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City may hold referendum on limiting rent increases to 3%

By JANE MCCLURE

aint Paul voters may well be asked this November whether or not to approve a new ordinance that would limit annual increases in the rent charged to residential tenants to 3 percent. Over the past few weeks, members of Housing Equity Now Saint Paul (HENS) gathered more than 9,000 signatures on a petition to place the measure on the ballot. Ramsey County Elections officials are now counting and verifying the signatures.

More than 5,000 valid signatures from Saint Paul residents are needed for the rent control question to appear on the ballot. If approved by more than 50 percent of voters, the new policy would take effect on May 1, 2022.

Tram Hoang, policy advocate for HENS, said the number of petition signatures that have been collected sends a loud and clear message that "renters belong in Saint Paul."

Just prior to turning in the signatures to county officials, Hoang and other tenant advocates spoke of tenants they have known who have been saddled with significant rent increases. More than half of the city's residents live in rental housing, according to Monica Bravo, executive director of the West Side Citizens Organization, "and tenants are being displaced every single day," she said.

In addition to the annual cap on rent in-

RENT CONTROL REFERENDUM ▶4



Cool place to hang out.

Water aerobics instructor Yaiza Franco leads her class on a warm and bright morning at the Highland Park Aquatics Center as it opened for the season on June 12. At right, 4-year-old Violet Scott has her swimming vest fastened by dad Bryant during Saturday morning Tot Time. PHOTOS BY



SHA supports proposal for new 5-story building at 695 Grand Ave.

Council OKs exemption to Grand's 3-story height limit

BY JANE MCCLURE

ith the support of the Summit Hill Association, Saint Albans LLC's plan for a five-story, mixed-use development on the northwest corner of Grand Avenue and Saint Albans Street will be reviewed by the Saint Paul Planning Commission's Zoning Committee on July 1. The SHA's approval on June 17 capped a neighborhood review process that began in March. However, the high-profile debate over density, redevelopment and the future of Grand Avenue continues.

The Kenefick family, longtime owners of the property at 695 Grand Ave., is working with Reuter Walton on plans to demolish the one-story building on the site and replace it with a new structure that would house four businesses on the ground floor and 79 apartments above. The market-rate apartments would range in size from alcoves to two bedrooms plus den. The existing Emmett's and Saji-Ya restaurants would move into the new building. Dixies on Grand would not.

The SHA debated the pros and cons of the development for more than three hours on

695 GRAND AVE. ▶2

Hospitality industry bristles at city's passage of Right to Recall

BY JANE MCCLURE

orkers in the hospitality industry in Saint Paul who lost their jobs as a result of COVID-19 should get which voted unanimously to adopt a Right to Recall ordinance on June 16.

having these days filling vacant positions, some business and hospitality associations are questioning the need for another layer of governmental regulations.

B Kyle, president of the Saint Paul Area top priority in hiring as the pandemic wanes Chamber of Commerce, described the ordinance as "nonsensical. Businesses in Saint and their former employers reopen or ramp up operations. Or so says the City Council, Paul and across the Twin Cities are experiencbasic fairness." ing a labor shortage," she said. "No one I know is deliberately passing over qualified employees when they have work to be done. Every Right to Recall has been touted as a fairness issue for hospitality workers who were former employee for whom they have work hit especially hard by the pandemic. The orhas been recalled. Creating an ordinance with dinance has the support of employee unions, additional reporting requirements at a time but given the difficulty many employers are when many businesses are still just trying to in business related to the pandemic.

make it is unnecessary overreach by city government."

City Council member Rebecca Noecker of Ward 2 acknowledged the criticism. However, she and other council members defended the need to protect workers' rights. The new ordinance, Noecker said, is an "important step for

The ordinance covers laid-off employees of restaurants, bars, hotels, event centers and tourism businesses who were employed for six months or more prior to March 13, 2020. In many cases, their layoffs were a result of government-mandated shutdowns or a decrease

The ordinance requires Saint Paul employers to first offer jobs to laid off employees in writing. The employees have a limited time in which to respond to job offers. The ordinance will remain in effect until December 31, 2022. Employers who bypass laid-off employees in hiring may be penalized.

The employers also must keep records of employment so that employees and those monitoring hiring can have access to the records. The records must be kept for three years. Ordinance enforcement and sanctions are in the hands of the city's Department of

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14 695 GRAND AVE.

June 17, discussing everything from building height and massing to managing the loading and unloading of trucks on the site.

Supporters of the project say the building will help revitalize the Grand Avenue business district, which they contend has been flagging in recent years with the loss of many shops. Opponents contend that the project will greatly increase traffic and parking demand in an area that is already congested,

and that it will alter the character of the neighborhood. A petition opposing the project with 2,179 signatures was submitted to the SHA.

SHA board member Samantha Loesch, who lives near the proposed development, cited concerns about increased traffic and parking demand and the effect the development could have on the neighborhood's character. "I'm concerned that (the five-story structure) will dwarf everything else on the block," she said.

"But we live in a metro area," countered SHA board member Trevor Burns. "We need density to grow and thrive."

One issue that repeatedly came up was what would happen if this particular development does not go forward. "A lot of people don't like this building," said SHA board member Katie Bergstrom. "The question is, what else could go there?"

Saint Albans LLC's request for rezoning the property from business to mixed-use Traditional Neighborhoods 3 was recommended for approval by the SHA. The request for a conditional use permit to allow a building height of up to 59 feet 10 inches also won the SHA's support.

The SHA also recommended the approval of several setback variances. One would place the ground floor of the building 18 feet from Grand, or 10 feet more than what is required, to allow for more restaurant patio space. A second setback variance would accommodate the building's stepped-back, C-shaped design and make room for a terrace on the second level of the building.

The project will also need an exemption from the East Grand Avenue Zoning Overlay District. The SHA voted 9-4-1 to



The stepped-back facade of the proposed five-story development at 695 Grand Ave.

"This is an example of the change that is coming," said SHA board member Mark Lindley. "We can manage change or change can manage us."

recommend that the developers be allowed to opt out of the overlay district, which limits building heights to three stories. However, the SHA made it clear that its recommendation should not be interpreted as a vote against the overlay district itself. The SHA is currently studying the zoning overlay district with plans to submit a recommendation to the city by June 1, 2022, according to SHA board president Peter Rhoades.

The zoning overlay district was adopted in 2006 to limit the height and massing of new buildings on the eastern end of Grand, limiting their height to three stories and their square footage to 25,000. Those restrictions were seen as a way to discourage national chain stores from moving onto Grand. Neighborhood surveys have indicated continued support for keeping the zoning district in place.

Ari Parritz of Reuter Walton and Bob Loken of ESG Architects said the months of neighborhood discussion have informed and improved the project's design. Loken said the development would bring positive change to the neighborhood. "Grand is a vibrant retail corridor that has experienced some real challenges," he said. "Redevelopment could help turn that around."

Since the plan for 695 Grand was first proposed, vehicle exits and a loading zone have been eliminated in the alley behind the building, setbacks have been altered, architectural details and articulation have been added, and space has been made for a fourth commercial tenant on the first floor.

The plan now calls for 68 underground parking spaces for residents. The ground floor would have commercial spaces ranging from 1,084 to 2,501 square feet. A fitness room would be located on the ground floor beside the residents' entrance on Saint Albans. About 30 parking spaces would be provided for business patrons.

Neighborhood sentiment continues to be mixed. Some local residents are still calling for a smaller development on the scale of the Oxford Hill building on the southwest corner of Grand and Oxford Street. "If it were one story shorter, I'd be on board," said James McDonald.

SHA board member Sonja Mason said the developers could bring mixed use to Grand with a three-story structure. However, Parritz said the numbers simply do not work with a smaller development.

According to Dan Marshall, owner of Mischief Toy Store at 818 Grand Ave., the addition of 79 apartments will help local businesses. "This is very much needed and will help solve our housing crisis," he said.

Neighbor Ellen Brown said she appreciated the efforts to bring new vitality to Grand. "And let's not overlook the need for greater property tax opportunities for the city," she said.

"This is an example of the change that is coming," said SHA board member Mark Lindley. "We can manage change or change can manage us."



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Editors Dale Mischke • John Wadell

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CIRCULATION: The Villager is published every two weeks by Villager Communications Inc. and has a press run of 41,867. Please purchase a subscription for \$59.88 by visiting MyVillager.com or sending a check to 241 Cleveland Ave S, Suite V, Saint Paul, MN 55105.

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Comment process is rolling again for Riverview Corridor

First open house scheduled on line's engineering phase

By JANE MCCLURE

fter idling for a few years, the public comment process for the Riverview Corridor is revving up again. Ramsey County is seeking public comments on a "purpose and need statement" for the streetcar line through June 25. The county's Regional Rail Authority will also host a virtual open house on the project's preliminary engineering work from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, June 23.

The public will see an update on the corridor, which would run between the Saint Paul Union Depot and Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport and Mall of America. An initial study process that wrapped up in 2017 resulted in the selection of a 12-mile route that largely runs on West Seventh Street.

The next steps for the project include more detailed engineering studies as well as the submission of the required purpose and need statement. The statement is required as part of the federal environmental review process for transportation projects.

Three groups, including two dominated by citizens, are currently working on the plans.

A Policy Advisory Committee, composed of elected officials and business and community representatives, began meeting in 2020. It plans to review the purpose and need statement based on comments from the public and its consultant team at its upcoming meeting from 9-11:30 a.m. Thursday, July 15. If all goes as planned and federal funding is obtained, the project could start construction as soon as 2028 and open in 2032.

This spring, a Community Advisory Committee and a Station Area Planning Task Force began meeting. Those groups are expected to meet into 2023.

The Community Advisory Committee is reviewing project design, environmental analysis and community engagement. It involves the entire project area.

The Station Area Planning Task Force is looking at current proposed land uses and current conditions at proposed transit stations. Expected to emerge from that process are potential zoning changes to promote growth and redevelopment around each station. Any zoning changes would have to go to

the Saint Paul City Council for approval.

Task force members have already outlined some challenges. One is that the project have sufficient regional and local ridership. Another is increasing density along the corridor without altering the character of its neighborhoods. Crossing the Mississippi River is a third concern.

An improved pedestrian experience, retaining the history of the corridor, and managing traffic near downtown at Xcel Energy Center and the United/Children's Hospitals complex are other issues.

Nine streetcar stations are planned along West Seventh. The corridor is divided into three study areas. One includes stations at Davern Street, Maynard Drive and the Homer/Montreal area. A second includes stations at Otto, Randolph and Saint Clair avenues. The third includes stations at Grand Avenue, Kellogg Boulevard and the Fifth-Sixth Street area of downtown.

Stations could shift as a result of the ongoing studies, said Frank Alarcon of the project staff. Station area plans could be affected by such decisions as whether the streetcars run down the center of the street or along one side.

Near Seven Corners and the United/Children Hospitals area, use of part of Smith Avenue is still on the table. Another factor could be if a Canadian Pacific Railroad spur is used in the area between Randolph and Maynard.

Still another factor could be topography. One issue is if bluffs along part of the route would make siting a station difficult. The Station Area Planning Task Force is looking at that along with connecting streets and highways, motor vehicle traffic volumes, accident data, and the location of parks and other open space.

The Mississippi River crossing continues to be unresolved.

"The big question is, 'How do we cross the river?" said Mona Elabbady of SRF Consulting. "We don't know yet whether we can do a crossing at Fort Snelling."

Much of the technical and engineering work is focused on that. The locally preferred alternative calls for a crossing at or near West Seventh (Highway 5). The goal is to have a river crossing solution by this fall.

To comment on the project's purpose and need statement and to sign up for the virtual open house on June 23, visit tinyurl.com/3kbvrnnh.



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1 RENT CONTROL REFERENDUM

creases, the ballot measure calls for city officials to set up a process whereby landlords can receive an exemption from the 3 percent limit. The exemptions could be granted to landlords who make significant investments in improving their property or who see a large increase in property taxes.

Clare Ware of HENS said she has spoken to people who are homeless or who fear becoming homeless because of the cost of rental housing. "Housing injustice is not OK in the state of Minnesota," she said. She and others said that high rent increases disproportionately affect low-income people and people of color.

A key goal of the ballot initiative is to increase housing stability, according to Hoang. "Rent control is just part of the solution to our affordable housing crisis," she said.

Landlords and housing industry groups are skeptical. They cited such issues as rising property taxes and higher insurance rates as reasons for keeping their ability to increase rents flexible.

The Minnesota Multi Housing Association contends that rent control is more likely to increase, rather than lessen, the shortage of affordable housing in Saint Paul. "Should the rent control ordinance be on the ballot, we are confident that the voters of Saint Paul will reject this extreme measure," the association stated. "The proposal will only discourage investment in Saint Paul, especially in housing, and make rental housing less accessible for new residents."

Mark Mason, incoming president of the Saint Paul Area Association of Realtors, also questioned the rent control push, saying that in other cities rent control has not worked as intended. He cited studies that have shown that when rent is controlled in such a way, smaller landlords sell out to larger ones. Other studies have shown that rent control encourages landlords to create more high-end housing to ensure a profit.

Joe Hughes, a landlord with several properties in local neighborhoods, said he knows many landlords who work to keep their rental housing affordable and do not seek large rent increases. A limit on rent increases, he added,

1 RIGHT TO RECALL ORDINANCE

Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity.

Hospitality Minnesota president and CEO Liz Rammer called the ordinance "unnecessary and harmful" in the current business climate. According to her, hotel and event operators very much want to bring back their workers and as quickly as possible. It just makes sense, she said, to bring back experienced and senior workers first.

"While the purpose of the (ordinance) is to get these workers back to their jobs, in practice it does nothing to achieve that end," Rammer said, "because it doesn't address the underlying problem: Revenue for operators has been decimated and travel demand remains suppressed."

Kyle said the ordinance and the City Counl's perceived need to interject itself into employer-employee relations "amplifies the vilification of businesses in Saint Paul." She said now is the time to remove business barriers, not pile them on. The Saint Paul Regional Labor Federation, with 150 affiliated unions and more than 50,000 union members, supported the ordinance, saying it creates an orderly path for people to get their jobs back. "Union hotels in Saint Paul have laid off between 39 and 84 percent of their staff," said federation president Kera Peterson. "It's reasonable to assume that nonunion properties have laid off staff at similar rates. A significant portion of these laid-off workers are women and people of color.

HENS representatives said that in a typical year most Saint Paul landlords keep rent increases below 3 percent. The purpose of the proposed ordinance, they added, is to rein in "predatory" landlords.

may result in the deterioration of rental properties as landlords find it more difficult to maintain them.

Hughes also wondered whether the proposed rent controls would force small landlords out of the market. "This is very concerning to landlords," he said. "There are definitely two sides to this, and in my mind it's overreaching."

At least two City Council members, Mitra Jalali and Nelsie Yang, have been involved in the effort to control rent. Mayor Melvin Carter has not taken a position, but has issued a statement saying he is looking forward to the policy discussion.

A similar rent control effort is underway in Minneapolis. That city's Charter Commission is considering two different proposals. One would place a rent control question on the ballot. The other would allow the City Council to create a new policy. Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey has said he does not support rent control in its traditional form, saying it has not led to the creation of more affordable housing in other cities.

There are various forms of rent control. and studies of their effectiveness differ widely. A preliminary report released earlier this year by the University of Minnesota Center for Urban and Regional Affairs found that rent control would help rein in tenant displacement in Minneapolis, where low-income tenants have seen large increases in rent.

HENS representatives said at a June 15 press conference that in a typical year most Saint Paul landlords keep rent increases below 3 percent. The purpose of the proposed ordinance, they added, is to rein in "predatory" landlords and the practice of "overnight rent increases."

"We want the policy to target bad actors," Hoang said.

Kyle said the ordinance and the City Council's perceived need to interject itself into employer-employee relations "amplifies the vilification of businesses in Saint Paul."

nance. "Hospitality workers in Minnesota are facing an unpredictable jobs crisis," it stated.

According to Unite Here, more than 100,000 hospitality workers in the Twin Cities alone were displaced, with employment down 55 percent as compared to last year.

"I can think of no industry that has been more impacted by continued joblessness since the onset of the pandemic than those in hospitality," said Wayne Luneberg, policy director for Unite Here Minnesota Local 17. According to him, the road to recovery for hospitality will be a long one, stretching into 2023. Morrissey Hospitality, whose operations include the Saint Paul Hotel and its restaurants, offered qualified support for the measure. Morrissey's businesses have lost more than \$4 million during the pandemic, but still paid property taxes of more than \$1.2 million, according to president Richard Dobransky. Dobransky said it may be the third quarter of 2022 before activity in Saint Paul's downtown commercial district returns to prepandemic levels, and 2024 or 2025 before downtown has all of the jobs it had prior to COVID-19. And while Morrissey wants its old workers back, he said, jobs might be consolidated as business practices shift. "COVID-19 has fundamentally changed our industry, and these business practices are the new normal," he said.

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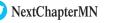


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Unite Here Minnesota, which represents more than 6,000 hospitality workers across the state, sent a letter in support of the ordi-

News Briefs

Work on reparations is focus of new city advisory committee

The Saint Paul City Council appointed a committee on June 16 to study public reparations to local Black Americans for the racist conditions endured by their ancestors before and after the Civil War.

The appointments to the Reparations Legislative Advisory Committee were announced to coincide with Juneteenth, a day that has been celebrated on June 19 for the last 156 years to commemorate the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States. Juneteenth became the nation's 11th federal holiday when it was signed into law last week.

In January, the City Council issued an apology for the city's role in institutional racism and called for the establishment of a committee to study reparations. The council cited several local cases of discrimination against Black Americans when passing the resolution.

More than 60 people applied for the committee, said Ward 7 council member Jane Prince. The group will discuss various ways for the city to make reparations. One goal is to push for funding reparations at the state and federal levels.

The committee will prepare a report that will focus on strategies to promote equity and generational wealth; close the gaps in homeownership, health care, education, employment and pay; and address fairness in criminal justice for local descendants of slaves.

Trahern Crews, a Saint Paul resident who has led calls for the reparations study, thanked the council. "This is not charity," he said. "This is justice."

Committee conveners include Crews, Veronica Burt and Yohuru Williams. Committee members include Theresa Cunningham, Lynette Harris, Amber Jones, Benjamin Mchie, Nick Muhammad, Jessica Nickrand, Jose Perez, Khulia Pringle, Vic Rosenthal and Jerry Thomas.

The City Council set a \$50 stipend per meeting for committee members, and they can meet for up to one year. The committee's report to the City Council, which is due by June 15, 2022, is expected to lay the groundwork for the creation of a permanent reparations commission in the city.

Variances granted for West End garage to house vintage fire truck

A West End family will be able to build a new garage and accessory dwelling with variances approved on June 14 by the Saint Paul Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA).

Dustin and Katherine Thune of 455 S. Chatsworth St. want to demolish an existing detached garage and carport in order to build a new detached garage with an adjacent accessory dwelling in their backyard. Their plans required two variances.

The maximum size allowed for all accessory structures is 35 percent of the rear yard or a maximum of 1,000 square feet, while the proposed garage and accessory unit would be



A dream fulfilled. Sophia Ahmed, 12, tries out the long slide during the grand opening of the Midway Peace Park at 416 N. Griggs St. on June 15. The 3-acre park features an amphitheater, playground, walking path, green space, basketball court, water feature and rain gardens. The multi-partner effort included the support of the Skyline Tower apartments, seen in the background. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

1,950 square feet in size. The floor area of the accessory unit is limited to a maximum of 800 square feet, while 898 feet are proposed.

The request went to the BZA in the spring, but was laid over so the applicants could provide more detailed plans. BZA staff recommended approval on the condition that the structure's exterior complement the house and that it not be used for commercial purposes.

The Thunes want to create garage space for a vintage fire truck. Windows in the planned structure are designed so that the fire truck can be viewed from the street.

The project had the support from neighbors and the West Seventh/Fort Road Federation, and no one spoke out against it.

BZA allows apartment building to use Selby Avenue lot for parking

The Saint Paul Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) on June 14 approved three variances for a lot at 682 Selby Ave. to be used for parking to accommodate an expanded apartment building at 683 Hague Ave.

The Selby lot was long home to a grocery store and barber shop with two apartments on its second floor until the building was destroyed by fire in 2018. The lot and a 14-unit apartment building at 683 Hague are owned by Joseph Hughes. He wants to add four efficiency apartments to the lower level of the building.

Although parking for its residents is currently provided on a lot at the southeast corner of Selby and Saint Albans Street, Hughes said his tenants want to park closer to their homes for safety reasons.

A minimum of 15 off-street parking spaces were required and 11 were approved. The parking spaces were required to be at least 4 feet from any lot line and 2 feet were allowed on the west side. A landscaped yard at least 4 feet wide was required along the public street or sidewalk, while a 1.5-foot-wide area was proposed on the north side and 1.2 feet on the east side.

BZA staff supported those three variances, but recommended denial of a fourth. That one required two shade trees for the new parking lot, but only one was proposed.

Historic Saint Paul plans to rehab deteriorated home on West End

The Saint Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) has approved the sale of a home at 47 Douglas St. to the nonprofit Historic Saint Paul. The HRA also approved a development agreement for the property and authorized spending up to \$130,000 in addition to the land value.

The HRA has had title to the property since 2010 after it was donated to the city by Wells Fargo. The city has maintained the property since then, but has been looking for a buyer. Various buyers have been considered since then, but at least two purchase agreements fell through.

The property was broken into and vandalized in 2016. The HRA staff then began exploring demolition, but faced neighborhood Historic Saint Paul proposed purchasing the property in late 2020 for \$1 in order to rehabilitate and sell it. That work requires \$130,000 in financing for a project with an estimated cost of almost \$394,000.

As required by city policy, the property was put out for bid. Another purchase offer emerged, but HRA staff recommended that Historic Saint Paul's offer move ahead.

Ryan Cos. seeking exception to city, Highland Village sign regs

As plans for Highland Bridge continue to unfold, more exceptions to city regulations are likely to be sought. Those exceptions may include regulations on rooftop signs and an amendment to the Highland Village special sign district that has been in place since 1986. The Highland District Council's Community Development Committee reviewed requests for those exceptions on June 14 from master developer Ryan Companies.

The first request involves a 35-by-35foot sign overlooking the 122-acre development site from atop a building just south of Ford Parkway and west of Cretin Avenue. The words "Highland Bridge" would be superimposed over an outline of the state of Minnesota.

Saint Paul currently prohibits new rooftop signs. The only exception under the zoning code is for a rooftop sign on a downtown professional sports facility with seating for more than 6,000 spectators. That exception opened the way for a rooftop sign at CHS Field, home turf for the Saint Paul Saints.

Maureen Michalski, who is heading up the Highland Bridge development for Ryan, called the proposed rooftop sign "placemaking." However, unless the city ban on rooftop signs and the Highland Village special sign district are amended, it would not be allowed.

Highland Village was one of the first areas in Saint Paul to have a special sign district. Grand Avenue was another. Both districts were established to minimize commercial sign clutter. The Highland Village district covers the entire Ford Parkway frontage of the Highland Bridge site.

Three six-story buildings are planned for the commercial block on the southwest corner of Ford and Cretin, west and southwest of a civic square at the corner. Those buildings and the new 51,000-square-foot Lunds & Byerlys supermarket on the southeast corner of Ford and Cretin will contribute a major portion of Highland Bridge's 150,000 square feet of retail space.

The underlying zoning there is businessmixed, which allows for buildings up to 65 feet high. Plans call for a total of 211 apartments and about 60,000 square feet of firstfloor commercial space in the three buildings. Construction of the north building is expected to begin this fall and construction of the two south buildings in 2022. However, detailed building designs have not yet been released.

News Briefs were compiled by Jane McClure.



Port Authority funds may speed up the removal of city's ash trees

BY JANE MCCLURE

The city of Saint Paul may have turned a corner in its battle with the emerald ash borer. The City Council on June 9 unveiled an agreement with the Saint Paul Port Authority to issue \$18 million in bonds to help the city's forestry division create a jobs program and step up its efforts to remove and replace diseased ash trees. A city ordinance setting up the program is expected to be approved on June 23.

The Port Authority funds will be used for buying equipment as well as hiring workers. The accelerated work schedule will begin in 2022. By the end of 2026, forestry staff are expected to be able to remove the city's remaining boulevard ash trees, or eight years earlier than previously expected.

Saint Paul has an estimated 11,000 ash trees

remaining along its streets. About 3,000 were slated to come down this year, including trees in the Highland Park, Macalester-Groveland, Merriam Park, Snelling-Hamline, Lexington-Hamline, Summit-Hill, Summit-University and West End neighborhoods.

The bond proceeds also will allow forestry workers to catch up on a massive backlog of tree trimming, stump removal and tree replanting unrelated to the emerald ash borer. City tree trimming, which had been scheduled every 15 years on boulevards across the city, has been happening in recent years only in emergency situations or when a complaint is received.

Forestry staff have estimated that by the end of 2021, they will have a backlog of 2,575 ash stumps to remove, 4,570 non-ash stumps to remove, and approximately 18,150 sites on city property where new trees will need to be planted. Of those 18,150 sites, about 80 percent or 14,520 are currently ready for replanting. The Port Authority funds will allow for planting an additional 2,000 trees per year.

According to City Council member Chris Tolbert of Ward 3, the funding will allow city forestry staff to get back to a normal work schedule. "(The emerald ash borer) has been taking over forestry's lives," he said.

"This is a really big day," said Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Department director Mike Hahm. "We certainly couldn't do this without the partnership of the Port Authority and the city's Office of Financial Services."

The bonds will be repaid through the Port Authority's property tax levy.

The emerald ash borer is native to Asia. The first infestation in the United States was detected in Michigan in 2002. Since then, the beetle has spread throughout the U.S. Minnesota's first infestation was discovered in 2009 in Saint Paul's Saint Anthony Park neighborhood, though it is believed the pests were present in the city as early as 2004. The insects are now in every neighborhood of Saint Paul and in counties throughout the state.

Emerald ash borers kill all species of ash trees. Their larvae live beneath the bark, feeding on the tree and eventually killing it. The branches of infected trees become brittle, and have resulted in property damage when they fall.

The city of Saint Paul has tried various ways to combat the borers, including releasing stingless wasps to prey on the beetles. The city allows residents to obtain permits to treat boulevard ash trees with preventive chemicals, but it is assumed that most if not all of the city's ash trees will eventually have to be removed.

Our Lady of Peace seeks to turn part of St. Anthony Ave. into parking lot

BY JANE MCCLURE

proposal to vacate Saint Anthony Avenue in front of the Our Lady of Peace hospice will be considered by the Union Park District Council on July 7 with a recommendation of denial from its Transportation Committee. More than a dozen neighbors addressed the committee on June 14, asking that the street vacation be rejected.

The hospice would like to vacate Saint Anthony between Finn Street and Cleveland Avenue to create an employee parking lot. Several neighbors objected, saying the area already deals with considerable cut-through traffic as motorists try to avoid traffic lights on Cretin, Cleveland and Marshall avenues. They said vacating that stretch of Saint Anthony would only make traffic worse on other streets. The hospice and the programs that are housed there have between 50 and 60 employees who park on Saint Anthony. "It's their parking lot," said Andrew Swartz, a consultant working with Our Lady of Peace. According to him, vacating the street and turning it into a parking lot would make it safer for employees.

The vacation request also includes a proposed bike and pedestrian trail. Some committee members said the short segment of the street would not connect to other trails and is not included in the Saint Paul Bicycle Plan.

Committee member Debbie Meister said that vacating a street to add a parking lot sets a bad precedent, especially after our Lady of Peace recently got city approval to expand its visitor parking.

"I don't see a purpose and need for this," said committee member Dan Elenbaas.

Several neighbors said they value the hospice as part of the neighborhood and would like to work together on traffic issues, rather than closing a street.

Some neighbors said they already anticipate more traffic as new apartment buildings fill up along Marshall between Cleveland and Cretin avenues. "We're already being squeezed in a lot of ways," said Carroll Avenue resident Peter Rozga.

"People are careening down our streets. It's absolutely dangerous," said Carroll Avenue resident Nancy Hone.

John Hewitt, who lives on Ann Arbor Street, said some neighborhood streets are too narrow to accommodate additional traffic. "If (Saint Anthony) closes, that's going to send traffic to other streets," he said.

The UPDC has only heard from a few people

favoring the street vacation. One Saint Anthony resident who spoke on June 14 and did not give her full name said a street vacation would provide safety for her area.

The hospice recently obtained city site plan approval to expand its current visitor parking lot from 15 to 40 spaces. That required no district council or neighborhood review.

Vacating a street in Saint Paul requires City Council approval. A city spokesperson said while there has been an inquiry, a formal application to vacate Saint Anthony had not been filed as of late last week.

Our Lady of Peace also plans to expand its building into a current courtyard, converting its double-occupancy rooms to single occupancy in the process. The bed count would remain at 21. The building's expansion is not related to the street vacation.



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Bicyclists will get their own separated lanes when Saint Paul Avenue is resurfaced from West Seventh Street (shown here) to Edgcumbe Road this fall.

Council approves bike lanes, bumpouts as part of resurfacing Saint Paul Avenue

BY JANE MCCLURE

edicated bike lanes will replace one traffic lane in each direction on Saint Paul Avenue from West Seventh Street to Edgcumbe Road this fall as part of a project approved by the Saint Paul City Council on June 16. The project will also include resurfacing that stretch of roadway and making some pedestrian crossing improvements.

City Council member Chris Tolbert said the project will not only provide a link in the city's bike network, but will address the deteriorated street condition. The new bike lanes are called for in the 2015 Saint Paul Bicycle Plan.

Saint Paul Avenue is 78 feet wide in that area. It has 8-foot parking lanes on both sides, a pair of 12- and 13-foot traffic lanes in each direction, and a 12-foot landscaped median.

The project involves restriping the street to replace one traffic lane in each direction with a 13-foot bike lane. The median, most of the on-street parking and the current 25 mph speed limit will remain.

The project also will include bumpouts at West Seventh Street, Davern Street and midblock between the two. The bumpouts are intended to provide greater visibility to pedestrians, shorten the crossing distance and narrow the road to calm traffic. Only about eight on-street parking spaces will be lost due to the bumpouts.

Jimmy Shoemaker, transportation planner for Public Works, said traffic in that area is less than 3,600 vehicles a day, though the street has three Metro Transit bus routes.

The new bike lanes are expected to provide a connection to nearby lanes on Montreal Avenue and the Samuel Morgan Trail along Shepard Road. Future connections could include bike lanes planned on Edgcumbe Road and Davern Street.

Highland District Council Transportation Committee members have raised several questions about the project over the past several months. One was whether a single vehicle lane in each direction would accommodate the anticipated increase in traffic from the Highland Bridge development. That will be reviewed as Highland Bridge is built out, according to city and county officials.

Other questions centered on a Ramsey County resurfacing project on Saint Paul Avenue from Edgcumbe to Cleveland Avenue in 2022 that will also involve removing a traffic lane in each direction and adding bike lanes.

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VIEWPOINT The illogic of city's **INBOX** lower speed limits

By John Fineberg

'm so frustrated by the new 20 mph speed limit in much of the cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. At various entry points into the cities, you see this sign: "Citywide speed limit 20 mph unless otherwise posted." We're now led to presume that nearly every street has a speed limit of 20 mph.

So you leave your home on a 20 mph residential street and turn onto an arterial street. What's the speed limit there? You're told to assume nothing other than 20 mph unless you're informed otherwise.

Now you turn a corner. And because you can assume nothing else, you're driving 20 mph on a street with a speed limit of, say, 25 mph. Or 30 mph. Or 35 mph. Or 40 mph. Or even 45 mph. Are you a hazard on the road? Absolutely. Are you likely to be subjected to road rage from other drivers? Almost certainly.

When are you allowed to increase your speed? Not until you've been formally notified that the speed limit is higher. When will you be notified? If you're lucky, in less than half a block. If you're not so lucky, several blocks. Seriously, you could be driving on an arterial road for half a mile before you finally see a sign. Meanwhile, you're obeying what appears to be the law: 20 mph, unless otherwise notified.

Personally, since the law changed, I'm watching for speed limit signs on practically every block when I should be watching the road for hazards, for other vehicles, for bicyclists, for pedestrians. I'm not about to just guess when I could get pulled over for speeding if I'm wrong.

In theory, it might make sense that it's all standardized at 20 mph. But here's what it says on the city of Saint Paul's website: "New speed limits are 20 mph for local residential streets; 25 mph for larger, arterial and collector city-owned streets; and 30-plus mph for a few city-owned streets. Per Minnesota law, cities do not have authority to change speed limits on county and MnDOT (state) roads. Speed limits on these streets in Minneapolis and Saint Paul will not change."

Where the theory breaks down is here: Are drivers really cognizant of when they're driving on "cityowned streets" or "collector city-owned streets" (whatever those are). Do you recognize when you're driving on county or MnDOT roads? Of course not. People shouldn't need a doctorate to get a driver's license. But the current rules are unnecessarily complicated.

There's nothing wrong, or overly complicated, with different speed limits. That is, unless the city refuses to post exceptions - upward or downward - everywhere else.

There's also nothing wrong with the decision to make 20 mph the standard. What is wrong is that city officials are assuming that drivers will intuitively know the speed limit on each non-residential street. Perhaps — after memorizing all of the exceptions on all city streets - experienced local drivers would have a decent idea of what the speed limit is likely to be. But certainly those people would be exceptions. Average drivers would be clueless until a sign appears.

A West End welcome to all

Urinating in public, being loud and foul-mouthed, hanging out on the sidewalk and smoking are the types of complaints I'm hearing about the guests of Freedom House. These are the same behaviors we see of people drinking at the very establishments that are complaining about Freedom House. So I guess I'm confused. What is the problem? Is the problem that only wealthier white people should be allowed to engage in these behaviors? That's what it feels like to me.

Closing Freedom House doesn't mean that those experiencing homelessness or mental illness will just disappear. Perhaps the real problem is that it's hard to ignore the affordable housing and mental health crises when people living with these crises aren't hidden from the public but are visible on a busy thoroughfare. Instead of closing or moving a needed service, I wish we could identify and solve policy issues related to Freedom House. What does Freedom House or the city need to do to make this experiment more amenable to the local businesses and residents who are upset?

I'm proud that this neighborhood welcomes all. We're home to sober homes and bars. We're home to the highly affluent and those who have little. We're home to world-famous treatment centers. That's precisely what makes this neighborhood so great. I support the Saint Paul Planning Commission's and City Council's efforts to make permanent changes to the zoning code so that Freedom House can be a fixture in our community.

> Anthony Molaro West End

Busy corner demands extra care

I was biking south on Cleveland Avenue recently. As I neared the busy intersection at Ford Parkway, I saw the semaphore countdown was at 14 seconds. I knew I'd get through easily. However, a young mother with her 3-year-old decided to start north across the crosswalk as the countdown flashed 4 seconds and "Don't Walk."

As I safely cleared the intersection, an impatient motorist began his long-awaited left turn to westbound Ford, right where I knew the mom and daughter were. She screamed at the driver: "What are you doing? She's only 3!" I hollered at the driver through his open window to be more careful.

No sooner were the words out of my mouth than I realized I should have also told the young woman that she was behaving very unsafely by starting across the street against the crosswalk commands and from the driver's blind spot. She foolishly put herself and her child at risk.

This is a busy intersection loaded with cars, buses, bikes and pedestrians. It was the scene of a pedestrian fatality some years back. Let's all calm down and look carefully before we hit the gas or step off the curb. With the increased traffic volume from Highland Bridge, this busy corner is only going to get more difficult.

Bob Brereton Macalester-Groveland

No noise is good noise

I find it strange that the many people who were so annoyed by the sounds of garbage trucks in the alleys have no qualms at all about using weed whackers, leaf blowers and gas-powered mowers on any day and at all hours, including early in the morning on weekends. Why aren't they using brooms and rakes and virtually silent reel mowers? The exercise is great, and m city lots don't require all that horsepower to get the job done.

and are left with a lot of administrative tasks that are exacerbated by PBM practices.

Many independent pharmacies partner with pharmacy services administrative organizations (PSAOs) to help negotiate with PBMs and fulfill administrative duties. PSAOs relieve independent pharmacies of some of the administrative burdens that come with running a small business, which is vital to ensuring that independent pharmacies can prioritize patient care.

Community pharmacists know and understand the communities they serve. We must stand against PBM practices that seek to put small pharmacists out of business, limit access to care and make huge profits off of our patients.

> James Stage, Owner Lloyd's Pharmacy Hamline-Midway

Superfluous signs?

Why is it that the city of Saint Paul doesn't have enough money to employ more police officers to get guns and shooters off the streets, but it can spend money on posting speed limit signs all over the city stating, "20 mph unless otherwise posted"? In driver's ed, I was told that the speed limit is 25 mph when not stated otherwise.

> Danielle Boyd **Battle Creek**

Let's save the Selby Tunnel

I've been in love with the potential of developing a pocket park centered on the historic trolley tunnel along the old Pleasant Avenue corridor in Saint Paul. I started pursuing this dream during my friend George Latimer's reign as mayor. The first time we discussed the tunnel's future, my pal and business partner, architect Dan Gleeson, and I envisioned a public-private development that told of the uniqueness of the Selby Tunnel and the importance of the trolley to the development of the metro area.

At that time the title to the property was so complicated, it made our efforts futile. During the ensuing years I teamed up with another trolley lover, Jim White, and together we only managed to install a metal standard identifying the spot.

For those of you who are interested or who don't know about the old tunnel that for decades hauled trolley riders up and down the hill between Selby and Pleasant avenues, I have stayed with my desire to preserve this site for its educational and social value. I prepared a power-point presentation a couple of years ago to show what I mean and to encourage the use of Community Development Block Grant money or enlist the support of the Ramsey County Historical Society or Saint Paul Parks Conservatory in the design and development of the site. As I understand it, title to the property is now under the control of the city's Public Works Department.

Anyone interested?

Dick Kleinbaum Summit-University

Biden's border policy is working

Republican politicians are carping about the hundreds of thousands of poor, desperate and marginally skilled and educated foreigners who are coming across our southern border. It is time they shut up.

Joe Biden proudly and forcefully condemned Trump's policies, hich had resulted in a 45-year low in illegal border crossings. And he and his party are ecstatic that massive illegal immigration has developed and is gaining momentum every day. Joe's policies are working beyond his wildest expectations. Elections have consequences. We are getting exactly what a majority of Americans voted for in a free and fair election devoid of any skullduggery. And millions of people from Mexico, Central America and beyond are very happy about it.

Don't get me wrong, I'm a rule-follower. And I'm all about safety. I'm an emergency medical technician and a CPR and first aid instructor with over three decades of experience in both professions.

If you want to make the standard 20 mph, do it — and stick to it. Then heavily post those streets where the speed limit is something else, like at the beginning and middle of every block so you're not constantly guessing or driving distracted.

City officials' hearts may have been in the right place when lowering the speed limit, trying to get drivers to slow down and save lives. But their brains were not in the right place in the illogical way they implemented the plan.

John Fineberg is a resident of Highland Park.

Kathleen Deming Macalester-Groveland

Rein in the drug middlemen

COVID-19 has shed light on the essential role that independent pharmacies play in ensuring the health of communities across the state. This past year has been especially challenging as we worked to adjust to the pandemic. Still, our patients remain our numberone priority. It is extremely important that our patients receive the medications best suited to their needs and preexisting conditions. Many of Minnesota's independent pharmacies have been on the decline in recent years, often due to the malpractices of pharmacy benefit managers. PBMs act as drug middlemen by determining which drugs independent pharmacies and patients have access to and playing a role in deciding the cost of prescription medication. As a result, independent pharmacies are often unable to compete

T.J. Sexton Highland Park

Do write, won't you?

The Villager welcomes letters to the editor and longer guest editorials. However, 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.

Middle school appears headed for renaming

June 3 forum was uniformly opposed to keeping 'Ramsey'

BY CASEY EK

lexander Ramsey had no apparent support at a June 3 forum to consider a possible name change for the middle school at 1700 Summit Ave. that has borne his moniker for close to a century. Forty past and present Ramsey students, teachers, administrators and neighbors attended the online forum, and all of those who spoke lauded the effort to rename the school.

Former Ramsey student and recent Saint Paul Public Schools graduate Loretta Wacek said changing the middle school's name was being discussed when she roamed its halls seven years ago, but the proposal ultimately fizzled. "I was quite disappointed," said Wacek, who sat on the forum's panel. "So much thought went into (changing the name). I was more than thrilled to be asked to be a part of this process again."

Ramsey was appointed by President Zachary Taylor to be the first governor of Minnesota Territory in 1848. As governor of the state of Minnesota in 1861, he was the first governor to answer President Abraham Lincoln's call for volunteers to join the Union's cause in the Civil War. He also presided over the state's effort to defeat an uprising by the Dakota Indians in southern Minnesota in 1862.

Ramsey (1815-1903) has been faulted for urging the extermination or exile of the Dakota Indians in the aftermath of the Dakota War of 1862. Close to 500 unarmed white civilians and 120 soldiers were killed in that conflict. One hundred Dakota were killed in the war, and another 38 Dakota were executed for their alleged role in the hostilities. The following winter, 130 to 300 Dakota civilians died from disease and the harsh conditions while interned in a concentration camp at Fort Snelling.

Megan O'Leary, the parent of a Ramsey 8th-grader and another panel member at the June 3 forum, said she did not know that history before her child learned it at the middle school. "I'm so



On its website at spps.org, the Saint Paul Public Schools has begun soliciting suggestions for a new name for Ramsey Middle School at 1700 Summit Ave.

grateful that my children's education contains this important truth," she said. According to O'Leary, the middle school should immediately part ways with Ramsey's name. "I don't want to hear my kids shouting Alexander Ramsey's name at sporting events," she said.

Ramsey teacher Katrina Haukom is among the 93 percent of the school's staff who are in favor of the name change. Renaming the school would be a step in the right direction, she said, the first of many the middle school could take in creating a better environment for students of all races and ethnicities. "Kids have such a natural curiosity and heart for justice," Haukom said. "I really think our students can be the leaders of helping us decolonize things."

The Saint Paul School Board approved the search for a new name for Ramsey in April, pending a summer-long citizen engagement process. The Saint Paul school district gives schools some autonomy in how they approach a possible renaming, but it requires the school's administrators to first engage with students, parents, staff, alumni, the neighborhood around the school and any other groups deemed to have a stake in the school name. It also requires a vote by students on the new name.

Once the full costs of the Ramsey name change are calculated—signage costs alone typically range from

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\$10,000-\$20,000, according to school district documents—the name change may be brought back to the School Board for approval.

Ramsey School has had its name changed several times in the past century. In the 1920s and '30s, when it was a grades 7-9 school, it was Maria Sanford Junior High School, named after a University of Minnesota English professor of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Sometime later, it adopted Alexander Ramsey as its namesake and became an elementary school before switching back to a junior high school in 1965 and eventually a middle school.

The Minneapolis Public Schools also had a middle school named after Alexander Ramsey, but in 2017 its name was changed to Justice Page School, after former Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan Page.

Dr. Raj Sethuraju, a member of the Saint Paul Public Schools' Restorative Practices Committee, facilitated the June 3 forum. According to him, updates on the Ramsey name change, including the date of another forum on the issue, will be posted at spps.org/domain/17585. There, the public will also find a video recording of the June 3 forum and a way to submit comments and questions on the name change along with suggestions for a new name for the school.



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BOOMERS & BEYOND Living on the upside of 55 **'Blood Moon' rising**

Poet Kirkpatrick reemerges from pandemic

BY ANNE MURPHY

he publication of Blood Moon left Macalester-Groveland author Patricia Kirkpatrick feeling pensive. Her most recent collection of poetry appeared in March 2020, just as COVID-19 began to cast its long shadow over life as we knew it. "With few readings and reviews, I felt the book didn't really exist at times," she said, "and that made it hard to start writing new poems."

During the pandemic, "I watched and read the news obsessively and I kept reading poetry, but I had a hard time reading whole books and barely wrote anything," Kirkpatrick said. "I envy and admire the people who kept pandemic journals. I didn't. It was as if we lived in a floating world, untethered to the normal passage of time."

Blood Moon is a reflection of Kirkpatrick's life and the world that influenced her views. An educator, advocate for the literary arts and the author of such books as Odessa, the winner of the 2013 Minnesota Book Award in poetry, Kirkpatrick said, "I also served as an editor at Saint Paul Almanac, working with people who were new to this country, new to English, new to writing itself. As they wrote about their experiences, issues of race came up, and I felt I needed to write about race, my experience of race as a white woman."

Her stint at Saint Paul Almanac took Kirkpatrick back to her childhood and inspired the initial poems for Blood Moon. "It surprised me how often race was referenced in the stories of my youth and in expressions on the playground and

"I was a child who couldn't catch a ball. but I started writing poetry when I was 7 years old."

> *— Patricia* Kirkpatrick

around the dinner table, when people had very little interaction with people of color," she said. "At the same time, I was seeing on television events like the integration of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. I learned that I was white. What did that give me, what did it obscure?

"Blood Moon is also concerned with phases of the moon and lunar eclipses, the moon as witness and companion, and with birth and death," she said. "I hope the poems are connected by a sense of mystery, even hope, in transformation. What is seen, what's hidden, what's shared, what's unknown, what returns to us."

Kirkpatrick was introduced to poetry by a teacher in the second grade. "I was a child who couldn't catch a ball, but I started writing poetry when I was 7 years old," she said. "In junior high, I was obsessed with Robert Frost's poem 'Acquainted with the Night.' Then I left poetry until college, where I mostly studied social science. I was at the University of Iowa where there were writers everywhere. I started writing again and decided I wanted to be a poet. I moved to San Francisco after college, then to Saint Paul, then back to San Francisco for graduate school and various writing residencies, and back again to Saint Paul in 1983."

Kirkpatrick was attracted to Saint Paul because of the writers who were living here at the time. "I was a waitress in the bar at the Commodore," she said. The Commodore was where Saint Paul's most famous author, F. Scott Fitzgerald, lived for a time in the 1920s, she noted. Kirkpatrick was writing for Preview magazine at the time, the precursor to Minnesota Monthly, and she contributed a piece titled, "Another Round, Another Generation at the Commodore Hotel Bar."

Kirkpatrick said she started writing seriously in the 1970s, during the protests against the Vietnam War. "It's natural to me that a poem speaks from one voice, but also is linked to the cultural and political moment in which we find ourselves-to our power, or lack of power, as citizens," she said. "The real subject of poetry is always, 'what is it like to be alive right here, right now.'"

Among Kirkpatrick's books are Century's Road: Poems by Patricia Kirkpatrick (2004) and Plowie: A Story from the Prairie (1994). Her poems have also appeared in such anthologies as Robert Bly in This World and She Walks in Beauty, edited by Caroline Kennedy.

She has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in writing at Hamline University, Macalester College and the University of Minnesota and in elementary and secondary schools, including J.J. Hill Montessori where her two now grown sons attended.



Macalester-Groveland poet Patricia Kirkpatrick. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

"Saint Paul has beauty and character in its neighborhoods, old houses and the Mississippi River," she said. "It has bookstores, libraries and parks, and it has had funding for the arts and artists. I don't want to see Saint Paul become too rarified a place for people-the writers, artists, teachers and families who often do extraordinary things-to live. Maybe we don't need more granite countertops and high-rise apartments built right up to the street as much as we need to address what happened to the Black neighborhood of Rondo or how to close the racial opportunity gap in our schools."

In order to better understand one's neighbors and the world, Kirkpatrick said, it is essential to teach children the value of reading and writing. "Two years ago, I visited one of my sons when he was living in Uganda and got to teach some writing lessons to primary students there," she said. "We barely spoke the same language but were able to read and write together. I'll never forget that.

"When I read to my children when they were young, the form and rhythm of picture books came through my hands as I turned the pages. Now the same thing is happening as I read to my grandchildren.

"For me, poetry has always been something that comes and goes," Kirkpatrick said. "It's like a bird at the window. I'm working on picture books now, trying to link some daily routines and rituals common to children throughout the world, maybe in an alphabet book, maybe with rhyme. It's something I've never much pursued, but something my 3-year-old grandson loves."

Committee supports apartments for low-income seniors near Highland Chateau

BY JANE MCCLURE

he developers of a proposed 36-unit apartment building for low-income seniors near West Seventh Street and Saint Paul Avenue are again seeking financial assistance. The Highland District Council (HDC) Community Development Committee on June 15 agreed to offer a letter of support to city officials for the \$12 million project.

The apartment building would be built against the bluff behind Highland Chateau at 2319 W. Seventh St., with five stories in front and three in the rear. The first floor would include a common area as well as eight parking spaces. Above that would be a mix of studio

and one-bedroom apartments.

Nonprofit housing developer Trellis Co. is seeking Low-Income Housing Tax Credits for the project. If funding and other city approvals are obtained, construction would begin in 2022

Last July, the HDC committee approved a similar letter of support for the project, which finished second among six that were vying for the city's share of the tax credits.

Trellis, formerly known as the Community Housing Development Corporation, announced the new name last August after incorporating with BDC Management. Trellis now owns and manages about 5,000 affordable housing units in Minnesota, mostly in

the Twin Cities metro area.

Trellis provides housing for seniors, families, veterans, people transitioning out of homelessness and people with disabilities. It also works with social service providers for its residents.

Dan Walsh, Trellis' vice president for housing development, said the Highland apartments would be for active seniors making 30 percent or less of the Twin Cities area median household income, or around \$25,000 per year. A few units would be allocated for seniors coming out of homelessness through a

with Highland Chateau," Walsh said.

Highland Chateau would share its amenities and services with residents of the new building, including meal service. The 64-room Highland Chateau serves as a short-term residence for people needing transitional care. It is owned and operated by Health Dimensions Group.

Walsh said the property behind Highland Chateau would need to be rezoned from single-family to multifamily use. Variances also might be needed, but that will not be known until a city staff review is conducted.

partnership with Catholic Charities.

"One of our goals is to provide high-quality housing, a campus approach in partnership

Any trees removed to make way for the development would have to be replaced, Walsh said.



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Opus calls off plan for senior housing along Lilydale bluffs

BY FRANK JOSSI

Reputatory and financial challenges have prompted the Opus Group to pull out of a proposed five-story senior apartment complex on the former site of the Moose Country restaurant and River Bluffs Center on Highway 13 in Lilydale.

Last month, Opus informed the Lilydale City Council that it had cancelled a purchase

agreement with Joe and Linda Schaefer, owners of the 5.7-acre property. Opus had received approval from the city in 2019 to begin final design work on a 143-apartment development on the site. The Schaefers had

owned Moose Country since 1984. They bought the adjoining 29,000-square-foot former Diamond Jim's Mall in 2004 and renamed it River Bluffs, which was home to around 16 small shops. In 2018, the couple announced plans to sell the site to Lifestyle Communities LLC for a senior housing complex. All of the tenants were told to evacuate by that spring and the site has been vacant ever since. Opus took over after Lifestyle pulled out.

Opus planned a complex with 122 independent and assisted living units and 21 memory care units, with climate-controlled parking at ground level. The building would have been managed by Ebenezer Senior Living.

Opus had asked the city for nearly \$4 million in tax increment financing (TIF) for the project. Lilydale Mayor Warren Peterson said Opus pulled out of the deal just before a public hearing was scheduled for the City Council



meeting in May. "I was surprised because I thought it was a done deal," Peterson said. "We had worked

out the financing and we were ready to go." Phil Cattanach, vice president of Opus, said the site was "phenomenal," but plagued by several challenges. It required setbacks from the bluff to meet the Mississippi River Critical Corridor Area requirements and from Highway 13, which is owned by the Minnesota De-

partment of Transportation (MnDOT).

Because of underlying bedrock, the first level of the building also had to be set aside for parking, which decreased the potential number of units. The long, shallow prop-

erty "is a complicated site to try to figure out," Cattanach said. "You couldn't build what's there today."

But perhaps the biggest blow came when the state updated its building code for senior housing that requires steel or concrete for the apartments Opus was planning, Cattanach said. The new regulations, which take effect in August, are intended to protect vulnerable senior residents in case of fire.

"After August 1, it's unlikely we'll see much activity in the space until supply and demand get back to being more balanced," Cattanach predicted.

The other looming issue Opus faced was financing, as many investors have reportedly gravitated to industrial properties and other types of housing. "There were a lot of challenges in financing a project of this nature now," Cattanach said.



The former Sunfish Cellars is among the storefronts that have sat empty for three years now as redevelopment plans continue to languish at River Bluffs Center in Lilydale.

The Saint Paul native was disappointed in not being able to build the project. He said the area still has a demand for senior housing and the location held promise based on the success of nearby Lilydale Senior Living.

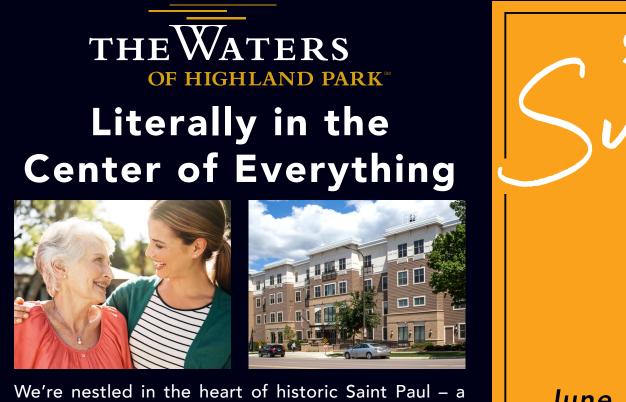
Opus worked with the Friends of the Mississippi River and others over stormwater drainage, setbacks from the bluff and the building's height to stay within state guidelines. Cattanach praised city officials and MnDOT for being part of a collaborative effort that offered "a solution that was sensitive enough to all of the various stakeholders' needs."

Opus looked at the potential for offices or retail stores on the site, but found problems there as well. Cattanach said the property has no walkability to other property in the area and little demand exists for offices in the East Metro. The shopping center's limited size and parking would argue against either use, according to him. High construction costs, the underground parking issue and height restrictions took other housing off the table.

"We did everything we could," he said. "You know you should never get emotionally attached to a deal, but we certainly were at this for quite a long time. The sellers and the city and really everyone rolled their sleeves up to try to find a way to get there."

The sale of the property is now being handled by Transwestern real estate. Managing principal Mike Selman said that though the property no longer has appeal as senior housing, he believes he will find a multifamily developer to buy the property and remains hopeful a deal can be completed by the end of the year.

Mayor Peterson seemed less optimistic. "I'm not confident," he said. "People are looking at it, but I don't know what's going to happen."





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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

PAGE 12

Child drowns-Rescuers searched the Mississippi River for a 12-year-old boy who went missing after wading near Hidden Falls Park on Monday, June 7. His body was found at 10:15 a.m. Wednesday, June 9, downstream from the Lilydale boat launch.

Robbery—A robbery at gunpoint was reported on the 1300 block of Saint Paul Avenue at 10:48 p.m. Thursday, May 27.

-A strong-arm robbery was reported on the 800 block of South Cleveland Avenue at 3:27 p.m. Tuesday, June 8.

Burglary—A commercial break-in was reported on the 2200 block of Ford Parkway at 1:16 a.m. Sunday, May 30.

-Residential burglaries were reported on the 2500 block of Edgcumbe Road on June 5, and the 500 block of South Lexington Parkway on June 9.

Theft—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from vehicles on Inner Drive on May 28, and the 900 block of Saint Paul Avenue and the 2000 block of Village Lane on May 31.

-Vehicles were reported stolen on the 2500 block of West Seventh Street on May 28, the 2100 and 1500 blocks of Ford Parkway on June 5, and the 1200 block of Randolph Avenue on June 9.

Arson—An arson fire was reported on the 1300 block of East Maynard Drive at 9:12 a.m. Tuesday, June 1.

Lexington-Hamline

Theft—A vehicle was reported stolen on the 1100 block of Hague Avenue on Wednesday, June 2.

Miscellaneous—An incident involving the possession of methamphetamine was reported on the 1300 block of Marshall Avenue at 12:08 a.m. Sunday, June 6.

Macalester-Groveland

Burglary-A residential break-in was reported on the 200 block of South Hamline Avenue at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 2.

A commercial burglary was reported on the 1600 block of Grand Avenue at 9 p.m. Sunday, May 30.

Theft—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from vehicles on the 1700 block of Berkeley Avenue on May 30, the 1800 block of Wellesley Avenue on June 2,

and on Hamline and Palace avenues on June 3. -Vehicles were reported stolen on the 1800 block of Randolph Avenue on May 30, the 1900 block of Fairmount Avenue on June 2, and the 400 block of Warwick Street on June 8.

Weapons—Gunfire was reported on Cretin and Grand avenues on Saturday, May 29.

Miscellaneous—An incident involving the possession of cocaine was reported on Jefferson and Snelling avenues on Saturday, June 5.

—Incidents involving the possession of methamphetamine were reported on Juliet and Snelling avenues on June 5, and the 1700 block of Saint Clair Avenue on June 8.

<u>Mendota Heights</u>

Burglary—A burglary was reported on the 1000 block of Second Street in Mendota at 7:18 p.m. Saturday, May 29.

Theft-Thefts from vehicles were reported on the 1000 block of Highway 13 on June 1, two incidents on the 1300 block of Acacia Boulevard on June 3, and the 1100 block of Ivy Hill Drive on June 3.

-Several electric toothbrushes were reported stolen during a shoplifting incident on the 700 block of Highway 62 at 4:42 p.m. Sunday, May 30.

Assault—A suspect was arrested for felony domestic assault, stalking and strangulation at 3:21 p.m. Thursday, May 20, on the 1000 block of Northland Drive.

Miscellaneous-Officers stopped a vehicle for weaving and discovered a large amount of marijuana and a large amount of cash at 2:18 a.m. Wednesday, June 9, on eastbound I-494.

<u>Merriam Park</u>

Burglary—A commercial break-in was reported on the 2100 block of Marshall Avenue at 4:20 a.m. Friday, May 28.

-Burglaries were reported on the 1700 block of Marshall on June 5, and the 2100 block of Carroll Avenue on June 8.

Theft—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from a vehicle on the 1700 block of Hague Avenue on May 28.

-Vehicles were reported stolen on the 1600 block of Marshall Avenue on May 29, the 600 block of Desnoyer Avenue on June 2, on Finn Street and Selby Avenue on June 3, and the 400 block of Herschel Street on June 5.

Sex crime—A rape was reported on the 2000 block of Marshall Avenue at 12:30 a.m. Saturday, May 29.

Assault—An aggravated assault with a knife was reported on the 300 block of Pierce Street at 12:24 a.m. Wednesday, June 2.

Arson-Fires were reported on the 300 block of North Wilder Street on May 29, the 400 block of Pierce Street on May 20, the 1600 block of Spruce Street Avenue on June 1, and the 1900 block of University Avenue on June 8.

Snelling-Hamline

Burglary—A commercial break-in was reported on Snelling and Ashland avenues at 9:23 a.m. Wednesday, June 9.

Weapons-Gunfire was reported on Hamline and Portland avenues on Saturday, May 29.

<u>Summit Hill</u>

Burglary-Commercial break-ins were reported on the 900 block of Goodrich Avenue on June 6, and on Dale Street south of Summit Avenue on June 7.

Theft—A vehicle was reported stolen on Avon Street and Grand Avenue on Thursday, May 27.

-A shoplifting loss of more than \$1,000 was reported on the 1000 block of Grand at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 27.

—Several items valued at more than \$1,000 were reported stolen from vehicles on the 1100 block of Grand Avenue on June 6, on Saint Albans Street and Grand on June 7, and the 1100 block of Lincoln Avenue on June 9.

Weapons—Gunfire was reported on the 1100 block of Grand Avenue on May 29, on Victoria Street and Linwood Avenue on May 30, and the 600 block of Grand on June 1.

Summit-University

Burglary-Residential break-ins were reported on the 100 block of Farrington Street on May 28, and the 700 block of Selby Avenue on June 7.

Theft-Vehicles were reported stolen on the 600 block of Ashland Avenue and the 800 block of Carroll Avenue on May 27, the 400 block of Dayton Avenue on May 27, the 200 block of North Oxford Street on May 29 and June 1, the 500 block of Selby Avenue on June

4, the 1000 block of Dayton on June 5, three vehicles on the 800 block of Selby on June 6-7, and the 700 block of Saint Anthony Avenue on June 7.

Assault—An aggravated assault with a knife was reported on the 400 block of North Oxford Street at 1:12 p.m. Sunday, June 6.

Weapons-Gunfire was reported on the 1000 block of Iglehart Avenue on May 29, the 900 block of Dayton Avenue on June 1, the 600 block of Iglehart on June 5, and the 200 block of Victoria Street on June 8.

Miscellaneous—An incident involving narcotics was reported on the 300 block of North Dale Street at 10:43 p.m. Tuesday, June 8.

<u>West End</u>

Robbery-Strong-arm robberies were reported on Irvine and Pleasant avenues on May 28, and the 1500 block of West Seventh Street on May 31

-A robbery was reported on West Seventh and Randolph Avenue at 1:41 p.m. Saturday, June 5. A robbery at gunpoint was also reported in that same area at 11:35 p.m. Sunday, June 6.

Burglary—Commercial break-ins were reported on the 200 block of Grand Avenue on May 30, and the 200 block of West Seventh Street on June 1.

-Residential burglaries were reported on the 500 block of View Street on June 3, and the 700 block of James Avenue on June 7.

-A burglary was reported on the 1000 block of West Seventh at 5:25 p.m. Wednesday, June 9.

Theft-Vehicles were reported stolen on the 700 block of Mercer Street on May 31. the 300 block of Duke Street on June 1, and the 300 block of Irvine Avenue on June 6 and again on June 8.

Arson—Three arson fires were reported on the 800-1100 blocks of West Seventh Street between 3:07-9:45 a.m. Wednesday, June 2.

Assault-An aggravated assault with a dangerous weapon was reported on the 200 block of West Seventh at 1:01 a.m. Sunday, June 6

Weapons—Gunfire was reported on Saturday, May 29, on the 900 block of West Seventh Street and the 200 block of Cliff Street.

Miscellaneous-Felony criminal damage to property was reported on the 500 block of Harrison Avenue at 9:50 a.m. Friday, June 4.





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ON THE TOWN Music to their ears McKnight grant caps successful year for Walker-West Academy

BY ANNE MURPHY

hen Reverend Carl Walker and Grant West founded their music academy in 1988, it was with a rented piano in a rented duplex. "There were times when we thought we might have to close the doors," said Walker, who lives near the academy at 760 Selby Ave. "Now we're seeing our mission come to fruition in ways we never expected."

Last month Walker-West received a grant of \$625,000 from the McKnight Foundation. It was one of 10 Minnesota arts organizations recognized by McKnight with grants of

\$500,000 or more as part of a nationwide Ford Foundation program focused on groups serving people of color.

From the beginning, Walker-West has taught music in the African American tradition of people gathering, exploring and

growing through music. Initially, Walker-West concentrated on students who otherwise might not be exposed to music. Today, in addition to conducting vocal and instrumental lessons for 230 students of all ages, it offers a senior choir and engages in partnerships with a variety of organizations, including the Saint Paul Public Schools.

"It's been a climb from the beginning," said West, who continues to teach at the academy. "But the grant validates our mission and methodology. It recognizes what we do and how we do it and helps us as we strive to do even more."

Walker-West executive director Braxton Haulcy said he could not agree more. According to him, the grant money will be spread out over five years and used to help fund a variety of programs.

"This is the largest grant we've ever received," said Haulcy, who stepped into his role at Walker-West in 2019. And it came as a surprise, according to him. One day he received a call from McKnight asking for information on the academy's financials. Not long after, "we get this email saying you have \$625,000."

"The grant couldn't have come at a better time," Haulcy said. "We just finished up a feasibility study for a capital campaign we're planning to roll out in the fall. This is a nice gift to get started. It's unrestricted. We can use it for operations. We can use part of it for our capital campaign. It gives us a lot of flexibility.

"Last year we had our best year ever in terms of keeping tuition income at pretty much the same level as the year before,"

Haulcy said. "And a lot of foundations came out and supported us with COVID grants. We hit \$1.2 million in revenue. That's the highest revenue we've ever had. When I came here, we were at \$450,000 in revenue, and we had a \$170,000 loss."

Thanks to those foundations and the efforts of its instructors, Walker-West "weathered the storm of the pandemic fairly decently," Haulcy said. "When the state shut down, our string instructors met with me over the weekend and we trained them to do virtual classes. On Monday we continued lessons. I always tell people our instructors are heroes. We were able to use technology to keep things going. The ironic thing is, when we went through our strategic planning process we talked about using online technology for teaching. We didn't think we could do it well enough, so we put it on a shelf. When the state shut down, we took it off the shelf."

Haulcy also credited the families of Walker-West students. "They stuck with us," he said. "They were very patient. They appreciated the opportunity to continue with lessons online. And right now I think we're ahead of our pre-COVID enrollment levels. And online learning isn't going to go away."



Walker-West co-founders Grant West (left) and the Reverend Carl Walker (right) are joined by executive director Braxton Haulcy and students Jay Marr, 15, and Josiah Walker, 14, in the Selby Avenue music academy's performance room. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

According to Haulcy, the grant money will allow the academy to better serve its students with increased support for instructors and scholarships and new instruments. "We now cover all generations," he said, "and we want to expand our vision of lifelong learning and use the healing power of music to serve all ages.

"The other piece of it is, we want to continue working with community partners throughout the Twin Cities." Those partners include Ramsey County, Obama Elementary School in Summit-University, the MacPhail Center for Music in Minneapolis and the Twin Cities Jazz Festival.

"With the federal No Child Left Behind Act, music was taken out of schools because it was not reading and writing and arithmetic," Haulcy said. "But take a step back and ask what is music? It's reading and writing and arithmetic. When I came to Walker-West, I sat down with the staff and said we need to get out of the silos. We needed to engage with the community and use the healing power of music to make it better.

"We have a unique way of teaching at Walker-West," Haulcy said. "It's called play to learn. You pick things up by ear. Just as you teach a child to speak before you teach him or her to read and write, we want our students to speak with their instruments before they learn to read and write music.

"It's part of catching the tones and patterns and the changes in the music and using improvisational methods for jazz, blues, contemporary and even classical music. We call that the secret sauce. When Walker-West started, it was 100 percent African American. Then people across town found out about the secret sauce, and they started coming to Walker-West." Now, he added, white students slightly outnumber those of color.

"It's kind of a magical, spiritual place," Haulcy said. "It's family."





"This is the largest" grant we've ever received," Haulcy said, "(and it) *couldn't have come* at a better time."

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ON THE TOWN Briefly

Theater

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

Origins, a short piece in which disabled performing artists tell how they got started in theater, will be presented by Full Circle Theater on June 25 and 26 along with a panel discussion on issues of equity for disabled performers and performers of color. The live program is being presented online at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Panelists include Nathan R. Stenberg, Quinci Bachman, Fern Naomi Renville and Houa Moua. Admission is free, but reservations are required. Visit tinyurl.com/DisabilityandTheater.

Shakespeare's comedy, A Midsummer Night's Dream is being performed through July 18 in parks across the Twin Cities by the Classical Actors Ensemble. The music is live, admission is free, and theater-goers are invited to pack a picnic supper. The curtain rises at 7 p.m. Saturday, June 26, at Lake of the Isles; 3 p.m. Sunday, June 27, at Cedar Lake East Beach, 2000 Upton Ave. S., Minneapolis; 7 p.m. Thursday, July 1, at Saint Clement's Church, 901 Portland Ave.; 7 p.m. Friday, July 2, in Newell Park, 900 N. Fairview Ave.; 7 p.m. Saturday, July 3, 10 and 17, at Lake of the Isles; 7 p.m. Friday, July 9, on Como Boulevard and Churchill Street in Como Park; and 7 p.m. Sunday, July 18, at the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, 725 Vineland Place. Visit classicalactorsensemble.org.

Exhibits

Walking tours in and around downtown Saint Paul will once again be offered free of charge this summer by Landmark Center. The free tours step out at 10 a.m. Wednesdays. The schedule includes the Great River Tour along the mighty Mississippi on June 23 and July 14 and the Rice Park area on July 7 and 21. 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 await visitors to the Bell Museum of Natural History, Cleveland and Larpenteur avenues in Falcon Heights. On view through September 12, "Bugs Outside the Box" presents replicas of the insect world blown up to gigantic proportions as well as life-size examples of the insects along with information on their habits and habitats. Visitors can create their own bugs from bug parts and organize them according to shared characteristics. Specimens from the University of Minnesota Insect Museum are displayed along with the

FRIDAY/JUNE 25

MEMORIAL BLOOD CENTERS will be accepting blood donations between 10 a.m.

and 3 p.m. at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. To make an

appointment, visit mbc.org or highland-

district council.org. The event is also be-

ing conducted as a donation drive for the

overnight shelter operated by Project Home

sized personal care items, including sham-

poo, conditioner, body wash, body lotion,

off during those same hours.

toothpaste and deodorant, may be dropped

at Provincial House, 1890 Randolph Ave. Full-



through history is celebrated in Aleshea Harris' What to Send Up When It Goes Down. The innovative drama uses monologues. scenes, songs and discussions to examine, reflect on and ultimately cleanse the anti-blackness permeating people. It will be presented from July 2-18 in the parking lot of Pillsbury House Theatre, 3501 Chicago Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Directed by Signe V. Harriday, it stars (clockwise from upper left) JuCoby Johnson, Derrick Mosley, Mikell Sapp and Alexis Camille. Show times are 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays-Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. For ticket information, visit pillsburyhousetheatre.org or call 612-825-0459.

tools for collecting them. Bug trivia nights and workshops on eco-friendly gardening are also offered. Admission is \$12, \$10 for seniors, \$9 for youths ages 3-21. Timed reservations are required. Call 612-626-9660 or visit bellmuseum.umn.edu/admissions.

"After Promontory: 150 Years of Transcontinental Railroading," historical photos that illustrate the lasting impact of the transcontinental railroads in the American West, are on view through August 31 in the Head House of Saint Paul's historic Union Depot, Fourth and Sibley streets. More than 60 images by such photographers as William Henry Jackson, Timothy H. O'Sullivan and Carleton E. Watkins are included in the free exhibit. A photographic history of railroading in Minnesota is also featured. Visit uniondepot.org.

"Wise, Gifted and Black: Art by the Magnificent Golden Agers" will be displayed from June 27 through July 17 in the window gallery of the Minnesota Museum of American Art, Fourth and Robert streets. As part of a residency at the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center, this collective of Black women elders has created collages, written reflections, poetry and photography around themes of Black identity and the intersection

museum's entrance. Each kit includes a copy of the children's book Joey and Grandpa Johnson's Day in Rondo by Dr. Artika Tyner and "From Hurt to Healing," an activity book created by the Irreducible Grace Foundation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the murder of George Floyd.

The Saint Paul Public

Schools' Honors Art Exhibition showcasing the talents of student artists from seven Saint Paul high schools will be presented from June 27 through July 17 in the window gallery of the Minnesota Museum of American Art, 350 N. Robert St.

Family

Make the Saint Paul Public Library your destination for summer fun and learning. Summer Spark, a series of outdoor and virtual events, reading challenges and book giveaways for children of all ages, is running through August 31. Stop at any Saint Paul public library to register and pick up activity and reading logs and a book to keep. Complete 10 activities or 10 hours of reading and earn a color-yourown bookmark. Complete 20 activities or 20 reading hours and earn a journal and pen. Among the activities are outdoor story strolls; kits with art materials to create in the great outdoors; and online performances by storytellers, jugglers, magicians and others. Participation is free of charge. Visit sppl.org/ summer or call 651-266-7000.

Film

Free movies are rolling at dusk this summer in Minneapolis parks. Sponsored by the city's Parks and Recreation Board, the films include Star Wars: Rise of Skywalker (PG-13) on June 24 in Brackett Park, 2728 S. 39th Ave.; Angry Birds 2 Frenemies (PG), June 25, Lake Harriet Bandshell; the Jackie Robinson biopic 42 (PG-13), July 6, Powderhorn Park, 3400 15th Ave. S.; Frozen 2 (PG), July 8, Minnehaha Falls Park, 4801 S. Minnehaha Drive; Ford v. Ferrari (PG-13), July 9, Lake Harriet Bandshell; and Princess Bride (PG), July 10, Lake Nokomis Park. 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

Books

Next Chapter Booksellers, 38 S. Snelling Ave., will host free online readings and discussions with author J.L. Torres and his story collection, Migrations, at 7 p.m. Monday, June 28; and Minnesota poets Sharon Chmielarz and Richard Terrill, Cincinnati poet laureate Pauletta Hansel and Virginia poet laureate Carolyn Kreiter-Foronda in a Literary Lights celebration at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 11. Visit nextchapterbooksellers.com.

SubText Books, 6 W. Fifth St., will host free online readings and discussions with authors John Paul Brammer and his book, Hola Papi: How to Come Out in a Walmart Parking Lot and Other Life Lessons, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 29; and Megha Majumdar and her debut novel, A Burning, 7 p.m. Thursday, July 8. To register for the link, visit subtextbooks.com.

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 singer-songwriters Sesay & Kaity Joan and Glossy on June 24; finger-style guitarist Peter Ruddy, June 25; alternative folk-rockers the Night Light Chasers, July 1; Root River Jam, July 2; Homeward Bound, July 8; and the Mystery Crew Band, July 9. Visit mplsmusicandmovies.com.

The Minnesota Orchestra's series of free online concerts continues with "A Summer Prelude" at 8 p.m. Friday, June 25, featuring conductor Osmo Vänskä and violinist Erin Keefe in works by Coleridge-Taylor and Weill and the world premiere of Vänskä's Overture. The concert is open to a limited in-person audience. Visit minnesotaorchestra.org.

Women's Drum Center, 2242 University Ave., will offer a class in hand drumming for beginners from 5-6 p.m. Tuesday, June 29. Use djembes to explore pulse and rhythm and learn the foundations of African songs. The cost is \$10, drums provided. To register, email info@womensdrumcenter.org.

Como Lakeside Pavilion, 1360 N. Lexington Pkwy., will host the following concerts. The shows are free unless otherwise indicated: Savannah Smith and Reina del Cid at 7 p.m. June 25 (\$20, for tickets, visit brownpapertickets.com); Saint Louis Park Community Band, 7:30 p.m. June 27; North Suburban Chorus, 7 p.m. June 28; Minnesota Sinfonia, 7 p.m. June 30; Como Pops, 3 p.m. July 4; Explosion Big Band, 7 p.m. July 5; Fridley City Band, 7 p.m. July 6; and Stan Bann's Big Bone Band, 7 p.m. July 11.

Et cetera

Comedy and music by women and for everyone is featured from 5-7 p.m. on Sundays, 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.

of art and activism. In conjunction with the exhibit, kits for making your own art at home will be distributed free to all ages from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, July 11, outside of the at eventbrite.com. Parking is first-come, firstserved starting at 7 p.m. Hot dogs, chili dogs, candy and other concessions will be available. Visit uniondepot.org.

aisle, will be presented from 7-8 p.m. by the

League of Women Voters Saint Paul. Local

pundits and professors David Schultz and

Tammy Patrick will lead the discussion

about the historical and contemporary

efforts to decide who gets to vote. To register

SUNDAY/JULY 5

THE RESIDENTS OF PORTLAND AVENUE

between Griggs and Dunlap streets will present a Fourth of July parade and social beginning at 10:00 a.m. at 1184 Portland Ave. The 35th annual Independence Day cavalcade will feature neighborhood kids on bikes and trikes, a marching band and a human flag. A sing-along and a reading of the Declaration of Independence will also be part of the festivities.

for the Zoom link, visit lwvsp.org.

THE SAINT PAUL HIKING CLUB will gather this afternoon for a 5-mile hike along both welcome. Call Sharon at 651-207-5926.

SUNDAY/JUNE 27

sides of the Mississippi River between the Wabasha and Smith Avenue bridges. The hike will step out at 2:30 p.m. from the basketball court at Cherokee Park, 700 Cherokee Heights Blvd. New members are

TUESDAY/JUNE 29 "WHO GETS TO VOTE?," a free online discussion about the latest efforts to legislate the electoral process from both sides of the

THE KIOSK



The Wright Call By Dave Wright

CDH makes longawaited return to softball tourney

retin-Derham Hall is no stranger to state high school sports tournaments. The Raiders have been frequent visitors in football, basketball, hockey and baseball, winning state championships in all of them along the way. Its softball teams, however, had not made regular

appearances. In fact, in the previous 43 years of the state softball tournament, the Raiders had made just one trip to state–in 1991 when they lost to Mankato East in the Class AA championship game.

On paper, there was little reason to think that would change when this spring's Section 3AAA softball tournament began on June 1. The Raiders had gone 7-12 during the regular season, drawing the fifth seed, and opened on the road at fourth-seeded Visitation.

CDH coach Patrick Bowlin was looking forward to the sections nonetheless. "From March 29, the first day of spring practice, the goal was to make the state tournament," Bowlin said. "We felt we had the ability to do it."

Bowlin knew that the team's regular-season record would be meaningless come section time. "We play in the best or second-best conference in the state (the Suburban East)," he said. "Every team we played during the regular season is a Class AAAA school. Once we got through a rough first two weeks of the season, we were fine."

Indeed, the Raiders dropped their first five games before notching wins over Roseville and Mounds View. The wins then became more frequent, thanks in part to eighth-grade pitcher Brooke Nesdahl. Her battery mate, junior catcher Sammy Muetzel, led the team in hitting with a .463 regularseason average.

And as the season wore on, Muetzel had more company in the hit parade. CDH finished strong, winning three of the last four games of the regular season, scoring 48 runs in the process. "We actually ended the season with more wins than I anticipated," Bowlin said.

That hitting trend continued against the Blazers in the first round of sections. The Raiders broke a 3-3 tie with six runs in the fifth inning and added nine more in the sixth for an impressive 18-5 win.

Eighth-ranked Simley had knocked off top-seeded Richfield in its quarterfinal matchup. Thus, the Raiders found themselves playing at home in the second round. The Raiders disposed of the Spartans 6-4 and then edged second-seeded Holy Angels 5-4 to advance to the section final on June 11.

Holy Angels won its way back for a second shot at the Raiders. Nesdahl was sharp from the start, blanking the Stars on five hits with nine strikeouts. Junior Anna Caruso went two-for-three with a run scored and sophomore Sophie Black went three-for-three and drove in a run in a two-run third inning. That was all CDH needed for the 2-0 win and a longreturn to Mankato for the state tournam

Stick-to-itiveness

STA's stellar lacrosse season ends with early state exit

BY BILL WAGNER

he Saint Thomas Academy lacrosse team went into its state quarterfinal game against Stillwater on June 15 feeding off a high. The Cadets had just defeated Simley 11-6 in the Section 3 finals and were riding a five-game winning streak that included victories over Park of Cottage Grove and Eagan in the previous section rounds.

However, STA couldn't continue the momentum in the first round of state as fourth-seeded Stillwater finished off a relatively easy 13-5 victory that brought an end to the Cadets' season.

The game appeared at first to be a competitive matchup. STA, which led the Metro East Conference with a 5-0 record,

had chances to make a good game of it early on against the Ponies. However, they couldn't cash in enough against Stillwater goalie Gunner Arens, who made several outstanding saves.

"Our goalie (James McDonald) played well too," said STA coach Luke Marks, "but theirs was really hot and that's what it came down to. (Arens) kind of stood on his head, but their whole team definitely came well-prepped."

Scoring for the Cadets against the Ponies were senior attacker Jack Schwab, sophomore midfielder Adam Husaby, junior attacker Luke Candon, and sophomore midfielders Charlie Youtt and Carter Stahl.

Stillwater had also beaten STA 9-2 in the first game of the season this year. The Cadets went on after that to win the next seven out of eight games.

The Cadets were much sharper against Simley in the section finals. STA, which had defeated the Spartans during the regular season, went in know-



STA senior Oscar Berg (left) and Stillwater's Corbin Van Duyne face off in the quarterfinals of the state boys' lacrosse tournament on June 15. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

ing that Simley had some stalwart offensive weapons. However, the Cadets were able to neutralize the big guns. STA was especially solid on several penaltykilling efforts that Marks said probably turned the tide.

"We didn't give up a single goal in any of their man-advantage situations," he said.

Marks gave special commendations to senior defender Guiseppe Chiovera and senior defender/midfielder Ronan Lauber for how they handled things when their team was short-handed.

And nobody could be critical of the performance versus Simley of the Cadets' big three offensive aces-senior Baker Reding, sophomore Matthew Hudson and senior Brian Goblisch. For the season. Goblisch led the team with 75 points, followed close behind by Hudson with 73 and Reding with 70.

"Those guys just had a phenomenal game," Marks said. "And we took care of business."

Senior goalie McDonald also came through with a fine year, posting a 7.8 goals-against average to go with a .606 save percentage. McDonald was in the nets for all of his club's 12 wins. Marks referred to McDonald as one of the top five goalies in the state.

"He's very consistent and he clears the ball well," Marks said. "He studies the game. He's a lacrosse junkie." McDonald was named as a first-team all-section player.

Marks took the long view of 2021 regarding his team. "It was a great year," he said. "We had a ton of depth on this team."

The Cadets also made it to state in 2019 (the 2020 season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

Marks said that while the Cadets (12-5) graduated around a dozen players this season, the B-squad had some 30 players and there was plenty of reason for optimism for the future. "We have some incredible young talent," he said.

Cadets take third in state baseball tourney

Score a whopping 35 "I told them that if losing a game in the state tournament is going to be the four runs. Senior Tristin Thilmany also the state tournament is going to be the four runs. Senior Tristin Thilmany also worst thing that happens to you comhad three hits with four runs scored and pitched five innings to pick up the win. ing out of the pandemic, you're going to have a pretty blessed life," he said. "The Engeswick said he liked the look and third-place game was a great note to end feel of his team going into the state touron. It would've been better to have been ney. "The pressure was off. There were at Target Field (for the championship), obviously no expectations," he said. "We but our kids were excited to finish third just said to go out there and have fun." as well." The Cadets couldn't find that same The Cadets were back on the field this offensive production in the semifispring after winning the state AAA title nal round against Grand Rapids. They two years ago. The COVID-pandemic weren't able to do much to solve Thunderhawks' pitcher Myles Gunderson, canceled last year's season. The victory over Willmar in the openwho hurled the complete game vicing round was keyed by a five-run third tory while striking out five and walking inning that put STA up 11-5. Senior Ben none. Gunderson allowed eight hits, but Taxdahl led the way offensively by gokept them scattered. ing four-for-four with five runs scored. Sophomore Gavin Engelbert had three CADETS BASEBALL ▶16

"It's a different atmosphere when you get to state," Bowlin said. "There are a lot more people watching, for one thing."

The tournament format changed this year. Teams that lost in the first round were knocked out of the competition. Nesdahl and Becker's Emma Eickhoff quickly took charge on the mound in the quarterfinal matchup on June 15. The only blemish in the game came when Becker's Kurstyn Patnode hit a two-run home run in the third inning. The Raiders put two runners on base the next inning, but couldn't advance them. CDH's season ended with that 2-0 loss.

"I give the Becker kid who hit the homer a lot of credit," Bowlin said. "The game came down to just one pitch."

The Raiders' season came to a sudden end, but they left Mankato with their heads held high. "We stayed the course and got where we thought we could go," said Bowlin, who is in his fifth season as head coach.

CDH (11-13) graduated six seniors, including the entire

WRIGHT CALL ▶16

runs in three games

BY BILL WAGNER

nseeded Saint Thomas Academy won two of three games to claim third place in the state Class AAA baseball tournament on June 15-16 in Jordan.

The Cadets surprised many by blasting top-seeded Willmar 16-9 in the first round. STA fell to Grand Rapids 4-3 in the semifinals the next day, but recovered to outlast second-seeded Sartell 16-15 in a barnburner that evening.

STA coach Jon Engeswick told his players afterward that they needed to focus on the big picture.

15 WRIGHT CALL

starting outfield. Still, with Nesdahl as their mound leader and Caruso and Muetzel having one more year to go, there's reason to hope that it might not be such a long time before CDH makes a return trip down Highway 169.

Division I comes into clearer focus at UST

A loss in the Division III Baseball Championship Series officially ended the University of Saint Thomas' tour of duty as a member of the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Division III.

At the same time UST was playing for one last shot at DIII gold, the school's Division I programs were busy making news of their own. It started with women's hockey. In early May, it was announced that Tom Palkowski, the winningest women's hockey coach in school history, would not return for a 15th season. No reason was given.

Marty Sertich, one of Palkowski's assistants, was named to run things in an interim capacity. But it was clear a new coach would be coming shortly. The Tommies' schedule for 2021-22 in the WCHA had already been released.

A month later, the conjecture became fact when Joel Johnson was named to the job. Like his men's hockey counterpart Rico Blasi, Johnson arrived at UST with solid credentials. He spent 16 seasons as an assistant at a program he'll now be competing against at the University of Minnesota. He's been involved with USA Hockey in a variety of roles with national teams for more than a decade. He even had MIAC experience from a six-year stint with Bethel's men's hockey program, leading it to a few successful seasons in Arden Hills.

Like Blasi, Johnson's first task will be to separate the wheat

from the chaff on the women's hockey roster. It may seem late to be recruiting players to campus, but DI athletics is changing considerably. The fact is, the line between DI and DIII women pucksters is thinner than in other sports. A guy like Johnson knows this better than most. As a former Gopher recruiter, he also knows where the top players in the state reside.

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Thus, Johnson can hit the ground faster than if UST had hired somebody from out of state.

As far as Palkowski goes, this is what often happens in DI athletics. It was a nice ride while it lasted, but coaches can be replaced at a moment's notice at that level. That may seem heartless, but it's also why DI coaches earn more money than their DIII counterparts. It's all part of the new world Saint Thomas now lives in.

The UST football team finally knows who it's going to face and when. The Tommies' introduction into the world of DI football comes on September 4 when the University of Saint Francis (Illinois) visits O'Shaughnessy Stadium for a nonconference game. UST then hops on a bus for the next two weeks for nonconference games at Michigan Tech and Northern Iowa.

The Tommies' first Pioneer League encounter is at home on September 25 against Butler. UST's league road schedule offers some considerable hoofing, with games at San Diego, Stetson (Florida), Davidson (North Carolina) and a closer encounter in Des Moines against Drake.

The other home games are against Valparaiso, Marist and Presbyterian. How UST will fare against those new foes will be part of the adventure. What also will be interesting to watch is how the Tommies draw at home. The new grid foes will have few, if any, local fans who would buy tickets to watch their sons, grandsons or nephews play, and several of those schools are totally unknown around here. Accordingly, UST will be looking to draw in folks with no immediate connection to its opponents—unlike, say, when it was facing Saint John's. This, too, is one of the ways life is changing on Summit Avenue.

Tommies to have women's tennis after all

A month ago, the University of Saint Thomas announced it was dropping both its men's and women's tennis teams as it prepares for its move to Division I this fall. However, it didn't take long for UST to change its mind. Arthur Bryant, an Oakland-based attorney, wrote a letter to UST president Julie Sullivan noting the school was in violation of Title IX. Bryant said the percentage of sports openings for female athletes was disproportionate to the percentage of female undergraduates at the school and he was ready to go to court to sue for the violation. Bryant has successfully cajoled several other schools around the country who wanted to drop women's sports into reinstating them or face a lawsuit.

On June 17, UST reinstated women's tennis. In a statement on its website, the university explained that it was compliant with Title IX as a DIII program and will remain compliant as it transitions to DI. "The university recognizes, however, that fighting a Title IX lawsuit would be extremely costly and time-consuming," the statement read. "Saint Thomas would rather invest its resources in student initiatives, including the women's tennis program."

Accordingly, UST will join six other schools in the Summit League for women's tennis in 2022. It also agreed to submit a gender equity plan by March 15, 2022. The men's tennis program will not be reinstated.

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

15∢ CADETS BASEBALL

Thilmany again was in the middle of things with two hits and an RBI. Taxdahl, sophomore Mike Miller and senior Joe Middleton all scored for STA. Taxdahl pitched 4.2 innings and allowed four runs, while striking out nine.

The Cadets had the tying run at third base in the seventh inning, but they failed to bring sophomore Asa Rapp home. "They're a well-coached team and they played a solid game," Engeswick said about Grand Rapids afterward.

He was happy with the way his team rebounded against Sartell in the third-place game that evening. Engeswick played every senior in that last tourney game. "The kids kind of reenergized themselves," he said.

Engeswick singled out senior pitcher Alex Mohs, who saved the game for STA by hurling a scoreless seventh inning. Mohs was injured almost the entire season and hadn't played at all until the Sartell game. The Cadets used four pitchers and the Sabres sent five to the mound.

"He was literally our last pitcher," Engeswick said about Mohs, "but he tied the hitters up out there."

The slugfest featured hot sticks aplenty for the victors. Senior Simon Kotok and Taxdahl

both had four hits and Taxdahl collected five RBIs on the night. Senior Tim O'Brien and Thilmany added three hits and two RBIs each. Middleton went two-for-two with an RBI and two runs scored.

The Cadets (19-10) were down 15-14 with only one out remaining in the seventh, but rallied for two runs to claim the victory. STA finished with 20 hits and three errors, while Sartell (22-5) had 14 hits and seven errors.

District Councils

Highland Park

highlanddistrictcouncil.org • 651-695-4005

Riverview Corridor—The first public open house on the preliminary engineering phase of the proposed Riverview Corridor streetcar line will be held during a virtual meeting from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, June 23. For information and the link to the meeting, visit bit.ly/RiverviewCorridor.

Highland Bridge housing—Housing updates for 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.

Blood and donation drive—Join the Highland District Council for a blood and donation drive from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday, June 25, at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Sign up online to donate blood by appointment. Memorial Blood Center will give away a pair of Saints tickets for the game on July 16 to one blood drive donor. Full-sized personal care items will also be collected for the Project Home temporary homeless shelter on Randolph Avenue. To donate blood, sign up on the HDC's website. July, with a final two-hour session to discuss action steps. For information, visit macgrove.org/events.

Office hours—The Macalester-Groveland Community Council will resume office hours in July. Call 651-695-4000 or email us mgcc@macgrove.org for an appointment.

Century building plaques—Orders are now being accepted for the next round of century building plaques. The owners of homes and commercial structures 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, so there is still some time to get the gardens ready. Learn more at macgrove.org/aga.

Upcoming online meetings—Housing and Land Use Committee on Wednesday, June 23; Transportation Committee on Monday, June 28; Inclusivity Task Force on Thursday, July 1; board of directors on Thursday, July 8; and Community Building Team on Monday, July 12. All meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. Visit macgrove.org/participate.

Council openings—There currently are openings for an atlarge faith representative on the community council's board of directors. The council also has four standing committees that meet once a month and are open to all. Visit macgrove.org/ committees.

<u>Union Park</u>

unionparkdc.org • 651-645-6887

Ice Cream Peanut Butter & Jam—The Union Park District Council will celebrate neighborliness with the return of its Ice Cream Peanut Butter & Jam from noon-4 p.m. Saturday, September 18, at the Merriam Park Recreation Center. The event will include music, ice cream and activities for the kids. Jars of peanut butter will also be collected for the food shelf.

National Night Out—A National Night Out planning meeting for organizations and residents will be held from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 14. Join the Zoom discussion at https:// us02web.zoom.us/j/84730986978. This year's National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 3.

Upcoming meetings—Neighborhood Involvement Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 28; board of directors, 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 7; Transportation Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 12; and Environment and Parks Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 21. To access the Zoom meetings, email wako@unionparkdc.org or jonah@unionparkdc.org or click on the links at unionparkdc.org/calendar.

West Seventh

Garage Fest—Highland Park's annual neighborhood garage sale will return this year from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday and Saturday, September 10-11. Register your sale by August 27 to be included in event promotions. The fee is \$15. For more information, see "events" on the HDC website.

Upcoming meetings—Community Engagement Committee, 7 p.m. Monday, June 28; and board of directors, 7 p.m. Thursday, July 15. All HDC meetings are currently being held online via Zoom. Links to access the meetings are posted on the HDC's website. Visit highlanddistrictcouncil.org/calendar.

Macalester-Groveland macgrove.org • 651-695-4000

Anti-racism sessions—Macalester-Groveland neighbors are organizing a learning and action effort focused on issues of owning a home and creating more equitable wealth. The group will meet for five, 30- to 45-minute Zoom sessions starting in **Show your neighborhood pride**—Macalester-Groveland T-shirts can still be ordered online for home delivery. The shirts come in kiwi green, heather indigo blue and dark heather gray in a variety of sizes. Visit macgrove.org/tshirt.

Summit Hill

summithillassociation.org • 651-222-1222

Upcoming meetings— Pedestrian Safety and Traffic Calming Committee, 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 23; Executive Committee, 7 p.m. Thursday, June 24; Neighborhood Plan Committee, 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 29; Communications Committee, 7 p.m. Thursday, July 1; Zoning and Land Use Committee, 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 6 (tentative); and board of directors, 7 p.m. Thursday, July 8. Details and Zoom links for all meetings can be found at SummitHillAssociation.org/calendar.

fortroadfederation.org • 651-298-5599

Board update—At its meeting on June 14, the West Seventh/Fort Road Federation board of directors appointed the following committee co-chairs: Transportation and Land Use—Casey Carmody; Community Engagement and Outreach—Tanya Beck and Julia McColley; and Fundraising and Development—Sara Fleetham.

Riverview Corridor—A virtual open house on the Riverview Corridor's preliminary engineering work will be hosted by Ramsey County officials from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, June 23. For information and to register, go to RiverviewCorridor.com. **Upcoming Zoom meetings**—Transportation and Land Use Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 7; Joint Riverview Task Force 6:15 p.m. Thursday, July 8; board of directors, 7 p.m. Monday, July 12; and Community Engagement Committee, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 15. For details and log-in information, go to fortroadfederation.org/calendar.

CLASSIFIEDS

SPECIAL EVENTS

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

GARAGE/MOVING SALES

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JUNE 24, 8am-4pm. 1176 Goodrich Avenue, St Paul, 55105. Furniture, antiques, toys, sporting goods, household items galore! Cash Only.

YARD SALES. SE Mpls in Prospect Park & East River Road. 20+ sales. June 26-27, 9am-4pm. Maps & info available at each sale & prospectparkmpls.org

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Next Issue: July 7 Deadline: June 30

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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 Ave S, 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

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2021

LEGAL NOTICES

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 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.

We Now Accept

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

LEGAL NOTICES 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

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: Hayes Residence 2. List the Principal Place of Business: 1620 Randolph Avenue Saint Paul MINNESOTA (MN) 55105 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: Hayes Management, Inc.; 1620 Randolph Avenue Saint Paul MINNESOTA (MN) 55105 USA 4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath. Date filed: June 7, 2021 Signed by: David Lundy Mailing Address: None provided Email for Official Notices: dlundyjr@gmail.com

STATE OF MINNESOTA CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333. The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true owner of a business. 1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted: myvillager 2. List the Principal Place of Business: 241 Cleveland Ave S Ste V Saint Paul MN 55105 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: Villager Communications. Inc: 241 Cleveland Ave S Ste V Saint Paul MN 55105 USA 4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf. or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of periury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had igned this document under oath Date filed: May 27, 2021 Signed by: John Rauch Mailing Address: None Provided Email for Official Notices: vci@myvillager.com

Call us for details.

Some restrictions apply.

1/hyVillager

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Attorney for Personal Representative Mark R. Gaertner Walsh & Gaertner







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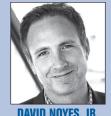


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