

Truck Park tragedy prompts demands to address violent crime in Saint Paul

Shootout is latest in string of incidents to shake West End

By JANE MCCLURE

What is believed to be the most serious mass shooting in Saint Paul's history has resulted in calls to address the rising incidents of violent crime in the city. The shooting at the Seventh Street Truck Park food hall and bar at 214 W. Seventh St. left one person dead and 15 injured. The tragedy occurred just after midnight on October 10 as a result of a dispute between two men.

Terry Lorenzo Brown, 33, of Saint Paul was charged with killing Marquisha "Kiki" Wiley, 27, of South Saint Paul. Wiley was out with friends and was an innocent bystander. She grew up on Saint Paul's West Side and played basketball for Henry Sibley High School (now Two Rivers). She worked as a veterinary technician.

Brown and Devondre Trevon Phillips, 29, of Las Vegas exchanged gunfire at the Truck Park after a verbal dispute. Both men have made initial appearances in Ramsey County District Court and are being held with bonds set at \$10 million.

Phillips was charged with 12 counts of attempted murder in the second degree. Brown was charged with one count of intentional murder in the second degree, and 11 counts of attempted murder in the second degree.

TRUCK PARK SHOOTING ►2



Colors of autumn. Abigail Adelsheim-Marshall of the Summit Hill Association helps Josie Yates, 3, decorate a pumpkin at the Summit Hill Fall Festival held on October 14 at Linwood Park. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

City workers face COVID vaccine mandate

By JANE MCCLURE

More than two months after the City Council requested one, Saint Paul Mayor Melvin Carter announced on October 21 a new policy mandating that every city employee be vaccinated against COVID-19 by December 31. The vaccine policy is one of the most stringent in the state. Though it provides for exemptions for medical and religious reasons, it does not allow employees the option to decline the vaccine and instead submit to regular testing for COVID-19.

Carter said the vaccine policy is necessary to protect the many people with whom city employees come in contact on the job. The Carter administration had been involved in several weeks of discussion with the city's labor unions over the vaccine mandate, and judging from comments made prior to the mayor's announcement, many city workers are not happy with it.

More than 100 people turned out for a City Council budget hearing on October 13 at the Como Lakeside Pavilion, many of them em-

VACCINE MANDATE ►6

Plans in works for three new buildings at Ford-Cretin

Six-story structures would abut walkway, civic square

By JANE MCCLURE

Ground could be broken next year on the first of three six-story buildings proposed for the so-called business block at the southwest corner of Ford Parkway and Cretin Avenue. Each of the buildings would have commercial space on the first floor and hous-

ing above, according to Maureen Michalski, vice president of development for Ryan Companies, the master developer of the 122-acre Highland Bridge development on the site of the old Ford Motor Company assembly plant.

One building would face Ford Parkway, just west of a planned civic square at the southwest corner of Ford and Cretin. A second building would be at the northwest corner of Cretin and Hillcrest Avenue. The third building would be along Hillcrest. That leaves room for a future mixed-use development at the southeast corner

of Ford and Mount Curve, a site that is being reserved for now for construction staging.

The three buildings would have a total of 219 apartments and 45,000 square feet of commercial space. Construction is expected to begin in the second quarter of 2022 on the building along Ford Parkway. Work on the other two buildings would follow in 2023.

The three buildings would have a total of 418 underground parking spaces on two levels—

HIGHLAND BRIDGE BUSINESS BLOCK ►3

CITY BEAT

A plan to make Edgcombe Road safer for all users
►5

BOOMERS & BEYOND

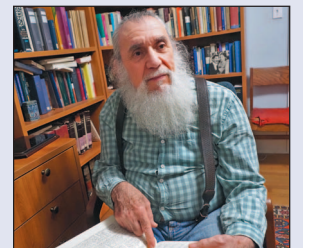


Fallout from pandemic ►12

DAY OF DECISION

Voters determine direction for city, school district ►10

ON THE TOWN



Biblical scholar takes new look at the Qur'an ►17

SOCCER PLAYOFFS



Redhawk girls head to state ►19

VIEWPOINT.....8
DISTRICT COUNCILS.... 14
CRIME REPORT 16
ARTS LISTINGS/KIOSK.. 18
CLASSIFIEDS21



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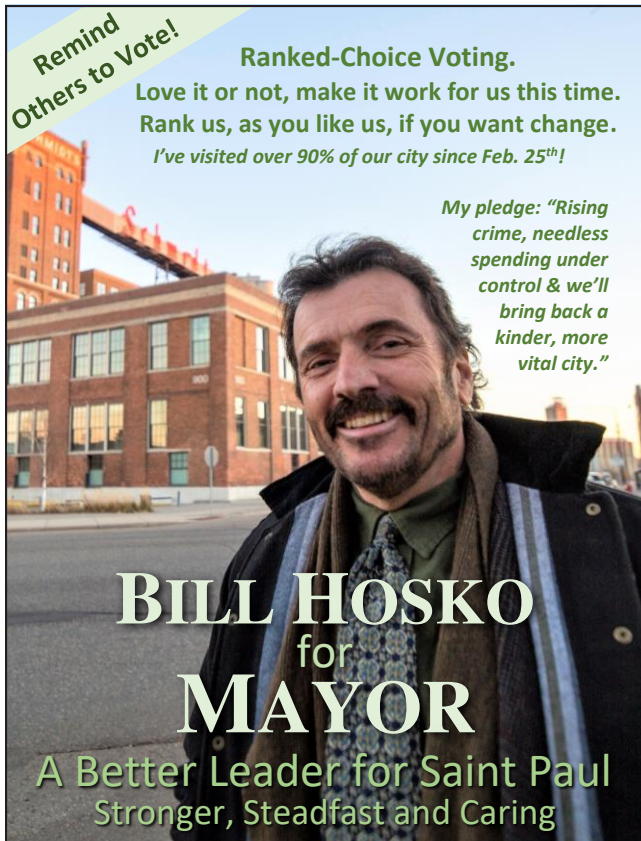
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14 TRUCK PARK SHOOTING

Both men were ineligible to have firearms. Phillips had a prior adjudication for first-degree aggravated robbery. Brown had a handful of prior felony convictions, including first-degree aggravated robbery, first-degree controlled substance possession, simple robbery, and two violations of no-contact orders due to domestic abuse.

An additional charge tied to the shootings was announced on October 20, as one of the guns used came from a so-called "straw purchase," when someone buys a firearm for a person who cannot legally do so. A federal criminal complaint stated that Jerome Fletcher Horton Jr., 25, of Minneapolis bought nearly three dozen handguns from Twin Cities stores over the past three months. One of those guns, a 9 mm semiautomatic, was recovered shortly after the October 10 shootout.

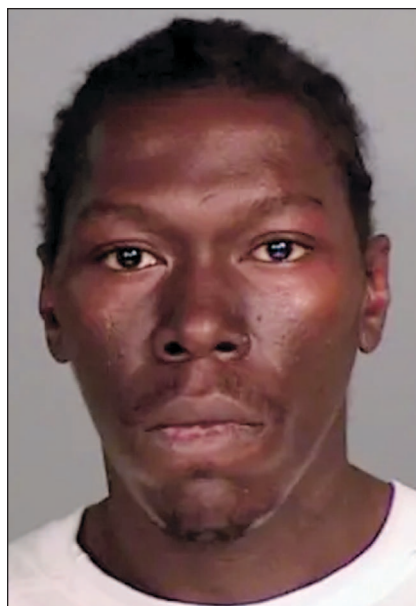
Saint Paul Police Chief Todd Axtell said justice will be served for the victims and the shooters will be held accountable. He spoke of the multiple 911 calls and "hellish situation" good Samaritans and first responders came across after the shootout.

The Saint Paul Police Department is dealing with an uptick in guns recovered from people who are not authorized to have them. So far this year, police have recovered 552 guns, which is up from 546 at this time in 2020. For all of last year, 660 guns were recovered.

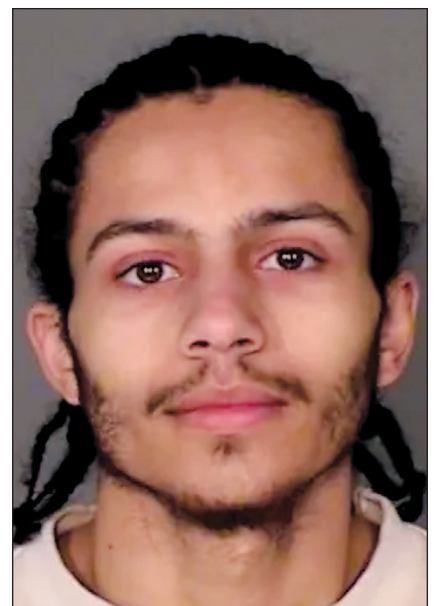
"The number of guns out on the streets is unbelievable," said Jeremy Ellison, senior commander of the Police Department's Central District. Police used to find illegal guns every few weeks, usually during traffic stops, according to him. Now several are found each day.

The Police Department and Ramsey County Sheriff's Department have extended patrols in the Seven Corners area of Saint Paul to 2 a.m. The Truck Park reopened on October 19 on the night of the Minnesota Wild home opener and a heavy law enforcement presence could be seen in the neighborhood.

There continue to be disagreements about police resources and prosecutions. At a virtual meeting on October 14 hosted by the West Seventh/Fort Road Federation to discuss crime,



Terry Lorenzo Brown



Devondre Trevon Phillips

"No one should have to live in fear of those around them settling their differences with a hail of gunfire," said Ramsey County Attorney John Choi.

some of the more than 80 people in attendance called for prosecutors to explain why so many criminals are not in jail. Others wanted more police on the streets.

Axtell and Mayor Melvin Carter have butted heads over the proposed 2022 police budget for months. The chief said he is unable to fill officer vacancies due to cuts in police training, and has cited shortages in the department's investigative ranks. Carter has called for alternative strategies to address the root causes of crime, including his Community First public safety initiative and the city's new Office of Neighborhood Safety.

Carter said he was "devastated" by the shootings. "Our work to build more proactive and comprehensive public safety strategies is more urgent than ever," he said.

Ramsey County Attorney John Choi said his staff will work to bring justice for Wiley, those who were at the Truck Park and the entire city. "No one should have to live in fear of those

around them settling their differences with a hail of gunfire," he said.

According to Choi, a comprehensive solution is needed to prevent gun violence, including universal background checks on gun purchases and holding those accountable who engage in shootings.

"There's a lot of concern over what happened so close to our neighborhood," said Historic Irvine Park Association leader Elyse Jensen, who has family members living in the Oxbo apartments above the Truck Park.

"These incidents do not define who we are as a neighborhood and as a community," said Ward 2 City Council member Rebecca Noecker, who urged residents and business owners to continue to work together and is supporting another police training academy next year to help bring the Police Department to full strength.

The October 10 shootout is not the only high-profile crime that has rattled the West End this fall. On September 12, four people were shot and killed after a night out on West Seventh. Their bodies were discovered in a Wisconsin cornfield. A 38-year-old Arizona man has been charged with four counts of second-degree murder, and his father has been charged with aiding an offender.

Gunshots were also heard on September 26 at the Saint Paul Tap, 825 Jefferson Ave., after a suspect drove an SUV onto the restaurant's patio and

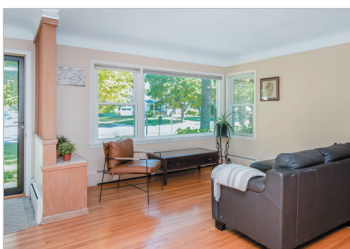
WEST END SHOOTOUT ▶ 3



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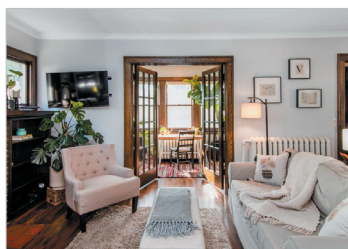
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14 HIGHLAND BRIDGE BUSINESS BLOCK

one level for commercial tenants and one for residents. A 20-space surface parking lot is planned between the buildings. A diagonal walkway will cross the block, connecting the civic square to a larger civic plaza just south of Hillcrest. The plaza, which will have a small amphitheater, will be located just north of Highland Bridge’s central water feature.

As proposed, the six-story mixed-use building along Hillcrest that will face the civic plaza to the south will incorporate the historic facade of the former Ford assembly plant. The plant was designed by Albert Kahn, the noted industrial architect who also designed Detroit skyscrapers.

The Ford plant operated from 1925 to 2011. The facade of its building, roof tiles, stone friezes and other architectural elements were saved. Michalski said those elements could be incorporated in other buildings at Highland Bridge as well.

The building that will feature the facade will also have an exhibit space of almost 2,000 square feet developed in cooperation with Ford Motor Company to honor the history of the assembly plant.

“Placemaking” elements are planned for the roofs of two of the buildings. The easternmost building on Hillcrest will have a nonfunctioning old-fashioned water tower on its roof. The other building on Hillcrest will have a large outline of the state of Minnesota in neon with the words “Saint Paul” superimposed on it. That sign will also conceal a rooftop HVAC unit, Michal-

The six-story mixed-use building along Hillcrest that will face the civic plaza to the south will incorporate the historic facade of the former Ford Motor Company assembly plant.

ski said. The Highland District Council (HDC) Community Development Committee reviewed the plans for the three buildings on October 19 and recommended approval of two car-sharing variances for the development. That recommendation goes to the Saint Paul Board of Zoning Appeals in November.

A car sharing variance has been sought by Ryan and its development partners for every Highland Bridge project reviewed to date. Ryan’s plan is to work with the city, Xcel Energy and HourCar on the development of several large car-sharing hubs at Highland Bridge instead of many separate car-sharing vehicle spaces.

The block that is being eyed for the three new buildings is the last block on Ford Parkway to be developed at Highland Bridge. It is located just west of the six-story building that is now under construction on the southeast corner of Ford and Cretin. That building will house a 56,000-square-foot Lunds and Byerlys supermarket and 230 apartments.



Looking southwest from the intersection of Ford Parkway and Cretin Avenue is this rendering of the civic square, the diagonal walkway and the six-story buildings that will abut them.

24 WEST END SHOOTOUT

struck a woman. The 24-year-old driver was later charged with felony second-degree assault after he showed up at Regions Hospital with gunshot wounds.

Some West End business owners declined to speak about the mass shootings and other crimes. They have already been at odds with the city over the Freedom House homeless facility that opened on West Seventh earlier this year. Police have said there is no connection between the most serious recent crimes and the facility. Zoning changes to allow similar facilities to open elsewhere in Saint Paul will be voted on by the City Council in November.

One business owner who is speaking out is Brian Ingram, who founded the West Seventh Truck Park in 2017. He now operates Hope Breakfast Bar and Woodfired Cantina off West Seventh Street, and the Gnome restaurant on Selby Avenue. However, he has paused plans to open a new supper club and tiki bar in a building under construction across from Xcel Energy Center until he sees what is done about crime.

“The boldness of criminals is crazy... what can we do? What are you going to do

to protect us?” Ingram asked.

Ingram said that while petty crimes might be down in the city, his restaurants have been burglarized four times. The Gnome lost its safe in one incident. According to him, his staff and customers have been carjacked and he has been held up at gunpoint.

The Truck Park killing was the 32nd homicide of the year in Saint Paul, which is on pace to break its record of 34 homicides last year. Shots fired are at 1,769 so far this year, up from 1,719 at this time in 2020. And 202 people have been hit by gunfire thus far, up from 168 at this time in 2020.

The CEOs of Ecolab and Securian Financial have asked elected officials for bold action in the wake of violent crimes. They say the city’s economic development hangs in the balance.

“The future of our city as a safe and appealing place to live, play, work and invest is at stake,” wrote Christopher Hilger, president and CEO of Securian. “Our ability to encourage our employees to return to our corporate offices after working from home for 18 months heavily depends on how they feel about the safety and vitality of downtown Saint Paul.”

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With fewer pupils, district plans to close or relocate schools

A decline in enrollment of 3,350 students over the past five years has the Saint Paul Public Schools considering a plan to close or relocate 10 schools in an effort to better manage district resources and ensure that all students have access to a well-rounded education.

School district enrollment dropped from 39,065 in 2015 to 35,715 in 2020. Currently, a half dozen elementary schools have fewer than 300 students each. At that level, it becomes difficult to provide support staff and specialists in arts, science and gifted and talented programs, according to district administrators.

The plan Envision SPPS involves changes to 17 district schools beginning in the fall of 2022. Schools that would be closing in-

clude Parkway Montessori Middle School and Highwood Hills Elementary on the East Side. L'Etoile du Nord French Immersion lower school would move into L'Etoile du Nord upper school on the East Side. John A. Johnson and Bruce Vento elementary schools on the near East Side would merge at the Vento site.

Obama Elementary at 707 Holly Ave. would close and the building would be remodeled. Cherokee Heights Montessori on the West Side would move to J.J. Hill Montessori at 998 Selby Ave., and the West Side school would be turned into a community school. J.J. Hill Montessori would relocate to the Obama building and once it is remodeled, the Obama building would reopen with a Montessori middle school as

well beginning in 2024 or 2025.

Wellstone Elementary would close. Its BioSmart students could enroll in the science programs at Farnsworth or Crossroads elementary schools. Wellstone's Spanish immersion program would merge with the Riverview Spanish immersion program on the West Side.

Galtier Elementary would merge with Hamline Elementary at 1599 Englewood Ave. LEAP High School would close. Jackson Elementary would merge with nearby Maxfield Elementary at 380 N. Victoria St. Jackson's Hmong dual language students could relocate to the Phalen Lake dual language program. Students at grades 1-8 Capitol Hill Gifted and Talented School would no longer graduate to Highland

Park High School exclusively but to their respective community high school.

The School Board is scheduled to vote on Envision SPPS on Tuesday, November 16. Between now and then, the board will hold several public information and listening sessions on the plan. Public listening sessions will be live-streamed from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays, October 28 and November 11. Special School Board sessions on the plan will be live-streamed at 4:30 p.m. Mondays, November 1 and 8. A public information session will be live-streamed from 6-7:30 p.m. Monday, November 8.

For more information on Envision SPPS or to take part in the live streams, visit spps.org. Questions on Envision SPPS may also be emailed to envision@spps.org.

Council OKs revision of lot coverage requirements at Highland Bridge

By JANE MCCLURE

The Saint Paul City Council on October 13 voted 6-0-1 to amend the open space and lot coverage requirements for new buildings in the 122-acre Highland Bridge development.

"When the master plan for redeveloping the Ford site was drafted, there was concern about really large buildings on the site," said city planning director Luis Pereira. The maximum lot coverage and minimum open space requirements were intended to address those concerns.

The changes adopted on October 13 are intended to simplify and clarify the regulations, but they have sparked controversy in the surrounding neighborhood.

Under the original requirements, a mini-

mum of 25 percent of a building's lot had to be open space. Open space was defined as ground-level courtyards, patios, walkways and gardens as well as balconies, roof decks and green roofs. Those provisions do not change with the amendments. However, the term "open space" has been eliminated as it pertains to private property. According to city staff, there are other regulations in the master plan that govern private open space, including rules that deal with a building's footprint, lot coverage, setbacks, floor area ratio, landscaping and stormwater management.

City Council member Jane Prince abstained from the vote, saying she wanted to better understand what the changes would mean. "This was put into the Ford site master plan for a reason," she said, cit-

ing the extensive community process that went into the planning process.

The changes were opposed by the group Neighbors for a Livable Saint Paul, which filed a lawsuit in the fall of 2020 over the open space requirements and how they were being interpreted by the city. The neighbors were concerned about the many zoning variances that were being granted to Highland Bridge's developers.

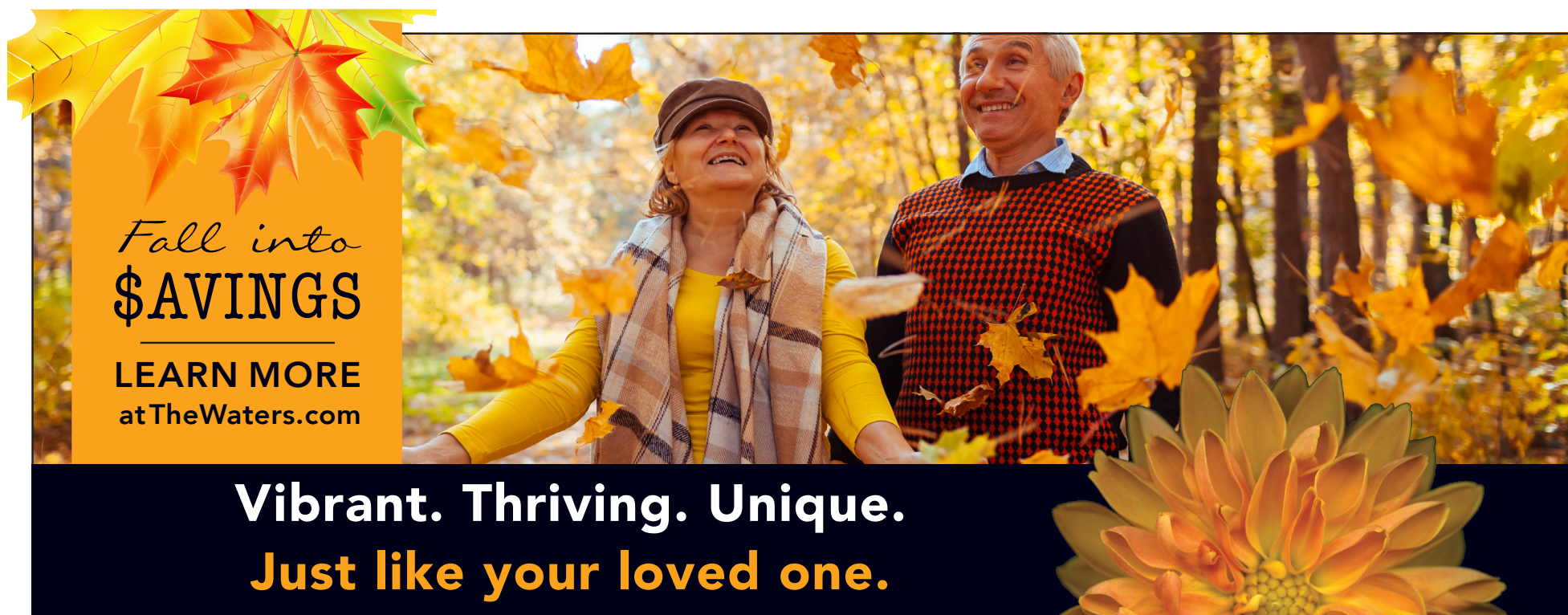
According to the group, the changes will make it easier for Highland Bridge developers to construct large buildings without having to apply for zoning variances. The group is concerned that without provisions for open space, new buildings will create a canyon-like effect on the streets of Highland Bridge.

Neighbors for a Livable Saint Paul point-

ed out that the judge in their lawsuit ruled that it was possible to conclude that the city failed to perform its official duty to enforce the Ford Site Zoning and Public Realm Master Plan.

"To evade this finding, the city's solution is to eliminate the concept and definition of 'open space' from the master plan," the group stated. "These changes remove the guardrails that are intended to prevent reckless development."

The Highland District Council supported most of the amendments approved by the City Council, but asked that the lot coverage bonus for green roofs be reduced from 10 to 5 percent. The City Council kept the bonus at 10 percent, which means that new buildings with green roofs may cover up to 85 percent of a lot without a variance.



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City has plans to make Edgcumbe safer for drivers, bikers, walkers

By JANE MCCLURE

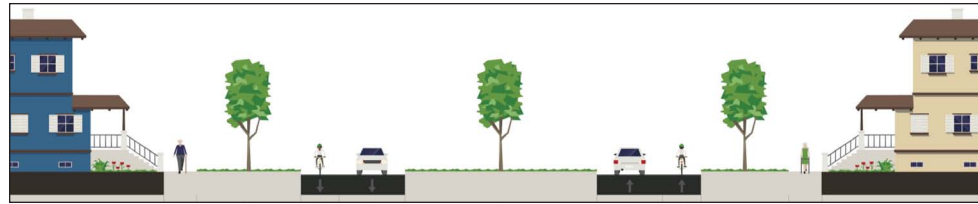
The Saint Paul Planning Commission's Transportation Committee reviewed the latest plans on October 18 to rebuild the half-mile stretch of Edgcumbe Road between Fairview and Saint Paul avenues in 2022.

Bike lanes and sidewalks will be added, along with new pavement, concrete curbs and gutters, driveway aprons, pedestrian ramps, upgraded utilities and resodded boulevards. Some trees will have to be removed and replaced, and old wooden light poles will be replaced with new lantern-style street lights. The work is to start in the summer and be complete by November.

Neighbors met earlier this fall to review ideas with city staff. The Highland District Council's Transportation Committee will also meet virtually at 7 p.m. Tuesday, November 9, to discuss the work.

Saint Paul Department of Public Works project manager Barbara Mundahl said that stretch of Edgcumbe presents "unique safety challenges" due to steep hills, bends and especially wide intersections at Howell Street and Hampshire Avenue.

Edgcumbe Road is a designated parkway. The section in the project area has 120 feet of right-of-way starting at Fairview.



Plans for Edgcumbe Road between Sunny Slope and Saint Paul Avenue include just two traffic lanes.

Parts of the east side of Edgcumbe have steep slopes that make adding sidewalks impractical.

Kevin Gallatin, a former HDC chairman and current member of the city's Transportation Committee, praised the plans.

"I love that sidewalks will be provided on the west side, particularly since the street is heavily used by pedestrians," he said. "Edgcumbe and Fairview are really busy due to the connection to Highway 5, so it's important to use design to signal that this is a neighborhood street."

The project will involve dropping a lane on Edgcumbe north of Saint Paul Avenue, narrowing the street's driving lane width, making wider bike lanes, and reducing asphalt at Howell. "All of these changes will make Edgcumbe safer and more comfortable for all users," Gallatin said.

Between Fairview and Howell, Edgcumbe currently has one 22-foot driving

lane in each direction, with planting strips of 40 feet on the west side and 36 feet on the east. The plan calls for adding a 6-foot sidewalk on the west side, with 10 feet of boulevard between the sidewalk and street. The street would have a 7-foot bike lane on each side and 11-foot driving lanes.

City staff have heard some opposition to plans to eliminate the slip lane at the Edgcumbe and Hampshire intersection by Zeilngold Triangle. The little park was recently named in honor of Rabbi Asher Zeilngold, who has served Saint Paul's Jewish community for almost six decades. He and his wife, Sima, serve at Adath Israel Synagogue adjacent to the triangle.

The section of Edgcumbe between Howell and Sunny Slope Lane currently has two 22-foot driving lanes and a 5-foot sidewalk on the west side. The sidewalk bisects a planting strip that is 14 feet on one side and 20 feet closer to the street.

The proposed redesign would retain the 14-foot planting strip closest to homes and increase the sidewalk width to 6 feet. The planting strip between the sidewalk and street would be 28 feet. The existing 36-foot planting strip on the east side will remain. Edgcumbe would have a 7-foot bike lane on either side along that stretch, and two 11-foot driving lanes.

Between Sunny Slope and Saint Paul Avenue, Edgcumbe has two lanes in each direction and a 36-foot-wide center median. Each side of the street currently has a 6-foot sidewalk and a 10-foot planting strip. The west side has 13- and 15-foot driving lanes, and the east side has 12- and 13 foot driving lanes.

The new configuration would reduce the median to 35 feet. Sidewalks would remain at 6 feet. Each side of the street would have a 7-foot bike lane and 12-foot driving lane. The west side would have a 19-foot planting strip, with 16 feet on the east side.

The northeast, northwest and southeast corners of Saint Paul Avenue and Edgcumbe will have corner bumpouts installed.

The link for the HDC Transportation Committee meeting on November 9 can be found at highlanddistrictcouncil.org/calendar.

New rules on auxiliary uses for religious institutions reviewed

By JANE MCCLURE

Day care centers, preschools, adult education classes and a variety of nonprofit groups lease space from churches, synagogues and other faith-based institutions in Saint Paul. How those uses are regulated in the future is the focus of proposed rules that will be reviewed by the city's Planning Commission in a public hearing on October 29. The intent is to provide clarity as to which uses are and are not allowed in a faith-based institution and which need a conditional use permit.

The proposed regulations are the result of a February 2019 U.S. District Court case involving the city and a Dayton's Bluff

church that houses a daytime shelter for homeless people. Listening House moved into First Lutheran Church when it lost its longtime location in downtown. The City Council approved the move in 2017, but added 14 operating conditions. Church leaders balked at the conditions.

Listening House remains at First Lutheran as a result of the court case. One stipulation in the consent agreement was that the city update its zoning regulations to establish a better process for land use by religious organizations. The new process needs to be in place by February.

Saint Paul does not have a zoning classification for churches, mosques, synagogues and other faith-based institutions.

Most of these are located in residential neighborhoods and have some type of residential zoning. Most have at least one auxiliary use.

In the past, the city has used "a determination of similar use" to approve such accessory uses. This process stemmed from a 2004 case involving Saint Mary's Episcopal Church. The church at 1895 Laurel Ave. was given approval to host a preschool, yoga classes, music lessons and other low-profile, low-traffic uses the city determined complemented the church's regular religious activities.

The proposed ordinance allows many of the uses that are already present in faith-based institutions, including child and

adult day care; art, music, dance, adult and general education classes; after-school programs; and religious education classes. Community meetings, performances and receptions are allowed, as are counseling and other social services and food shelves. Emergency housing and overnight shelters for up to 10 adults and any minor children in their care are also allowed.

However, the proposed ordinance would prohibit the construction of new buildings or building additions to house an accessory use. A conditional use permit would be required for new social and community services that occupy more than 1,000 square feet.

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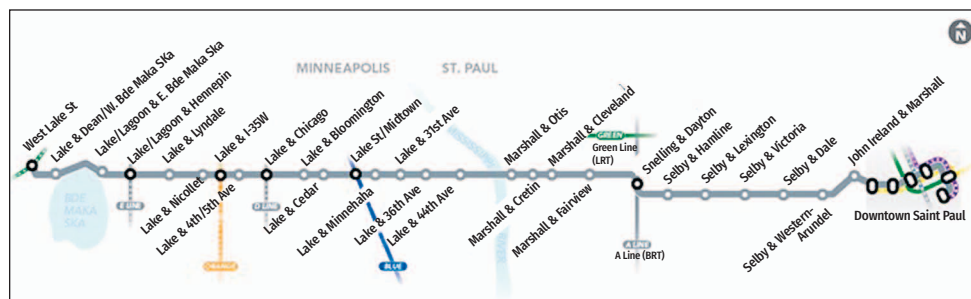
Met Council supports plans for making B Line between St. Paul-Mpls.

By JANE McCLURE

The final corridor and station plans for the \$65 million B Line between Saint Paul's Union Depot and Uptown Minneapolis received a unanimous vote of support on October 13 from the Metropolitan Council. The B Line is expected to begin providing bus rapid transit (BRT) service starting in 2024 along Lake Street in Minneapolis, and Marshall and Selby avenues in Saint Paul. The faster service will largely replace Route 21, which is Metro Transit's second busiest bus route. It was carrying about 10,000 passengers per day before the pandemic.

Engineering on the 12.6-mile line will now get underway and continue until late 2022. Construction is expected to start in 2023. Once completed, the B Line will provide connections to the light-rail Green and Blue lines as well as the A Line rapid transit bus that connects Rosedale Center to Highland Village and the Blue's 46th Street Station in Minneapolis.

Not everyone is on board with the B Line, however, including a group of residents in the Lexington-Hamline neighborhood. They would rather have Marshall and not



The 12.6-mile B Line is designed to provide faster and more reliable bus transit service in the Route 21 corridor along Lake Street in Minneapolis, and Marshall and Selby avenues in Saint Paul.

Selby used for the portion of the route between Snelling and Lexington Parkway and mounted an unsuccessful petition drive to change the route.

The Lexington-Hamline residents contend there was a lack of involvement of their neighborhood and the Lexington-Hamline Community Council. Their objections include having large lighted bus platforms close to homes. Selby, they say, can be very narrow in the winter.

They also questioned how buses will make the turn at busy Selby and Snelling avenues. B Line buses will share the A Line stations at Snelling and Dayton avenues. Metro Transit staff said those issues have

been studied, and that test runs show the buses can navigate the corner.

The draft plan for the B Line was released in February and a recommended route released for public comment in July, according to Deb Barber, who chairs the Metro Council's Transportation Committee. The project has generated more than 2,500 comments, according to Barber. Most comments expressed support for bus lanes on Lake Street. There were also comments about the loss of on-street parking, potential traffic delays, bus and bike interactions, impacts on snow plowing and the size of shelters and stations.

Metro Transit staff met on October 11

with a group of Lexington-Hamline neighbors to discuss their concerns, Barber said, and will continue to work with neighbors along the route. Amy Westerberg, who lives at the northeast corner of Hamline and Selby avenues, said the engagement was too little, too late for her and her neighbors. Her family's house is now up for sale.

In Minneapolis, neighborhood leaders are asking for consideration of dedicated bus-only lanes on part of Lake Street. That request is being considered, with technical studies to be done by the end of the year.

A total of 33 stations are proposed for the B Line, including four in downtown Saint Paul before terminating at Union Depot. The buses will run every 10 minutes. BRT requires passengers to pay at kiosks in advance to promote faster boarding. The stations offer real-time information on bus schedules, improved lighting and security, push-button heating and bicycle parking.

Metro Transit plans to replace some regular bus service along Route 21 in Minneapolis, but with buses only running every 30 minutes. A new Route 60 is planned to operate along Selby and provide access to Midway shopping destinations once the B Line starts operating.

14 VACCINE MANDATE

ployees of the city's departments of Public Works, Fire, and Parks and Recreation. While a few people spoke about taxes, public safety and capital improvements, the testimony was dominated by city workers concerned about wages, benefits and the prospect of a COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

A group of unions representing about 280 city employees in Public Works, Parks and Rec and Saint Paul Regional Water Services rejected a two-year contract offer from the city on October 5. Those members of Teamsters 120, Laborers' International Union of North America Local 363 and the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49 voted to give the go-ahead for a strike.

The workers objected to the city's proffered wage and benefit package, which provides no pay increase in the first year of the contract and an increase of 1.5 percent in the second year. City officials have said the package is in line with what other bargaining units have been offered. Seven bargaining units have already agreed to their

contracts.

At Como on October 13, city workers clapped and cheered in response to the testimony of fellow workers at the hearing. "You really need to take care of the people that take care of Saint Paul," said Jason George, a Public Works employee and business manager of Local 49. He and other city workers emphasized that snowplowing, street maintenance, recreational services and the cleanup of homeless camps and streets littered with the remains of civil unrest cannot be done remotely.

"We do the dirty work," said International Brotherhood of Teamsters organizer Paul Slattery. "We're not allowed to sit at home. We're out in the trenches. We implore you to settle this contract."

Pat Mitchell of Parks and Recreation, a leader in the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, spoke of how some parks employees have slept in their vehicles for fear of exposing family members to COVID-19 after work.

Several city workers asked the City Council about the city's proposed COVID-19 vaccine mandate. "Are any of you

folks doctors? Raise your hands," said Dave Joplin, a 28-year Public Works employee.

City Council members have disagreed with the Carter administration over the policy and whether employees should be allowed to opt out of the vaccine. They would like to allow employees who are not vaccinated to submit to weekly testing for COVID-19 instead.

Fire Department personnel have likely had the most exposure to COVID-19 of any city employees, according to Patrick Conner, a firefighter and paramedic. While he and others in the Fire Department support a vaccine requirement, he said, they want workers' personal freedoms considered.

John Wegleitner of the Fire Department called the proposal to not allow weekly testing "draconian." If city employees who refuse vaccines are fired, it could cause chaos and greatly affect city services, he said.

"Are you ready to make a medical decision affecting city employees?" Ryan Christopherson of the Fire Department asked the City Council. "We've come to work every day. All we're asking for is the option to take the test."

Ward 7 City Council member Jane Prince said in a Facebook post that she was unhappy with the stringent policy. "While I'm a strong supporter of vaccinations for all, I'm deeply disappointed that Mayor Carter is ignoring the reasonable requests of our employees and their unions to follow the same policies as the state of Minnesota, Ramsey County, the Saint Paul Public Schools, the city of Minneapolis, Hennepin County and the University of Minnesota, which allow for routine testing.

"I want to remind Mayor Carter that hundreds of our Saint Paul employees worked on the front lines when there were no safeguards from getting COVID," Prince said. "Many suffered its impacts themselves, or brought this disease home to loved ones, who also suffered and even died from the disease. Some employees found other living arrangements temporarily so as not to endanger their families. They received no hazard pay, nor did they seek a reprieve from doing their jobs to serve us."

As of October 22, it was not clear what would happen to city employees who do not get vaccinated by the deadline.



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VIEWPOINT

Now's time to convince CP Rail to grant public three local rail corridors

BY JEROME JOHNSON

The proposed merger of Calgary-based Canadian Pacific Railway (CP Rail) and Kansas City Southern Railway (KCS) will combine CP Rail's Prairie Province and Upper Midwest routes with KCS's route to Texas, Louisiana and Mexico. With no overlapping tracks and ongoing competition from river barges and other railroads, shippers should see minimal rate or service degradation. That should please local shipping giants like Cargill, ADM and General Mills. It will not be so pleasant for the Twin Cities economy.

The local economy will take a hit from the elimination or relocation of up to 200 CP Rail administrative jobs and the vacancy of another downtown Minneapolis office building. However, the deal could be a godsend in the repurposing of several underused CP Rail freight corridors in the area. That is, if our civic leaders step up and take advantage of the leverage available to them under federal rail merger regulations.

CP Rail will seek and likely need the support of Minnesota's public and private sectors to secure federal regulatory approval of the deal. Given that shippers will be no worse off, the Biden administration will likely focus on economic and environmental restitution to affected employees and municipalities. Conveying to our community these three under-producing CP Rail corridors will do just that:

- The Highland Park spur, an idle 3.5-mile right-of-way paralleling Saint Paul Avenue and West Seventh Street between the former Ford Motor Company plant and Saint Clair Avenue in the West End.
- The Hiawatha spur, a 2.6-mile corridor running next to Hiawatha Avenue between Lake Street and Minnehaha Park in Minneapolis. There, rail traffic has dwindled to 40 cars per week as flour mills and grain elevators give way to apartment buildings and light industry.
- The Midtown Greenway extension, a 2.6-mile corridor connecting the Hiawatha spur at Lake Street with CP Rail's main line near Cleveland Avenue in Saint Paul via the so-called Short Line Bridge over the Mississippi River. Repurposed, it would be the key link in an extension of the popular Midtown Greenway recreational trail.

Combined, the real estate under these track segments is worth about \$50 million as adjacent properties find higher and better uses. Contrast that with the declining rail freight traffic base of just one aging flour mill and an intermittent steel scrapper that is worth at most \$20 million.

Public control of these corridors could result in 1) trail extensions offering safer alternatives to on-street bike lanes and sidewalks; 2) transitways providing faster, safer and more efficient alternatives to buses and street-based rail; 3) more efficient and less disruptive utility easements; 4) new playgrounds and parks; and 5) roads that relieve traffic congestion in such nearby areas as the Highland Bridge development in Highland Park.

Minnesota officials should therefore make their support for the CP Rail-KCS merger contingent on public ownership of the CP Rail corridors above; a joint rail-and-trail use arrangement over the Short Line Bridge and eastward into Saint Paul; CP Rail's assistance with shipper relocation and track abandonment proceedings where appropriate; and CP Rail's assuming environmental liability where appropriate.

It is well past time for the railroads to acknowledge that freight trains are not coming back to Highland Park or the Hiawatha Corridor. Minnesota officials need to seize the moment to preserve these corridors for the greener good of the community. If you agree, contact the governor, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, the Metropolitan Council, your state representative and county commissioner and let them know our sustainable future depends on it.

Jerome Johnson is a resident of Summit Hill, a retired transportation economist and a founding member of Citizen Advocates for Regional Transit.

An age-old reflection on our mortality

BY JACQUELINE HESSE

A thousand years ago, pagan people in what is now Ireland would build bonfires, don masks and attempt to communicate with the dead on the evening of October 31. It was Samhain (pronounced SOW-in), when it was believed that the veil between humanity and the netherworld was thin and the normal order of the universe was suspended. Sprites, fairies and other mythical creatures roamed about.

This coming October 31, as the sky darkens and a crescent moon appears in the west, "spirits" will make their way to our doors. They may be ghosts, monsters or werewolves or a member of the rock band Kiss. They will be carrying plastic pumpkin buckets, paper bags or pillowcases, and after they ring our doorbell they will call out, "trick or treat!"

The night of October 31, or Halloween, "is a portal," said Patrick O'Donnell, director of education at the Celtic Junction Arts Center on North Prior Avenue and a professor of English and mythology at Normandale Community College. The holiday has endured over a millennium, he said, because of its timeless relevance as "a cultural, mythological way of reflecting on a deeper mortality: our connection with our ancestors."

On Halloween we become more receptive to the eerie and the uncanny, according to O'Donnell. "It's a move from ego to psyche," he said. "We go into almost a dream state, but it's an official dream state in which we delve into the deeper question: Where am I going, ultimately?"

In the Ireland of a millennium ago, Celtic villagers left their windows and doors open on October 31 so that their ancestors could visit and partake of food, drink and stories. The Celts believed that monsters roamed the nearby fields and forests and darkened village paths on that night. The practice of lighting bonfires to ward off evil and dressing up as ghosts or goblins to appease the spirits dates to the Middle Ages or even earlier.

When Christianity became the dominant religion in Ireland, October 31 shifted from a time to communicate with the dead to a time to pray for the souls in purgatory who were waiting to enter heaven. People carved out turnips and put candles in them as a symbol of the

trapped souls. In the 1800s, Irish immigrants in the United States switched from turnips to pumpkins, which were easier to carve. The face in the gourd was that of Stingy Jack, the hero of Irish folklore who time after time outsmarts the devil. It is from him that the jack-o'-lantern got its name.

The Halloween-like festival was not always on October 31. In the seventh century, Pope Boniface IV, the leader of the Christian Church in Western Europe, merged the festival with Beltane, the Gaelic May Day festival. This may be when witches entered the picture, as April 30 is Walpurgis Night when many Europeans believed that witches took to the sky to meet on Brocken Mountain. German and Scandinavian farmers lit bonfires on the

hillsides to protect their cattle from the witches.

In the 11th century, Pope Gregory VII moved the festival back to October 31. The name Halloween is derived from All Hallowed's Eve, the night before the Christian All Saint's Day on November 1. On that night, Christians were known to give out "soul cakes" to the poor in exchange for a prayer for their dead loved ones. This may be the origin of trick-or-treating.

Back then, Irish farm boys would disguise their faces with coal or masks and visit local farmhouses or the town confectionary and demand a treat in exchange for a song or rhyme: "Trick or treat, money or eats, give us some candy or we'll kick you in the seat." If an apple,

cake or other goodie was not given, the boys would pull a prank, overturning carts, removing gates or placing heavy farm equipment on shed roofs.

The Puritans of colonial America did not embrace Halloween. In fact, they spoke openly about abolishing it. However, the Irish, who immigrated to the United States in large numbers in the 1800s, brought Halloween with them, and as they rose in social prominence, so did the annual celebration.

There is something timeless about Halloween—the eeriness, the darkness, the death of the things of summer. The holiday's connection to the changing seasons is significant, according to O'Donnell. "The motion of the seasons places us inside the larger energy of the cosmos," he said. "If you don't get to those moments, you're not embedded in the larger narrative of life. You live in a world of fragile anxiety."



INBOX

Re-elect Vue and Foster to board

As a parent of three boys in the Saint Paul Public Schools and a committed public education advocate, I was happy to see *MyVillager* highlight the eight candidates running for School Board in the September 29 issue with a focus on how they would stem declining enrollment in the district. The candidates also addressed whether they support a moratorium on charter schools, which is a position pushed by the Saint Paul Federation of Educators and a criteria of SPFE endorsement of School Board candidates. Lost in the discussion was the fact that the School Board has no jurisdiction over charter schools and no power to impose a moratorium on their creation or expansion.

The charter moratorium issue is therefore a huge distraction from the internal structural reforms the school district needs to place the needs and priorities of students and families first. Families will send their children to district schools when they are listened to and respected as equal partners in their children's education and when they are assured that their kids will receive the first-class education they deserve.

Candidates Jim Vue and Jeanelle Foster understand that denying Saint Paul families agency to choose the best

school for their children is not the path to strengthening district schools. And both Vue and Foster have the experience to support district administration and staff and hold them accountable on behalf of students and families when their policies are failing our kids. They have my vote, and I urge you to vote for them, too.

*Pamela Marentette
Lexington-Hamline*

Join me in voting for Vue

As a retired Saint Paul Public School educator, I strongly urge reelecting Jim Vue to the Saint Paul School Board. Jim and his wife Sai have four youngsters in the Saint Paul Public Schools, some of whom are students with special needs. Before being appointed and then elected to the board, Jim served on two districtwide committees, one representing Asian Americans and one representing families with students having special needs.

Jim has demonstrated independence and leadership on the board. For example, he successfully challenged the administration when it proposed early this year an increase in salary and fringe benefits to senior

84 INBOX

administrators already making \$140,000-190,000 per year. Jim helped convince the board that more should be spent on direct services to students. He also helped lead the effort to require masks for students and vaccinations for faculty and staff.

Jim is a veteran who served in the Middle East. He brings important life experience to the board. Please join me in voting for Jim Vue.

*Tina Fahnestock
Highland Park*

Saint Paul wrong

Members of Saint Paul STRONG lament the "lack of electoral competition" in this year's race for mayor (*MyVillager* Viewpoint, September 15). Instead of blaming the local Republican Party for failing to appeal to Saint Paul voters, they blame the local DFL for being too popular and its endorsement process for being too friendly to incumbents. Yet, just across the river, in even more heavily DFL Minneapolis, the incumbent DFL mayor failed to win endorsement and faces two very credible challengers.

Mayor Carter is running strong, not because Saint Paul is a one-party town, but because he has a fantastic record. He brought business and labor together to raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour. At Highland Bridge, we are building more of the housing our growing and diverse city needs. Even before the murder of George Floyd, Mayor Carter reformed the Saint Paul police's use-of-force standards.

If Saint Paul STRONG had a decent candidate or a compelling vision, they could have been competitive. If they want electoral competition, they should try bold ideas instead of weak excuses.

*Rick Varco
Highland Park*

Editor's note: The writer is treasurer of the Saint Paul DFL.

Vote for Vue and Foster

I support Jim Vue and Jeannie Foster for the Saint Paul School Board. Jeannie is the current chair of the board and Jim is vice chair. Jim is running for another four-year term, and Jeannie is running for the two-year term. Both are leaders in advancing ethnic studies, creating safer upgraded school environments, reimagining an equitable and sustainable use of buildings and programs through Envision SPPS, and managing the enormous task of maintaining academic and supportive services to students and families during the COVID crisis. They also represent and are deeply connected to traditionally underrepresented racial communities whose success is critical to the future of Saint Paul.

These unprecedented times of challenge and change for our schools require proven decision-makers who have been at the table, understand the complexities, and can provide the strong, collaborative leadership necessary to turn difficult solutions into successful outcomes for

all our kids. Please vote for Jeannie Foster and Jim Vue. Experience matters!

*Jon Schumacher
Saint Anthony Park*

Editor's note: The writer is a former member of the Saint Paul School Board.

No time for fighting crime

It's good to know that Saint Paul Mayor Melvin Carter and the City Council are working hard to combat climate change, build density and install more bike paths. They just don't have the time to help the police get a handle on crime.

*Gary Fischbach
Mendota Heights*

Editor's note: The writer is a former resident of Highland Park.

Elect hard-working Hosko

I urge Saint Paul voters to get out their "brooms" on election day and make a clean sweep. I will be casting my vote for Bill Hosko for mayor. For months, Mr. Hosko has been door-knocking throughout the city and hand-delivering his campaign literature with specifics on what he will do to improve all that needs to be done in Saint Paul. If Mr. Hosko is working that hard to meet the people he hopes will elect him mayor, I think he would be a terrific choice. When you do what you've always done, you get what you've always got. Let's start over with competent people willing to work hard for Saint Paul's hard-working citizens. Please join me in voting for Bill Hosko as our next mayor.

*Kathleen Deming
Macalester-Groveland*

License to kill curtailed

As a mom and a physician, I want to say "thank you" to the Saint Paul City Council for aggressively taking on tobacco ("City Council considers new limits on the sale, marketing of tobacco," *MyVillager*, October 13). For far too long, the tobacco industry has had a license to kill. It must stop.

*Dr. Anne Lippin
Summit Hill*

Visit myvillager.com for additional letters to the editor regarding the candidates for mayor and School Board and the referendums on the November 2 ballot in Saint Paul and Mendota Heights.

MyVillager 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. Send your commentary to *MyVillager*, 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.

MyVillager

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Volume 69, Number 18

Maurice F. Mischke, 1920-1991

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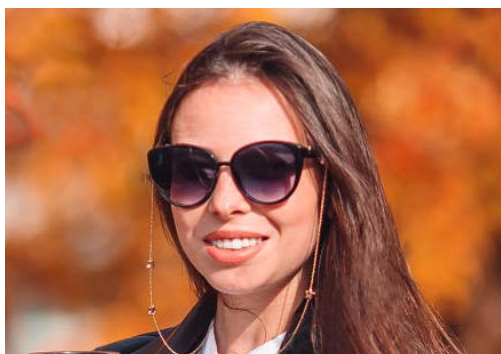
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Day of decision

**Mayor, School Board, rent control
all hang in the balance on Nov. 2**

Saint Paul voters will head to the polls on Tuesday, November 2, to choose among candidates for mayor and School Board and to approve or reject a proposed city ordinance that would prevent landlords from raising the rent they charge their residential tenants more than 3 percent per year.

That same day, voters in School District 197 in Mendota Heights, West Saint Paul and Eagan will head to the polls to choose among candidates for School Board and to decide whether or not to renew District 197's excess operating levy. The property tax levy, which was first approved in 2011, is scheduled to expire this year. It provides the district with \$224.48 per pupil or around \$1.3 million each year. If renewed by voters, the levy will be in effect for another 10 years and will increase each year by the rate of inflation.

The polls will be open from 7 a.m.-8 p.m. on November 2. In Saint Paul, ranked-choice voting will be used in the City Council race. Voters will be asked to rank their top six choices for mayor.

There are two Saint Paul School Board races on the ballot. The first race is for three four-year terms on the board. The top three vote-getters will take their seat on the board beginning January 1. The second race is a special election to fill the remaining 26 months in an unexpired term on the School Board.

Sample ballots with the names of all of the candidates and the ballot questions appear below. An asterisk (*) after a name denotes an incumbent.

To be eligible to vote in Minnesota, you must be at least 18 years of age, a U.S. citizen, and a resident of the state for at least 20 days prior to the election. You must not be serving a felony sentence, felony probation or parole currently, and you may not be under legal guardianship with your right to vote revoked by court order.

Voters who are not yet registered in their respective precincts may register at the polls. To learn what is required to register at the polls or for information on other election matters, call 651-266-2171 or visit rcelections.org in Ramsey County, call 651-438-4380 or visit co.dakota.mn.us in Dakota County, or call 1-877-600-8683 or visit sos.state.mn.us.

SAINT PAUL BALLOTS

Mayor: Abu Nayeem, Miki Frost, Melvin Carter*, Paul Langenfeld, Bill Hosko, Dora Jones-Robinson, Scott Evans Wergin, Dino Guerin.

Ash trees' removal, replacement expedited

BY JANE MCCLURE

Saint Paul's ongoing battle with the emerald ash borer received \$18 million in reinforcements on October 20 when the City Council approved a Saint Paul Port Authority bond issue to the city's forestry budget. The Port agreed earlier this year to work with the city to help with the Herculean task of cutting down diseased ash trees on city property, removing their stumps and planting new trees.

The \$18 million will be used by the Forestry Division to create a jobs program, make equipment purchases and hire additional workers. The extra funding will give forestry staff the resources to remove and replant the city's remaining boulevard ash trees by the end of 2026 or as much as eight

ELECTION '21



School Board member, four-year term (vote for up to three): Jim Vue*, Halla Henderson, James Farnsworth, Uriah Ward, Jennifer McPherson, Ryan Williams.

School Board member, special election to fill a term expiring on January 1, 2024 (vote for one): Jeannie Foster*, Clayton Howatt.

City Question 1—Whether to adopt a residential rent stabilization ordinance.

Should the City adopt the proposed ordinance limiting rent increases? The ordinance limits residential rent increases to no more than 3 percent in a 12-month period, regardless of whether there is a change of occupancy. The ordinance also directs the city to create a process for landlords to request an exception to the 3 percent limit based on the right to a reasonable return on investment. A "yes" vote is a vote in favor of limiting rent increases. A "no" vote is a vote against limiting rent increases.

MENDOTA HEIGHTS BALLOTS

District 197 School Board Member. Vote for up to three: Mark Grondahl, John Chandler*, Jon Vaupel, Stephanie A. Auran, Marcus Hill*, Morgan Steele, Robert Reese, Sarah Larsen, Elena Villarreal, Timothy J. Aune.

School District Question 1—Renewal of expiring referendum revenue authorization:

The board of Independent School District No. 197 (West Saint Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan) has proposed to renew the school district's existing referendum revenue authorization of \$224.48 per pupil which is scheduled to expire after taxes payable in 2021. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would increase each year by the rate of inflation and be applicable for 10 years beginning with taxes payable in 2022, unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law. Shall the increase in revenue proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 197 be approved? Yes or no. By voting "yes," you are voting to extend an existing property tax referendum that is scheduled to expire.

years earlier than worst-case estimates for completing that work.

The bond proceeds also will allow forestry workers to catch up on a massive backlog unrelated to the emerald ash borer, including tree trimming, removing stumps and replanting trees. Tree trimming, which had been on a 15-year cycle, has been relegated to complaint or emergency status. The funds will allow for the planting of an additional 2,000 trees per year.

Minnesota's first ash borer infestation was discovered in 2009 in Saint Paul's South Saint Anthony Park neighborhood, although it is believed the pests were present as early as 2004. The insects are now in every neighborhood of the city and in cities throughout the state.

St. Paul's Rent Control Measure Is NOT WHAT YOU THINK

No American state or city has *EVER* implemented a rent control measure as sweeping as Question 1

Unlike measures in other American cities, City Question 1 covers **every rental unit** in St. Paul and every renter. **No exceptions!**

New York and San Francisco have tried less-sweeping rent control measures. Here's what they found:



The **QUALITY** of rental properties takes a **DOWNWARD TURN**.

Property owners can't cover the cost of inflation or maintenance and building upgrades.



Rental options decline

Renters rarely leave rent-controlled properties, builders won't invest, and many rentals are converted to condominiums, leaving fewer, older, and poorer-quality rental options.



We are two sisters who got into the rental business over 30 years ago. **We made it our mission to keep rents affordable.** We drive old cars, we both have jobs. **We are not rich landlords** – we are the exact opposite.

Should the rent control ordinance pass we will be forced to sell our buildings. We love our buildings and **we fear what will happen to our tenants if the rent control measure passes** and we have to sell our buildings. We have worked very hard and it would break our hearts to sell, but **we can't go bankrupt** due to the short-sightedness of activists and City Council members.

*Jeanne and Sue Rohland,
St. Paul rental property owners*



THINK TWICE about Rent Control

St. Paul City Councilmembers and Organized Labor Agree that Question 1 is a Bad Idea

**At least 4 of 7 St. Paul
City Council members will
vote 'no' on rent control†**

Dai Thao, Ward 1

Chris Tolbert, Ward 3

Amy Brendmoen, Ward 5

Jane Prince, Ward 7

**These Organizations Stand
Together Against Question 1:**



BETTER AGENTS • BETTER COMMUNITIES
SAINT PAUL AREA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS



Vote **NO** on Question 1 On November 2

† <https://www.twincities.com/2021/09/24/at-least-4-of-7-st-paul-city-council-members-to-vote-no-on-rent-control-mayor-tight-lipped/>

BOOMERS & BEYOND *Living on the upside of 55*

COVID side effect

Senior housing is hit with staffing shortage as fallout from pandemic

BY CAROLYN WALKUP

Nursing homes and assisted-living facilities across this area are experiencing critical shortages in staffing. Positions ranging from dietary workers and housekeepers to nurses and nurses aides remain unfilled as workers retire early or opt for less demanding jobs. Their reasons for leaving range from a fear of contracting COVID-19 to the increased demands of parenting to the availability of more lucrative or less stressful jobs.

For Barbara Klick, CEO of the Sholom senior living campuses on Saint Paul's West End and in Saint Louis Park, the labor shortage is the worst she has seen in her 45 years in health care. At last count, the Sholom East Campus at 740 Kay Ave. had 58 openings—46 in skilled nursing and 12 in assisted living.

"It's hard work, emotionally and physically," Klick said. "Workers are doing a terrific job, but they're exhausted. We have to take care of our caregivers, too."

While Sholom and other homes for the elderly have increased the wages they pay their employees, they have been lobbying state lawmakers to help them through the pandemic. Two long-term care trade associations, Leading Age Minnesota and Care

Providers Minnesota, have asked the Legislature and Governor Tim Walz to allocate funds from the federal American Rescue Plan to help pay for emergency staffing.

According to a recent survey by the trade associations of 300 elder care homes in Minnesota, there is an overall staffing shortage of 23,000 positions affecting 70 percent of the nursing homes and 29 percent of the assisted living facilities in the state. Many facilities, especially in rural Minnesota, have had to stop admitting new residents.

With wages as low as \$12 to \$14 an hour, employees in senior housing have been attracted by higher-paying jobs. It is hard to compete, Klick noted, when fast-food restaurants are offering starting pay of \$16 an hour.

Most of the homes experiencing shortages have asked their employees to work longer hours. "We're relying more on current employees, who get stretched thin," said Deb Waedt, an administrator for Presbyterian Homes, which operates more than 50 senior housing communities, including Lexington Landing at 900 Old Lexington Ave. and Carondelet Village at 525 S. Fairview Ave.

Waedt blamed much of the worker shortage on the pandemic and the in-



Saida Yusuf, a trained medical assistant at the Sholom Home on Saint Paul's West End, gives resident Ken Zimmerman an elbow bump. The two have become fast friends. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

creased demand on employees who have elderly parents in their care or are the parents of young children. So far, Lexington Landing has not had to turn away resident applicants. "We're blessed at that site," Waedt said. "It's in the heart of Saint Paul and on a bus line. And a lot of people walk to work there."

Presbyterian Homes has increased employee wages by as much as 10 percent in recent months. It has also offered signing bonuses, academic scholarships and paid training for nurse assistants. Nevertheless, Lexington Landing's independent living section has had to reduce its dining room

hours due to a shortage of dietary workers. Dinner service has been eliminated on Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays, and breakfasts are no longer available on weekends.

Episcopal Homes, 1860 University Ave., has offered employees the additional benefits of subsidized transit passes and free on-site day care. New hires now qualify for health insurance immediately, according to Emilee Sames, Episcopal Homes' human resources director.

Episcopal Homes attracted 40 prospec-

SENIOR HOUSING ►15








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In his private room at the Best Western Capitol Ridge Hotel, Clyde Bolden extols the virtues of the lawn chair he used when he lived on the street. Bolden is visiting with Lori Halbur, a social worker with Catholic Charities' Homeless Elders Program. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Public-private partnership gives homeless elders safe place to stay

BY ANNE MURPHY

Lori Halbur of Catholic Charities' Homeless Elders Program remembers well the reactions of her clients. When notices were sent out to older adults staying at an overnight shelter inviting them to move into the Best Western Capitol Ridge Hotel, nobody believed it.

"It was at the start of COVID," said Halbur, a resident of Saint Paul's Snelling-Hamline neighborhood. "We invited our shelter guests—those who were older or had significant health conditions—to move into the hotel as a safer alternative. Many said, 'What's the catch? This sounds too good to be true.'"

"At the hotel, people have their own bathroom and a door that locks to keep their possessions safe," said Halbur. They have a place they don't have to leave during the day like in traditional shelters. People can catch up on their sleep or watch TV, and they have a small fridge. But most of all, it gives them a place where they can social-distance and remain safe from COVID."

Currently, there are about 100 individuals living at Capitol Ridge through the program, according to Halbur. The original clients were all staying at Catholic Charities' Higher Ground shelter in Saint Paul. Their move to the hotel enabled the overnight shelter to reduce capacity and allow the clients who remained to social-distance.

"The hotel shelter has most certainly saved lives," said Melea Blanchard, supervisor of the Homeless Elders Program. "Older adults facing homelessness are almost always more vulnerable than the rest of the population, and they deserve to have a safe and dignified place to stay."

The hotel for the homeless is a collaboration between Catholic Charities and Ramsey County. When COVID began to threaten in March 2020, Catholic Charities approached the county in search of a safer alternative for its elderly clients. The county acted immediately, and soon there were 60 homeless clients staying at the hotel on Saint Anthony Avenue across I-94 from downtown. By late summer, there were 125 clients at the hotel.

The county pays for the rooms and the

services at the hotel with funds from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act and the American Rescue Plan Act. Clients receive three meals a day along with chemical and mental health services, workforce and veterans services and "daily activities for mind, body and spirit," according to Ramsey County director of communications John Siqveland.

Ramsey County has signed a contract with the hotel to maintain housing for homeless elders through May 2022. Throughout their stay, the elders continue to receive help from Catholic Charities in finding a permanent home. Some of the original clients have since moved on to affordable rental apartments or homes.

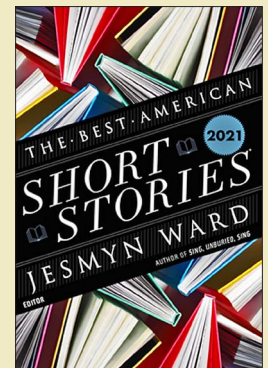
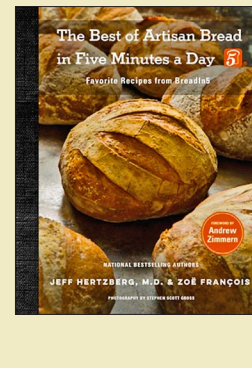
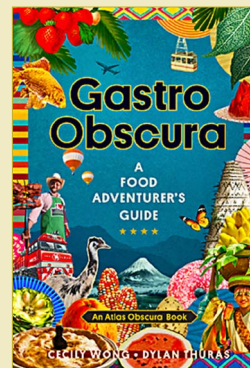
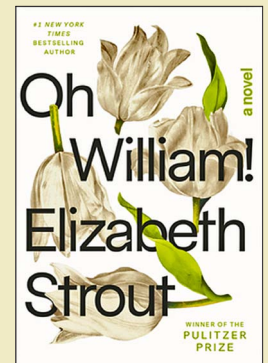
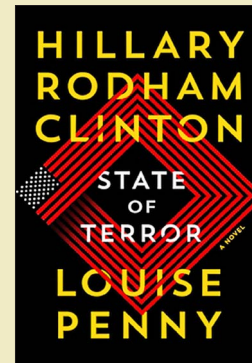
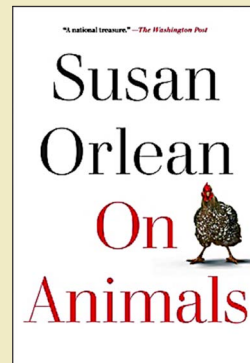
Halbur, who joined Catholic Charities in 2012 after finishing a masters degree in social work at the University of Saint Thomas, became part of the Homeless Elders Program in 2016. Since then, she has witnessed an increase in homelessness in Minnesota, especially among older adults. "There are many people who are experiencing homelessness for the first time," she said. "And they're often completely lost. They don't know what to do."

According to the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, there were 10,233 people in Minnesota who were homeless on October 5, 2018, the date of the most recent study. Of those, 1,054 or about 10 percent were age 55 or older.

"Approximately 25 percent of the clients served in our single-adult shelters over the past year were age 55 or older," said Catholic Charities data specialist Jessica Meyerson. "More than half of the residents in our permanent supportive housing are 55 and older. These percentages are only expected to increase as the metro population as a whole continues to age."

"Early on in the pandemic, Ramsey County worked with hotels to secure short-term contracts," Siqveland said. "We've since developed longer-term contracts with Bethesda Hospital, Stub Hall at Luther Seminary, Mary Hall in downtown Saint Paul and several hotels, including Capitol Ridge." But as overnight shelters began bringing their facilities back to full

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District Councils

Highland Park

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Trick or Treat in Highland—The Highland Business Association, Highland District Council, Friends of Highland Arts, and Saint Paul Department of Parks and Recreation will hold a Halloween event that includes trick-or-treating, a scavenger hunt and prizes from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, October 30. The suggested donation is \$5. To register, see highlandba.com/trick-or-treat-in-highland.

Living in Highland—The HDC held open houses earlier this month to hear from residents about living in Highland Park. Residents can still fill out a survey by October 31 at surveymonkey.com/r/HDCinput.

Upcoming road projects—City and county staff will present several upcoming projects in Highland Park during the HDC’s next Transportation Committee meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, November 9. The projects include reconstruction of Edgcumbe Road between Fairview and Saint Paul avenues, Saint Paul Avenue’s redesign, the Riverview Corridor and the extension of Lexington Parkway. For the meeting link, see highlanddistrictcouncil.org/calendar.

Lexington Parkway open house—The third virtual open house for the extension of Lexington Parkway between West Seventh Street and Shepard Road will be held from 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 10. The plans include a mini-roundabout at Elway Street and Montreal Avenue. Register at tinyurl.com/LexingtonParkway.

Upcoming meetings—board of directors, 7 p.m. Thursday, November 4; Community Engagement Committee, 7 p.m. Monday, November 8; and Transportation Committee, 7 p.m. Tuesday, November 9. Links to the Zoom meetings are posted on the HDC website.

Macalester-Groveland

macgrove.org • 651-695-4000

Century building plaques—The Macalester-Groveland Community Council is offering the owners of homes and commercial buildings in the neighborhood that were built in 1925 or before to purchase a plaque to identify its age.

Order by November 30 by visiting macgrove.org/100years.

Donations are doubled—Give to the Max Day is Thursday, November 18. All donations up to \$3,700 to the community council will be matched by its board of directors. Early giving will begin on November 1 at givemn.org/macgrove. For more information, visit macgrove.org/donate.

Business roundtable—The community council’s business representatives will host a fall roundtable for local business leaders at 8 a.m. Wednesday, October 27, via Zoom. RSVP to mgcc@macgrove.org.

Rent stabilization—On November 2, Saint Paul will vote on whether or not to adopt a proposed ordinance limiting rent increases. To learn more about voting and view a sample ballot, visit sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting. An October 20 panel discussion on the issue can be viewed at macgrove.org/rent-stabilization.

Upcoming meetings—Housing and Land Use Committee on Wednesday, October 27; Inclusivity Task Force on Thursday, November 4; Environmental Subcommittee on Monday, November 8; board of directors on Thursday, November 11; and Transportation Committee on Monday, November 22. The meetings will be held virtually beginning at 6:30 p.m. Sign up at macgrove.org/participate.

Summit Hill

summithillassociation.org • 651-222-1222

Board election results—Incumbents Abhi Andley, Bridget Allan Ales and Denise Aldrich retained their seats in the SHA’s board election on October 14. New members include Cole Trace, Dan Dodge, Jennifer Isernhagen, Karl Benson, Maggie Wenger, Phil Grant and Swati Sugandh.

Fall safety walks—SHA board members and volunteers canvassed the Summit Hill neighborhood to spot street and sidewalk maintenance issues during evening walks on October 21 and 26. For more information, visit SummitHillAssociation.org/news.

Upcoming meetings—board of directors, 7 p.m. Thursday, November 11; Racial Dialogue and Action Committee, 7 p.m. Monday, November 15; and Streetscapes and Environment Committee, 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 17. Visit SummitHillAssociation.org/calendar.

Union Park

unionparkdc.org • 651-645-6887

Board elections—The UPDC will hold its annual meeting and elections for the majority of seats on its board of directors on Wednesday, November 3. The meeting will also include a discussion on the board’s plans for the future. For information, contact jonah@unionparkdc.org.

Upcoming meetings—annual meeting, 7 p.m. Wednesday, November 3; Transportation Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, November 8; Committee on Land Use and Development, 6:30 p.m. Monday, November 15; and Environment and Parks Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 17. Find the Zoom links at unionparkdc.org/calendar.

Contact us—The public is invited to “like” the Union Park District Council on Facebook, follow it on Twitter at @UnionParkDC, and subscribe to its e-newsletter, “Neighborhood Matters,” by emailing jonah@unionparkdc.org.

West Seventh

fortroadfederation.org • 651-298-5599

West Seventh recipes—Recipes are being collected from local residents for a West Seventh/Fort Road Federation cookbook that will be sold as a fundraiser for the organization. Recipes may be sent for consideration to fortroadfederation.org/cookbook.

Board notes—At its October meeting, the board of directors accepted the resignation of Elyse Jensen from the position of Area 1 coordinator. The board also discussed committee updates, including the Fort Road Cookbook fundraiser and Give to the Max Day on November 18.

Nominations for the board—Nominations are being sought for a new Area 1 coordinator on the West Seventh board of directors. Candidates must live, own property or a business between Kellogg Boulevard and Saint Clair Avenue and fill out a form on the website before November 1.

Upcoming meetings—board of directors, 7 p.m. Monday, November 8; and Community Engagement Committee, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, November 18. For details, see fortroadfederation.org/calendar.



Join us in VOTING YES for rent stabilization in St. Paul

By coming together – across race, income and zipcode – we can make St. Paul stronger by ensuring that everyone has a home they can rely on, whether they rent or own. The rent stabilization policy on the ballot (Question 1) is a flexible, fair and carefully crafted measure to stop predatory practices and egregious rent spikes that are pushing our neighbors out – and will advance racial equity.

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12 SENIOR HOUSING

tive employees to a recent job fair and hired 14 of them. However, 10 percent of the approximately 600 positions at the senior housing facility remain vacant, according to Sames. She attributed the vacancies to burnout from demanding jobs and the desire for less stressful jobs with more convenient hours.

The Pillars of Highland Park, 1925 Norfolk Ave., has eight open positions in its assisted-living and memory care facilities, including six positions in nursing, according to Erin Hilligan, vice president of operations for Ebenezer Senior Living, which operates the Pillars.

Ebenezer operates 38 assisted living fa-

cilities and six nursing homes, Hilligan said, and altogether they have about 800 open positions. The company held a job fair at the Pillars recently that resulted in several new hires, she said. They have found other new employees among the students at Saint Catherine University.

In its marketing messages on social media, Ebenezer emphasizes the rewards of working in a mission-based organization, Hilligan said, along with the family spirit one gets in working with the elderly and the long-term potential of a career in caregiving. She and other senior housing administrators pointed out that the demand for caregivers for the elderly will only increase as the baby boom generation ages.

13 HOMELESS ELDERS

capacity, Sigveland said, "we've scaled back our use of hotels, instead referring clients primarily to Bethesda, Luther and Mary Hall. Capitol Ridge is the only hotel we're still contracting with."

"All of us are just a crisis away from being homeless," Halbur said. "Sometimes for older adults, there may be a need for hospitalization and then rehabilitation. When that's no longer needed, they're told to go home. If they hadn't been paying their rent for three months, that home may no longer be there."

Other older adults, when they experience the death of a loved one, "may just stop functioning," Halbur said. "The grief is so strong, they stop paying bills and all of a sudden they're homeless. Or, if the death was of a spouse or partner who paid half of the bills, they may lose their housing."

"I think as a society, we don't want to acknowledge that we don't take care of our aging community or that there are so many older adults out there who don't have fam-

ily connections," Halbur said. "Often times, our older clients are quiet and don't want to draw attention to themselves. There is sometimes the feeling of shame or embarrassment with being homeless."

"It's important for us to know that there are way too many older adults living in shelters, rundown hotels, cars, riding the trains and buses, sleeping outside in our very own community," Halbur said. "And that number is increasing all the time. My hope is that our community will step up and build relationships with older adults—neighbors, church members or others who cross our paths on a regular basis—and make sure they have a place to call home."

Helping elders maintain their housing may be as simple as mowing their lawn, sharing a meal or helping them make a call to the Senior Linkage Line if you notice their health is declining, according to Halbur. In this way, she said, elders may be able to stay in their home or find a home that better meets their needs—and not become homeless.

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Crime Report

The following criminal incidents were compiled from Saint Paul and Mendota Heights police reports. For more, see MyVillager.com.

Highland Park

Robbery—A strong-arm robbery was reported on the 2000 block of Saunders Avenue at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 6.

Burglary—A vehicle was stolen from a garage on the 1200 block of Hartford Avenue between 2-7 a.m. Tuesday, October 5.

—A vehicle was stolen during a break-in at Highland Collision Center on West Seventh and Homer streets during the evening of October 5-6.

Theft—A gun was reported stolen on the 1800 block of Saunders Avenue between 6-8 a.m. Sunday, October 3.

—A MacBook Pro was stolen from a vehicle on the 2100 block of Ford Parkway at 6:09 p.m. Tuesday, October 12.

—Suspects used a pickup truck with a chain and yanked the door open to steal an unknown amount of money from an ATM at Huntington Bank, 2163 Ford Pkwy., around 5:14 a.m. Monday, October 18.

Arson—A fire in a portable bathroom was reported at 11:40 a.m. Tuesday, October 12, on Cleveland Avenue and Ford Parkway.

Miscellaneous—A pedestrian was struck by a hit-and-run driver at 1 p.m. Tuesday, October 5, on Ford Parkway and Cleveland Avenue.

Lexington-Hamline

Theft—Five catalytic converters were reported stolen at Caliber Collision, 1190 University Ave., between October 14-15.

Assault—An aggravated assault with a gun involving a juvenile victim was reported at Central High School at 8:05 a.m. Wednesday, October 6.

Macalester-Groveland

Theft—Catalytic converters were reported stolen on the 1600 block of Summit Avenue on October 1, and the 1400 block of Sargent Avenue on October 14.

Assault—A man reported being assaulted by three unknown assailants near Snelling and Wellesley avenues at 11:25 p.m. Saturday, October 16.

Mendota Heights

Burglary—A trailer full of tools and equipment was reported stolen from an underground parking garage on the 2300

block of Lexington Avenue on October 2-3.

Theft—Officers took several reports of vases being stolen from graves at Resurrection Cemetery, 2101 S. Lexington Ave., on Monday, October 4.

—Two leaf blowers and a backpack were reported stolen from the truck of a lawn care company on the 1100 block of Highway 13 at 9:32 a.m. Wednesday, October 6.

—Multiple items were reported stolen from a gym on the 2500 block of Pilot Knob Road at 4:22 p.m. Tuesday, October 12.

Weapons—A male said he was delivering pizzas when he walked past a black sedan and a female occupant pointed a gun at him at 6:07 p.m. Wednesday, October 6, on the 2300 block of Lexington Avenue.

—A vehicle was shot at several times on I-35E and Mendota Heights Road at 10:59 p.m. Thursday, October 7.

—A road rage incident where a gun was shown was reported on the 1300 block of Mendota Heights Road at 3:31 p.m. Wednesday, October 13.

Merriam Park

Miscellaneous—A pedestrian was injured in a hit-and-run accident at 1:08 p.m. Wednesday, October 6, on University and Lynnhurst avenues.

—A 52-year-old man was arrested for DWI after he was found slumped inside a vehicle in the middle of Fairview and Summit avenues at 12:08 a.m. Friday, October 8.

Snelling-Hamline

Robbery—A man was robbed of cash at knifepoint while sitting in his vehicle near Discount Tire, 1350 University Ave., at 12:50 p.m. Monday, October 11. The suspect was described as a tall, stocky white male in his 40s.

Burglary—A cash register was reported stolen between 2-10 a.m. Saturday, October 16, at Buffalo Wild Wings, 80 N. Snelling Ave.

—An occupied residence was burglarized on the 1500 block of Carroll Avenue around 4:56 p.m. Monday, October 18.

Assault—A woman became enraged, struck another woman in the head and pulled her hair at the Starbucks on Snelling and Marshall avenues at 11:17 a.m. Sunday, October 17.

Miscellaneous—A 28-year-old man was arrested on an outstanding felony warrant for vehicle theft after he and a female were found slumped over in a truck at

the Holiday Station, 1345 Marshall Ave., at 2:46 a.m. Friday, October 8.

—A male suspect reportedly sprayed an employee with a chemical irritant at Park Liquors, 140 N. Snelling Ave., at 12:15 p.m. Friday, October 15.

Summit Hill

Theft—A man caught suspects trying to saw off the catalytic converter of a car on the 400 block of Summit Avenue at 7:24 a.m. Wednesday, October 6. The suspects fled after getting into a confrontation with the man. No injuries were reported.

—A trailer was reported stolen on Heather Drive and Summit Avenue between 7:46-8:57 a.m. Monday, October 11.

—A postal van was damaged and mail was reported stolen on the 300 block of Grand Avenue at 9:20 a.m. Wednesday, October 13.

Assault—A victim said an individual pulled a pistol on him and threatened to kill him at Billy's on Grand, 857 Grand Ave., at 1:02 a.m. Sunday, October 17.

Summit-University

Burglary—A break-in was reported at Saint Thomas More, 1079 Summit Ave., during the evening of October 5-6.

—A residential burglary was reported on the 600 block of Portland Avenue at 10:41 a.m. Sunday, October 17.

Assault—A suspect punched and kicked a male victim, and broke a glass bottle over his head before fleeing the Hall-Young Plaza Apartments, 425 Selby Ave., at 4:52 p.m. Friday, October 8.

—A boy was taken to the hospital after he was found bleeding from the mouth and lying on the sidewalk near the Jimmy Lee Recreation Center, 270 N. Lexington Pkwy., at 3:11 p.m. Friday, October 15.

—Police received a report of several people arguing, including one with a knife, on the 200 block of Dayton Avenue at 12:45 p.m. Friday, October 15. The man with the knife reportedly had been assaulted by three attackers and sustained minor injuries.

—A 42-year-old woman was arrested for second-degree assault after reportedly striking another woman in the head with an object that had a nail sticking out from it at 8:37 p.m. Saturday, October 16, on the 800 block of Selby Avenue.

Weapons—Thirteen shell casings were recovered from the footbridge over I-94

near Chatsworth Avenue on October 3-4.

—A bullet was fired through the window of an apartment between October 6-8 on the 800 block of Portland Avenue.

—A man reported that a BB pellet was shot through his kitchen window while he was at the table on the 800 block of Hague Avenue at 7:51 a.m. Friday, October 15.

—Police recovered multiple spent shell casings near Farrington Street and Selby Avenue at 12:59 a.m. Saturday, October 16.

—An occupied vehicle was shot at on the 300 block of Marshall Avenue around 12:08 a.m. Tuesday, October 19.

Miscellaneous—A female bicyclist was taken to the hospital with minor injuries after being struck by a vehicle on the 400 block of Summit Avenue at 5:56 p.m. Sunday, October 10.

West End

Burglary—A residential burglary was reported on the 600 block of Palace Avenue on Wednesday, October 13.

Theft—A handgun was reported stolen from a vehicle at McGovern's Pub, 225 W. Seventh St., at 1 a.m. Saturday, October 2.

—Multiple items were reported stolen from a vehicle, including a necklace containing the ashes of the victim's grandfather, at 12:22 a.m. Friday, October 8, on the 200 block of Wilkin Street.

—A motor home was reported stolen on the 100 block of Goodrich Avenue during the evening of October 10-11.

Assault—An assault with a knife was reported at Mancini's Char House, 531 W. Seventh St., at 2:56 p.m. Monday, October 11.

Arson—A 35-year-old homeless woman was cited for starting a fire at Journey Secondary School, 90 S. Western Ave., at 3:01 a.m. Saturday, October 9.

Sex crime—A 47-year-old man was arrested after he was seen looking into windows at 10:24 p.m. Tuesday, October 19, on Richmond Street and Saint Clair Avenue. He was wanted on a felony warrant for failure to register as a predatory sex offender.

Weapons—A 48-year-old man was arrested for felony possession of a gun and by an ineligible, and a 38-year-old man was arrested for drug possession after police responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle with no license plates on the 1000 block of Otto Avenue at 7:10 p.m. Sunday, October 17. There reportedly have been 22 calls for police service at the same address this year.

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ON THE TOWN

Biblical scholar Penchansky pens a new book on the Qur'an

UST professor has found divine quality in Islam's sacred text

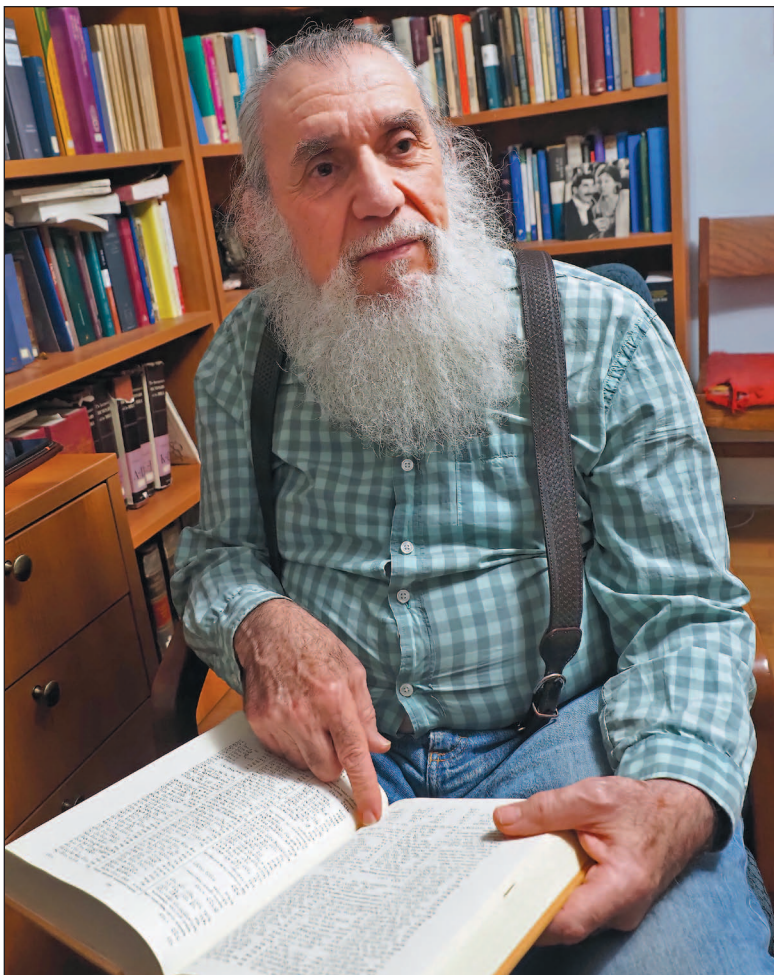
BY ANNE MURPHY

Dr. David Penchansky's new book may seem like something of a departure for a scholar of the Hebrew Bible and Christian Old Testament. Titled *Solomon and the Ant: The Qur'an in Conversation with the Bible*, the book is a fascinating examination of stories from the sacred text of Islam that draws on Biblical texts addressing similar questions about the nature of God and God's interaction with people.

A professor emeritus at the University of Saint Thomas, Penchansky has taught theology there for the past 29 years. However, he has spent much of the last two decades studying the Qur'an, which Muslims believe is the word of God as revealed to the Prophet Muhammad.

All Muslims are not going to agree with his work in *Solomon and the Ant*, Penchansky acknowledged, "but I want them to see that someone who is not a Muslim, who is a Christian, can read their sacred texts with respect and appreciation. Then I can also say to my own community that this is a divine book, a gift from God to the ages. I say this without reservation. (The Qur'an) isn't my text, but as a bystander it's a wonderful place to spend some time."

Penchansky is an active member of the Society of Biblical Literature, the Catholic Biblical Association and the International Qur'anic Studies Association. For 20 years, he has been married



Biblical scholar and University of Saint Thomas theology professor emerita Dr. David Penchansky has authored a book on the Qur'an. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

to Hend Al-Mansour, an artist originally from Saudi Arabia who is Muslim and a native speaker of Arabic.

Al-Mansour "has greatly enhanced my understanding and appreciation of the Qur'an," Penchansky said. "On and off, she had been teaching me Arabic. I had been taking Arabic classes here and there. Then 10 years ago, I finished a capstone project for my career. I completed an introductory volume to the wisdom literature of the Hebrew Bible. So I was looking for something else to do and

thought it would be a good use of my Arabic to start a project studying the Qur'an."

Penchansky thought that as a theology professor he should know more about the Qur'an. "From preliminary exposure, one could just assume it to be very doctrinaire and rigid," he said. However, he discovered something else in the text while his wife was working on a piece about Joseph and his coat of many colors in the Old Testament.

"She introduced me to (a story about) Joseph in the Qur'an

which I had never encountered before," he said. "It was an incident that wasn't in the Bible but was so funny, witty and clever that it put my expectations about the Qur'an in a whole different category. I thought I needed to look at the Qur'an much more intensely."

Penchansky, who was involved in the creation of the Islamic Christian Center at Saint Thomas, was fascinated by the Muslim claim that anyone who reads the Qur'an with an open mind will inevitably recognize it as a divine work. "I thought that was a very interesting challenge to make," he said. There is something magical about reading the Qur'an in Arabic, he added, and he resolved to memorize passages and to chant them "in my weakened approximation of a chant."

For *Solomon and the Ant*, Penchansky selected stories in the Qur'an that interested him as narrative. "I'm interested in stories rather than lists, rules and battles," he said. He chose texts that were outside of the mainstream, using all of the tools he had accumulated over 30 years of studying the Bible and applying them to the Qur'an.

The stories he favored contain conflicting viewpoints and allow for interpretation. Among the stories he discusses is "Solomon and the Ant." It tells of King Solomon—the same King Solomon in the Bible—leading his army across a field. In their path is a colony of ants. One of the ants warns the other ants to flee. Solomon understands the ants' language and he laughs. Readers are led to wonder about the meaning of that laugh and whether or not Solomon ultimately tramples the insects.

"This chapter, which is open to interpretation, is a centerpiece of the book in so many ways," Penchansky said. "I think Solomon stands for God, and the ant represents any kind of disaster that is about to befall one. The story is a way for Muslims to think about God's nature. The text deals with why innocent people suffer. Like the Biblical Book of Job, the story is a way for Muslims to process the bad things that happen."

Penchansky has been acclaimed for his research into the historical, political and religious contexts from which the narratives in the Hebrew Bible emerged, according to Kimberly Vrudny, the chair of Saint Thomas' Theology Department. "In his research, he has relentlessly pursued answers to perplexing theological questions, no matter where they took him," she said.

"I really appreciate David's approach because he challenges us," said fellow Saint Thomas theology professor the Reverend Steven McMichael. "He brings us the experience of the story, but tells us there's space for interpretation. He has the courage to be honest in this way."

"David isn't afraid of controversy," said fellow theology professor Edward Ulrich, a specialist in world religions. "He's breaking new ground with his study of the Qur'an."

Penchansky said he has found a divine quality in the Qur'an just as he had with the Bible. "I think of there being this broad river made up of billions of Muslims all chanting the text," he said. "I'm just kind of dipping my foot in the river, but I can feel the current."

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ON THE TOWN *Briefly*

Dance

Ananya Dance Theatre will present the new work, “Dastak: I Wish You Me,” at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, October 29 and 30, in the O’Shaughnessy at Saint Catherine University. Choreographed by Ananya Chatterjea, the evocative work focuses on freedom and injustice, borders and belonging, loss and liberation. Tickets are priced from \$30 to what you can afford. Visit oshag.stkate.edu or call 651-690-6700.

Exhibits

“**Complexity Made Simple**,” the work of Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Rube Goldberg (1883-1970), is being displayed through December 20 in the Fine Art Gallery of the Minnesota JCC’s Capp Center, 1375 Saint Paul Ave. The exhibit focuses on Goldberg’s political cartooning. Also featured is a Goldberg-inspired machine created by Minnesota kinetic artist Robin Schwartzman and a documentary film by Geoffrey George that highlights how Goldberg was a man of his time whose work remains relevant today. For information, call 651-698-0751 or visit minnesotajcc.org.

“**The REDress Project**,” an installation by artist Jaime Black featuring hundreds of red dresses representing the indigenous women and girls who have gone missing or been murdered, is being displayed through November 14 in the outdoor quad at Saint Catherine University. Admission is free. A virtual artist talk is scheduled from 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, November 10. Visit gallery.stkate.edu.

“**Expressions of the Amalfi Coast**,” works by artist Angela Spencer and photomontages by her husband Paul Spencer, will be displayed from October 29 through November 21 at the Argyle Zebra Gallery, 308 E. Prince St. A public reception will be held from 6-9 p.m. Friday, November 5. Visit theazgallery.org or call 651-224-3757.

Minnesota Museum of American Art will open two exhibits on October 30 in its window galleries on Fourth and Robert streets and at its skyway entrance. “Sutures” features works by Cheryl Mukherji, Prune Phi, Sopheak Sam and Daniella Thach that reappropriate images with the use of screen printing, projection, neon and collage. “Transformation: Art from the Inside” features works by prisoners at the Stillwater and Shakopee correctional facilities. Additional works by these incarcerated artists will be displayed from November 5-30 at Creators Space,

218 E. Seventh St. Visit mmaa.org.

“**What opens—like a blaze of fire**,” a collaboration by artist Charles Matson Lume and poets Joyce Sutphen and Galilee Peaches, will be displayed from November 6 through December 11 in the Catherine G. Murphy Gallery at Saint Catherine University. Lume’s site-specific light installations rely on everyday objects and architecture to intertwine visual art and poetry. Visit gallery.stkate.edu.

Open Casket, a show and sale by more than 100 artists in their studios, will be held on November 5-7 at Casket Arts, 681 17th Ave. NE. in Minneapolis. Paintings, sculpture, jewelry, prints, textile art, ceramics and photography will be featured from 5-10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday. Refreshments will be available. Masks are required indoors. Some studios may require proof of vaccination. Visit casketarts.com.

Family

“**Ultimate Dinosaurs**,” a new exhibition that showcases the cutting-edge paleontology and spectacular dinosaur fossil discoveries in the southern hemisphere, is on view through April 10, 2022, at the Science Museum of Minnesota, 65 W. Kellogg Blvd. Playing in the museum’s Omnitheater through June 30, 2022, is the new movie *Dinosaurs of Antarctica*, about the quest of scientists to understand the continent’s transformation and compare climate change today to that in prehistoric times. Related paleontologist talks will be presented at 2 p.m. Saturdays from November 6 through December 31. Four weekends of Dino Nights with such activities as flashlight scavenger hunts, a costume contest and shadow puppet shows will be featured from 5-8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays beginning November 26. For more information, call 651-221-9444 or visit smm.org.

The Twin City Model Railroad Museum, 668 Transfer Road, will be decked out with special themes from 3-7 p.m. on Saturdays, now through February 26. The model trains and the miniature villages they chug through will be given a spooky appearance on October 31. Kids are encouraged to come in costume; treats will be provided. Then, beginning November 6, Night Trains returns with the little locomotives passing through a winter wonderland bathed in the glow of miniature streetlights and holiday decor. Admission is \$15, free for children age 4 and under. For reservations, visit tcmmr.org or call 651-647-9628.

Mill City Museum, 704 2nd St. S. in Minneapolis, will reopen to the public on Thursday, November 4. In addition to the Water Lab, Baking Lab, Flour Tower and Observation Deck, the museum features the historical exhibit, “What Makes Minneapolis Minneapolis?”; “Our Past Guides Our Future: Minnesota Omega Men at 100,” an exhibit opening on November 20 on the centennial of the Black Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; and “Homeless in the Mill,” photographs and words by JobyLynn Sassily-James, who took shelter in the abandoned Washburn A Mill Complex in 1994-95. Call 612-341-7555 or visit mnhs.org/millcity.

Music

Walker-West Music Academy, 760 Selby Ave., is presenting a host of virtual concerts this fall. The Rondo Community Music Series will continue with the Kevin Washington Quintet on October 29; the L.A. Buckner Band, November 6; gospel singers Duncan & Robinson, November 20; hip-hop artist Tish Jones, December 3; and the Latin and Caribbean rhythms of Malamanya, December 18. The concerts begin at 7 p.m. and are free, although donations are welcome. To register for the link, visit walkerwest.org.

The Bach Society of Minnesota will return to live performance with the chamber concert “Morning Has Broken” at 7:30 p.m. Friday, October 29, in Sundin Hall, 1531 Hewitt Ave. Works by J.H. Schmelzer, C.H. Abel, Bach, C. Dieupart, Telemann and Matthias Maute will be performed by Maute on recorder, Margaret Humphrey on violin, Rebecca Humphrey on cello and Paul Boehnke on harpsichord. Tickets are \$30, \$5 for students, free for children age 12 and under. A live stream is also available. Visit bachsocietymn.org or call 612-440-6219.

Stephen Self, retired professor of music at Bethel University, will help dedicate the newly renovated Moller pipe organ with a recital at 2 p.m. Saturday, October 30, at Bethlehem Covenant Church, 3141 43rd Ave. S. in Minneapolis. The public is invited. Light refreshments will follow.

“**Waves**,” works by turn-of-the-20th-century composers Elgar, Coleridge-Taylor and Dvořák, will be performed by the Minnesota Philharmonic Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, November 13, in Sundin Hall, 1531 Hewitt Ave. Tickets are priced at what you can pay. For reservations, visit mnphil.org.

Storyhill, the folk duo of Chris Cunningham and John Hermanson, will mark 30 years of brotherly harmonies, infectious

melodies and smart story songs in concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, November 13, at the Fitzgerald Theater, 10 E. Exchange St. Tickets are \$25-\$45. Visit storyhill.com.

Theater

Top Girls, Caryl Churchill’s modern classic about gender, class, race and family obligations, will be staged from November 6-21 by Theatre Pro Rata. Directed by Carin Bratlie Wethern, the all-female cast will demonstrate what it takes for a woman to succeed. Show times are 7:30 p.m. November 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 19 and 20 and 3 p.m. November 21 at the Crane Theater, 2303 Kennedy St. NE. in Minneapolis. Tickets are \$16-\$61 or whatever you can afford on November 8. For the required reservations, visit theatreprorata.org.

Books

Next Chapter Booksellers, 38 S. Snelling Ave., will host readings and discussions with author Sarah Stonich and her novel, *Reeling*, at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 27; Dan Hill, Howard Moskowitz and *Blah, Blah, Blah*, their snarky guide to office lingo, at 5:30 p.m. Friday, October 29; Nancy T. Espuche and *KardBoard House*, her memoir about her son’s battle with opioid addiction, and Linda Morrison and *Dear Heroin*, her memoir about her effort to save her son from heroin addiction, at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, November 11. Reservations are required. Visit nextchapterbooksellers.com.

SubText Books, 6 W. Fifth St., will present free virtual readings and discussions with authors Michael Bazzett and his poetry collection, *The Echo Chamber*, at 7 p.m. Thursday, October 28; and poets Margaret Hasse and Michael Kleber-Diggs and their new collections, *Summoned* and *Worldly Things*, respectively, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, November 10. Visit subtextbooks.com.

Mary Casanova will read from *Waterfall* in a free program at 1 p.m. Saturday, November 6, at Winding Trail Books, 2230 Carter Ave. Casanova’s third historical novel set in Rainy Lake, Minnesota, tells of an ambitious and soulful young woman who has to fight to find her way after nearly two years in an asylum.

Poets Charles Curry, IBe Kaba, Said Shaiye and Barry MacDonald will join hosts Stan Kusunoki and Donna Isaac in a Literary Bridges reading at 2 p.m. Sunday, November 7, at Next Chapter Booksellers, 38 S. Snelling Ave. Admission is free. Masks and COVID vaccinations are required. Call 651-225-8989.

965 Larpenteur Ave. in Roseville.

SUNDAY/NOVEMBER 7

F. SCOTT FITZGERALD in *Minnesota* author Dave Page will discuss the Jazz Age novelist and his early associations with the Nushka Club and the Saint Paul Winter Carnival at 2 p.m. at the Griggs mansion, 476 Summit Ave. The talk will also touch on the Civil War, real estate scandals and ghosts. The cost is \$25. Wine and snacks will be provided. For reservations, visit carolynkleinberger.com

WEDNESDAY/NOVEMBER 10

HAND DRUMMING will be taught to beginners from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Women’s Drum Center, 2242 University Ave. Pulse and rhythm will be explored on the African djembe. The cost is \$10. Drums are provided. Masks are required. Call 651-206-7617 or visit womensdrum-center.org.

THE KIOSK

p.m. Start at Langford & Karls Chiropractic at 730 S. Cleveland Ave. and end up at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Visit highlandba.com.

THE HISTORY OF THE FUR TRADE and the area the Dakota people called Bdote will be featured in a Dakota County Historical Society tour beginning at noon at the Sibley House Historic Site, 1357 Sibley Memorial Hwy. The cost is \$7, \$6 for children age 5 and under. For the required reservations, call 651-452-1596 or visit dakotahistory.org.

FRIDAY/NOVEMBER 5

TRAVEL BACK TO THE 1980s at Landmark Center’s ninth annual Once Upon a Time Gala. The fundraiser will open

at 5:30 p.m. with a reception featuring characters from that decade. The ’80s theme will also pervade that evening’s entertainment and dinner provided by the Saint Paul Hotel. An auction will also be featured. Lovers of the Landmark may join in the benefit virtually or in-person. Period costumes are encouraged. For reservations, call 651-292-4375 or email admin@landmarkcenter.org.

SATURDAY/NOVEMBER 6

A HOLIDAY FAIR TRADE MARKET with handcrafted jewelry and home decor and wild rice, jams, chocolate, coffee and other gifts and food items from around the world will be held from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. today and 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, November 7, at New Life Presbyterian Church,

THURSDAY/OCTOBER 28

THE MJM HALLOWEEN BASH will be presented by Saint Paul’s Parks and Recreation Department from 6-8 p.m. at the Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 Saint Anthony Ave. Among the highlights will be a petting zoo, jump castle, haunted house, costume contest and treats. Visit stpaul.gov/halloween.

FRENCH-CANADIAN FAMILY connections will be discussed by genealogy expert Paula Stuart-Warren in a virtual program from 7-8:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Dakota County Historical Society, the genealogy presentation is free, though donations are welcome. To register, visit dakotahistory.org/events.

SATURDAY/OCTOBER 30

TRICK-OR-TREAT IN HIGHLAND and take part in a scavenger hunt at the same time. The event will run from 10 a.m.-2

SPORTS



The Wright Call

By Dave Wright

Local runners have a very good day

October 19 was a sunny 74 degrees that many folks may remember as the last really pleasant day they'll see until, say, April. Brad Moening, however, is likely to remember October 19 for a different reason. Moening is the head cross-country coach at Highland Park High School. In the span of less than an hour, he watched both his girls' and boys' teams win their respective Saint Paul City Conference championship meets at the Highland 9-Hole Golf Course.

For the girls, winning is old hat. Moening's daughter, Molly, was the conference champion for the sixth year in a row, running the 5K in a time of 17:57.50. And as a team, the Scots claimed their 10th straight city crown. Their 19 points were far ahead of Central, which placed second with 45 points.

The Highland boys' triumph was almost as impressive. The Scots finished with 24 points. The individual winner was Como Park junior Charlie Power-Theisen, but Como was a distant second in the team tally with 57 points.

"They are two very different teams," Moening said about his runners. With five seniors, the Highland girls came into the season with confidence. Their five scorers were all within the first six positions, with only Central's Iris Guider's second-place finish foiling the bid for a perfect score. Guider pushed Molly Moening hard all day, finishing right on her heels at 17:57.62.

"They've dueled a lot," coach Moening said. "They saw each other's face all day."

Senior Molly Moening, who is also a champion Nordic skier, pulled away slightly at the end. She is currently looking at Vermont, Northern Michigan or Montana State as college options. All three have renowned NCAA ski teams.

The Highland boys' team took its third title in the last four years with a true team effort. "They've been running as a pack all year long," coach Moening said. "At every race, the coaching staff guesses who'll be the top runner. We're often wrong. That was the case at the city meet."

On that day, Davis Isom was the top Scot, finishing just 36 seconds behind Power-Theisen. Central's Samuel Robertson placed third, with the Scots claiming the next four positions—all within seven seconds of each other. It was the sort of teamwork that a football coach could only watch with envy. "They do that in practice as well," Moening said. "It's a very tight group."

Both Highland teams now head to the Section 3AA meet on October 28 at Valleywood Golf Course in Apple Valley. The girls will be heavily favored to advance to the state meet on November 6 at Saint Olaf. (Visitation also will be competing in that section after winning its ninth straight Tri-Metro Conference title on October 19. Sophomore Emily Fenlon took second overall to lead the Blazers.)

It figures to be a stickier wicket for the Highland boys. Two schools that will be gunning for them are Saint Thomas Academy and Two Rivers. Led by junior medalist Emmett Wolf, the Cadets edged out the Warriors 54-57 to win the Metro East Conference meet on October 19. Wolf led the field with a time of 16:16.3.

Undefeated STA heads into football playoffs

The Cadets remained on the run on a different field on October 20. After a slow start, the STA football team finished a perfect 8-0 regular season with a 35-10 decision over Tartan in the regular-season finale. The Cadets went into the season with high expectations. They had only one serious test all fall—a come-from-behind victory over Mahtomedi on October 8 that was decided on the game's last play. The high-powered Cadet offense is averaging over 40 points a game.

As a result, STA earned the top seed in Section 3AAAAA.

WRIGHT CALL ►20

Prep soccer playoffs

Battle-tested Redhawk girls earn trip to state

BY BILL WAGNER

The Minnehaha Academy girls' soccer team set two ambitious goals at the start of the 2021 season. According to coach Bryan Hollaway, one was to win the Independent Metro Athletic Conference title. The other was to get to the state tournament.

Well, one out of two ain't bad. The Redhawks (13-2-2) tied for second place in the conference with Saint Paul Academy, but knocked off top-seeded Saint Croix Lutheran 5-1 in the Section 3A final on October 19 to earn a trip to state.

Third-seeded Minnehaha got to the section final by defeating New Life Academy 9-1 and then second-seeded SPA 3-0. The semifinal win was made even sweeter for the Redhawks given that the Spartans had beaten them twice during the regular season.

"We set up a tough schedule for this season," Hollaway said. "We wanted our players to be battle-tested when it came time for the playoffs."

The section final win was accomplished largely through the efforts of sophomore wing Berit Parten, who scored three goals and added an assist. Sophomores Sadie Bensen and Autumn Friberg also scored for Minnehaha.

Parten's third goal was clutch. It gave the Redhawks some breathing room after Saint Croix had closed the deficit to 2-1 with a five-minute flurry of play. But Parten, who also played some midfield in the final, got it done with her hard-to-match skill set.

"She's one of the toughest competitors I've ever coached, and few teams can stop her," Hollaway said. "She's very quick and she has confidence with the ball."

In the semifinal against SPA, Hollaway said the Redhawks were ready. Much of the success in that contest was due to how Minnehaha was able to shut down Sawyer Bollinger-Danielson. The Spartans' outstand-



Minnehaha Academy's Lily Balzer collides with Saint Paul Academy's Sawyer Bollinger-Danielson in the first half of the Redhawks' 3-0 win in the Section 3A semifinals on October 16. The Redhawks went on to beat Saint Croix Lutheran for the title three days later.

PHOTO BY
BRAD STAUFFER

ing scoring threat was limited to only one unsuccessful shot on goal. Hollaway credited freshman defender Lily Balzer and senior captain Ava Knight for their suffocating defense on Bollinger-Danielson.

Hollaway said that two regular-season losses to SPA were a learning experience for his squad. "I'd say we played our best soccer of the season after our two losses there," he said.

The Redhawks were to bring some serious offensive weapons in the first round of state against Proctor on October 26. Parten leads the way with 38 goals and 19 assists, while sophomore midfielder Greta Carlson has 11 goals and 12 assists. Sophomore midfielder Gabrielle Wamre is among the state's leaders in assists with 19.

Junior goalie Ayden Guild has allowed only 25 goals all season, posting a .745 save percentage and 1.56

goals-against average. Sophomore Charlotte Wold provides a steady influence on defense.

Minnehaha also will benefit from the return of junior midfielder Margo Charpentier, who is slated to be back in action for state after missing two weeks due to a concussion.

The Redhawks have some solid victories to show for their rugged schedule of games in the regular season. They defeated a good Fairmount team 5-1, toppled a rugged Visitation squad 4-3 after falling behind 3-0, and tied highly ranked Holy Family.

Minnehaha has vastly improved since Hollaway took the job four years ago. The Redhawks only won three games that first season, but now have an impressive toolbox of good passers, playmakers and scorers.

GIRLS' SOCCER PLAYOFFS ►20

SPA boys fall to Humboldt in section final

BY BILL WAGNER

The Saint Paul Academy boys' soccer team saw its season end just shy of the state tournament when it suffered a 1-0 loss to Humboldt in the Section 3A final on October 19.

The Spartans (9-3-4), who were ranked among the top teams in their class and won the Independent Metro Athletic Conference title for the first time in five years, outshot Humboldt 27-3 but couldn't find the back of the net. Even more frustrating is that they had beaten the Hawks during the regular season.

It all left SPA coach Max Lipset scratching his head. "I don't want to take anything away from Humboldt. I think they'll do well in the state tournament," he said. "But it's especially

hard when you feel like you were the better team. Even their coaches were saying after the game, 'You guys were definitely the better team.'"

According to Lipset, the early moments of the game told the story. The Spartans peppered the Humboldt net in that span, doing everything but scoring.

"We had four great chances early," Lipset said. "If even one of them goes in, it's a different game. And the goal they scored was on kind of a fluky counterattack."

Lipset noted that the Richfield High School field where the section final was played was only about 58 yards wide, about seven yards narrower than the norm. That, he said, favored Humboldt's game more than SPA's.

The Spartans made it to the section final by defeating Twin Cit-

ies Academy 4-1 in the first round and Hiawatha Collegiate 2-0 in the semifinals.

SPA faced a tough schedule during the regular season and did quite well. The Spartans defeated Providence Academy twice and also bested Breck, Minnehaha Academy and Blake, all highly ranked teams in the IMAC.

SPA had several talented players on its roster, including three who were nominated for all-state honors: senior captain and defensive midfielder Leo Larson, junior forward Cooper Bollinger-Danielson and senior central defender Gregory Forsberg.

Larson, pegged by Lipset as a solid college prospect, had five goals and seven assists this year. Bollinger-Danielson led the team with 15 goals and 15 assists. Forsberg was the leader on defense.

194 WRIGHT CALL

It's a six-team section, so the Cadets get a first-round bye and will meet the winner of the Bloomington Jefferson-Apple Valley game at home on October 30. The section title will be decided on November 5.

Section play begins in prep volleyball

The volleyball sections started on October 26. Highland Park and Central tied for the Saint Paul City Conference championship with 11-1 records, and the teams split 3-1 in head-to-head matchups. In a weird twist of geography, the Scots are in Section 3AAA, while the Minutemen will play in 4AAAA.

Nova Classical Academy will take its sterling 21-4 regular-season volleyball record into Section 4AA as the second seed. Its first match is at home on October 30. To get to their first state tournament, the Knights may have to tangle with the only two teams that beat them in Skyline Conference play. League champ Concordia Academy is the top seed and Saint Croix Lutheran is the third seed.

Bad behavior on display at several levels

Sporting events have always been an emotional experience for both the winning and losing

participants—as well as the folks watching the proceedings. Add in the ability to provide commentary on social media as well as being able to review all the action in slow motion via video replay, and you have the makings for the type of mess that occurred on October 16 at Saint Cloud State University.

That night was going to be emotional anyway, as it was the first time University of Minnesota head hockey coach Bob Motzko would be returning to the building where he had worked for several years as SCSU's ice boss. The Huskies had won a one-goal game the night before. This one against the Gophers went back and forth all night, and into overtime. That's when SCSU's Nick Perbix went behind his own net with the puck and started up the ice only to have Minnesota's Blake McLaughlin poke the puck away. One pass later, the Gophers' Sammy Walker netted a goal that brought the game to a sudden conclusion.

The problem was how the Minnesota player got the puck that started the final scoring sequence. To hear Huskie backers—and head coach Brett Larson—tell it, it was a hook that should have been called a penalty. Gopher fans and Motzko, in a post-game press conference, insisted it was a clean play and that Perbix merely took a dive in a vain attempt to get the attention of a referee.

Both views are open to debate. What's not open is

what happened immediately after the goal was scored. Fans littered the ice and voiced their displeasure loudly as officials and players scrambled to retire to safer spaces. The post-game press confabs were lively, as expected, with both coaches defending their players.

That made for juicy reporting the next day and an avalanche of heated opinions on social media. The NCHC (Saint Cloud's conference) then got into the act. The league publicly castigated the fans who threw the debris. That accomplished nothing, of course, but was necessary. The league then followed up with a public statement noting that a penalty should have been called and that "disciplinary action" would be handled "internally" with the officials in question.

Bad behavior was on display all that weekend. In Mississippi, the college football game there had to be stopped for 20 minutes because fans were throwing objects on the field—and at the Tennessee coach, who was hit with a golf ball.

The next day, Green Bay quarterback Aaron Rodgers publicly taunted the Chicago Bears with an obscenity while enjoying his team's win on enemy turf.

It's sad to say, but if you ever wonder why you see so many young athletes acting out at their various sports venues, just take a look at their role models.

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

Sports Shorts

A Zumba with Marie class will be offered by the Saint Paul Department of Parks and Recreation at 10 a.m. Fridays, November 5-May 27, at the Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St. The drop-in class offers a total workout, including cardio, muscle conditioning, balance and flexibility. The cost is \$4 per class. Call 651-695-3711 or visit stpaul.gov/EdgumbeRec.

Free basketball skills training for children in grades K-2, 3-5 and 6-8 will continue next month at recreation centers in the area. Conducted by John Carrier, head coach at Nova Classical Academy, the camps will meet after school on November 1 at Groveland, 2021 Saint Clair Ave. (651-695-3714); and November 3 at Merriam Park, 2000 Saint Anthony Ave. (651-298-5766). To register, visit stpaul.gov/parks.

Saint Thomas Academy inducted 12 alumni and one former coach into its Athletic Hall of Fame on September 24. The 2021 honorees included Matt Hoyland '08 (swimming), the late David Preuss '81 (football, hockey, baseball), the late Mike Sjöberg (basketball, golf coach), Greg "Mono" Monahan '81 (football, hockey, baseball), Gary Armstrong '68 (football,

baseball, basketball), and Sean Flood '66 (basketball, football). The 2020 inductees were Dan Fitzgerald '03 (soccer, basketball), Nate Howard '99 (football, hockey), Chris Thome '87 (football), Ed Bifulk '78 (football, track), Tom Campion '71 (football, baseball, basketball), Ted Gonsior '71 (football, track team, basketball), and Tom Linstroth '64 (football).

Highland Park High School inducted the following into its Athletic Hall of Fame on October 2: Myint Maung '11 (track, football), Marc Brown '96 (track, football), Sophie Ristau '11 (track, cross-country, Nordic skiing), and Roy Allen '90 (track, football, basketball).

Minnesota state high school basketball players, coaches and managers who participated in 1913-1970 state tournaments are invited to a reunion from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, March 24, 2022, at The Graduate Hotel on the University of Minnesota campus. Register at tinyurl.com/42hzn6bp.

USA Hockey's My Why Tour will feature the defending Olympic champion U.S. Women's National Team facing Canada at 7 p.m. Monday, December 20, at Xcel Energy Center. See ticketmaster.com.



Minnehaha's Penelope Sedgwick (8) defends a penalty kick in front of grimacing teammate Gabrielle Wamre (7) and SPA's Andrea Gist during the Section 3A semifinals on October 16. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

194 GIRLS' SOCCER PLAYOFFS

Hollaway noted that his team isn't very deep on defense, but that it manages well regardless. "We play only three backs because we don't have a fourth," he said.

Class AA action

In the Section 3AA final on October 19, third-seeded Visitation lost a gut-wrenching 1-0 contest against top-seeded nemesis

Holy Angels. It was the seventh consecutive year and fourth in the finals in which the Blazers were ousted by the Stars in the section playoffs.

The Blazers (11-7-1) went into the contest with high hopes. However, the only goal came from Holy Angels' Audrey Garton. Visitation goalie Kate Norman was tough in the nets and made several difficult saves, but the Blazers couldn't penetrate the stubborn Star's defense.



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PROFESSIONAL WEBSITE design, dev and maintenance. Graphic design of logos, invitations, newsletters, brochures, etc. Also custom signage for holiday gifts, businesses, weddings, retirement, etc. Fast, reasonable & local. 25+ years' exp. For details, text 612-860-5137 or visit VelvetElvis.com

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SINGER-GUITARIST. Popular songs from across the decades; weddings, private parties; listen at www.johnmischke.com. Call 651-647-0659.

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HELP WANTED

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law. No attention to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran or disability status will be allowed. Equal employment opportunity.

EXPERIENCED CUSTODIAN wanted for Senior Housing Cooperative. Duties include cleaning common areas to ensure that cleanliness, safety and sanitizing is maintained. Candidate must be able to operate commercial cleaning equipment. Other responsibilities include interacting with other team members, resident members and visitors in a friendly professional manner. This 40 hour/week position is benefit eligible, including PTO, medical & dental, free parking and a comfortable working environment. This is a Tuesday-Saturday position. Hiring contingent on providing proof of full Covid vaccination & passing a background check. Email robilliesve77@becketwood.com or Contact Robin @ 612-746-1006 and apply: Becketwood Cooperative, 4300 West River Parkway South, Minneapolis to fill out an application.

SPECIAL Boomers & Beyond Section
PAGE 12
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HELP WANTED

PART-TIME MAINTENANCE/Custodial help needed for Condominium building in Highland Park. Call for more details, 651-690-3400.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

All real estate or rental advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law. Equal housing opportunity.

SPACIOUS 1 & 2 BEDROOM Apartment Homes available in the Highland Park and Crocus Hill areas. Call 651-698-6111 today for rental information on several communities professionally managed by Mid Continent Management Corp.

MERRIAM PARK. 3 bedroom duplex; 1905 Selby. \$1575 + utilities. Details on St. Thomas & Macalester off-campus housing websites. 651-644-5438.

ROOMS FOR RENT

ROOM FOR rent. Highland Park. Available now. \$600. Fred, 701-260-9969 or 651-202-3070.

LEGAL NOTICES

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 fil-

LEGAL NOTICES

ing 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: **Schwartz Acctg & Tax Service** 2. List the Principal Place of Business: **1853 Munster Ave St. Paul MN 55116 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: **Terrance Joseph Schwartz; 1853 Munster Ave St. Paul MN 55116 USA** 4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath. Date filed: **October 18, 2021** Signed by: **Terrance Schwartz** Mailing Address: **None Provided** Email for Official Notices: **terryschwartz@comcast.net**

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What's going on? Lots of stuff...

It's the neighborhood news, to be sure, but it's also the opinions, the personality profiles, the arts coverage, the sports features, the historical retrospectives, and the special sections on everything from home improvement to education to health and fitness to seniors and gardening.

MyVillager.com website is undergoing significant upgrades—some that will be readily apparent, some not—including a digital archive searchable of every print edition of this publication dating back to March 1953.

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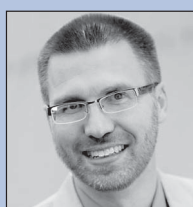
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SPARKLING HIGHLAND JEWEL!

Captivating 3-bedroom, 2-bath Tudor is brimming with character & updated beauty! Living room with fireplace, elegant formal dining, bright sunroom. Fabulous kitchen with stainless steel, granite, breakfast nook. Lower level with second fireplace. Fenced backyard oasis with paver patio. Two car garage with bonus climate-controlled loft/studio! 1676 Eleanor Avenue.



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STEPS TO THE RIVER!

Dynamic 4-bedroom, 2-bath classic is accented with gleaming hardwood, open & bright floorplan, and exceptional location! Mood-setting gas fireplace, sun-splashed dining room, well-designed kitchen with island seating, main floor office and full bath. Remodeled upper level bath with heated floors! Beautiful fenced backyard with patio, 2-car! 2137 Juno Avenue.



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SOLD IN MULTIPLE OFFERS!

Wonderful Lexington Court townhome with 3 bedrooms and 3 baths. The current owners have lovingly maintained and updated this property. Great one level living floor plan. 1775 Lexington Ave.

TOM DISTAD
612-432-4771 • \$469,900
MIKE DISTAD
612-275-1343 • \$469,900



1289 BAYARD AVENUE

Darling 1.5 story bungalow in demand Highland Park. 4BR/1.5BA/3 car garage. Two main floor bedrooms! All new windows. Hardwood floors & classic built-ins. Bright, spacious kitchen with stainless steel appliances & tile floors.

TJ PIERRET
651-755-6669 • \$349,000



1173 VIRGINIA ST.

Classic bungalow on quiet street. Two main floor BRs. Large BR on the UL. Updated BAs on main floor & LL. Hrdwd flrs. 3 season porch. Corner lot w/fenced yard. Storage shed & single car gar. Newer roof & furnace. Excellent buyer opportunity to build equity as a homestead, or investment potential.

TJ PIERRET
651-755-6669 • \$235,000



1009 GRAND AVENUE

Fantastic opportunity to live in the midst of Summit Hill and enjoy all that this vibrant neighborhood has to offer. Stunning 3BR/3BA home with gorgeous features. **AnotherHomeSoldByMary.com**

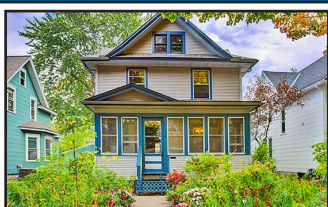
MARY KNUDSEN CRS
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UNIQUE SUMMIT HILL GEM!

This Chatlinwood Condo has been freshly painted and completely updated. Open & airy, sunny & bright you will love the superb location, close to the charming shops of MacGroveland, fabulous stores of Grand Ave, chic restaurants of Cathedral Hill & the dynamic night-life of DT St Paul! Call for Details.

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BRILLIANT NEOCLASSIC DESIGN!

This classic St Paul Home has been meticulously updated and transformed, to please those with the most discerning tastes. You will love the lush green spaces, stone patio, and fully fenced backyard, all conveniently located to the new Allianz Field, The YMCA, light rail and more! Call for Details.

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RIVER FRONT END-UNIT TOWNHOME!

With amazing views of the Mississippi & High Bridge, this one is a WOW! Completely updated to perfection featuring 2 gas fireplaces, 4 decks, 3 overlooking the river, endless built-ins, electronic blinds, surround-sound, spa-like master & sensational new chef's kitchen w/stunning granite throughout. All near the best in St. Paul's nightlife, river walking trails & much more! Call for details.



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WELCOME TO 976 CLEVELAND AVE. SO.

Location, location!! Carefree living just steps to Highland Village and the river is this 2 or 3 bedroom bright and clean townhouse with updated everything!! Hardwood floors, newer appliances, 1 car garage space and just minutes to the airport and both downtowns.

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612-810-4138 • \$205,000



NEW PRICE FOR EXECUTIVE RAMBLER IN WEST ST. PAUL!

Sprawling executive all-brick rambler offers 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, including main floor owner's suite with connecting sun room and porch. Lower level family room with gas fireplace, 3 bedrooms, plus extensive landscaping with private patio. Call Lolly for details!

LOLLY MCNEELY SALMEN
612-810-4138 • \$520,000



STUNNING RIVER VIEWS AND STUNNING NEW PRICE!

From first floor Riverain unit at 1021 Sibley Memorial Hwy. Expansive green space outside your patio door to the bluff. Second owner has just completed over \$40k in improvements w/improved owner's suite & decor + granite kitchen, newer appls, gas FP & wet bar. Lovely neutral decor for 2BR's, 2BA's - just under 1600 fsqft. Call Lolly for details!

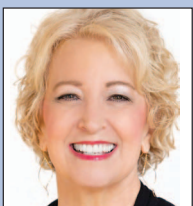
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PAYNE - PHALEN CAPE COD! 698 SHERWOOD AVE

Charming w/formal living & dining rms, 2 spacious BR's & gorgeous hrdwd flrs w/modern white kitchen, & back yard deck. Located on a beautiful corner lot & winding tree-lined block. Easy access to freeways & shopping. Great starter!

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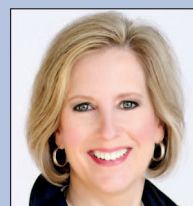
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