



**In the frosty air.** Dominic Morrison holds on tight to son Declan, 4, as they order Swiss cocoa at the European Christmas Market during Union Depot's Hub for the Holidays on December 4 in downtown Saint Paul. At right, the Peer Gynt Norwegian Dancers go for a spin on the depot's east plaza. PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER



## School Board OKs modified plan for closings, mergers

LEAP, Highwood Hills and Wellstone get a reprieve

By FRANK JOSSI

The Saint Paul School Board voted 5-2 on December 1 to approve a scaled-back version of the district's Envision SPPS plan that closes or merges a half-dozen schools but keeps LEAP High School, Wellstone Elementary and Highwood Hills Elementary open.

Board members supported keeping Wellstone Elementary open because it met the district's size requirements, stated superintendent Joe Gothard in a letter on the district's website. They agreed to keep LEAP High open while it studied how to make it more sustainable, Gothard added, and they saved Highwood Hills in consideration of "the neighborhood's geographic isolation."

However, the rest of the Envision SPPS plan remains intact.

At the end of the current school year, Cherokee Heights Montessori will merge with J.J. Hill Montessori at J.J. Hill. Riverview West Side School of Excellence will close and its students will move to Cherokee Heights, which will become a community school. Obama Elementary will close for remodeling in 2023-24 and reopen in 2024 or 2025 as the new site of J.J. Hill Montessori and a new Montessori middle school.

Galtier Elementary will merge with Hamline Elementary at Hamline. John A. Johnson

## City receives mixed message on '22 budget

By JANE MCCLURE

The city of Saint Paul's annual Truth-in-Taxation hearing revealed widespread unhappiness over property tax increases but many more calls for increased city spending. Three people testified before the City Council, but more than two dozen submitted testimony via email or phone.

The City Council could approve the 2022 city budget and levy as early as its meeting on December 8. The council approved a maximum

2022 levy of \$176.6 million earlier this fall—a 6.9 percent increase over 2021—in support of a proposed city budget of \$713 million. However, council members have said they would like to lower the levy amount.

Saint Paul's levy is only a piece of the property tax picture for 2022. The Saint Paul Public Schools is eyeing a 3.15 percent increase in its tax levy, and Ramsey County is expected to increase its levy by 1.55 percent. Under these levies, own-

CITY BUDGET AND TAX LEVY ►5

ENVISION SPPS ►2

## Food shelves are scrambling to meet growing need

### 'Food insecurity' appears to have doubled this fall

By CAROLYN WALKUP

Local food shelves operated by Keystone Community Services, Open Hands Midway and the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center are struggling to meet large increases in demand for their free groceries and hot meals.

Visits by people struggling to feed their family has jumped by more than 50 percent at Key-

stone since August, according to Mary McKewon, president and CEO. "We're struggling to keep up," she said.

The Open Hands Midway food shelf at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 436 Roy St., is expanding its hours to meet a recent doubling in demand, according to board chair Kay Kuehn. Hot meals are served at the church every Monday, and bagged lunches, fresh produce and bakery items are distributed on Wednesdays, Kuehn said. The food shelf is open two days each month, but Kuehn is hoping to expand that to weekly.

"We want to make sure nobody goes without,

but we've had to push to get what we need," said Jonathan Palmer, executive director of the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center, where food shelf demand is way up and rising costs and supply chain issues have become a problem. "We do the best we can with what we have," Palmer said.

Minnesota food shelves served by Second Harvest Heartland are averaging a 28 percent increase in visits this year. As many as one in 10 Minnesotans, or upwards of 500,000 people,

'FOOD INSECURITY' IS ON THE RISE ►3

### CITY BEAT

Police, fire unions sue Saint Paul to block its vaccine mandate ►2

### READY TO MOVE AHEAD



Lex-James gets a new look ►4

### PROPERTY TAX RELIEF?

Raising the levy to ease burden on homeowners ►6

### ON THE TOWN



Turn to shine in 'Nutcracker' ►14

### BOYS' HOCKEY PREVIEW



Prep players are breathing easier this season ►16

VIEWPOINT.....8  
CRIME REPORT .....12  
ARTS LISTINGS .....15  
DISTRICT COUNCILS.....17  
CLASSIFIEDS ..... 18

# GIFTS ON THE GO!



## GIFT MEMBERSHIPS IN STOCK NOW!



JOIN US

# Police, firefighters unions sue city to block stringent vaccine mandate

By JANE MCCLURE

The Saint Paul Police Federation and the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 21 have filed separate lawsuits against the city for what they see as an overly stringent COVID-19 vaccine mandate for city employees. Both unions have asked the court for a temporary restraining order to stop the vaccine policy, with the goal of arbitration or some kind of negotiated agreement.

The lawsuit by the police officers union will be heard in Ramsey County District Court on December 9. The firefighters union served city officials with papers on December 1. No court dates have been set in that lawsuit.

Under the mandate, all Saint Paul city employees must be vaccinated against the coronavirus by the end of 2021 or they will not be allowed to work and may be subject to discipline. Unlike the state of Minnesota, Ramsey County, the city of Minneapolis and the Saint Paul school district, the city of Saint Paul is not allowing the option of regular testing for employees who decline to get vaccinated. City Council members had sought a weekly testing option in Au-

gust when the mandate was first requested, but Mayor Melvin Carter announced the more stringent policy in late October.

The police federation is alleging unfair labor practices in the lawsuit. "We are not anti-vaccine, nor are we conspiracy theorists," the federation stated. "We are reasonable and dedicated public servants who believe in personal choice. From day one, we've attempted to negotiate with city leadership to allow for a testing option for our unvaccinated employees, but the city has refused. In fact, at our last group meeting with city leadership, every bargaining group in the city agreed that the city's vaccine mandate with no testing option was too extreme, and not one bargaining group was willing to sign a proposed memorandum of agreement on this issue. Not a single one. We offered to negotiate the policy to include a testing option, but the city has not listened."

About 20 percent or more than 100 of the city's police officers are not vaccinated, according to the police union. "We are already down 80 officers—in a year when we're experiencing record numbers of homicides and citizens being shot," the federation stated. "An inadequately staffed

police force is a much greater danger to our community than 20 percent of our officers not being vaccinated."

Court documents indicate that about 20 percent of firefighters union members are not vaccinated. The Saint Paul Fire Department has an authorized strength of 435 firefighters, paramedics and emergency medical technicians.

As of last week, the Carter administration had yet to respond to the lawsuits, according to mayoral spokesperson Peter Leggett. "Unless or until the court orders otherwise, we will continue moving forward with our vaccine policy, which requires city workers to complete a vaccination series by December 31," Leggett said.

Carter cited the many law enforcement officers across the nation who have died from the coronavirus. COVID is now the leading cause of U.S. law enforcement deaths, according to the mayor. "As reported in an array of national outlets over the past several months, five times as many police officers have died from COVID-19 as from gunfire since the start of the pandemic," the mayor said.

The city's vaccination policy allows employees to seek an exemption for medical

or religious reasons. It is not known how many exemptions have been sought, but the firefighters union contends that its members who have sought exemptions have not had their requests processed in a timely manner.

Police federation members cited their dedication during the pandemic. "For the past 20 months, Saint Paul Police Federation members have reported for duty every day and served our community with little regard for their own personal safety, putting themselves and their families at risk. For almost the entire first year of the pandemic when there was no vaccines, we were undeterred in our commitment to the city of Saint Paul."

The two public safety unions have offered to have their unvaccinated members take other safety measures and even pay for their own testing. However, Carter believes that even with weekly testing, unvaccinated employees could still put the public at risk.

The city's other employee unions, including the three groups represented by the Tri-Council, have not taken a position on the vaccine mandate.

## 14 ENVISION SPPS

Elementary will close, and its students will transfer to Bruce Vento Elementary. Jackson Elementary will close, its general-ed students will move to Maxfield Elementary and its Hmong dual-language program will move to Phalen Lake Elementary.

L'Etoile du Nord French Immersion lower school campus will close and its students will move onto the L'Etoile du Nord upper school campus. Finally, Parkway Montessori Middle School will be turned into a Hmong dual-language middle school.

The decision was a difficult one for the five board members who voted in favor.

"Closing schools is extremely hard," said board member Chauntyll Allen. "It's been a long haul. But we've heard from the community. We've heard from the administration. We've studied the data on our own, and we recognized that some pretty drastic changes really need to happen in our Saint Paul Public Schools."

Envision SPPS addresses the problem with declining enrollments across the district brought about by a continued drop in birth rates and students transferring to

public charter schools and private schools. With a loss of close to 3,000 students in recent years, the district has several schools operating at under 70 percent capacity or far below the district's minimum goal of 85 percent capacity. The lower attendance means the schools cannot offer a full slate of subjects and enrichment activities.

More than 8,000 seats are empty across the district, administrators reported. Kindergarten enrollment in the Saint Paul Public Schools dropped from 4,452 students in 2018-19 to 4,150 students in 2020-21. That number is projected to fall to 3,677 students in 2025-26.

Envision SPPS had many detractors. The Saint Paul NAACP, the Council on American-Islamic Relations, educators, parents and many community members had asked the School Board to restart the process. Joe Nathan, a critic, applauded the board for deciding to keep the three schools open, but said the district missed an opportunity to create a better plan while managing "to frustrate and disrespect parents, students and educators throughout the city."

The modified plan will impact 6 percent or less than 3,000 of the district's

students, according to Jackie Turner, chief operations officer for the Saint Paul Public Schools. The original plan was drawn up with the help of 11 work groups and board members who studied it at 14 meetings. Nineteen school-based information sessions were held on the proposed plan along with several public hearings and information sessions, Turner said.

According to Turner, students attending schools that are closing will have a seat saved for them at a school in their attendance area. If they decide to attend a different school, their application will receive "closed school priority," she said.

In addition to Allen, the modified plan was supported by board members Jeanelle Foster, Jessica Kopp, Jim Vue and Yusef Carrillo. Board members John Brodrick and Zuki Ellis voted against the plan.

Foster said there were no winners in this decision. "Action hurts, inaction hurts in this situation," she said. "There's a lot of work and action that needs to take place going from here."

Envision SPPS "is the end of something for some of our communities," Kopp said. Her hope is that "in this difficult and heavy

moment we're in, something beautiful can grow."

Brodrick said he had heard from parents, educators and students who thought the process for drafting the Envision plan lacked clarity and transparency. "We can never expect to halt declining enrollment until we restore trust," said Brodrick, who is leaving the board at the end of the year. "A modified proposal will only put a Band-Aid on this almost mortal wound of distrust."

Ellis said she supported parts of the plan, but questioned whether students will transfer to the merged schools and whether the greater educational opportunities will materialize.

Carrillo said the closings will be "detrimental" to some families. However, the changes will likely result in students at all the district's schools having the opportunity for a more well-rounded education, he added.

December 1 was the last School Board meeting for Carrillo, who had been appointed to fill an unexpired term. "I'm not proud of this vote," he said. "This is not a great moment in my life that I'll cherish."



**KW** KELLER WILLIAMS  
INTEGRITY REALTY

TheOddCoupleTeam.com



651.492.6423

**20% OFF Drycleaning**  
Some exclusions, expires 1/12/22.  
**Your Green Cleaner!**

**We're Open!**  
Mon-Fri 7am-7pm  
Sat 9-4pm

**SKYLINE CLEANERS**

"Behind" Highland Village  
facing Hillcrest Ave.

**651-340-2452 SkylineCleaners.net**

SPBALLET.ORG

**ST PAUL BALLET**  
DECEMBER 10 & 11

BEST OF THE  
**NUTCRACKER**

**O'SHAUGHNESSY**  
ST. CATHERINE UNIVERSITY  
oshag.stkate.edu



Midway food shelf coordinator Theng Yeng Xioing of Keystone Community Services filled an order last week for patron Brenae Williams (above left). PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

14 'FOOD INSECURITY' IS ON THE RISE

are believed to be “food insecure,” or unable to afford all of the food they need to sustain themselves, according to Second Harvest spokesperson Allison Griffin. Second Harvest is the largest of seven food banks in the state. Though it is capable of providing three meals for every \$1 it spends, the cost of its food is up 5 percent in 2021 and 25 percent when it comes to popular cuts of meat, Griffen said. The reasons for the cost increases include a shortage of truck drivers to transport food and a shortage of workers in meat processing plants and other factories. The donations of meat the food bank used to receive are almost nonexistent now, Griffen said. Second Harvest’s cost issues have become more acute since the food bank increased its supplies of fresh food to 63 percent as opposed to 37 percent canned and packaged food. Ideally, Second Harvest sources its fresh food within a 150-mile radius. However, the Upper Midwest’s short growing season makes that next to impossible during the winter.

Keystone is seeing more families and older adults on fixed incomes at its food shelves at 1916 University Ave. and 1459 Rice St. and its mobile food distribution vans. McKeown attributes that to recent increases in the costs of food, utilities and other necessities. “Right now we’re keeping up,” she said, “but our volunteers are having to hustle.” Keystone served a total of 25,000 people at three mass distribution events this year in Roseville, on Rice Street and at Allianz Field in the Midway. “It was the modern-day version of a bread line,” McKeown said

of the most recent distribution in Roseville. “There was a line of cars down County Road C for three hours. It was sobering to see people lined up because they need free food in order to make it all work.” Like most local food shelves, Keystone gets the bulk of its food from Second Harvest and the Food Group. Purchasing from these food banks is the most cost-effective way to procure food, but nonperishable food donated by church and school groups is still welcome. Keystone’s food costs have risen considerably, McKeown said, espe-



His box filled to overflowing, patron Raymond Guess exits the Midway food shelf with an assist from Keystone president Mary McKeown.

cially for meat, poultry and dairy products. A case of chicken breasts that formerly cost Keystone \$50 now costs \$115, she noted. “It is hectic year-round, but especially now,” said Palmer at Hallie Q. Brown, where turkeys were in especially short supply for Thanksgiving. Palmer credited his staff and long-time volunteers for meeting the rising demand, along with volunteers from such new groups as Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota, Bremer Bank and the Saint Paul Rotary Club. Kuehn credited a core of regular volunteers for making it possible for Open Hands to meet the growing demand. According to her, patrons at the Midway food shelf like the new system of shopping for what they need rather than receiving a pre-packed box of food. “There’s dignity in being able to choose,” she said. At Open Hands, patrons are allowed one visit per month, and only one patron may shop at one time due to COVID-19 precautions. Open Hands does not ask questions to determine eligibility. “If a CEO walks in, we will serve them,” Kuehn said.

Open Hands does not deliver food to people who are homebound, but Keystone and Hallie Q. Brown do. All three programs are in need of more volunteers either to work at the food shelves or to make deliveries. Hallie Q. Brown is also accepting donations of winter clothing, household cleaning supplies, hygiene products and toys.

For more information on the food shelves or how you can help, contact hallieqbrown.org (651-224-4601), keystonecommunityservices.org (651-645-0349) or openhandsmidway.org (651-646-6549 ext. 4).

# MyVillager

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

## MYVILLAGER MEMBER BENEFITS

Purchase Options:

- ☐ Print & Digital Membership \$59.88/year
- ☐ Print Only Delivery \$39.88/year

More purchasing options are available on our website at [MyVillager.com](http://MyVillager.com) Your payment is non-refundable. Thank you for your support!

Print and Digital Membership\*

- Full digital access to:
- ☒ premium online content
  - ☒ neighborhood updates
  - ☒ newsletters (via email)
  - ☒ add your comments
  - ☒ flipbook print editions
  - ☒ print edition (USA residents only)

Print Only Delivery\*

- ☒ newsletters (via email)
- ☒ print edition (Twin Cities residents only)

Go to [MyVillager.com](http://MyVillager.com) (recommended) or mail this form with your check to:

MyVillager Memberships  
241 Cleveland Ave S, Ste V, Saint Paul MN 55105-1208

DELIVERY ADDRESS (All fields required. Email & phone for admin purposes only.)

FULL NAME	
STREET ADDRESS	
APT, STE, UNIT, BLDG	
CITY, STATE, ZIP+4	
EMAIL ADDRESS <small>REQUIRED</small>	PHONE NUMBER <small>REQUIRED</small>

CHECK US OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA



FOR FREE LIMITED DIGITAL ACCESS:  
Go to [MyVillager.com](http://MyVillager.com) and register for our newsletter. You will receive 3 free premium articles per month! No credit card is required.

# WE'VE MOVED

241 Cleveland Ave S STE V  
Saint Paul MN 55105-1208





**Garlock-French, you'll love the way we make you feel**

For over 89 years, Garlock-French has been committed to quality and value. In fact, we include a no-hassle guarantee on all our work and we provide competitive pricing.

That's the Garlock-French promise – it means everything we do is designed to help you get more out of your housing investment.

We've been up on roofs longer and it shows.

**Roofing, Chimneys, Sheet Metal and more**

Providing peace of mind since 1932

**Call us at 612-722-7129**

2301 East 25th Street  
Minneapolis

**GARLOCK-FRENCH ROOFING**  
SINCE 1932

Garlock-French.com MN License #BC001423



Welcome to our Tradition of Caring

**Pediatric and Young Adult Medicine**

Complete Primary Pediatric Care.

**Saturday Morning Appointments Available**

1804 7th Street West, Suite 200  
St. Paul 55116

**WE ARE OPEN**

www.pyam.com

651-227-7806 (Main Number)  
651-256-6714 (Central Appointment Line)

**Realtors® can make home for the holidays possible!**



**Learn more at spaar.com.**

**spaar**

BETTER AGENTS ♦ BETTER COMMUNITIES  
SAINT PAUL AREA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®



A rendering of the five-story, 114-unit apartment building now being proposed for the southeast corner of Lexington Parkway and James Avenue. Six houses on James would be removed to make way for the new building, which would have 82 parking spaces on two levels.

## Lex-James apartment project gets new look

By JANE MCCLURE

Plans for a five-story apartment building at the southeast corner of Lexington Parkway and James Avenue will return to the Saint Paul Planning Commission with requests for a revised conditional use permit for building height and new setback variances on all four sides.

The Macalester-Groveland Community Council Housing and Land Use Committee voted 12-2-5 on December 1 to recommend approval of the revised plans. No public hearing date before the Planning Commission Zoning Committee had been set yet.

"We're at a place where we're ready to move ahead," said Chet Funk, part of a development team that recently added Minneapolis-based developer Yellow Tree as a partner. The original development team hoped to have started construction by now, but material costs and other delays pushed that back to early 2022.

Six single-family homes are to be removed to make way for the building. The plans now include 114 apartment units instead of 91, 82 parking stalls on two levels instead of 88, and room for 114 bikes instead of 93. The

building would be 83,064 square feet instead of 71,457, with its front door on Lexington. The fifth story would be further stepped back on the James side, and balconies would be added facing Lexington and the alley to the south.

The proposed building height is now 69 feet 10 inches instead of 65 feet 8 inches. The site's residential multifamily zoning allows a height of up to 50 feet. If at least half of the parking provided is structured, the building can be up to 75 feet tall with a conditional use permit.

Instead of the required 25 feet, a setback of 13 feet 9 inches is requested on the west side facing Lexington to accommodate the balconies. And instead of the minimum setback of 18 feet 11 inches, 4 feet 5 is requested on the south side facing the alley to accommodate the balconies, 10 feet on the north side facing James and zero feet on the east side facing an I-35E frontage road.

Most Housing and Land Use Committee members liked the changes, especially one that increased the number of affordable units from nine to 11. Some asked for deeper affordability. The plans call for the apartments to

be offered at 60 percent of the Twin Cities area median income (AMI). That works out to around \$44,100 for an individual and \$62,940 for a family of four.

Committee members who objected to the changed plans cited concerns with traffic, spillover parking and how the project would fit into the surrounding neighborhoods. Some abstained, saying they did not have enough time to thoroughly consider the redesign.

The six properties were rezoned last year from single-family to residential multifamily (RM) use. The rezoning was approved as the city made changes to RM zoning to encourage more density and provide more affordable housing. One change allows more density in exchange for a developer requiring at least 10 percent of new dwelling units be affordable at 60 percent of the AMI. The affordability requirement must be in place for at least 15 years.

Funk and architect Eli Zmira said they did everything they could to maintain density and stay within the previous building constraints. The site's irregular size and steep slope have posed challenges.

## Neighbors object to Billy's 2 a.m. closing

By JANE MCCLURE

The objections of neighbors and the Summit Hill Association to a 2 a.m. closing time appears to be holding up the approval of new business licenses for Billy's on Grand, 857 Grand Ave. A City Council vote on the licenses has been postponed twice, most recently to December 15. Council member Rebecca Noecker, who represents the Summit Hill area, asked for more time.

Billy's has had a 2 a.m. closing for almost two decades. Neighbors contend it has led to property damage and late-night disruptions from loud patrons, revving car engines and drag racing. However, the bar and restaurant is under new ownership, and the new owners say they are working to run a good business and be good neighbors.

Approval of the 2 a.m. closing has been recommended by city licensing staff and deputy legislative hearing Officer Nhia Vang. Vang stated in October that nothing in the new owners' background and management of the business thus far warrants denial

of the licenses. They must be given an opportunity to manage the business accordingly, she said.

Billy's on Grand was owned and operated by Bill Wengler and his family for most of its 36 years. The business was sold in 2020 and sold again in early 2021 to DWD Group LLC. The new ownership group is led by restaurant and bar veteran Wesley Spearman, with Chuck Gilbert as manager. They have remodeled the interior and revamped the menu while operating under the previous ownership group's licenses.

Spearman and Gilbert said they want Billy's to be a good neighbor and respectful of the surrounding neighborhood. The owners met with the Summit Hill Association (SHA) earlier this fall. There, concerns arose about a fatal shooting outside of Billy's in September 2020. The SHA recommended city approval of the business licenses but wanted a 1 a.m. closing time.

Billy's is seeking licenses for liquor on sale, Sunday liquor on sale, liquor outdoor service, class B entertainment and gambling. The bar and res-

taurant currently closes at midnight on Sunday through Wednesday and at 1 a.m. Thursday through Saturday. However, once the pandemic eases, Spearman said, Billy's would like to return to the 2 a.m. closing time.

Ten neighbors filed objections focused on the 2 a.m. closing time. Concerns were also raised about patron noise at other times, public safety and public nuisances as well as the gambling license. The objections prompted a legislative hearing in October as well as discussions with the city's Department of Safety and Inspections on possible license conditions.

One condition to which Spearman objected was the ending of all patio service by 11 p.m. and the vacation of the patio by 11:30 p.m. daily. That condition remains, although it could be revisited in the future.

Other conditions, which are similar to the operating conditions under previous Billy's owners, include a city-approved video surveillance and lighting plan and an occupancy limit of 285 when billiard tables are present and 297 when all billiard tables are removed.

# Landlords join homeowners in opposing large property tax hikes

BY JANE MCCLURE

The Ramsey County Board heard on November 29 from property owners of all kinds deeply worried about large increases in their projected property taxes for 2022. The county held its Truth-in-Taxation hearing on that date both online and at Saint Paul's Union Depot, and there commissioners and county administrator Ryan O'Connor said they have worked hard to hold down spending while continuing to provide essential services.

With an infusion of \$20.15 million from the federal government through the 2021 American Rescue Plan, Ramsey County is proposing a \$24 million or 3.2 percent increase in its budget in 2022 and a \$9 million or 1.2 percent increase in its budget in 2023. After holding the property tax levy flat at \$326.07 million in 2021, the county

is proposing a 1.55 percent levy increase in 2022 and a 4.54 percent levy increase in 2023. The levies would support a total county budget of \$772.85 million in 2022 and \$781.92 million in 2023.

Ramsey County's Regional Rail Authority is looking at a 7.4 percent increase in its tax levy in 2022 and a 3.1 percent increase in 2023, for a total tax levy of \$30.5 million. Meanwhile, the county's Housing and Redevelopment Authority will be imposing a tax levy for the first time in 2022, at \$11.1 million.

A dozen people addressed the County Board at the November 29 tax hearing.

"I was quite astounded by a 30 percent increase in my property taxes," said Summit-University resident Steffon Newsome-Harris. She owns a duplex and rents out one unit. "It's kind of difficult not to raise rents," she said. However, her property is governed by Saint Paul's newly enacted

rent control ordinance, and that limits annual rent increases to 3 percent. Newsome-Harris said she works two jobs to make ends meet and tries to be a good neighbor. "I'm a good person to have in the community," she said, "but I won't be able to stay in Ramsey County."

Those concerns were echoed by another landlord, who told county commissioners that with the 3 percent cap on rent increases and steeper increases in property taxes, she will not be able to afford to make improvements to her property.

Property owners who are retired and on fixed incomes said they simply cannot afford double-digit tax increases. One East Side resident said the market value on his home increased by more than 100 percent, sending his projected property taxes soaring.

Macalester-Groveland resident Patrick Boylan questioned the increase in the as-

sessed market value of his home, saying that it is challenging for homeowners to keep up with rising property taxes as well as the increase in the cost of living due to inflation.

Hamline-Midway resident Kristine Holmgren is campaigning to have the state's senior citizen property tax deferral program amended. To qualify for the deferral, she said, she would have to be in the same house for at least 15 years. However, she moved six years ago when she could no longer afford her larger home of many years.

Winston Nguyen said that in the years he has owned the commercial building at 854 University Ave., his property taxes have increased from \$900 to \$7,196 per year. He has also seen increases in the various fees and charges for his Tai Hoa BBQ restaurant there. With the ongoing fears of COVID-19, "we don't make money," he said.

## 1 CITY BUDGET AND TAX LEVY

ers of a median-value home in Saint Paul can expect to see an 11 percent increase in their property taxes next year. However, an individual's property taxes are affected by a variety of other factors, including the market value of the property, the sale price of comparable properties in the neighborhood and any major physical improvements to the property.

Rick Kohout, testifying before the City Council on behalf of his daughter Melissa, said the market value of her West End home has increased from \$116,000 to almost \$200,000 in the five years she has owned it, leading to a painful increase in her property taxes. "To middle-class Americans, this is like a brick to the head," he said.

East Side resident Grant Ward is eyeing a 22.3 percent increase in his property tax bill in 2022. "My wages aren't going up 22.3 percent," he said. "I want to get out of St. Paul so bad. The liberal people are taxing us to death."

Merriam Park resident Jerome Guettler wrote that he is eyeing an 11.1 percent tax hike in 2022. "The COVID crisis is not over financially," he stated. "The hardship con-

*"The proposed 25 percent increase in my property tax is really too much. Even if my house has appreciated in value as much as the county claims, which I doubt, I am not selling it, so no gain there."*

tinues. It doesn't make any sense to not raise the property tax one year (as the city did in 2021) and then double or triple it the next year. It would be fine if the City Council and the mayor decided to put this money into road repair, infrastructure and police, but it seems like it's going towards catering to the progressive liberal base, which is allowing people to sit at home and get a paycheck. It's just ridiculous."

Guettler said he and his wife are considering leaving the city.

Summit-University homeowner Gabriel Pillmann said city officials need to find a different way to support local government,

instead of relying so heavily on property taxes. Pillmann is eyeing an 8 percent increase in his property taxes, which he said is "just too much."

Payne-Phalen resident John Mazis said, "the proposed 25 percent increase in my property tax is really too much. Even if my house has appreciated in value as much as the county claims, which I doubt, I am not selling it, so no gain there. I haven't had a pay raise in years, and now I'm faced with 6 percent inflation and a winter with high heating bills."

Most of the written comments received by the City Council called for more city spending or spending in specific areas. Several emails were from the group ISAIH calling for more attention to affordable housing. Others called for full funding of the city's new Office of Neighborhood Safety, which provides alternative responses to some police calls. Yet others spoke in favor of Mayor Melvin Carter's proposed Low Income Homeowner Support Program, which would provide a \$500 stipend each year to low-income homeowners who pay more than 30 percent of their income on housing costs.

Seven emails asked the city to hire more staff to enforce labor standards. The city

in recent years has adopted such worker support programs as a \$15 minimum wage and earned sick and safe time. The emails asked the city to hire two full-time investigators in labor standards enforcement and to spend \$200,000 to educate workers and employers about the labor standards.

"As a retired social researcher, I know that protecting working people from employers who steal their wages or fail to provide benefits is vital to the health of our economy and our community," said Summit Hill resident Allan Malkis.

The City Council also conducted a survey of residents on the budget and levy in advance of the Truth-in-Taxation hearing. It drew more than 300 responses—almost double the response of the survey in 2020. According to Holly Huston, the council's chief budget officer, the priorities that emerged from the survey included public safety, addressing gun violence and providing mental health supports.

The survey asked how the \$166 million from the federal American Rescue Plan should be spent. Respondents cited neighborhood safety, housing and infrastructure as top needs. About half of the survey respondents called for the city to make its processes more efficient and cost-effective.



**Design/Build  
Restoration  
Custom Remodeling**

CONTACT US FOR YOUR  
HOME OR OFFICE REMODEL

**WE KNOW THE  
WAY HOME**

**651.228.9102**  
**authconst.com**

**AUTHENTIC  
CONSTRUCTION**  
740 Grand Ave MN LICENSE #BC005210



**GRAND AVENUE  
VETERINARY CENTER**

EXCELLENT COMPASSIONATE CARE

Wellness Care • Surgery  
Acupuncture • Dentistry  
Internal Medicine  
Laser Therapy

Dr. Ann Brownlee  
Dr. Heather Taylor  
Dr. Jen Seidl Dr. Luke Daley  
Dr. Amanda Solie

1140 Grand Ave, St. Paul 55105  
**651-224-3038**  
www.grandavevet.com

AAHA  
ACCREDITED



**LEITNER'S**  
GARDEN CENTER  
FRESH FLOWERS

**Naturally beautiful  
flowers & plants!**

**Great Prices!  
Local Delivery!**

945 Randolph Ave. • St. Paul  
**651-291-2655**

**Germanic-American Institute**

**Virtual  
Holiday Sing-Along**

**Thursday, December 16 | 6 PM**  
**Free | Register at [gaimn.org/singalong](https://gaimn.org/singalong)**





**Happy Holidays FROM Edina Realty®**  
**edinarealty.com**



**Grand Avenue Office**  
700 Grand Ave • 651-224-4321

**Highland Park Office**  
723 S Cleveland • 651-698-2434

**MARKET LEADER 21 CONSECUTIVE YEARS!**

# Mini-roundabout preferred for 2nd phase of Lexington reroute

By JANE McCLURE

Ramsey County held its third virtual open house on November 10 to share its plans for the second phase of extending Lexington Parkway to Shepard Road. The preferred road layout includes creating a mini-roundabout at Montreal Avenue and Elway Street. Elway would eventually become Lexington and be transferred from city to county jurisdiction.

County project manager Nick Fischer praised the level of public input the project has generated, including online surveys that have drawn hundreds of comments over the past year. Several dozen people have attended the virtual meetings and most liked what they saw. Questions remain about how much property will be taken at the corners for the mini-roundabout, which has an estimated cost of \$3.3 million.

Three options were considered for the new Montreal-Lexington intersection. A survey showed 16 percent of respondents favoring a two-way stop on Montreal, 33 percent for a full-sized roundabout and 51 percent for a mini-roundabout. All of the plans call for crosswalks at the corners, with the roundabout having medians bisected by the crosswalks.

People seemed to favor the mini-roundabout because it would take less property and maintain traffic control while providing safety for bicyclists and pedestrians. Commercial as well as residential properties would be affected by the project, including the Montreal High-Rise.

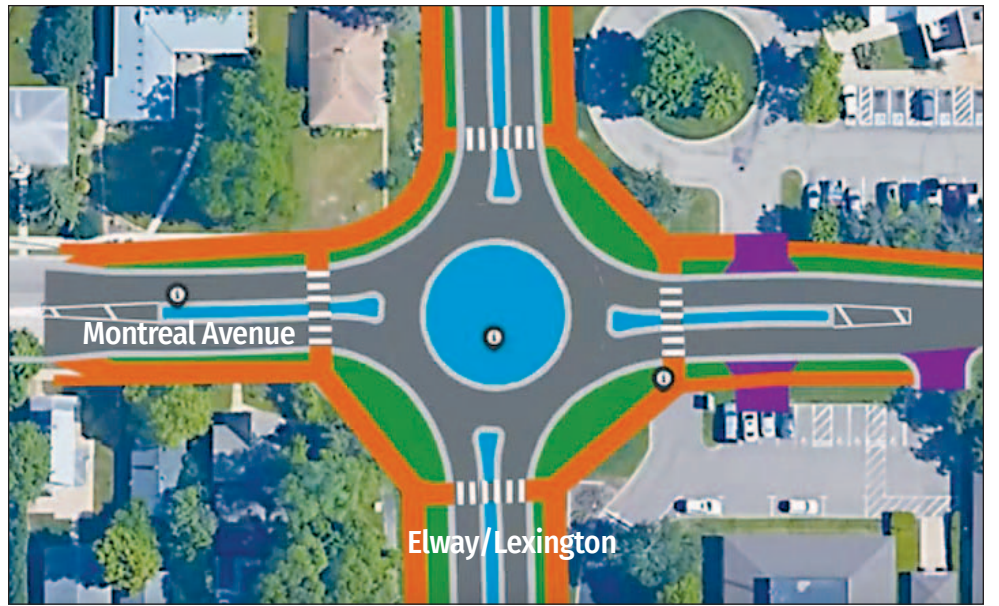


The county is working with property owners at the corners to have property appraised, determine land value and compensate them for the loss of property.

Kevin Pittelko of the engineering firm TKDA said the mini-roundabout would be smaller and lower than a regular roundabout. It would have a low-lipped curb and a center area that larger vehicles could drive over if needed.

The project is the second phase of Lexington's transformation in the Highland and West End neighborhoods. The first phase involved detaching Lexington from the intersection of West Seventh and Montreal by curving the road through the former Riverside School property, which is now home to the Lexington Landing senior housing complex.

Lexington's old connection with Mon-



The next phase of extending Lexington Parkway to Shepard Road (shown in red in the map at left) will include creation of a mini-roundabout (above) at what is now Montreal Avenue and Elway Street.

treale became a cul-de-sac. A stop light was moved from Albion Avenue to the new West Seventh-Lexington intersection. A section of Adrian Street was built behind the Highland Nursery. Lexington now extends a short distance toward the current Elway-Montreal intersection, ending at Adrian.

Construction on the first phase began in 2020 and wrapped up this year. The remaining stretch of Lexington is to be rebuilt in 2022 to provide a connection to Shepard Road. Design work has been underway since October 2020 and is to wrap up in February 2022. Construction on the second phase is scheduled to start next spring and be completed by fall.

The project is also intended to improve aging utilities and make the street safer for people who walk, bike and drive.

Different options are still being looked at for the roadway itself on redesigned Elway. The Canadian Pacific Railroad bridge that

crosses over the street is not being modified, and the bridge supports affect where bike and pedestrian trails can be located.

The railroad is no longer active so the bridge is being eyed as a future bike and pedestrian route or an alternate route for the proposed Riverview Corridor transit project.

Plans for the second phase of the Lexington reroute have made the rounds this fall at the Highland and West Seventh district councils. Representatives of both groups have praised the project and the process used to gather input. Both district councils also support better bike and pedestrian connections to Crosby Regional Park.

"We're really interested in better ways to connect our community to the river," said Casey Carmody, co-chair of the Fort Road Federation's Transportation and Land Use Committee.

For more information on the project, visit [ramseycounty.us/LexingtonExtension](https://ramseycounty.us/LexingtonExtension).

# "Best Eyewear Shop in Minnesota"

– Star Tribune



Grand and Lexington

## Mayor requests \$600,000 in budget for low-income property tax relief program

BY JANE MCCLURE

Many homeowners in Saint Paul's poorer neighborhoods will be seeing steep property tax increases next year due to large increases in the market value of their homes. To ease the tax burden, Mayor Melvin Carter wants to include \$600,000 in the 2022 city budget for a new program that would provide relief to low-income households that spend 30 percent or more of their income on housing.

The Low Income Homeowner Support Program would provide a \$500 stipend to roughly 1,000 qualifying homeowners with the remaining \$100,000 going toward administration. The neighborhoods identified for relief include Frogtown, the North End, Payne-Phalen and Dayton's Bluff.

"Since we cannot tax people at different rates, we see this program as a way to capture market value and maintain city services while providing flexible assistance to cost-burdened properties specifically in areas of concentrated poverty," said Madeline Mitchell, senior budget analyst for the city.

The program would be overseen by the city's Office of Financial Service and Office of Financial Empowerment. Kasey Wiedrich, financial capability manager in the Office of Financial Empowerment, said a key focus would be to help homeowners sign up for other governmental assistance programs, including energy assistance and other property tax relief programs.

Senior citizens in Minnesota who have lived in their home for 15 years or longer can apply to have their property taxes deferred if their annual household income is below \$60,000. The state's homestead credit refund provided an average of \$1,140 in property tax relief in 2018 to Ramsey County households with incomes below \$116,180. Homeowners whose property taxes increase 12 percent or more in a year are eligible for additional relief from the state. Ramsey County officials have said that Saint Paul homeowners who fail to file for a property tax refund leave millions of dollars on the table each year.

The City Council could vote on the 2022 city budget as early as December 8. The mayor has proposed a 6.9 percent or \$11.4 million increase in the city's property tax levy for 2022—from \$165.2 million to \$176.6 million—in support of a \$713 million city budget.

The Low Income Homeowner Support

Program appears to have the support of council members Mitra Jalali and Nelsie Yang. Jalali said she likes the focus on getting people to an array of governmental resources.

Other City Council members were not sold on the program. City Council president Amy Brendmoen said the program was not ready for prime time. Ward 2 council member Jane Prince called the benefit "marginal," especially considering that the \$500 stipend would be taxed as income.

According to city officials, there are about 4,000 households whose housing costs are high enough to be eligible for the program. "We can only serve about a quarter of the people who qualify for it, so right away we're going to have winners and losers," Prince said.

Brendmoen said she grew up in public housing as the child of a single mother, and providing housing assistance is important to her. The state property tax relief programs need more publicity, she said, but the state needs to provide that.

Noecker and Brendmoen questioned the cost-effectiveness of setting up yet another city program when the need is to make homeowners aware of existing programs. "I'm just wondering if this is the best use of staff time and resources," Noecker said. "The irony of raising taxes to lower taxes is something to think about."

To be eligible for the city stipend, homeowners could earn no more than 30 percent of the Twin Cities' area median income or 130 percent of the federal poverty line, whichever is greater. That puts the income limit at \$31,450 for a family of four. The property must be owner-occupied and be a primary residence. Households in areas of concentrated poverty would have top priority.

Twenty percent of Saint Paul households are believed to spend 30 percent or more of their income on housing. Six percent are believed to spend 50 percent or more of their income on housing. Of Saint Paul households making 30 percent or less of the area median income, 80 percent spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing and 64 percent spend more than 50 percent of their income on housing.

Homeowners would have to reapply for the stipend each year. The mayor's plan is to make the Low Income Homeowner Support Program ongoing. It would be paid for through the city's general fund, which is largely supported by property taxes and Local Government Aid from the state.

## City settles lawsuit over sick & safe time

BY JANE MCCLURE

A class-action lawsuit filed two years ago by Merriam Park high school student Benjamin Smith, who worked for the city of Saint Paul as a lifeguard, is one step closer to being resolved. The City Council approved a \$360,000 settlement on December 1 involving 480 summer aquatics workers who claimed the city violated its own policy on earned sick and safe time.

The settlement now goes to Ramsey County District Court to be finalized. The process is expected to wrap up sometime in 2022, and those involved will receive a one-time payment. The proposed settlement states that the city denies violating the ordinance "in any way."

The lawsuit involves seasonal and part-time employees who worked for the Department of Parks and Recreation aquatics division from January 1, 2017, to May 24,

2019. Under the settlement, the city would pay \$200,000 in legal fees and an additional \$4,000 to Smith. The others eligible for the settlement will split \$156,000, though they can also opt out and file their own legal actions. The amounts paid to each person would be based on time worked for the city and the value of time accrued.

Smith's father, Mark, who is an attorney, filed the lawsuit. "It's unfortunate and it's somewhat unbelievable that it's taken this long for us to get to this point," his father said, "but we were basically stonewalled at every point."

Earned sick and safe time was approved by the City Council in 2016. City workers were covered as of January 1, 2017, while private businesses were phased in by size.

Employees accrue at least one hour of paid sick and safe time for every 30 hours worked. They can use that time off when they or a member of their family are sick or if they are a victim of domestic abuse.

## Lines of Credit

For your **business** and *personal* needs

Contact Elisa to get started



Elisa Dabruzzi  
edabruzzi@gateway.bank  
651-209-4807  
NMLS# 1472155

**GATEWAY BANK**  
745 Market Street - Mendota Heights | [www.gateway.bank](http://www.gateway.bank)



## UNION DEPOT HUB FOR THE HOLIDAYS

11.26.2021 – 12.19.2021



UNION  
DEPOT  
SAINT PAUL

## Festivities for all.

European Christmas Market

NOV 26–28, DEC 3–5, DEC 10–12, DEC 17–19

North Pole Express

DEC 3–5 & DEC 9–12

Holiday Tree Lighting & Movie Night

DEC 4

Holiday Bake Sale

DEC 11

Frozen Movie Night

DEC 18

♦ For complete details visit [uniondepot.org/holiday](http://uniondepot.org/holiday)

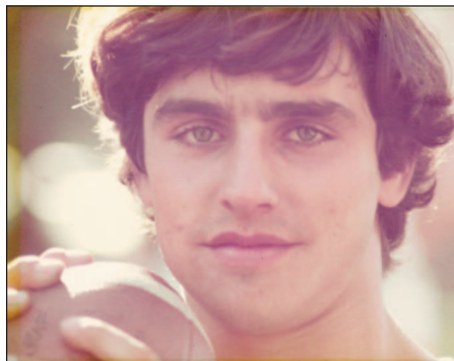
# VIEWPOINT

## The gift of listening: A more peaceful world begins with us

BY BETH VOIGT

When we were young, I marveled at my older brother Paul. He was so self-confident, so passionate. Like Paul, I felt strongly about my convictions but I was shyer and more hesitant to share them with the world. From an early age Paul was a leader, whether he was playing Joseph in the school's Nativity play or serving as captain of the drum corps or football team. That self-assurance, that passion are what steered him to become a successful CEO today.

Despite growing up in the same family, with the same nurturing parents, the same siblings, the same rules, the same basic education, we grew into adulthood with very different mindsets. While our love for each other has never wavered, our conversations can sometimes be strained or purposely superficial lest we stray into uncomfortable territory. However, Paul unknowingly helped me refocus my attention on what is most important one breezy evening on my front porch.



The author Beth Voigt (left) and her brother Paul back in their high school days.

Our conversation started off casually, but as the air cooled and the sky darkened, we veered into politics, COVID-19 and the state of our country—topics we rarely ventured into over the years. He talked about the concerns he had and “those who were steering our country in the wrong direction.” I took deep breaths, seethed silently, murmured “mmm hmm” and occasionally asked questions, but did not try to counter what he was saying. He left when the stars shone high in the sky and thanked me for “the great conversation.”

While I wanted to express my opinions, argue an opposite point

of view and insist that Paul was wrong, that night on the porch I resisted. I knew, whether with Paul or others, that too often I am entrenched in my beliefs. Too often I am only focused on espousing my opinions. Too often I don't listen intently and purposefully enough. Pushing our ideas at each other without truly listening hadn't worked for Paul and me over the years. That night on the porch was my chance to listen, so I did.

Since then, Paul has dropped off magazines, newspapers and other material, sometimes with big red circles, arrows or notations to be sure I catch what

*For that evening on the front porch—my opportunity to listen more and talk less—I am grateful. It helped me realize that a better relationship, better community, better society begins with me.*

he thinks is most important. He has done this with my permission and periodically asks if he is offending me. While I disagree with almost all that he shares with me, some of the articles have given me reason to reflect, to learn, to understand how he thinks.

One article he recently left highlighted the importance of accepting others for who they are and finding commonalities in our relationships. Another focused on cultivating what is important in our lives: relationships, forgiveness and empathy, especially for those who live differently than we do. I couldn't agree more.

And for that evening on the front porch—my opportunity to listen more and talk less—I am grateful. It helped me realize

that a better relationship, better community, better society begins with me. I need to listen and respectfully exchange ideas to find commonality with my brother, whom I love, and others. We all have our differences, but if I take the time to consider other points of view, I will come to understand others better. It's that simple. It's truly a gift—listening to another.

A month or so after our porch conversation, Paul told me he was trying to listen more as well. He had dinner with a large group of business associates with divergent personalities and opinions. During that business conversation, he said, he mostly listened, acknowledging it was challenging but enlightening as well. “At heart, I know people can do this,” Paul said. “We need to listen, pause, stand firm, but remain friends and colleagues.”

And siblings who love each other, I would add.

My resolution for the new year is to give the gift of listening more to others.

*Beth Voigt is a writer from Summit Hill.*

## INBOX

### A recipe for decreased ridership

An article in the November 10 issue of *MyVillager* spoke of the greatly declining numbers of riders on Metro Transit. That's no mystery to me. First, they took out bus stops along the No. 63 route (Grand Avenue), making it more difficult to trek to stops with parcels on what is a shopping street. Now the plan is to axe the No. 84 route (local service on Snelling Avenue) and have customers use only the A Line, which has a half mile between stops. Those of us who have mobility problems need bus stops close to where we live to make using bus service a viable option for transportation.

Why don't we stop this nonsense of A Line rapid transit versus local service and make the route all No. 84 buses running 10 minutes apart? The difference in time from one end of the route to the other is only 11 minutes if the local stops are included. Big deal. Nobody's life is going to be diminished by 11 minutes more on the route with convenient stops included. If Metro Transit wants more ridership, it's going to have to start making service frequent and accessible—to start thinking forward and not moving backward.

*Kathleen Deming  
Macalester-Groveland*

### Take a shot at COVID-19

As intensive care nurses, my colleagues and I know that seat belts cannot prevent all trauma in motor vehicle crashes, but they drastically reduce deaths and the severity of injuries. Every year, the level 1 trauma center where we work takes care of countless patients injured in accidents. The tragedy is magnified when we know our patient was not in the correct car seat or was not wearing a seat belt. But once you roll through our doors, we do everything we can to fix everything that's wrong, no matter how you were injured.

The same is true if you have COVID. We pull out all the stops to help you get better. We give you oxygen, breathing support, steroids or the ventilator you need, whether you were first in line to get a COVID shot or have chosen not to get the vaccine.

But my colleagues and I also know this: The vast majority of hospitalized COVID patients are not vaccinated. Many of these hospitalizations could have been minimized or avoided. The vaccines—not unlike seat

belts—are imperfect. They do not prevent all illness or viral transmission. Breakthrough cases occur. Yet vaccines are the single most effective tool we have to reduce the likelihood of death or hospitalization from a medical crisis that is at least partly preventable.

Throughout the pandemic, my colleagues and I have received all manner of thanks and gratitude. We've been called “health care heroes.” Neighbors put signs on their lawns. People send care packages of cookies or pizza. Students and teachers write cards. They are lovely gestures that we truly appreciate, because we are tired, we are burned out and understaffed. We are as weary as everyone else is of restrictions, masks, testing, social distancing, virtual meetings, cancelled plans.

If you really want to show your appreciation to front-line medical workers, then do everything you can to reduce your risk of injury and disease. Do everything you can to stay out of the hospital. This helps to ensure that a bed and staff will be available if and when you are injured or sick. Instead of lawn signs, cookies or cards, we'd rather you got your COVID-19 shot.

*Kelly Maynard  
Highland Park*

### Vaccines do prevent infection

I have been a regular reader of *MyVillager* for decades. Because I think the newspaper serves a valuable function in the neighborhood, I have happily paid our membership dues for the past two years to support it. However, I am very concerned that it had decided to publish letters to the editor that include misinformation regarding COVID-19.

In the November 24 issue, one letter writer said that “mandating the injection of a vaccine that does not stop infection or spread is madness.” Of course, no vaccine is 100 percent effective. However, according to the Minnesota Department of Public Health, the COVID vaccine has reduced the rate of infection in vaccinated people to less than 3 percent.

The Inbox has always been a good place for *MyVillager* readers to share their opinions. However, as U.S. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan famously said, you are entitled to your opinion, but you are not entitled to your own facts. Quite seriously, lives are at stake here.

*Mark Davis  
Macalester-Groveland*

### Highest use at Mendota Plaza

As a Mendota Heights business owner for more than 35 years, I applaud the City Council's approval of the application for the Reserve Phase II, a 58-unit apartment building at Mendota Plaza (*MyVillager*, November 10). To ensure the long-term vitality of our community, the city needs to welcome quality developments with open arms.

Our community needs to have a variety of housing options, and apartment buildings are an important part of this. Apartments provide some of the most energy-efficient housing in a community. Also, for residents who want to scale down their housing and no longer want to have to maintain a home, a new apartment enables them to enjoy a more carefree lifestyle.

The approved apartment building is the highest and best use for that site, which has sat undeveloped since Mendota Plaza was built over 50 years ago.

*Jon Riley, President  
Condor Corporation  
Mendota Heights*

### New ethic isn't working for U.S.

There is significant evidence something is happening that could be unhealthy for our country: People are choosing not to work. Is it possible liberal government policies and programs have contributed to this? Are such policies and programs intended to make it optional for able-bodied people to work for a living? Liberal politicians may wish to consider these questions.

*T.J. Sexton  
Highland Park*

### Do write, won't you?

*MyVillager* welcomes letters to the editor and guest editorials. 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 post it via myvillager.com/editorial. The views expressed are not the views of *MyVillager*.

# HPC supports plans for Irvine Ave. duplex

By JANE McCLURE

A proposed duplex can be built on an empty lot at 321 W. Irvine Ave., with unanimous support on November 29 from the Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC). Developer Rashad Kennedy has agreed to meet 12 conditions on the project. It is the first dwelling to be built in that part of the Summit-University neighborhood in several years.

HPC approval of the building plans is required because Irvine Avenue is in the Historic Hill District. The street is in a small neighborhood below the Summit Avenue bluff. Building in the area is impacted by the area's steep slope, water runoff and erosion. Some neighbors have had mudslides onto their properties in the past.

Kennedy's original plans were reviewed by the HPC in September. Commissioners criticized the design at that time, saying it did not fit with other homes in the area and failed to meet historic guidelines.

He reworked his plans for the duplex, including changes to the roofline. The building will be 40 feet tall, which is the maximum height for the area, said city heritage preservation supervisor George Gause.

Smooth lap siding and shake shingles are proposed, and a new window design was chosen. A garage would face the front, with two stories of living space above. The building will be



The front view of Rashad Kennedy's new design for a duplex with attached garages at 321 W. Irvine Ave.

built into the slope, and will have a third-story stepback to minimize its massing.

Commissioners praised the new design and Kennedy's willingness to make changes. "I pretty much redid the whole exterior to meet the guidelines," he said.

HPC members raised questions about Kennedy's plans for two double garage doors. He said he would look into the feasibility of using single doors. Commissioner Stuart MacDonald said another option is to have double doors designed to mimic the appearance of single doors.

The commission added a condition on garage door design. The other 11 conditions deal with historic district guidelines, including ones that involve siding, roof materials, windows and other details.

Commissioners only heard from a

few residents. One neighbor expressed concern about the new duplex casting a shadow over her building. Another concern was regarding the fate of retaining walls on the site. The wall in front of the property will be removed, while the one in the back could be rebuilt. Neighbors would like to see that back wall not be too large and not be made of plain cinderblock.

Gause said the HPC is limited to having input on a wall's appearance. Engineering details would be hammered out during the site plan review by city staff. Water runoff flowing through the backyard will also have to be addressed.

The property was part of 322 Summit, but was rezoned in 2003 as part of the Irvine Avenue Development Plan. Properties were downzoned because of the steep and narrow street's inability to handle more traffic, lack of on-street parking, and a desire to minimize development on steep slopes where water runoff and erosion created ongoing problems.

The Summit-Irvine lot was split in 2009. Several developers have eyed the lot since then. One shelved idea was for a single-family home. A second developer in 2019 had the property rezoned from single-family to townhouse use, with plans to build two townhouses there.

## Saint Paul to spend \$3.5M in federal COVID relief on replacing radios

By JANE McCLURE

The Saint Paul City Council voted 4-3 on December 1 to spend \$3.5 million in federal American Rescue Plan funds to replace aging radios for its police, fire and emergency management departments. The issue was contentious, with council members Amy Brendmoen, Rebecca Noecker, Jane Prince and Chris Tolbert voting for the expenditure, and Mitra Jalali, Nelsie Yang and Dai Thao voting against. Even council members who supported the expense questioned whether the radios

should be replaced with federal money earmarked for pandemic relief.

The city received \$83 million through the American Rescue Plan last spring, with the same amount anticipated in 2022. The radios, which are 17 years old, predate the pandemic. Brendmoen asked why city departments had not saved up the money needed to replace the radios.

According to city budget and emergency management staff, the expenditure does qualify for the federal funds under a clause covering the provision of government services.

Yang was unhappy with the re-

quest, saying it "came out of the blue." She said the mayor and his administration should work more closely with the council when allocating the federal funds.

Prince said that while she supports the expense, she is worried that the city is "nickel-and-dimeing away" the federal funds. The radios are "something we have to budget for on an ongoing basis," she said.

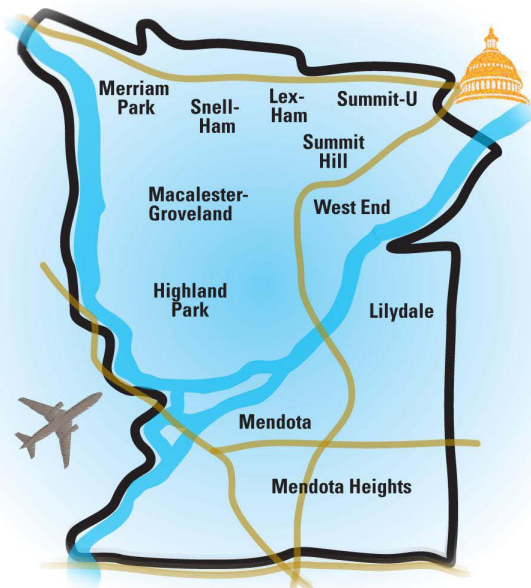
The \$3.5 million is less than the \$5.3 million originally requested for the replacement radios. A second federal grant is expected to make up the remainder of the cost.

KNOW YOUR  
**MyVillager**  
NEIGHBORHOOD

Volume 69, Number 21

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

241 Cleveland Ave. S., Suite V, Saint Paul, MN 55105-1208  
MyVillager.com • 651-699-1462



MyVillager is published every two weeks by Villager Communications Inc. We have a press run of about 42,800 and serve the Highland Park, Macalester-Groveland, Merriam Park, Snelling-Hamline, Lexington-Hamline, Summit-University, Summit Hill and West End neighborhoods of Saint Paul, along with Lilydale, Mendota and Mendota Heights. Annual subscriptions may be purchased for \$59.88 by visiting MyVillager.com or sending a check to MyVillager, 241 Cleveland Ave. S., Suite V, Saint Paul, MN 55105-1208.

### Editors

Dale Mischke, John Wadell  
news@myvillager.com

### Owner

Michael Mischke  
mmischke@myvillager.com

### Display Advertising

Gary Ball  
gball@myvillager.com

### Administration

Jennifer Gordon  
jgordon@myvillager.com

### Classified Advertising and Legal Notices

Jennifer Gordon  
wantads@myvillager.com

### Graphic Designers

Craig Schuster  
Jennifer Gordon

### Publisher

John Rauch

### Circulation

Craig Schuster  
membercare@myvillager.com

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



©2021 Villager Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.





## Beautiful, but they won't keep your family warm on those below zero nights!

### \$39 OFF

#### A 21 Point Peak Performance Checkup

Make Sure Your Furnace is Operating at Peak Performance!

Must be presented at time of service. Not valid with any other coupons, specials or offers. Expires 12/31/21.

### FREE

#### Second Opinion!

On Any Furnace Repair including cracked heat exchangers!

With a written quote from another company. Coupon must be presented at the time of service.

Replace your old Furnace with a New Trane today and make NO PAYMENTS & pay NO INTEREST FOR 1 YEAR!



TRANE

It's Hard To Stop A Trane.

Terms and conditions apply. Subject to credit approval. Contact dealer for details.

"Over 90 Years of Service You Can Trust"

**SNELLING**  
HEATING • COOLING • ELECTRICAL

CALL FOR SERVICE TODAY!

651-646-7381

www.snellingcompany.com

YOUR COMFORT IS OUR BUSINESS.

# Christmas spirit endures if not the trees at Nativity lot

By ANNE MURPHY

The Nativity Men's Club has as its motto the Latin phrase *pro liberis*, meaning "for the children." The club sponsors fundraisers throughout the year. One of these is the Christmas tree lot that during the holidays occupies the east end of the Nativity Church and School parking lot at 1900 Stanford Ave. From the day after Thanksgiving until the last tree is sold, Men's Club members help folks find a tree to their liking and thereby support the children of the parish and school.

The Christmas trees are selling fast this year, possibly due to the widespread reports of a shortage. In the first three days, more than 760 trees were sold. The Men's Club got a shipment of 500 more trees on November 30, but only about 200 were left on December 3, according to longtime member and former tree lot chair Daniel Murray. "And when those are gone, that will be it," Murray said. "The wholesalers are sold out."

Joel Metz, who has served as chair of the tree lot since 2019, figured the club will sell about 1,300 trees this year, in addition to the wreaths, garland and swags. "It's hard to say what the proceeds will be until the end, but it's usually around \$50,000," Metz said.

Metz, who lives around the corner from Nativity School, said he "became involved in the Men's Club after being invited by my neighbors, Mike Skillrud and Jim Lonetti. Jim is a former tree lot chair. My wife and I have been parishioners since 2005, and we have two daughters who attend Nativity



Nativity Men's Club president Tim McGlinch trimmed a balsam fir for a customer on November 26 at the Macalester-Groveland church and school's Christmas tree lot. PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

School."

"The tree lot is a warm, welcoming environment for neighbors and parishioners," Metz said. "For newer and younger parishioners, working there is the perfect way to contribute and become a part of the camaraderie that has been part of the tree lot since its beginning."

With the assistance of Scott Hennis, who also lives around the corner from the school, Metz expected the tree lot to be strong this year in terms of worker enthusiasm and sales. The lot is typically open until Christmas Eve. "Last year, though, we were only open for about 10 days—after three shipments of trees," Metz said. "It used to be a magical 3½ weeks of tree

sales. Now, due to COVID and trees being urgently bought, the last two years have taken nine days each. Amazing."

The Nativity Men's Club orders the fresh-cut trees from three different vendors. "This year they came from Pleasant Valley, Northern and Hinkemeyer Farms," Metz said.

The tree lot is a Christmas story in itself, according to Murray, who lives just two blocks away. He and his wife Mary Joan have two sons, Nativity grads who have also helped out at the tree lot. "We've had three generations working up at the lot," Murray said, "and we all get our trees there."

The tree lot was originally sponsored by

the Nativity Church choir, but in 1994 the Men's Club "happily took it over," Murray said. "Over the years it has evolved into this wonderful experience. It's a community-building event that all of us are very proud of. Families take their Christmas picture with the trees in the background. They have group nights where brothers and cousins all work and have fun together."

In the early years of the tree lot, the Men's Club worked out of a plywood shanty that the choir had provided. "It held five people," Murray said. "One night Father John Kelley, Dan Thees, Dana Schnobrich, Mary Joan and I were in the tiny shack. It was so cold that we all left our cars running, fearing they might not restart. Dan suggested, as long as we were all together, that Father Kelley renew our vows."

In subsequent years, a parishioner and Men's Club board member loaned the club a construction trailer. "The current trailer was donated by McGough Construction, then rehabbed some years later," Murray said. "It's a warming house, a place to pay for trees. There's a donated hot chocolate machine. There are great photos on the walls, lights, deer antlers."

Also hanging in the trailer is the Nativity Tree Lot Hall of Fame. "It started in 1995 when the board first recognized those who worked over the top to make the tree lot successful," Murray said. "A small group recommends a person, one or sometimes two a year. Even if it's not a board member, but just a dedicated volunteer, they get their name on the plaque."

NATIVITY TREE LOT ►11

## A Seat For Every Ass

The manger was full of all kinds of animals: sheep, goats, cows, and asses. No matter which of those you are, Christmas has your name on it. And, after trudging through a pandemic, people deserve a little peace in their lives. So, get yourself to church and let's do this! Please join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ at one of three Christmas liturgies (masks required):

**Christmas Eve Instant Christmas Pageant for All Ages**  
Friday, December 24 | 4:00 p.m.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight With Schola and Carols** | 10:30 p.m.

**Christmas Day Festival Eucharist With Schola and Instruments**  
Saturday, December 25 | 10:30 a.m.



**ST. PAUL-REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)**  
100 Oxford Street North, Saint Paul + [www.stpaulref.org](http://www.stpaulref.org)

*These area Churches  
invite you to worship this Christmas*

**NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Join Us for Mass on Our Patronal Feast Day!**  
(No reservations required for attendance)

**Christmas Eve (Friday, 12/24):** 2pm, 4pm, 6pm  
**Christmas Day (Saturday, 12/25):** 12am, 7:30am, 9am, 11am

Find more information, including  
livestreamed options, at [NativityStPaul.org](http://NativityStPaul.org).

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
at pilgrim lutheran church

**2:30 PM**  
cross+generational  
christmas eve  
worship  
all ages service

**4:15 PM**  
festival christmas  
eve worship  
broadcast on facebook live  
400 prelude

**6:51 PM**  
celtic christmas  
eve worship  
with holy communion

**PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
1935 saint clair ave, st paul  
(651) 699-6886 | [pilgrimstpaul.org](http://pilgrimstpaul.org)

a home for hungry minds & souls  
an ELCA, RIC, caring for creation congregation  
pastor chris smith & pastor jen rome

## City defers assessments for folks in hard times

By JANE MCCLURE

Senior citizens, active military personnel and people with disabilities will now be able to get hardship deferrals from city assessments in Saint Paul. The City Council on November 17 approved deferrals for those applicants for the costs associated with street resurfacing and seal coating, removing dead and diseased trees on private property, and the cleanup of property conditions that are not the fault of the owner. Those assessments will become due in full when applicants die (unless their spouses also qualify) or their property is sold or loses its homestead status.

The expanded deferral program was championed by Ward 2 City Council mem-

ber Rebecca Noecker. After hearing from a constituent looking for help with the cost of tree removal, Noecker was frustrated to learn that the city did not offer more widespread hardship deferrals.

"During the pandemic, when we've seen so many people struggling in so many ways, this seems particularly important," Noecker said. "While we do allow deferrals for some types of work, we don't for many others."

It is estimated the program will cost the city about \$60,000 annually. State law allows cities to defer assessments if such costs cause financial hardship to seniors, active military personnel or disabled people. State law also allows cities to decide which types of repairs should qualify.

### 10◀ NATIVITY TREE LOT

In 27 years, Men's Club volunteers have collected many memories from the Christmas tree lot. "There are stories about bitter cold nights, huge snowstorms, potluck suppers and grilling deer back straps on our fire pit," Murray said. "There are stories of people showing up in old cars that are on their last legs with kids in not the warmest clothes. They would ask, 'Do you have any less expensive trees?' We'd just give them a tree and tell them, 'Merry Christmas.'"

Murray recalled the night he was working at the tree lot with John Mullen, another Men's Club member. "Two women, age 50s, came looking for a tree," he said. "Cloth coats, sensible shoes, holy aura about them. We guessed they were nuns, sisters of Saint Joseph of Carondelet. They confirmed it. We gave them a nice tree,



Holly Adebisi and her son Ori, 3, pick out a tree that is just his size.

wouldn't take any money. Gave them a wreath and garland, too. I told them, 'You've given your lives to spiritual and social justice causes. We're giving you your tree and the other items.' It was a proud moment."

**Fairmount Avenue United Methodist Church**

CANDLELIGHT  
**CHRISTMAS EVE**

A wonder filled Christmas tradition.

1523 Fairmount Avenue • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55105 • 651/699-1335

**"The Wonder of Light"**

Outdoor Carol Sing and Family Event  
December 21, 5-7pm

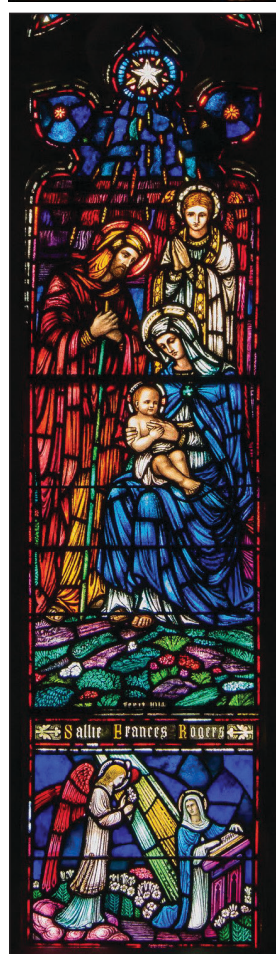
**Christmas Eve - December 24**

In Person\* and Online Christmas Eve Worship  
4:30 & 10:30 pm

On Facebook Live and YouTube  
find links on  
[www.faumc.net](http://www.faumc.net)

\*Masks required in person

A welcoming, joyful community; igniting hearts and minds for God's work.



### CHRISTMAS AT HOUSE OF HOPE

Friday, December 24, Christmas Eve

**4 p.m.** Intergenerational Candlelight Service

**3:30, 7, and 9:30 p.m.** Carillon Recitals

**7:30 and 10 p.m.** Candlelight Services

Childcare available for PreK and younger at 4 and 7:30 p.m.

**Candlelight Services** include lessons, carols and anthems.

**Special Music** 7:30 and 10 p.m.: Johann Kuhnau's *Und ist ein Kind geboren (To Us a Child is Born)* featuring The House of Hope Motet Choir and Chamber Orchestra.

There is no service on Christmas Day.  
**Livestream at [hohchurch.org](http://hohchurch.org)**



The House of Hope Presbyterian Church  
797 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN  
(651) 227-6311 | [hohchurch.org](http://hohchurch.org)

OVERFLOWING

Love



Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2021

How does the birth of Jesus renew our hope and inspire us to seek justice? Come celebrate the birth of Christ and receive the gifts of the season with Macalester Plymouth United Church in person or online.

#### Family Service at 5 pm


Carols, the Christmas story for all ages, and singing Silent Night by candlelight

#### Candlelight Service at 10 pm

Traditional service with carols, a Christmas message, and singing Silent Night by candlelight.


1658 Lincoln Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55105  
[www.macalester-plymouth.org](http://www.macalester-plymouth.org)

Macalester  Plymouth  
UNITED CHURCH



## Christmas Services

at Area Churches



**CATHOLIC**

**Lumen Christi:**  
Christmas Eve Masses at 2:00pm, 4:00pm and 6:00pm.  
Christmas Day Masses at 8:30am and 10:30am.

**Holy Spirit:** Christmas Eve Carols at 10:00pm,  
Mass at 4:30pm and 10:00pm. Christmas Day Mass at 9:00am.

**Nativity of Our Lord:**  
Christmas Eve Masses: 2:00pm, 4:00pm and 6:00pm  
Midnight Mass  
Christmas Day Masses at 7:30am, 9:00am and 11:00am.

**CATHOLIC cont.**

**St. Thomas More:**  
Christmas Eve Masses at 4:30pm and 8:00pm.  
Christmas Day Masses at 8:00am and 9:00am,  
(Carols at 10:10am).

**LUTHERAN**


**Gloria Dei:** Christmas Eve Services at  
Luther Seminary at 1:00 and 2:30pm,  
6:00pm and 8:00pm.  
Christmas Day at Gloria Dei - 10:00am.

**Immanuel Lutheran:** Christmas Eve: 3:00pm, 4:30pm and  
10:00pm.; All services with Holy Communion.

**St. Luke:** Christmas Eve at 6:00pm.  
Christmas Day at 9:00am with Holy Communion.

**PRESBYTERIAN**


**House of Hope:** Christmas Eve at 4:00pm,  
7:30pm and 10:00pm Candlelight



May the deep and abiding joys of Christmas fill your heart and bring you every happiness.

**St. Mark's:** Christmas Eve Mass at 4:30pm and 5:30pm  
Carols at 11:30pm and Midnight Mass.  
Christmas Day Mass at 10:00am and 11:30am.

**St. Peter of Mendota:**  
Christmas Day Mass 10:00am.  
Caroling one half hour before all Masses.



**O'Halloran & Murphy**

Funeral & Cremation Services

**575 SNELLING AVE. S.**

651-698-0796 [ohalloranmurphy.com](http://ohalloranmurphy.com)

# Crime Report

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

## Highland Park

**Theft**—Vehicles were reported stolen on the 1600 block of Ford Parkway on November 18, the 2500 block of West Seventh Street on November 19, and the 1500 block of Ford Parkway on November 22.

—The catalytic converter was reported stolen from a vehicle on the 700 block of Mount Curve Boulevard on November 18.

**Weapons**—Someone reportedly fired a gun through the floor of their apartment that went into another apartment and hit a female asleep in her bed on the 2200 block of West Seventh Street around 3:25 a.m. Monday, November 29. No suspects or serious injuries were reported.

## Lexington-Hamline

**Robbery**—A man was robbed of his wallet at gunpoint in the parking lot of Skyline Tower, 1247 Saint Anthony Ave., at 10:47 p.m. Sunday, November 21.

**Burglary**—Jewelry was reported stolen during a home break-in on the 1200 block of Marshall Avenue between 5:45-6:34 p.m. Sunday, November 28.

**Theft**—A purse-snatching was reported at the Midway Target on November 26, and a juvenile was caught trying to steal around \$900 in merchandise from the store on November 27.

**Assault**—A 91-year-old man was arrested for felony assault after striking a victim on the head with a metal cane at Skyline Tower, 1247 Saint Anthony Ave., around 6:41 p.m. Friday, November 26.

## Macalester-Groveland

**Robbery**—A carjacking at gunpoint was reported at Walgreens, 1585 Randolph Ave., at 5:16 a.m. Wednesday, November 17. The victim was made to drive around for over an hour before the suspects forced him out of the vehicle.

—Subway restaurant, 1820 Grand Ave., was robbed at gunpoint at 7:17 p.m. Thursday, November 18.

**Burglary**—Residential burglaries were reported on the 1400 block of Grand Avenue on November 23-24, and the 1900 block of Stanford Avenue on November 28.

—A burglar fled after he was seen trying

to steal a television in a residence on the 400 block of South Snelling Avenue around 7:14 p.m. Saturday, November 27.

**Theft**—A laptop computer was reported stolen from a vehicle on Mississippi River Boulevard and Goodrich Avenue at 9:15 p.m. Thursday, November 18.

—A suspect snatched the wallet from a woman's purse and fled in a waiting vehicle around 4:14 p.m. Saturday, November 27, on the 300 block of Macalester Street.

## Mendota Heights

**Theft**—A trailer and equipment were reported stolen from a work site on the 1800 block of Orchard Heights Lane at 3:21 p.m. Tuesday, November 16.

**Assault**—Police responded to a call about a male trying to assault people with a metal pole on the 700 block of Mohican Lane at 9:04 p.m. Monday, November 15.

## Merriam Park

**Sex crime**—Level III sex offender Matthew John Overson, 36, registered to live on the 1600 block of Dayton Avenue effective November 22. He was recently released after being charged with sexual conduct against children under age 16. Any questions can be directed to Officers Doverspike or Koski at 651-266-5871 or 651-266-5617.

**Robbery**—A man was robbed on the 1800 block of Summit Avenue around 4:04 a.m. Monday, November 29.

**Burglary**—Home break-ins were reported on the 100 block of Montrose Place on November 7, and the 1900 block of Marshall Avenue and the 2000 block of Ashland Avenue on November 27.

**Assault**—A man drove himself to the hospital after being shot in his vehicle on University and Snelling avenues at 4:46 a.m. Sunday, November 21. He said a suspect tried to sell him marijuana. When he declined, the suspect shot through the driver's side door, striking him in the leg.

**Weapons**—Several spent shell casings were located after people reported hearing gunshots and seeing a white vehicle speed away on the 1600 block of Shields Avenue at 3:48 p.m. Thursday, November 18.

—Multiple shell casings were found in the street after a report of gunfire on the 1800 block of Ashland Avenue during the evening of November 24-25.

**Miscellaneous**—Two men fled in a gold

Ford Fusion after they were seen trying to cut the catalytic converter off a vehicle on the 1600 block of Saint Anthony Avenue at 10:15 a.m. Thursday, November 18.

## Snelling-Hamline

**Theft**—Vehicles were stolen at the Midway LA Fitness on November 16-17, and the Midway Cub Foods on November 30.

—A MacBook Air was stolen from a vehicle at the Midway Cub Foods between 1:15-2:05 p.m. Thursday, November 25.

## Summit Hill

**Robbery**—A man was robbed at gunpoint around 7:08 p.m. Tuesday, November 30, on Lincoln Avenue and Dale Street.

**Burglary**—A male and female were caught on video breaking into an office on Dale Street and Lincoln Avenue around 3:31 a.m. Sunday, November 28.

**Theft**—A purse-snatching was reported at Victoria Crossing West, 870 Grand Ave., on Wednesday, November 17.

**Assault**—An assault was reported at Billy's on Grand, 857 Grand Ave., between 11:38 a.m.-1:12 p.m. Tuesday, November 23.

## Summit-University

**Robbery**—Men were robbed at gunpoint on Lexington Parkway and Summit Avenue on November 17, and the 200 block of Mackubin Street on November 30.

**Burglary**—Suspects stole thousands of dollars worth of jewelry and fur coats from an occupied apartment on the 200 block of Summit Avenue around 9:47 p.m. Saturday, November 20.

—Apartment burglaries were reported on the 600 block of Dayton Avenue on November 21, the 400 block of Selby Avenue on November 22-24, and the 300 block of Marshall Avenue on November 30.

—La Grolla, the Yarnery and Idun on 452-495 Selby were broken into between 1:28-5:51 a.m. Tuesday, November 23.

**Theft**—A theft valued at more than \$1,000 was reported at Summit Church, 845 Summit Ave., on November 21-27.

—A 35-year-old man was arrested for felony theft at Kinderstube German Immersion Preschool, 301 Summit Ave., between 2:05-3:11 p.m. Monday, November 22.

**Assault**—A domestic assault victim reported being struck with a bat on the 400 block of Marshall Avenue at 12:28 p.m.

Saturday, November 20. She was taken to the hospital with serious injuries. A felony pickup order was issued for the suspect.

**Arson**—A stolen vehicle was discovered on fire on Saint Anthony Avenue and Kent Street at 10:24 p.m. Wednesday, November 24. Police saw a male dump a liquid on the fire and then flee in a red Jeep Cherokee.

**Weapons**—A resident found bullet hole damage to his property and spent shell casings on the street in front of his house on the 200 block of North Chatsworth Street around 8:46 a.m. Monday, November 29.

**Miscellaneous**—A woman said her ex-husband arrived at her job and used a tow truck to ram into her vehicle on the 800 block of Iglehart Avenue at 1:49 p.m. Friday, November 19.

## West End

**Robbery**—The BP Station, 675 W. Seventh St., was robbed at gunpoint at 5:22 p.m. Sunday, November 21.

**Theft**—A 22-year-old woman was cited for trying to enter multiple vehicles near Irvine Park Towers, 291 W. Seventh St., around 11:52 p.m. Monday, November 22.

**Assault**—A 34-year-old man was arrested for felony assault and drug possession after he threatened guests and security staff with an edged weapon at the Hampton Inn, 200 W. Seventh St., at 10:41 p.m. Saturday, November 20. He was taken into custody at a nearby bus stop.

—A man was assaulted by a suspect with a knife on the 100 block of West Seventh Street at 3 a.m. Saturday, November 20.

**Weapons**—A man was arrested for possession of a dangerous weapon around 7:07 a.m. Tuesday, November 30, at the Ritchie Medical Plaza, 310 N. Smith Ave.

**Miscellaneous**—A 22-year-old woman was arrested for disorderly conduct and obstructing the legal process after she tried to get into vehicles and refused to leave the Grand Stop station, 236 Grand Ave., at 11:30 a.m. Friday, November 19.

—Firefighters found a loaded revolver in the backyard of a residence while responding to a fire on the 600 block of Canton Street at 3:42 p.m. Friday, November 26. A resident was taken to the hospital for smoke inhalation. Police said the gun did not come back as stolen, but the residence did have a long history of calls for quality of life crimes and suspicious activity.

# SEJONG ACADEMY

Korean Immersion Tuition-Free Public Charter School  
Serving PreK - 12th Grade

Sejong  
Library

Open on Saturdays 9am - 12pm for  
library programming!

Story Time • Tutoring • Crafts & Hobbies • STEAM Time

Saturday library programming is funded in part with a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education using federal funding, CFDA 45.310 - Library Services and Technology Act, Grants to States Program (LS-00-21-0024-21).

- Join us in our NEWLY RENOVATED building!
- IB Middle Years Program candidate school!
- Busing provided in SPPS district

Contact us today to set up a tour!

Inspiring global leadership.

ENROLL  
TODAY!

2022-2023 Open Enrollment  
November 15, 2021 - January 15, 2022

1885 UNIVERSITY AVE W ST. PAUL, MN 55104  
INFO@SEJONGACADEMY.ORG | WWW.SEJONGACADEMY.ORG | 651.301.8722

# EDUCATION

Learn what's  
going on  
in our  
Education  
Editions

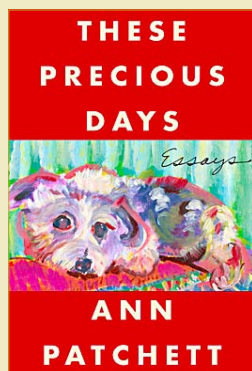
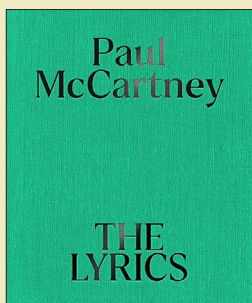
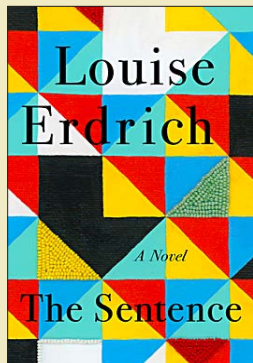
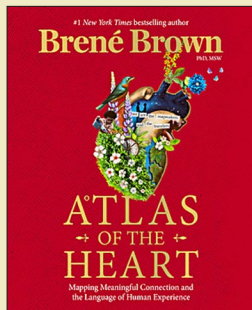
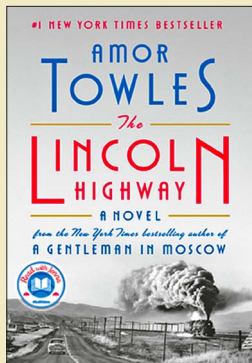
Delivered  
January 12th & 22nd

Display Ad Deadline January 6th & 20th

KNOW YOUR  
NEIGHBORHOOD

For information, call Gary at  
651-699-1462 or  
email gball@myvillager.com

## We Recommend Books.



**next chapter**  
BOOKSELLERS

38 Snelling Ave S, St Paul MN

651/225-8989 | [www.nextchapterbooksellers.com](http://www.nextchapterbooksellers.com)

nextchapterbooksellers NextChapterBooksellers NextChapterMN

CIRCUS JUVENTAS PRESENTS

# BLIZZARD!

PRESENTING SPONSORS:  
 HealthPartners TRIA

DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> - 19<sup>TH</sup>  
[CIRCUSJUVENTAS.SHOWARE.COM](http://CIRCUSJUVENTAS.SHOWARE.COM)

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support Grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT OF THE ARTS

**SUMMIT BREWING COMPANY**

THE OFFICIAL BREAKAWAY BEER

**SHUTTLE TO ALL HOME GAMES FOR**  
**MN PRO FOOTBALL**  
LEAVES 1 HOUR BEFORE GAME TIME

**MN PRO HOCKEY**  
3 RUNS STARTING 1 HOUR BEFORE GAME TIME

## MINNESOTA PRO FOOTBALL

GAMEDAY SPECIALS	DRINKS
1/2 PRICE FLATBREAD PIZZAS	\$1 OFF DOMESTIC TAPS AND BOTTLES FEATURING MILLER LITE
\$5 FOR TWO HAMBURGER SLIDERS	\$1 OFF RAIL DRINKS
	\$1 HOOTERS AFTER A MINNESOTA TOUCHDOWN

**CHECK OUT OUR NEW BUILD YOUR OWN BLOODY MARY BAR!!**  
AVAILABLE SATURDAY AND SUNDAYS 10 AM - 2 PM

**GIVE THE TASTEFUL GIFT**  
**A NOOK/SHAMROCK'S GIFT CERTIFICATE!**  
**BUY \$50 & GET \$10 FREE**

**DON'T FORGET TO BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY PARTY @ SHAMROCK'S**  
NO ROOM FEE, BUT HURRY DAYS ARE BECOMING LIMITED!

**SHAMROCK'S GRILL & PUB**

## DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

# BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

**SUNDAY, DEC. 12TH**  
**SEATING FROM 9 AM - NOON**

**BRING AN UNWRAPPED GIFT FOR TOYS FOR TOTS**  
**BRING YOUR CAMERA FOR PICTURES**

- \$15.95 ADULTS
- \$8.95 KIDS
- 5 & UNDER FREE

## BEER OF THE MONTH

**SUMMIT & GUINNESS**

- \$5 SUMMIT PINTS
- 5 GUINNESS COLANDERS

# ON THE TOWN

## Their turn to shine

Ballet finds a way to give its young dancers that 'Nutcracker' experience

BY ANNE MURPHY

Not wanting to let another year go by without performing *The Nutcracker* live, the Saint Paul Ballet will present *Best of the Nutcracker!* on December 10 and 11 in the O'Shaughnessy at Saint Catherine University.

"This year is unique," said Helen Hatch, resident choreographer and instructor for the ballet. "In the early planning, we knew COVID was unpredictable and that any live production could be risky. *Best of the Nutcracker!* is an attempt to keep our students and audiences as safe as possible while getting back in the theater and keeping a tradition alive."

The production does not tell the whole story of the Nutcracker. "We'll do that again soon," Hatch said. Instead, it features highlights from the full-length production while incorporating new choreography and festive live music.

"This format allows us to keep our dancers in pods during rehearsal and in performance while giving audiences the chance to experience ballet in under an hour," Hatch said. "It gives us the freedom to move in and out of different styles, but include plenty of the classical orchestration of a traditional *Nutcracker*."

The production includes a new dance by Saint Paul Ballet instructor Da'Rius Malone set to the music of the Ukrainian folk quartet DakhaBrakha, as well as Hatch's joyous and celebratory "Skating," set to the music of "A Charlie Brown Christmas."

"*Nutcracker* is an important entry point to ballet in this country," Hatch said. "It's almost always the first ballet one sees. And since the production involves so many children, it gives young dancers an opportunity to perform in front of an audience and move up through the different roles. When you're in level one

and you see the level six dancers in the 'Waltz of the Snowflakes,' you understand what all the hard work is going toward.

Saint Paul Ballet has a long history. It got its start in 1949 as the Andahazy Ballet, founded by former Ballet Russe dancers Lorand and Anna Andahazy, who immigrated to the United States after World War II. Originally above the Grand Avenue (now Frattalone's) Ace Hardware store at Grand Avenue and Cambridge Street, the ballet moved its studios several years ago to 655 N. Fairview Ave.

*The Nutcracker* has been performed by the Saint Paul Ballet since 2013. It usually has about 90 students in the show, but this year due to COVID there are only 33 students taking part. "To see these kids, who have been through so much over the past two years, be able to express joy through their art brings tears to my eyes," Hatch said.

Jonette Knatterud, 14, of Summit Hill has been dancing with Saint Paul Ballet since she was 4. "This year will be my seventh year being part of an in-person performance of *The Nutcracker*, and I'm extremely excited," she said. Knatterud will be dancing the role of the Sugar Plum Fairy and as a lead in the flower sequence and snow segment. "*Nutcracker* is a great way to show your individuality as a dancer and as a developing artist," she added.

Bailey McManimon, 16, of Merriam Park has been with Saint Paul Ballet for nine years and has been a level six dancer for three years. She, too, will be dancing as the Sugar Plum Fairy and in the snow, flower and Spanish dances as well as the new dances. "*Nutcracker* is an important piece to dance because it can always be improved from the year before," she said. "This is my fourth and fifth time doing some of the dances in *Nutcracker*, and I feel like every year I get better at them."

Both Knatterud and McManimon are



In the Fairview Avenue studio of the Saint Paul Ballet, Sophia Rasmussen, 15 (above center), and her fellow dancers rehearse for their upcoming performances of *Best of the Nutcracker*. There, Jonette Knatterud, 14 (right), took a turn in the costume she will wear as the Sugar Plum Fairy.

PHOTOS BY BRAD STAUFFER

happy to be performing in front of a live audience again. "While I enjoyed having the opportunity to record *Nutcracker* last year, it's more fulfilling to be able to perform live," McManimon said. "Dancing is an art form that is best enjoyed in person, and performing live, I feel like I can dance in the moment, rather than anticipate what it will look like on film."

"It can be challenging to think about performing for a live audience after not doing it for so long," Knatterud said. "But then I remember how encouraging it is to have the support that you need and then accomplish the turn or whatever it may be and to show your passion and individuality for the movement that you love so much."

*Best of the Nutcracker!* will be performed at 7 p.m. Friday and at 2 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$15-\$30. For reservations or information on COVID protocol, visit [spballet.org](http://spballet.org).



**Landmark LIVE**

Landmark Center  
Fall Concert Series  
F.K. Weyerhaeuser Auditorium  
Landmark Center, Saint Paul

**Dan Newton & Friends**

**DEC. 17**  
**7 PM Cocktail Hour**  
**8 PM Show**

**Tickets**  
**\$20 advance | \$25 doors**  
**Purchase at [landmarkcenter.org](http://landmarkcenter.org)**

**LANDMARK CENTER**  
www.landmarkcenter.org | 75 Fifth Street West | Saint Paul, MN 55102

The Best Value  
in Fine Jewelry, Period

**CHARLEMAGNE**  
FINE JEWELRY

1262 Grand Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55105  
(651) 699-1431  
[charlemagnefinejewelry.com](http://charlemagnefinejewelry.com)

**Washburn-McReavy**

Funeral Chapels, Cemeteries,  
& Cremation Services

**Pre-Planning made easy  
so you can focus on life.**

**NOKOMIS PARK CHAPEL**  
1838 E Minnehaha Parkway | 612.721.1651

# ON THE TOWN *Briefly*

## Dance

**Collide Theatrical Dance Company** will present a holiday cabaret at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, December 10-12, at its performance space at 755 N. Prior Ave., Suite 235H. The drama unfolds through dance set to a live score of holiday music. Tickets are \$20-\$45 and include a glass of wine, beer or other beverage of choice. For reservations, call 651-395-7903 or visit [collidetheatrical.org](http://collidetheatrical.org).

## Theater

**Fiddler on the Roof**, the Tony Award-winning musical of 1965, is being presented December 7-12 at the Ordway. Israeli actor Yehezkel Lazarov stars as Tevye in this timeless tale about community, faith and resilience. The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$48-\$116. Call 651-224-4222 or visit [ordway.org](http://ordway.org).

**Circus Juventas** will take audiences on a whirlwind tour of the holiday season's classic tales in *Blizzard*. The high-flying adventure tells of three elves who wreak havoc at the North Pole when they open *The Book of Tales* and accidentally unleash such villains as the Grinch, Scrooge and Elsa the snow queen. Eight shows are scheduled at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday from December 10-19 under the big top at 1270 Montreal Ave. Audience members are encouraged to wear masks. Hot cocoa and festive treats will be available for purchase before the show. Tickets are \$40 and \$30. Visit [circusjuventas.org](http://circusjuventas.org).

**Christmas of Swing**, the holiday classic about the singing Andrews Sisters and their USO shows for the soldiers during World War II, is playing through December 19 at History Theatre, 30 E. 10th St. Elena Glass, Jen Burleigh-Bentz and Julia Ennen star as Patty, LaVerne and Maxene Andrews, whose letters from the troops dance their way into their shows and the hearts of their audience. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$15-\$65. Call 651-292-4323 or visit [historytheatre.com](http://historytheatre.com).

**Langston Hughes' Black Nativity** is playing through December 24 at Penumbra Theatre, 270 N. Kent St. Lou Bellamy directs. Musical direction is by Sanford Moore and the Kingdom Life Church Choir. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$15-\$40. Visit [penumbrateatre.org](http://penumbrateatre.org) or call 651-224-3180.

**All is Calm**, a musical about the Christmas truce of 1914, is being staged through January 2 at the Ritz Theater, 345 13th Ave.



Venture down the rabbit hole and experience Zoé Emilie Henrot's *Nutcracker in Wonderland*. The holiday classic with a whimsical twist will be performed by Henrot's Saint Paul-based Ballet Co.Laboratory at 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, December 11 and 12, in Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S. in Minneapolis. Tickets are \$25 and \$35. Visit [balletcolaboratory.org](http://balletcolaboratory.org). PHOTO BY KARIN LYNN

NE. in Minneapolis. The Theater Latté Da production draws on first-person accounts of the impromptu truce during World War I along with patriotic tunes and trench songs, medieval ballads and Christmas carols from the lands of the combatants. The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$35-\$51. Visit [latteda.org](http://latteda.org) or call 612-339-3003.

**"Happy Holiday,"** a swinging hula-baloo of seasonal entertainment, will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, December 22 and 23, at the History Theatre, 30 E. 10th St. Host Dane Stauffer is joined by a bevy of entertainers in a program of sketches, stories and songs performed solo and in harmony. Accompanying pianist Dan Chouinard will be such local luminaries as Beth Gilleland, Julius Collins, Ben Bakken, Jen Maren, Ruthie Baker-McGrath, Sandra Struthers, Kris Stauffer, Tait Cameron and Michael Johnson. Tickets are \$35-\$45. Call 651-292-4323 or visit [historytheatre.com](http://historytheatre.com).

## Music

**A rising star** in classical guitar, Saint Paul native Henry Johnston will perform in a Minnesota Guitar Society concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, December 11, in Sundin Hall, 1531 Hewitt Ave. The program will include works by Mompou, Rodrigo and Ponce as well as Johnston's arrangement of a Chopin mazurka. Tickets are \$10-\$25. Visit [mnguitar.org](http://mnguitar.org) or call 612-677-1151.

**River Heights Chorale** will perform songs of the season in a "Winter by Candlelight" concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, December 11, at Salem Lutheran Church, 11 Bernard St. in West Saint Paul. Admission is free. Masks and social distancing are required. To live-stream the performance, visit [riverheightschorale.org](http://riverheightschorale.org).

**The Women's Choir** of Saint Catherine University will celebrate the season with a Candlelight Christmas Concert at 8

p.m. Saturday, December 11, in Our Lady of Victory Chapel. The "Give My Heart" program will feature carols and other choral works interspersed with seasonal readings. Admission is free and open to all.

**The Peter Kogan Septet** will present two sets of new and classic jazz from 8:30-11 p.m. Saturday, December 11, at the Black Dog Cafe, 308 E. Prince St. For information, call 651-228-9274.

**Versatile guitarist Daniel Volovets** will perform at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, December 12, at Zorongo Flamenco, 3715 Minnehaha Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Volovets plays classical, flamenco, Latin-American and jazz music with tenderness and virtuosity. Tickets are \$20. For reservations, visit [zorongo.org](http://zorongo.org).

**"What Sweeter Music,"** the Singers' annual Christmas concert, will be presented at 2 p.m. Sunday, December 12, at Nativity Church, 1900 Stanford Ave. Tickets are \$28. Visit [singersmca.org](http://singersmca.org).

## Exhibits

**The Tiny Art Expo**, a show and sale of one-of-a-kind pieces in many media that measure no more than 10 by 10 inches, is on view through January 30 in the AZ Gallery, 308 Prince St. For gallery hours, visit [theazgallery.org](http://theazgallery.org) or call 651-224-3757.

**"Totally Radical: Designing the 1980s,"** a free exhibit that captures the variety and idiosyncrasies of the styles prevalent in that decade, is being displayed through May 27 at the University of Minnesota's Goldstein Museum of Design in Gallery 241 of McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave. For gallery hours, visit [design.umn.edu/goldstein-museum-design](http://design.umn.edu/goldstein-museum-design).

**The Cathedral Heritage Foundation's** Festival of Lights will return on December 15-19 with two shows by Luxmuralis that celebrate the incarnation of Jesus Christ inside and outside of the Cathedral of Saint Paul. "Starry Night" will transform

the interior of the Cathedral with an immersive 360-degree light show accompanied by a musical score. "The Beginning" tells the Christmas story with a 12-minute projection on the Cathedral's 150-foot-high east facade. The shows run continuously from 6-10 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 7-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The outdoor show is free. Tickets for the indoor show are \$15, \$40 for groups of three to five. A drive-in viewing of "The Beginning" will be available from 6-10 p.m. Sunday with a \$10 ticket. All tickets are available at [cathedralheritagefoundation.org](http://cathedralheritagefoundation.org). Masks are required inside the Cathedral. A Christmas Market will be held from 6-10 p.m. Thursday through Saturday in the Cathedral courtyard off of Dayton Avenue.

## Family

**The glow of miniature streetlights** and holiday decorations turn the Twin City Model Railroad Museum at 668 Transfer Road into a winter wonderland from 3-7 p.m. on Saturdays, now through February 26. Admission is \$15, free for children age 4 and under. For reservations, visit [tcmmr.org](http://tcmmr.org) or call 651-647-9628.

**Take a ride on the North Pole Express.** The vintage train will embark from Union Depot at various times on December 9-12. For times and tickets, visit the Friends of the 261 website at [261.com/npe/](http://261.com/npe/).

**Frozen II Movie Night** will transform Saint Paul's Union Depot into the Norwegian kingdom of Arendelle from 3-7 p.m. Saturday, December 18. Meet Anna and Elsa and Ms. Minnesota. Create crafts. Dance to Disney tunes or participate in Disney-themed games. The movie *Frozen II* will roll at 5 p.m.

**Tune in to Landmark Center's** Sundays at Landmark web page for Christmas Stories with J.B. Eckert on December 20. The virtual program is free. Visit [landmarkcenter.org](http://landmarkcenter.org) or call 651-292-3063.

## Et cetera

**A Holiday Bake Sale** featuring the wares of 30-plus bakeries and other local vendors, will be held from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, December 11, at Saint Paul's Union Depot, Fourth and Sibley streets. The first 300 guests will receive a gift bag.

**A Christmas Boutique** will be presented by the Council of Catholic Women from 10:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, December 11 and 12, in Carolyn Hall at Saint Mark's Church, Dayton Avenue and Moore Street. Home-made goodies and a variety of gifts will be available at bargain prices. A model train will be raffled. Coffee and doughnuts will be available on Sunday.

		<p>Highland Park 1991 Ford Pkwy. 651-698-2481 Crocus Hill 821 Grand Ave. 651-227-9144</p>		<p><a href="http://coldwellbankerhomes.com">coldwellbankerhomes.com</a></p>
<p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p><b>924 TUSCARORA IS NEW!</b> Smashing 3 bedroom 3 bath Victorian with open concept kitchen and all original charm. Front porch and private back yard with patio, new 2 car garage all in mint condition- this one is a "10"!!</p> <p><b>LOLLY MCNEELY SALMEN</b> 612-810-4138 <b>MORAGHAN DeROSIA</b> 952-486-3697</p>	<p><b>New Price!</b></p> <p><b>4124 25TH AVE SO.</b> Sweet '30's 3 bedroom stucco bungalow with all new kitchen, remodeled full bath, gorgeous hardwood floors, granite, built-ins, porch and patio - all in mint move-in condition.</p> <p><b>LOLLY MCNEELY SALMEN</b> 612-810-4138 • \$304,900 <b>MORAGHAN DeROSIA</b> 952-486-3697 • \$304,900</p>	<p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p><b>HIGHLAND GOLF COURSE LOCATION!</b> Is home to New England 4 bedroom classic colonial. Extremely charming and well cared for on spectacularly landscaped lot and a half. Rare attached two car garage. One of the most sought after locations in Highland Park. Call Lolly for details!</p> <p><b>LOLLY MCNEELY SALMEN</b> 612-810-4138 • \$750,000</p>	<p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p><b>FABULOUS YARD/POOL!!!</b> 1857 Rolling Green Curve: Stunning 3 BR, 3 bath home in immaculate condition. Gleaming hardwood floors in the family sized kitchen, and entertainment sized living and dining rooms. Fabulous back yard with inground pool, deck, patio and porch.</p> <p><b>JIM BURTON</b> 651-690-8556 • \$514,999</p>	<p><b>1181 EDGUMBE ROAD #515</b> "Wilder Park" two bedroom, one bath condo offers the best in urban lifestyle and carefree living which includes treetop views of beautiful Macalester-Groveland/Highland Park. Contact David Noyes Jr @ 651-233-0748 for a private showing. <a href="http://www.davidnoyesjr.com">www.davidnoyesjr.com</a></p> <p><b>DAVID NOYES JR.</b> 651-233-0748 • \$105,000</p>

# SPORTS



## The Wright Call

By Dave Wright

### Recovering from a successful season

By just about any standard, Saint Thomas Academy football coach Dan O'Brien and Saint Catherine University soccer coach Jesse Campos could look back on their efforts this fall with satisfaction. They saw their teams win a combined 25 games, while losing just three. Both advanced far into their postseasons. Unfortunately, both fell short of the goal of winning it all.

So, what does a coach think after a successful season ends and it's time to move on?

For O'Brien, it meant a return to his day job of working with 401K programs in his downtown Minneapolis office. For three months, he divided his time between work and time on the field with STA. On paper, it looked like the Cadets were tested only a couple of times en route to an 8-0 regular-season mark. That included an 18-6 win over South Saint Paul in the season opener in September and a last-gasp rally that ended with an 18-13 win in early October over rival Mahtomedi.

The Cadets' explosive offense averaged more than 40 points a game in the other six regular-season games. The section playoffs seemed to follow the same script as STA outscored Apple Valley and Hastings by a combined 77-0 to advance to the Class AAAAA state tournament.

Life appeared to be good, but O'Brien saw things to be worried about. "I don't know if you need to lose a game during the regular season, but you do need to be pressed," he said. "When you get to the state tournament, everybody is good. You expect to find good defenses and, as happened with us, you're suddenly dealing with weather."

Football is one sport where the Minnesota State High School League doesn't seed teams. The matchups are decided by lot. The Cadets entered state facing an undefeated Mankato West team that had squashed nearly every opponent all season by at least 24 points.

So STA found itself on unusual ground during the state quarterfinal against Mankato West on November 13. Not only was it dealing with an impressive opponent, but Mother Nature picked an inopportune time to dish out snowy and windy conditions. "The ball was slippery all day," O'Brien said with a sigh. "We threw two interceptions. They threw two."

The Cadets held the Scarlets to a season-low point total, but it wasn't enough and STA's season ended in the squall with a 21-14 loss. Instead of holding practice two days later to prepare for the next round of state, O'Brien was collecting equipment from his players.

"They took it well," he said. "Kids bounce back faster from games like this than coaches do. I was still thinking about the game five-six days later. You feel like you should still be practicing. You think about opportunities you missed that day."

Since coaching was done, O'Brien decided to go to U.S. Bank Stadium for the rest of the state tournament. There he watched Mankato West defeat Mahtomedi 24-10 for the AAAAA championship in a hard-nosed affair on November 27. Two days later, O'Brien was back to wearing suits as he deals in the world of finance.

Football, however, is never totally out of a coach's mind. "I already know the 2022 schedule," he said. "I'll be ready in about a month to start thinking about next season."

Campos also enjoyed his regular season this fall. He saw his Saint Catherine soccer team get off to a good start, stumble once with a 2-1 loss to Saint Mary's in late September, but then go on to win the MIAC regular-season title for the first time ever with a 9-1-1 record. The Wildcats also shut out Gustavus and Saint Benedict to win the conference postseason tournament.

Even better, Saint Kate's was selected to host the first and second rounds of the NCAA Division III tournament.

WRIGHT CALL ►17

## Boys' hockey preview

Players are breathing a little easier this winter

BY BILL WAGNER

As everybody knows by now, the COVID-19 pandemic threw a huge check into the boys' hockey season last winter. Games didn't start until mid-January and new safety protocols, including having to wear face-masks under their face shields, all became part of the game.

And though it doesn't appear that the virus and its variants are going away anytime soon, there seems to be less anxiety and players able to literally breathe more freely about the impending puck season.

Saint Thomas Academy coach Trent Eigner said his squad has followed pandemic protocols when put into place, but there isn't that lingering uncertainty of a winter ago. "(COVID) isn't a point of issue with our team," Eigner said. "We don't talk about it a lot."

Saint Paul Academy coach Bill McClellan said last season was "much worse" when he was an assistant at Holy Angels and they had to deal with mask mandates and play in empty arenas. "It's great that this year there are fans in the stands," McClellan said. "I know that we still have COVID on the rise, but I think the whole situation is better."

Two Rivers coach George Awada said his squad had no COVID cases to report. "It's been good so far," he said. "We did have a few cases last year."

Minnehaha Academy coach Jeff DeGree was pleased to disclose that his team had only sustained one positive COVID test so far, and that this player had already finished quarantine and is now healthy again.

Here's a look at the local boys' hockey teams as the 2021-22 season takes the ice:

#### CRETIN-DERHAM HALL

League: Suburban East

Last year's record: 18-2

Coach: Matt Funk

**Key players:** senior goalie Marko Belak, senior wing Drew Fisher, junior wing Jake Fisher, senior center Jake Sondreal, senior defender Zach Sondreal, and junior defenders Simon Houge and Colton Jamieson.

**Outlook:** The Raiders were rated No. 1 in Class AA in one early season poll and have a lot of experience with 14 seniors. They face a tough schedule, but hope to draw motivation from last year when they were upset by Benilde-Saint Margaret's in the section semifinals. "We're an old team, with a lot of guys who've played a lot of games together," Funk said. "By Christmas, we'll be battle-tested well."

#### HIGHLAND/CENTRAL

League: Independent

Last year's record: 4-10

Coach: Brandon Ferraro



Junior forward George Peltier (7) could not quite connect on this shot as Saint Paul Academy fell 2-0 at home on November 30 against Simley. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

**Key players:** junior goalie Ben Olson, senior defender Max Cornell, sophomore forward Peter Douma, sophomore defender Ben Waud, and senior forwards Grant Howatt, Jacob Bell and Javier Hamlin.

**Outlook:** Ferraro said his goal is for his club to play .700 hockey. He likes his team in the nets, adding that his defenders are mobile and that he has a fast first line. "We want to stay disciplined and play for each other," he said. "So far, we're doing pretty well."

#### MINNEHAHA ACADEMY

League: Independent Metro Athletic

Last year's record: 1-17-1

Coach: Jeff DeGree

**Key players:** senior goalie Patrick Anderson, senior forward Declan Huddleston, senior defender Dylan Kist and senior forward Garrett Eide.

**Outlook:** New coach DeGree, previously a Minneapolis Youth Association coach, acknowledged that numbers are down for the Redhawks, but said he's excited to build the program. "We just want to compete, to play hard every game," he said. "We have a lot of seniors in our group."

#### SAINT PAUL ACADEMY

League: Independent Metro Athletic

Last year's record: 3-13

Coach: Bill McClellan

**Key players:** junior forwards George Peltier and Alex Armada, senior defender Judah Thomas and junior defender Nelson Wodarz.

**Outlook:** The Spartans will have seven seniors and are sophomore-heavy below that. "I'm not sure about team

strengths at this point," McClellan said. "One of our challenges is that we're so young, but our goal is to get better every day."

#### SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY

League: Metro East

Last year's record: 13-5-3

Coach: Trent Eigner

**Key players:** senior centers Max Nagel and Tyler Grahme, junior wing Tommy Cronin, and senior defenders Austin Williams and Tommy Stattine.

**Outlook:** The Cadets had offensive threats last year, but this season's big plus is the backline. "We're a little more experienced (on D) this year," Eigner said, "but it's not like we're going to be starved for scoring. We should be able to compete. Our goal is to make it back to the state tournament. We'll have six or seven seniors who'll be contributors."

#### TWO RIVERS

League: Metro East

Last year's record: 4-16

Coach: George Awada

**Key players:** senior forward Baz Schuele, sophomore forwards Will Auran and Nate Rohrer, and sophomore goalie Brady Altier.

**Outlook:** The Warriors have been down in recent years, but coach Awada thinks his program is finally gaining some depth from the current sophomore class. "We have a good class there," he said. "We've been on an upward trend the last couple of years. We want our players to gain some confidence. We just want to win a few more games."

# District Councils

## Highland Park

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

**At-large election**—The Highland District Council will hold an election this month to fill a partial at-large term on its board of directors. A kickoff event to meet the candidates will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, December 9. Voting will take place from 7:15 that evening to midnight Tuesday, December 14, via Survey Monkey. Paper ballots are available by contacting [info@highlanddistrictcouncil.org](mailto:info@highlanddistrictcouncil.org) or the HDC office and must be returned by Wednesday, December 15. Learn more by visiting [tinyurl.com/3z4t4sem](https://tinyurl.com/3z4t4sem).

**Food scraps collection**—Ramsey County plans to open a food scraps collection site in the parking lot of the Highland Arena, 800 S. Snelling Ave., by the end of December or early January. Free starter kits can be picked up, while supplies last, at the Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy.

**Office hours**—The HDC office will be closed from Friday, December 23, to Monday, January 3. For information, email [info@highlanddistrictcouncil.org](mailto:info@highlanddistrictcouncil.org).

**Upcoming meetings**—Transportation Committee, 7 p.m. Tuesday, December 14. Meeting links are on the HDC website.

## Macalester-Groveland

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

**Snow team**—The community council is seeking volunteers to help keep its organics recycling site on Grand Avenue clear of snow and ice this winter. Learn more or sign up by emailing [mgcc@macgrove.org](mailto:mgcc@macgrove.org).

**Let's connect**—Those who are interested in adding their interests, skills or voices to the community council's programs or events are asked to email [mgcc@macgrove.org](mailto:mgcc@macgrove.org) to meet for coffee or virtually.

**Neighborhood pride**—Locally designed Macalester-Groveland T-shirts can be purchased online and delivered within days of purchase. Visit [macgrove.org/tshirt](http://macgrove.org/tshirt).

## Summit Hill

[summithillassociation.org](http://summithillassociation.org)  
651-222-1222

**Annual appeal**—The Summit Hill Association is seeking tax-deductible donations to help sustain its operation. Financial support is appreciated more than ever as the pandemic has prompted the suspension of its biennial home tour, which is the

SHA's predominant source of funding. Visit [SummitHillAssociation.org/donate](http://SummitHillAssociation.org/donate).

**Neighborhood Plan**—The SHA's Neighborhood Plan Committee opened a "visioning survey" on December 1 to collect the final data before drafting revisions to the plan. Visit [SummitHillAssociation.org/survey](http://SummitHillAssociation.org/survey) to take the short survey.

**Upcoming meetings**—Neighborhood Plan Committee, 7 p.m. Tuesday December 14; Streetscapes and Environment Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday December 15; Racial Dialogue and Action Committee, 7 p.m. Monday December 20; and Zoning and Land Use Committee, 7 p.m. Tuesday, December 21. For Zoom participation links, visit [summithillassociation.org/calendar](http://summithillassociation.org/calendar).

## Union Park

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

**Resource map**—Union Park District Council staff are beginning preliminary work on a map of resources in the neighborhood. Those who know of an establishment that they consider foundational to the neighborhood are being asked to email [jonah@unionparkdc.org](mailto:jonah@unionparkdc.org).

**Upcoming meetings**—Transportation Committee, 6:30 p.m. Monday, December 13; Environment and Parks Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 15; and Committee on Land Use and Development, 6:30 p.m. Monday, December 20. Meeting links are at [unionparkdc.org/calendar](http://unionparkdc.org/calendar).

## West Seventh

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

**Wanted: West Seventh recipes**—The West Seventh/Fort Road Federation is collecting recipes from local residents to be included in a cookbook. Recipes may be sent to [fortroadfederation.org/cookbook](http://fortroadfederation.org/cookbook).

**Board notes**—At its November 8 meeting, the Fort Road Federation's board of directors welcomed Mary Cutrufello as its new executive director and Karen Voracek as a board member representing Area 1.

**Candidates sought**—The Fort Road Federation is seeking candidates to fill the position of first vice president on its board of directors. Those who are interested should fill out the self-nomination form at [tinyurl.com/2dtcknkn](https://tinyurl.com/2dtcknkn) before December 9.

**Upcoming meetings**—board of directors, 7 p.m. Monday, December 13; and Community Engagement Committee, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, December 16. Meeting links are at [fortroadfederation.org/calendar](http://fortroadfederation.org/calendar).

## 16◀ WRIGHT CALL

The Wildcats blew away Wisconsin-Superior 4-0 in their opener, but lost 1-0 in the second overtime the following day to Wisconsin-La Crosse.

"It was a good game and a good goal," Campos said. "They deserved it. Still, you feel empty. We felt we could get out of the region and get a shot at Washington U." (Washington, a perennial D-III women's soccer power, ended up losing to Wisconsin-La Crosse in a shootout the following week. The Eagles then fell the next day in the same fashion to Loras.)

"It took us a while to get over it," Campos admitted. "I didn't do player meetings. Several of them came to my office anyway. I had to remind them we accomplished a lot this year—a first-ever regular-season and postseason title, and a first-ever NCAA tournament win. There was a lot to be proud of."

There were also individual plaudits to be relished, such as players being named to all-region teams.

In most seasons, the tournament means the end of the athletic line for college

seniors. However, these are unusual times. So a senior came to Campos and told him that, as soon as they got knocked out of the playoffs, she decided to take advantage of the NCAA's largesse that allows players to get an extra year of eligibility due to the 2020 season being wiped out by COVID-19 concerns. Campos was surprised, but pleased to hear it.

With the conference's leading scorer in Amanda Elton, all three goalies and several other stalwarts scheduled to return, Campos has plenty to look forward to next fall after finishing 15-2-3 overall this season.

Unlike high school coaches, college coaches need to get back on their feet and hit the recruiting trail. So it was that a reporter tracked down Campos in California where he was mixing business with pleasure by scouting showcases for players as well as enjoying time with his family on a beach.

The next season will come soon enough and the Wildcats will find themselves the hunted instead of the hunter.

Dave Wright is at [dwright53@msn.com](mailto:dwright53@msn.com).

Come, join  
OUR TEAM

Small business,  
Big career move



Apply Now:

[castlebri.com/workcastle/](http://castlebri.com/workcastle/)

[WWW.CASTLEBRI.COM](http://WWW.CASTLEBRI.COM)

MN BC005657

 **SAINT PAUL COLLEGE**  
A Community & Technical College

Fit in.  
Stand out.

**Saint Paul College  
is an inclusive campus  
for all learners.**

We welcome you to be your most authentic self while finding those who share your passions, goals, and background. You'll feel connected to and supported by a community of instructors, staff, and students all helping to achieve your best. Go full or part-time. Day, evening and weekend course options are available. Create a schedule that works best for you!

**Spring Semester starts January 10.**

**Enroll at [saintpaul.edu](http://saintpaul.edu)**

Document available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting 651.350.3008 or [AccessResources@saintpaul.edu](mailto:AccessResources@saintpaul.edu). Saint Paul College is an Equal Opportunity employer

 **MINNESOTA STATE**  
Saint Paul College,  
A member of Minnesota State

# CLASSIFIEDS

## HOLIDAY GIFTS

**IT'S QUITE HARD TO FIND A PARTRIDGE IN A PEAR TREE THESE DAYS!** Advertise your gift ideas from Nativity sets to new bikes, gift certificates for spa services, favorite restaurants, coffee shops, retail stores and much more under the **HOLIDAY GIFTS** special category of MyVillager! Call 651-699-1462 ext 10 or send an email to WantAds@MyVillager.com

## HOLIDAY SERVICES

**CITY SIDEWALKS, BUSY SIDEWALKS DRESSED IN HOLIDAY STYLE ...** Are you offering holiday services, catering, entertainment, seasonal planters, decorating, tree lighting? Advertise your holiday business in MyVillager! Call 651-699-1462 ext 10 or send an email to WantAds@MyVillager.com

## REAL ESTATE

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.

FOR SALE. 1686 Niles. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, Ranch. 612-709-9646.

## FOR SALE

**MYVILLAGER digital and print memberships are for sale!** Get your newspaper delivered via the post office. Join us today! [www.MyVillager.com](http://www.MyVillager.com)

**FIREWOOD.** FREE delivery. 90% oak, 2-year seasoned; stacked solid 4'x8'x16", \$175, unless bigger quantity. Order before the rain and snow comes. Call Mark, 320-980-1637.

## VINTAGE/COLLECTIBLES

**UNCOMMON GOOD BOOKS.** Lightly used, low prices at Against The Current bookstore, 1658 Grand Avenue.

## BIBLE/BOOK REPAIR

40 YEARS' experience, all kinds of books. Bookbinding by Steve. Highland Park area. 651-698-1477 for appointment or special bindings.com

## WANTED TO BUY

**DIAMONDS,** fine estate and antique jewelry. We know and appreciate the value of your jewelry. R. F. Moeller Jeweler, 2065 Ford Parkway, 651-698-6321. Certified Gemologist.

**BEST PAYOUT!** Old furniture, advertising, beer memorabilia, old clothing and more. 651-227-2469.

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

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

**PATES ROOFING.** Finest in residential roofing. Local references. License #RR155317. Insured. Member BBB. Call 651-690-3956. PatesRoofing.com

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

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

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

**PROFESSIONAL INTERIOR/EXTERIOR PAINTING, WALL-PAPER HANGING, CEILING TEXTURING.** MODERATE PRICES; FREE ESTIMATES. LICENSED, BONDED, INSURED. MERRIAM PARK PAINTING. ED, 651-224-3660; "A NEIGHBOR YOU CAN TRUST." MPPAINTING.COM

**\*REMODEL-DESIGN-CONSULT\*** Kitchens, doors, windows, basements. Additions, decks, fences, porches. Reasonable rates. Personal, professional, proficient. Free estimates. "Building Brocks", 651-285-3237.

**ALEXANDER'S PAINTING.** High quality work at affordable rates. Full service interior/exterior. Free estimates. 651-246-2869; [www.painteral.com](http://www.painteral.com)

**STEVE'S PAINTING.** Quality Interior/Exterior; 30+ years; good references. 651-207-2249. [stevepaintsm@gmail.com](mailto:stevepaintsm@gmail.com)

**CARPENTRY/SHEETROCK.** Framing. Remodeling. Tile. Professional. Reasonable. Estimates. Frank, 651-276-7094.

**BILL'S PAINTING.** 38 years' experience; painting, wallpaper, staining, texturing. Plaster repairs. Fully insured. Free estimates. Attention to detail. Call Bill, 612-790-1266.

**CARPENTRY/REMODELING.** Kitchen, Bath specialty. 25+ years' exceptional experience. Licensed. Insured. Martin, 612-701-5394.

**STAIRWAY BALUSTERS** and column bases replicated plus other woodturning and woodworking. 612-940-7591 or [theturningpointwoodworks.com](http://theturningpointwoodworks.com)

**\*BATHROOM REMODELING\*** Low water pressure? Sinks, toilets, tubs/surrounds, etc. Ceramic tile. 612-275-9815. Basement bath?

**RUBEN'S CONCRETE.** Free estimates. Steps, sidewalks, driveways. 30 years' experience. 651-500-0980.

**LICENSED PLUMBER** available for your old home's remodel and plumbing improvements. GC inquiries welcome. Paul, 651-263-3623. DannerPlumbing.com

**\*BATHROOMS\*** YoungCastle Bathrooms specializing in bathroom design, repair, creation and remodeling. Great savings! Call for free consultation. 651-257-4706; [www.youngcastlebathrooms.com](http://www.youngcastlebathrooms.com)

**EVERYTHING DRYWALL.** Sheetrock, plaster, textures, skim coating and painting. Insured. David, 612-554-3028.

## HOME SERVICES

**BURTON'S RAIN** Gutter Service. GUTTERS CLEANED, repaired, installed. Since 1973. Insured, bonded. License #BC126373; 651-699-8900.

**LIGHTHOUSE MOVING.** St. Paul business since 2004. A+ rating with the Minnesota Better Business Bureau. Licensed/Insured. 651-387-2955 [LighthouseMoving.com](http://LighthouseMoving.com)

## CLASSIFIED & LEGAL ADS

Phone 651-699-1462

Email [WantAds@MyVillager.com](mailto:WantAds@MyVillager.com)

Classified Categories, ad submission & more information at [MyVillager.com](http://MyVillager.com)

Classified ads are \$1.20 per word, \$12 minimum. 5% discount for prepayment of 7 issues. 10% discount for prepayment of 13 issues. Legal notices are 60¢ per word.

**All classifieds and legal notices are prepaid by cash, check or credit card. We do not accept ads over the telephone.**

**Next Issue: December 22 • Deadline: December 15**

## HOME SERVICES

**GUTTER CLEANING & Repair.** 29th year in Villager area. Fully insured for your peace of mind. Call us today. Free estimates, 651-287-0970.

**ALL AMERICAN** One Construction. #BC635082. Licensed/Insured. Snow and ice dam removal. Stop leaks. Roofing. Total Remodeling: Basements to Chimneys. 20% Senior Discount. BBB Listed, also Angie's List. Free estimates. Jeff, 651-285-1937.

**WINDOW CLEANING.** 29th year in Villager area. Fully insured for your peace of mind. Call us today. Free estimates. Call 651-287-0970.

**HANDYMAN FROM A-Z.** Quality work, 30 years' experience. 651-483-8581, Jerry.

**\*RELIABLE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR.COM\*** Remodeling and Handyman Services. MN License #BC665235. 651-262-9765.

**CLEAN OUT** accumulated, stored junk/debris. Hauling. Reasonable. Frank, 651-276-7094.

**\*CILEK FURNITURE REPAIR\*** Complete chair re-glue since 1960. 651-699-4022.

**\*GUTTER CLEANING\*** It's that time of year again! Protect your roof and have your gutters cleaned today! Call Ryan, 651-690-3956. PatesRoofing.com

**FREDDIE'S JUNK Removal.** Commercial. Residential. Low rates. Free estimates. 651-442-0993.

**RUSS NELSON PAINTING, AFFORDABLE QUALITY.** Interior specialists, 20 years' experience. Wall and trim repair, ceiling repair, wallpaper removal, basement restoration. One room or an entire interior. Local references. 651-216-8113 or [twincitiespainting@hotmail.com](mailto:twincitiespainting@hotmail.com)

## SNOW/LAWN/LANDSCAPE

**THE SNOW IS ABOUT TO FLY! Get your snow removal and ice dam ads running now. Don't be left out in the cold! Call 651-699-1462 ext 10 or email [WantAds@MyVillager.com](mailto:WantAds@MyVillager.com)**

**THE BEST** Residential Snow Removal Services. Seasonal contracts starting as low as \$280/month. Bluhm Brothers Landscaping. 651-227-2584 or [www.BluhmBrothers.com](http://www.BluhmBrothers.com)

## SNOW/LAWN/LANDSCAPE

\*P.H.M. INC. 651-231-7748\*

**LOCATED DOWNTOWN** St. Paul. **OUTSTANDING SNOW SERVICE.** Competitive rates. 30+ years. Snowplowing, shoveling, hauling, salting and deicing. Complete hardscaping/landscaping services. Free estimates. Licensed. Insured. References. [pat@PHMincorporated.com](mailto:pat@PHMincorporated.com) or [www.PHMincorporated.com](http://www.PHMincorporated.com)

**SNOW REMOVAL.** Seasonal cleanups. Gutter cleaning. Lawn service. Free estimates. Insured. 651-699-2832.

**CREATIVE DESIGNS.** I can help you install. Horticulture Degree, U of MN. Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional. Living Space Landscapes. Scott Solomonson, 612-868-7787; [LandscapesByScott.com](http://LandscapesByScott.com)

**CNT SNOW REMOVAL and Lawn Care.** Hedge trimming. Highland resident. Chris, 651-757-6339.

**TREE SERVICE.** Local Tree Tech, licensed, insured, clean, efficient. Dean, 651-298-0781.

**SHOVELING.** Macalester area. Weekly, monthly, seasonal rates. Call/text Jim: 612-202-5514.

**\*ROOF SNOW & ICE REMOVAL\*** Professional. Experienced. Protect your roof. Ryan, Pates Roofing. 651-690-3956. PatesRoofing.com

**SNOW & LAWN Service.** Snowplowing. Driveways. Highland, Macalester-Groveland. Mark, 651-690-5227.

**\*HIGHLAND TREE CARE, LLC\*** Certified Arborist. Licensed. Insured. Free estimates. Removals, pruning, stumps. Brian, 612-735-9110.

## HOUSECLEANING

**EXCELLENT CLEANING,** reasonable rates, reliable, experienced. Estimates available. Ann, 651-776-7834.

**NICCI MAIDS.** Professional House cleaning Services. Bonded and insured. References. 651-253-5561.

**MB'S CLEANING SERVICE.** 28 years in business. Seasonal cleaning specials. \$50 off 1st cleaning. Gift certificates. 651-225-1960. [mbscleaning.com](http://mbscleaning.com)

**L + A CLEAN MACHINE.** Quality service. Good pricing. Residential and commercial cleaning. 770-837-1333.

## HOUSECLEANING

**QUALITY CLEANING** you can depend on. 612-414-9241. 20+ years' experience.

**AMY'S ON-TIME** Quality House-cleaning. Honest, reliable, reasonable rates. References available. 651-491-8315.

## COMPUTER/INTERNET/TV

**HOME COMPUTER SERVICES:** On site, free pickup, delivery, troubleshooting, upgrades, virus spyware removal, networking wired and wireless, installation. Great rates. 10 years in Highland. 651-698-7519; 651-470-3792.

**HIGHLAND COMPUTERS.** Full service Mac & PC repair. 474 Hamline. 651-207-8276.

## OFFICE/PROOFREADING

**WRITE AWAY CREATIVE.** Transcription. Typing. Copy Editing. Legal, academic, memoirs. 651-690-4779.

## INSURANCE

**EMILY BACK.** Blue Cross Blue Shield of MN Health Insurance Agent. Phone: 651-662-2216. Email: [Emily.Back@Bluecrossmn.com](mailto:Emily.Back@Bluecrossmn.com) Website: <http://www.bluecrossmn.com/BACK/>

## HOME/HEALTH CARE 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.*

**PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT** wanted for young man with developmental disabilities. St. Paul location. Must be kind, responsible, energetic and safety conscious. Great position for someone planning grad school in health field. Send resume to [jobs@crocusplacecompanions.com](mailto:jobs@crocusplacecompanions.com)

## WEB/GRAPHIC DESIGN

**PROFESSIONAL WORDPRESS** and **WEBSITE DESIGN,** development and maintenance. Graphic design of logos, flyers, invitations, newsletters, catalogs, brochures, etc. Also custom signs made to order for holiday gifts, businesses, sales, weddings, retirement, etc. Fast, reasonable and local. 25+ years' experience. For more details, text 612-860-5137 or visit [VelvetElvis.com](http://VelvetElvis.com)

## SEWING/TAILORING

**HIGHLAND TAILORS.** Alterations. Tailoring. Women. Men. 712 South Cleveland. 651-698-6117. HighlandTailors.com

## ENTERTAINMENT

**SINGER-GUITARIST.** Popular songs from across the decades; weddings, private parties; listen at [www.johnmischke.com](http://www.johnmischke.com). Call 651-647-0659.

## MUSIC INSTRUCTION

**PIANO.** Ph.D. Music Indiana University. Lawrence Wilson, 651-699-0812.

**GUITAR/UKULELE Lessons.** Suzuki/Traditional. Classical/Popular. All Ages. Online lessons available. Gene Swanson, 651-269-6983.

## PIANO TUNING/ REPAIR

**GAVINPIANO.COM.** Registered piano tuner/technician. See website for coupon. 651-644-3111.

**TIME TO Tune? Sticky Keys? Excellent Service.** Call/Text Torger, 651-230-0193.

**TUNING SPECIAL \$95.** Evening and weekend appointments available. Outstanding service and experience since 2005. Jim Gardner, 612 327-6698.

## 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.*

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

**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 [roblillesve77@becketwood.com](mailto:roblillesve77@becketwood.com) or Contact Robin @ 612-746-1006 and apply: Becketwood Cooperative, 4300 West River Parkway South, Minneapolis to fill out an application.

**FLOWER DELIVERY.** Part-time. Seeking enthusiastic person to deliver flowers and make peoples day when they receive a gift. Perfect job for retired person. Working one to two days per week and one Saturday per month. Have a flexible schedule being able to work full time prior to floral holidays. Great exercise with a lot of walking and meeting people. Must have clean driving record and have no lifting restrictions. Apply in person to: Tom at A. Johnson & Sons Florist, 1738 Grand Ave, St. Paul. 651-698-6000.

## 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.

FIND US ONLINE AT [MCQBROS.COM](http://MCQBROS.COM) MINNEAPOLIS & ST. PAUL 612.888.8207



**WHOLE HOME CLIMATE CONTROL**  
FREE SECOND OPINION • ESTIMATE MATCH  
CALL 612.888.8207 TODAY!

Honesty & Integrity for 50 Years

**MIKE MOHS CONSTRUCTION**

3 Generations of Craftsmanship ★ Since 1963  
[www.mikemohsconstruction.com](http://www.mikemohsconstruction.com)

**Roofing – All Types • Flat Roofing – Rubber or Tin  
Windows & Skylights • Decks & Porches  
Siding & Exterior Wood • Gutters**

Call Scott Mohs **612-701-2209** MN Lic. BC005456

**HELP WANTED**  
*Get paid to exercise!*

Newspaper delivery people for both employee and independent contractor positions. Weekday and weekend routes available. No early morning delivery.

**CONTACT Kyle Stone at 651-487-1328**  
Independent Delivery Service  
440 West Minnehaha Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103

**FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL**

1899 PORTLAND AVENUE, duplex lower level. Two bedroom, 1600 square feet. Available February 1st. Paul, 651-260-7981.

**FOR RENT - ROOMS**

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

UPSTAIRS ROOM rental. One bedroom and an office space. Very private. Perfect for students. Near Como and Snelling. Fully furnished including bed, microwave, fridge, cable TV, internet, desk. Must share kitchen and bathroom on first floor. \$550/month. Call Russ, 651-216-8113.

**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 filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true owner of a business. 1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted: **ISO-Aire 2.** List the Principal Place of Business: **200 West Plato Blvd Saint Paul MN 55107 USA 3.** List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed

**Borden Window** bordenwindow.com  
651-338-7163

Window Restoration & Weather Stripping  
We turn old drafty windows into energy efficient tilt-in windows—for less!

**WALLS & CEILINGS**  
Plaster Repair • Drywall Taping  
Texture Ceilings • Painting  
**Mud Alchemy**  
612-272-3697  
Insured Specializing since 1992 Free Estimates

**ESCOBAR HARDWOOD FLOORS, LLC**  
• Installation • Repair • Refinishing  
• Sanding (Dust Free) • 18 yrs exp  
Free Estimates  
651-230-7232 952-292-2349  
escobarflooring@gmail.com

**MERRIAM PARK PAINTING** Free Estimates  
• Interior-Exterior Painting  
• Ceiling Texturing  
• Wallpapering  
Lic. Bond. Ins.  
Call Ed, 651-224-3660  
www.mppainting.com

Check out our new website @  
**MyVillager.com**

**Nilles Builders, Inc.**  
525 Ohio St.  
• Additions  
• Roofing  
• Siding  
• Remodeling  
• Concrete  
• Garages  
MN Lic. #4690  
651-222-8701  
www.nillesbuilders.com

**LEGAL NOTICES**

Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address: **Albers Mechanical Contractors, Inc.; 200 West Plato Blvd Saint Paul MN 55107 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: **December 1, 2021** Signed by: **Ellie Albers** Mailing Address: **None** Provided Email for Official Notices: **ealbers@albersco.com**

Click through the classifieds @  
**MyVillager.com**

**VISIONS TREE SERVICE**  
24 Hour Emergency Storm Service  
Expert Climbers • Professional Service  
Tree Trimming & Removal • Stump Removal  
Residential Commercial  
651-464-3317  
LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED All Major Credit Cards Accepted FREE ESTIMATES

**FENCE REPAIR**  
Install ALL NEW Fence/Many Styles  
Call **612-644-9589**

**Rick's Backyard FIREWOOD**  
\$35 a Wheel barrel / \$5 for bundle  
Call for Delivery **651-278-8594**

**ALL STAR**  
PLUMBING • REPAIR • REMODELING  
Master Plumber  
Serving Highland Since 1984  
Satisfaction Guaranteed  
Free Estimates • 1 yr. warranty  
Cell (612) **865-2369**  
~ No overtime charges ~  
Angie's Preferred List  
Jack Stodola MN #003414 PM

**ROOF REPAIRS**  
Save Thousands Over Replacement!  
Complete Roofing Services Since 1972  
**VB, INC.**  
Vern Buckman  
612-599-8200 cell  
651-731-1291 office  
Lic.#20216197

**ROOFING NILLES Builders, Inc.**  
651-222-8701  
Full Warranty MN Lic. #4690  
www.nillesbuilders.com

**LOCKSMITH**  
Fast Mobile Service  
We cut Keys and install Deadbolt Locks  
**Babcock & Son**  
SECURITY CORPORATION  
716 SO. CLEVELAND  
651-690-4443

**DON'T**  
Replace your windows  
Replace Your Storm Windows  
**Restoration WINDOW SYSTEMS**  
651-222-5075

**Weaver Electric**  
Residential and Commercial Wiring  
Low Rates - Immediate Response - Troubleshooting  
Office: **651-644-6551** Mobile: **612-599-7353**  
Licensed Master Electrician Over 30 Years Experience

**Roger's Tree Service**  
Schedule Your Fall & Winter Tree Trimming and Shrub Pruning.  
Roger Gatz 651-699-7022  
rogetree.com TRIMMING • STUMP REMOVAL • REMOVALS  
Your Neighborhood Certified Arborist

**SPIESS PLUMBING**  
Repair • Remodeling  
RPZ Testing & Water Heaters  
**Scott Spiess**  
651-248-3853  
Lic. • Bonded • Insured Lic.# 059373-pm

**PATES ROOFING** Finest in Residential Roofing  
651-690-3956  
Serving the Community and Metro area for over 25 years  
PatesRoofing.com  
Licensed • Bonded • Insured Lic. #R1155317

www.landscapesbyscott.com  
**Living space LANDSCAPES**  
Scott Solomonson's cell:  
612.868.7787

**PETER WILSON DRYWALL & PLASTER REPAIR**  
95% Dust-Free Vacuum Sanding!  
651-246-4758  
PETERWILSONDRYWALL.COM  
Since 1986

**HIGHLAND PARK PAINTERS**  
Exterior/Interior Home Painting  
651-497-9891

**JL SERVICES**  
**REMODEL RENOVATE RESTORE**  
NEW CONSTRUCTION  
decks, doors, porches, restoration & more  
651-276-8233

**Rotten Wood?**  
**HYDE AND HARMSSEN CONSTRUCTION**  
Window sills, casings & trim replaced, storm windows  
Andy 651-698-3156  
www.harmsenoberg.com

**InterConnect Landscaping LLC**  
FAMILY OWNED  
651-925-7356  
No project too small.  
• Lawn care • Snow removal  
• All landscaping projects  
• Junk removal  
InterconnectLandscaping.com

Treating your house like a home.  
**Painting by Jerry Wind**  
FREE ESTIMATES  
(651) 699-6140 or (612) 827-6140  
www.PaintingByJerryWind.com  
BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

Local, Trusted Service for 30 Years  
**KELLY PLUMBING & HEATING INC.**  
651-699-1232  
1932 St. Clair Ave. Lic. #3575M8  
For All Your Plumbing Needs...

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR**  
Interior & Exterior  
• Free Estimates • References  
**EXTERIORS BY DESIGN**  
Call Jesse 651-206-2454  
ExteriorsByDesignLLC.com  
#BC738852

**Earl's** Angie's list  
8-Time Super Service Award Winner  
www.earlsfloorsanding.com

**Floor Sanding**  
Sanding • Install • Refinishing  
Repair • Maintenance  
612-290-1533

**Steigauf Brothers**  
~ Since 1980 ~ COMPLETE  
LANDSCAPING, LAWN & SNOW PLOWING SERVICES  
Residential & Commercial  
Mark Steigauf 651-698-0395

**Burton's Rain Gutter Service**  
• Clean • Repair • Install  
www.burtonsraingutter.com  
Licensed • Bonded • Insured  
Serving area since 1973  
**Burton R. Johnson** 651-699-8900  
1864 Grand Ave. MN ID#BC126373

**SNOWBLOWER TUNE UP**  
We service most makes and sell **NEW!**  
**TORO HONDA ECHO**  
**Merriam Park Repair**  
444 N. Prior • St. Paul 55104 • 651-645-1443  
Visit our website: www.merriamparkrepair.com  
Pickup & Delivery • Established 1989 •

**CHILEEN PAINTING**  
greg@chileen.com  
612-850-0325  
• Interior Painting • Exterior Painting  
• Wood Finishing • Water Damage Repair  
• Patching • Enameling • Insurance Claims

**BUILDING THE FUTURE – RESTORING THE PAST**  
Fabulous Customer Reviews!  
Experts specializing in...  
• Patching • Window/Stucco Repairs • Stone-New & Repair  
• New Stucco • Re-Stucco • Sandblasting  
**SMITH COLE** STUCCO & STONE  
612.709.4980 SMITHCOLE.COM  
Aaron Cole  
Lance Smith



**SARAH KINNEY  
MATCHMAKER**  
651-231-2211



**ANNE KIRCHNER**  
651-335-3388



**MARY KNUDSEN**  
651-335-6619



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



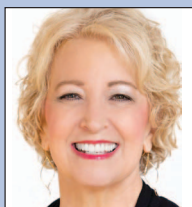
**TOM EDELSTEIN, CRS  
HENRY EDELSTEIN, CRS**  
651-695-4300



**LOLLY MCNEELY  
SALMEN**  
612-810-4138



**JIM SEABOLD**  
651-276-8555



**DEB SOUCHERAY**  
651-263-0552



**MICHAELA TOOHEY**  
651-253-6830

Highland Park 1991 Ford Pkwy.  
651-698-2481

**coldwellbankerhomes.com**



**COLDWELL BANKER  
REALTY**

Crocus Hill 821 Grand Ave.  
651-227-9144



**KATHRYN KENNEDY**  
612-558-6488



**KAREN KELJIK**  
612-414-3245



**SUE JOHNSON  
GOOD COMPANY**  
651-329-1264



**MYA HONEYWELL  
THE HIVE**  
651-329-3619



**ANITA C. HILL**  
651-707-6408



**ROBBIE GROSSMAN**  
651-434-7887



**PETER DONOVAN**  
651-336-8050



**TOM & MIKE DISTAD**  
612-275-1343



**MORAGHAN DeROSIA**  
952-486-3697



**FOR RENT!**  
Upper Landing end unit town home. Spacious, light-filled and wonderful open feel! Spectacular downtown & river views! Miles of nature/urban trails just out your door! Easy walk to downtown! Available now! Call/text for details. 199 Sherman St. GoodCompanyRealtyGroup.com

**SUE JOHNSON CRS, GRI**  
651-329-1264



**HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!**  
Well-loved classic and spacious 1900 built home in a private setting and yet walkable to so much! Stained glass windows, original built-ins, high ceilings, charming wrap around porch! Gorgeous easy care gardens. 520 Jefferson Ave. GoodCompanyRealtyGroup.com

**SUE JOHNSON CRS, GRI**  
651-329-1264 • \$399,900



**DESIGNED TO DELIGHT!**  
Exquisite 3-bedroom, 4-bath jewel offers Brazilian cherry flooring & cabinetry, 2 fireplaces, formal dining, gorgeous kitchen with granite. Luxurious owner's suite with sitting area, upper level laundry, family room, 2-car. 95 Arundel Street. \*click on www.teamedelstein.com

**HENRY EDELSTEIN CRS**  
651-270-1667 • \$675,000



**INSTANTLY APPEALING!**  
Discover updated beauty + classic charm in this dynamic 3BR, 2BA! Open floorplan with lovely hardwood, formal dining with built-ins, dream kitchen, main floor family room. Spa-like bath, fenced yard, patio, 2-car. 2162 Berkeley Avenue. \*click on www.teamedelstein.com

**HENRY EDELSTEIN CRS**  
651-270-1667 • \$495,000



**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.



**SARAH KINNEY  
AND FRIENDS**  
651-270-6409

[www.sarahkinney.com](http://www.sarahkinney.com)



**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 Mac-Groveland, fabulous stores of Grand Ave, chic restaurants of Cathedral Hill & the dynamic night-life of DT St Paul! Call for Details.

**SARAH KINNEY AND FRIENDS**  
651-497-4387



**BRIGHT NEOCCLASSIC 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.

**SARAH KINNEY AND FRIENDS**  
651-497-4387



**1035 CHARLTON STREET**  
Wonderful two-story home featuring new flooring, updated baths, attached 2 car garage, lower level family room and private backyard. All 4 bedrooms are generous in size and on the same level. Fresh paint throughout. Newer windows. Amazing value! [mmderosia@cbrealty.com](mailto:mmderosia@cbrealty.com)

**MORAGHAN DeROSIA**  
952-486-3697 • \$319,900



**1920'S GEM!**  
Charm abounds in this beautiful 1920's home! Pristine original wdwk including built-in dining room buffet with custom leaded glass. Two BR's on the main floor with updated bath! Lots of potential in the basement for additional BR(s), FR, and second BA. [mmderosia@cbrealty.com](mailto:mmderosia@cbrealty.com)

**MORAGHAN DeROSIA**  
952-486-3697 • \$179,900



**NEW CONSTRUCTION IN MAC GROVELAND!**  
New construction with all the walkable amenities of the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood. Five Bedrooms/5 Bathrooms, over 4,000 square feet. Potential build to suit. 1524 Lincoln Avenue.

**MICHAELA TOOHEY  
PHILIP WAHLBERG**  
651-336-2410  
\$1,495,000



**FABULOUS GRAND LOCATION! 745 GRAND AVE #506**  
Enjoy this 2BR's, 2BA's corner unit located on quiet north side overlooking historic Summit Ave. Features include A/C, wood-burning FP, in-unit laundry, private balcony, elevator, security building, storage unit, underground heated parking, pet friendly & just steps away from neighborhood shops & restaurants.

**NANCY K MAAS**  
651-235-8581 • \$325,000



Photo courtesy of Sustainable 9 and Spacecrafting



**HIGHLAND BRIDGE  
CUSTOM HOMES**

A once in a generation opportunity.  
Call today to reserve your lot!

(651) 321- 3118  
[HighlandBridgeCustomHomes.com](http://HighlandBridgeCustomHomes.com)



**STUNNING SUMMIT HILL TOWNHOME!**  
You'll love the open, spacious floor plan that moves seamlessly to the outdoor spaces. The kitchen features high end appliances. Remodeled owners' suite. This meticulously maintained property includes a large fenced yard with patio and deck. [www.SaintPaulTownhome.com](http://www.SaintPaulTownhome.com)

**KRISTA WOLTER**  
612-247-5106 • \$875,000



**CHARMING NORTH OAKS RAMBLER!**  
Enjoy main floor living in this charming rambler on Hummingbird Hill in North Oaks. You'll love the updated kitchen that opens to a sunroom. The living and formal dining room features vaulted ceilings with wood beams, a wood burning fireplace, and plenty of natural light. This home sits on 2.5 acres and is at one of the highest spots in Ramsey County.



**KRISTA WOLTER**  
612-247-5106  
\$695,000

[www.NorthOaksLiving.com](http://www.NorthOaksLiving.com)



**CONDO LIVING ON GRAND AVE!**  
Enjoy main floor living at its best with hrdwd flooring, 2 sided gas fireplace, a West & South facing deck, & main floor sunroom/den. The gourmet kitchen has a stand alone Miele wall oven w/separate gas cook top above it, a warming drawer and custom cabinetry. [www.SaintPaulCondo.com](http://www.SaintPaulCondo.com)

**KRISTA WOLTER**  
612-247-5106 • \$550,000



**JOE UEHEL**  
651-341-3599



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



**PHILIP M. WAHLBERG**  
651-336-2410



**KRISTA WOLTER**  
612-247-5106



**JIM BURTON**  
651-690-8556