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Eyes are trained. With dad Lyle and granddad Jeff Petersen in tow, 4-year-old Anthony Cerbana peers down the track as an HO-scale locomotive rounds the corner with its load of freight during Train Days last weekend at Saint Paul's historic Union Depot. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Presbyterian Homes to break ground for 300 units of senior housing at Ford site

BY JANE McCLURE

Presbyterian Homes and Services is expected to break ground this month on a \$143.8 million senior housing complex at Highland Bridge with the support of \$135 million in conduit revenue bonds approved by the Saint Paul City Council and the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Board on May 26.

Two buildings are planned on the northern edge of Highland Bridge, the name for the 122-acre redevelopment on the site of Ford Motor Company's former Twin Cities Assembly Plant in Highland Park. The buildings will provide a total of 300 units of independent living, assisted living and memory care housing for residents age 55 and older.

The first building at 825 Mount Curve Blvd. and 822 Woodlawn Ave. will have 182 apartments on four floors, including 102 units of independent living, 40 units of assisted living and 40 units of memory care. One hundred and fifty-one parking spaces will be provided within the structure along with a two-level "town center" offering a variety of health-related amenities.

The second building at 820 Mount Curve will have five stories, 118 independent-living apartments, a 99-space parking ramp and 4,000 square feet of ground-floor retail space. It will be joined to the first building by a skyway over Mount Curve.

The two buildings, which should be completed by January 2023, are expected to create 265 temporary construction jobs. The senior housing component will result in the creation of 62 permanent full-time-equivalent positions with an average salary of \$43,830 per year.

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HIGHLAND BRIDGE ►4

Council seeks more public safety updates

BY JANE McCLURE

Against a backdrop of rising gun violence, Saint Paul officials are deliberating how to reshape the city's 2022 public safety budget. Crime and public safety are likely to dominate Mayor Melvin Carter's upcoming series of public budget meetings on June 15, 17, 19 and 22.

City Council members said they want more information on how programs un-

der the city's Community First Public Safety umbrella are performing. Just as the City Council has received updates on the COVID-19 pandemic and vaccine programs, regular updates are needed on efforts to address violence, said council president Amy Brendmoen.

More frequent updates could also inform the entire 2022 budget process. Carter will present his budget proposal in August. The City Council will follow with its own reviews before voting on

the budget and levy at the end of the year.

The city spent \$1.4 million on Community First Public Safety in 2019 and again in 2020.

The mayor focused on his Community First Public Safety initiative and the work of its citizen commission during his state of the city address on May 27. A day earlier, City Council members

New parish of the Old Catholic Church established in St. Paul

Women priests shepherd 'inclusive' Holy Presence

BY ANNE HAUTH

The Reverends Colleen Woodley and Joan Flood described the membership of the Old Catholic Church in Saint Paul as small but mighty. The two women priests started the new parish last October and, after months of worshiping via Zoom, Holy Presence Catholic Community has begun holding in-person Masses in a chapel at Saint Paul's United Church of Christ on Summit Avenue.

The inclusive nature of the Old Catholic Church is what convinced Woodley and Flood to become priests in that denomination and ultimately start a parish. They both describe themselves as devout Catholics who do not agree with the restrictions the Roman Catholic Church places on women, the LGBTQ community and the Eucharist.

The Old Catholic Church was established in Europe in 1870 when the First Vatican Council declared the pope to be infallible in doctrines of faith or morals. The Old Catholics split from the Roman Catholics and, in the decades that followed, established themselves as a faith with essentially the same Mass and sacraments as the Roman Catholic Church but

without papal authority. Unlike their Roman Catholic counterparts, Old Catholic churches invite universal participation in the Eucharist and allow individuals of any sexual orientation, marital status or gender identification to receive the sacraments and become priests.

Woodley and Flood, who grew up Roman Catholic and attended Catholic schools, said they still revere the Roman Church in many ways. "We have the same heart—the same sacramental life and beauty and grandeur—but we feel we need to be more open," Flood said. "There is a spectrum of sexuality and gender and faith, and let's just embrace all of it. When someone comes to me with outstretched hands looking for the Eucharist,

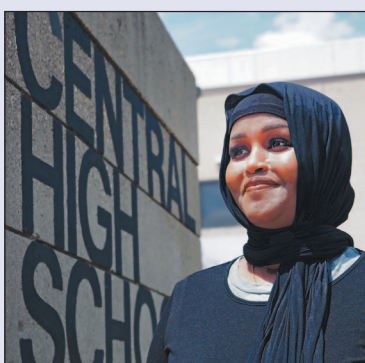
I give them the Eucharist."

According to Woodley, the women's presence at the altar is monumental, especially for older people. "I had a nun come up to me and ask if she could touch me, because she thought she'd never live to see a female priest," Woodley recalled. "Joan and I cherish that we're able to do something that so many women have yearned for, for hundreds of years. We carry that responsibility, and we stand on the shoulders of those who came before us."

Woodley and Flood have known each other for 11 years and have supported each other in their priesthood. Last summer, when

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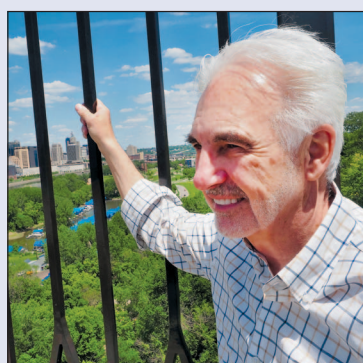
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14 HOLY PRESENCE

Woodley proposed starting a church, Flood agreed without hesitation. "We were ready, the people were ready, so we just said, 'All right, God, let's go for a ride,'" Flood said.

Prior to starting Holy Presence, the priests said Masses at Spirit of Hope Catholic Community, an Old Catholic Church in Sunfish Lake. Holy Presence and Spirit of Hope are independent parishes, but they work closely together, according to Flood.

The priests named the church Holy Presence after reflecting on the needs of the congregation and the world. "Our job is to love and to listen and to be present," Woodley said. "That is what our priesthood really is. We want to hear people's stories."

The priests are remarkable in how they show up for people, according to Holy Presence parishioners. "I see them immediately responding to people's needs, over and over again," said parishioner Geri Kagan. "They'll stay up all night at someone's bedside in the hospital. They drove to our homes to deliver palms on Palm Sunday. They connect with each of us in such a personal way."

Since October, Holy Presence has met several times a week via Zoom for Mass, evening prayer, rosary, coffee and bingo. During prayer one day, parishioner Dan Mathews mentioned that he was attending a Witness at the Border event that evening and Woodley asked if she could join him. "That was so refreshing," he said. "To have a priest who was willing to just jump in—to say, 'This is important and I want to be a witness.'"



The Reverends Colleen Woodley and Joan Flood of Holy Presence Catholic Community will welcome the faithful on June 12 to one of the first in-person Masses held by the new Old Catholic Church in Saint Paul.

PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

In April, Holy Presence held its first in-person Mass. "We were so happy, Joan and I processed to the altar holding hands," Woodley said. "If I wasn't so old, we would've skipped."

Parishioners who cannot attend Mass in person will always have the option to use Zoom, Flood said. Some parishioners prefer the safety of virtual Mass. Some use Zoom from out of state. Others have disabilities that make it difficult to leave home.

Holy Presence draws people from various religious, cultural and political backgrounds,

according to Woodley. "We're socially progressive, but we're cognizant of different political views," she said. "Everyone is welcome at Holy Presence."

Many parishioners are former Roman Catholics who appreciate the familiarity of the Mass but wanted a change. "There's more than one way to be Catholic," said parishioner Sharon Gerber. "We're going back to catholic with a lower-case 'c,' when catholic meant universal."

"I love my Catholic faith, but the idea that

"There's more than one way to be Catholic," said parishioner Sharon Gerber. "We're going back to catholic with a lower-case 'c,' when catholic meant universal."

the Roman Catholic Church wasn't being inclusive bothered me a lot," said parishioner Mary Beggin. As a teacher, Beggin said, she saw her school fully embracing LGBTQ children, and she needed to know her church would do the same.

"No matter who you are, you are welcome and you can receive the Eucharist," Mathews said. "That's the essence of the Old Catholic Church. Nobody is turned away."

Holy Presence is now eager to grow its ministry, which supports the work of many nonprofit organizations in the Twin Cities, including Casa Guadalupe, Walking With a Purpose, Joseph's Coat and Saint Mary's Mission School.

"We're very relational in our ministry," Flood said. "More than anything, we want to be a safe place for people to land."

"Whatever people's needs are, if they have sacramental needs or want peace, we invite them to pray with us," Woodley said. "I always tell the parishioners, 'My job is to love you,' and I do."

Holy Presence will hold its next in-person Mass at 4 p.m. Saturday, June 12, at Saint Paul's United Church of Christ, 900 Summit Ave. For information, visit holypresence.org.

14 COMMUNITY FIRST PUBLIC SAFETY

heard updates on the Community First Public Safety working groups, including nonprofit partners Healing Streets and Community Ambassadors and the efforts by several city departments.

The council and department heads are also studying a 491-page report issued this spring by the 48-member Community First Public Safety Commission and the Citizens League to see how ideas cited in that report can be incorporated in 2022 and beyond. The report addressed alternative responses to lower-priority police calls and traffic stops, and the notion of creating a new city Office of Neighborhood Safety.

The police department is also looking at the commission's report, according to police spokesperson Steve Linders. "Chief (Todd) Axtell appreciates the commission's thoughtful work and looks forward to learning more about its recommendations as we all work

together in the best interest of public safety in Saint Paul," he said.

In his state of the city address, Carter said that dealing with cycles of violence requires the same type of comprehensive and coordinated approach that the city took to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Over the past year and a half, we've begun much of this work together to build the most comprehensive, coordinated and data-driven public safety system our city has ever endeavored," Carter said.

Community First Public Safety has taken a public health approach to violence prevention. It has also focused on jobs and resources for youths, housing and mental health support, implementing restorative justice practices, and embedding social workers with first responders to aid people in crisis.

Ten people have been killed by gunfire in Saint Paul so far in 2021, and more than 80 people have been injured. That is a slight increase from the same time period in 2020.

"Ultimately we want to interrupt cycles of crime and violence," said Deputy Mayor Jaime Tincher. She described ongoing efforts as well as plans underway for rapid response teams to help people in crisis.

Last month, two young people were shot and injured near the Frogtown Community Center. Tincher described the work before and after the shootings as an example of what is underway. The Community Ambassadors program was already working at the center before the shootings. Healing Streets is working with victims afterward.

Healing Streets has interacted with more than 200 families this year. The program is provided through Saint Paul-Ramsey County Public Health. One concern City Council members raised last year was the lack of staff in Healing Streets. The program now has four full-time mediators.

Council members said that while they appreciate Healing Streets' efforts to prevent gun violence and to work with crime victims

after the fact, the program got a slower start than they would have liked to see. They also said they need to see results and more data.

While Healing Streets is a newer effort, other programs under Community First Public Safety have been around for several years. City and program staff gave an overview of each program on May 26.

The Community Ambassadors program, for example, has been around for about eight years and has grown from 36 to 50 people who work to help at-risk youths. It has teams operating in the Midway, Frogtown, North End and Sun Ray neighborhoods.

The Rec Check activity program for children in grades 1-5 and the Right Track youth employment program also have long records of service in Saint Paul. The Community Ambassadors program works with Right Track to provide 35 youths with summer jobs.

For an update on the mayor's upcoming series of public budget meetings, visit stpaul.gov/departments/mayors-office.



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Ramsey County's proposed tax levy for affordable housing approved in St. Paul

By JANE McCLURE

Ramsey County's push to establish a property tax levy for affordable housing programs received the blessings of the Saint Paul City Council on May 26.

The levy is expected to raise as much as \$11.6 million annually for various affordable housing efforts in the county, including home ownership programs, property acquisition and "gap" financing for affordable housing projects, and assistance for projects competing for affordable housing grants.

Saint Paul and North Saint Paul are the only municipalities in Ramsey County that have their own Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA), and their approval is required before the county HRA may impose the tax levy in those cities. North Saint Paul officials have indicated that they will not allow the levy to be imposed in their city.

The levy would add about \$45 annually to the property tax bill of a median-valued home of \$245,700. The Saint Paul City Council approved the levy on the condition that the county spend at least half of the money raised for affordable housing in Saint Paul. The City Council also stipulated that its consent be required for projects in Saint Paul that are funded by the county levy.

Ramsey County has had the statutory authority to establish an HRA since the 1970s. It set up its own HRA more than 20 years ago, but it is the only HRA in the Twin Cities that does not impose its own property tax levy. Ramsey County's HRA has been funded through property sales, federal Community Development Block Grants and other sources.

Kari Collins, Ramsey County's director of

economic development, said the levy would allow the county to tap "critical resources" for housing, especially for Black, indigenous and other people of color who are most affected by the shortage of affordable housing.

The goal of the levy is to create housing that is affordable to households making 30 percent or less of the Twin Cities area's median income (AMI). The AMI is about \$103,400 per year for a family of four.

A housing shortage is putting new homes out of reach for homeowners and renters alike in Ramsey County. Nearly half of the renters and 20 percent of the homeowners in Ramsey County are considered to be "cost-burdened," meaning they spend more than 30 percent of their income on rent or mortgage payments.

County officials have estimated that at the current pace of new home construction, it would take more than 20 years to build enough affordable housing even if all housing construction were dedicated to affordable housing.

According to City Council president Amy Brendmoen, Saint Paul especially needs affordable housing for seniors who are often forced to move outside the city to find a home they can afford.

Collins said there is a growing recognition in Ramsey County that affordable housing can be a boon for business as the need to attract and retain employees grows.

Saint Paul HRA Board chair Chris Tolbert conceded that the additional property tax may not be welcome news to many property owners. The city, he said, does have the right to withdraw its consent for the tax levy at any time.

New tenant protections may be repealed by city due to constitutionality questions

By JANE McCLURE

It appears a new package of protections for Saint Paul renters will be withdrawn before it even takes effect. The City Council on June 2 held the first reading of a motion to repeal the Stable, Accessible, Fair and Equitable (SAFE) Housing ordinance. A public hearing on the motion is scheduled for June 9 and a final vote as soon as June 16.

The possible repeal was prompted by U.S. District Court Judge Paul Magnuson's order in April stopping the enforcement of SAFE Housing provisions. The ordinance had been adopted last July and was to take effect on March 1, but Magnuson said parts of it likely violated the constitutional rights of landlords to property and due process. These included the sections that limited a landlord's ability to screen tenants and required them to provide "just cause" for not renewing a tenant's lease.

City Council president Amy Brendmoen called the withdrawal disappointing. "Although the city respectfully disagrees with the court's decision," she said, "in an effort to mitigate the time, expense and practical delay caused by drawn-out litigation, the City Attorney's Office has advised the council that rescission of the ordinance is the best course of action."

A landlords group sued the city earlier this year over the SAFE Housing ordinance, arguing that it violated their constitutional rights. The Minnesota Multi-Housing Association, an organization that represents many Saint Paul landlords, stated that "as housing providers who advocated against the Saint Paul SAFE ordinance, we are pleased to see (its repeal) on the City Council agenda. We are hopeful that the council follows through, avoiding the necessity of a prolonged legal challenge."

Brendmoen noted that tenants still have protections under state and federal laws.

Nevertheless, she added, the City Council "remains firmly committed to advancing progressive legislation for stable, accessible, fair and equitable housing" in Saint Paul.

City Council members have said they will begin work on a new version of the tenant protection ordinance, although they have yet to announce any kind of public process.

Saint Paul's SAFE Housing ordinance was proposed in early 2019, after several months of public meetings. Tenants and tenant advocacy groups praised it as providing needed protections against illegal evictions and the inequitable rejection of rental applications. Landlords called the ordinance onerous, saying it would penalize good landlords along with the bad and lead to more unpaid rent, property damage and other costs. They said it would endanger tenants and drive landlords out of business, leaving more properties under the management of large and possibly out-of-state landlords.

One frustration for both tenants and landlords alike was that many of the hearings prior to the ordinance's approval were conducted online as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. They said that discouraged a more thorough public review.

The Minneapolis City Council adopted a new tenant protection ordinance in 2019, and it too has been challenged by landlords in U.S. District Court. Like SAFE Housing, the Minneapolis ordinance would make it harder for landlords to reject prospective tenants based on a criminal record, credit history or a history of past evictions. A key difference is the Minneapolis ordinance gives landlords the ability to develop their own tenant screening criteria.

Last November Magnuson ruled that the Minneapolis ordinance meets the constitutional test. However, that ruling is now being appealed, and a final ruling is not expected until later this year.

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14 HIGHLAND BRIDGE

"This is a really good project and a good use of conduit revenue bonds," said Ward 3 City Council member Chris Tolbert, who chairs the HRA Board.

Conduit revenue bonds are used by nonprofit organizations as a way to benefit from the city's credit standing, according to Jenny Wolfe, debt administrator in the Saint Paul Department of Planning and Economic Development. The city acts as a pass-through entity for the bonds, and the status of their repayment does not affect its credit standing.

Presbyterian Homes was founded in 1953 when its first senior housing project was built in Arden Hills. Today it serves more than 27,000 seniors at more than 50 facilities in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa.

Highland Bridge will be Presbyterian Homes' fourth senior housing facility in Saint Paul. It also owns or operates the 11-story, 193-unit Central Towers in downtown; the 260-unit Carondelet Village at 525 S. Fairview Ave. in partnership with the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Carondelet; and Lexington



Presbyterian Homes is expected to break ground this month on 300 new units of senior housing. The four-story building at 825 Mount Curve Blvd. (above right) will have a mix of independent living, assisted living and memory care apartments. The five-story building at 820 Mount Curve (above left and below) will have 118 independent living apartments. A skyway over Mount Curve will connect the two buildings.



Landing, a 154-unit building that opened several months ago at the intersection of Montreal Avenue and West

Seventh Street in partnership with the J.S. Wedum Foundation. A second, 91-unit building at Lexington Landing is

currently being developed as senior housing, also in partnership with the Wedum Foundation.

Names in the News

Jeremiah Program, a national nonprofit organization that aids single mothers and their children, announced on last month's one-year anniversary of George Floyd's murder that it plans to serve 50 percent more families in the Twin Cities. In support of that effort, Patty Healy Janssen has been named executive director of the Minneapolis campus and Karla Benson Rutten as director of the Saint Paul campus. Healy Janssen has served at Jeremiah Program for seven years. Prior to that she worked at Visitation School for almost two decades in admissions and marketing. Benson Rutten joins Jeremiah Program after almost three years with Girl Scouts River Valleys. She also previously worked at Macalester College as its Title IX coordinator and director of its Lealtad-Suzuki Center.

Melissa Manderschied of Macalester-Groveland has been honored in the category of nonprofit or governmental organizations as part of the 2021 Minnesota Lawyer In-House Counsel Awards. Manderschied established a career in community

outreach and land-use planning before deciding to become an attorney. She has led the Bloomington City Attorney's office since 2016, where she oversees a staff of 14.

Jill Grover has been named the director of aging and disability services at Jewish Family Service of Saint Paul, 1633 W. Seventh St. Grover began her career with JFS in 2015 as manager of the UCare case management program. In 2018, she was promoted to the director of contracted case management.

District 65A Representative Rena Moran has received a Legislator of the Year Award from the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Re-elected to her sixth term in the Minnesota House of Representatives, the Summit-University resident was recognized for her advocacy for children and adults with mental illness and their families. When the state Legislature convened on January 5, Moran also became the first person of color to chair the House Ways and Means Committee.

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Design of new \$100M building at St. Thomas gains STEAM

By JANE McCLURE

Plans for a new \$100 million STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) building at the University of Saint Thomas are taking shape, with the goal of breaking ground in May 2022.

The Macalester-Groveland Community Council's Housing and Land Use Committee voted on May 26 to support the preliminary schematic design for the four-story building. The UST board of trustees voted earlier in May to also support the plans. About a year of design work remains, and fundraising has passed the halfway point.

The plans will go to the Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) for review and approval before a building permit can be issued. The first virtual meeting is set for 3:30 p.m. Monday, June 14. HPC approval is required since the site lies within the Summit Avenue West Historic District.

UST officials hope to submit the project for city staff site plan review this summer. The project comes under height and setback restrictions of the campus' conditional use permit, but is being designed so that no variances will be needed. Setbacks along Summit Avenue are a minimum of 50 feet, and building heights are a maximum of 59 feet.

STEAM education is a priority in the university's 10-year strategic plan. Amy McDonough, chief of staff to UST president Julie Sullivan, said Saint Thomas wants to be a leader in STEAM and cross-disciplinary education. The new facility would serve existing and new areas of study.

Programs to be offered in the new building include computer, civil, electrical and mechanical engineering; art history, emerging media and music; and biology, chemistry, physics, and earth, environment and society classes.

The L-shaped building would be built on a 4-acre site on Summit Avenue just west of the school's Frey Science and Engineering Center. The property currently includes a parking lot and the former site of the 127-year-old Loras Hall, which was demolished earlier this year.

Jim Brummer, UST vice president for facilities management who presented the preliminary plans for the new building, said it would be the university's first new academic facility since McNeely Hall was built near Cleveland and Summit avenues in 2006.

Schematic design work is almost done, Brummer said, and if all goes as planned, ground will be broken next May. The building is expected to be ready for occupancy by spring semester 2024.

The design-build team, which includes McGough Construction, RAMSA and BWBR, intends for the building to meet LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) gold standards. The approximately 130,000-square-foot building would be constructed of Kasota stone in the Collegiate Gothic architecture style used in other campus facilities.

The STEAM building would include a central utility plant. The intent is for it and the buildings nearby to use a hot water heating system instead of the low-pressure steam system currently used in other campus buildings.



Concept drawings of the proposed 130,000-square-foot STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) building at the University of Saint Thomas. The drawing above shows how the building could look from Summit Avenue. It would be linked to the school's existing Frey Science and Engineering Center with a glass connection. At right is the concept for a two-story engineering bay on the first floor. Construction is expected to start in May 2022 and be completed by spring semester 2024.



Throughout the building, flexible and collaborative work spaces are planned. The lower level would include a music rehearsal space that could accommodate an 80-piece orchestra.

The first floor would feature a large atrium, art gallery, cafeteria and two-story choral performance space that could seat 150 people. Other first-floor features include a two-story engineering bay with a 20-foot crane for testing structural elements in a lab setting.

The emerging media program would occupy a big part of the second floor, with a newsroom and studios, including one for podcasting.

Robotics and more lab space would occupy the third floor, and the fourth floor would have software engineering labs for physics, biology and chemistry.

St. Paul debates how to spend \$166M in American Rescue funds

By JANE McCLURE

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 will put more than \$166 million in the city of Saint Paul's coffers over the next two years. City Council members on May 26 reviewed how those funds will be allocated and pushed back on Mayor Melvin Carter's list of proposed working groups for the federal dollars.

The ARPA is a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill that was signed into law in March. It provides money to state and local governments to address a wide range of needs related to COVID-19. Its direct contributions to speed up the recovery from the pandemic have included funding for public vaccination sites, improving virus testing and tracing, distributing vaccines equitably, and addressing health disparities. However, the money can also be used to address other needs as well.

City Council members in recent weeks have

discussed using some of the federal dollars for longstanding city needs, including street work, deferred maintenance of city facilities, and removing and replacing trees due to the emerald ash borer crisis. However, it appears those items would not be eligible for the federal funds.

Council members were disappointed that the mayor's administration named the working groups to look into spending the money without consulting them.

"It doesn't seem like, so far, this has been a very collaborative process," said council member Rebecca Noecker.

Office of Financial Services director John McCarty and senior financial analyst Laura Logsdon said the working groups are broadly defined, and are meant to tie into priorities that the City Council has outlined for the city's 2022 budget. The working groups are on neighborhood safety, housing, jobs, mental health, vaccines and modernization of

city services.

Saint Paul received half of the more than \$166 million in funding in mid-May. The remainder will arrive in 2022. The city must have the money earmarked for specific uses by the end of 2024, and spent by the end of 2026.

Tied to the funding is a set of quarterly and annual reporting requirements. The first reports are due in August.

The city is limited by federal requirements as to how to spend the ARPA dollars. The funds are meant to support the immediate response to the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative impacts.

The dollars can be used for infrastructure, but mainly for water, sewer and broadband work. City financial staff are looking to see what if any other bricks-and-mortar projects could be funded.

Allowable uses include public health expenditures, including mitigation efforts,

medical expenses, behavioral health care, and costs of certain public health and safety staff. That could also include assisting neighborhoods hardest hit by the pandemic where there are disparities that affect health, housing and education. There could also be assistance to households, small businesses and nonprofit organizations, or aid to heavily affected industries such as tourism, travel and hospitality.

Another allowed use is to provide premium pay for those who provided essential work during the pandemic. Yet another use is tied to revenue reductions caused by the pandemic and how that has affected government services.

Ineligible uses include pension fund contributions, offsetting a reduction in net tax revenue, debt service, legal settlements or judgments, deposits into budget reserves and general infrastructure improvements.

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Comments sought on handful of options to rename Sibley High

BY CASEY EK

District 197 school officials are in the final steps of choosing a new name for Henry Sibley High School in Mendota Heights. The School Board has been working on the name change since last year after concluding that the actions of the school's namesake, Henry Hastings Sibley, specifically with respect to the Dakota people, did not demonstrate the "good character" that is required in the district's naming policy.

A High School Name Committee of students, staff, parents, alumni and the general public was formed in April to come up with a new name. The committee has settled on five options. The names and their likely rationale include:

- Two Rivers High School—from the school's proximity to the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers.
- Hillside High School—due to the school's location on a hill overlooking Highway 62.
- Mni Sota High School—A Dakota word for Minnesota that can also mean "clear" or "sky-colored water," according to the University of Minnesota's online Dakota dictionary.
- West Heights High School—likely a combination of West Saint Paul and Mendota Heights, where seven of the district's eight schools are located.
- Ohoda High School—referring to the Dakota word "to respect."

An in-person public meeting on the names under consideration will



A committee has settled on five options for renaming Henry Sibley High School, which is currently named for Minnesota's first governor (pictured at right).

be held from 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 9, at Sibley High School, 1897 Delaware Ave. Attendees are being asked to wear masks and observe social distancing. A virtual session was to be held from 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 8.

The public can also comment on the names through 5 p.m. Friday, June 11, by taking a survey at survey-monkey.com/r/QD32X5D.

The committee's list of names will be presented at the June 21 School Board meeting for possible consideration.

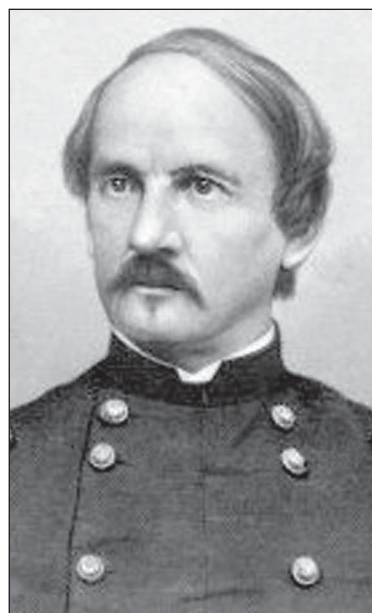
Lesley McDougall, who serves on the naming committee, said the survey will help the group get a sense for which of the five names stand out. The survey also offers an opportunity for people to suggest names of their own.

District guidelines state that the committee should not consider

keeping Sibley as the high school's name nor any other name of an individual. The new name should also be compatible with the schools' Warriors mascot, which is not expected to change.

McDougall said she has faith in the committee's process thus far, but acknowledged that those with a connection to Henry Sibley High School might find the change jarring amid back-to-back school years fraught with uncertainty. She said departing from Henry Sibley's legacy as a historical figure could be an opportunity for a "new start." She added that conversations with school district American Indian liaison Alicia Waukau Butler helped shape the committee's work.

"I understand that there's a lot of emotion and value in school spirit, and the high school pulls the community together," McDougall said.



"I'm hoping with a name change we can build school spirit. We don't want to do this again in 20 years. We want to do this right."

Born in 1811, Henry Hastings Sibley represented the new Minnesota territory in Congress from 1849-53 and was elected its first governor following statehood, serving from 1858-1860. He rose to military prominence in the years following and served as a colonel and later brigadier general during the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862. His role in the conflict, according to the Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS), remains the most controversial aspect of his legacy.

Bowing to public outcry and orders from Major General Pope to treat Dakota "like wild beasts," Sibley played a key role in the mass execution following the conflict. He approved death sentences of more

than 300 men, which President Abraham Lincoln later reduced to 38. On December 26, 1862, the prisoners were hanged in Mankato in what remains the largest mass execution in U.S. history. Pope then ordered non-combatant Dakota to be removed to Fort Snelling, where 130-300 died due to harsh winter conditions and disease.

The MNHS describes Sibley as having undergone an attitude shift toward the Dakota, with whom he previously had good relations. He was known to have had at least one child with a Dakota woman.

Superintendent of Schools Peter Olson-Skog said that while not all public comments have expressed support for the name change, he felt encouraged that public input is taking place.

"Being involved means that you care and we appreciate that," he said. "We may not always agree on everything, but we agree that we care about our kids."

A common argument that arises from any name change involving a controversial historical figure is that it "erases history." To that argument, Olson-Skog said there are more conversations about Henry Sibley life now than in recent memory.

"Our students have and will continue to learn about Henry Sibley as a complex individual and significant historical figure," he said.

For more information about the high school name change process and registering for the feedback sessions, visit isd197.org/district/namechange.

School Notes

The **SPPS Online School** is being launched this fall by the Saint Paul Public Schools. The fully online high school will have its own principal and staff and serve up to 450 students in grades 9-12. Students will receive synchronous and asynchronous instruction in core subjects and electives that address the same state standards as the district's other high schools. Students will connect to their teacher's classroom using Schoology, and their courses will be modified for online learning. Enrollment is open to current district students and students in neighboring districts. To enroll, visit apply.spps.org/onlineapplication

call the Student Placement Office at 651-632-3700.

TommieMedia at the University of Saint Thomas won four top honors in the Society of Professional Journalists' Mark of Excellence Awards for Region 6, which includes Minnesota, North and South Dakota, and Wisconsin. Winners will advance to the national competition. TommieMedia also won three awards of merit in the Midwest Broadcast Journalists Association's Eric Severeid Awards contest spanning six mid-western states. Learn more at TommieMedia.com.

Wonders of Childhood, a nonprofit child development center for children ages 6 weeks to the start of kindergarten, is scheduled to open in June at 433 S. Cleveland Ave. Enrollment applications are now being accepted. Inspired by the life work of Magda Gerber, the program prioritizes independence, problem solving, critical thinking, gross and fine motor skills, socialization and developing strong attachments to others. Executive director Becca Swiler has devoted her career to early education, including 22 years as director of the Child Development Center at the University of Saint Thomas.

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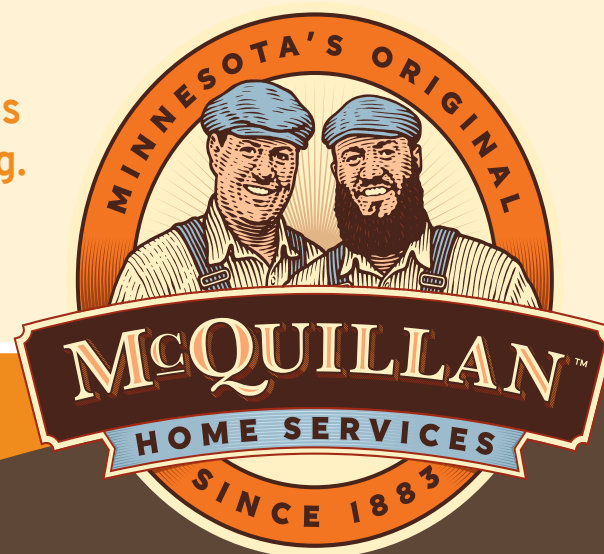
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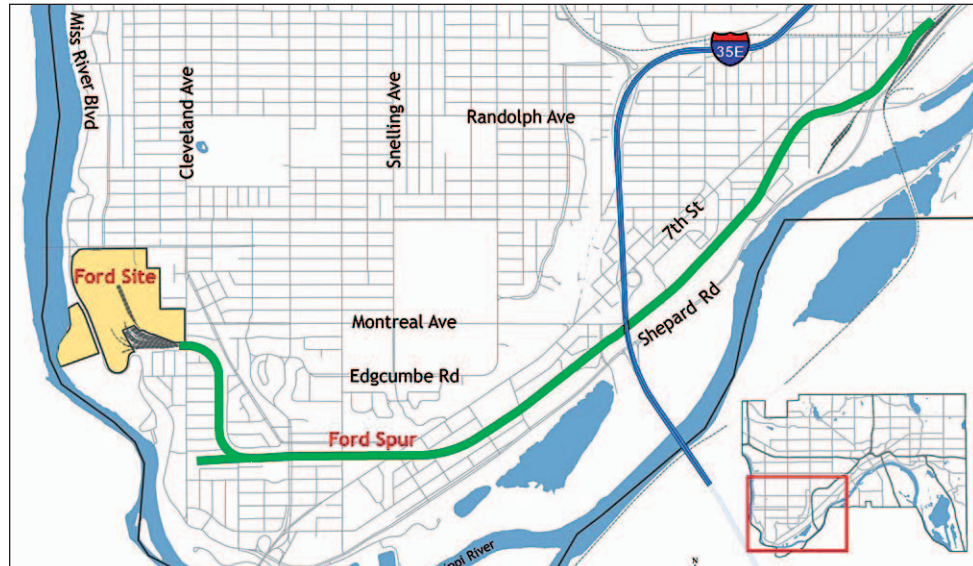
All aboard effort to convince CP Rail to give us its spur

By JEROME JOHNSON

For decades, the 4.5-mile Canadian Pacific Railway spur between Highland Park and the vicinity of West Seventh Street and Saint Clair Avenue was a lifeline for Ford Motor Company's Twin Cities Assembly Plant. Auto parts were transported in and new cars and trucks were transported out of the assembly plant on trains that kept America rolling and Saint Paul working. Today, the CP Rail spur and the 45-acre right-of-way it occupies are idle as the 122-acre Ford site is repurposed as a mixed-use development of new homes and businesses.

However, just as the spur was vital to the operation of the Ford Plant prior to its closing, so it is vital today to a future vision of mobility for the urban villages springing up along its path. These villages include Highland Bridge on the Ford site, the housing development on the old Riverview School property at Montreal Avenue and West Seventh Street, Sibley Manor and Sibley Plaza, and the new housing and retail establishments at the former Schmidt Brewery site.

With trails and transit, this vision for the CP Rail spur could reduce our reliance on automobiles by promoting walking, biking and mass transit to and from jobs, schools, shopping and medical appointments. The spur could serve as a safe alternative to West Seventh Street with a trail and dedicated transit line between Randolph Avenue and Sibley Plaza and a trail, transit line and two-lane road between Sibley Plaza and the Ford site—now Highland Bridge.



Canadian Pacific Railway's now idle spur runs between the old Ford site and the intersection of West Seventh Street and Saint Clair Avenue.

For bicyclists, being safely off West Seventh on wide trails and with minimal street crossings means riding end-to-end at a Midtown Greenway pace of 10-15 mph with excellent access to bike trails along Shepard Road and Mississippi River Boulevard. And since the spur passes by Sibley Plaza and comes within steps of West Seventh at Randolph and Jefferson Avenues, it would offer easy access for walkers and cyclists to shops and workplaces as well as other transit connections.

For transit users, a repurposed CP Rail spur makes possible the dual concept of slower transit with frequent stops on West Seventh and faster and farther-reaching light-rail

transit along the spur with stations at densely populated activity centers.

West End riders could, with a connection to the light-rail Blue Line, travel directly to downtown Minneapolis, Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport and the Mall of America at 15 mph faster than currently possible on bus and light rail. Hundreds of destinations would become easily accessible within an acceptable transit window, affording the community unprecedented transit mobility. You could live at Sibley Manor and get to downtown Minneapolis in under 20 minutes.

For Highland Bridge residents, the CP Rail spur's wide right-of-way south of

the Ford site can, in addition to trail and transit, accommodate two traffic lanes to and from Highway 5 and the adjacent network of freeways, relieving potentially crushing traffic congestion when the Ford site development is fully built out with 3,800 new homes and a host of new offices.

A repurposed CP Rail spur is unmatched in how it could meet the needs of the West End and Highland Park neighborhoods for regional mobility and local goals for a cleaner environment. It would accelerate development where the spur is closest to shops and transit stations while leaving the rest of West Seventh to develop in a more deliberate manner. Throw in proximity to the airport, the Mississippi River and both downtowns, and a repurposed CP Rail spur could easily exceed the redevelopment potential of another repurposed rail line, South Minneapolis' Midtown Greenway.

Now, thanks to a merger dispute involving spur owner CP Rail, Kansas City Southern and Canadian National railways, CP Rail will be currying federal, state and local support. There is no better time to engage CP Rail in conveying to the public a local asset it no longer needs. If you agree, contact your elected representatives at the local, state and federal levels and tell them it is time we reaped the enormous potential of a repurposed CP Rail spur.

Jerome Johnson is a retired transportation economist who specialized in rail corridor transactions. A Summit Hill resident, he is affiliated with Citizen Advocates for Regional Transportation.

INBOX

A better option for new housing

Opening the latest edition of the *Villager*, I was struck by the juxtaposition of stories on two housing projects on page 4. While both projects add housing and increase density, the development on the Ford site shows yet another one of those bland, tedious, stubby mid-rise buildings that seem to be popping up all over Saint Paul. These buildings loom over adjacent properties and consume entire lots.

The article below it refers to a creative, "missing middle" project in the Uppertown neighborhood off West Seventh Street. These multi-family units are compatible in scale to single-family homes and demonstrate that there are indeed better options for new housing. These multi-family units have been used by cities to increase density while maintaining livability with porches, plenty of windows and even gardens. As a former New Yorker, I can think of wonderful examples of brownstone-type buildings that line city streets, allowing for density while giving residents a place that feels like home.

There are examples of these brownstone-type buildings in Saint Paul. You may have never noticed them because they blend right into the surrounding neighborhood. The price per square foot to build them may even be less than another McMonster apartment building. So why do we persist in building the McMonsters when there are more attractive options to increase density while maintaining the charm of our city?

Jenna Ward
Summit-University

Preserve our parking paradise

It is idealistic but a bit misguided to think that eliminating parking will eliminate a parking problem or solve transit issues ("City considers eliminating the requirements for off-street parking," *Villager*, May 26). People should be able to park by their homes, unload groceries near their door, have friends come and visit, etc., without having to pave their yards. Visit the dense portions of any large U.S. city—New York, Boston, Chicago, etc.—and ask residents there if what we now have is something they would like. Visiting a family member in Boston a few years back, we had to park seven-

plus blocks away and were told that we got a good spot.

Planning for one off-street parking space per apartment is not unreasonable in a city with regular snow emergencies. While some renters may not have a car, others may have two, or have guests who have a car.

The pandemic that we are emerging from has brought back the realization that Uber and Lyft type services have their limits, as does Metro Transit. Google tells me that I can drive to my doctor's office in about 18 minutes, but that riding there on Metro Transit could take up to 11 hours and 45 minutes. Improving mass transit is a good goal, but personal transportation is still needed for people who do not commute along major transit corridors.

Many of us who are old enough remember that the lack of downtown parking helped fuel the development of regional shopping malls in the 1960s and '70s along with suburban sprawl. We should not be eager to relearn those lessons. Density and development can be spread over wider areas, improving quality of life and access to goods and services in many neighborhoods and business districts. It does not need to be concentrated in hot economic zones. And we should not be in a rush to throw away advantages we have in search of problems that other cities face.

Philip Jacobs
Macalester-Groveland

Lessons from the school year

If I had to sum up the last school year in one word, it would be "revealing." The lessons I've learned from COVID-19 are emphasizing a flexible learning model, mastering protocols to mitigate the spread of disease, and having patience to allow reliable data to drive decision-making.

In retrospect, COVID-19 only revealed systemic inequities that have been existing in the Saint Paul Public Schools for decades. These include language barriers for English as a second language learners, predictable student outcomes based on race and lack of a reciprocal communication system among students, parents, families, teachers and administrators to report on the progress of learning models.

Going into the fall, I intend to learn from COVID-19 and focus on identifying actionable data to drive decision-making.

I want to promote a more effective and rapid reciprocal communication system. I want to promote learning programs and curricula such as language immersion and ethnic studies at home and school. I want to listen to and learn from families, students and educators throughout the city. You are welcome to write to me at jim.vue@spss.org.

Jim Vue, Member
Saint Paul School Board

A governor ought to be humble

The first time I heard Dr. Scott Jensen speak was at a 2019 Medical Freedom Rally where to everyone's surprise the then-Minnesota state senator openly admitted that "doctors get it wrong all the time." In that moment, my hope was restored in both the medical system and our representation at the state Capitol.

Imagine going to a physician who prioritized his ego over his patient's health. Maybe some of you have experienced this. If a treatment isn't working, or the wrong diagnosis is given, the worst thing a physician could do is gaslight his patient instead of admitting he got it wrong. That would fly in the face of every doctor's ultimate vocation to do no harm, and the patient would suffer greatly because of it. If the doctor just admits he took the wrong course and corrects his mistake, the trust and health of the patient can be restored.

The checks and balances essential to our republic were meant to protect us from the virus from which Minnesota now finds itself suffering—the totalitarian rule of a governor who is desperate to maintain the appearance of control even if it injures the health of his state. When we have a leader who possesses the humility to admit when he is wrong and works with his peers to find a better solution, then we can correct our course. When we have a leader who refuses to admit his folly, and blocks any dissenting voices, then we lose all hope of recovery.

It should be no surprise, then, that this last year's revolving door of arrogance, moving goal posts and failed treatments by one man has brought us to this brokenness. The only person Governor Tim Walz is protecting by extending his emergency

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powers is himself. As a result, we have endured a year of collective abuse and gaslighting of an entire state, where most have been so dehumanized that they actually believe their freedom is nothing more than a selfish inconvenience to “the greater good.”

Minnesota cannot survive another year of one man’s refusal to admit his errors, let alone four more years. The only way for us to move forward and heal is to fire the bad physician and bring in the good one—the one who understands the importance of serving individuals rather than sacrificing them in an attempt to save face. The one who will restore our constitutional representation instead of continuing this dangerous dictatorship. The best course of action is to put Dr. Scott Jensen in the governor’s office. He reflects everything that is good about Minnesota—critical thinking, fearlessness, transparency and above all, the humility to do no harm.

Megan Thom Eagan

Yes, let’s stop Line 3

Two men who worship at the Quaker meeting house on Grand Avenue went up north to oppose Line 3, the tar sands pipeline destroying woodland and wetland and threatening wild rice beds. These friends got arrested. One is in his 70s, and the other is in his 30s. At my encouragement, they gave their testimony to our congregation about being arrested to protect the land and water from pollution.

Since the fall day when I joined Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light at a rally outside the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in Saint Paul, I have displayed a Stop Line 3 lawn sign in my yard. On June 10, I am volunteering at the big rally taking place at Gold Medal Park in Minneapolis to demonstrate solidarity with the indigenous women who lead the fight against Line 3. The health of Minnesota’s beautiful, watery environment is precious to me. Thus, I support the indigenous women who show us the way to unite against short-term profiteering.

Convincing Governor Walz or President Biden to terminate construction on Line 3 is a gain against short-term profiteering, a win toward ending fossil-fuel dependence, a brake on the climate change threatening everyone. May we transform business as usual into widespread sustainable business. Let’s guarantee that northern Minnesota’s wild rice beds will remain intact, unharmed and able to nourish future generations.

Diane J. Peterson Como Park

A double standard for death

Should your boss make you get vaccinated? Wouldn’t it make more sense if your boss had the power to stop you from driving your car to work?

A new study by a team of U.S. and U.K. scientists published in *Environmental Research* says fossil fuel pollution kills 8.7 million people annually. So where are the bodies? We see all those pictures of people who have died of COVID, and COVID has killed only 2.5 million worldwide. How can close to 9

million dead from air pollution every year not be overloading the system? Why are there no articles or photos about this? It is disturbing that there is not one iota of concern for 9 million preventable deaths.

Frank Erickson Standish, Minneapolis

Be wary of big government

Why would my federal government send me a tax bill and, when I pay it, take part of my money and send it to a spooky virus laboratory in Wuhan, China? It’s a simple question, for sure. But, for sure, my federal government will never answer it. Why? Well, my government has no idea why it sent part of my taxes to the China lab. Probably, my government sent money to the China lab because some guy at that lab asked some bureaucrat in my federal government to do so. And now our president and his cohorts want to make our federal government bigger. A lot bigger.

I’m not sure that’s a good idea.

T.J. Sexton Highland Park

Daydreaming of development

When big-box stores vacate, only other big-box stores move in, say real estate gurus. What will happen when Lunds & Byerlys moves from the Highland Village Center to Highland Bridge? How about the U.S. Postal Service’s Elway Station moving to a more centralized location? I’d like to see a new Perkins Restaurant across from Baker’s Square on Ford Parkway, and a new Barnes & Noble at Highland Bridge.

Steven Hubbell Downtown Saint Paul

Happy trails to you

I am an 8th-grader at Highland Park Middle School. I love camping, and I hope you will, too. Camping can be a great experience, with memories that can last a lifetime. You can see friends and family and do outdoor activities such as hiking, biking, canoeing, stargazing and more. Even the worst camping trips can make good memories to laugh over. However, they are not pain-free. Setting up a tent in pouring rain can be torture. And bring a medical kit in case you have an accident.

There can be many ways for your camping trip to turn out, but the positives always outweigh the negatives. I hope to see you on the trail!

Christopher Staba Highland Park

Do write

The Villager welcomes letters to the editor and longer guest editorials. All commentary must be signed, indicate the neighborhood in which the writer lives and include a phone number for verification purposes. Please send your commentary to the Villager, 241 S. Cleveland Ave., Suite V, Saint Paul, MN 55105; email it to letters@myvillager.com; or submit it via our website at myvillager.com/editorial.

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Bush fellow aims to foster cross-cultural understanding in schools

BY CAROLYN WALKUP

Central High School assistant principal Salma Hussein has received a \$100,000 Bush Foundation fellowship to develop her leadership skills and achieve her goal of racial equity in education.

Hussein, who as a 7-year-old immigrated to the Twin Cities with her Somali refugee family in 1996, has been a strong advocate for Somali girls and women who struggle to balance their cultural values with those of American society. Her leadership skills and passion for achieving her goals made a strong impression on Bush Foundation judges, who are previous fellowship winners and civic leaders in Minnesota and North and South Dakota.

Bush fellowships may be used in various ways, including completing an advanced degree and taking leadership courses, according to Anita Patel, vice president of grantmaking for the Bush Foundation.

Hussein was one of 23 people to receive a Bush fellowship this year out of 538 applicants. She plans to use the grant to pursue a doctorate at Hamline University and to become a certified leadership coach. She said she has been inspired by the work of Brene Brown, a Texas-based lecturer, professor, podcast host and best-selling author of the book *Dare to Lead*.

Hussein is married and the mother of two



Central assistant principal Salma Hussein. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

preschool children. She said she will keep her job at Central while pursuing her graduate degree. Her overall aim is to facilitate better understanding between teachers and students who come from diverse backgrounds and to help end what she described as an opportunity gap between white and Black, brown and indigenous students.

"Minnesota has a lot of great teachers," she said. "Most of our teachers are white and care about their students but may not know much about their home cultures. Research shows that students who are connected to their teachers learn and achieve more."

Hussein had a good experience with teachers in grade school and high school. She at-

tended a private Islamic school in Fridley from sixth through ninth grade, but was enrolled in the Minneapolis Public Schools before and after those years. She became a U.S. citizen as a teenager.

While growing up, Hussein said, she was able to "find a balance between my culture and being an American. It helped that we have a very large Somali community in Minnesota. I'm proud of who I am and of my community. I know how to embrace my background and culture and be open to learning about other cultures."

Hussein earned a master of social work degree at the University of Minnesota. While still in college, she and her sister founded Girls Initiative in Recreation and Leisurely Sports. The nonprofit organization started out as a comfortable place for Somali American girls and women to exercise and play sports. It now includes young women of all cultures and focuses primarily on basketball and swimming.

Hussein "is a very passionate, authentic and brave leader," said Central High School principal Christine Vang, who hired her 10 months ago. "She builds great relationships with students and staff and has been a great addition to my team. She works closely with families to support our students. She leads by

example and is a role model for students and staff."

One of the biggest challenges Somali women face in America are cultural stereotypes about who they are, Hussein said. "There's not just one way to be Somali," she said. "We're individuals who have individual preferences. The challenge is using our voice to define us."

Somali women are represented in almost every profession in the United States, according to Hussein, but many Somali graduates struggle to get hired for the jobs they want. She credits Minnesota with offering more opportunities for Somali immigrants than other states.

"I think our state is a really great state," she said. Thanks to the hiring of Somali Americans as public school administrators and the election of Somali American politicians, Minnesota has made strides in the area of intercultural understanding, but there is still a need to get to know each other better, she added.

The Bush Foundation has been awarding fellowships for 68 years. Archibald Bush, who was chair of the 3M executive committee, established the foundation with his wife Edyth Bush with funds from their \$200 million estate. According to the foundation's mission statement, the Bush fellows of 2021 "are committed to deepening their ability to drive equitable, large-scale change that makes our region more just."

The Institute for Integrative Therapies recently moved from Mendota Heights to 1150 Montreal Ave., Suite 101. Cofounder and medical director Manoj Doss said it is the first psychedelic medicine clinic in Minnesota offering ketamine-assisted psychotherapy to help people improve their mental health.

Afya Sanaa Healing Center, 1549 University Ave., recently held a grand opening of its new-

Business Briefs

ly renovated space. The center's mission is to provide a place where Black people can find solace, safety and fellowship. Classes in dance and drumming, as well as health and wellness workshops, are offered. For information, visit AfyaSanaa.com.

Eight Moon, a graphic design and marketing agency, has moved from Minneapolis to Saint Paul's Creative Enterprise Zone into a space in Vandalia Tower, 550 N. Vandalia St., Suite 301. The company is owned by president Megan Junius of Summit-University. Junius has more

than 20 years of expertise as a graphic designer and art director. She is a 2014 graduate of the Small Business Administration's Emerging Leaders program and was the College of Saint Benedict's Alumnae Entrepreneur of the Year in 2017. Eight Moon recently received certification from the Women's Business Enterprise National Council.

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News Briefs

SHA board awaits developers' request to rezone Dixie's site

The developers of a proposed five-story residential-commercial building on the site of Dixie's, Saji-Ya and Emmett's restaurants have informed the Summit Hill Association (SHA) that they have filed an application to rezone the property at 695 Grand Ave. from commercial to traditional neighborhoods. A request for a height variance and waiver from the East Grand Avenue Zoning Overlay District has also been submitted, according to the SHA. The overlay district has limited the heights of new buildings on that end of Grand to three stories.

Reuter Walton has been working with the property owner, the Kenefick family, on the development. They are planning to construct a 60-foot-high building with 79 apartments and ground-floor commercial space for Emmett's, Saji-Ya and a third business tenant.

Their rezoning application could be reviewed by the Saint Paul Planning Commission's Zoning Committee as early as July 1, with a recommendation by the full Planning Commission coming as soon as July 9. However, any rezoning is ultimately in the hands of the City Council.

The development team met virtually with the SHA and other neighbors earlier this spring and had promised to provide the SHA with more details about the project prior to filing its rezoning application.

The SHA's Zoning and Land Use Committee will review the rezoning application in a virtual meeting via Zoom at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 8. The full SHA board may discuss the proposed rezoning and any updates on the project at its meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 10.

The SHA board will review the application and make its recommendation to city officials in a special meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 17. The developers will be invited to attend that meeting.

The developers' rezoning application and height-variance request have been posted on the SHA website. Local residents and business people are invited to attend the SHA meetings and submit written comments on the project. Comments may be emailed to ZLU@SummitHillAssociation.org. All comments received by 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 16, will be provided to SHA board members prior to their discussion and vote.

For more information or links to the virtual meetings, visit SummitHillAssociation.org/695grandave.

Demolition of vacant Midway Center stores may be imminent

Efforts to demolish fire-damaged buildings at Midway Center continue. The Saint Paul City Council on May 26 accepted communication from the city's Department of Safety and Inspections declaring the commercial building at the southwest corner of University Avenue and Pascal Street to be a nuisance.

The building was extensively damaged in late May of 2020 during the civil unrest following the killing of George Floyd while in police custody in Minneapolis. The fate of the building will be reviewed through a legislative hearing process, and a course of action will be recommended to the City Council. The council could set a deadline for building repair or removal.

The building used to contain more than a dozen stores. Some were extensively damaged by fire. Others sustained smoke or water damage. The property is owned by RK Midway, but Bill McGuire, the lead owner of the Minnesota United Major League Soccer team, heads a group that has a lease on the shopping center. A redevelopment plan is in place for Midway Shopping Center, but nothing has been implemented to date.

Last summer the tenants in the building

had their leases terminated. Some of the businesses, including Thien Cajun Cuisine and Peking Garden, have reopened elsewhere. Others have closed permanently.

The City Council in May ordered the demolition of fire-damaged Big Top Liquors store at 1544 University Ave. That is expected to happen soon. Big Top's owners have already obtained the city's permission to retain its off-sale liquor license when and if it reopens elsewhere.

Drive-thru approved for Coulee Bank's new Grand Ave. location

The transformation of the former Pier 1 building at 733 Grand Ave. can move ahead with approval of a conditional use permit for a drive-through banking lane on May 28 by the Saint Paul Planning Commission.

Coulee Bank plans to move this fall into about 60 percent, or 6,000 square feet, of the building, which is kitty-corner from its existing location. Panera Bread, a bakery and cafe chain, reportedly was considering occupying the remaining space, but opted out after a request for a second drive-through was dropped due to neighborhood opposition. At a recent neighborhood meeting, the developers said they are in contact with other restaurants that might be interested.

The property is zoned for commercial use, which allows the bank to have drive-through service with a conditional use permit. Vehicles will enter from Grand and exit onto Grotto Street, which raised some safety concerns.

Plans call for the existing 27-space parking lot to have 21 spaces on the east side of the building and five parallel parking spaces for employees along the north property line. An existing rain garden and trash enclosure would remain, and a small buffer adjacent to the alley would be widened to six feet and landscaped.

Summit Hill residents Mary and Ron Smith have owned the property for 30 years. Pier 1 moved out in March 2020. The only tenant since then has been a seasonal Halloween store.

The Planning Commission modified two standards for the drive-through lane. Instead of a 60-foot minimum from the nearest residential property for the drive-through lane and vehicle egress, distances of 49 feet 11 inches and 35 feet were approved, respectively. The commission also placed a condition on the permit that prohibits vehicles lining up for drive-through service to extend onto Grand.

The Summit Hill Association recommended approval of the drive-through subject to a final review by the city regarding vehicle and pedestrian safety on Grotto.

Saint Paul Council plans return to in-person meetings in September

After more than a year of online meetings, the Saint Paul City Council is preparing for a return to in-person meetings at City Hall after Labor Day, September 6.

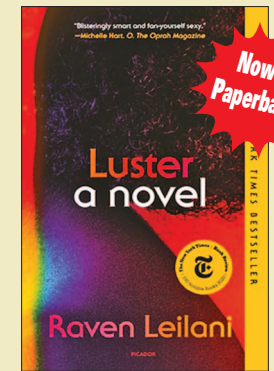
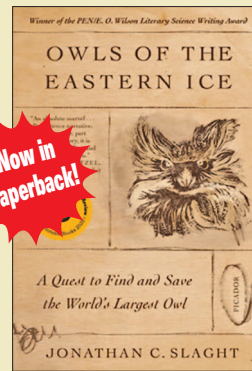
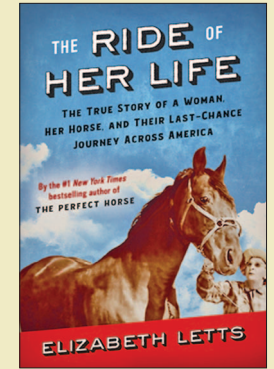
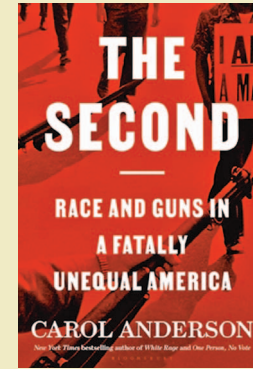
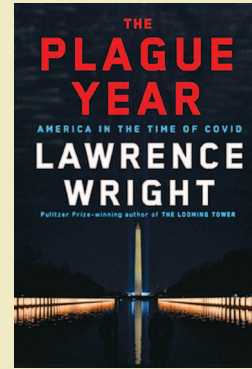
The COVID-19 pandemic forced the council, Saint Paul Planning Commission and other city boards, committees and commissions to move online in March 2020. While other governmental bodies have allowed public testimony through call-in or online platforms, the City Council has for the most part taken public testimony via email, regular mail and phone.

The City Council has been live-streaming its meetings for several years and posting the recordings online. This summer, the council will look at ways to continue some level of online participation. A hybrid of in-person and online meetings is a possibility.

According to Ward 4 council member Mitra Jalali, online hearings have helped the council to broaden its outreach in the past year.

News Briefs were compiled by Jane McClure.

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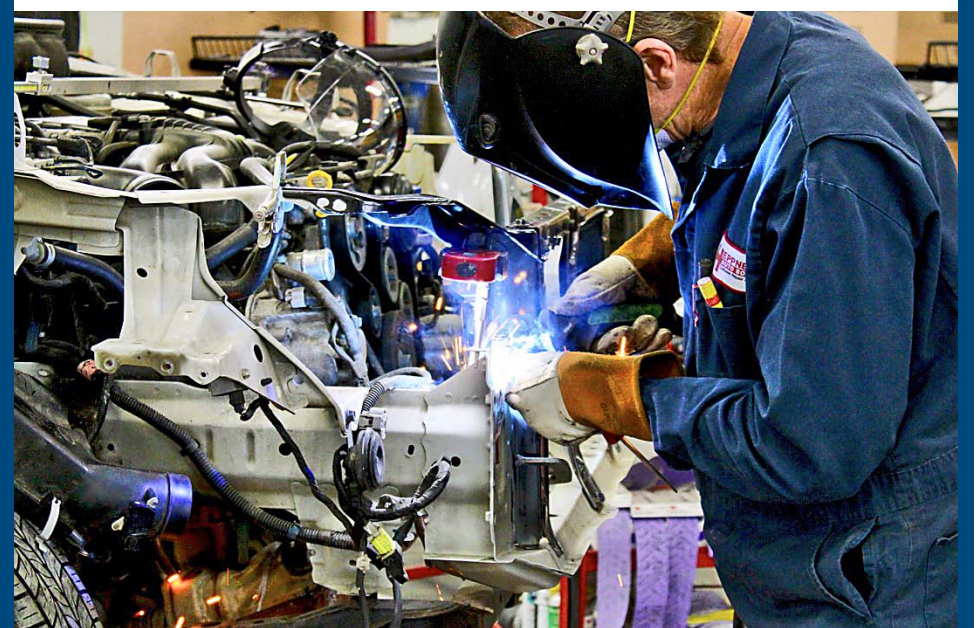
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Crime Report

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

Highland Park

Robbery—Strong-arm robberies were reported on West Seventh Street and Maynard Drive on May 13, and the 2100 block of West Seventh on May 25.

—A service station was robbed at gunpoint on the 2000 block of Ford Parkway at 9:27 p.m. Friday, May 21.

—A robbery at gunpoint was reported on the 1900 block of Beechwood Avenue at 6:18 p.m. Sunday, May 23. A teenage boy jumped out of a black vehicle and stole the victim's purse.

—A robbery at gunpoint was reported on the 1300 block of Saint Paul Avenue at 10:14 p.m. Monday, May 24.

Burglary—Burglaries were reported on the 500 block of Brimhall Street on May 11, the 1200 block of East Maynard Drive on May 12, the 2100 block of Edgumbe Road on May 15, the 2100 block of Scheffer Avenue and the 1300 block of Kenneth Street on May 19, and the 600 block of Montcalm Place and the 1200 block of Bayard Avenue on May 26.

Theft—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from vehicles on the 2000 block of Randolph Avenue on May 11, the 1700 block of Graham Avenue on May 17, the 1700 block of Saunders Avenue on May 19, the 2500 block of Stewart Avenue on May 23, and the 1600 block of Montreal Avenue on May 24.

—Vehicles were reported stolen on the 1800 block of Bohland Avenue on May 12, the 2100 block of Scheffer Avenue on May 16, the 1600 block of Ford Parkway on May 23, and the 1700 block of Graham Avenue on May 25.

—A purse-snatching was reported at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 16, on the 2000 block of Ford Parkway.

Arson—A fire was reported in a multifamily building on the 2300 block of West Seventh Street at 8:43 p.m. Tuesday, May 18.

Miscellaneous—Three teenagers were rescued after being trapped in an abandoned riverside building just below the former Ford site at 2:20 p.m. Wednesday, May 19. According to media reports, one of the teens had been injured in a fall and was taken to the hospital.

Lexington-Hamline

Burglary—A residential burglary was reported on the 1300 block of Summit Avenue at midnight Sunday, May 23.

Theft—A vehicle was reported stolen on the 1300 block of Marshall Avenue on May 14.

Assault—An aggravated assault with a knife was reported on the 1300 block of Marshall Avenue at 10:48 p.m. Tuesday, May 25.

Macalester-Groveland

Robbery—A robbery at gunpoint was reported on the 1400 block of Randolph Avenue at 11:15 p.m. Tuesday, May 18.

Burglary—A residential break-in was reported on the 1500 block of Grand Avenue at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, May 20.

Theft—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from vehicles on the 1400 block of Grand Avenue on May 17, and the 1500 block of Goodrich Avenue on May 20.

—A vehicle was reported stolen on Snelling and Saint Clair avenues on Thursday, May 13.

Mendota Heights

Robbery—A purse-snatching was reported at 5:51 p.m. Tuesday, May 25, on the 1000 block of Highway 13. The female victim was taken to the hospital with an injured hand.

Theft—Thefts from vehicles were reported on the 1300 block of Aspen Way and the 500 block of Foxwood Lane on May 17, the 1000 block of Dakota Drive on May 19, the 2100 block of Highway 13 on May 23, and the 2300 block of Lexington Avenue on May 26.

—Around 120 wooden pallets were reported stolen on the 1100 block of Northland Drive during the weekend of May 15-16.

—A stolen vehicle was recovered at a hotel on the 1300 block of Northland Drive at 11:34 p.m. Monday, May 17.

—Construction equipment was reported stolen on Commerce Drive and Pilot Knob Road during the evening of May 19-20.

—A vehicle was reported stolen on the 1300 block of Northland Drive at 1:59 p.m. Thursday, May 20. It was recovered by Bloomington police the following day.

Miscellaneous—Police responded to a loud party on the 900 block of Stratford Road at 11:22 p.m. Wednesday, May 26. Several juveniles were cited for drinking and an adult homeowner was going to be charged with violating the city's social host ordinance.

—A male suspect was discovered inside a home on the 500 block of Marie Avenue at 1:16 a.m. Thursday, May 27. The suspect left without saying a word and nothing was taken.

—An intoxicated female driver was arrested after she was seen walking away from the

scene of a crash on Highways 13 and I-35E at 10:16 p.m. Thursday, May 27.

Merriam Park

Burglary—Two burglaries were reported on the 1800 block of Roblyn Avenue at 4:09 and 11:03 a.m. Sunday, May 16.

Theft—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from vehicles on the 1900 block of Carroll Avenue on May 15, and the 2000 block of Dayton Avenue on May 19.

—Vehicles were reported stolen on the 2200 block of Riverwood Place and the 1700 block of Hague Avenue on May 16, and the 200 block of Otis Avenue on May 20.

—A bicycle worth more than \$1,000 was reported stolen on the 1700 block of Carroll Avenue at 7:30 a.m. Monday, May 17.

Assault—An aggravated assault with a gun was reported on the 1900 block of University Avenue at 10:02 a.m. Sunday, May 23.

Weapons—Gunfire was reported on the 300 block of North Cleveland Avenue on Friday, May 21.

Snelling-Hamline

Burglary—A burglary was reported on the 1500 block of University Avenue at 4:47 p.m. Wednesday, May 19.

Theft—Vehicles were reported stolen on the 1500 block of Portland Avenue on May 18, the 1500 block of Laurel Avenue on May 25, and on Portland Avenue and Syndicate Street on May 26.

Theft—Items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from a vehicle on the 1500 block of Selby Avenue on Friday, May 21.

Assault—An aggravated assault with a dangerous weapon was reported on the 1400 block of University Avenue at 9:11 p.m. Sunday, May 23.

Weapons—Gunfire was reported on Selby and Hamline avenues on May 13, and on Marshall and Snelling avenues on May 25.

Summit Hill

Robbery—A robbery at gunpoint was reported on the 400 block of Grand Avenue at 5:56 a.m. Thursday, May 13.

Burglary—A burglary was reported on the 1100 block of Summit Avenue at 9:27 a.m. Saturday, May 15.

—Two burglaries were reported on the 1100 block of Grand Avenue at 11:39 p.m. and 8:53 a.m. Monday and Tuesday, May 17-18.

Theft—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from vehicles on

the 1200 block of Grand Avenue on May 14, on Dale Street and Summit Avenue on May 16, on Oxford Street and Grand on May 21, and the 1100 block of Grand on May 24.

—A vehicle was reported stolen on the 1100 block of Grand Avenue on Thursday, May 20.

Assault—An aggravated assault with a gun was reported on the 300 block of Ramsey Street at 10:24 p.m. Sunday, May 16.

Summit-University

Burglary—A burglary was reported on the 1000 block of Portland Avenue at 10:03 a.m. Sunday, May 16.

—A residential break-in was reported on Dale Street and Portland Avenue at 3:15 a.m. Friday, May 21.

Weapons—Gunfire was reported between May 13-18 on Marshall and Western avenues, the 400 block of North Lexington Parkway, the 1000 blocks of Laurel and Carroll avenues, and the 700 block of Ashland Avenue.

—Four reports of shots fired were made between May 23-25 on the 800 block of Hague Avenue, the 500 block of Marshall Avenue, the 900 block of Carroll Avenue, and on Dayton Avenue and Kent Street.

Miscellaneous—Felony criminal damage to property was reported on Dayton Avenue and Oxford Street on May 14, and the 200 block of North Western Avenue on May 26.

West End

Burglary—A residential burglary was reported on the 900 block of West Seventh Street at 11:23 p.m. Tuesday, May 25.

Theft—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from vehicles on Elway Street and Shepard Road on May 17, and the 300 block of Spring Street on May 20 and 23.

—Vehicles were reported stolen on McBoal Street and Smith Avenue on May 18, on West Seventh Street and I-35E on May 21, on Pleasant Avenue and Victoria Street on May 21, the 300 block of North Smith on May 21, the 700 block of Mercer Street on May 23, the 800 block of Scheffer Avenue and 1900 block of West Seventh on May 24, and the 900 block of Watson Avenue on May 25.

—A 9 mm Ruger handgun was reported stolen from a vehicle on the 1800 block of Benson Avenue on Thursday, May 20.

Miscellaneous—Felony criminal damage to property was reported on the 800 block of Scheffer Avenue on May 15, and the 300 block of West Seventh Street on May 19.

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ON THE TOWN

Dying of laughter

Comedy, murder mystery take the stage in Kelly's latest novel

BY BRIAN JOHNSON

Summit Hill author Dennis Kelly's new novel, *A Comedian Walks into a Funeral Home*, may sound like the opening line of a joke or perhaps the premise of an episode of a television show that blends *Seinfeld* with *Six Feet Under*.

But the newly published book offers more than a punch line, and it is not simply about death and dying. In the novel, Kelly proves that death and humor can be surprisingly good dance partners—in the literary sense.

Readers will enjoy some laughs, but the story goes deeper than that. With ruminations on life and death, the book offers “a deeper array of thoughtful considerations,” said Kelly, a semiretired marketing professional.

Kelly said he worked on the book for about four years, including rewrites.

“As a writer, you run down a few dead ends,” he said. “And I’m the kind of writer where if I have a concept I just get into the work and to some degree it writes itself.”

The hero of the book is Vince Locker, a failed standup comic. Locker lives with his bipolar brother and is estranged from his wife. His life is a wreck, and after a particularly disastrous comedy gig, he contemplates jumping off the Smith Avenue High Bridge.

On the bridge, he has a chance encounter with a struggling mortician named Truss. With help from Truss and the mortician’s faithful employee, Winona, Locker discovers he can make a buck by eulogizing the

deceased with deadpan humor. For good measure, Kelly weaves a compelling murder mystery into the narrative.

The unusual premise of *A Comedian Walks into a Funeral Home* stems in part from Kelly’s own experiences of saying a few words about the deceased at memorial services.

“I’ve been writing fiction for quite some time, whether it’s a previous novel or short stories,” Kelly said. “The driver behind this one is that I’ve done quite a few eulogies in the past. I seem to be the go-to guy for friends and family.”

Kelly noted that giving eulogies is not particularly easy. He alluded to the old Jerry Seinfeld joke about the frightful experience of public speaking—that more people are afraid of that than dying. As the joke goes, people would rather be the guy in the casket than the one having to talk.

For his part, Kelly said he tends to mix humor in his eulogies to “humanize things,” and that seems to go over well.

“At the end of the tributes it seemed like, when people came up and chatted with me, the thing that stuck with them was the anecdotal stories. A laugh or two was generated, and that would relieve the tension and the weight of loss,” Kelly said.

At the same time, he noted, people are changing the way they mourn the death of a loved one. In some cases, for example, “new age celebrations” or “green burials” are replacing more traditional services.

“The combination of looking at the market and my background with eulogies and I guess a propensity for some humor, it seemed like a



Summit Hill writer Dennis Kelly is pictured looking out from the Smith Avenue High Bridge, one of the local places of interest he references in his new novel. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

nice launching point,” he said.

Born and raised in Saint Paul, Kelly includes some local city landmarks and other places of interest in his book, including the aforementioned High Bridge, Keenan’s Bar and Grill on West Seventh Street, and the Palace Theatre in downtown.

Kelly attended Saint Thomas Academy and earned a marketing degree at Metropolitan State University. He honed his writing skills at the Loft Literary Center in Minneapolis.

A Comedian Walks into a Funeral Home is Kelly’s second published novel. His first one, *BlizzardBall*, was published in 2011. Set during a frigid Minnesota winter, that novel drew on Kelly’s experience in developing sweepstakes and contests for Fortune 500 companies. Fans of the book included the late CNN talk show host Larry King, who called it a “rip-roaring ride on the roller coaster of luck... smart, wacky, criminally entertaining—winner.”

A Comedian Walks into a Funeral Home has also garnered positive reviews. Jeff Gerbino, sometimes described as a “founding father of Minnesota comedy,” writes on the book’s Amazon page, “I can attest that behind the

curtain comedians are an unsettled group and Kelly nails it. Sit back, relax, turn off the TV and social media and enjoy the shadowy world of those who lust for success and find themselves unrequited.”

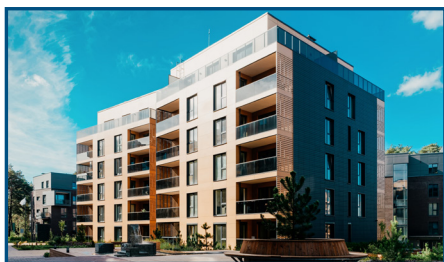
Kelly said the new novel attempts to drive home the point that, among other things, we are often remembered not just for our accomplishments, but for our “foibles” and “harebrained schemes.”

“These are the things that make us human—and that’s oftentimes what people love about us,” Kelly said. “You know, it’s not the list of 50 things that we did. It’s some of the wrong turns, some of the silly stuff and some of the errors we’ve made.”

“People love us for being a punch line,” he added. “Humor is really a healing emotion for oneself and for other people, so to the degree that we can bring that into the relationship, it helps everyone’s well-being.”

Kelly hopes to announce a series of book signings and speaking engagements for *A Comedian Walks into a Funeral Home* in the near future. He plans to donate all sale proceeds to Second Harvest Heartland and the Sanneh Foundation.

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ON THE TOWN *Briefly*

Music

Music as free as the fresh air in which it is performed is being presented at 7 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays in Minnehaha Falls Park, 4801 S. Minnehaha Drive. The schedule includes the Pig's Eye Jass Band on June 10; the bluegrass of Blue Grove, June 11; the Americana of Sonic Love Child, June 17; alternative rockers Dark Light Oblivion, June 18; singer-songwriters Sesay & Kaity Joan and Glossy, June 24; and finger-style guitarist Peter Ruddy, June 25.

A mix of old and new solos, duos and trios will be performed on June 11 and 12 by Baroque musicians Paul Jacobson and Immanuel Davis on flauti traversi and Donald Livingston on harpsichord. The concerts will be live-streamed via Zoom at 7 p.m. Friday and 11 a.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$10, \$5 for students. For more information or reservations, visit lyrbaroque.org.

The Minnesota Orchestra's series of free online concerts will continue with "Radiance and Light" at 8 p.m. Friday, June 11, featuring pianist Juho Pohjonen and conductor Osmo Vänskä in works by Haydn, Chopin and Saint-Georges; and "A Summer Prelude" at 8 p.m. Friday, June 25, featuring Vänskä and violinist Erin Keefe in works by Coleridge-Taylor and Weill and the world premiere of Vänskä's Overture. The concerts are open to a limited in-person audience. Visit 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, June 19. Performers include Miriam Scholz-Carlson and Conor O'Brien on violins, Julie Elhard on viola da gamba and basse de violon, Tulio Rondón on cello and Donald Livingston on harpsichord. Tickets are \$5 and \$15. Visit lyrbaroque.org.

Theater

Shakespeare's comedy, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is being performed from June 18 through July 18 by the Classical Actors Ensemble in parks across the Twin Cities. The music is live, admission is free, and theatergoers are invited to pack a picnic supper. The curtain rises at 7 p.m. Friday, June 18, at the Lyndale Park Rose Garden, 4124 Roseway Road in Minneapolis; 7 p.m. Saturday, June 19, at Lake of the Isles, Newton Avenue and Lake of the Isles Parkway in Minneapolis; 7 p.m. Sunday, June 20, at Matthews Park, 2318 29th Ave. S. in Minneapolis; 7 p.m. Saturday, June 26, at Lake of the Isles; and 3 p.m. Sunday, June 27, at Cedar Lake East Beach, 2000 Upton Ave. S., Minneapolis. Visit classicalactorsensemble.org.

Shakespeare's delightful comedy, *Twelfth Night* will be performed in the open air by Classics Lost 'n' Found Theater at 7 p.m.



Ballet al fresco. Saint Paul Ballet will take to the open air on Friday, June 11, for its first public performances in 18 months. Three works will be presented at 4 and 6:30 p.m. on the Science Museum of Minnesota plaza, 120 W. Kellogg Blvd. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy "Le Jardin Anime" from *Le Corsaire*, "Demain Veindra" by Da'Rius Malone and "Petra and the Wolf" by Alejandra Iannone. Admission is free, and food trucks will be there with refreshments.

Fridays and Saturdays, June 25-26 and July 2-3, at Lake Nokomis Park, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy. in Minneapolis. Admission is by donation. In case of rain, the show will be moved inside Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church, 5011 31st Ave. S. in Minneapolis.

Books

Next Chapter Booksellers, 38 S. Snelling Ave., will host free online readings and discussions with authors Shawna Kay Rodenberg and her memoir, *Kin*, at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 10; Michael Kleber-Diggs and his poetry collection, *Worldly Things*, 7 p.m. Monday, June 14; Cary J. Griffith and his natural history mystery novel, *Wolf Kill*, 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 16; Colin Dayan and *Animal Quintet*, her lyrical memoir about growing up in the South, 7 p.m. Monday, June 21; and former Georgia gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams and her book, *Our Time Is Now*, 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 22. To register for the link, visit nextchapterbooksellers.com.

SubText Books, 6 W. Fifth St., will host free online readings and discussions with authors Ames Sheldon and Mary Logue and their novels, *Lemons in the Garden of Love* and *The Stree*, respectively, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 16. To register for the link, visit subtextbooks.com.

Exhibits

Argyle Zebra Gallery, 308 Prince St., is displaying the following exhibits through the end of June: "Travel Through My Lens," photographs from France, Italy, Spain,

Hungary, the Netherlands and Portugal by Tom Reynen; "The Art of Nature," paintings and drawings by emerging artists depicting plants, bugs, animals, birds or natural landscapes; a vibrant collection of acrylic paintings by West End artist MaryBeth Garrigan; and the works of AZ Gallery members Amy Clark, Angela Spencer, Beth Stoneberg, Beth Peck, Jessica Turtle and Joe Linn. The gallery in the historic Northern Warehouse building is open to the public free of charge from 5-8 p.m. Fridays, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturdays, and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sundays. Visit theazgallery.org.

Walking tours in and around downtown Saint Paul are once again being offered by Landmark Center. The free tours step out at 10 a.m. Wednesdays this summer. The schedule includes the Great River Tour along the mighty Mississippi on June 9 and 23 and the Rice Park area on June 16. Tours are limited to 10 participants, and reservations are required. COVID protocols will be observed. Visit landmarkcenter.org or call Sydney at 651-292-3063. Virtual tours are available anytime at landmarkcenter.org.

A longhorn beetle with antennae more than 12 feet across. A butterfly with a five-foot wingspan. Heavily-armored stag beetles with jaws as big as a human leg. These await visitors to the Bell Museum, Cleveland and Larpentour avenues in Falcon Heights. From June 11 to September 12, Bugs Outside the Box will present precise replicas of the insect world blown up to gigantic proportions, as well as life-size examples of the insects with information on their habits and habitats. A Build A Bug game invites visitors to create their own bugs from bug parts. Specimens

from the University of Minnesota Insect Museum will be displayed along with the proper tools for collecting specimens. Bug trivia night and workshops on such topics as planting for pollinators and eco-friendly garden pest management will also be offered. Timed reservations are required. Admission is \$12, \$10 for seniors, \$9 for youths ages 3-21. Call 612-626-9660 or visit bellmuseum.umn.edu/admissions.

Film

Free movies are rolling at dusk this summer outdoors in Minneapolis parks. Sponsored by the city's Parks and Recreation Board, the films include *Black Panther* (rated PG-13) on June 10 in Minnehaha Falls Park, 4801 S. Minnehaha Drive; *Moneyball* (PG-13), June 11, Lake Harriet Bandshell; *Star Wars: Rise of Skywalker* (PG-13), June 24, Brackett Park, 2728 S. 39th Ave.; and *Angry Birds 2 Frenemies* (PG), June 25, Lake Harriet Bandshell. Visit mplsmusicandmovies.com.

Drive-in movies are being presented monthly this summer at Saint Paul's Union Depot. *Jurassic Park* will be shown at 9:15 p.m. Friday, June 25. Grab your popcorn and pull up to a parking spot in Lot D off Kellogg Boulevard underneath the Lafayette Bridge. Tickets are \$15 per car and can be purchased at eventbrite.com. Parking is first-come, first-served starting at 7 p.m. Hot dogs, chili dogs, candy and other concessions will be available. For information, visit uniondepot.org.

Et cetera

Deutsche Tage (German Days), a weekend of German food, beer and entertainment, will return on June 12 and 13 to the grounds of the Germanic-American Institute, 301 Summit Ave. The event will run from noon-9 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Performing live will be the Bavarian Musikmeisters, Alpensterne, Ron Machel, master concertinist Josh Eidsor, the Turkish music ensemble Makam Baklava, Rivers Ballet and Minnesota Opera soprano Karin Wolverson. Cultural programming for all ages, German language classes for adults and children and a German immersion preschool will also be featured. Admission is free. Food will be served by the Black Forest Inn and Ruhland's Strudel Haus. Four German beers will be on tap. Soft drinks will also be available. Adults 21 and over must buy a \$5 wristband to purchase beer and wine at the bar. Patrons are advised to wear a face mask when not eating or drinking. Visit gaimn.org.

Comedy and music by women and for everyone will be featured from 5-7 p.m. on Sundays, June 20 and July 4 through August 22, on the outdoor stage at Keg and Case Market, 928 W. Seventh St. Produced by Rock What You Got, the entertainment is free and rated PG-13. Visit rockwhatyougotlive.com.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 9

A PRIDE MONTH webinar on society's treatment of LGBT people through history will be offered from 7-9 p.m. by World Without Genocide. Panelists include state Senator Scott Dibble, Judge Tara Kalar of the state Department of Human Services, transgender rights advocate Ellie Krug and human rights fellow Caitlin Schweiger. The cost is \$10, \$5 for seniors and students. To register, visit worldwithoutgenocide.org.

THURSDAY/JUNE 10

"THE SECOND-GENERATION Experience," a program on how the children of Holocaust survivors can better understand their parent's trauma and how it influenced their own development, will be offered from 7:30-9 p.m. by the Jewish Family Service of

THE KIOSK

Saint Paul. The free Zoom session will be led by therapist Beth Johnson and nurse Bonnie Jaffe. To register, call 651-313-6623 or email jsaltzman@jfsp.org.

SATURDAY/JUNE 12

METRO REPUBLICAN WOMEN will get a recap of the Minnesota Legislature's 2021 session from state Senator Michelle Benson (R-Ham Lake) at a breakfast meeting beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Mendakota Country Club in Mendota Heights. The cost is \$25 for nonmembers, \$15 for students. For the required reservations, call Elaine at 651-423-0556 or 651-260-8005.

SELBY FEST returns from 1-5 p.m. to the sidewalks and shops of the business district at Snelling and Selby avenues. In addition to special discounts at dozens of boutiques and restaurants, the free event will feature live entertainment by country-western singer Trevor McSpadden from 1:30-2:30, Silly Miss Tilly and her animal balloons from 2-3:30, the banjo and guitar playing of Twin Town Strings from 2-3:30 at Selby and Wheeler Street, and singer-songwriter Frederick the First from 1:30-4 on the patio at Cahoots Coffee Bar, 1562 Selby Ave.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 16

GRAB A SWEET TREAT and beat the sum-

mer heat at Saint Peter's Lutheran Church, 530 S. Victoria St. The congregation will be handing out free frozen treats from 7-8 p.m. In case of rain, the event will be held at the same time on Wednesday, June 23.

THURSDAY/JUNE 17

THE HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE of Saint Paul's Irvine Park neighborhood will be explored from 7-8:30 p.m. in an online program offered by the Ramsey County Historical Society. Richard Kronick and Jeanne Kosfeld, author and illustrator, respectively, of a new coloring book on Irvine Park, will tell of the area's historic homes and the people who have lived in them. The live program is free, but registration is required. Visit rchs.com/event/history-revealed-irvine-park/.

SPORTS



The Wright Call

By Dave Wright

Interesting MIAC farewell for UST

The University of Saint Thomas' final days of playing in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) are proving to be a mixed bag. The good news is that its baseball and softball teams advanced to the NCAA Division III final eight tournaments. The track and field teams easily won their conference meets and were well-represented at the recent NCAA Division III meets. The women's tennis team blanked Gustavus to win the MIAC title, with freshman Nicole Snezhko advancing to the national tournament.

The bad news began on May 11 when UST announced it was discontinuing its men's and women's tennis programs for the 2021-22 season as part of its jump to Division I.

The school tried to couch the decision by noting in a press release that it doesn't have tennis courts on campus. The statement also indicated the decision puts it in "closer alignment" with the teams it will begin competing against in the Summit League next season.

What was left out of that statement was that several schools out of the nine full-time and five affiliate members that currently make up the Summit League compete in men's and women's tennis.

UST's decision to drop tennis was not necessarily surprising. Several schools that previously moved up to Division I found the overall bill for athletics at that level a little steep and jettisoned some teams as a result. Wisconsin and South Dakota dropped baseball a while back. Saint Cloud State eliminated football and golf last year after previously dropping six sports, including both tennis teams and Nordic skiing.

However, the women's tennis players and skiers sued Saint Cloud, claiming the university violated their Title IX rights by dropping those sports. A judge agreed and—presto—women's tennis and skiing returned to the Huskies' athletic department.

A couple of weeks ago, the Tommies found themselves in a similar position. Some UST women's tennis players contacted Arthur Bryant, an Oakland-based lawyer well-versed in Title IX lawsuits. Bryant did some quick math and calculated that women make up 46.83 percent of UST's undergraduate students. However, the percentage of women athletes at the school is just 38.06 percent. Drop tennis and the number falls to 37.6 percent.

Title IX dictates equal access. Bryant wrote a letter to UST president Julie Sullivan and athletic director Phil Esten noting the discrepancy in the numbers and suggested they reinstate women's tennis. David Schooler, the attorney hired by UST to handle such matters, called Bryant to discuss the issue but, as this is being written, nothing has happened. To make things truly equitable, the Tommies would have to find a way to add athletic opportunities for around 145 women or cut back on men's options.

Bryant pointed to a case he won several years ago against Brown University, which was forced to reinstate volleyball and women's gymnastics. "The law says colleges can have any sport they want, but you have to have equal access," Bryant said. "Brown tried to argue that football (a sport with considerably more men on the roster) needs to make money."

The judge felt that was irrelevant. Such a discrepancy might get overlooked at a Division III school, but it's harder to hide at a newly formed Division I program. (Olivia Paradise, a transfer student from Valparaiso, was one of the UST tennis players quoted in a *Pioneer Press* story on the matter. If Paradise's grandfather, a strong-willed fellow named Herb Brooks, was still alive, the quotes might have been juicier.)

"It's really cut and dry," Bryant said. "There are several schools in the country that are in violation of Title IX." Recently, he negotiated a settlement with Clemson University after it tried to drop track and field. The men's team was restored, while the women were promised equitable financial aid and other benefits.

Fresno State dropped women's lacrosse and is currently in



Senior co-captain Luka Shaker-Check warms up for additional competition after helping Saint Paul Academy win the section team title. He and partner Liam Lynch went on to also win a berth in the state doubles tournament. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Spartans earn trip to state in boys' tennis

BY BILL WAGNER

The Saint Paul Academy boys' tennis team had one simple philosophy going into the 2021 season: Don't even think about what might have been.

The Spartans had a solid squad last season, one that many felt was ready to go for all the marbles. But then came COVID-19 and those hopes were dashed when the season was canceled.

This year, the Spartans once again have a solid team and are headed to this week's state Class A tournament on the heels of a 7-0 trouncing of Minnehaha Academy in the Section 4A final on May 26. As far as 2020 is concerned? That's in the rearview mirror, said assistant coach Luke Elifson.

"Last year, we had four seniors who unfortunately were not able to play it through," he said. "The kids who were here for both this year and last year remember how hard it was. But this year has been awesome. We have a lot of players who've made significant strides since the start of the season. I'd say that we're starting to peak right now."

The Spartans, who were slated to play Breck in the first round of the state tournament on June 8 at Saint Cloud Tech High School, have had some down times during their dual meets this season. They included losses to strong teams

from Blake, Eagan and Breck.

Still, there have been plenty of high points for SPA this spring as well. They include a 6-1 victory over Woodbury early on, a pair of 7-0 wins against Providence Academy and Holy Angels last month, and the shutout win over Minnehaha.

Elifson especially liked his club's signature wins versus the Royals and Redhawks. "Both those teams had good top players," he said. "We were far more polished in the way we competed in those matches."

The Spartans head to state with a lineup that features many young players and just five upperclassmen. At No. 1 singles is senior Luka Shaker-Check, whom Elifson referred to as "a grinder who puts a lot of balls in play."

At second singles is junior Harry Mahmic, a consistent cog who has a big forehand and never gives up on a point.

Playing third singles is freshman Baasit Mahmood, who rushes the net well. At fourth singles is seventh-grader Allan Wang, who is small but packs a lot of power into his game, Elifson said.

The first doubles tandem features freshman Leo Benson and senior Liam Lynch. They complement each other well, with Lynch providing the experience and Benson the big, hard serve. Elifson likes the way the two, who have been entered in team competition most

of the year, coordinate their play.

At second doubles are freshman Maik Nguyen and junior Alex Moore. Moore is the steady stay-at-home type, while Nguyen has "the biggest serve on the team" and can really crash the net, Elifson said.

The third doubles team features freshman Henry Choi playing alongside junior Isaiah Eby. Eby has stepped up nicely after having replaced eighth-grader Jacob Colton, who is out for the season after having suffered a broken wrist in practice.

Elifson was upbeat about what his team could accomplish at state. However, he also stressed that it wouldn't be easy against first-round opponent Breck, which beat SPA 6-1 during the regular season. "They're ranked No. 1 in the state for a reason," he said.

SPA last won the state Class A team tennis title in 2008.

Shaker-Check and Lynch went on to win the Section 4A doubles championship by defeating Jayven Williamson and Steven Charpentier of Minnehaha 6-2, 6-0. They will be the second seed in the state doubles championship on June 10-11.

Williamson and Charpentier will also compete in state doubles. Aiden Keefe and Lincoln Reichenau of Minnehaha will compete in state individual singles.

STA, CDH, Sibley advance in lacrosse playoffs

BY BILL WAGNER

The section playoffs for boys' and girls' high school lacrosse were a little less murky heading into semifinal action this week.

Both top-seeded Saint Thomas Academy and second-ranked Cretin-Derham Hall won their Section 3 quarterfinal matches in boys' lacrosse on June 3. The Cadets took care of Park of Cottage Grove 15-5 and the Raiders overcame a slow start to outlast Woodbury 9-7.

STA was to face fifth-seeded Eagan and CDH had a date with third-ranked Simley in the semifinals on June 8. The winners will face off on June 10 for a chance to make the state tournament on

June 15-19 in Stillwater.

Both clubs took different routes to get to their next challenges. STA established command and never let it go against Park. However, the Raiders had to rally the troops against the upset-minded Royals.

CDH trailed at halftime, but sophomore attacker Louie Bailey and junior midfielder Sam Goings each posted two goals in the second half to spur the comeback. Steadily improving sophomore goalie Eddie Kielkopf and the Raider defense held up, and CDH advanced to the next round.

"We were losing the ground-ball battle in the first half," said CDH coach Matt Hourigan, "but in the second half we

went after those balls a lot better. It took us a while, but we got it done."

The Raiders (10-4) were able to defeat Woodbury despite not having the services of ace attacker Luke McCarthy, a 35-goal scorer who was recovering from an appendectomy. Hourigan said it was doubtful McCarthy would be available to play in the semifinals.

CDH will still go into this week's game against Simley with some definite assets. Senior midfielder Chuck Altier is a solid team leader who filled in at attacker against Woodbury. Altier is the type of player who will do what it takes for his club to win.

15◀ LACROSSE PLAYOFFS

Junior attacker Gabe Rasmussen leads the team in points and his 36 assists have set a new school record. The Raiders will have a major challenge trying to handle the Spartans' Andrew Bergum, a big-time player who can turn a game around all by himself.

"But we have a lot of young guys who have stepped up," Hourigan said. "It's been exciting."

STA (10-4) is competing for the first time in sections as a higher seed than Eagan, according to coach Luke Marks. The Wildcats have a really solid transitional game, but the Cadets have plenty of weapons of their own. That includes three players with 50 points or more.

Senior midfielder Baker Reding, an all-stater in 2019 who is earmarked to play at Holy Cross next year, leads the way. The two other members of the 50-plus club are senior attacker Brian Goblisch, who leads the team in assists, and sophomore attacker Matthew Hudson, a sniper who knows how to find the net.

Senior goalie James McDonald has become a tangible asset. And senior de-

fender Guiseppe Chiovera is rock-ribbed on the defensive end. Coach Marks likes his team's chances.

"We have a bunch of kids who are pretty disciplined," he said. "We're deep. It's not like they can take away one kid and beat us."

Marks likes the way his club had navigated through the spring, posting big victories against Maple Grove and Cretin-Derham Hall in the process. This will be the third time in a row that the Cadets will face Eagan in the postseason.

Girls' lacrosse

Henry Sibley/Gentry Academy (11-1) advanced in girls' lacrosse by beating East Ridge 16-6 in the Section 3 quarterfinals on June 3. The second-seeded Warriors were scheduled to take on third-ranked Cretin-Derham Hall in the semifinals on June 8. The Raiders (9-5) had bested a combined Visitation/Saint Paul Academy team 16-3 in its quarterfinal game.

The Warriors won their quarterfinal contest without the services of high-scoring junior midfielder Jaylen Rosga. She was issued a red card in her team's

last regular-season game against Wayzata and had to sit out versus East Ridge.

Jaylen said she wanted to put the red card behind her. "I'm ready to go," she said. "I think we just need to play together and be disciplined."

Jeff Rosga, her father and the Sibley coach, said his team needed to be ready for the Raiders, a squad they beat handily in the regular season.

"They will be well-prepared," he said. "They will probably throw some new wrinkles at us that we haven't seen. The key is being prepared, and we have to continue to get better."

In addition to Jaylen Rosga, Sibley has four other players who have been named to the all-section team. They include freshman attacker Ella Berg, senior defender Emma Barborak, sophomore attacker Eva Anderson and junior midfielder Brooke Tjernlund.

Sibley's only defeat of the season came by one point against Wayzata in that last regular-season game.

The Section 3 girls' lacrosse final will be held on June 10. The state tournament follows on June 16-18 in Stillwater.

Sports Shorts

Two Rivers Tours are being launched this month by Twin Cities Kayaking, starting at Hidden Falls Park and ending at Harriet Island. The six-mile trip goes down the Mississippi River to a channel through Fort Snelling State Park that leads to the Minnesota River and around Pike Island before re-entering the Mississippi and ending near downtown Saint Paul. The cost is \$59. Visit twincitieskayaking.com or call 612-708-2781.



Mississippi River Paddle Share has opened for its sixth season. The self-serve program allows participants to rent a kayak and paddle to a destination downriver. There are multiple river routes, plus Pickerel Lake near downtown Saint Paul. Prices range from \$30-\$50. Visit paddleshare.org.

The Saint Paul Department of Parks and Recreation is accepting registration for summer swimming and sailing lessons, summer camps and the Summer Rec Check program. The city plans to open the Highland Park Aquatic Center, Como Regional Park Pool, Phalen Beach and four additional splash pads for the season on June 12. The Great River Water Park will not be open this summer. Visit stpaul.gov/summerfun.

15◀ WRIGHT CALL

litigation on the issue. William & Mary planned to cut several sports, including three women's teams, at the end of this current athletic season. Bryant threatened a lawsuit and the school changed its mind.

This is now the conundrum Saint Thomas faces as it leaves the MIAC it dominated for so long and moves into the high-visibility world of Division I athletics. Every action it now takes, even involving sports that previously didn't get much attention, is subject to intense scrutiny.

As often happens in such cases, there are innocent bystanders who get hurt. Eleven of the 12 players on this year's UST women's tennis roster were eligible to return for another season. Paradise will be a senior next year and plans to stay at the school. One wonders if Jannah El Nembr, a talented freshman who hails from Egypt, will do likewise.

Bryant is sympathetic. "Most women don't go to college thinking they'll end up suing the college," he said.

The price of playing at Division I is sometimes measured in more than just dollars and cents.

May named athletic director for Cadets

Greg May knows all about intense rivalries. For the past couple of years as director of operations for the University of Minnesota men's hockey program, he watched games between the Gophers and Wisconsin that made even some Stanley Cup contests look like tea parties. This fall, he'll get an up-close and personal look at another fierce rivalry that will make those puck clashes seem mild by comparison.

The former Bethel University football and basketball star will take over in mid-June as athletic director at Saint Thomas Academy. One of the first games he'll see is a long-awaited renewal of the Cadets' football archrivalry with Cretin-Derham Hall. Later, there will be a pair of hockey games and other spirited STA-CDH entanglements. "I hear they're intense," May said drily.

It'll be all part of the drill for May, who will oversee teams at STA in 15 different sports. "I've always been interested in athletic administration," he said. "I've been a coach, and I think that helps in this job. I know the highs and lows coaches go through."

May's varied background includes playing hockey at

Augsburg, serving as an assistant coach for hockey, golf and lacrosse at Breck, and a stint as head boys' hockey coach at Farmington. That will help, but he admits the bigger challenge will be getting used to the environment at an all-male school that's perennially among the most-watched in the state.

"I can't tell you what the challenges are going to be," May said. "I need to talk to all the coaches." Fortunately, he has a couple of months over the summer to do just that.

Athletics have always been a priority at STA. The football team has been in the last two Class 5A Prep Bowl championship games and won its section last fall. The hockey team won its fifth straight section championship. The lacrosse team, which made the state tournament for the first time ever in 2019, had a good shot to go again this year. (They were the top seed in section play that began last week.) The baseball team is the second-seeded team in Section 3AAA. And so it goes.

That sort of success is easy to supervise. The challenge for May will be to devote the same attention to the other sports.

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

District Councils

Highland Park

highlanddistrictcouncil.org • 651-695-4005

Riverview Corridor—The first public open house of the environmental and preliminary engineering phase of the proposed Riverview Corridor project will be held virtually from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, June 23. The meeting will include a recap of the process that led to the selection of a modern streetcar as the locally preferred alternative and an overview of the corridor's condition. For the link, visit bit.ly/RiverviewCorridor.

Highland Bridge housing—Housing updates at Highland Bridge will be provided during a virtual meeting at 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 23. Presentations will be made by Ryan Companies, Pulte Homes, Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity, Weidner Apartment Homes, Presbyterian Homes, Project for Pride in Living, CommonBond Communities and Coldwell Banker Realty. Register for the meeting at highlandbridge.com/news.

Donations needed—A blood and donation drive will take place from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday, June 25, at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. The event is being conducted in partnership with the Memorial Blood Center, Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul, the Highland District Council, Highland Business Association, Macalester-Groveland Community Council, Saint Paul Library and Saint Paul Department of Parks and Recreation. Full-sized personal care items (shampoo, conditioner, bodywash, body lotion, toothpaste and deodorant) will be collected for the Project Home shelter on Randolph Avenue. Items can also be purchased from a wish list at amazon.com/registries/custom/SMSZPB5MVQ9X. To donate blood, sign up on the HDC's website or Facebook page.

Upcoming meetings—Community Development Committee, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 15; and Community Engagement Committee, 7 p.m. Monday, June 28. Links to access the Zoom meetings are posted on the HDC's website. Visit highlanddistrictcouncil.org/calendar.

Macalester-Groveland

macgrove.org • 651-695-4000

Mac-Grove Fest—The Macalester-Groveland Community Council is looking for artists, exhibitors and sponsors for the 2021 Mac-Grove Fest, which will be held from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, September 11, on the fields of the Edgcumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St. For more information, visit macgrove.org/what-we-do/macgrovefest.

Century Building Project—The owners of homes and commercial buildings in the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood that were built in 1926 or before are eligible to purchase an engraved plaque for their buildings. Learn more by visiting macgrove.org/100years.

Alley Garden Awards—Judging for the community council's annual Alley Garden Awards will take place in July. Learn more at macgrove.org/aga.

Upcoming online meetings—board of directors on Thursday, June 10; Housing and Land Use Committee on Wednesday, June 23; Transportation Committee on Monday, June 28; and Inclusivity Task Force on Thursday, July 1. All meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. Visit macgrove.org/participate.

Summit Hill

summithillassociation.org • 651-222-1222

Dixie's development—The Summit Hill Association's Zoning and Land Use Committee will review the rezoning and conditional use permit application for 695 Grand Ave. (Dixie's, Saji-Ya, Emmett's Pub) during a Zoom meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 8. Members of the public are invited to speak at the meeting or submit written comments via email in advance to ZLU@SummitHillAssociation.org. The full SHA board will review the application and vote on its recommendation to the city during a special meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 17.

Other upcoming meetings—board of directors, 7 p.m. Thursday, June 10; Racial Dialogue & Action Committee, 7 p.m. Monday, June 21; and Neighborhood Plan Committee meeting for questions regarding the published survey report, 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 22. Details and Zoom links for all meetings can be found at SummitHillAssociation.org/calendar.

Union Park

unionparkdc.org • 651-645-6887

Rent stabilization—The Union Park District Council will hold office hours to inform people about the ongoing rent stabilization initiative that Housing Equity Now Saint Paul is trying to place on the November ballot. The office will be open from noon-3 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, June 9-10. Those who come can learn about the petition then or by making an appointment by emailing jonah@unionparkdc.org.

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 being asked to visit givemn.org/story/Li2sdg. Those in need of assistance should call Keystone Community Services at 651-917-3883.

Park grand opening—Midway Peace Park, 416 N. Griggs St., will mark its grand opening from 3-6 p.m. Tuesday, June 15. The public is invited to enjoy the newly completed park and learn about the special water feature. Food, entertainment and other activities are planned.

Upcoming meetings—Committee on Land Use and Development, 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 14; Environment and Parks Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 16; and Neighborhood Involvement Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 28. To access the Zoom meetings, email wako@unionparkdc.org or jonah@unionparkdc.org or click on the links at unionparkdc.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.

THE ST. ANTHONY PARK Garden Club will host its self-guided garden tour on Saturday, June 26th from 10am-3pm. Ten local gardens will be featured. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased before June 26 at StAnthonyParkGardenClub.com. Details of the tour and photos of past tours are also online.

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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LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Hearing - Partition Matter Ramsey County District Court Second Judicial District Court File Number: 62-CV-15-7441 Case Type: Civil Other/Misc In re the property of 1415 Randolph Ave. St. Paul, MN 55105: Jennifer Ann Reedquist v. Kelly Jane McKay

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Notice is hereby given that an application for acceptance of quit claim deed as original has been executed. A hearing will be held on July 19, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. by Zoom.

For further information contact: Madeline Jensen Jensen, Mullen, McSweeney & Meyer, PLLP 7900 Xerxes Avenue South Suite 1350 Bloomington, MN 55431 Phone: (952) 893-5532

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: **Northstar Noodle Company 2.** List the Principal Place of Business: **1942 Sherwood Ave 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: **James R Felegy; 1942 Sherwood Ave 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

LEGAL NOTICES

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:** May 29, 2021 **Signed by:** James R. Felegy **Mailing Address:** 1942 Sherwood Ave Saint Paul Minnesota 55119 USA **Email for Official Notices:** jamesfelegy@gmail.com

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF RAMSEY SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION Court File No. 62-PR-21-453

Estate of James Leroy Aird, Decedent

NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that an application for informal probate of the Decedent's Will, dated September 8, 2017, and ("Will"), has been filed with the Registrar. The application has been granted.

Notice is also given that the Registrar has informally appointed Roderick Aird, whose address is 3100 East 125 Street, Burnsville, Minnesota, 55337, as personal representative of the Estate of the Decedent. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative or may object to the appointment of the personal representative. Unless objections are filed with the Court (pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-607) and the Court otherwise orders, the personal representative has full power to administer the Estate, including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate.

Any objections to the probate of the Will or appointment of the Personal Representative must be filed with this Court and will be heard by the Court after the filing of an appropriate petition and proper notice of hearing.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 5243-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

A charitable beneficiary may request notice of the probate proceedings be given to the Attorney General pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 501B.41, subdivision 5.

Dated: June 2, 2021 Registrar: Laura J. Stevens Dated: June 2, 2021 Court Administrator: Michael F. Upton

Attorney for Personal Representative Mark R. Gaertner Walsh & Gaertner 24 EAST FOURTH STREET Saint Paul, MN, 55101 Attorney License No: 228771 Telephone: (651) 379-0977 FAX: (651) 224-2672 Email: mark@walsh-gaertner.com Filed in District Court State of Minnesota 6/2/2021 10:39 AM

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651-690-8556



BRYAN BEDESSEM
612-382-8415



MICHELE DUMOND
651-283-7996



4825 REDPOLL COURT, EGAN
Private custom-built rambler with an open floorplan on a spacious lot! Open floor plan with ALL living on one level!! Lower level walkout! Close to Lebanon Hills Regional Park. In high demand District 196 school district.
GoodCompanyRealtyGroup.com

SUE JOHNSON CRS, GRI
651-329-1264 • \$614,900



775 ASHLAND AVENUE
This bungalow is a versatile urban home and is much larger than it appears! A beautiful home for entertaining and for every day living! Almost 3000 finished square feet, yet it has a cozy feel.
GoodCompanyRealtyGroup.com

SUE JOHNSON CRS, GRI
651-329-1264 • \$579,900



EXCEPTIONALLY SPACIOUS!
Discover room to room in this 4BR/2BA rambler, featuring lovely hrdwd flrs, new carpet, & convenient location! Main floor family room + game room, private owner's suite. Vast LL family room, huge deck, fenced yard, attached 2-car gar! 7152 Cahill Ave. *click on www.teamedelstein.com

SCOTT LANAHAN ABR CNE
612-598-2763 • \$1,650,000



MISSISSIPPI RIVER BOULEVARD MASTERPIECE!
Exquisite 5BR/4BA all-brick beauty boasts original character & distinctive design. Rich natural wdwrk, hrdwd, 2 fireplaces. Dream kitchen with granite & heated floors. Private owner's suite, family room, attached 2-car, prime setting! 186 Mississippi River Boulevard S. *click on www.teamedelstein.com

HENRY EDELSTEIN CRS
651-270-1667 • \$1,650,000



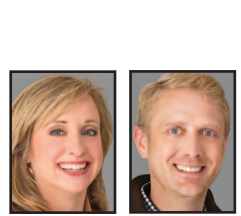
TOM EDELSTEIN, CRS
HENRY EDELSTEIN, CRS
651-695-4300



GARY FABEL
651-334-3659



ROBBIE GROSSMAN
651-434-7887



MICHAELA TOOHEY
PHILIP WAHLBERG
651-336-2410
www.wahlbergttohey.com
\$1,325,000



NEW CONSTRUCTION IN SUMMIT HILL
Rare opportunity! 5 Bedroom, 5 Bath new construction in Summit Hill. Timeless appeal - hardwood floors, spacious rooms, luxury kitchen with oversized island and walk-in pantry. 4 Bedrooms up. Lower level family room. 1057 Lombard.



1452 SARGENT MAIN EXTERIOR
Delightful four-square home with exquisite backyard, updated kitchen, mini-splits, gas fireplace, gleaming hardwood floors, 3 bedroom, 2 bath.
Call for details.

BRIAN WAGNER
651-497-4387



1739 MARSHALL AVENUE
Charming 3 bedroom in Merriam Park. Beautiful woodwork, updated kitchen and gorgeous yard.
AnotherHomeSoldByMary.com

MARY KNUDSEN CRS
651-335-6619



COLIN VOERDING
651-357-3667



KRISTA WOLTER
612-247-5106



ANITA C. HILL
651-707-6408



PREMIER OFFER!
Quality remodel offers open concept for 3 bedroom, 2 bath '40's rambler - 2 fireplaces Cherry cabs and stainless, silestone and slate. Private back with paver drive - walk to everything Highland! Call Lolly for details!

LOLLY MCNEELY SALMEN
612-810-4138 • \$379,900



1732 BEECHWOOD AVENUE
Very special 2BR, 1BA late '40's bungalow is perfect starter/retirement alternative. Absolutely charming & meticulously maintained w/formal living & dining areas plus eat-in kitchen. Improvmts include, kitchen, bath, windows, landscape & more. Exceptional curb appeal, private porch & patio. Call Lolly for details!

LOLLY MCNEELY SALMEN
612-810-4138 • \$399,900



1111 ELWAY, UNIT #406
Totally renovated 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with underground parking at 1111 Elway - just a stones throw from the river, the airport, downtown and Highland Village. Call Lolly for details!

LOLLY MCNEELY SALMEN
612-810-4138 • \$199,900



CLARENCE JOHNSTON DESIGNED COTTAGE!
Sits atop the bluff at 34 Kenwood Parkway offering panoramic views & stately yet livable sun-drenched space completely renovated. Luxury finishes for 4BR's, 5BA's, 7-car heated garage & dog run. Entertainment center & wine grotto. Impeccable.

LOLLY MCNEELY SALMEN
612-810-4138 • \$1,875,000
MORAGHAN DeROSIA
952-486-3697 • \$1,875,000



BRIAN WAGNER, M.D.
651-497-4387



MYA HONEYWELL
THE HIVE
651-329-3619



1631 HAGUE AVENUE
With thoughtful renovations throughout, this turn-of-the-century Merriam Park home captures all of the original details & charm while providing modern updates and amenities to enjoy. Walkability factor a 10!

MORAGHAN DeROSIA
952-486-3697 • \$449,900



183 ELM STREET
Carefree urban living at the Upper Landing! Enjoy all the benefits of this riverfront lifestyle, and the conveniences of this fully updated luxury home. Updates include hrdwd floors, custom designed iron railings, high-end shutters, designer fixtures, and newer mechanicals.

MORAGHAN DeROSIA
952-486-3697 • \$529,900



INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY!
Located near the University of Minnesota, this home is a wonderful rental investment opportunity! This home could also simply be enjoyed as a single family residence as it was for the previous 60+ years.

MORAGHAN DeROSIA
952-486-3697 • \$275,000



2520 16TH
Beautiful 4BR, 4BA home in N St Paul. The home was built in 2004 and has been gently lived in. There is main floor laundry, large eat-in kitchen and two sliding glass doors out to the back yard. There are 3BR's on the upper level and finished LL with 4th BR & bath.

TOM DISTAD
612-432-4771 • \$369,900



PHILIP M. WAHLBERG
651-336-2410



MIKE JAMBOR
612-889-9773



FAMOUS CASS GILBERT!
Famous Cass Gilbert 2 story plus red brick row house in Ramsey Hill, features 3BR, 2BA, 3 FP's, with over 2600 & has been completely renovated w/AC & new roof in 2021. Open & airy, sunny and bright, you will love the lush garden patio! Call for details.

SARAH KINNEY AND FRIENDS
651-497-4387



CHARMING AND RARE!
Charming & Rare Ramsey Hill storybook home features 2BR, 1BA, porch, skylights, wonderful kitchen w/south facing windows & 2+ car garage. Close to the charming shops & chic restaurants of Cathedral Hill and the dynamic nightlife of DT Saint Paul! Call for details.

SARAH KINNEY AND FRIENDS
651-270-6409



HISTORIC IRVINE PARK!
Historic Irvine Park end-unit red brick row house features 3BR's, 2BA's, 1500 finished sq. ft, w/ deck, porch, hardwood floors, fireplace and central air. You will love the convenient and enchanted location within walking distance to downtown & the river. Call for details.

SARAH KINNEY AND FRIENDS
651-497-4387



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.

SARAH KINNEY AND FRIENDS
651-497-4387



MICHAELA TOOHEY
651-253-6830



ANNE KIRCHNER
651-335-3388



SARAH KINNEY
MATCHMAKER
651-231-2211



DAVID NOYES, JR.
REAL ESTATE GROUP
651-233-0748



JOE OVERHAUG
651-338-2639



TJ PIERRET
651-755-6669



PATRICK RUBLE
651-230-0903



LOLLY MCNEELY
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612-810-4138