeant Natalie Davis. All off-duty police staffing at the location was then canceled.

However, a traffic control officer is required at the shop’s driveway on Marshall as part of Starbucks’ conditional use permit with the city. The officer is provided at Starbucks’ expense.

Under city ordinances, traffic control per-

sonnel operating in the public right-of-way for Starbucks must be uniformed city police officers, according to city Department of Safety and Inspections spokesperson Suzanne Donovan. Any change to the conditions would require city Planning Commission approval.

Starbucks has generated controversy since 2015, when the original permit was granted for it to replace a vacant former gas station at the corner. That permit did not require traffic control officers.

Traffic tie-ups began almost immediately after the coffee shop opened in early 2017, with long lines of vehicles blocking the sidewalk, traffic and bikes lanes on Marshall. That led to the hashtag #carbuck and the intersection being dubbed “Snarshall.”

Bollards that were set up to delineate the bike lane were often broken. Vehicular accidents resulted in property damage and, at times, injuries.

The shop’s conditional use permit was modified in 2018 after Starbucks and the city and Ramsey County public works departments tried different configurations for the access to Marshall, which is a county road. Starbucks also spent about \$100,000 on changes to the Marshall driveway, drive-through lane and on-site parking. The changes allow up to 12 vehicles to line up in the lot, two or three more than before.

The Union Park district Council and Saint Paul Bicycle Coalition were among those who opposed the revised site plan and permit changes, which included the requirement for traffic control officers. The Planning Commission received more than 40 letters opposing the modifications and the drive-through itself.

Opponents contended the measures would not be enough to deal with the traffic problems. However, the commission approved the changes, indicating that some improvements were better than allowing the situation to continue in its current state.

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## Revision of Ford Site Master Plan's open space requirements in works

### Planning Commission will try to clear up provisions regarding green roofs and maximum lot coverage

By JANE MCCLURE

How much open space future developments at Highland Bridge are required to set aside could change as a result of a Saint Paul City Council resolution that was adopted on May 5. The council asked the Saint Paul Planning Commission to review the Ford Site Zoning and Public Realm Master Plan and recommend amendments to the open space requirements.

The interpretation of the open space requirements for individual projects was a key concern during discussions of some of the first Highland Bridge developments. Members of Neighbors for a Livable Saint Paul filed a lawsuit last fall alleging that the city was not following the master plan and zoning ordinances for the 122-acre site, especially with respect to the open space requirements. However, the lawsuit was dismissed in April (see story below).

The City Council's resolution does not refer to the lawsuit. However, it acknowledges the difficulties city staff have had applying some of the regulations while reviewing proposed

Highland Bridge developments. The regulations cited as being the most unclear regarded open space, lot coverage and green roofs.

One recommended change would remove the term "open space" from the master plan as it pertains to privately owned development parcels and lot coverage.

Another change would add a definition of "lot coverage by buildings" in the zoning amendments and master plan.

Yet another change would remove the inclusion of green roofs as open space. Instead, developers would be given a bonus of up to 10 percent allowable lot coverage in exchange for more green roof space. In essence, the amendment would allow a structure to be larger if its green roof is larger.

Any changes to the master plan would not affect Highland Bridge's public parks and other open space requirements.

Five Highland Park residents, including three plaintiffs in the recent lawsuit, sent comments to the City Council. Those who commented said they appreciated the city's efforts to clarify what is considered open space at Highland Bridge. However, they asked for further clarification as well as more time to comment on the proposed changes.

One request was that city planning staff clearly spell out exactly what building lot coverage means and what would replace the definition of open space for private properties.

## Ford site lawsuit is dismissed

### Court questioned legal standing of plaintiffs

By JANE MCCLURE

Ramsey County District Court Judge John Guthmann has dismissed a lawsuit filed against the city of Saint Paul for not following its master plan for the Highland Bridge development in Highland Park. Local residents James Winterer, Kathryn McGuire, Catherine Hunt, Howard Miller, Bruce Faribault and Bruce Hoppe filed the lawsuit last October in an attempt to force the city to follow its own zoning rules.

The plaintiffs, who are all members of the group Neighbors for a Livable Saint Paul, contend that city officials have used zoning variances as a "rubber stamp" for Highland Bridge developers who stray from the master plan for the 122-acre site of Ford Motor Company's former assembly plant.

The plaintiffs also cited a mixed-use building at 2170 Ford Pkwy. where city zoning staff allowed master developer Ryan Companies to include private balconies and rooftop gardens in meeting the open space requirement for the project. The plaintiffs contend that that interpretation of the master plan will result in buildings filling up entire blocks of Highland Bridge with little public open space.

"The city appears to be using bureaucratic maneuvers to prevent anyone from challenging them as they change the rules to inflate and alter the scope of the Ford site develop-

ment outside of the original codified plan," the plaintiffs said in a joint statement following Guthmann's ruling.

The city "is knowingly violating its own laws that city officials themselves enacted and then deliberately using an appeals process to obfuscate," the plaintiffs stated. "Although the building at issue (2170 Ford Pkwy.) is already half-built, we are contemplating...a possible appeal to ensure that our municipal leaders are acting in the best interest of citizens. In our view, the Saint Paul variance request process is just a big rubber stamp by the city, supporting whatever developers want."

Guthmann in his ruling said he did not believe the plaintiffs had legal standing to even bring the case. He contended that if they had issues with the city's interpretation of the open space requirement, they could have filed an appeal with the Saint Paul Board of Zoning Appeals and City Council. Another factor considered by the judge was whether the plaintiffs were able to show that they will suffer harm or be in imminent danger because of the actions taken by the city. He found that was not the case.

The city maintained in court that its variance process is legal and that developers are entitled to apply for variances.

"The vision for the Highland Bridge site was developed through more than a decade of engagement with our community," said City Attorney Lyndsey Olson. "With the dismissal of this case, our work continues to leverage this enormous opportunity for the benefit of our entire city."

## Work on tunnel closes portion of river road

Ryan Companies and the city of Saint Paul began work on May 10 on a tunnel under Mississippi River Boulevard (MRB) that will provide a connection for bicyclists and pedestrians between the new Highland Bridge development and Hidden Falls Regional Park.

The project also is expected to rejuvenate Hidden Falls Creek with a steady flow of clean water. The first phase of construction requires

a road and trail closure on MRB between Ford Parkway and Magoffin Avenue from May 10 until well into the fall. Those heading southbound on MRB from Ford Parkway will be able to access the Ford Dam scenic overlook and Mississippi River overlook but not Hidden Falls Drive.

To see the designated bicycle, pedestrian and vehicle detour maps and learn more about the project, visit [tinyurl.com/f4s6nrx2](http://tinyurl.com/f4s6nrx2).

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The alley is currently used as a loading zone for the three restaurants.

Others said more changes are needed. Many of those objections centered on the building's height. Others questioned the traffic and spillover parking impacts.

A few participants raised the issue of Grand's need for redevelopment. "I don't care to debate the parking issues," said neighborhood resident Sue Kirk. "We want businesses to return to the area, hands down."

While design changes continue to be made, some neighbors say the project is still out of scale with the neighborhood. The Keneficks, who own the property, want to replace the current one-story commercial building with a building that would have three commercial spaces on the ground floor, 79 apartments on the upper floors, and parking underground and at ground level. Emmett's and Saji-Ya would return to the site, but Dixie's would not.

The project as planned will require a zoning change from commercial to Traditional Neighborhoods 3, a conditional use permit for a height above 55 feet, a front-yard setback variance, and a variance or waiver from the East Grand Avenue Zoning Overlay District that limits building heights to three stories.



A rendering of the proposed five-story, \$32.5 million, mixed-use development proposed for the Dixie's site at 695 Grand Ave.

The zoning change and overlay district waiver continued to raise objections on May 5. Neighbors contend that five stories is too tall for the neighborhood. The development team countered that the height and scale of the building are what work economically.

Bob Loken of ESG Architects said the application for a taller building is not something the developers are making lightly. "We must make the case, does the East Grand Avenue Overlay District still meet its goals?" he said. He added that since the district was put in place more than

a decade ago, there has been very little development on Grand.

Some neighbors asked for more specifics on the length of the shadow the new building would cast, especially in winter. "We might be spending six months in shadow," said SHA board member and neighbor Sonja Mason.

Neighbors also debated the building's scale and how it would look on the Saint Albans Street side. Some wanted to see the building stepped back further from the property line.

"Saint Albans is a very special street in our neighborhood," said

Simon Taghioff, chair of the SHA's Zoning and Land Use Committee.

Saint Albans residents were also worried about increased parking and traffic on their street. One change to the plan involves the building's parking access. Residents of the new building will now use 73 below-grade parking spaces, while business patrons will park in an enclosed area at ground level with 31 parking spaces.

Neighbors had objected to a previous plan that used the Grand-Summit alley for parking access and directed all of that traffic onto Saint

Albans. Loken said the new plan is to have apartment residents enter the secured underground parking from Saint Albans and to have business patrons entering the parking area from Grand and exiting onto Saint Albans. The loading zone for the building's commercial tenants would be moved to Grand, and Saint Albans would continue to be a one-way street.

Some neighbors and SHA board members questioned whether 73 parking spaces would be enough for residents of the 79 apartments. Not all residents would have a parking space. In fact, the parking would be leased separately from the rent.

Several neighbors contended that parking and traffic issues for the area still need to be addressed. "Parking will be a problem, traffic will be a problem, the alley will likely be a nightmare, as it's already used as a thoroughfare. Sadly, public safety will be an issue as a result," said neighbor Max Meketarian.

Commercial parking demand was also questioned. Kenefick said Emmett's and Saji-ya would have about 2,400 square feet each in the new building, and the third commercial space would be slightly larger. That is comparable to Emmett's current size. The new Saji-Ya space would be much smaller than it is now.

**14 LEXINGTON STATION**

Council's request and would not comment. In fact, an opinion from the Attorney General may not come for another few weeks. However, it would likely be advisory only and not legally binding, according to the Saint Paul City Attorney's Office.

Ward 1 City Council member Dai Thao introduced the resolution seeking the attorney general's opinion. Council members Mitra Jalali, Rebecca Noecker, Jane Prince and Nelsie Yang also voted in support. Amy Brendmoen and Chris Tolbert voted against.

According to Thao, Carter's veto has caused confusion for city staff and the city as a whole. Seeking the attorney general's opinion is seen as a way to avoid litigation. Alatus has indicated it believes it could win a legal case on the merits of the approval process. The Frogtown Neighborhood Association (FNA) at an April 27 press conference said it will take legal action if the project proceeds.

"This is a vitally important issue to get direction on," Prince said. Carter's action "unilaterally clears the way" for Lexington Station to move forward, she added, and it would set a precedent.

Tolbert said the council needs to be "very clear" on what it is seeking from an attorney general's opinion. Brendmoen agreed, saying the issue feels "messy." She and Tolbert also objected to the lack of time they had to review Thao's resolution. The request for the attorney general's opinion was not on the City Council agenda, and most council members



Alatus' plan for a 288-unit apartment building with first floor commercial space on Lexington Parkway.

and the City Attorney's Office only had a few minutes to review the matter before the vote.

The City Attorney's Office questioned the action. "The council cannot by resolution order the Attorney General's office to do something," said Deputy City Attorney Rachel Tierney. She consulted with staff in the Attorney General's office during the April 28 meeting, and said the issue may be one Ellison's office is not willing to address.

Alatus has agreed to make 144 of the 288 apartments at Lexington Station affordable to households earning 60 percent or less of the annual median income (AMI) in the Twin Cities' 13-county area. The AMI is \$103,400 for a family of four and \$72,350 for a single per-

son. Alatus would make 124 efficiency apartments affordable to households at 60 percent AMI, or \$43,400 per year for a single person, and 10 one-bedroom and 10 two-bedroom apartments affordable to households earning 50 percent AMI, or \$36,175 for a single person and \$51,700 for a family of four.

Carter has offered to help Alatus seek governmental assistance to make the apartments even more affordable. "The mayor stands ready to partner with the concerned council members to add more affordable housing units to this project as soon as they are ready to work together toward that goal," the mayor's spokesperson said.

Lexington Station as planned has been

opposed by the FNA, Summit-University Planning Council, Midway RiseUp, Housing Justice Center and Black Ministerial Alliance. Those groups are all concerned that the project will gentrify the area and drive up local property taxes and rents. They would like the Wilder site used for new housing that is affordable to more of those already living in the neighborhood. The AMI for a family of four in Frogtown has been estimated at under \$40,000 per year.

Thao and Prince spoke at an April 27 press conference on the Lexington Station site. More than two dozen local residents and business people turned out. The crowd called for Carter to rescind his veto. At one point, they chanted, "Hey, hey, ho, ho, Melvin Carter has got to go."

Former City Council member Debbie Montgomery, who lives less than two blocks from the proposed development, said the issues of gentrification and displacement are important and need to be addressed. She and other speakers recalled Saint Paul's largely Black Rondo neighborhood where 60 years ago many families were forced out of their homes to make way for the construction of I-94.

FNA co-director Tia Williams was among those calling out Carter, who often speaks about his family's roots in Rondo. She described the mayor's veto as an "egregious power grab to protect his political aspirations and signal support for moneyed developers."

FNA co-director Caty Royce said the group is going to make the veto go away. "If we have to go to court, we'll go to court," she said.

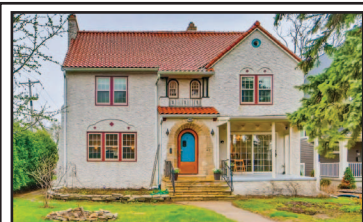
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# Hearing on new zoning regulations for homeless day shelters continues May 28

By JANE McCLURE

The Saint Paul Planning Commission's public hearing on new zoning regulations governing the location and operation of day shelters for homeless people will resume at 8:30 a.m. Friday, May 28.

The hearing began on April 30. Four business owners and one resident spoke about the problems they have been having with clients of Freedom House. However, nobody from the day shelter at 296 W. Seventh St. appeared at the hearing, so commissioners called for the layover.

Drop-in day shelters like Freedom House give people who are homeless a secure place to spend the day along with snacks and beverages, showers, bathrooms, clean clothes and sleeping spaces.

Freedom House operates from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week. It opened late last year in a former Saint Paul fire station under an emergency ordinance tied to the COVID-19 pandemic. Freedom House is affiliated with the nonprofit Listening House, which operates a similar day shelter at First Lutheran Church in Dayton's Bluff.

Mollie Jalma, interim director of Listening House, said she will attend the May 28 hearing to address concerns about Freedom House's clients. Her staff is willing to work with local residents and business people on the situation, she said, and she encouraged neighbors to call when problems arise.

Business owners at the April 30 hearing presented a long list of problems with Freedom House, including aggressive panhandling, ha-

arrassment, vandalism, prostitution, and public urination and defecation. Some businesses have had to add security measures.

"This is the most heartbreaking thing I've ever seen," said David Cossetta, owner of Cossetta's Alimentari, 211 W. Seventh St. His business is a longtime supporter of Catholic Charities' facilities for homeless people in downtown, serving meals there for many years. However, he added, "our customers are intimidated" by the behavior of the homeless people loitering in the West Seventh area.

Tom Reid, owner of Tom Reid's Hockey City Pub at 258 W. Seventh St., said the situation has become "dire." According to him, local businesses have worked hard to make the West Seventh area an entertainment district, complementing the nearby Xcel Energy Center. However, the behavior of some Freedom House clients is disrupting those efforts and keeping customers away, he said.

"You're destroying our area by having (Freedom House) here," Reid said.

Linda Christensen has lived in an apartment on West Seventh Street near Freedom House for more than 30 years. "Now I'm afraid to walk out my front door," she said. She and other tenants are followed into the building by homeless people, fire alarms are pulled and people are harassed, she said.

Several commissioners questioned the concerns of those who testified. Commissioner Stephen Moore asked Cossetta, "Where would you have people go? What would be a better solution?"

*"It's a balancing act for me," said commissioner Cedrick Baker. Homeless people need a place to go during the day, but neighbors need to feel safe, he said.*



Located in old Fire Station No. 1, Freedom House provides Saint Paul's homeless with a place to go to get off the street, get cleaned up, rest and take refreshment between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily. PHOTO BY CASEY EK

Cossetta said he was insulted by any implication that he lacked empathy for the homeless. He said he was just trying to balance his concerns with running his business.

"It's a balancing act for me," said commissioner Cedrick Baker. Homeless people need a place to go during the day, but neighbors need to feel safe and should not have to deal with these problems, he said.

Catholic Charities testified in favor of the proposed zoning regulations, but suggested the city remove the proposed requirement that the day shelters be located within a half mile of an overnight shelter or emergency housing facility for the homeless.

Saint Paul does not have a zoning ordinance that covers stand-alone day shelters. Currently, the zoning code only allows those services as an accessory to an overnight shelter.

The proposed regulations, which require

final approval by the City Council, would classify day shelters as a civic and institutional use and would be permitted in the same zoning districts as clubs, fraternal organizations and lodge halls. The day shelters would be permitted in most business and industrial districts as well as the mixed-use Traditional Neighborhoods 2, 3 and 4 zones. That means that under the proposed regulations, Freedom House would be allowed to remain in place.

Homeless facilities in some industrial zoning districts would require an additional conditional use permit under the proposed regulations. The permit could dictate such issues as hours of operations, litter cleanup and the use of outdoor spaces. Whether the requirement for a conditional use permit should be extended to other zoning districts is a decision that has been left for the Planning Commission and City Council.

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# VIEWPOINT

## A moving experience is in store for *Villager* after 68 years in Highland

By MICHAEL MISCHKE

It has now been 25 years since this publication dropped “Highland” from its name and became simply the *Villager*. The change was made to better reflect the growing circulation, expanded distribution and greater editorial reach to all of the neighborhoods within the *Villager’s* coverage area. Those neighborhoods continue to be highlighted above the banner on the front page of each edition.

And yet, many if not most people continue to refer to the publication you’re reading as the *Highland Villager*. That’s understandable, I suppose, given the *Villager’s* status as the longest-running neighborhood newspaper in the Twin Cities.

Well, at 68 years of age the *Villager* now finds itself in the position many people of a similar age find themselves: in a down-sizing or more fittingly “right-sizing” mode. As of this week, we’ll be leaving our home of the past 40 years at 757 S. Snelling Ave. and moving to 241 S. Cleveland Ave. (at Saint Clair).

The reasons for the move to the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood are many. For one thing, we no longer need all the space we’ve been occupying in our Highland Park building. Oh sure, spreading out over 3,120 square feet on two floors came in handy when the pandemic called for employees to work at a distance. Deemed by state government authorities as an “essential business”—I never liked that term—the *Villager* never shut down even for brief periods while most of our staff opted to work from home.

Well, we’re all back together again, and with the coronavirus on the wane, we began looking for smaller, but still safe, quarters to lease. We found it on Cleveland Avenue in an office building owned by the Speckmann family and managed by Mid Continent Management Corporation.

The property at 757 S. Snelling Ave. that my father bought in 1981 has been owned by the Maurice F. Mischke Family Trust ever since he died in 1991. The rental income it has generated over the last 30 years has primarily supported my mother, a former *Villager* classified ad manager who at the age of 97 is now living in the Care Center at Carondelet Village in Highland Park. The Family Trust intends to sell the building, the proceeds from which will pay for her continuing care.

Then there’s the federal Americans with Disabilities Act. The *Villager* has never been cited for any ADA violations, though we certainly could have been. Our Snelling Avenue building actually has six interior levels, and it’s situated on a sloping lot that together make accessibility not only a challenge but a financial fool’s errand. I hired an architectural firm in the early 1990s to assess the property and come up with a cost estimate to bring it into compliance with the requirements of the ADA. It turned out it would have cost more than the real estate was worth.

Of course, there are the ongoing financial considerations as well. It’s not that the monthly rent in our new offices will go down—it’ll actually go up a bit—but we’ll be shedding a lot of costs associated with leasing what was built in the 1940s as a single-family home. From the exorbitant commercial property taxes to the rising cost of utilities to the increasing property maintenance needs—the list goes on and on—we figure to save a substantial amount of money each year.

That’s especially crucial at this juncture in the *Villager’s* long history. Staying in business was already fraught with hurdles when the pandemic hit 14 months ago, and the government’s response to it nearly brought the *Villager* to its knees. Were it not for the advertisers who stuck with us, the generous donations of hundreds of readers, the paid subscriptions of thousands of others, and the forgivable loans of not one but two rounds of the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Paycheck Protection Program, I can’t say for sure that I’d be writing these words for publication here today.

So to all of you who have appreciated the value in what the *Villager* delivers every other week to the readers and advertisers it serves, I’ll conclude only by expressing my heartfelt thanks.

And my probably naive hope that our upcoming move to Macalester-Groveland will go a long way to finally getting people to call the publication by its actual name.

Just the *Villager*.

*Michael Mischke is the owner of the Villager.*

## INBOX

### A real plus for Summit Hill

It was very disappointing to see the display of negative opinions in the last issue regarding the development proposal for Grand Avenue and Saint Albans Street. I for one think it is a terrific idea and will be a great addition to both the commercial viability of Grand and the housing options for Summit Hill residents, especially empty-nesters who want to stay in the neighborhood but not in the large houses where they raised their families.

Frankly, I am amazed by the willingness of the development team to accommodate neighborhood concerns and wowed by the patience they show in explaining options and answering questions. The careful oversight by the Summit Hill Association Zoning and Land Use Committee is comforting as well.

While I totally understand the opposition of those who live on Saint Albans as they will certainly bear a negative impact from the building, the overall benefits to Grand’s eroding commercial health by adding 79-plus new residents must not be minimized. I wish that we could see the addresses of those who are commenting at the public meetings. That would give us all a better sense of the geographic breadth of the opposition. As I talk to my neighbors, they seem very open to the proposal if not yet fully supportive as I am.

Thanks for the good and careful work everyone is doing to make 695 Grand a real plus for Summit Hill.

Ellen Brown  
Summit Hill

### Neighbors’ rights are limited

The guest editorial and letters opposing the planned development at Grand Avenue and Saint Albans Street (*Villager* Viewpoint, April 28) call to mind the opening sequences in *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy*, in which Arthur Dent struggles vainly to prevent the destruction of his home world. You would think that is what is at stake at 695 Grand Ave., given the hyperbole.

Grand Avenue, which was as desolate a spot as Saint Paul has seen back in the 1960s and ’70s, rose from the ashes of a once-thriving commercial district to become yet another one of America’s quaint neighborhoods catering to the young, more affluent members of our society. Many of those establishments were gone a few decades later, replaced by high-end retailers which have themselves left. We are in the midst of the next phase of Grand’s evolution.

Two of the three restaurants currently occupying 695 Grand were part of the resurgence in the 1980s. At least one, Dixie’s, has decided to end its run. The building it inhabits is an uninspiring bit of masonry. It is unclear what use the building might have were it to remain. It’s highly unlikely that its current use is among the highest and best to which it could be put. So what is to be done with it?

The current owners have presented a proposal, one that has drawn objections from a great many residents interested primarily in protecting what they see as their own interests. They forget that all property owners have rights, but that those rights traditionally end at their property lines. It is not the city’s place to ensure that the backyards of a few Summit Avenue homes remain outside of the shadow cast by a neighboring building. Nor is it the city’s or the neighbors’ place to dictate the architectural elements of another’s property.

Oppose the project if you wish, but please keep in mind the limits of your rights and of the city’s power.

James M. Hamilton  
Summit Hill

### Homeless clients deserve respect

I found your article, “Freedom House’s homeless clients troubling West 7th businesses” (*Villager*, April 28) to be offensive and ill-informed. Instead of approaching the very real challenges facing members of our community from a position of partnership and compassion, you used othering language and painted a picture that “the homeless” are a problem and should be feared.

The intent of your article was clear from the first anecdote about Tom Reid’s Hockey City Pub having a guest who tried to enter the establishment with, gasp, a backpack! The guest, who I guess we are to infer was homeless, reacted poorly to being asked to leave. It’s funny, because I’ve been to Tom Reid’s with a backpack and I wasn’t asked to leave. While I was there, I noticed a couple who likely checked out of a

nearby hotel and stopped for a drink on their way to the airport. They had two roller suitcases. They weren’t asked to leave.

How about instead of treating human beings who are experiencing homelessness as a problem that we need to eradicate, we take responsibility for these fellow members of our community? What responsibility does Tom Reid’s have to the community in which it is situated?

Your article omitted any mention of how the community is supporting the efforts of organizations like Freedom House to assist folks who are struggling, instead opting to focus on the negative effects that the people using Freedom House’s services have on the aesthetics of the neighborhood. Your article failed to mention that individuals experiencing homelessness are more likely to be the victims than the perpetrators of crimes. You didn’t mention that homelessness often goes hand in hand with substance use disorders, trauma and other mental health issues.

These people, who you referred to as troubling, are our family members, friends and neighbors. But for the grace of God, they are you or me. They deserve to be treated with respect and dignity, which your article failed to do. In a time when we regularly hear about people being murdered just for being homeless, this piece felt particularly tone deaf. Please, do better.

Casey Schultz Bruning  
West End

*Editor’s note: Villager reporter Casey Ek contacted Freedom House, but representatives of the day shelter declined to comment for the story. He spoke to one of Freedom House’s clients, who in the story praised the services the shelter offers. Saint Paul City Council member Rebecca Noecker also spoke in support of the services provided by Freedom House. Rhonda Otteson of the Minnesota Coalition for Homeless was quoted in support of current state legislation that would provide \$50 million in capital funding for programs serving homeless people.*

### A dangerous mix on river road

Arrogant, ignorant or just doesn’t care. However you characterize Saint Paul Mayor Melvin Carter’s recent proclamation that selected streets would be one-way to allow for more bicyclists and pedestrians, you cannot deny that it’s dangerous for both. For example, without consultation nor advance notice, Mayor Carter made Mississippi River Boulevard (MRB) a one-way, north-only street from Ford Parkway to Pelham Boulevard for the next few months. Did anyone ask about the experience of regular users of MRB last summer when this was done?

As a multiple-times-per-week runner and bicyclist of a good section of this stretch of road, I can tell you it didn’t work well. Walkers and bikers share an 8.5-foot-wide path with a number of blind spots. Add walkers and bikers to the southbound lane of the road, and it creates no safe place for pedestrians. Common sense would be to follow the example of Minneapolis and separate the two groups.

Based on the speed and habits of bikers, the best solution would be to restrict the southbound lane of the road to bikes and reserve the shared path for pedestrians. This could easily be addressed with some changes in signage. When I contacted the mayor’s office with this suggestion, I received a polite response: “Both the temporary closed lane and the existing trail along MRB are meant to be shared by both bikers and pedestrians, and making the temporary road closure bike-only is not feasible at this time.”

Not feasible? It would take a roll of black duct tape and an hour to change the signage. Maybe incompetent is the best adjective.

Thomas Romens  
Highland Park

### An echo chamber at City Hall

I was invited to Saint Paul City Council member Mitra Jalali’s April 19 Zoom meeting to discuss neighborhood preparations in advance of the Derek Chauvin trial verdict. After multiple attempts to get a hold of her regarding an increase in crime in the neighborhood with no replies, I was excited for my voice to be heard. Unfortunately, what ensued was an echo chamber of people opposed to Governor Walz’s use of the National Guard. The Zoom meeting was an opportunity for consenting opinions to be voiced, not community discussion.



**84 INBOX**

I encourage dialogue on better ways to fight systemic racism in our community. Something has to change. If our elected officials are advocating for a reduction in police and opposition to the National Guard protecting us, I expect a detailed plan for how we keep our neighborhoods safe. I'm extremely disappointed that I've seen nothing in the way of a plan, and when I reach out to Mitra I'm unable to even get a response.

Thank you, Governor Walz, for investing to protect us in preparation for the Chauvin verdict. Our city is at risk of losing many residents if we don't fix our crime issue. How do we do that without police?

I would welcome an opportunity to review your plan, Mitra. Feel free to reply to any of my emails sitting in your inbox to schedule a time to talk.

*Pat Archbold  
Merriam Park*

**To park or not to park**

The city of Saint Paul is playing games again. That's something I learned after attending an April 26 Zoom meeting with the Macalester-Groveland Community Council Transportation Committee. This time it's about eliminating or reducing the minimum requirements for off-street parking.

If the city completely eliminates the parking requirement, it will mean that new developments will no longer have to build in a minimum number of parking spots. Free market forces will be unleashed. Will developers build in enough parking on their own, or will the neighbors have to fight for on-street parking? That is the question.

No one has the answer, but when has that ever stopped the city of Saint Paul from doing whatever it wants?

*Regina Purins  
Highland Park*

**Spur to action with CP Rail**

Major railroad mergers like the one proposed by CP Rail and Kansas City Southern typically need state and local government support to secure federal approval. That support usually commands a price. In this case, the price for Minnesota's and Saint Paul's support must include the vacant 4.5-mile, 100-foot-wide right-of-way owned by CP Rail.

The CP Rail Spur once carried thousands of freight cars each year to and from Ford Motor Company's former assembly plant in Highland Park and the long-shuttered Schmidt Brewery on West Seventh Street. The real estate underlying these and other West End industrial properties is finding higher and better uses, making it most unlikely that freight will ever again move over these tracks.

It would be a modest request, therefore, to ask CP Rail to part with \$10 million to \$20 million worth of idle real estate to help secure a business venture worth \$200 million per year in operating profits. The community can figure out later what to do with the property. It just needs to secure the resource now, as there will likely never be a better opportunity.

If you agree, tell your elected officials to press the Walz

and Biden administrations to include the CP Rail Spur in any merger settlement with CP Rail. Tell them the Highland Park and West End neighborhoods can live without the railroad, but not without the spur land.

*Jerome Johnson  
Summit Hill*

*Editor's note: The writer is a retired transportation economist who specialized in the sale and acquisition of freight rail corridors.*

**Retain distance learning option**

I'm a junior at Highland Park High School and have been doing distance learning since last spring because of the coronavirus. Recently, for the final quarter of the year, the schools said we could learn in-person if we wanted to. I opted out of this and, if given the option, would opt out for the rest of my time in high school.

For most students, distance learning is not a good thing. It lets them slack off, and 60 percent of the students at my school failed at least one of their classes. However, I have never done better. Distance learning allows me the flexibility to get the sleep I need and do my work on my own time. If kids are doing better at home, then they should be allowed to stay there.

Also, schooling is expensive, and doing online classes is significantly cheaper. All you really need is an iPad, which the schools already give us. If a certain percentage of students opt out of most school services and are doing better because of that, then there is more money to go around for the students who want to use those services.

*Oliver Kelly  
Highland Park*

**A solution in search of a problem**

Republican state legislators are once again attempting to impose voter ID restrictions. Proponents argue that because an ID is required to drive, fly or go to a ball game, why object to requiring an ID to vote? This is a false equivalency. Admittedly, my law school days are 30 years in the past, but I don't recall the right to drive, fly or go to a ball game being enshrined in the U.S. Constitution. Voting, however, is. In order to restrict a fundamental constitutional right, the Legislature must show that the restriction furthers a compelling governmental interest and be narrowly tailored to achieve that interest. Voter ID laws fail on both counts.

There is no evidence whatsoever that widespread voter fraud exists or has ever existed in this country. Furthermore, voter ID does nothing to address widespread voter fraud. Massive voter fraud would by necessity occur, not at the ballot box where an ID would be shown, but by the systems that count those votes. There is zero evidence this has ever occurred anywhere despite the big lie promoted by our former president and his minions.

Voter ID laws are a classic example of a solution in search of a problem. That is, unless the problem you are addressing is that Republicans tend not to do well at the ballot box when more people vote.

*Mark L. Greiner  
Highland Park*

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# HEALTH & FITNESS

## Fighting back

### Rock Steady Boxing helps those battling Parkinson's

BY FRANK JOSSI

Sheila Proehl saw a TV news story by CBS correspondent Lesley Stahl a few years ago about Rock Steady Boxing, a program for people with Parkinson's disease. Stahl highlighted the program because of its positive impact on her husband, writer Aaron Latham, who has Parkinson's.

Proehl, a Macalester-Groveland resident and former hospital executive, had been diagnosed with Parkinson's and figured Rock Steady Boxing would be worth a try. She found a gym offering the program and has been a Rock Steady participant ever since, attending classes every week. On a recent Tuesday, she worked out with a handful of Parkinson's patients at Element Gym, 655 N. Fairview Ave.

"I found it really slowed my symptoms because the exercises are intensive," Proehl said. "That's what I needed to get past some of the symptoms those of us with Parkinson's all experience."

Rock Steady Boxing began in 2006 in Indiana when prosecutor Scott Newman was diagnosed with Parkinson's at age 40. His friend, Golden Gloves boxing champion Vince Perez, designed an exercise program to help with the neurological challenges faced by people living with Parkinson's. Studies later confirmed that boxing exercises, movements and sparring help people with the disease improve their balance, mobility and quality of life.

Participants don gloves and spar

with boxing bags, coaches and classmates. North End resident John Moon, 72, spent part of Tuesday's class at Element Gym sparring with Highland Park resident Kim Heikkila, who oversees the Rock Steady Boxing Saint Paul program.

"It gets me sweaty, it takes the breath out of me, it builds my strength," Moon said. "I've never boxed before and I can tell you it's hard. We work out for a minute, take a break and work out again. It's good for our stamina."

Heikkila, a writer and historian, taught at the Upper Cut Boxing Gym in Minneapolis before working with Rock Steady. Her father, "an athletic guy" who had Parkinson's, would have benefited from a program like Rock Steady Boxing, she said. When Upper Cut closed in 2019, around 35 students and six coaches migrated to the Rock Steady Boxing chapter that Element Gym had just started.

Boxing entails an intense workout where participants learn to stay on their feet while moving backward, forward and from side to side, a good skill to develop when facing a disease like Parkinson's that often affects balance and coordination.

"We can train people with Parkinson's in ways that can help them maintain their balance when they're going about their daily lives," Heikkila said.

Parkinson's often causes tremors. In boxing, class members are forced to move in "multiple planes of direction," Heikkila said. It also improves hand-eye coordination and even vocal cords as classes count



Macalester-Groveland resident Sheila Proehl, left, gets some punches in with the help of co-director Kim Heikkila of Highland Park during a Rock Steady Boxing session at Element Gym. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

while doing squats and yell their names while punching a bag. Class members also sometimes jump an invisible rope.

Many of the participants show up two or three times a week and have been attending Rock Steady Boxing since it began, Heikkila said. The hour-long classes are held at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

"They use all the equipment we use and they work out hard," Heikkila said. "Most of them not only have Parkinson's, but they're in their 60s and 70s. It's quite impressive seeing them do this."

Trainers who work with the program say they have seen positive changes in participants. Katie Grove, who co-directs the local Rock Steady program, was an athletic trainer at the University of Indiana before retiring and moving to Saint Paul. In working with people with Parkinson's, she has found boxing sharpens their cognitive skills

#### Free Parkinson's wellness workshops

Heikkila also represents CoMotion: Center for Movement, of which Element Gym is a part. CoMotion has received a grant from the Parkinson's Foundation to develop new classes in dance, drumming and martial arts to supplement its Rock Steady program.

Free workshops are being offered for anyone who has or knows someone who has Parkinson's or simply wants to learn

about the disease and how movement can help control symptoms. A handful of workshops have been held already, and two more are scheduled.

Upcoming workshops include one on boxing and dance from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, May 15, and one featuring boxing, dance, Qigong, drumming and Taekwondo from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, June 12. For information, call 651-758-0758 or visit [pdwellnessworkshops.com](http://pdwellnessworkshops.com).

through physical exertion. She said boxing also utilizes many of the types of training she saw athletes performing while on college teams at Indiana.

Jesse Mercier has been a volunteer trainer with Rock Steady Boxing for a few years. During that time, he has seen participants reverse some of the effects of Parkinson's. "It's really through all this vigorous

exercise" that they have regained mobility and balance, he said.

However, Rocky Steady Boxing is not just about exercising.

"I've made some friendships," Proehl said. "We get together outside the gym sometimes. It's like a support group, but not a support group where you complain about what's going on. You support one another and it's fun."

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# Wilderness guide's JoGo turns a regular cup into a coffee pot

BY FRANK JOSSI

Lexington-Hamline resident Joey Jones found inspiration when he embarked upon a two-year, 28,000-mile motorcycle trip from Saint Paul to Argentina's Patagonia region just a couple of years after graduating from Central High School. Along the way, he came upon an Argentinian "bombilla," a filtered straw that allows drinkers to imbibe in loose-leaf Yerba Mate tea.

After returning home, Jones led trips as a wilderness guide where breakfast would include coffee for staff and campers. The idea of a bombilla-like device capable of filtering out coffee grounds rather than tea leaves came to him. He spoke to fellow guide Nick Yehle about creating a product for the outdoors market. Several iterations later, they created JoGo, a stainless steel straw that provides a portable way to enjoy coffee or tea while on the go.

The straw became a hit when the two launched a Kickstarter campaign last month to bring the product to market. The device captured a huge audience of outdoor enthusiasts, with the initial goal of \$10,000 raised within the first week. As of May 10, \$317,000 had been pledged by 7,700 backers from around the world. (See [jogostraw.com](http://jogostraw.com).)

The rapid fundraising success for JoGo, dubbed "The Original Coffee Brewing Straw," left Jones in awe. "We have a lot of gratitude for all those people who are interested in this project and see everything that we see in it," he said. "It's been pretty wild and pretty exciting."

Jones' former boss, California food and wine entrepreneur Lisa Consani, serves as an advisor to JoGo. She figured the product had two strong attractions—the massive market of coffee drinkers and the sustainable design that creates little waste.

"I wasn't surprised it was successful. I was surprised it was *that* successful," she said, referring to the Kickstarter campaign.

Jones, 27, recently graduated from the University of Minnesota with degrees in communications and global studies. His resume includes working as creative director for a San Francisco Bay Area firm and as a camp educator and counselor for three organizations.

He said the idea for JoGo came to him on a canoe trip in Ontario that he and Yehle led for Wilderness Inquiry three years ago. They were frustrated with brewing coffee outdoors with bulky hardware, so they tried using a bombilla—adding hot water to the grounds and hoping the device would work.

"The coffee grounds were passing through the holes and filling our mouths up with grounds and the bombilla would get a little clogged," Jones said. "Nonetheless, we were super-excited about just this potential idea for innovation."

The men wanted a sustainable and afford-



JoGo cofounder Joey Jones rode to Argentina and returned with an idea for making coffee on the go.

able tool that would not create as much waste as typical coffee brewing. Coffee grounds were more challenging to filter than tea leaves as Jones and Yehle moved into making prototypes. "It definitely took a lot of rigorous testing," Jones said. "We've went through several prototypes just to find one that didn't get clogged and that was easy to clean."

The duo created a reusable 7.8-inch stainless-steel straw, around the size of a pencil, with a slight ergonomic bend. At the bottom is a detachable segment that filters liquid through mesh-covered openings. Users drink through a BPA-free silicone tip. The JoGo allows customers to put coffee in a cup, add hot water, stir and drink. It also works with cocktails, teas or juices.

Coffee drinkers can select any coffee they want and modulate its strength or weakness. That ends "all arguments over what kind of coffee we're going to bring on the trip," Jones said.

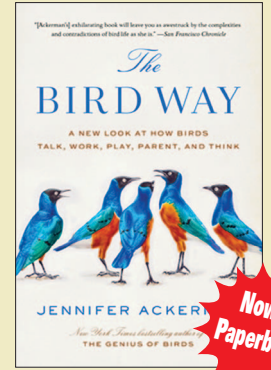
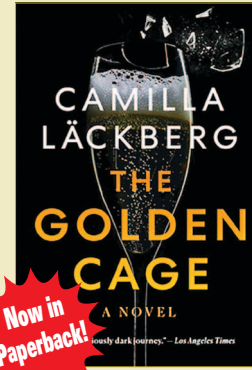
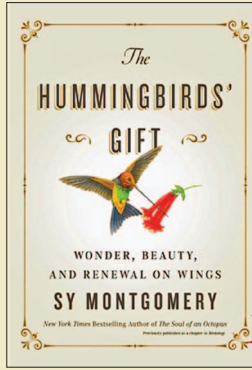
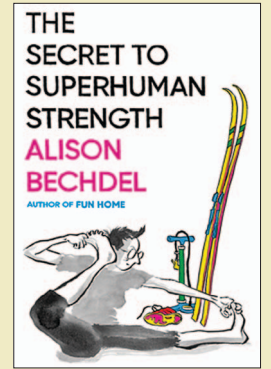
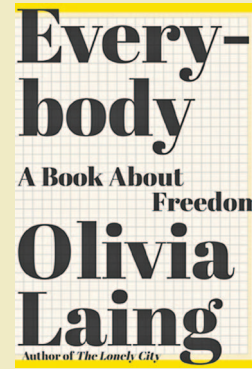
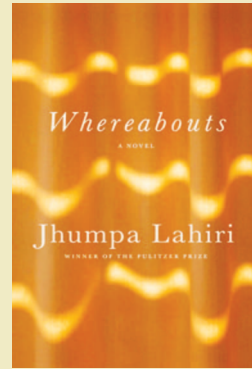
Yehle said he and Jones are not mechanical engineers or product designers, so it took a while to find the correct mesh and openings to stop coffee grounds from traveling up the straw. According to him, the portable and durable JoGo produces French press-like coffee without staining teeth or creating as much waste as instant, drip or pod-brewed coffee. "There are a lot of advantages to the JoGo," he said.

Outdoor guide Evan Jones, who is not related to Joey Jones, tried the straw and liked it so much he bought several that he could share with groups on his wilderness trips. Initially, he was skeptical about the straw's ability to filter coffee grounds, but that never emerged as an issue. "I think it's a cool concept and I'm excited to be bringing it on trips," he said.

JoGo retails for around \$30, with shipping to start in August or September, but discounts are being offered during the Kickstarter campaign. Jones and Yehle plan to give 5 percent of their profits to Survivor International, an organization that partners with tribal people to fight for their land rights and livelihoods.



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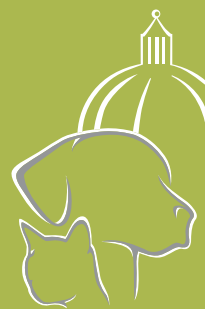
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# Crime Report

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

## Highland Park

**Burglary**—A commercial break-in was reported on the 700 block of South Snelling Avenue at 3:03 a.m. Thursday, April 15.

—Burglaries were reported on the 2200 block of West Seventh Street at 11:37 p.m. Friday, April 16, and the 400 block of South Snelling Avenue at 2:33 p.m. Tuesday, April 20.

—Agra Culture, 721 S. Cleveland Ave., was broken into at 11:10 p.m. Sunday, May 2. According to police, the owner called 911 and said that he was watching security videos and saw a man inside the restaurant stealing wine. The 45-year-old male suspect was located on the 1700 block of Ford Parkway and taken into custody without incident.

**Theft**—Vehicles were reported stolen on the 1600 block of Hillcrest Avenue and the 2000 block of Ford Parkway on April 21, and on the 2000 and 2400 blocks of Ford on April 24.

—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from vehicles on the 2200 block of Stewart Avenue on April 22, and on the 500 block of Mount Curve Boulevard and the 2100 block of Hartford Avenue on April 25.

**Arson**—A fire was reported on the 2400 block of West Seventh Street at 1:53 a.m. Tuesday, April 20.

**Miscellaneous**—Incidents involving the possession of narcotics were reported on the 800 block of South Cleveland Avenue on April 21, and the 1400 block of Alaska Avenue on April 25.

## Lexington-Hamline

**Theft**—Shoplifting losses of more than \$1,000 were reported on the 1300 block of University Avenue at 2:05 p.m. Saturday, April 24, and at 7:46 p.m. Tuesday, April 27.

## Macalester-Groveland

**Burglary**—A residential break-in was reported on the 1900 block of Goodrich Avenue at 10 p.m. Friday, April 16.

—A burglary was reported on the 2000 block of Grand Avenue at 12:03 p.m. Wednesday, April 21.

—A commercial break-in was reported on the 1100 block of Edgcombe Road at 1 p.m.

Wednesday, April 21.

**Theft**—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from a vehicle on the 1900 block of Fairmount Avenue on Tuesday, April 27.

**Sex crime**—A rape was reported on the 1500 block of Grand Avenue at 12:43 a.m. Sunday, April 25.

—A rape was reported on the 1300 block of Wellesley Avenue at 11:48 a.m. Tuesday, April 27.

**Weapons**—Gunfire was reported on Princeton and Woodlawn avenues on April 21, and the 2000 block of Sargent Avenue on April 27.

**Miscellaneous**—An incident involving narcotics was reported on the 200 block of South Snelling Avenue at 12:20 p.m. Thursday, April 22.

## Mendota Heights

**Burglary**—A bicycle was reported stolen from an underground parking garage on the 1000 block of Highway 13 at 9:20 a.m. Tuesday, April 27.

**Theft**—A person was arrested after police recovered a stolen vehicle on the 700 block of South Plaza Way at 1:29 a.m. Sunday, April 18.

—Several items were reported stolen from a vehicle in an underground parking garage on the 2300 block of Lexington Avenue at 1:59 p.m. Sunday, April 18.

—Catalytic converters were reported stolen from vehicles on the 1200 block of Northland Drive and the 2300 block of Lexington Avenue on April 25, and the 1100 block of Northland on April 26.

—Several items were reported stolen from a truck on the 2300 block of Pilot Knob Road at 3:22 p.m. Monday, April 26.

—Thefts from vehicles were reported on the 1000 block of Victoria Court, the 1700 block of Lexington Avenue, the 2100 block of Timmy Street and the 2000 block of Summit Lane on Wednesday, April 28.

—A trailer was reported stolen from a business on the 1200 block of Centre Pointe Curve at 10:57 a.m. Thursday, April 29.

—Checks were reported stolen from the mail of a residence on the 700 block of Stanwich Lane at 2:31 p.m. Monday, May 3. The checks were later used to purchase merchandise at four different locations.

**Arson**—A portable toilet and a recycling bin were lit on fire and destroyed in a parking lot on the 600 block of Mendota Heights Road at 12:48 a.m. Saturday, April 17.

**Miscellaneous**—Officers were dispatched to I-494 and Pilot Knob Road on a report of two vehicles stopped on the exit ramp, a man with a gun and shots fired at 11:36 p.m. Saturday, April 17. Officers conducted a traffic stop and determined that the firearm was a BB gun. The occupants were apparently related to each other and one of the adults was reportedly drunk and belligerent. The parties were released with no criminal charges filed.

## Merriam Park

**Burglary**—A burglary was reported on the 1900 block of Marshall Avenue at 9:40 a.m. Tuesday, April 27.

**Assault**—An aggravated assault was reported on Cretin Avenue and I-94 at 2:12 p.m. Monday, April 19.

**Miscellaneous**—Felony criminal damage to property was reported on the 1700 block of University Avenue at 8:50 p.m. Monday, April 19.

## Snelling-Hamline

**Burglary**—A burglary was reported on the 1500 block of Portland Avenue at 10:56 p.m. Wednesday, April 21.

—A commercial break-in was reported on Snelling and Portland avenues at 3:31 a.m. Thursday, April 22.

—A burglary was reported on the 1400 block of Laurel Avenue at 5:50 p.m. Wednesday, April 28.

## Summit Hill

**Theft**—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from vehicles on Fairmount Avenue and Lexington Parkway on April 16, and the 300 block of Grand Avenue on April 18.

—Vehicles were reported stolen on Benhill Road on April 16, the 500 block of Lincoln Avenue on April 24, and the 600 block of Summit Avenue on April 26.

—A shoplifting loss of more than \$1,000 was reported on the 800 block of Grand Avenue at 5:23 p.m. Monday, April 26.

## Summit-University

**Shots fired**—Police responded to the 800 block of Selby Avenue at 2:02 a.m. Sunday, May 2, after 36 people called to report shots fired. When they pulled up, officers saw about 100 people from a large house party scattering in all directions and heard gunshots. More

than 100 shell casings were recovered at the scene. Four people had been shot and showed up at Regions Hospital with injuries that were not considered life-threatening. They were among seven people who were injured during three shooting incidents that took place in the city that evening and involved nearly 150 shots fired. Anyone with information about the shootings is being asked to call 651-291-1111.

**Burglary**—Residential burglaries were reported on the 500 block of Dayton Avenue on April 18, the 200 block of Dayton on April 22, and the 700 block of Carroll Avenue on April 26.

**Theft**—Two vehicles were stolen on the 200 block of Marshall Avenue on April 16. Vehicles also were reported stolen on Milton Street near Ashland Avenue on April 19, and the 300 block of Laurel Avenue on April 26.

—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from vehicles on the 400 block of Selby Avenue on April 21, the 100 block of Kent Street on April 26, and on Oxford Street and Ashland Avenue on April 28.

**Weapons**—Gunfire was reported on the 300 block of North Dale Street on April 15, the 200 block of Dayton Avenue on April 23, and on Concordia Avenue and Grotto Street on April 26.

**Miscellaneous**—Incidents involving narcotics were reported on the 800 block of Laurel Avenue on April 16, the 300 block of Laurel on April 20, and the 300 block of North Dale Street on April 26 and 27.

## West End

**Burglary**—Burglaries were reported on the 1800 block of Ivan Way on April 20, and the 200 block of Goodhue Street on April 28.

**Theft**—A vehicle was reported stolen on the 900 block of West Seventh Street on April 20.

—A purse-snatching was reported on the 400 block of South Osceola Avenue at 11:15 a.m. Tuesday, April 20.

—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from vehicles on the 200 block of Wilkin Street on April 27, and the 1000 block of Montreal Avenue on April 28.

**Miscellaneous**—Felony criminal damage to property was reported on the 200 block of West Seventh Street at 8:49 p.m. Sunday, April 25.

—An incident involving narcotics was reported on the 100 block of West Seventh Street at 4:52 p.m. Monday, April 26.



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# ON THE TOWN

## Artists reborn

### Retirement marks a renaissance for former Opus Group architects

BY ANNE MURPHY

Recently retired from the Architecture Department at Opus Group, Pete Lewis, Dan Young Dixon and Joe Mamer are building on their lifelong interest in the arts with a new exhibit of their works in fused glass, ceramics, and woodworking and photography, respectively. The results of their creativity are on display now through May 29 in the Art Loft at Boréal Gifts & Goods, 2276 Como Ave.

"The three of us worked together for over 20 years at Opus," said Lewis, who lives in Merriam Park. "Dan was in design. Joe and I were in project architecture. We worked on several buildings that Opus constructed at the University of Saint Thomas. Dan retired a few years ago, Joe retired last year just before COVID hit, and I was laid off last June due to the COVID economy."

Lewis had been planning on semi-retiring in 2023. "Now I've joined Dan and Joe in full retirement," he said. With more time to devote to his art, he approached Boréal last summer about a possible exhibit in the Art Loft. The gallery's owners "suggested I team up with a couple of other artists to fill the space," he said.

For the exhibit, Lewis is showing glass pieces he made over the years along with newer works. They include what he describes as fused-glass paintings. "I take my inspiration from Chinese, Japanese and Korean brush paintings, watercolors and impressionist paintings," Lewis said. "That's the feel I'm after."

"Most of my photography is of natural environments or cityscapes," Mamer said. "I try to find common subjects that most

people overlook and display them in a better light. The woodworking I'm showing is functional for the most part with an artistic side. It explores how functional furniture and accessories can be elevated to a higher level. Unexpected materials—leather, glass, stone—are combined with a variety of wood species to produce unique, functional pieces."

Dixon, a longtime resident of Highland Park, will be showing functional ceramics such as pitchers, plates and cups, some with abstract interpretations, reflecting both the aesthetics and functionality of his work in

architecture. Unlike Mamer and Lewis, who create out of their homes, Dixon has been using facilities at the University of Minnesota where he studied fine art as an undergraduate. He also uses his daughter's home studio and fires his pieces at local kilns. "My daughter is a ceramicist, too," he said.

Keely Young Dixon was a fine arts major in college who is working now as an elementary school teacher in Minneapolis. Her pottery is also included in the exhibit at Boréal. Dixon said his daughter was an inspiration for him as he returned to his lifelong interest in the creative arts.

In college in the early 1970s, Dixon took classes from renowned ceramicist Warren MacKenzie. "He really inspired me with a love for ceramics or, as he called it, 'throwing dirt' and 'throwing mud,'" he said. "But I realized I wasn't going to make a living doing that."

When he switched to architecture, Dixon promised himself he would return to ceramics someday. "When I retired in 2017, I went back to the U and started taking ceramics classes," he said. "If it weren't for COVID, I'd still be doing that."

Mamer came about his interest in art by "a circuitous route," he said. "My parents owned

*"I've had a creative spirit all my life. It's what brought me to architecture.... And it's natural for people who spend their working careers being creative to want to continue being creative."*



Fused-glass artist Pete Lewis and ceramicist Dan Young Dixon display some examples of their art that is featured through May 29 in the Art Loft at Boréal Gifts & Goods, 2276 Como Ave. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

a small residential construction company, so I was always around construction. After getting a degree in commercial photography, I worked with a couple of architectural photographers. That introduced me to the world of commercial architecture. I returned to my hometown for a few years to build houses with my family's company. After a couple of winters working outside, I decided to pursue architecture as a career.

"I'm not an architect," Mamer said, "but I worked my way up from draftsman to running large projects under the direction of an architect. And woodworking was an interest of mine from a young age. While building houses, the finishing carpentry work is what I enjoyed most. When I bought my first house, I needed furniture, so I started building my own."

Lewis grew up in Wisconsin and became interested in drafting and architecture through the work of Frank Lloyd Wright. "Wright had one of his studios in Wisconsin," Lewis said, "and I became aware of the homes he designed. Most if not all of the homes incorporated stained-glass windows. That was the start of my interest."

Lewis learned from an architect friend about classes in stained glass conducted by

Joe Ring at his shop in Saint Paul's Hamline-Midway neighborhood. Lewis took classes from Ring, whom he described as "a local institution in all things stained-glass." He eventually gravitated to fused glass.

"I've had a creative spirit all my life," Mamer said. "It's what brought me to architecture. Architecture is a creative profession, and it's natural for people who spend their working careers being creative to want to continue being creative."

"The work we were doing in our profession was so fast-paced," Dixon said. "Now we're able to reflect a lot more about the meaning of what we're doing and why we're doing it."

Lewis cited the support for artists that abounds in the Twin Cities. Opportunities such as those afforded by the Art Loft at Boréal are invaluable, according to him.

Boréal Gifts & Goods "opens its gallery space for aspiring artists for a month at a time without charge," Lewis said. "They only ask a small commission on sales. This is a fantastic resource for aspiring and up-and-coming artists."

The Art Loft at Boréal is open from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 10 a.m.-4 pm. Sunday. For information, call 651-560-9900.


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# ON THE TOWN *Briefly*

## Books

**SubText Books**, 6 W. Fifth St., will host free online readings and discussions with Jeannine Ouellette and her memoir, *The Part That Burns*, and Keisha Burns and her novel, *No Heaven for Good Boys*, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 12; and Sophie Mackintosh and her dystopian novel, *Blue Ticket*, at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 15. To register for the link, visit [subtextbooks.com](http://subtextbooks.com).

**The University of Minnesota Press** will host free online discussions with author Beth Dooley and her new cookbook, *The Perennial Kitchen: Simple Recipes for a Healthy Future*, at 6 p.m. Monday, May 17; and author Ranae Lenor Hanson and her new book, *Watershed: Attending to Body and Earth in Distress*, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 18. To register for the links, visit [z.umn.edu/dooley517](http://z.umn.edu/dooley517) or [z.umn.edu/hanson518](http://z.umn.edu/hanson518), respectively.

**The monthly Bridges Reading** will feature poets Chia-Lun Chang, Jefferson Carter, Paula Cisewski and Sagirah Shahid and novelist V.V. Ganeshanathan at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 20. Hosted by Stan Kusunoki, the free reading is a Zoom program. To register for the link, visit [nextchapterbooksellers.com](http://nextchapterbooksellers.com).

## Film

**The Bow Wow Film Festival** will return on Sunday, May 23, with 20 short films from around the world about dogs and dog lovers plus one gratuitous cat video. Suitable for families, the program will begin at 2 p.m. at the Parkway Theatre, 4814 Chicago Ave. S. in Minneapolis. The doors will open at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$11 each for an in-person or virtual attendance, \$30 per family for virtual attendance only. Visit [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com).

## Music

**Mezzo-soprano Jamie Barton** will be joined by pianist Jake Heggie in a virtual concert that features Heggie's new song cycle, "Iconic Legacies: First Ladies at the Smithsonian." Works by Schubert, Brahms and Florence Price will also be featured in the free recital, which premieres on May 12 on the Schubert Club's website and YouTube channel and will be available for replay until June 12. Visit [schubert.org](http://schubert.org).

**The Minnesota Orchestra's** series of free Friday night concerts will continue with "Elements of Possibility" at 8 p.m. May 14. Osmo Vänskä will conduct this



**Dancing with 'Alice.'** Rush Benson (left), Jarod Boltjes, Patrick Jeffrey and Miranda Shaughnessy star in *WonderLand*. The spinoff of *Alice in Wonderland* will be performed as steampunk dance theater by Collide Theatrical on weekends from May 15 through June 20 at two outdoor locations. The drama is set at a first-rate mental institution run by Dr. Andrew Knight, who is tasked with treating a man who suffers from severe anxiety disorder, a young woman with body dysmorphia and an older woman with narcissistic rage. Intended for adults, the story about friendship and acceptance was created by Regina Peluso. May performances are at 4 and 7 p.m. Saturdays, 2 and 5 p.m. Sundays and 7 p.m. Friday, May 21, outside of the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. June shows will be at 7 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays outside of the Mill City Museum, 704 Second St. S. in Minneapolis. Tickets are \$22-\$36. Visit [collidetheatrical.org](http://collidetheatrical.org) or call 651-395-7903.

online performance of Yaz Lancaster's dis(armed), Stravinsky's Symphonies of Wind Instruments, Penderecki's Chaconne in Memoriam del Giovanni Paolo II, and Schubert's Unfinished Symphony. "Remembrance and Reflection" will be the free online offering at 8 p.m. May 28. Vänskä will conduct violinist Karen Gomyo and the orchestra in works by Shostakovich, Saint-Georges, Simon and Mahler. Visit [minnesotaorchestra.org](http://minnesotaorchestra.org).

**"Towards Telemann,"** music by Telemann, those who influenced him and those who were influenced by him, will be streamed live at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 15. Performers include Miriam Scholz-Carlson and Conor O'Brien on violins, Julie Elhard on viola da gamba and basse de violon, Tulio Rondon on cello and Donald Livingston on harpsichord.

Tickets are \$5 and \$15. Visit [lyrbaroque.org](http://lyrbaroque.org).

**Free concerts** are being presented under the north end of the bridge that carries Hamline Avenue over Ayd Mill Road. The schedule includes classical guitarist Joe Haus and flamenco guitarist Michael Ziegahn at 5 p.m. Sunday, May 16; the Washboard Brothers from 6-8 p.m. Friday, May 21; and the Lex-Ham Community Band at 5 p.m. Sunday, May 23. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, follow recommended COVID guidelines and enjoy the tunes.

**Two works by Bach** will be performed by piccolo cellist Tulio Rondon in a live Zoom recital at 7 p.m. Friday and 11 a.m. Saturday, May 21 and 22. The piccolo cello is a five-string instrument that was widely used during the Baroque era. The program includes Cello Suite in D Major as well as

a transcription Violin Sonata No. 2 in A Minor. Tickets are \$10, \$5 for students. Visit [lyrbaroque.org](http://lyrbaroque.org).

## Exhibits

**"Racism: In the Face of Hate We Resist,"** a juried exhibit featuring 63 quilts by the Women of Color Quilters Network, is on view through June 12 at the Textile Center, 3000 University Ave. SE. in Minneapolis. The quilts tell stories of resistance and fortitude integral to the survival of Black people in America. Admission is free, but reservations are required. Visit [textilecentermn.org](http://textilecentermn.org). A free Zoom session from 4-5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 20, will celebrate the release of Quilters Network member Carolyn L. Mazloomi's new book, *We Are the Story: A Visual Response to Racism*. Again, visit [textilecentermn.org](http://textilecentermn.org).

**"Sinclair Lewis: 100 Years of Main Street"** is on view at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Lewis' novels and short stories sold millions, and in 1930 he became the first American to win the Nobel Prize in Literature. The History Center is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sundays. Admission is \$8-\$12. Visit [mnhs.org](http://mnhs.org) or call 651-259-3015.

**"Outer Experiences: Black Life in Rural and Suburban Minnesota"** is on view through June 20 in the window galleries of the Minnesota Museum of American Art, Fourth and Robert streets. The exhibit includes photographs by Chris McDuffie and an oral history of Black Minnesotans about their experiences in small towns living on the margins of society.

**Multimedia works by 40 members** of the Minnesota Artists Association are on view through June 27 in the North Gallery at Landmark Center. The gallery is open from noon-4 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. Face masks are required. Visit [landmarkcenter.org](http://landmarkcenter.org).

## Et cetera

**March of the Governors**, a series of free podcasts on the governors of Minnesota, is being presented by the Ramsey County Historical Society. Led by author Paul Nelson, a team of local historians will introduce listeners to each of the governors in chronological order. Programs on the state's first three governors, Henry Sibley, Alexander Ramsey and Henry Swift, are now available. Visit [rchs.com/news/rchs-podcasts](http://rchs.com/news/rchs-podcasts).

# THE KIOSK

### SATURDAY/MAY 15

**NATIVITY B.S.A. TROOP 67** is accepting donations of gently used but serviceable bicycles for its annual bike sale from 9 a.m. to noon today at the school, 1900 Wellesley Ave. To donate a bike, send an email to [troop67bikesale2021@gmail.com](mailto:troop67bikesale2021@gmail.com) well in advance of the sale, and the Scouts will arrange a no-contact pickup.

**WOMEN'S DRUM CENTER**, 2242 University Ave., will conduct a workshop in tongue drumming and meditation from 10-11:30 a.m. via Zoom. The cost is \$30. To register, email [info@womensdrumcenter.net](mailto:info@womensdrumcenter.net).

**SHORT TOURS OF HISTORIC** Irvine Park will be conducted at 11:15 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. today by the Ramsey County Historical Society in conjunction with the release of a new coloring book with detailed sketches of 18 historic homes ringing the park. The tours are limited to 16 people, and masks are required. Tickets are \$30 and include a copy of the coloring book. Register at [rchs.com](http://rchs.com).

### SUNDAY/MAY 16

**THE SAINT PAUL HIKING CLUB** will gather this afternoon for a five-mile hike along Minnehaha Creek and around Lake Hiawatha and Hiawatha Golf Course. The hike will begin at 2:30 p.m. at the corner of Minnehaha Parkway and 35th Avenue South in Minneapolis. New members are welcome. Call Sharon at 651-207-5926.

**A POLLINATOR PLANT SALE** will be held from noon-3 p.m. today at the Temple of Aaron Synagogue, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd. A variety of annuals and perennials that are organically grown and pollinator friendly will be available, along with heirloom tomatoes, vegetables and herbs. Order forms are due by May 12 and are available at the temple office or by emailing [7381jbs@comcast.net](mailto:7381jbs@comcast.net). Curbside pickup is available for pre-orders. Masks are required. Call Margie at 651-698-4358.

**"AGING WITH GUSTO,"** an online program for women, will be offered by the Jewish

Family Service from 10-11:30 a.m. today, May 23 and June 6. To register for this three-part program, call 651-283-1700 or email [jsaltzman@jfsp.org](mailto:jsaltzman@jfsp.org) by May 12.

**"DECriminalizing Communities:** Jewish Solidarity in the Fight Against Our (In)Justice System" will be addressed from 10 a.m.-noon by Sarah Buchlaw of Jewish Community Action. The online program is sponsored by Or Emet. To register, email Scott Chazdon at [president@oremnet.org](mailto:president@oremnet.org).

### WEDNESDAY/MAY 19

**A HIGHLAND BRIDGE PROJECT** update offering an overview of construction at the former Ford Plant in Highland Park will be offered online at 6 p.m. A 60-minute presentation by master developer Ryan Companies will be followed by a 30-minute Q&A. To register for the program, visit [tinyurl.com/4vvsd5tk](http://tinyurl.com/4vvsd5tk). Participants are encouraged to submit questions in advance by emailing [jennifer.seidel@ryancompanies.com](mailto:jennifer.seidel@ryancompanies.com).

### FRIDAY/MAY 21

**HEIRLOOM AND HYBRID TOMATOES**, peppers, herbs and a wide variety of annuals and perennials will be available at reasonable prices today and tomorrow at the Association for Nonsmokers Minnesota's annual plant sale. The event runs from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. both days at 1647 Laurel Ave. Call 651-646-3005 or visit [ansrmn.org](http://ansrmn.org).

**EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS**, a 12-step program for emotional health for residents of the Macalester-Groveland and Midway areas, is meeting at 7 p.m. every Friday via conference call. Call 515-606-5450 and use access code 722360# or contact Paul at 651-402-6774 for more information.

### SATURDAY/MAY 22

**JOIN VOLUNTEERS** in eliminating invasive garlic mustard between 9 and 11 a.m. on the Mississippi River sand flats in South Minneapolis. Friends of the Mississippi River will provide tools. For information, call 651-222-2193 ext. 27 or email [sdowney@fmr.org](mailto:sdowney@fmr.org).



# SPORTS



## The Wright Call

By Dave Wright

### UST softball coach returns to his roots

Thomas Wolfe was wrong when he wrote *You Can't Go Home Again* in the 1930s. With the proper incentives, you can. Just ask John Tschida.

For the past two decades, Tschida's home has been head coach of the University of Saint Thomas softball team. During that time, his teams were a fixture at the NCAA Division III championships, winning two while finishing second and third once apiece. His trophy mantle is full of national and Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) awards. Earlier this month, he became the first Division III coach to reach 1,000 career wins.

Thus, Tschida would seem to be the natural person to run things when UST moves to DI next year in the Summit League. There's just one problem: Tschida's heart belongs in DIII. Accordingly, Tschida will leave the Tommies at the end of the season and return to his alma mater, Saint Mary's University. The Winona school is also where he started his coaching career in 1994. In short order, he molded SMU into a NCAA DIII champion.

Tschida heads back to take over a team that had an 8-24 record—including 9-0 and 6-0 losses to UST—going into last weekend's final four games. Not counting a shortened 2020 schedule, SMU hasn't had a winning softball season since 2013.

"I've had a lot of offers at the DI level, but never seriously considered them," Tschida said. "DIII is regional. I've always been a fan of that."

Tschida views himself as a builder, a person who likes to work with prospects as well as those whom some would consider suspects. "I never cut kids," he said, "and you can't do that at DI. I enjoy seeing a kid improve. It's about maximizing ability."

Talent helps, but it's not the only ingredient to success, according to him. "It's what you do with your talent that matters," Tschida said. "It sometimes takes a while to see players reach their potential. It's fun to see hard work pay off."

Patience, though not always valued at the DI level, is a key to success in DIII. So is the ability to adjust on the fly.

COVID-19 threw teams like Tschida's UST squad for a loop. There were no spring trips this year. Players couldn't work out in warm weather and coaches didn't have time to see who might fit in where. The Tommies played just 10 games before starting MIAC play. As the season progressed, COVID issues popped up from time to time, limiting available players.

UST had a good regular season, finishing fourth in MIAC play with a 17-5 record. The Tommies will face fifth-place Saint Catherine on May 13 in the opening round of the conference tournament at Saint Olaf College in Northfield. The winner will advance to the double-elimination weekend, while the loser will go home.

Whenever the season ends, Tschida will pack his bags and join his nephew Nick Winecke, who happens to be the head baseball coach at SMU.

WRIGHT CALL ►16



The Warriors' high-scoring Jaylen Rosga carries the ball past a Mahtomedi defender during a 19-6 win at home on May 5. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

## Carrying a big stick

### Rosga has Warriors on a roll in girls' lacrosse

BY BILL WAGNER

The combined Henry Sibley/Gentry Academy girls' lacrosse team has proven to be a formidable foe in its inaugural season. The Warriors were 7-0 and ranked among the top 10 lacrosse teams in the state through May 5, having outscored their opponents by a whopping 151-20.

A big reason for the team's success has been the play of junior midfielder Jaylen Rosga. The University of Maryland commit is among the top scorers in the state, having accumulated 41 goals and 31 assists through seven games.

Rosga, who is the daughter of head coach Jeff Rosga, began playing high school lacrosse at Minnehaha Academy in eighth grade before moving to Sibley. The Mendota Heights resident ran track as a freshman, since the Warriors didn't have a girls' lacrosse program yet. The combined team with Gentry was supposed to make its debut in 2020, but spring sports were canceled last year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Now the Warriors have finally gotten their chance to take the field and are making the most of it. As of this writing, they had five players with more than 30 points. Along with Rosga's 72 points, that includes sophomore Eva Anderson (42), freshman Ella Berg (38), junior Brooke Tjernlund (35) and freshman Bella Munz (34).

In addition, seventh-grade goalie Ava

Davis was leading the state with seven wins. She also has two shutouts and a .694 save percentage.

Through May 5, Sibley/Gentry's seven-game winning streak included a 3-0 record in the Metro East Conference.

"We're getting better," said coach Rosga, "but we're still not where we want to be."

He said his daughter has all the skills necessary to be not only one of the best high school players in the state, but also a good college player when she gets there. She has quickness, strength, good hands, speed, vision, elusiveness and lacrosse savvy.

"She has athleticism, energy and an ability to play both ends of the field," coach Rosga said. "She'll control the flow of the game, but she's not dominating on the ball. She can score when she needs to. She's kind of like having a really good point guard in basketball."

He also likes her selflessness. "She takes pride in playing defense," he said.

"I enjoy being that person who sets up another girl," Jaylen Rosga said. "I'd rather have an assist than a goal."

The Warriors' wins this spring include a 17-7 victory on April 24 over Cretin-Derham Hall, where Jeff Rosga excelled in three sports before going on to play defensive back for the Minnesota Gophers in the early 1990s.

Against CDH, the Raiders tried stopping Jaylen Rosga from scoring by using a player to shadow her. It took her a little

time to adjust, but she did.

"I had a shadow for the first time—she was right next to me," Rosga said, "but I took it as an honor. CDH punched us in the mouth early in that game, but my teammates really stepped it up and soon we were able to have some success."

As she was being recruited by Maryland, which has won 14 NCAA national women's lacrosse titles, Rosga said she was impressed by how closely knit the Terrapin players seemed to be. "It felt like family to her," her dad said.

She said Maryland has an open policy on how playing time is apportioned. Whether a freshman or senior, whichever player helps the team more gets the most playing time.

"Every senior on that team knows that their spot is not guaranteed," she said. "And every single girl I called couldn't say enough good things about the coaching staff."

Rosga comes from a family of athletes. Her mother Julie played basketball at the University of Syracuse. Her older brother Joe played basketball for CDH. And her uncles, Steve and Tim, were also outstanding athletes at CDH.

Rosga said she loves playing lacrosse for the Warriors. But there is one more reason why she enjoys it so much. Her freshman brother Jeffrey, who has Down syndrome, is the team manager.

"I get to look out for my younger brother," Rosga said. "He's my No. 1 fan."



SPA's Boden Strafelda followed through in his first at-bat against Providence Academy on May 3. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

## Pair provide powerful combo for SPA baseball

BY BILL WAGNER

Boden Strafelda and Judah Thomas are a one-two punch at the plate, in the field and on the mound for the Saint Paul Academy baseball team. The two juniors also share another quality to go with their prowess on the diamond: humility.

"There's no ego with either one of them," said SPA coach Rob Thompson.

In looking at their numbers, it's easy to measure just how good Strafelda and Thomas are. As of May 5, Strafelda had

a team-high .564 batting average with 14 RBI and 13 stolen bases. He was also leading the state in hits with 22. Thomas was batting .378 with 14 hits, seven RBI and nine stolen bases.

Thomas plays center field or shortstop, while Strafelda plays shortstop or third when they're not pitching. On the mound, Thomas had a 1.00 ERA and 23 strikeouts in 28 innings pitched, while Strafelda had posted a 3.32 ERA with 21 strikeouts in 12<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings.

According to Thompson, shortstop is probably Strafelda's best position. "He's

a pure hitter with a good eye," he added. "And he throws in the 80s with a good curve and changeup. He's probably our ace pitcher right now."

Thompson referred to Thomas as possibly the best overall athlete he's ever coached. "His freshman year, he was fourth in Minnesota in steals," he said. "And he's a three-sport athlete." (Thomas also plays hockey and football).

Strafelda, a longtime Mendota Heights resident who recently moved

SPA BASEBALL ►16



SPA junior Judah Thomas rallied teammates from the dugout as they took on Providence Academy at home on May 3.

PHOTO BY  
BRAD STAUFFER



## 15◀ SPA BASEBALL

to Sunfish Lake, is a product of the Minnesota Blizzard, one of the top club baseball programs in the state. He played travel ball under the tutelage of his father and coach until he was 15. “I learned a lot of different ways to play baseball,” he said.

Strafelda said he gets just as big a charge by taking a hit away from somebody as getting one himself. “A grand-slam is always nice,” he said, “but I love playing in the field.”

Thomas is a Macalester-Groveland resident who played on Highland Ball traveling teams. Thompson described Thomas as a “five-tool player”—one who can hit, hit for power, run, throw and field. However, Thomas still thinks he has room for improvement. “I’d like to improve my hitting for power,” he said.

Thomas likes playing shortstop and pitching, and he can go get a ball like few others. “I like tracking a ball down in center field,” he

said. “I like having the whole outfield to work with, but you feel more a part of the action in the infield.”

Both Thomas and Strafelda could have a future in college baseball, but they acknowledged there is ample time to think about that in the future. For now, they just want to have a successful junior year with the Spartans, who as of May 5 were 6-6 overall and 4-5 in the Independent Metro Athletic Conference.

Both Thomas and Strafelda said they enjoy playing for Thompson, a coach with solid baseball connections and an astute judge of talent. “Coach gave me a chance to play on his team when I was an eighth-grader,” Strafelda said.

It was music to Thomas’ ears when he heard that Thompson referred to him as a five-tool player. “I’m happy to hear that coach said that,” he said. “I like to think that I’d be that type of player.”

## 15◀ WRIGHT CALL

“This is a very good league. The pitching is outstanding,” Tschida said. “But the truth is there’s not much talent difference in softball at the DI and DIII levels as there is in, say, basketball or football.”

Tschida will scour the state looking for more than just talented players. “I remember hearing once that DIII athletes just can’t do much,” he said. “I take offense at that.”

He likes to refer to an NCAA study that showed little difference between DI and DIII athletes in the time spent working on their craft. “The difference is that at DIII it was the players’ choice,” Tschida said. “It showed the passion is there.”

Tschida’s departure surprised a lot of people at Saint Thomas, but he made it clear he’s doing it for his own comfort level and wishes UST well in its new athletic environs.

He just feels more at home building teams his way. His first Saint Mary’s team finished third in the MIAC. The next year, the Cardinals were second. They lost just four conference games in the next three seasons. In 2000, they won their last 15 games in a row, claiming the national championship.

Tschida made it clear where he’ll start his search for players. “Kids want to be with the neighborhood kids,” he said. “For me, it’s about finding local competition. The water’s good here.”

## Saint Kate’s heads to NCAA DIII golf tourney

As Saint Catherine University golf coach Mary Giorgi assembled her troops last fall, she was looking for a way to get her players to think as a team. Thanks to COVID-19 restrictions, that was easier said than done.

“We spent a lot of time on that during fall practices,” Giorgi said. “I was confident that we had a team that could win the MIAC championship in the spring.”

The coronavirus was just one of the challenges facing the Wildcats as the weather warmed up enough so they could head outside. Midland Hills, their usual practice site, was undergoing a makeover. So SCU split practices between Braemar Golf Course in Edina and Highland National in Saint Paul.

The Wildcats finished third in the season-opening meet in Saint Louis in late March. They hit their stride after that and won five straight meets heading into the MIAC extravaganza on April 30-May 2 at Emerald Greens in Hastings.

SCU came out swinging there, grabbing a six-stroke lead after the first day. The margin expanded to 12 after the second round. When all was said and done, SCU had earned just the second conference golf title in the school’s history with a 29-stroke edge over second-place Gustavus Adolphus. (The other crown came in 2017, Giorgi’s first year as head coach.)

“We combined for a 298 score on the last day—the second-best day ever in school history,” Giorgi said.

SCU did it in true team fashion with four players finishing

among the top seven scorers. Sophomore Sydney Brown finished second with an 8-over-par 224. Senior Jordan Amelon was third at 227. Freshman Jaycee Rhodes was tied for fourth at 228. Junior Kate Taylor was tied for seventh at 233.

As a result, SCU is one of 25 teams that will head to Lansing, Michigan, on May 11-14 for the NCAA DIII tourney. Saint Scholastica, which will become a member of the MIAC next year, also made the field.

## STA grad wins Atlantic 10 Golf Tournament

Had this happened on a Sunday on television, people would have been talking about it for weeks. Henry May, a Saint Thomas Academy grad who is now a freshman at the University of Dayton, won the Atlantic 10 Golf Tournament in dramatic fashion on May 2.

May came to the final hole trailing Davidson’s Alex Ross by one stroke. He had already recorded 16 birdies on the weekend, but now needed to drain a 25-foot eagle putt to win the tournament. “I kind of just looked at the hole,” he told the *Dayton Daily News*. “I wasn’t really able to use my brain that much at that point. Honestly, I was pretty nervous.”

May, who was a 2019 U.S. Open sectional qualifier, drained the putt and, as a result, advances to play in the NCAA DI regional tournament on May 17-19.

Dave Wright can be reached at [dwright53@msn.com](mailto:dwright53@msn.com).

# District Councils

## Highland Park

[highlanddistrictcouncil.org](http://highlanddistrictcouncil.org) • 651-695-4005

**New board members**—More than 800 people voted in this year’s election for the Highland District Council’s board of directors. The following new board members were chosen: Grid 1-Thomas Romens, Grid 3-Mark Rachac, Grid 5-Mark Triola, Grid 7-Matt Clark, Grid 9-Beverly Brending, at-large (2 years) Rabbi Moishe Kasowitz and Terri Fishel, and at-large (1 year) Brad Reinboldt. A Grid 11 representative was to be appointed at an upcoming HDC board meeting. Outgoing board members are Howard Miller, Lynn Varco, Kevin Gallatin, Paul Langenfeld, Jim Winterer, Diana Tastad Damer, Josh Braaten, Sally Bauer and Peter Butler.

**Taste of Ward 3: Encore**—The Highland and Macalester-Groveland district councils and the Highland Business Association are again conducting a month-long promotion of restaurants in Saint Paul’s Ward 3. Order from restaurants in Highland and Macalester-Groveland between now and May 22 and submit your receipts. Every submission of two receipts by June 1 will be eligible for a drawing for restaurant gift cards. Learn more at [tasteofward3.com](http://tasteofward3.com).

**Saint Paul Avenue resurfacing**—The city is planning to resurface Saint Paul Avenue between West Seventh Street and Edgumbe Road early this fall. The project will convert one traffic lane in each direction to a bike lane and add pedestrian improvements. A virtual open house on the project will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 18. Visit [stpaul.gov/stpaulave](http://stpaul.gov/stpaulave).

**Highland Bridge update**—Ryan Companies will present a virtual update on the Highland Bridge project from 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 19. Email questions in advance to [jennifer.seidel@ryancompanies.com](mailto:jennifer.seidel@ryancompanies.com). Learn more and register at [highlandbridge.com/news](http://highlandbridge.com/news).

**Upcoming meetings**—Community Development Committee, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 18; and Community Engagement Committee, 7 p.m. Monday, May 24. All HDC meetings are currently being held online via Zoom. Links to access the meetings are posted on the HDC’s website.

## Macalester-Groveland

[macgrove.org](http://macgrove.org) • 651-695-4000

**Mac-Grove Fest**—The Macalester-Groveland Community Council has received a state grant for the 2021 Mac-Grove Fest and is currently looking for talent to participate in the event. Possible activities include stage performances, interactive art activities and art exhibitors. Artist stipends are available. Mac-Grove Fest will be held on the second Saturday of September. Volunteers are also being sought to help plan this year’s festival. For information on how to get involved, contact the office.

**Board openings**—There currently are openings for a Grid 5 board seat and an at-large faith representative on the Macalester-Groveland board. The community council also has three standing committees that meet once a month. Visit [macgrove.org/committees](http://macgrove.org/committees) for more information.

**Show your pride**—Locally designed Macalester-Groveland T-shirts can still be ordered online for home delivery. The shirts come in kiwi green, heather indigo blue and dark heather gray in a variety of sizes. Visit [macgrove.org/tshirt](http://macgrove.org/tshirt).

**Upcoming online meetings**—board of directors on Thursday, May 13; Transportation Committee on Monday, May 24; Housing and Land Use Committee on Wednesday, May 26; and Inclusivity Task Force on Thursday, June 3. All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. Visit [macgrove.org/participate](http://macgrove.org/participate).

## Union Park

[unionparkdc.org](http://unionparkdc.org) • 651-645-6887

**Rent stabilization**—The Union Park District Council’s Committee on Land Use and Development will host a brief presentation from Housing Equity Now Saint Paul at its next meeting to learn about a proposal to cap annual rent increases in the city. The virtual meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, May 17, via Zoom. To access the meeting, click on the link at [unionparkdc.org/calendar](http://unionparkdc.org/calendar).

**Solidarity fund**—The Union Park and Lexington-Hamline community councils have established a fund that may be used

to help people cover rent, mortgage payments and utility costs. Those who are able to donate to the fund are asked to visit [givemn.org/story/Li2sdg](http://givemn.org/story/Li2sdg). Those in need of assistance should call Keystone Community Services at 651-917-3883.

**Union Park micro-grants**—The UPDC is seeking applications from residents and small groups of neighbors for grants of \$400-\$600 to complete small projects. Applications are due by the end of May. Email [info@unionparkdc.org](mailto:info@unionparkdc.org) or visit [unionparkdc.org/micro-grant](http://unionparkdc.org/micro-grant).

**Become a UPDC scholar**—The district council’s Neighborhood Involvement Committee is sponsoring a one-time \$500 scholarship for someone who works, lives or attends school in one of Union Park’s neighborhoods and will be pursuing a post-secondary education this fall. Applications will close on May 14. For information, email [jonah@unionparkdc.org](mailto:jonah@unionparkdc.org).

**Upcoming meetings**—Committee on Land Use and Development, 6:30 p.m. Monday, May 17; Environment and Parks Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 19; and Neighborhood Involvement Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, May 24. To access the Zoom meetings, visit [unionparkdc.org/calendar](http://unionparkdc.org/calendar).

## West Seventh

[fortroadfederation.org](http://fortroadfederation.org) • 651-298-5599

**Board election results**—The West Seventh/Fort Road Federation held its annual meeting on April 27, when the following members were elected to its board of directors: first vice president Mary Cutrufello, secretary Tony Molaro, Area 1 coordinators Casey Carmody and Elyse Jensen, Area 2 coordinators Emma Pearl and Steven Tacheny, and Area 3 coordinators Sara Fleetham and Julia McColley.

**Book discussion circle**—West End residents are invited to read *Me and White Supremacy* and participate in a virtual book group discussion from 6:30-8 p.m. on Wednesdays in June via Zoom. Register by May 26 by visiting the website.

**Upcoming Zoom meetings**—Community Engagement Committee, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 20; and Transportation and Land Use Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 2. For log-in information, go to [fortroadfederation.org/calendar](http://fortroadfederation.org/calendar).



# CLASSIFIEDS

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**OUTDOOR WALKING** group. Meet on Monday mornings at 10:00 AM outside the Highland Park Library. 1974 Ford Parkway. Contact Liz, 651-698-7019.

### GARAGE/MOVING SALES

**SPRING CLEANING** means extra furniture, housewares, electronics, clothing and toys. **Open your garage door to sell it now! Advertise your sale for a minimum of \$12 and then sit back and rake in the profits! Call 651-699-1462 ext 10 or email WantAds@MyVillager.com**

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**YOUNG COUPLE** with two toddlers want to purchase a house \$250,000-\$390,000 in Highland or Mac to be near family. Willing to do repairs, decorating etc. foghatfog17@gmail.com

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**VEGETABLES, FLOWERS, HERBS AND PLANTS!** Having a sale this Spring? Ads are dirt cheap. Advertise in the Villager's special category and experience how it pays to blossom your sale for as little as \$12 per issue. Call 651-699-1462 ext 10 or email WantAds@MyVillager.com

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**OLD RECORDS**, LPs/45s, Rock, Jazz, Country, Soul, more. 651-224-4947.

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

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**KEVIN'S PAINTING/Repair**. Wood frame, stucco, power washing, glazing, staining, cement work. Insured. 651-699-2832.

**PAINTING. WALLPAPER**. Patch. Interior. Exterior. Small jobs wanted. Jim, 612-202-5514.

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**Next Issue: May 26 ..... Deadline: May 19**

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**VILLAGER HOME SERVICES category offers handyman, moving, window and gutter cleaning services, repair and clean out services, hauling, demolition, painting etc. Advertise YOUR Home Service in the next Villager! Call 651-699-1462 ext 10 or email WantAds@MyVillager.com**

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Continued page 18

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**LEGAL NOTICES**

Assumed Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address: Stimulation Learning Systems, Inc.; 603 Hamline Ave S Saint Paul MN 55116 USA 4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath. Date filed: March 25, 2021 Signed by: Kristi Pohl Mailing Address: 603 Hamline Ave S Saint Paul MN 55116 USA Email for Official Notices: khpohl@gmail.com

STATE OF MINNESOTA CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333. The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true owner of a business. 1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted: Cheribums Garden 2. List the Principal Place of Business: 1219 Deerfield Drive, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55119 USA 3. List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address: Gao Lor; 1219 Deerfield Drive, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55119 USA 4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath. 5. This certificate is an amendment of Certificate of Assumed Name File Number: 1222320500021 Date filed: March 15, 2021 Signed by: Gao Lor Mailing Address: 1219 Deerfield Drive, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55119 USA Email for Official Notices: cheribumsgarden@gmail.com

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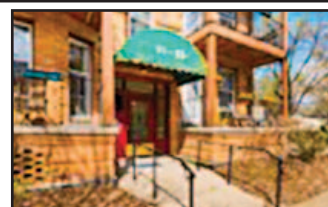


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**NEW CONSTRUCTION IN SUMMIT HILL!**  
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**91 KENT ST #6, SAINT PAUL, MN 55102**  
Enjoy the treetop views from this lovely condo. 2 spacious BR's, 2 BA's, 2 parking spaces, in-unit laundry, gas stove, and massive storage area makes this a unique find. Beautiful hardwood floors, new carpet in bedrooms, and freshly painted.

**BRYAN BEDESSEM**  
612-382-8415 • \$275,000



**475 HOLLY AVE**  
Fantastic home in the heart of the highly desirable Ramsey Hill Neighborhood. Be greeted by your warm & welcoming front porch and light filled foyer! 475 Holly Ave, 4 bedroom, 2 bath.

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**1665 SELBY AVE**  
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**1915 HIGHLAND PARKWAY**  
Spectacular 4BR/4BA home in a prime Highland Park location. Large addition with fabulous kitchen, family room and master BR.  
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**JUST LISTED!!!**  
2155 Bayard: Stunning 3-bedroom Tudor style in impeccable condition, updated kitchen with large eating area. Fabulous 2nd floor bedroom with ideal space for a bath, delightful rear porch and deck.

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**CLARENCE JOHNSTON DESIGNED COTTAGE!**  
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**LOLLY MCNEELY SALMEN**  
612-810-4138 • \$1,875,000  
**MORAGHAN DeROSIA**  
952-486-3697 • \$1,875,000



**663 SUMNER STREET**  
Adorable Cape Cod offers 3BR's, formal living and dining rooms w/charm & character of the 30's. Well maintained w/newer windows, roof, garage, drain tile & fresh LL plus refreshed kitchen & deck. Valuable location-the doll house of the block just steps to Village! Call Lolly for details!

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**942 ELEANOR AVENUE**  
Original details with modern updates. Spacious living room with fireplace. 3BR's on 1 level. LL space features new egress window; perfect for home office, kids play space or legally a 4th BR with its own private bath!

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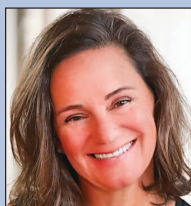
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