

JUNE 22-JULY 5, 2022

## St. Paul debates plan for adding off-road bicycle trails on Summit

By Jane McClure

Almost 250 people attended a June 6 virtual meeting to review the city of Saint Paul's concepts for replacing Summit Avenue's on-street bike lanes with one- or two-way bike trails separated from traffic by a narrow boulevard. The change would be welcomed by bicyclists who often find themselves too close to speeding vehicles. However, the possibility of losing green space, trees and on-street parking concerns many others.

Preliminary plans for the redesign of Summit between Kellogg Boulevard and Mississippi River Boulevard include options for different sections of the street. City officials hope to have a final plan in place this summer before it goes through a review and approval process. Because Summit is considered a regional trail, the approval of both the Metropolitan Council and the Saint Paul City Council is required.

The virtual meeting elicited a wide range of opinions in breakout sessions, some of which became heated. One of the few points on which people could agree is that Summit's pavement is in poor condition and in need of repair.

"Summit already is overwhelmed with

SUMMIT AVE. BIKE TRAILS ▶5



**Taking the new park for a spin.** Matthias Paske, 13, tried out the new skate park during the grand opening of Gateway Park on Ford Parkway on June 14. It's the city of Saint Paul's first park to open in the Highland Bridge development on the former Ford site. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

## Highland residents are wary of UST's bid to build a new sports complex at Highland Bridge

By Jane McClure

Concerns about traffic, noise and the loss of trees and property tax revenue dominated a Highland Business Association Lunch and Learn session on June 13 on the University of Saint Thomas' proposal to build a sports complex at the Highland Bridge site. More than three dozen people attended the meeting, where UST officials outlined their plans for a new hockey arena, baseball and softball stadiums, an indoor practice facility and a parking ramp.

The need for the new facilities is a result of UST's move from Division III to Division I in collegiate sports, according to UST vice president and athletic director Phil Esten. The intent, Esten said, is to provide the "best possible experience" for students, who would use the facilities for varsity and intramural sports and other activities.

Residents of the surrounding neighborhood are wary of the presence of a large sports complex. They said that their questions about the proposed facilities have not been answered by the city or Highland Bridge master developer Ryan Companies.

UST SPORTS COMPLEX ▶2

## Three concepts on drawing board for River Learning Center

### Facility at Crosby to serve as gateway to Mississippi

By Jane McClure

More than 125 people attended a workshop on June 9 at Watergate Marina to view and comment on three conceptual plans for Saint Paul's proposed Mississippi River Learning Center. An online survey on the same three concepts remains open until June 24.

The city and Great River Passage Conservancy are working with New York-based

W Architecture & Landscape Architecture to lead the design process on the plans. The goal is to unveil the chosen option during a second public meeting on July 21. The completion of the design is expected this fall.

All three concepts would entail office and public gathering spaces, river overlooks, launches for canoes and kayaks, hiking and biking trails, and picnic and play areas between Hidden Falls and Crosby Farm parks. What differs among the three is where the facilities would be located and how visitors would access them.

All three options call for about 43,400 square feet of space, with about 8,000

square feet for programs and the rest for offices and parks administration. All three plans call for reconfiguring Watergate Marina, improving pedestrian safety above and below the river bluff, restoring natural areas and being mindful of flooding.

Option one, "The Bridge," would have a tall facility that could be accessed by pedestrians via Shepard Road and the Samuel Morgan Trail. Views of the river valley and Pike Island would be available from the top of the bluff. Visitors could take steps or an elevator to the base of the bluff and the rest of the center. Vehicle parking would be at both the top and base of the bluff.

Option two, "The Path," would consist of two buildings connected by a pathway: a welcome center atop the bluff and the River Learning Center built into the bluff base below.

Option three, "The Destination," would have one large building by the river and marina. The marina would be reduced in size and walkways would lead from the bluff down to the center.

Several people at the June 9 presentation objected to any plans that would remove trees. Barbara Wilks of W Architecture

RIVER LEARNING CENTER ▶3

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# Rent control task force recommends changes

## Stakeholders agree to exemptions to 3% cap on annual rent hikes

By Jane McClure

Following a sometimes acrimonious meeting, Saint Paul's 41-member Rent Stabilization Stakeholders Group wrapped up more than two months of research and negotiation on June 7 with a package of recommended changes to the city's new rent control ordinance.

The ordinance, which was approved by voters in a citywide referendum last November, caps increases in the rent charged for residences at 3 percent per year. Among the recommended changes is an exemption for new construction and a provision that would allow landlords who do not raise rents for several years to bank those 3 percent increases and use several of them when they do raise the rent.

The process of developing the recommendations was "difficult and contentious," according to Ed Goetz,

director of the University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs. CURA provided support for the stakeholders group. It is now drafting the recommended changes to the ordinance and will present them to the City Council on June 24.

"I don't know if anyone is completely happy with the recommendations," said Tony Sannah, who co-chaired the stakeholders group.

"There was a lot of compromising by the renters in this group," said B. Rosas, who represented renters on the task force. Rosas and others expressed frustration that they could not get more done.

The task force was made up of renters, landlords, developers, bankers, nonprofit leaders and others. The group reviewed the history of rent control in the United States, the various forms it has taken, and the effects it has had on the local economy.

Saint Paul's rent control ordinance took effect on May 1. By city charter, the ordinance cannot be amended before this coming November.

The 41-member Stakeholders Group split into four smaller groups in late spring and used a consensus

process to bring the recommendations forward for a vote.

The group agreed to landlords' right to a reasonable return on their investment and to allowing them to prove their need for a higher rent increase to realize that return according to criteria established by the City Council.

The group also agreed to the language for just-cause evictions. Just-cause eviction provisions prevent discriminatory or retaliatory evictions by establishing that landlords can only evict renters for specific reasons, such as failure to pay rent.

One of the most contentious issues was vacancy decontrol, a provision that would allow landlords to raise the rent by any amount whenever a unit becomes vacant. After much back and forth, the group recommended that the City Council consider that provision.

A public hearing on the recommended changes to the rent control ordinance is expected in July. For more information, visit [stpaul.gov/departments/mayors-office/rent-stabilization-stakeholder-group](http://stpaul.gov/departments/mayors-office/rent-stabilization-stakeholder-group).

### 14 UST SPORTS COMPLEX

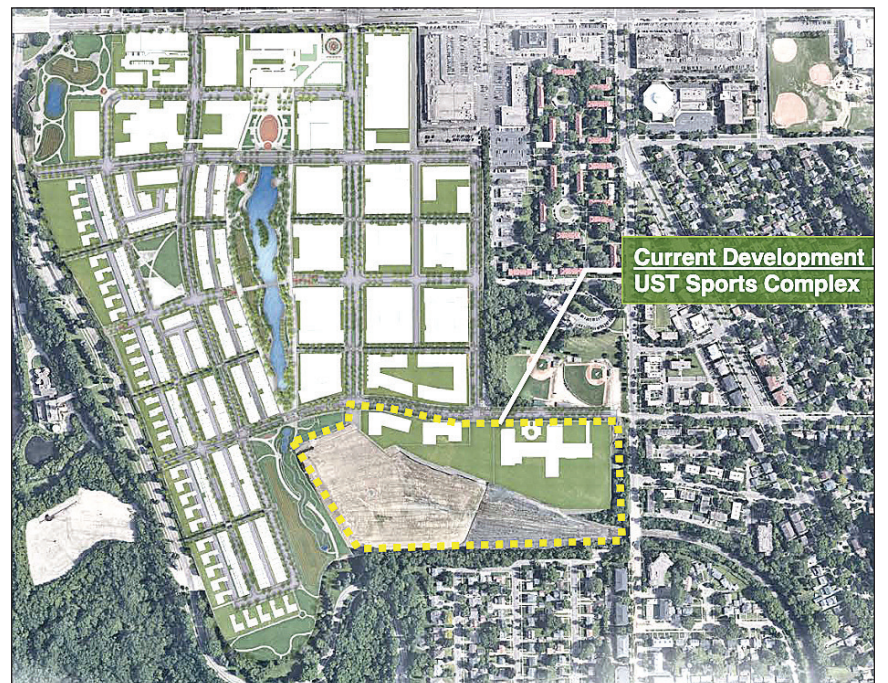
One major concern is the wooded area adjacent to the former Canadian Pacific rail yard where the sports complex is planned. Trees there were tagged earlier this year. Last year almost 90 trees along Mississippi River Boulevard—many of them right behind homes on Colby Avenue—were removed to make way for a walking path. The neighbors do not want to lose more trees.

"We have owls, we have foxes. We just had a deer run across our lawn," said local resident Pam Ginther. Removing more trees would take away the "soft edge" between the new Highland Bridge development and the existing neighborhood, she said. When plans for redeveloping the site of Ford Motor Company's former assembly plant were announced, neighbors were told there would be a transitional space between the development and the neighborhood, according to Ginther.

Another issue is the tunnel that was built last year beneath Mississippi River Boulevard between Highland Bridge and Hidden Falls Regional Park. The tunnel has been a magnet for illegal activity, including graffiti, and has been fenced off. Local resident Jean Birilis said that she and her neighbors have had problems with trespassers after the tunnel opened.

The potential traffic, noise, lighting and other impacts from UST's proposed sports complex will be addressed in an Alternative Urban Area-wide Review (AUAR), according to Maureen Michalski, vice president of development at Ryan Companies. A public meeting on the AUAR is planned for July 26 at Lumen Christi Church in Highland Village. A similar study was done five years ago for the Ford site master plan.

Local resident Gary Marx asked if the hockey arena would be pressed into service for other purposes, ranging from commencement exercises to concerts. Non-sports uses are a possibility, according to Esten, but hockey would be the arena's primary use. Esten said a second sheet of ice also has not been ruled out.



A diagram of Highland Bridge showing the area under study for a new UST sports complex.

Most of the athletic complex would occupy the site of the Canadian Pacific rail yard, Michalski said. That 13-acre parcel was not included in master developer Ryan Companies' 2019 purchase of the 122-acre Ford Plant site. However, Ryan has the CP Rail property under contract. If plans for the sports complex are approved, the property would be sold to UST.

The sports complex would also occupy the proposed site of Mica Park and two blocks near Montreal and Cleveland avenues where new housing and offices were originally planned. Mica Park would be relocated. Ryan is working with Project for Pride in Living and CommonBond Communities to relocate 110 units of affordable housing elsewhere at Highland Bridge. The other 65 units of market-rate housing would not be replaced. Neither would the 200,000 square feet of office space, given the downturn in the office market.

UST has been working with the architectural firm Populus on its plans. Populus, which was involved in the design of Allianz Field, has helped UST assess its existing sports facilities along with its future needs.

The UST men's and women's hockey teams have been playing in the are-

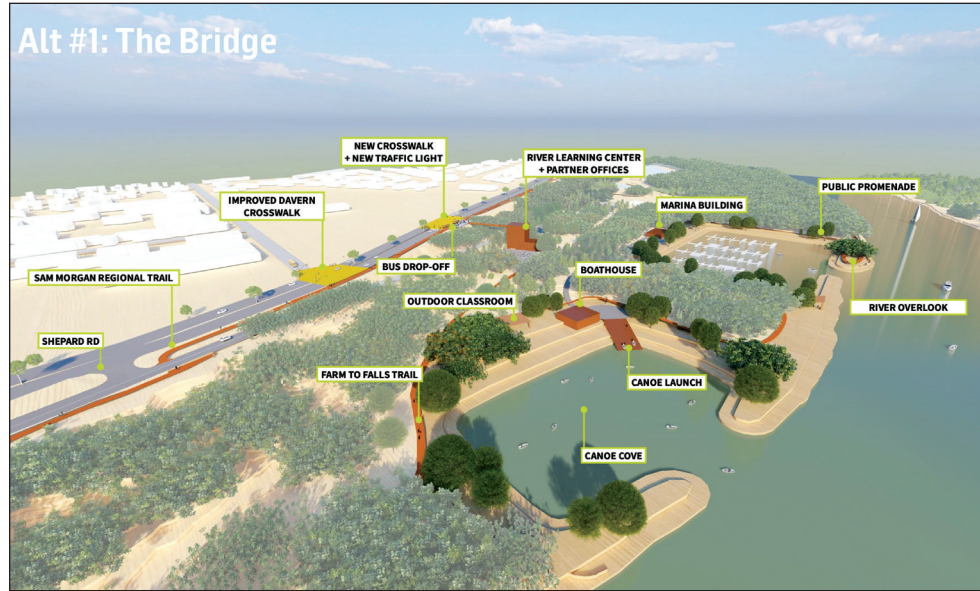
na at Saint Thomas Academy in Mendota Heights for the past two decades.

UST's baseball team plays its games on the north campus at Cretin and Selby avenues. Moving the field would allow for other uses at that site, Esten said.

UST's softball team shares a field on the south campus at Cretin and Goodrich avenues with the university's soccer teams. That shared use has raised issues of equity, according to Esten.

The arena, ballfields and parking ramp would be well designed and constructed in keeping with the facilities on UST's north and south campus, Esten said. Local baseball, softball and hockey associations have been in discussions with UST about sharing the proposed facilities, he said. However, shared use has to be done in a way that does not violate NCAA regulations, he added.

Questions were raised about the impact the proposed changes in land uses at Highland Bridge would have on job creation, the property tax base and the tax increment financing district at Highland Bridge. Michalski said those questions will be answered in the weeks ahead.



The first of three alternatives for a River Learning Center near Watergate Marina would feature a tall facility accessible from Shepard Road by a pedestrian bridge. It also would include a river overlook, boathouse, canoe launch and trail leading from Crosby Farm to Hidden Falls regional parks.

**1 RIVER LEARNING CENTER**

said the intent is to restore disturbed areas near the marina and to take out as few trees as possible. “The flood plain forest is magical,” she said.

Most people who looked at the designs said they liked what they saw. A few marina users said they want to learn more.

Steve Buege of the Friends of Pool Two said that the plans lack a dedicated space for launching motorized boats. “That would provide a needed public access point at the northernmost marina on the Mississippi” for fishing as well as pleasure boats, he said.

Mary deLaitre, executive director of the Great River Passage Conservancy, said the purpose of the center is to connect Saint Paul’s two greatest assets—its people and the Mississippi River. The conservancy is a fundraising and advocacy group for the city’s 17 miles of riverfront and for the 2017 Great River Passage Plan for its improvement.

Anne Gardner, project manager for the Saint Paul Department of Parks and Recreation, said the center would be a year-round place where people could learn about and experience the river. She said the center would create a “falls to farm” trail experience and improve the connection between Hidden Falls and Crosby Farm parks.

Other partners in the project and possible occupants of the center include the National Park Service, Wilderness Inquiry and Mississippi Park Connection. The Tribal Historic Preservation Offices could

*Barbara Wilks of Wilks Architecture said the intent is to restore disturbed areas near the marina and to take out as few trees as possible. “The flood plain forest is magical,” she said.*

also be included, as the site and the nearby Bdote area are considered sacred to Indian tribes. So could Your Boat Club, which operates Watergate Marina for the city.

Architect James Garrett Jr. of Saint Paul-based 4RM+ULA said almost 550 people responded to an initial survey asking what they would like to see at the River Learning Center. “Folks just want to be in this environment,” he said.

A cost estimate for the center will not be known until a design option is chosen. Planners are looking at tapping a combination of public and private funding. The city was seeking \$20 million from the 2022 Minnesota Legislature, but no bonding bill was passed during the regular session. It could still be brought up during a special session this summer.

The best-case scenario is that the center would be built in the next few years and open in 2026.

The current survey on the three concepts may be taken and the plans’ presentation seen at [greatriverpassage.org/projects/river-learning-center](http://greatriverpassage.org/projects/river-learning-center).

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# Ballots are set for the Aug. 9 primary, Nov. 8 general election

By Dale Mischke

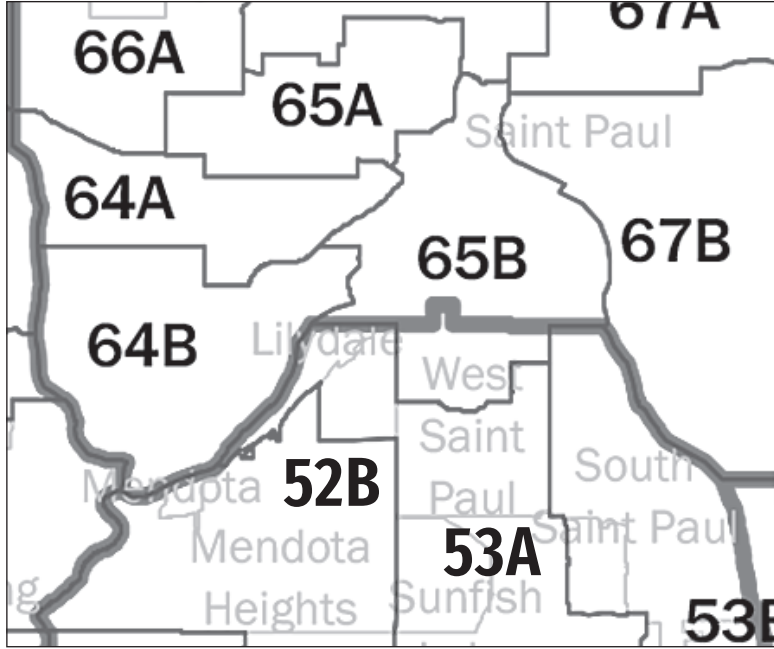
With the August 9 primary election less than seven weeks away, political campaigns in Minnesota have begun in earnest. Voters will be choosing among candidates for governor and lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor, attorney general, U.S. representative, state senator and state representative. Elections will also be held for federal, state and district court judges, county commissioners, county attorney and sheriff.

Unlike the cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, neither Minnesota nor Ramsey County has ranked-choice voting, so the primary election is being held. However, the primary will only matter in partisan races in which more than one candidate from a particular political party is running and in nonpartisan races in which more than two candidates are running.

The general election will be held on November 8. Following are the candidates who will appear on ballots in the neighborhoods served by MyVillager. The judicial candidates on those ballots have been omitted since they are all running unopposed.

### STATEWIDE OFFICES

**Governor and Lieutenant Governor:** DFL incumbents Tim



The Minnesota House and Senate districts in the area served by MyVillager, as redrawn following the 2020 U.S. Census.

Walz and Peggy Flanagan's bid for a second term is being challenged by fellow DFLers Ole Saviour and Julia M. Parker; Scott Jensen and Matt Birk, Republican; Joyce Lynne Lacey and Kent Edwards, Republican; Bob "Again" Carney Jr. and Captain Jack Sparrow, Republican; Hugh McTavish and Mike Winter, Independence-Alliance; Gabrielle M. Prosser and Kevin A. Dwire, Socialist Workers; Steve Patterson and Matt Huff, Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis; Darrell Paulsen and Ed Engelmann, Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis; James McCaskel and David

Sandbeck, Legal Marijuana Now; and Chris Wright and L.C. Lawrence Converse, Legal Marijuana Now.

**Secretary of State:** DFL incumbent Steve Simon's bid for reelection is being challenged by fellow DFLer Steve Carlson; Kim Crockett, Republican; and Erik van Mechelen, Republican.

**State Auditor:** DFL incumbent Julie Blaha is being challenged by Ryan Wilson, Republican; Will Finn, Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis; and Tim Davis, Legal Marijuana Now.

**Attorney General:** DFL incum-

bent Keith Ellison is being challenged by fellow DFLer Bill Dahn; Jim Schultz, Republican; Doug Wardlow, Republican; and Sharon Anderson, Republican.

### U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

**Fourth District:** DFL incumbent Betty McCollum's bid for reelection is being challenged by fellow DFLers Fasil Moghul and Amane Badhasso; May Lor Xiong, Republican; Jerry Silver, Republican; and Gene Rechtzigel, Republican.

**Second District:** DFL incumbent Angie Craig's bid for reelection is being challenged by Tyler Kistner, Republican; and Paula M. Overby, Legal Marijuana Now.

### STATE SENATOR

**District 52:** DFL Senator Jim Carlson of old District 51 is running for the seat in District 52 against Republican Stephen Lowell.

**District 64**—DFL incumbent Erin Murphy is being challenged by Republican Robert Bushard.

**District 65**—DFL incumbent Sandy Pappas is being challenged by fellow DFLers Zuki Ellis and Sheigh Freeberg; and Paul Holmgren, Republican.

### STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**District 52B:** DFL incumbent Ruth Richardson is being challenged by Cynthia Lonnquist, Republican.

**District 64A:** DFL incumbent Kaohly Vang Her is being challenged by Dan Walsh, Republican.

**District 64B:** DFL incumbent Dave Pinto is being challenged by Lorraine Englund, Republican.

**District 65A:** With incumbent Rena Moran running for Ramsey County commissioner, the seat is open. Running for the House in 65A are John Schonebaum, Republican; Samakab Hussein, DFL; and Miki Frost, Legal Marijuana Now.

**District 65B:** Incumbent Carlos Mariani is stepping down. Running for the House in 65B are Maria Isa Pérez-Hedges, DFL; Anna Botz, DFL; and Kevin Fjellsted, Republican.

### RAMSEY COUNTY

**Commissioner, District 3:** Incumbent Trista MatasCastillo is being challenged by David A. Singleton.

**Commissioner District 4:** Incumbent Toni Carter is stepping down. Running for the seat are Barbara Bolar, George H. Jackson Sr., Rena Moran and Darryl Spence.

**Commissioner District 5:** Incumbent Rafael E. Ortega is being challenged by Charles S. Barklind and Bill Hosko.

**Sheriff:** Incumbent Bob Fletcher is running unopposed.

**County Attorney:** Incumbent John Choi is running unopposed.



## What Matters Most?

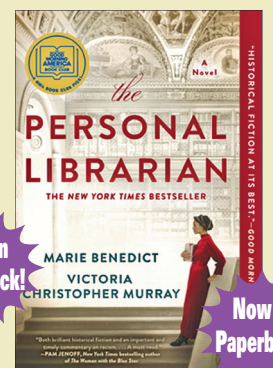
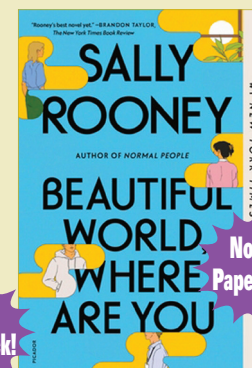
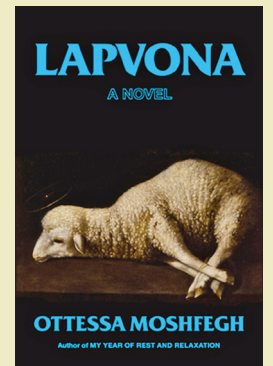
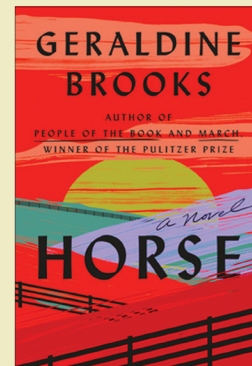
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# More bike parking at playgrounds still rolling for share of CIB funds

By Jane McClure

Only one local project is among six tentatively selected for funding as Saint Paul's 2023 Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) process winds down. A public hearing on the projects is set for 3:30 p.m. Thursday, June 23, in the fourth-floor conference room at the George Latimer Central Library, 90 W. Fourth St.

The lone local project recommended for approval was submitted by Union Park District Council Transportation Committee member Lisa Nelson. She is seeking \$65,675 to add bike parking at 13 city parks and playgrounds. Among her suggested parks are Shadow Falls, Iris, Dickerman, Mattocks, Webster and Carty.

The bike rack project ranked fourth out of six still in the running for funding. The top-ranked project is for solar-powered lighting at Frogtown Farm and Park. It would replace lighting lost to copper wire thefts and has an estimated cost of \$154,526.

Other projects recommended for funding include safety updates to Hayden Heights Recreation Center (\$280,370), path lighting between Maryland and Iowa avenues (\$120,347), safety improvements around

Como Lake (\$104,715) and Raymond Avenue lighting upgrades (\$30,000).

The CIB Committee has \$1 million to allocate for neighborhood projects that focus on public safety. It is expected to finalize its recommendations on June 27 and forward them to Mayor Melvin Carter. He will review them and can make further changes before presenting them to the City Council as part of the 2023 city budget.

Some of the local projects not recommended for funding included an improved pedestrian crossing at Alton Street and Shepard Road, slower speed limits and a separated bike/pedestrian path on Mississippi River Boulevard, a median to improve crossing at Saint Clair Avenue and Kenneth Street, and a variety of other pedestrian safety improvements near schools, libraries and recreation centers.

Also not making the cut were requests for flashing beacons near the Midway Peace Park and at Selby Avenue-Ayd Mill Road, reconfiguring the Selby Avenue-Saratoga Street intersection, restrooms for Mears Park, converting a vacant parcel into park space in Highland Park, and adding sidewalks in the West Midway area.

# Council revokes liquor license for RAS Ethiopian in Highland

By Jane McClure

RAS Ethiopian Restaurant, Bar and Lounge, 2516 W. Seventh St., had its liquor and entertainment licenses revoked by the Saint Paul City Council on June 15 due to repeated license violations.

Supporters of the business filled part of the council chambers hoping to testify on behalf of owner Zinash Amde. However, because Amde missed city deadlines for hearings before the council or an administrative law judge, the window for those hearings had closed.

Assistant City Attorney Adam Niblick said Amde would have to go to the Minnesota Court of Appeals to reinstate the licenses.

Council members briefly discussed the fact that they had no options in the case. "What we can do is vote and that's really it," said council member Mitra Jalali.

The city's Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI) requested an "upward departure" from its penalty matrix in calling for revocation due to a series of past license violations at RAS.

RAS attorney Brian Alton asked in a letter that the City Council send the matter to a hearing officer. "RAS disputes the facts

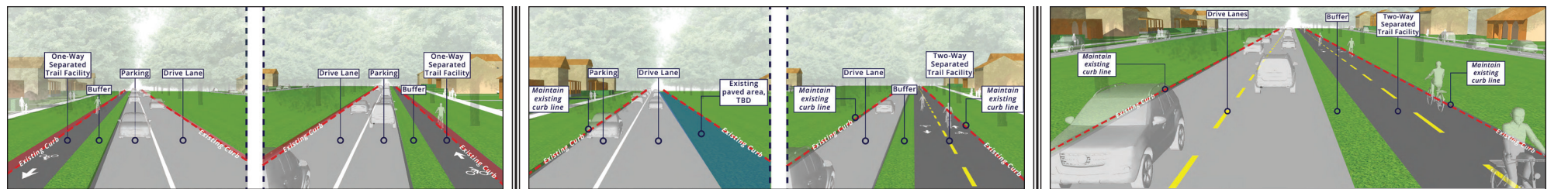
underlying the violation and a hearing should be held to present evidence and argument," Alton wrote.

RAS, which has operated in Highland Park for about 15 years, was fined by the city for license violations in April 2021 and this past March. While there has been a longstanding dispute over the bar's parking area, other license violations have also occurred. DSI said RAS failed to provide security footage to police for incidents in 2014, 2015 and 2019. Assaults and after-hour parties are among past complaints.

The latest city action in March followed a January 21 incident when a 19-year-old woman was found outside of RAS bleeding from a cut to the head. Police reportedly were not allowed into the business right away and did not promptly receive a videotape of what took place inside. When the video was received days later, the footage reportedly only began after the alleged assault was believed to have taken place.

A review of the video from that incident revealed nine separate license violations, including alcohol served to a 15-year-old.

The council action does not affect any food service licenses. Those are issued by the state.



Pictured above are three options for installing new bike trails that are separated from traffic in the Summit Avenue right-of-way: One-way bike trails with parking lanes on both sides (left); a two-way bike trail on one side with a parking lane on the other side (center); and a two-way bike trail on one side with no parking on either side (right).

## 1◀ SUMMIT AVE. BIKE TRAILS

traffic of all modes," said John Wood. "It needs resurfacing only. It does not need to be overwhelmed with a regional trail added to this already busy boulevard."

"The on-street bike lanes are great for avid cyclists who like to go fast with cars," said local resident Gaby Lasala, "but they aren't safe for those of us who want to bike to the store and pick up groceries or for kids who want to bike to school or to the store."

Will Fetcenko agreed. "Separating pedestrians and bicyclists from two-ton vehicles swerving to avoid potholes is the safest and most accessible option for all Saint Paul residents," he said.

The Summit Avenue Residential Preservation Association had several objections to the bike trail. SARPA appreciated the planners' efforts to save as many trees and as much green space as possible, according to president Tom Darling, but saw many problems with the ideas presented. "Each of the alternatives we've seen still has serious, serious problems," he said. "We have to ask, is this needed? Is this a good idea?"

One issue for SARPA is that the off-street trails would create new hazards where they intersect with private driveways and parking lot entrances. Darling predicted that experienced cyclists will not use the trails and instead bike on Summit itself, which will be more hazardous without the bike lanes.

Both bike trail options would dramatically alter the landscape and character of Summit Avenue, according to Darling. "People have been fighting to preserve that character forever," he said.

All of the concepts still under consideration include bike trails that are separated from motor vehicle traffic by a narrow boulevard. One concept has one-way trails on either side of Summit between the street and sidewalk. The other concept has a wider two-way trail on just one side of Summit. The existing medians and curb lines are maintained as closely as possible to preserve trees and green space.

What differs in the designs is dictated in part by the width of the street. Summit has about 100 feet of right-of-way between Kellogg Boulevard and Lexington Parkway.

West of Lexington, the right-of-way is about 200 feet with either a grassy median in the center or two grassy medians on either side of the main traffic lanes.

One concept for the Kellogg-Lexington stretch calls for removing parking on one side of Summit. On the stretch between Lexington and Mississippi River Boulevard, parking could be retained on both sides of Summit or removed on one side. Where parking is removed could vary. City parking studies conducted in 2019 and 2022 found that parking demand is well below 50 percent along most of Summit, with higher demand near Dale Street and the University of Saint Thomas.

Just when the new bike trails could be built is unclear. The only funding currently in place is for a mill and overlay project on Summit between Lexington and Snelling Avenue this year and a reconstruction of Summit between Victoria Street and Lexington Parkway in 2023.

Summit bisects two historic preservation districts: Historic Hill and Summit Avenue West. According to Alice Messer, who leads the design staff in the city's Parks and

Recreation Department, the city is trying to respect the historic status of Summit while addressing the need for multi-modal transportation.

One historic element of Summit that would likely be replaced are the granite curbs found along some stretches of the street. They would be replaced with concrete curbs as ADA-compliant curb cuts are added at intersections.

"The Regional Trail Master Plan is looking at ways to improve accessibility and safety for all users while preserving the historical context of Summit and minimizing impacts to greenspace and trees as much as possible," said Parks and Recreation spokesperson Liz McDonald. "Constructing a bike trail typically requires similar or less excavation depth than rebuilding a street. A design approach that uses the existing roadway as much as possible would help to limit the impact to trees."

For more information about the Summit Avenue Regional Trail Master Plan, visit [engagstpaul.org/summit](http://engagstpaul.org/summit).




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A drawing of Kal Construction's plans to renovate the existing house (left) and add a second smaller house (right), along with an accessory dwelling to the rear, at 549 Holly Ave.

# HPC gets preliminary review of three-dwelling cluster on Holly

By Jane McClure

A Historic Hill District property could have three dwellings if approvals are granted in the weeks ahead. Kal Construction and Design's plans for a cluster development at 549 Holly Ave. were reviewed on June 6 by the Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC). The commission did not act on the plans, but did make several suggestions as part of a pre-application process.

Developer Kal El Effendi plans to renovate the existing house that was built in 1916. He also wants to add an accessory dwelling above a new six-stall garage and construct a second smaller house about 6½-feet east of the existing house.

The project will need design approval from the HPC, as well as approval for variances from the city's Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). A zoning change is not required.

Variances will be required for lot width, since the property is 80 feet wide and 120 feet is required for three single-family dwellings; lot size, which is about 12,080 square feet and 15,000 square feet are required; and rear-yard setback for the garage and accessory dwelling, where 5 feet is sought and 25 feet are required.

A fourth variance could be needed for lot coverage, but that is unknown. Lot coverage of up to 30 percent is allowed.

The project goes to the HPC first, then

to the BZA, then back to the HPC if it wins approval, said George Gause, HPC supervisor. "It's a little bit of ping-pong back and forth," he said.

Effendi is a veteran developer and contractor. He has pulled permits to do interior work on the Holly house, which has broken rafters and a sagging roof. He is replacing heating and cooling systems and renovating the home's interior. That work does not require HPC approval.

One issue neighbors have raised is the loss of trees on the lot. Two could be cut down to make way for the second house. Effendi said he has taken measures to save other trees.

HPC commissioners asked several questions about the design of the new house, ranging from the roof pitch to exterior materials. They also discussed the similarities and differences of the Holly project with a recent three-unit cluster development at Dale Street and Laurel Avenue. One difference is that the Holly lot is larger.

Neighbor Judith Tande told the HPC that she is concerned that the new house on Holly will not fit into the historic neighborhood. "I want to see us preserve the look of that particular block," she said.

Effendi said he is confident his designs for the new house and accessory unit will fit into the neighborhood. Citing his years of work in Ramsey Hill, he said, "This isn't my first rodeo."

# Freedom House relocation gains support

## Day shelter looks at move to vacant Red's Savoy site

By Jane McClure

The nonprofit Listening House, which closed its Freedom House at 296 W. Seventh St. in May, hopes to relocate the drop-in day shelter to the shuttered Red's Savoy restaurant building on East Seventh Street and Lafayette Road.

The West Seventh/Fort Road Federation signed on as a supporter of the relocation on June 13. The CapitolRiver Council, City Council members Rebecca Noecker and Mitra Jalali, and Senator Sandy Pappas also support the move.

Sara Fleetham of Listening House is leading the efforts to locate and fund the new drop-in shelter for people who are homeless. A mix of federal, state, local and private dollars is being sought.

In supporting the move, Federation board members said there is a need for day shelter space. "We have experience with Listening House and we've seen what's happened when we don't have the (day shelter) space," said district council member Casey Carmody.

The former fire station building that was home to Freedom House has been the subject of burglary, vandalism and arson since the program moved out. The city's Fire Department wants to eventually reoccupy the

station, citing increased calls to the downtown area.

Listening House began in downtown in 1983 and has been at First Lutheran Church in Dayton's Bluff for several years. Being in the church limits the day shelter to week-day hours. Fleetham said the new location offers the option for weekend hours.

Freedom House opened on West Seventh Street in January 2021 and closed last month after COVID-19 funding ran out. It offered a space for people to relax, as well as restrooms, showers, food and connections to social services. The space was touted as especially needed as the pandemic shut down many other day shelter options, including libraries and recreation centers.

The behavior of some Freedom House patrons roiled the Seven Corners hospitality district and the adjacent Irvine Park residential neighborhood. Neighbors complained of aggressive panhandling, public intoxication, drug use, theft and vandalism.

Several neighbors eventually sued for damages as well as a suspension of Freedom House's services. A Ramsey County District Court judge issued an order in the spring saying that the city did not follow proper procedures before allowing Freedom House to open there. The court order gave the city and Listening House 45 days to correct the error, find a new location for the shelter or find other ways to provide equivalent services.

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# VIEWPOINT

## City needs to rethink its plan for off-road bike trails on Summit

By Bob Cattanach

Insanity is defined as doing the same thing but expecting a different result. That is where Saint Paul now finds itself. Our elected officials and city staff profess to be all for preserving historic tree canopies but powerless to stop their destruction. Edgumbe Road, Cleveland Avenue.... Now trees on Summit Avenue are headed for the chopping block as city planners ignore all other options and steamroll proposals that will forever change the historic character of the longest stretch of preserved Victorian architecture in the United States.

I typically bicycle over 6,000 miles a year and have commuted daily, year-round, from Summit Avenue to downtown Minneapolis for almost 25 years. I am confident we can do much better if the planners would just listen.

Maybe the city's bureaucracy is siloed: Planning doesn't talk to Forestry which doesn't talk to Parks and Recreation which doesn't talk to Public Works. And nobody talks to the people most affected—the residents. The plan to replace Summit Avenue's existing bike lanes with a separated bike path is a classic example. No meaningful public engagement

occurred until a private party alerted residents to the city's plan to "reimagine" Summit Avenue's historic character out of existence in the name of improving bicycle safety. Safety is actually going to get worse, not better.

Rather than listening to concerns, the planners and their consultants gave canned presentations over a Zoom link and refused to respond to basic questions. They were asked if other options for a connecting bike trail were considered. There was no response, even though Marshall Avenue was identified as a more popular choice in the city's own survey last fall. Instead, we are presented with a contrived zero-sum choice: You can save some trees, but you will have to accept a much more dangerous two-way bike path with electric bikes speeding on the same off-road path as slower bikes.

History tells us that two-way trails don't work in residential settings. Cycle-savvy European countries abandoned two-way paths in urban areas over 20 years ago. They are just too dangerous, and most Saint Paul cyclists have strenuously objected to the added dangers compared to the existing bike lanes. But there was no mention of this by city planners.

Instead, the planners huddled behind

*We don't have to look any farther than Cleveland Avenue to know that when the sawdust settles, we're going to lose hundreds of trees. Just ask any fair-minded arborist. Or better yet, let's hear from the city forester.*

closed doors and have now proposed a bizarre "compromise" that would eliminate the parking lane in an area with the heaviest use of on-street parking and still likely shave off the southern half of Summit's tree canopy east of Lexington Parkway. How many trees will be lost? Planners refuse to answer, claiming the plan is not final. But no worries; the city will do its best to minimize tree loss.

We don't have to look any farther than Cleveland Avenue to know that when the sawdust settles, we're going to lose hundreds of trees. Just ask any fair-minded arborist. Or better yet, let's hear from the city forester, who certainly must know better. No arborist with integrity believes that trees won't be lost. It's only a

question of how many.

The city planners are ignoring basic Metropolitan Council requirements that an off-road trail must be "placed where it will have no adverse impact on the natural resource base." They have refused to listen to the concerns of the State Heritage Preservation Office and the Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission, or to consult with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Despite repeated promises to share their latest proposal, the planners' obvious strategy is to keep those most affected completely in the dark until this is a done deal.

It is not too late to save Summit Avenue. Let us hit "pause" and enact a basic Tree Preservation Ordinance like other cities have. Designating Summit Avenue as a Special Recreation Feature—already used elsewhere and a perfect fit for Summit—should be enough to qualify for federal dollars without the trade-offs being demanded just to get a shiny new object.

Let's have a transparent process and a real conversation among the Met Council, the city and those who are most affected, the residents and the cyclists—before it is too late once again.

*Bob Cattanach lives on Summit Avenue.*

## INBOX

### River road to ruin

A beautiful new tunnel and path on Mississippi River Boulevard at Hidden Falls is almost complete. While the city spent millions on this project next to the Highland Bridge development, the existing path on river road under the Ford Bridge is a continuing danger for walkers, cyclists, roller-skiers and anyone else who uses the combined path. All share a five-foot-wide sidewalk pinch-point under the Ford Bridge with a 10-inch sidewalk dropoff directly into 25 mph traffic lanes.

I sent a similar letter two years ago to *MyVillager* with copies to Saint Paul city departments with no response. Over the years I've seen many near-miss incidents where families, children and older walkers meet head-on with bicyclists under the Ford Bridge. Add to that the ubiquitous scooters, roller-bladers and roller-skiers that end up jumping onto the road into two-way car traffic. This pinch-point is sure to see increased traffic with the upcoming growth in adjacent housing and commerce.

The city somehow cobbled together multiple funds for a highly touted tunnel and path at Hidden Falls. Why not fix a less glamorous, existing nearby path before it's too late? It's past time to give some attention to a real problem for human safety.

*Terry Brueck  
Merriam Park*

### Vote in the primary election

Ten years ago, a 20-something liberal girl saw the world falling apart during Occupy Wall Street and the recession. These things come in cycles. Here we are at the precipice of yet another recession and another election. That girl is now older and wiser, and I feel it's about time I took some advice from my late father. He told me to vote in primary elections.

Thankfully in Minnesota, we have open primaries. So I, being the left-leaning moderate I grew into, can go and vote for a Republican candidate with whom I find some common ground. But given that the Democrats don't really represent me either, I'll be voting in the Democratic primary so I can hopefully nudge them back toward the center. That said, I won't hold my breath. I just hope this encourages people to follow my example. Voting for someone in the opposing party whom you could live with is the pathway to a smarter political future.

*Claire Hawn  
Downtown Saint Paul*

### A potpourri of opinion

The June 8 issue of *MyVillager* was filled with news of significant interest to Saint Paul residents, ranging from the University of Saint Thomas' interest in establishing a sports complex at Highland Bridge, to the ongoing decline of student enrollment in the Saint Paul Public Schools, to Saint Catherine University's study of racial issues in our housing past and present.

UST's plans appear to me to threaten the amount of tax increment financing (TIF) available at Highland Bridge. The addition of tax-exempt property threatens both TIF and the projects it is intended to support, including local infrastructure and subsidies for affordable housing. The city should tread very carefully in this area. It should not act until hard figures are available on the impact on TIF and the public has had time to review that impact.

The decline in enrollment in the school district has become an ever-present phenomenon. Can the system be saved or will it be nibbled to death by declining birth rates and student flight to our increasingly monocultural charter schools? Sadly, I see the death of the system in the offing.

Rachel Neiwert, assistant professor of history at Saint Kate's, is quoted as saying, "I expected I would find stories about the Summit Hill duplex in the Black newspapers, but I didn't.... Perhaps (racial discrimination) wasn't news to the Black community in Saint Paul." Black newspapers never would have been able to generate the ad sales necessary to cover even a small percentage of the injustices meted out each day to Saint Paul's Black community.

*James M. Hamilton  
Macalester-Groveland*

### Democracy and insurrection

On June 2, Tucker Carlson said Democrat efforts to promote gun safety are not about public health. Carlson declared Democrats want to disarm people because they're afraid of a popular uprising against them because "they know they rule illegitimately." On June 4, Hong Kong police arrested anyone wearing black in the vicinity of Hong Kong's memorial to the hundreds (possibly thousands) of pro-democracy protesters murdered by Chinese troops 30 years ago at Tiananmen Square.

It's a sobering comparison between Chinese citizens sacrificing themselves for a democracy, versus a radical right zealot openly calling for jackbooted Second Amendment thugs to rise up in insurrection against a

Democrat majority who want a civil and equal society.

I trust our democracy, and I vote in favor of banning weapons of mass destruction so that no citizens will have easy opportunities to express their views in a hail of murder against others who cross their path.

*A. Chase Turner  
Merriam Park*

### What Summit needs now

Summit Avenue is arguably the most beautiful five miles of road, bike- and walkway in the Twin Cities and beyond. It does not need fewer trees, more pavement, less parking and a different bike path. What it does need is road resurfacing. Its current condition is not only an embarrassment, but the potholes are a danger to cyclists and drivers who swerve unexpectedly to avoid them. Please invest our limited funds for community improvement in projects that are truly needed and beneficial to the entire population, not just a fun project for a few folks looking for something "cool" to do.

*Harry Chalmiers  
Ramsey Hill*

### Friend or phone?

The phone service we pay for is no longer friendly. No longer a request to converse, it is now a weapon to beguile us into fraud and scam. Why does a computer-prompt voice want to know at 8 p.m. on a Sunday, "Is George there?" We are advised now not to respond to the ring of our phones, not to answer, not to grasp the opportunity to communicate. Gasp.

*Elizabeth Ellis  
Summit-University*

### Do write, won't you?

MyVillager welcomes letters to the editor and longer guest editorials. All commentary must be signed, indicate the neighborhood in which the writer lives and include a phone number for verification purposes. Send your commentary to MyVillager, 241 S. Cleveland Ave., Suite V, Saint Paul, MN 55105, email it to [letters@myvillager.com](mailto:letters@myvillager.com) or submit it via our website at [myvillager.com/editorial](http://myvillager.com/editorial).



# Commission permits two homes on Lexington lot

By Jane McClure

The Saint Paul Planning Commission approved a conditional use permit on June 10 for a two-unit cluster development on a vacant lot at 855 S. Lexington Pkwy., just west of Albion Avenue. The decision is final unless it is appealed to the City Council.



The Hopetown Group wants to build a pair of two-story homes on a vacant lot at 855 S. Lexington Pkwy., just west of Albion Avenue.

Developer Tim Helin's Hopetown Group wants to build a pair of two-story homes on the lot, one behind the other, according to city planner Spencer Johnson. Each house would have two-stall garages. The finished houses would be sold. The homeowners would have a shared maintenance agreement for the property.

The lot is zoned for single-family housing and was previously occupied by a rental house that was torn down a few years ago. It is in an area of Highland Park that has seen significant redevelopment in recent years, including townhouses and the Lexington Landing senior housing campus.

With a cluster development, residential properties are placed on a site to provide more open space. The irregularly shaped, 12,116-square-foot site has 67.9 feet of frontage along Lexington. The Planning Commission is allowing that instead of the minimum frontage of 80 feet.

"This would allow us to put two

housing units on a property that would otherwise only have one," Johnson said. According to him, the project makes good use of the deep lot.

Other than the front footage, the application meets all requirements for a conditional use permit and a cluster development, Johnson said. The requirements include building placement on a lot, lot coverage, setbacks, design, consistency with the city's comprehensive plan and compatibility with the surrounding neighborhood.

One challenge the site presents is its slope, which averages 15.7 percent. Johnson said additional stan-

dards must be met for lots with slopes greater than 12 percent.

Helin has submitted a grading plan for the houses. The plan calls for removing nearly all of the trees on the lot, which neighbors have raised concerns about. Details about grading will be addressed during the upcoming site plan review.

Neighbor Olivia Geigle, who lives nearby, said that while she supports the development, she is concerned about slope disturbance and water runoff. With other nearby projects along the base of the bluff, there have been problems with mud slides when vegetation is removed and sites are graded.

# Complaints pile up over missed waste collections

By Jane McClure

Saint Paul officials want answers from the city's consortium of five residential trash haulers, after receiving almost 3,000 complaints about missed garbage and yard waste pickups in the first 10 days of June. The missed pickups are a big increase from usual complaints, and are seen as a violation of the city's contract with the haulers.

Some ire is directed at Waste Management, which has suspended yard waste pickup throughout the Twin Cities due to staffing issues. The city's contract requires the Saint Paul Haulers LLC consortium to provide backup drivers if a company cannot fulfill its obligations and staff its routes.

The city has assessed \$81,200 in

damages against Waste Management. Waste Management, in turn, issued a statement saying it recognizes the issues and is working to improve service.

A June 10 letter to the haulers from Assistant City Attorney Ian Welsh stated that city officials are considering how to address the failures to provide service. Restoration of regular service and compensation for missed service are concerns.

Mayor Melvin Carter was to meet with company representatives last week. City officials are seeking a plan from consortium members as to how they intend to provide back-up garbage and yard waste service to Waste Management customers, a communications plan for those customers, and

confirmation that Waste Management will provide credit to affected customers.

The city's Department of Public Works is documenting reported collection misses and is exercising all the options under the contract to hold Waste Management and the consortium accountable.

Saint Paul moved to organized residential trash collection in fall 2018. The current contract with the five-hauler consortium expires in 2023 and is under study by a city trash task force.

Officials are also urging residents whose collections are missed to make reports. The city will post any updates or collection plans it receives at [stpaul.gov/garbage](http://stpaul.gov/garbage).

## My Villager

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

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Maurice F. Mischke, 1920-1991

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## Art of endeavor

Late bloomer Wanta looks back on a life in pursuit of fulfillment

By Anne Murphy

In chapter 6 of her new book, *As I Remember It: A Memoir of Persistence, Tenacity and Humor*, Theresa Wanta quotes poet Langston Hughes: “Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly.” That chapter is titled “Fulfillment,” and it tells of the longtime Ramsey Hill resident finally becoming the artist she always wanted to be.

Her new book is the fulfillment of another dream. “I wrote the first draft of my memoir in 1986, when I was in my 40s,” Wanta said. “But as they say, life intervened. And every time I picked it up again, there was more to tell—a never-ending undertaking.”

As *I Remember It* takes readers from Wanta’s childhood on her family’s farm in Wisconsin to Saint Paul where her career as an artist finally takes off. The tale is long and decidedly winding.

Asked when she first thought that art was her calling, Wanta said, “I always just knew. It helped to win a fire poster contest in third grade and a poppy poster contest in fifth grade.” As she got older, she discovered that she liked to paint and was fascinated by the challenge of figurative art. “It

was the 1950s,” she said, “and I liked to do representational art when everyone was doing abstract art.”

In 1956 Wanta entered a convent in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. “I knew there was a bigger world, and I always wanted to be a part of it,” she said. “Having grown up in a rural area, I felt isolated to the point where, strange as it may sound, entering the convent opened up a bigger world. Besides, it was the only way I could think of getting a college education. And the promotional brochure listed ‘artist’ as one of the avocations.”

*“I wish I had had the opportunity to practice (painting) when I was much younger, when I had more energy.... The advantage of being older was I had a lot of experience working with people and wasn’t shy about engaging them.”*

When she began her work as a nun, Wanta said, “I had to teach, which afforded little time for artwork.” She earned a B.S. in education from Saint Norbert College in De Pere, Wisconsin, and taught at schools in Wisconsin and in the South. “But after 22 years I could see the (religious) community was dying,” she said. “Plus, I really wanted to pursue a career in art. I wanted to study art in one of the best schools of figurative art, with instructors who had a New York exhibition record. And I wanted to experience the energy of Manhattan.”

Wanta earned her BFA at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in 1982 and



Memoirist Theresa Wanta reclines in front of two of her original oil paintings, which hang in her Ramsey Hill home.

PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

her master’s degree in figurative painting at the New York Academy of Art’s Graduate School of Figurative Art in 1994—at the age of 52. In the 12 years between, she lived in the Twin Cities and held a host of jobs, from graphic design to adult education to a

variety of temp positions.

With her master’s degree in hand, Wanta moved back to the Twin Cities and began painting in earnest. She thought she might

WANTA PENS MEMOIR ▶ 11

## Ready for Medicare? Many options require careful review

### Brokers can help you sort through various plans and at no cost

By Carolyn Walkup

Baby boomers who are at or approaching the Medicare eligibility age of 65 may be perplexed by the many TV and direct-mail advertisements imploring them to call toll-free numbers to learn about Medicare Advantage plans. People should be wary of such ads, according to local insurance brokers.

“Joe Namath doesn’t care about you because he doesn’t know you,” said Harvey Perle, a Mendota Heights insurance broker, referring to the former NFL quarterback who is a frequent pitchman for Medicare Advantage ads on TV.

The great majority of people do not consult a licensed insurance broker before choosing a Medicare Advantage plan, Perle said, but he recommends that they do. The consultation can be done in person, by phone or by Zoom, he said, and it costs nothing for the client.

Insurance brokers are licensed fiduciaries who are not allowed to solicit clients or pitch specific insurance companies. They are paid by the insurance carriers, but the payment is set by the federal government and it is the same for each insurance company.

Esa Katajamaki, an insurance broker in Minneapolis’ Longfellow neighborhood, recommends that pre-retirees attend informational sessions on several Advantage plans before selecting one. That will help them decide among the various plans and whether or not they want a Medicare Advantage plan or would be better off sticking with Original Medicare, she said. A general description of the plans may be found at Medicare.gov, the official U.S. government website.

Medicare comes in several parts. Part A covers inpatient hospital care, skilled nursing care, home health care and hospice care. Part B covers outpatient services such as doctor’s visits and exams. The deductible for Part B is \$233 per year. After that is met, Medicare recipients typically pay only 20 percent of the Medicare-approved amount for outpatient services.

Most Medicare recipients do not pay a premium for Part A; they paid that premium through the Medicare taxes that were withheld from their paychecks while they were working. The monthly premium for Medicare Part B is currently \$170.10, or more depending on one’s modified adjusted gross income.

Medicare Part D is prescription drug coverage, and it comes with a small monthly premium. Part C is the optional Medicare

Advantage plans offered by private insurance companies as an alternative to Original Medicare.

Medicare Advantage plans include Part A, Part B, and usually Part D. They may have lower out-of-pocket costs than Original Medicare and may cover additional services such as hearing, vision and dental or even health club memberships. However, they may also come with additional premiums and may not cover services by doctors who are outside of the plan’s network.

About 80 percent of new Medicare enrollees choose an Advantage plan, according to Grant Rockwood, an insurance broker in downtown Saint Paul. He advises people not to wait until the last few months before turning 65 to make a decision.

“Advantage plans keep getting better and better,” Rockwood said. The vast majority of the plans are accepted by all local health care providers, he said, but enrollees should still check to make sure their doctors accept the plan. While all doctors who accept Medicare accept Original Medicare, a few do not accept some Advantage plans.

People who travel out of state a lot may want to enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan that has a national network, such as United Healthcare or Blue Cross Blue

Shield, Rockwood said. “It’s an extra step to check to see who’s in the network elsewhere,” he added.

The cost of premiums, co-pays and deductibles are other factors to consider when choosing a Medicare plan. Monthly premiums for Original Medicare Part B run between \$171.10 and \$578.30, depending on income, while the premium for Advantage plans ranges from zero to \$196 in addition to the Part B premium. Original Medicare has no co-pays. Advantage plans usually have small co-pays for doctor’s visits, ranging from \$15 or \$20 for network providers to \$40 or \$50 for specialists.

Medicare Advantage plans generally do not impose a deductible for inpatient hospital services under Part A, but often charge a daily copay. Under Original Medicare, there is a deductible of \$1,556 for each inpatient hospital stay but no copay until day 60.

When it comes to Medicare, “no one size fits all,” Perle said. Enrollees need to consider their health history, medication needs and budgets before signing on to an Advantage plan. “You don’t want to take risks on your health care plan by throwing a dart,” Perle said. “Plan for the unexpected.”

Perle advises that after enrolling in a particular Medicare plan, people review their decision annually to be sure it still suits their needs and that their physicians are still in the network. Licensed insurance brokers can assist with those reviews, he added, and also at no charge.

*When it comes to Medicare, “no one size fits all,” Perle said. Enrollees need to consider their health history, medication needs and budgets before signing on to an Advantage plan.*

10 WANTA PENS MEMOIR

teach, too, but when she could not find a position, she determined to work on painting full time.

"I began hosting my own exhibits in Ramsey Hill," she said. "With the unanimous support of that community, I was successful for years. Simultaneously, I entered competitions where my works were juried in national exhibitions and I now have works in private collections in the U.S. and abroad."

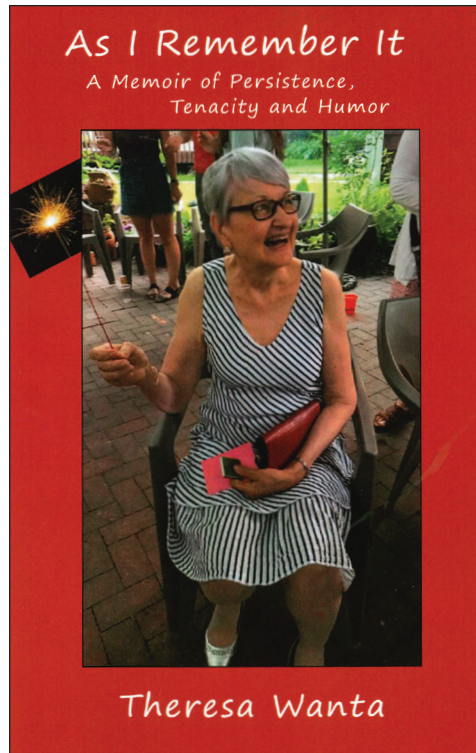
Wanta includes in her memoir photos of her oil and watercolor paintings and a summary of her exhibits in New York, California, Wisconsin and the Twin Cities.

"I wish I had had the opportunity to practice (painting) when I was much younger, when I had more energy and when I assume there would've been more opportunity," she said. "Yet the times were different then and perhaps the opportunities for exhibiting not as common. The advantage of being older was I had a lot of experience working with people and wasn't shy about engaging them. Also, I had marketing experience, which so many artists lack."

For her memoir, Wanta said, "I selected events that would provide insights into how I lived, worked and felt and that I thought would be entertaining. At first, I wrote everything down. I didn't see a story arc or narrative thread at the beginning because my experiences seemed so disparate, but that evolved.

"I have a penchant for nonfiction," Wanta said. "I didn't want to write creative nonfiction. I wanted every part of my book to be as true as possible. Everything in the book is true, though everything true is not in the book.

"One learns a lot about oneself by writing a memoir," she said, "personal inconsistencies, patterns of behavior and, in my case, hubris. It helps one gain a perspective



on one's life."

As a painter, Wanta said, "I like to inspire artists to think beyond the state's borders, to expose the East and West Coasts to their work and engage with their audience at an exhibition. Often, prospective clients want to buy a part of the artist along with the artwork."

Wanta's advice to those who would endeavor to succeed is to take a page from German writer Johann Wolfgang von Goethe: "Until one is committed, there is hesitancy, the chance to draw back, always ineffectiveness.... Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it. Begin it now."

*As I Remember It: A Memoir of Persistence, Tenacity and Humor* is available at Next Chapter Booksellers on Snelling Avenue and SubText Books downtown.

# Volunteers

**Partners in Policymaking** is welcoming applications for its eight-session leadership training program that will start this fall at the Crowne Plaza Aire in Bloomington, near the Mall of America. Adults with disabilities and parents of young children with developmental disabilities will be trained at no cost. The monthly two-day sessions will be held on Fridays and Saturdays from September-May (no session in December), with the March class held on Sunday and Monday so participants can visit legislators at the Capitol. Childcare and respite allowances are given, mileage is reimbursed and meals are provided. Applications are due by July 15. Visit [tinyurl.com/4yymse5c](http://tinyurl.com/4yymse5c) or contact Brenton Rice at [brenton@togevents.com](mailto:brenton@togevents.com) or 651-242-6589.

**The American Cancer Society** is re-launching its volunteer Road to Recovery driver program after pausing it due to public health concerns during the pandemic. Drivers provide cancer patients with free rides to treatment. This year, an estimated 35,130 people will be diagnosed with cancer in Minnesota. The society screens and trains all volunteer drivers, who must be fully vaccinated, have a good driving record and current license, proof of insurance and computer access. Visit [cancer.org/roadtorecovery](http://cancer.org/roadtorecovery).

**Memorial Blood Centers** recently announced a blood emergency, noting the most critical needs are type O, Rh negative and platelets. The general blood supply currently stands at about a two- to three-day level, with type O and platelets at just

a one- to two-day level. This is well below the ideal inventory of five to seven days. To make an appointment to give blood, call 888-448-3253 or visit [mbc.org/donate](http://mbc.org/donate).

**Open Arms of Minnesota** delivered its 10 millionth free meal on June 7 to a 68-year-old client in Saint Paul's Lowertown. The milestone delivery would never have been reached without the legions of volunteers who prepare and deliver meals to their fellow neighbors and citizens who are suffering from critical illnesses. Open Arms plans to open a new kitchen in the Runway 52 building at 380 E. Lafayette Frontage Road by October 2022 to serve as the base of operations for its frozen meal production. It is asking the public's help to raise the final 40 percent of \$6.6 million needed to cover the expansion costs. For more information, visit [openarmsmn.org](http://openarmsmn.org).

**Second Harvest Heartland** encourages Minnesotans in need of food resources this summer to find the nearest meal site in their neighborhood. There are hundreds of federally funded, state-administered program sites at schools, libraries and parks across the Twin Cities and throughout the state serving nutritious meals and snacks all summer long. Each site serves up to two meals per day, like breakfast and lunch or a snack and dinner. Meals and snacks are available to children 18 and younger. There is no need to register before visiting, and no personal information or identification will be collected. For more, visit [2harvest.org/summermeals](http://2harvest.org/summermeals).

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# Crime Report

The following criminal incidents were compiled from Saint Paul and Mendota Heights police reports. For car and catalytic converter thefts, as well as more crime reports not mentioned in this print edition, go to MyVillager.com.

## Highland Park

**Burglary**—Suspects entered an open garage and stole car keys, an iPhone and wallet from a vehicle on the 1800 block of Rome Avenue on June 6. They then tried to steal the vehicle, but were scared off by the homeowner.

—Two suspects entered an occupied home and tried to steal a vehicle on the 1200 block of Niles Avenue on June 9.

**Theft**—Thefts from vehicles were reported at Crosby Farm Regional Park on June 6 and 10.

—A suspect tried to make a clean getaway, but reportedly left his ID card behind following a theft at Erik's Bike Shop, 2191 Ford Pkwy., on June 8.

—A motorcycle was reported stolen on the 1700 block of Norfolk Avenue on June 13.

—A bike and bike trailer were reported stolen on the 1400 block of Alaska Avenue on June 14.

**Assault**—A student reportedly choked another student with an extension cord in class at Highland Middle School on June 6.

**Miscellaneous**—When a woman confronted a suspect near her vehicle in front of her house, he reportedly broke her windshield and fled in a minivan on June 13 on the 600 block of South Lexington Parkway.

—Police responded to the 1900 block of Ford Parkway regarding a woman throwing items out of her third-floor apartment window on June 13. She was taken to the hospital for evaluation.

## Lexington-Hamline

**Theft**—A gun was reported stolen from a vehicle on Concordia Avenue and Lexington Parkway on June 4.

—A purse was reported stolen from a vehicle at the Midway Target on June 10.

## Macalester-Groveland

**Burglary**—A female pushed her way inside the building and went into the bathroom in an attempt to flee after she was seen trying to break into vehicles at Wilder Park Condominiums, 1181 Edgcombe Road,

on June 12. She reportedly stole a cellphone from a newspaper delivery driver's vehicle.

**Theft**—A bicycle valued at more than \$1,000 was reported stolen on the 300 block of South Snelling Avenue on June 3.

—A 21-year-old woman was arrested for burglarizing an occupied residence on the 300 block of South Lexington Parkway on June 12.

**Assault**—A man was assaulted on Grand and Snelling avenues on June 6.

**Miscellaneous**—Police responded to a call about suspicious activity on the 400 block of Warwick Street on June 7. They arrested a 36-year-old man there for DWI, possession of a gun by an ineligible person, and possession of drugs and drug paraphernalia.

## Mendota Heights

**Miscellaneous**—A suspect was cited for disorderly conduct after reportedly entering a porch and looking into the window of a residence on the 700 block of Mohican Lane on May 27.

—Police responded to 911 calls reporting a man was dancing in the middle of the road while undressing on June 7 on the 1300 block of Highway 13. The man was taken to the hospital for evaluation.

## Merriam Park

**Robbery**—A woman reported being the victim of a strong-arm robbery on the 2100 block of Marshall Avenue on June 6.

**Burglary**—Kalsada restaurant, 1668 Selby Ave., was burglarized on June 8-9.

**Theft**—A 2003 Lund boat was reported stolen from a backyard on the 400 block of Herschel Street on May 25.

—An oxygen tank and CPAP machine were reported stolen from a truck being loaded on the 1700 block of Iglehart Avenue on June 3.

—A cellphone, ID and house keys were reported stolen from a vehicle on the 1900 block of Iglehart Avenue on June 9.

—A handgun was reported stolen from a vehicle on the 1900 block of Marshall Avenue on June 10-11.

—A 25-year-old man was arrested for theft, obstructing the legal process and receiving stolen property after he reportedly stole money from the tip jar at FireBox restaurant, 1585 Marshall Ave. on June 12.

—Police responded to a domestic as-

sault complaint and theft of a handgun by a felon on the 400 block of North Wheeler Street on June 13.

**Miscellaneous**—A male was seen throwing items, yelling, being disorderly and keying a vehicle in the parking lot at Suds America Laundromat, 2045 Marshall Ave., on June 11.

## Snelling-Hamline

**Theft**—A laptop computer and documents were reported stolen from a vehicle on the 300 block of North Hamline Avenue on June 9.

**Miscellaneous**—Felony damage to property was reported at Concordia University's Kohler Building at 1397 Selby Ave. on May 31, on the 1400 block of Iglehart Avenue on June 2, and on the 1500 block of Selby Avenue on June 12.

## Summit Hill

**Burglary**—A break-in was reported at a residential building on the 900 block of Grand Avenue on June 14.

**Theft**—A motorcycle was reported stolen on the 700 block of Fairmount Avenue on June 3.

**Assault**—A shoplifter struck an employee with a rock after being confronted at Walgreens, 734 Grand Ave., on June 6.

—The grandmother of a student was banned from the school after reportedly making felony terroristic threats against staff at the Global Arts Plus Lower Campus, 1023 Osceola Ave., on June 9.

## Summit-University

**Burglary**—An apartment break-in was reported on the 400 block of Selby Avenue on June 3.

**Theft**—A 29-year-old woman was arrested for stealing flags from Saint Paul College, 235 Marshall Ave., on June 6.

**Weapons**—Two callers reported hearing gunshots and witnessing a car crash on the 800 block of Hague Avenue on June 2.

—Police received a report of a reckless discharge of a firearm and discovered a shell casing in an alley near Victoria Street and Iglehart Avenue on June 12.

—Gunfire was reported on the 700 block of Holly Avenue at 10:50 p.m. Tuesday, June 14.

**Arson**—A fire was reported at the Cathedral of Saint Paul on June 7.

## West End

**Kidnapping**—A 46-year-old woman was arrested for kidnapping a child on Armstrong Avenue on June 13. Officers were able to locate the two on Tuscarora Avenue and South Victoria Street.

**Robbery**—A woman said six or seven males and females armed with a handgun and knives stole her belongings and her car on Leech and McBoal streets on June 2.

**Burglary**—A home break-in was reported on the 600 block of South Victoria Street on June 3.

—Two men ages 37 and 21 were arrested for burglary of the vacant fire station (former Freedom House) at 296 W. Seventh St. on June 8. The older suspect was also wanted for a sex offender violation.

**Theft**—A suspect reportedly stole a vehicle and drove through the stop arm in the Interstate Parking Ramp, 234 W. Kellogg Blvd., during the evening of June 13-14.

**Assault**—A 33-year-old man was cited for assault after striking an owner of Shamrocks, the Irish Nook, 995 W. Seventh St., on June 8. The suspect reportedly was loitering and being disorderly in front of the restaurant after being asked to leave. Two employees and two firefighters from the station across the street intervened to stop the assault.

—A man reported to police that his wife assaulted him with hot tea and a cellphone at an apartment on the 200 block of Wilkin Street on June 10.

—A 69-year-old woman was arrested for felony assault with a knife at the Montreal Hi-Rise, 1085 Montreal Ave., on June 13.

**Arson**—Fires were reported on the 200 block of West Kellogg Boulevard on June 3, and at the old fire station (former Freedom House) at 296 W. Seventh St. on June 7.

**Weapons**—Multiple callers reported gunfire near West Seventh Street and Randolph Avenue on June 1.

—A 27-year-old man was cited for reckless discharge of a firearm inside a residence on the 1800 block of West Seventh Street on June 10.

—Police responded to an assault at RS Eden, 855 W. Seventh St., on June 13, and learned that shots had been fired.

**Miscellaneous**—The bases of 11 streetlights were found broken in an attempted copper wire theft on Montreal Way and Adrian Street on May 31-June 1.

## Free NATIONAL NIGHT OUT GRILL PACK

### National Night Out – August 2

Let's strengthen our communities!

The Odd Couple Team is providing FREE grill packs (burgers and hot dogs) for registered block parties in St. Paul neighborhoods.

Reserve by 7/28 for pickup at our office (1460 Grand Ave) on 8/2 between 12-5pm.



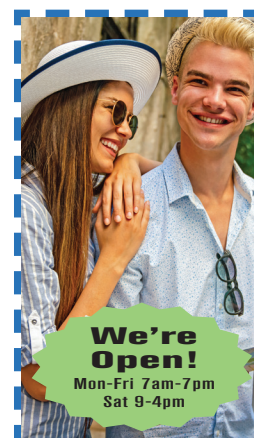
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[TheOddCoupleTeam.com/NNO](https://TheOddCoupleTeam.com/NNO)



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# ON THE TOWN

## Sister of swing

Mother Celestine will lead fest-goers to city's hottest jazz spots of all time

By Anne Murphy

Actress Michelle Myers Berg has what she considers a heavenly role. As Sister Celeste, Myers Berg conducts historical walking tours of Saint Paul clad in a habit and veil and thick-soled black Oxford shoes. This weekend she has added Jazz Spots, a tour of notable downtown music venues as part of the annual Twin Cities Jazz Festival.

Taking on the persona of Sister Celeste has been a blessing for Myers Berg. A long-time tour guide at the Wabasha Street Caves, she was approached two years ago by the managers of the newly reopened Celeste Saint Paul Hotel and Bar at 26 E. Exchange St.

"They were familiar with my cave tours and asked me about doing a walking tour from the hotel," Myers Berg said. "I said, 'sure,' and that was the beginning"—if not for the less than divine intervention of COVID-19. But after waiting out the first year of the pandemic, Sister Celeste was up and walking by the spring of 2021 with her Saint Peter and Saint Paul Tour. "The tours themselves were shaped by the fact that when I first walked into the hotel, I thought, 'Oh my gosh, this is the Saint Agatha Conservatory space,'" Myers Berg said. "If I'm going to do tours from here, I should do them through the lens of this remarkable woman."

The conservatory was once the site of Saint Agatha Convent, an early home of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Carondelet in Saint Paul, according to Myers Berg. Her namesake, Celestine, was the mother superior of the convent and the one responsible for turning it into the Saint Agatha Conservatory for Art and Music. Celestine was a cousin of Archbishop John Ireland and his sister Ellen, who also joined the Sisters of Saint Joseph and became Sister Seraphine.

"The cousins worked together to create the conservatory, but Celestine was really the person behind it," Myers Berg said. "I actually played Seraphine for a Wabasha Caves tour, so I know she was an astonishing person too. Seraphine was responsible for five hospitals, three colleges, two orphanages, 15 high schools and 35 elementary schools as mother superior of the

Saint Paul province of the Sisters of Saint Joseph. But I thought I should do the tours as Sister Celestine, considering her part in the conservatory and with the hotel being named for her."

Myers Berg has long had a love for Saint Paul and its history. Despite her recent move to the west metro, she has spent most of her life in the capital city, and her favorite saying remains, "you can take the girl out of the neighborhood, but you can't take the neighborhood out of the girl."

Myers Berg grew up in Merriam Park and attended Immaculate Heart of Mary Grade School, Ramsey Junior High and Central High School. After earning a bachelor's degree in theater arts at the University of Minnesota, she left the Twin Cities for additional training at the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco. Then it was back to Macalester-Groveland where she and her husband raised their children.

Eventually, Myers Berg said, the time was right to rekindle her love of theater. That came with the writing of a one-woman play based on her years growing up in Saint Paul. *The Blue Collar Diaries: Celebrating the Class in the Working Class* was first performed at the Minnesota Fringe Festival in 2007. It was later expanded and performed at the History Theatre and other stages.

Myers Berg's first Celestine Tour, the Saint Peter and Saint Paul, is "filled with both the sacred and the profane," she said. The tour begins and ends at the Celeste Saint Paul Hotel with stops at the Capitol, the Cathedral, Assumption Church, Mickey's Diner, the Green Lantern and Fitzgerald Theatre.

Once that tour was up and running, "it made sense for me to do a gangster tour," Myers Berg said. She had created a similar tour for an auction, so some of the research had been done. But as with all of her tours, she did a "deep dive" into the history before emerging with her True Confessions Gangster Tour. That tour "explores the lesser-known chapters of the city's history when America's Most Wanted lived and died on the streets of Saint Paul," she said. Stops on the tour include the former Lowry Hotel, the Hamm Building, Rice Park, the former Saint Francis Hotel, the Palace Theatre and the former downtown police station.



Michelle Myers Berg (aka Sister Celeste) poses in the lounge of the historic Hotel Celeste where her Celestial Tours Jazz Spots walking tour begins. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

Also on her docket is Myers Berg's Guide to the Gilded Age Tour and the seasonal Sister Celeste's All Hallows' Eve and Sister Celeste's Advent Sing-A-Long tours. The Gilded Age Tour begins and ends at Lookout Park on Summit Avenue and includes the mansions of the Historic Hill District as well as the passions and contradictions of that neighborhood's heyday.

The All Hallows' Eve Tour takes place at the Celeste Saint Paul, highlighting the otherworldly behavior that has been noticed there. "When the hotel reopened in 2019, a group of sisters who lived in the hotel (when it was a convent) were there," Myers Berg said. "They said the place is haunted. And apparently hotel managers and others have had such experiences, too."

Which brings us to the Jazz Spots Tour. To be sure, Myers Berg said, a nun may not seem the most likely jazz fan. "Typically, I begin my tours by saying, 'Good afternoon, I'm Mother Celestine Howard, or

Sister Celeste.' For the Jazz Fest, I'll be saying, 'I'm Sister Scooby Doo Wah Wah, and if I had been around long enough, I'd have loved jazz. Does that surprise you? Well, it shouldn't.'"

Myers Berg will lead jazz fest tour-goers from the Celeste Hotel to such past and present musical venues as the Booker T. Cafe & Tavern, Vieux Carre (the former Artists' Quarter), the Saint Paul Hotel and the Flame. Myers Berg will explain to participants the importance of Saint Paul's jazz clubs in bringing together people of different racial and economic backgrounds.

In jazz music, Myers Berg said, there's a communion among the people. "I want to lift the skirt on this immensely important aspect," Myers Berg said, "or as sister would say, 'lift the veil.'"

For more information on the Jazz Spots Tour, visit [twincitiesjazzfestival.com/jazz-spots-historic-walking-tour](http://twincitiesjazzfestival.com/jazz-spots-historic-walking-tour). For information on Myers Berg's other tours, visit [celestial-tours.com](http://celestial-tours.com).

## Jazz Fest fills the parks and halls of Saint Paul on June 23-25



Emmet Cohen

The many styles of jazz, from free-swinging bebop to contemporary to New Orleans brass, will take the stage on June 23-25 with the return of the annual Twin Cities Jazz Fest. Close to four dozen acts will be featured at more than two dozen venues across Saint Paul. The outdoor concerts are free; indoor shows may come with a cover charge.

Mears Park at Sixth and Sibley streets will have two stages. The schedule there includes the following:

- Thursday—Small Screens with Dylan Hicks at 6 p.m. and the New Standards at 8 p.m.
- Friday—JazzMN Orchestra featuring Lila Ammons at 4 p.m., Charanga Tropical at 5 p.m., the Emmet Cohen Trio with Bruce Harris at 6 p.m., the Jack Brass Band at 7 p.m., and the Matthew Whitaker Quintet at 8:30 p.m.
- Saturday—Walker West Music Academy and

MacPhail Center for Music students at noon, the Zacc Harris Group at 2 p.m., Salsa del Soul at 3 p.m., Bruce Henry and the Evolution of African-American Music at 4 p.m., the Selby Avenue Brass Band with Thomasina Petrus at 5 p.m., the Brandon Goldberg Quintet at 6 p.m., Maryann and the Money Makers at 7:30 p.m., and the Treme Brass Band at 8:30 p.m.

Three stages will be set up on Saturday at Keg & Case Market, 928 W. Seventh St. School of Rock students will perform from noon-9 p.m. on the Youth Stage. The Vocal Stage will feature Leslie Vincent at 3 p.m., Charmin Michelle & Joel Shapira at 5 p.m. and Jennifer Parker at 7 p.m. The Center Stage will present the Pete Hennig Group at 4 p.m., Airio Trio at 6 p.m. and Tanner Montague and Friends at 8:30 p.m.

For the complete Jazz Fest schedule and a full description of all of the venues and artists, visit [twincitiesjazzfestival.com](http://twincitiesjazzfestival.com).



Matthew Whitaker

# ON THE TOWN *Briefly*

## Music

**A Concert for Gun Reform** featuring the choral work *Requiem* by Fauré will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday, June 25, at Hamline Church, 1514 Englewood Ave. Paolo Debuque will conduct the choir. Ju Young Lee will play the organ. Soloists include soprano Katie Boardman and baritone Douglas Shambo. Tickets are \$0-\$30, depending on what you can afford. All proceeds go to Protect MN.

**Free lunchtime concerts** are offered at noon on Wednesdays in the Landmark Center cortile. The hour-long shows will feature Mother Banjo on June 29 and the folk and rock music of Amanda Grace on July 13. Visit [landmarkcenter.org](http://landmarkcenter.org).

**Music in the Parks**, free concerts in Mendota Heights, will continue with children's favorite DJ Party Unit from 6-6:45 p.m. Wednesday, June 29, in Mendakota Park; and Up South from 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 13, at Market Square Park.

**The free concert series** Bands on the Boulevard will be presented from 5:45-8 p.m. on Tuesdays in July on the lawn outside of the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Pkwy. Enjoy live music, dancing, lawn games and children's activities. The schedule includes Ellis Delaney and the OK Factor on July 5 and the Roe Family Singers on July 12. Bring lawn chairs or blankets. Food trucks and a cash bar will be available. No pets are allowed.

**Bands on the Bluff**, live music at the new Klas Overlook at Historic Fort Snelling, is being offered monthly at 7 p.m. Fridays. The heart-pounding rhythms of TaikoArts Midwest will be featured from 7-8 p.m. July 8. Admission is free. Bring lawn chairs or blankets. Refreshments will be available. No alcohol or pets are allowed. Parking costs \$6. Call 612-726-1171.

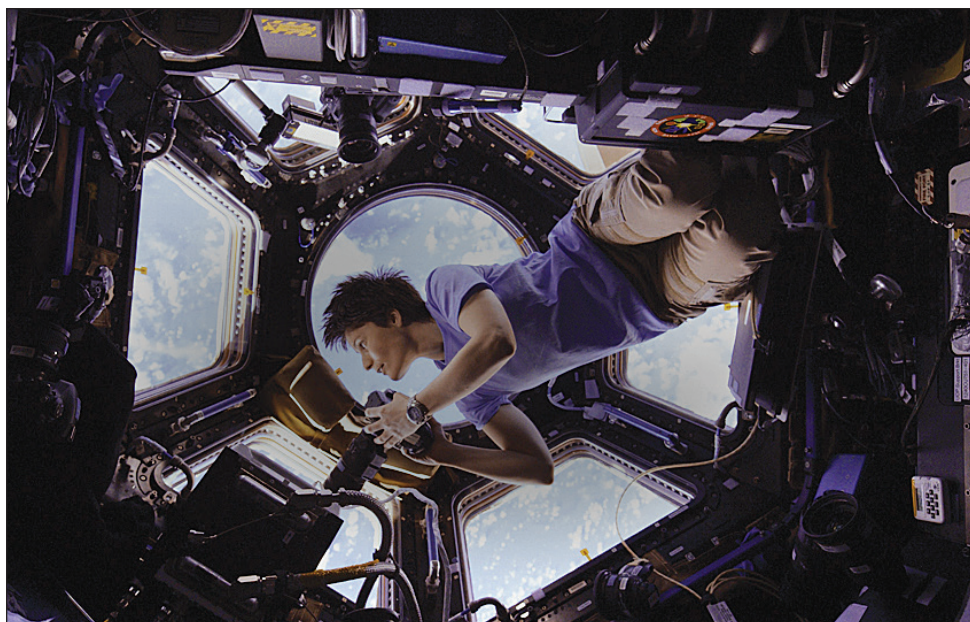
## Theater

**Twelve Angry Men**, a musical version of the courtroom drama about the jury in a trial of an alleged murderer, is playing through July 17 at Theater Latté Da's Ritz Theater, 345 13th Ave. NE in Minneapolis. Peter Rothstein directs. Curtis Bannister, T. Mychael Rambo, James Detmar and Bradley Greenwald star. Tickets start at \$35. Call 612-339-3003 or visit [latteda.org](http://latteda.org).

**Spittin' Seeds**, a new drama that moves between celestial realms and Saint Paul's historical Rondo area to portray a neighborhood forever renewing itself, is being staged through June 26 at Penumbra Theatre, 270 N. Kent St. The first production in Penumbra's two-year Ashe Lab Residency, *Spittin' Seeds* conjures the fabric of a close-knit Black community and the timeless forces that guide and protect it. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday. Visit [penumbra.org](http://penumbra.org) or call 651-224-3180.

**Fairy tales of the Brothers Grimm** are turned on their heads in Applause Community Theatre's *The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon*. All 209 stories are combined in one rollicking drama. Show times are 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, June 24 and 25, at Dreamland Arts, 677 N. Hamline Ave. Tickets are whatever you can afford. Visit [dreamlandarts.com](http://dreamlandarts.com).

**Miss Robin Hood and her Merry Band of Thieves**, a new twist on the classic legend, will be performed at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, June 24 and 25, at the Lake Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy. in Minneapolis. The



**"Journey to Space,"** a traveling exhibit built with the support of NASA, is being displayed through September 5 at the Science Museum of Minnesota, 120 W. Kellogg Blvd. Learn all about the journeys humans are taking into space and imagine a future when earth is no longer the only planet we call home. Hands-on activities explore the challenges and solutions in space. An accompanying exhibit, "Sun, Earth, Universe" will teach and test visitors' space knowledge and engineering skills with the aid of a NASA model. Pictured above is a view of the International Space Station from the Omnitheater film *A Beautiful Planet*. For tickets, which should be purchased in advance, visit [smm.org/tickets](http://smm.org/tickets).

production by Classics Lost 'n' Found Theater was written by Noreen K. Brandt and directed by Greg Bastien with original music by Coral Bastien. Admission is free.

**Real Women Have Curves**, a humorous tale of a Mexican-American teenager's coming of age in a cauldron of cultural expectations, is being staged through June 26 by Teatro del Pueblo. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday in Conn Theater at Plymouth Congregational Church, 1900 Nicollet Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Tickets are \$15-\$23. Visit [teatrodelpueblo.org](http://teatrodelpueblo.org).

**Opera Under the Stars** is being performed by soprano Carole Schultz, pianist Elizabeth Chua and guests in Minneapolis parks. Bring lawn chairs or blankets, a picnic supper and enjoy the show at 7 p.m. Monday, July 4, in Mill Ruins Park at Mill City Museum, 704 S. Second St. Visit [overdressedduo.com](http://overdressedduo.com).

**Glensheen**, the blockbuster musical about the 1977 murder of Duluth heiress Elizabeth Congdon and her night nurse, will return from July 9-24 to the Minnesota History Theatre, 30 E. 10th St. The dark drama by Chan Poling and Jeffrey Hatcher stars Jen Maren as Marjorie Caldwell, the would-be heiress caught up in the murders. The cast includes Gary Briggie, Suzie Juul, Wendy Lehr, Randy Schmeling and Sandra Struthers. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays and 1 and 7:30 p.m. Thursdays. Tickets are \$15-\$70. Call 651-292-4323 or visit [historytheatre.com](http://historytheatre.com).

## Film

**The 13th Minnesota Cuban Film Festival** continues at 7 p.m. Thursdays through June 30 at the MSP Film Society's Saint Anthony Main Theatre, 115 Main St. SE in Minneapolis. For show times and tickets, visit [facebook.com/MNCubanFilmFestival](http://facebook.com/MNCubanFilmFestival) or call 612-824-6109.

**Drive-in movies** will be shown at dusk on select Fridays in Union Depot's Lot D, 392 E. Kellogg Blvd. The schedule includes *Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace* at 9:30 p.m. June 24; *Indiana Jones: Raiders of the Lost Ark* at 9:30 p.m. July 8; and *Encanto* at 9 p.m. August 5. Audio for the movies will be streamed over a radio channel. Refreshments will be available. Contests, quizzes and prizes will be part of the fun. Tickets are \$15 per vehicle. Visit [uniondepot.org](http://uniondepot.org).

Art at St. Kate's art fair is produced by Artists' Circle and the Minnesota Textile Center. The juried event will include painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture and jewelry as well as works in clay, fiber, glass, leather, metal, paper, wood and mixed media. Live music and refreshments will be available. Visit [artistscircle.org](http://artistscircle.org).

## Dance

**Saint Paul will play host** to the XV Latvian Song and Dance Festival USA from June 29 through July 2. More than 30 events will fill the streets and auditoriums of the capital city with revelry celebrating the culture of that country on the Baltic Sea. One of the highlights will be the Grand Folk Dance Performance at 4 p.m. Saturday, July 2, at Xcel Energy Center featuring more than 700 costumed dancers. For a full schedule of festival events, visit [latviansongfest2022.org](http://latviansongfest2022.org).

## Books

**SubText Books**, 6 W. Fifth St., will host free readings and discussions with authors Lynne Cox and *Tales of Al*, her book about the Newfoundland canine that is a member of Italy's elite corps of water rescue dogs, at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 30; Jhani Randhawa and the poet's debut collection, *Time Regime*, at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 7; and Caryn Rose and her book, *Why Patti Smith Matters*, about the iconic rock singer and poet, at 7 p.m. Saturday, July 9. Admission is free. Call 651-493-2791 or visit [subtextbooks.com](http://subtextbooks.com).

**A Cracked Walnut poetry workshop** will be held from 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, July 2, in the first floor meeting room of the Highland Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy. Bring eight to 10 copies of an original poem to share. Admission is free. RSVP to [donna@donnaaisaacpoet.com](mailto:donna@donnaaisaacpoet.com).

## Et cetera

**The Fête de la Saint-Jean-Baptiste** will be presented by the French-American Heritage Foundation at 6 p.m. Friday, June 24, at the Sibley House Historic Site, 1357 Sibley Memorial Highway in Mendota. Named after the patron saint of Quebec, the traditional French-Canadian celebration will feature music, dancing, a bonfire with marshmallow roasting, and historical guides to answer any questions. Admission is \$12. For reservations, call 651-452-1596 or visit [dakotahistory.org](http://dakotahistory.org).

**Minnesota Salsa Fiesta**, a celebration of Latin music ranging from raw rumba and classic danzón to modern timba, will be held from 6 p.m.-midnight Saturday, June 28, at the Mill City Museum, 704 S. Second St. in Minneapolis. The event will feature dance performances and a 20-piece salsa orchestra with such top talent as conguera Yolanda Rodriguez, vocalist Zuzel Balbín, trombonist Neiry Lorenzo, the string section from Charanga Tropical, and pianist and singer Viviana Pintado. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$35 at the door. The after party with DJ Medicco spinning salsa, merengue, bachata and cumbia begins at 10 p.m. inside the museum. Visit [mnhs.org/millcity](http://mnhs.org/millcity) or call 612-341-7555.

**"Extraordinary Saint Paul Women"** will be addressed in a virtual program presented from 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, June 28, by the League of Women Voters Saint Paul. Speaking will be Minnesota Historical Society researcher Ami Naff and Saint Catherine University graduate Ava Griswold. Visit [lvwsp.org](http://lvwsp.org).

## Family

**Summer Spark**, family programs at Saint Paul Public Library branches, will continue with comedy and magic by the Amazing Brodini from 2-3 p.m. Thursday, June 30, at the West Seventh Library, 265 Oneida St.

**Historic Fort Snelling** has reopened with a new visitor center, rehabbed cavalry barracks, expanded interpretive exhibits, Indigenous landscapes, scenic paths and stunning river overlooks. In addition to the fort's century and a half as a U.S. Army post, the exhibits address the area's long history as home to the Dakota, Ojibwe and other Native Americans. Hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Admission is \$12, \$10 for seniors and college students and active military, \$8 for children ages 5-17. Call 612-726-1171.

## Exhibits

**Minnesota Center for Book Arts**, 1011 Washington Ave. S. in Minneapolis, is exhibiting the works of its own artist collective through July 30. Featured in the free show are the creations of 15 book artists. Visit [mnbookarts.org](http://mnbookarts.org).

**More than two dozen artists** will open their studios for a show and sale of original works on June 24 and 25 in the Ross-mor Building, 500 N. Robert St. Paintings, photography, pottery and other art will be displayed from 6-10 p.m. Friday and noon-8 p.m. Saturday. Admission is free.

**Walking tours of the historic areas** in and around downtown Saint Paul are being offered at 10 a.m. Wednesdays. Led by Landmark Center volunteers, the tours are free with pre-registration. The schedule includes Saint Paul's Origins Tour with storyteller J.B. Eckert beginning at the Robert Street entrance to Kellogg Park on July 6; the Rice Park Tour beginning at Landmark Center on July 13; and the Great River Tour beginning at Upper Landing Park on July 20. The Rice Park and Great River tours are also available virtually. For reservations, visit [landmarkcenter.org](http://landmarkcenter.org) or call Sydney at 651-292-3063.

**Ninety fine artists and craftspeople** from the Upper Midwest will display their works for show and sale from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, July 9, on the grounds of Saint Catherine University at Cleveland and Randolph avenues. The

# SPORTS



## The Wright Call

By Dave Wright

### Central boys look ahead in volleyball

Less than 24 hours after his team's season had ended, Central boys' volleyball coach David Alborno was already looking ahead to the 2023 campaign. "We're going to play beach volleyball this summer," he said. "I want the kids to have fun and stay together as a unit."

The day before, the Minutemen had a busy day at the boys' tournament held on June 15-16 in Shakopee. Central opened with a two-set victory over Rochester Mayo. That earned it a match against second-seeded Champlin Park. The Minutemen were competitive, but lost 15-25, 17-25, 26-28. After a quick respite, they took on Mounds View in a consolation bracket and dropped a three-set match.

"It was remarkable just to get this far," Alborno said afterward. "Totally unexpected. Most of these kids had never played competitive volleyball before. They had only been together for five months."

Alborno is also the boys' soccer coach at Central, and he previously coached boys' swimming there. He relied on those connections to recruit players for this season. He's hopeful this year's success has laid the foundation for future teams. "Word spreads quickly at a school like ours," he said. "When the kids see others having fun and being successful, they want to be a part of that."

Central finished third with an 8-3 record in the East Conference during the regular season of the Minnesota Boys' High School Volleyball League. They upended first-place Como Park in the postseason and advanced to Shakopee for the 22-team state tournament. Getting there gave Alborno an idea of what Central will need to work on to advance farther in the future.

"There's a lot of potential to work with," he said. "I'm excited to see what we'll do this summer and next year."



Central went 1-2 at the state boys' volleyball tournament.

### Scots shine at state Class AA track meet

After a spring where the Highland Park girls' track and field team spent more time indoors than out, coach Emily Klatt wasn't sure what to expect when the Scots trekked up to Saint Michael for the state track and field meet on June 9-11. The newly expanded three-class field meant Highland would compete against schools its own size at the AA level rather than trying to outrun the large suburban schools. Despite finishing second to Central at the City Conference meet in late May, Klatt felt she had a lot of talent competing, since many members of the Scots' successful cross-country team were running this spring.

"It wasn't an easy spring," she admitted, "but I felt we had a chance to score high at the state meet."

The Scots did just that, finishing fifth overall with 45 points. Freshman Ellie Moore provided the brightest light, winning the 400-meter dash in 57.61 seconds. Sophomore Luna Scorzelli, who set a City Conference record when she won the 1600 and 3200 runs last month, came in a close second in the same events at state. Junior Delia Johnson, who won the conference's 800-meter run, bettered her time by four seconds to finish fourth at state.

The Scots also claimed eighth-place finishes in the 4x400 (Johnson, Scorzelli, senior Molly Moening and Moore) and 4x800 relays (eighth-grader Ingrid Haaland,

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## Short end of the stick

### Warriors' win streak ends in state girls' lacrosse

By Bill Wagner

The Two Rivers/Gentry Academy Warriors felt good about going into their first state girls' lacrosse tournament last week. The Warriors were riding a 13-game winning streak, not having lost since their regular-season opener against a team from Illinois.

However, the Warriors dropped their first game at state 8-7 in overtime on June 14 to Benilde-Saint Margaret's and their second 12-7 two days later to Stillwater to see an otherwise stellar season come to an end.

Coach Jeff Rosga didn't want to lose sight of the big picture, despite the double losses. "I'm proud of our girls," he said.

Rosga stressed that for talented but young teams like his, the key is to gain experience. With the Warriors graduating only four seniors this season, there should be another opportunity for success in 2023.

In both state contests, the Warriors were right in the games at halftime. They were actually up 7-4 in the second half against Benilde, but weren't able to score again. Against Stillwater, they had to play the second half without senior Jaylen Rosga, the coach's high-scoring daughter and East Metro girls' player of the year, who tweaked her hamstring and had to come out of the game.

Stillwater knew they had to contain Jaylen in order



Two Rivers/Gentry Academy's Jaylen Rosga charges toward the net in an 8-7 overtime loss to Benilde-Saint Margaret's in the state girls' lacrosse tournament on June 14. PHOTO BY BRAD STAUFFER

to win and constantly had a defender in her face during the first half. Still, Jaylen scored three goals while she was on the field. Rosga said it was a tough decision him to take her out of the game, but was quick to add that it was the right call.

"Obviously, it's going to make an impact if you lose

a player like that," he said. "But Jay said she wasn't sure if it was a good idea to go back out there. It was a decision that was made out of caution."

Against Benilde, the Warriors had a similar reversal of fortune down the stretch. "We had our opportunities and couldn't

get it done when we did," Rosga said. "They also had their opportunities and they converted on them."

The Warriors went into the playoffs sporting some imposing numbers on both sides of the ball. Through the regular season and first playoff game (15 games), Jaylen had a gaudy 64 goals and 59 assists. That was followed by junior Eva Anderson's 55 goals and 13 assists, and eighth-grader Samantha Hohn's 30 goals and 29 assists.

Approaching the first playoff game, senior goalie Olivia Lilla and eighth-grade netminder Ava Davis had combined for nine shutouts. Through 15 games, the Warriors were averaging 27 points a contest.

The Warriors had zipped their way through the Section 3 playoffs. They pounded Saint Paul Academy 26-0, then Simley 13-5 and later Park of Cottage Grove 15-5 in the finals.

Rosga said there was every reason for the team to continue improving next season, with the overwhelming majority of players returning. He added that the Warriors had actually outplayed New Trier in the second half of their only regular-season loss (New Trier went on to become the Illinois state champion), which is something further for the Warriors to build on.

"We just have to remember to work hard," Rosga said. "We think we're developing a good program here."

## STA baseballers look to learn from experience at state

By Bill Wagner

Saint Thomas Academy got to the Class AAA state baseball tournament by beating Two Rivers twice in the section finals when all odds seemed stacked against them. But coming up with those heroics again at state proved a bit much as the Cadets lost 4-2 to Alexandria in the opener on June 14 and then 10-4 to Saint Francis in consolations the following day.

The twin defeats were indeed frustrating for coach Bobby Thompson and the Cadets (19-9). Their team defense wasn't as sharp as it had been all season. However, there were plenty of positives coming out of a year that started with just five players having varsity experience.

"It's still a really good season," Thompson said. "This is still a young team, and it was great that they

got some good experience in this postseason."

The outcome of the first-round game against Alexandria might have been different had the Cadets just been themselves defensively. Junior Mike Miller started on the mound for STA and had five strikeouts, but he also had an atypical five walks. It didn't help that STA had two big errors in the fourth inning. "They were plays that we usually make," lamented Thompson.

The Cadets also couldn't put enough together offensively. "Our guys worked hard right till the end," Thompson said, "but we just couldn't get the big hit when we needed it."

Saint Francis looked vulnerable going into the consolation round with just a 13-12 record, but jumped out to a 5-0 lead and STA couldn't catch up. That's despite two extra-base hits from Cadet junior Daniel Dahl and a

home run from junior designated hitter Noah Erickson.

The Cadets out-hit the Fighting Saints 10-9, but also made three errors. "They hit the ball really well," Thompson said.

STA arrived at state with good momentum having bested Two Rivers 7-4 on June 7 and then 4-1 two days later to claim the Section 3AAA title. "Our backs were up against the wall," Thompson said, "but we realized that and did a great job."

The Cadets' future looks bright, with 13 players expected to return next year, seven of which were starters this spring. And first-year STA coach Thompson is looking to build some long-term time in a job that has seen some extensive turnover in recent years. Jon Engeswick served as STA's interim coach last year and returned as an assistant coach this spring after Thompson was hired on.

# Well-balanced SPA boys claim state Class A team tennis title

By Bill Wagner

Saint Paul Academy got a little payback when it defeated Breck 5-2 to win the state Class A boys' tennis title on June 7-8 at the Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center in Minneapolis. It was the fifth state crown and first since 2008 for the Spartans (14-1), who were knocked out of last year's state tournament by the Mustangs in the opening round.

"We had guys up and down the lineup who contributed all season," said SPA interim coach Luke Elifson. "It was a true team effort."

Elifson downplayed the revenge factor in the title win over defending champion

Breck. "We very much respect their team," he said. "I think both teams have a high level of respect for each other. Breck was simply too good for us last year."

SPA opened this year's regular season with a similar 5-2 win over Breck, which Elifson described as a signature victory for his club. During this month's state title game, Spartan senior Harry Mahmic clinched the win with a 4-6, 6-0, 6-0 victory at No. 2 singles. Elifson spoke to Mahmic after he had dropped the first set.

"We talked about not being tentative," Elifson said. "He trusted his game more after that. He was more assertive. It was a matter of him getting out of his own head because it was his last high school

tennis match."

SPA's other winners against Breck were senior Alex Moore at No. 3 and seventh-grader Zahir Hassan at No. 4 singles, and sophomores Leo Benson/Maik Nguyen and freshman Jacob Colton/sophomore Baasit Mahmood at first and second doubles.

The Spartans earned their way into the final by topping Luverne 7-0 in the opener and Rock Ridge (Virginia) 5-2 in the semis. The Rock Ridge matchup was a tougher challenge, but Elifson said his team wasn't too worried about the outcome.

"We got to that fourth win pretty quickly," he said.

The Spartans also had a notable presence in the state Class A individual tournament

on June 9-10. Benson/Nguyen took third in doubles by defeating teams from Litchfield and Breck in straight sets, losing to Rochester Lourdes 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 in the semifinals and then beating Fridley 7-6 (7), 6-2 in the third-place match.

Colton/Mahmood also beat a Breck team 6-2, 6-3 in the first round of doubles, but lost in the second round 6-3, 7-5 to eventual champion Thief River Falls.

"That second (game) was a real good battle," Elifson said.

SPA senior Kai Sih was ranked third overall in individual singles, but lost in the first round 6-4, 6-3 to Tate Reichmann of Minnewaska Area.

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seventh-grader Zoe Moore, freshman Samantha Palm and Moening).

Klatt was particularly thrilled with Scorzelli's gritty effort in the 1600 meters. Considering the fact that Scorzelli and Moore are so young, the Scots' future on the track looks bright, indeed.

Visitation senior Ella Sukup made her last state meet one to cherish. She was fourth in the 200 and fifth in the 100 in AA. Each time, she was less than a second from the top time. The Blazers finished 20th with a dozen points.

On the boys' side, Saint Thomas Academy junior Mark Rogalski was a busy fellow in the AA meet. The junior was sixth in the 200. He then paired up with a trio of Cadets for a fourth-place effort in the 4x200 (with sophomores Nikoli Vargas and Luke Markert, and junior Michael Thompson) and sixth in the 4x100 (with Vargas, junior Jonny Miller and sophomore Savion Hart). The Cadets placed 15th overall with 23 points.

Two Rivers got a pair of yeoman efforts from sophomore Jon Wollan and senior Carl Stroffner to claim fifth-place finishes in the 4x400 (with seniors Xander McFaul and Magnus Herschbach) and 4x800 (with sophomore Kiran Sharma and Herschbach).

In the first ever Class AAA meet, Saint Paul City Conference boys' champ Central placed 27th with 10 points, thanks to sophomore Carlton Mukurazita's 46-8½ effort in the triple jump. Central senior Lily Hammacher earned three points for the girls' team with a seventh-place finish in the 300 hurdles.

## Nova wins boys' Class A track & field crown

Thanks in part to a junior sprinter named Sebastian Hoiland, Nova Classical Academy ran to a first-place finish in the boys' Class A state meet. Hoiland got things going in the direction with a fifth-place effort in the 100-meter dash. He went one better by taking fourth in the 200. Later, senior Finn McCormick finished second by a hundredth of a second in the 1600, with junior teammate Henry Karelitz taking sixth in the same race. Those four performances accounted for more than half of the 47.5 points Nova totaled to top the field.

Minnehaha Academy senior Cullen Moore led his boys' team effort when he finished sixth in the 800. The quartet of juniors Cadence Mitchum and freshmen Imani Sullivan Glen, Liza Timm and Grazina Troup won the 4x100 relay and took fifth in the 4x200 to guide the Redhawk girls to a 16th-place finish with 17 points.

## Denning is in the baseball record book

As noted in the last column, with 901 career wins, Dennis Denning already has his name etched among the Minnesota prep and college coaching greats. He also was part of pro baseball history during his days as a minor league prospect. In 1966, he was batting leadoff and was stationed at third base for Miami in what is still the longest uninterrupted game in professional baseball history.

Miami, the Florida State League affiliate of the Orioles, was at Saint Petersburg (managed by Sparky Anderson). The teams tied at 2-2 after nine innings. Each team scored a run in the 11th frame. The game then remained deadlocked until the Marlins scored in the 29th inning for a 4-3 victory that took a minute shy of seven hours to complete. Denning almost won it in the 22nd inning, but his fly ball was caught at the left-field fence.

He finished the game 2-for-11. When he finally got home, his wife was skeptical of the explanation for the early morning arrival. The boxscore—a souvenir Denning later framed—proved to be convincing evidence to his wife that he did not spend the night out on the town.

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



*Old homes! old hearts! Upon my soul forever  
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Like love they touch me, through the years that sever,  
With simple faith; like friendship, draw me after  
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# District Councils

## Highland Park

highlanddistrictcouncil.org • 651-695-4005

**River Learning Center**—The Mississippi River Learning Center is a city-led project combining a mixed-use, river-focused space and a National Park Service headquarters in Crosby Farm Regional Park. The center will serve as a national gateway to the Mississippi with year-round river learning and outdoor recreational experiences. Design concepts and a list of guiding design principles have been developed. Learn more and take a brief survey by June 24 to share your feedback at [surveyMonkey.com/r/RT8FTPF](https://surveyMonkey.com/r/RT8FTPF).

**Board opening**—The Highland District Council is seeking a candidate to represent Grid 11 on its board of directors (see the website for a map). An election to fill the seat will be held on Thursday, July 14. Email [info@highlanddistrictcouncil.org](mailto:info@highlanddistrictcouncil.org) for more information.

**Robot puppet show**—Join the HDC for Open Eye Figure Theater's production of *Tucker's Robot* at 2 p.m. Thursday, July 14, at the Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. The outdoor puppet show with live music will be followed by ice cream and science-themed activities from 3:15-4 p.m. The event will be moved inside in the event of bad weather. Visit the HDC website for more information.

**Lock and dam tours**—A study about the future of Lock & Dam No. 1 just south of the Ford Bridge is about to commence. Learn more about the issues by attending a free walking tour hosted by Friends of the Mississippi River at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 13, and at 3 p.m. Thursday, August 4. The registration link will be announced soon.

**Upcoming meetings**—Community Engagement Committee on Monday, June 27; Transportation Committee on Tuesday, July 12; and board of directors on Thursday, July 14. The meetings will take place at 7 p.m. at the Highland Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy., with an option to join online. Get the Zoom link and agendas at [highlanddistrictcouncil.org/calendar](https://highlanddistrictcouncil.org/calendar).

## Macalester-Groveland

macgrove.org • 651-695-4000

**Alley Garden Awards**—Now is the time to consider transforming space in the alley for the Macalester-Groveland Community Council's annual Alley Garden Awards.

Judging will take place in July. Learn more by visiting [macgrove.org/aga](https://macgrove.org/aga).

**Century building plaques**—Orders are currently being accepted for the next round of engraved century building plaques. All owners of structures built in 1927 or before are eligible. Learn more at [macgrove.org/100years](https://macgrove.org/100years).

**Open board seats**—The community council has open seats on its board of directors for Grid 1, Grid 3 and at-large representative of faith institutions. Visit the website for more information.

**Mac-Grove Fest**—There are multiple opportunities to get involved at Mac-Grove Fest on September 10 at the Edgcombe Recreation Center. The festival will include a Makers Market, where local artists and craftspeople can sell their work, and a Business Marketplace, where local businesses and organizations can sell their products, conduct giveaways and offer activities related to their businesses and organizations. The registration deadline is July 13. For information, email [alyssa@macgrove.org](mailto:alyssa@macgrove.org) or visit [macgrove.org/2022registration](https://macgrove.org/2022registration).

**Office hours**—The community council's office at the Edgcombe Recreation Center is now open to the public from 5-6:30 p.m. on Mondays and from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. on Wednesdays. Masks are required.

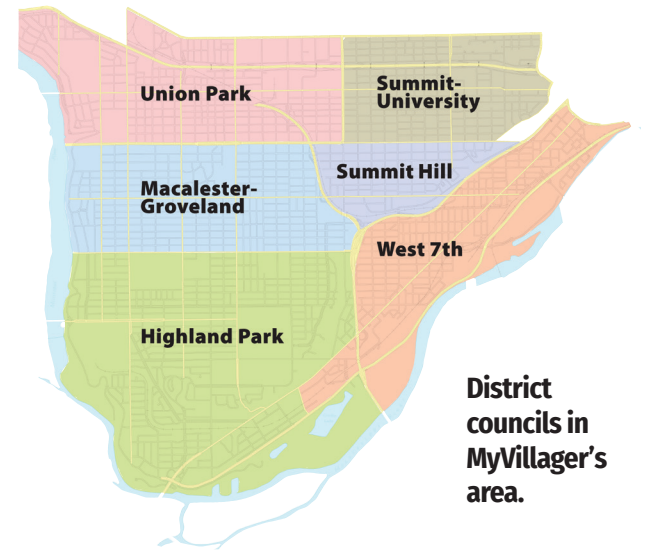
**Upcoming meetings**—Housing and Land Use Committee on Wednesday, June 22; and Transportation Committee on Monday, June 27. Both meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. For monthly meeting notices and log-in details, visit [macgrove.org/participate](https://macgrove.org/participate).

## Summit Hill

summithillassociation.org • 651-222-1222

**Summit Avenue trail**—The city of Saint Paul continues to accept public comments regarding the Summit Avenue Regional Trail project. A virtual meeting was held on June 6 to present the current proposals to the public. An emphasis is being placed on the segment from Lexington Parkway to Victoria Street, which is planned for reconstruction in 2023. Visit [tinyurl.com/2rumn9d5](https://tinyurl.com/2rumn9d5) for details and ways to comment. The final plan and approval process is scheduled for August-October.

**SHA plan final phase**—The update to the Summit Hill Association's neighborhood plan is entering its final stage. Committee members are redrafting chapters that will be



District councils in MyVillager's area.

tentatively presented for public review during August. The SHA board will then review the plan before sending it to the City Council for review and adoption.

**Board openings**—The Summit Hill Association is inviting neighbors to join its board of directors. For eligibility information and to complete an application, visit [SummitHillAssociation.org/join-the-board](https://SummitHillAssociation.org/join-the-board).

**Upcoming meetings**—Development Committee, 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 22; Neighborhood Plan, 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 28; and board of directors, 7 p.m. Thursday, July 14 (tentative). For meeting locations and attendance options, visit [SummitHillAssociation.org/calendar](https://SummitHillAssociation.org/calendar).

## West Seventh

fortroadfederation.org • 651-298-5599

**Board positions**—The West Seventh/Fort Road Federation elected Karen Voracek as president of its board of directors on June 13. Her former position as the Area 1 coordinator is now vacant, as is the role of treasurer. Those who were interested in either position may email [mary@fortroadfederation.org](mailto:mary@fortroadfederation.org) for more information or visit [fortroadfederation.org/board-of-directors-and-staff.html](https://fortroadfederation.org/board-of-directors-and-staff.html).

**Upcoming meetings**—Transportation and Land Use Committee, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 6; and board of directors, 7 p.m. Monday, July 11. Both meetings will be held via Zoom. Visit [fortroadfederation.org/calendar](https://fortroadfederation.org/calendar).

# CLASSIFIEDS

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### GARAGE/MOVING SALES

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

PEO BENEFIT/Women's Education. 1600 Edgcombe Rd. June 23-24, 8-4. Multifamily. Household, vintage, children's, sporting goods, furniture, office, gifts, books, season. Many items like new.

### BIBLE/BOOK REPAIR

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Certificate of Assumed Name along with Certificate of Existence and Certified Business Copies have been filed with the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State, for the following names: Names: RALPH ST. PIERRE. The address of the known place of business is: in care of: 489 Schenck Avenue, Brooklyn Humble Territory, New York Republic [RFD11207] United States of America. Note: I author of this notice come forth, in full-life, of sound mind, of age, of majority, "Ralph Heru-Ra El" is my chosen appellation, I for one d/b/a RALPH ST. PIERRE and d/b/a Ralph Heru-Ra El both by any and all assigns thereof, nunc pro tunc; I author give further notice that I have been granted to act as power of attorney for "RALPH ST. PIERRE" d/b/a Ralph Heru-Ra El as of April 20th, year 2022, and am the Executrix of the RALPH ST. PIERRE Estate name, that was set up at berth on my behalf, I am the beneficiary as well, I claim the estate for RALPH ST. PIERRE as my birth right and for future prosperity coupled with interest, as I am the creditor, bailor, bailee, the lender, the grantor, the banker, the giver of energy, and do so as the authorized agent for the names herein perpetually, until I assign someone to continue on behalf of my estate, so be it; Note: I come forth all rights reserved and retained, perpetually, the original known place of existence for the entity RALPH ST. PIERRE any and all derivatives thereof is: 489 Schenck Avenue, Brooklyn, New York Republic, [RFD11207], and; I come forth all rights reserved and retained, perpetually, as the acting power of attorney for Ralph St. Pierre. and affirm that the original known place of existence for the entity RALPH ST. PIERRE. any and all derivatives thereof is: 489 Schenck Avenue, Brooklyn, New York Republic, [RFD11207] Note: I affirm as the acting agent for RALPH ST. PIERRE, Ralph Heru-Ra El, and RALPH ST. PIERRE. any and all derivatives thereof, that I am living, breathing, and comprehensive as this herein notice gives me the agent status as a living man (woman), and now have standing for the given names and name by power of attorney, notice: I am original to the land mass referenced by given names New York, New York Republic, America, Turtle Island, and Amexem, North America, I remain in honor with United States Resolution 75, I am an American, American Moor, New Yorker, I invoke the laws of the republic for which we stand, and I remain in honor with US public law 93-1, 93-10, and any other public law that may assist me, or my family, nunc pro tunc, so be it;

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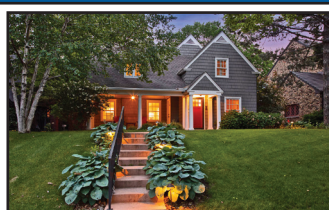
**2007 PRINCETON AVE**  
The market is GREAT for sellers right now! This home sold in multiple offers in just days and the seller is delighted! If you would like to capitalize on this GREAT market, give us a call!  
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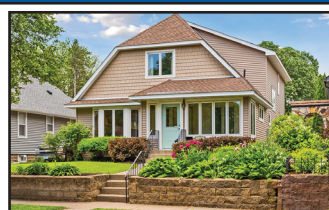
**1149 LINCOLN AVE**  
Impeccably maintained upper level condo features original character & charm PLUS quality updates! Gorgeous hrdwd flrs, oak wdwrk, French doors leading to charming front sun-room, LR bookcases w/oak archway, CA, 2 car gar. Beautifully landscaped backyard. Convenient walking distance to Grand Ave!  
**GoodCompanyRealtyGroup.com**

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**PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE RIVER!**  
Enticing 4BR, 4BA Cape Cod, perched on a bluff in Minneapolis overlooking the river! Gorgeous hardwood floors, dream kitchen, 2 fireplaces, luxurious owner's suite with private deck. Two patios, 2-car! 3530 Edmund Boulevard.  
**\*click on www.teamedelstein.com**

**HENRY EDELSTEIN** CRS  
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**EXCEPTIONALLY SPACIOUS!**  
Newly built in 2010, yet preserving the original integrity of design, this handsome 4BR, 3BA offers lovely hardwood floors, main floor owner's suite, office and laundry. Inviting porch, eat-in kitchen, great location! 1863 Juliet Avenue.  
**\*click on www.teamedelstein.com**

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651-253-6830



**4632 42ND AVENUE S**  
Charming bungalow nestled in the high-demand Minnehaha Falls neighborhood. Fully updated with original charm intact. Enjoy 2 main floor bedrooms, plus 2 baths and detached 2 car garage.  
**www.nancykmaas.com**

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



**1013 COMO PL - VINTAGE COMO PARK 2 STORY**  
3 BR (2 up & one lower level) 2+ car gar. 1400 sqft. Classic Maple floors, built-ins & kitchen cabinets. Newer roof, new hot water heater, newer heat & central AC. Enclosed frnt porch brings new meaning to summer in the city! Don't miss it! Call TJ for details.  
**www.TJ@cbrealty.com**

**TJ PIERRET**  
651-755-6669 • \$249,000



**1317 2ND ST. NE - PENDING**  
Up down duplex in NE hottest neighborhood. Across the street from popular establishments: Dangerous Man & Young Joni. This is your opportunity to renovate & gain major equity. Zoned R2B. Multi family 2 unit duplex, but you can build a high rise here! Rare 55x30 lot.  
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**JUST LISTED!!!**  
1870 St Clair: Immaculate 3 bedroom, 2 bath featuring gleaming hardwood floors, stunning woodwork with built in buffet, handsome fireplace, plus new roof and mechanicals.

**JIM BURTON**  
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**NEW CONSTRUCTION IN MAC GROVELAND!**  
New construction with all the walkable amenities of the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood. 5 Bedrooms/5 Bathrooms, over 4,000 square feet of timeless luxury and detail. 1524 Lincoln Ave.  
**www.wahlbergttoohy.com**

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



**Put your home here...  
And get results!**



**1865 GRAHAM AVE - SAINT PAUL**  
This 4 BR, 3Bath home is a must see! Hrdwd flrs on the main & upper level. There are 3BAs, one on every level with the primary BR having it's own bath! All new upgrades in kitchen featuring granite countertops, stainless steel appls, & soft closing cabinets. Upgraded tile in main BA and primary bath.

**PETER DONOVAN**  
651-336-8050 • \$369,500



**661 CANTON - LOT FOR SALE!**  
A great opportunity within the West 7th neighborhood to build. A very walkable location to much of West 7th has to offer. Past sales have communicated all utilities including sewer lines are present on the property just need to be uncapped. Survey is available Call today!

**BRIAN WAGNER**  
651-497-4387



**MARY KNUDSEN**  
651-335-6619



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



**KRISTA WOLTER**  
612-247-5106

August 5th, 11:00 am to 5:00 PM  
Edgcombe Recreation Center

call Brian to register 651-497-4387  
Scan code to self register

**BRIAN WAGNER & SARAH KINNEY - PRESENT:**

**Blood Drive**

LET'S SAVE LIVES  
[https://www.mbcherohub.club/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/69702](https://www.mbcherohub.club/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/69702)



**63 AVON STREET**  
An incredibly spacious 1300 TSF 1BR, 1BA condo w/ detached garage steps away from all that Grand Ave. has to offer. Open & airy, sunny & bright, newer appliances & windows within this unit. A pet friendly building with a common shaded patio for you to enjoy your iced tea this summer. Call for details.

**BRIAN WAGNER**  
651-497-4387  
**SARAH KINNEY MATCHMAKER**  
651-231-2211



**79 WESTERN UNIT 602**  
Spectacular top-floor SW facing condo in the Historic Commodore Hotel. Features include elevators, private outdoor shared patio space, w/underground parking & FP. Open & airy, sunny & bright, w/impressive views, you'll love the short walk to Frosts, University Club, Summit Ave & the shops & restaurants on Grand/Selby! Call today!

**BRIAN WAGNER**  
651-497-4387  
**SARAH KINNEY MATCHMAKER**  
651-231-2211



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



**COLIN VOERDING**  
651-357-3667



**1311 LINCOLN AVENUE, SAINT PAUL**  
Beautifully revamped & restored 2-story home in heart of Mac-Grove! Whole home has been lovingly restored from the LL up through the attic. Showing off 3 well appointed rooms on the second floor w/gorgeously remodeled BA & newly finished flrs throughout. Tons of updates in an ideal Mac-Grove neighborhood!

**MIKE DISTAD**  
612-275-1343 • \$364,900



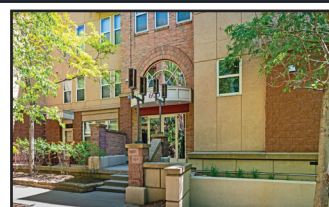
**PERFECT STARTER HOME**  
Convenient and easy living! This adorable home offers two nice size bedrooms on the main floor with an updated bath. Generous living room! Lower level family room. Walk to shops, parks and grocery store!

**MORAGHAN DeROSIA**  
952-486-3697 • \$259,900



**531 MOUNT CURVE - STEPS TO MISSISSIPPI RIVER PKWY**  
Amazing opportunity to own in one of Highlands most sought-after locations. This home is situated on an oversized lot w/beautiful landscaping & breathtaking sunset views. Built in 1929, this Tudor has been extensively updated. Four BRs all located on the second level.

**MORAGHAN DeROSIA**  
952-486-3697 • \$939,900



**600 2ND AVE - UNIT 401**  
Balcony views of downtown with fireworks from the Twins' games! Walking distance to the River, breweries, the best of the North Loop. NEWER appliances, gas fireplace. TOP FLOOR immediate possession. Call Lolly for details!

**LOLLY MCNEELY SALMEN**  
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**KAREN KELJIK**  
612-414-3245



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