

# monitor

Serving the Midway, Como, and North End Communities of St. Paul



## What's INSIDE

### News .....5



St. Paul OKs infill station

### Feature .....6



Local faces brighten Rice. St. campaign

### Feature .....8



Lots of color at TC Reptiles

### News .....9



Hamline Library earns reprieve

## Midway street racing: Unsafe at any speed?



The recent death in St. Paul of Moussa Maayiff, 39, has brought the issue of street racing in the Midway back to the headlines.

By JAN WILLMS

There are two things that almost everyone agrees on about street racing.

It has been around forever, and it's not going to disappear.

But although drag races have been operating under the radar in St. Paul for years, the recent death in St. Paul of Moussa Maayiff, 39, has brought the issue back to the headlines.

Maayiff was killed Aug. 22 when his car was hit at the intersection of Vandalia St. and University Ave. by a vehicle driven by Jacqueline M. Wagner, 20, who was fleeing a drag racing gathering.

Along with culture's obsession with speed and the media's romanticizing of souped-up race cars and their drivers comes a danger that accompanies the sport when it operates illegally on urban streets. This danger, which surfaced with Maayiff's death, as well as possible vandalism and littering, is a major cause for concern for police, businesses and residents of the area.

A frequent location for the gatherings in St. Paul has been on Capp Industries property north of University Ave. and west of Transfer Road, close by where Maayiff was hit.

"This was a horrific thing

that happened," said Joe Van Ornum, vice president of Capp Industries, noting that his company has been trying to prevent racing on its property for years.

Van Ornum said the Gang Strike Force approached the company about five years ago wanting to do a sting in the area, in pursuit of drug rings and other illegal behavior.

"We have had several buildings on Vandalia for the past 40 years," Van Ornum said. "We own industrial real estate. But most of our tenants go home on Fridays and return Monday, and a lot of stuff was going on that we were not aware of."

The Strike Force was given access to the company's parking lots and Channel 29 set up cameras and filmed the activity.

"It got so crazy so fast," Van Ornum said. "There were 400 to 500 people coming in. All our parking lots on Vandalia were full. People brought chairs, coolers, booze and pot. We also started seeing vandalism and dumping. We can't attribute that directly to the drag racing, but tenants started reporting it."

The company met with the St. Paul Police, Council Member Russ Stark's office and the City Attorney was brought in.

"We met to talk about all the problems on the street, but the

biggest one turned out to be drag racing," Van Ornum said. "We asked the Police Department what we as property owners could do."

Sgt. Paul Schnell, a spokesman for the St. Paul Police Department, told the company that when police approached the drag racers, the group had lookouts that could quickly warn everyone off through cell phones or text messages. He said the police had no legal recourse unless the property was posted with no trespassing signs.

"We put 12-13 signs up and down Vandalia," Van Ornum said. "We put signs in our buildings and on posts. The City Attorney sent us language that was appropriate to allow the Police Department to ticket everyone who was there inappropriately."

And the tactic seemed to work. Van Ornum said he heard no more, and signs of litter and vandalism disappeared. But recently, tenants had started reporting that they were concerned racing might be happening again.

Stark, who said he brought the police and some business owners together to discuss the situation about a year ago, felt the no trespassing signs had been working until the recent tragic accident.

"What happened highlighted

the need for safety and why we don't want street racing in a crowded area," Stark said.

"Street racing is an historic problem," agreed Schnell.

"One of our functions is to enforce traffic safety, and we have been attempting to respond to calls (about drag racing)," Schnell said. They were called to the scene Aug. 22 when a passerby reported seeing hundreds of cars in the parking lots along Vandalia.

Ironically, it was not a racer who was involved in the fatal car crash, but a spectator who seemingly panicked and fled from the parking lot as police approached.

"We don't know what the young girl was thinking—did she intend to flee? Was she reacting out of fear? What prompted her?" asked Schnell. He said the result, however, is that a man who was a productive member of society on his way home from a religious function was killed, and a young woman faces all kinds of problems.

Schnell said the partnership that developed among Capp Industries, the St. Paul Police, the City Attorney's Office and Council Member Stark's office did make a profound difference in dealing with the problem of illegal street racing.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



# monitor

1885 University Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
651-645-7045

#### Publishers:

Calvin deRuyter, Tim Nelson

#### Managing Editor:

Denis Woulfe

#### Advertising:

Denis Woulfe  
Dennis Stern (651-452-5324)

#### Photographers:

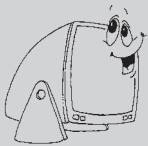
Liberty Willms  
Andrew Fossbinder

#### Production/Illustrations:

Bob Wasiluk

#### Contributing Writers:

Iric Nathanson, Deborah Brotz,  
Jane McClure, Krista Finstad Hanson,  
Jan Willms, Sherri Moore,



#### Now, communicate with the Monitor electronically!

Now it's easier than ever to keep in touch with the Monitor. Letters to the editor and news releases for publication can be sent via e-mail at [denisw@aplacetoremember.com](mailto:denisw@aplacetoremember.com). Be sure to send copy in the body of the e-mail, and please mark whether the copy is a letter, a news release for publication, or perhaps just your thoughts on the last issue. Don't forget to write!

And check us out on the web at: [www.MonitorSaintPaul.com](http://www.MonitorSaintPaul.com)

The Monitor is a monthly community publication in the Midway, Como and North End areas of St. Paul, owned and operated by deRuyter-Nelson Publications, Inc. All correspondence should be sent to the Monitor, 1885 University Ave., #110, St. Paul, MN 55104. Editorial and advertising offices can be reached at 651-645-7045. Our fax number is 651-645-4780.

All rights reserved. The contents of the Monitor cannot be reproduced without express written permission of the publisher. Copyright ©2008.



## Monitor in a Minute

### St. Paul to study garbage collection

St. Paul will study organized collection of garbage in residential neighborhoods, the City Council decided unanimously Aug. 12. But the vote was not without questions about the scope of the study and how it would be conducted. Prior to the vote the council amended the study resolution to state that the study would lead to "possible implementation" of an organized collection system.

The study would be of residential areas only, although there had been some interest in trying to also regulate garbage collection for businesses. Some business groups had raised objections to the idea of studying commercial regulations.

Council members Dave Thune, Russ Stark and Lee Helgen co-sponsored the resolution asking for the study, which will be conducted by City Council Research. Even the idea of a study has resulted in a flurry of phone calls to St. Paul city offices. Some support the idea of organized collection and the idea of less truck traffic on their street and alley, while others want to keep their own garbage haulers.

City Council members made it clear that they don't see the city getting back into the business of collecting garbage again. St. Paul dropped municipal solid waste service in a budget-cutting move more than 30 years ago. One idea on the table is to divide the city into districts and let private haulers serve a specific area. That is a way of implementing organized collection and not forcing smaller haulers out of businesses.

Some council member said there are haulers whose firms have worked in their neighborhoods for decades and that they don't want to see anything happen to those small companies. "I don't know how we implement this in a way that doesn't hurt small haulers," said Ward One Council Member Melvin Carter

III. His ward has two small companies that have been in business for generations.

"The idea here is not to put anyone out of business," Stark said. He said there is community interest in have a more efficient system, which could lead to cost savings. Helgen said organized collection could be a way to address the growing problem of households not having garbage service at all. In those cases, the city ends up cleaning up properties with its crews and garbage trucks and assessing the property owners.

Helgen would also like the study to include a look at pickup of organics material that could be composted. Eureka Recycling, which collects the city's recycling, has been trying to implement organics collection for the past few years. But that has never gotten off of the ground.

### Proposed regs on food allergens withdrawn

Proposed city regulations that would require restaurants to provide food allergen information and train restaurant staff on food allergy awareness have been removed from the table. Ward One Council Member Melvin Carter III withdrew the two ordinances Aug. 26 after hearing objections from restaurant owners and the St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce.

The ordinances were to be the topic of public hearings Sept. 16. Instead, Carter said he'll work with the restaurant industry to make changes to the ordinances over the next several months. It's not clear when the ordinances will be brought back for council action.

Food allergies are a growing health problem. Allergies can cause serious health problems or in some cases be fatal. Carter himself has a three-year-old daughter with food allergies and has heard from constituents who want to see information about food ingredients made available in restaurants. But restaurant owners and the Chamber have objected to what

they seek as overreaching regulations as well as potentially high costs. The practicality of the ordinance has also been questioned because of the cost and time of listing every label's ingredient in every menu item at a restaurant.

One ordinance withdrawn Aug. 26 called for restaurants and caterers to take several measures to address food allergy issues. One would have been to provide an allergen handbook upon a patron's request. Patrons could then see labels and ingredients for all items used in food preparation. Labels would have to be organized by menu items. The handbook would have to be in English. Restaurants would have to display posters on food allergen awareness. Menus, menu boards and other locations in a restaurant would be used to make patrons aware that the information on ingredients is available.

A second ordinance focused on staff and management training. Restaurant and catering management would have to undergo training on food allergens at least once every three years. The city would provide the businesses with videos on food allergens. In exchange for undergoing training and watching the videos, businesses could get a break on license fees.

### Few area projects make STAR cut

Only a few area projects made the cut for 2009 Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) Large Grants and loans. The Neighborhood STAR Board made its recommendations Aug. 12 and forwarded them to Mayor Chris Coleman's administration for review. The mayor's recommendations will go to the City Council in September, with a council vote later this fall.

The board is recommending that 10 projects be approved, totaling \$1,311,700. That breaks down to \$713,350 in grants and \$598,350 in loans. The matches pledged total \$3,421,589.

Nineteen other projects didn't make the cut.

The top-ranked project city-wide is remodeling of a commercial building in St. Anthony Park, at Cleveland and Buford avenues. A \$25,000 grant and \$12,500 loan were awarded for new ventilation, flooring and patio area. Another area project recommended for funding is Hamernick's Decorating Center on Rice Street, which is recommended for a \$150,000 grant and \$150,000 loan to replace an old building with a new showroom and storage facility. A \$1 million match is proposed.

Another recommended project is Open Cities Health Center's request for a \$100,000 grant to purchase and renovate a building next to its current Rice Street location, to expand the clinic. This project has a \$125,000 match. It also has a parking variance pending before the city's Board of Zoning Appeals in September.

Yet another area project recommended for funding is Frog-town Square. The redevelopment of University and Dale, where Episcopal Homes will build housing in a mixed-use development. A \$100,000 grant and \$100,000 loan are recommended, with a \$618,443 match.

Several area projects didn't make the cut as demand for funds easily overwhelmed supply. These include a University Avenue commercial improvement grant program (\$300,000 loan); Maternity of Mary-St. Andrew's School renovation and expansion (\$100,000 grant and \$140,000 loan); Star Oriental Market's request for building and parking lot improvements for its North End store (\$50,000 grant and \$100,000 loan); conversion of an old theater near University and Victoria back into performance space (\$17,000 grant and \$21,000 loan); Wilder Foundation's child development center playground and drop-off area (\$90,871 grant); an addition to the Model Cities Brownstone building at University and Victoria (\$150,000 grant) and Sparc's energy efficiency loan program (\$50,000 loan).

- Compiled by Jane McClure

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

**DS** Disability Specialist, Inc.

Representing  
**Social Security  
Disability Claimants**

*A Leader in the Field  
With More Than 12,000 Successful Claims*

Our expert representatives will:

- Explain the process
- Discuss the merits of your claim
- File the needed paperwork and appeals
- Gather evidence
- Contact physicians
- Appear with you in court
- Provide any other necessary services

All to assure professional representation.  
**No recovery...No fee.**

Call for free case consultation

1.800.642.6393

[disabil@cpinternet.com](mailto:disabil@cpinternet.com) [www.disabilityspecialist.net](http://www.disabilityspecialist.net)

## Fall into some great deals!

Shop the **Lyngblomsten Auxiliary's Annual**

### Fall Rummage Sale

Wed., Oct. 7: 9 AM - 7 PM

Thu., Oct. 8: 9 AM - 4 PM

Fri., Oct. 9: 9 AM - NOON (\$3 Bag Day)

Located in the **Newman-Benson Chapel** on the  
Lyngblomsten campus at 1415 Almond Avenue,  
St. Paul 55108

Drop off donations of new or gently used household items at the front desk Sept. 28 - Oct. 3  
(sorry-no electronics accepted).

(651) 646-2941

[www.lyngblomsten.org](http://www.lyngblomsten.org)

Matching funds applied for through Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.



LYNGBLOMSTEN

Now in its fourth year, the **Saint Paul Almanac** is the only guidebook dedicated to Minnesota's capital city.

With essays, poems, photos, maps and listings of events, bars, restaurants, theaters and other cultural venues within a datebook format, the **Saint Paul Almanac** brings good writing into daily life.

On sale now for \$11.95 online, and at mainstream and independent bookstores everywhere.

Visit our website for details on the release party and other free upcoming **Almanac** events.

[saintpaulalmanac.com](http://saintpaulalmanac.com)

**Saint  
Paul  
ALMANAC**

Please join us at:

**2010 Saint Paul Almanac**

**Book Release Party**

Thursday, Sept. 17, 2009

6 to 8 p.m. • Black Dog Café

308 Prince St. • Saint Paul, MN



# Street racing

Continued from page 1

"Those tools worked," he said. He added, however, that once the problem is stemmed in one area, it pops up in another location.

Schnell added that speed bumps and road redesign had also been considered, but those resolutions come at a cost. They become problematic for other motorists or cause winter maintenance problems.

"We are doing what we can to address immediate problems," Schnell said. "But we recognize that we will never arrest our way out of this problem. We will never write enough tickets to stop street racing."

Schnell said one of the most interesting responses the police department received in light of the recent tragic incident has been the number of calls from entrepreneurs and car enthusiasts who would like to see a legal alternative provided for the racers.

"Many are truly concerned about safety, where a car could crash into a crowd of onlookers," Schnell said. He said the closest legal racing is in Brainerd or Eau Claire, WI.

Schnell said the major concern of the police is to provide

safety and not deter people from coming to St. Paul. He said a large number of people have for years driven over to the Midway area to look at the fancy cars that are shown off in the area of Porky's Drive-in on University, and he encourages that.

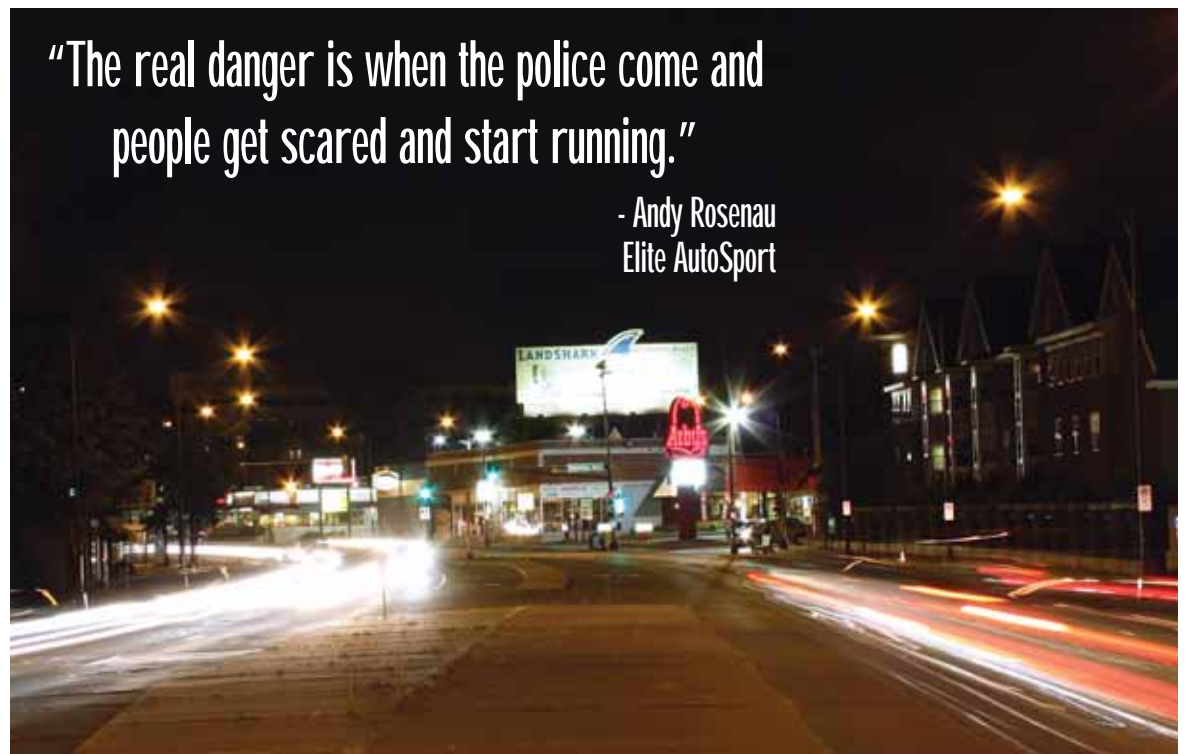
One of the callers to the Police Department suggesting an alternative is Andy Rosenau, who co-owns Elite AutoSport in Blaine along with Momin Kahn and Jamie Johnson.

"We deal a lot in street cars kids race," Rosenau said. "We are looking to do something that is legal, and we have been talking about it for awhile. I used to be a part of the whole scene, and the only alternative that is going to work is finding a place for people to go without getting arrested."

Kahn, who founded the shop that builds engines and works with turbos, superchargers, and exhausts, said that racing has been going on continuously since the 50s.

"There's no real way to stop it unless you give people another outlet," he said.

He said the racing involves individuals ranging in age from 15 to 65, all car nuts like himself. He said the races have been going on legally in Brainerd for over 30 years, and Eau Claire for more than 20. However, those locations are a long drive for local car enthusiasts and there is a



As University Avenue businesses shut down for the weekend, the University Avenue area becomes a drawing spot for drivers with fast cars who are looking to race them. (Photo by Liberty Willms)

charge for racing.

"There's the draw of people wanting to watch," Johnson added. "We care about this and don't want to see people get hurt."

"The real danger is not in the actual racing," Rosenau said. "The real danger is when the police come and people get scared and start running. What happened is a prime example. With

a legal outlet, it will make it safer."

"Generally, the car nuts who go to Porky's would go to these races if they were legal," Kahn said.

"A race track would be something we would try to do on our own. We need city support and the support of police and officials to do this, and that's what we're working on

now." He said anyone interested in pursuing an alternative race track should call 763-634-8005.

He said a race track would also generate jobs, with off-duty police and EMTs being hired.

While a legal alternative to urban drag racing remains in limbo for the time being, as long as drivers hear an engine roaring somewhere, the temptation to race will be difficult to resist.

## Former Hamline professor gives final lecture

Don Irish, former chair of the Department of Sociology/Anthropology at Hamline University, will be offering a last lecture at Klas Hall, Hamline University, on Saturday, Sept. 26, at 7 p.m. The lecture is titled "Hanging in for the Long Haul," and is open to the public for no admission charge.

Irish, who turned 90 July 31, taught at Hamline from 1963 until his 1985 retirement.

"It will be a reflection on past years and thoughts regarding our collective future," Irish said. "The trick will be in comprising 90 years into 60 minutes."

Irish has remained active in the peace movement throughout his retirement.

"I still bike and play tennis, whenever I can find a partner," he said.

Next deadline:  
September 28

**The FOUNDRY Pub**  
Jackson & Maryland — St. Paul  
**ONE FREE DRINK**  
With purchase of like drink. Void during happy hour.  
Limit 1 drink per day, void after October 15th  
**\$15 OFF** on your Birthday ask for details.

**Banfield**  
THE PET HOSPITAL • SINCE 1955  
with URGENT CARE  
**OPEN 7am-11pm DAILY!**  
• Full-service veterinary care  
• Open until 11pm 7 days a week for urgent care  
• Walk-ins welcome  
• Validated covered parking  
• FREE office call for first time clients (with this ad)  
**Spruce Tree Center 1600 University Ave. W, Ste. 1, St. Paul (651) 641-1168**  
Dr. Jones and Cody

**MASTEL'S HEALTH FOODS**  
Find out why Mastel's has such satisfied, loyal customers!  
**BOOK SALE**  
(while they last)  
**DEEP DISCOUNTS!**  
1526 St. Clair Ave. St. Paul, MN 55105 (2 blocks East of Snelling)  
651-690-1692  
M-F 9am-8pm  
Sat 9am-6pm  
Sun Noon-5pm  
Vitamins, Minerals, Supplements, Books, Homeopathic Remedies, Herbs, Personal Care, Vegetable Juicers, Farm Fresh Eggs, Gluten Free Ingredients, Gift Certificates, Snacks and More!  
Dedicated to the good Health of St. Paul Since 1968 Visit us on the web at [www.mastels.com](http://www.mastels.com)  
Monitor readers: Welcome to Mastel's  
**\$5.00 OFF**  
any \$40 or more purchase  
with this coupon thru Oct. 31, 2009.  
Not valid with any other offers or juicer purchases.

## Monitor Coupon Cut-Outs

**\$15 haircut**  
includes shampoo/conditioning/style  
Just mention ad when you call for an appt.  
**Specializing in color and body waxing**  
1619 University Ave.  
full service salon and spa  
**651.603.8887**  
no expiration on offer  
[www.salonelise.com](http://www.salonelise.com)  
**FREE PARKING**  
**Free Haircut** with any Color Application  
Buy any product, get one of equal or lesser value 1/2 OFF

**Como Northtown Community Credit Union**  
**FREE** reusable green bag with every loan.  
offer valid with this coupon  
**Serving Your Community**  
**Your financial partner for a better future**  
Checking, Savings, Loans, IRA's, Free online banking, Eco-friendly services, & more.  
● **NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** ●  
976 N. Lexington Parkway, St. Paul, MN 55103  
651-488-2535 • Toll-free 800-840-2612  
[www.comocu.org](http://www.comocu.org)



# Program designed to address lost parking on Central Corridor

By JANE MCCLURE

Businesses along University Avenue will be able to draw on a \$1.5 million program to help make up for parking lost when Central Corridor light rail is built. Acting as the Housing and Redevelopment Authority Board Aug. 12 the St. Paul City Council unanimously approved the Neighborhood Commercial Parking Pilot Program and guidelines. Council members Russ Stark and Melvin Carter III sponsored the program, which will serve businesses in the Frogtown, Summit-University, Hamline-Midway, Union Park and St. Anthony Park areas.

Stark and Carter note that because University Avenue will lose 85 percent of its on-street parking when the light rail line is built, there's a need to make up the parking shortfall. But because the \$928 million Central Corridor project budget includes no parking mitigation funds, the city has had to step in to help improve off-street parking and manage remaining on-street parking.

"This doesn't give us everything we need," said Stark. "It does what needs to be done first." He said city officials will continue to push for resources for additional parking improvements. They also may use the University Avenue program as a model for other areas, if it is successful.

A Planning and Economic

Development-Public Work staff team, along with Metropolitan Council staff, studied the parking issues for several months and made a number of recommendations this spring. Those include promoting shared parking where possible, improving lot lighting and signage, adding parking meters and looking at residential permit parking for the neighborhoods around Central Corridor.

Eleven parking hot spots along University Avenue were identified and studied during the spring and summer. Meetings were held with affected business and property owners.

One group, University Avenue Business Association (UABA), has been holding meetings to discuss parking for several months. UABA also prepared its own list of recommendations to address the parking issues, which it has posted on its Web site.

UABA Executive Director Linda Winsor called the city's plan a "good first step" but said the plan doesn't help businesses that have no options to share off-street parking with their neighboring businesses. Many small businesses

must depend on on-street parking and fear losing that.

Stark said that the work on parking improvements won't end with

politan Council to push for parking solutions.

Steve Bernick, owner of Milbern Clothing Company, is one of the business owners concerned about the loss of on-street parking. "There's been a lot of discussion about the loss of parking on the avenue

in the past year," he said. "But it's great to see some positive movement in the direction of helping businesses help themselves to parking solutions."

A number of funding sources are cobbled together for the program. The city will use \$300,000 in Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) and \$300,000 in scattered-site tax increment financing (TIF). Those funds will be overseen by the HRA. There will be \$500,000 available for grants or forgivable loans that property owners can apply for, to make commercial parking improvements. The loans will be given on a competitive basis, with the application process starting in October. Lighting, paving, signage and other changes

could be covered by the program.

"It's important that we give businesses incentives to share the parking they have," Stark said. While there are about 25,000 parking spaces in lots on and around University Avenue, many owners are reluctant to share parking. Others worry about commuter parking when light rail begins operation. Location and lack of access and signage is an issue for some lots.

The program also has \$135,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for the Youth Job Corps. The Job Corps funds will be used to have youth workers make improvements to the shared commercial-residential alleys north and south of University. The workers will be under the supervision of Parks and Recreation. That funding will be approved in the future by the City Council.

The remaining project funds, of \$350,000 are in the 2010-2011 Long-Range Capital Improvement Budget (CIB), which the City Council will adopt by year's end. That money would be used to pave alleys, which will be done by Public Works.

Construction of light rail will start in 2010, with completion in 2014. Business groups are working to get the word about the upcoming construction and how businesses can respond to it.



the program approved Aug. 12 and that he and Carter will continue to seek other solutions. City officials unsuccessfully sought parking mitigation funds from the 2009 Minnesota Legislature but could try again in the future. Stark said the city will also continue to work with Metro-

## your Lutheran church on the

**Sundays:**  
9:00 and 10:30 Worship  
9:00 Adult Bible Class  
9:15 Sunday School

Pastor Bob Benke

a community of joy

Rally Day breakfast @ 9:15 Sep13 for kids & parents

Jehovah LUTHERAN at Thomas and Snelling

[www.jehovahlutheran.org](http://www.jehovahlutheran.org)

651-644-1421



corner

## Central Baptist Church

420 Roy Street N., St. Paul

651-646-2751

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

Dr. Ronald Saari, Senior Pastor

### SUNDAYS AT CENTRAL

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

begin September 23, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

See Website for details



## Wine Sale

Ongoing  
Every Tuesday

**15% OFF**

750 ML Wines

One week Reds  
Next week Whites

1.75 Liter  
Svedka Vodka  
**\$16.99**

12 Pack NR Schell's  
Bottles Kraft Beer  
**\$10.99**

Prices good thru 9/30/09

*Sharrett's*  
*Liquors*

University & Raymond  
651-645-8629  
We Deliver

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

**Big Plans**  
for remodeling  
your home?

See our financing specialists  
to make home improvements  
that can pay off in the future!

**Park Midway Bank**  
THE LEADER IN IMPROVING OUR URBAN COMMUNITY

2300 Como Avenue • 2171 University Avenue • St. Paul  
(651) 523-7800



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

Member FDIC

We're in your neighborhood!

## ARBOR POINTE Independent Senior Rentals



Planned activities, community garden,  
beautiful apartments.

Unusual 2 BR availability!

2 BR Fall special from **\$950** includes  
heat, water, underground parking and  
much more!

Stop in for a tour today!

**ARBOR POINTE**

Maryland and Dale

651.793.5177

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





# St. Paul OKs additional infill station

By JANE MCCLURE

At least one and possibly two of Central Corridor's much-debated infill stations will be built along the light rail line, with the first most likely at Western and University avenues. A City of St. Paul commitment to fund one station, for \$5.2 million, was approved Aug. 26 by the Corridor Management Committee, a group of elected and appointed officials overseeing the 11-mile, \$937.3 million project.

The committee also agreed that if there is sufficient contingency funding available during the construction process, a second infill station could be built. Western, Victoria and Hamline avenues are the three infill sites sought by community members and Ramsey County and St. Paul officials.

The vote came the same day the Metropolitan Council took key steps on the light rail project, which will connect downtown St. Paul and Minneapolis. The council determined that the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) that outlines the project's potential environmental effects is adequate and accepted the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) record of decision and letter of no prejudice on the project. The approvals at the council and federal level allow the project to continue into final design and seek federal funding. The FTA made its decisions Aug. 18.

Metropolitan Council also approved a revised project budget and awarded a contract for utilities relocation on Fourth Street downtown. Some utility work is already underway but the contract approved Aug. 26 allows that to move ahead. Major project construction is to start in mid-2010, with rail operations starting in 2014.

"These are important, important milestones," Metropolitan Council Chairman Peter Bell. He expressed appreciation for the work city, county and regional officials put in to have the project meet its budget yet accommodate the desire for more stations.

But getting the stations meant compromises and trade-offs. Mayor Chris Coleman's administration and council members Melvin Carter III and Russ Stark worked on the station funding proposal.

"We're saying to the community, we're moving forward and there will be at least one addi-



As the City comes up with additional monies to fund an infill station in the Midway, planners and artists are also working on the design possibilities for various station designs.

tional stop on this line," said Coleman. The one-mile distance between stops is a worry for University Avenue area bus riders, especially at the east end of the street where many people are transit-dependent.

"To me there was never a question that there would be at least one infill station," said Coleman. "The issue is when we'd do it and how we'd get there. Today I feel more confident about the success of this line than ever before."

Hamline-Midway resident Reggie Aligada is a member of the Corridor Management Committee and a transit rider. He said adding stations will better serve the surrounding communities. "Today's the day I feel most confident that we will get at least one of the stations," he said.

Coleman and his senior police advisor Nancy Homans said scattered-site tax increment financing (TIF) is the likely source of station funding. About \$8 million is in accounts for TIF districts in neighborhoods along the rail line. The St. Paul City Council, acting as the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA), must approve the expenditure this fall.

"This is clearly a step in the right direction," said Carter, who high-fived his mother, County Commissioner and Corridor Management Committee Member Toni Carter, after the vote. "I'm still committed to getting all three stations built but two is better than three and one is better than none."

The county and its Regional Rail Authority agreed to con-

tribute an updated ridership study and environmental analysis of the station sites, another key piece of the station agreement. The station agreement will come back to the Metropolitan Council for approval in the future.

"We have the first station solidified, and this will help us secure the money for the second station along with streetscaping along the line," Stark said.

About half a dozen community activists attended the Corridor Management Committee meeting, including representatives of the District Councils Collaborative, Jewish Community

Action, MICA and the Alliance for Metropolitan Stability. Several held up signs urging officials to keep a promise made in February 2008, when the Corridor Management Committee and Metropolitan Council pledged to find funding for at least one additional station.

Most activists expressed cautious optimism, saying they'll have more assurances when the funding is nailed down. "We're happy with this decision," said John Slade of MICA. "But I think there are questions about the funding." The DCC plans a community meeting this fall to discuss the station funding, its possible location and other issues. No date has been set.

The project is a "very strong candidate" for federal funding in 2010, said Project Director Mark Fuhrmann. The FTA officials need to have the revised budget in hand Aug. 31. Final project design approval is expected around Thanksgiving.

Putting an additional station in the plans sent to the FTA for approval could jeopardize Central Corridor's chances for federal dollars, which are needed to pay half of the construction costs. The station addition would inflate the Cost Effectiveness Index or CEI, a complex formula used to decide which projects get federal money. It could also mean a one-year delay to do needed ridership and environmental analy-

sis.

But because the city is paying for the station, that is no longer a factor. The Metropolitan Council was able to add other project line features to the plans, including additional noise and electromagnetic interference mitigation at the University of Minnesota, improvements to the Lowertown operations and maintenance facility. St. Paul officials were able to nail down \$7.8 million to purchase property in downtown St. Paul, so that trains can travel diagonally across the block bounded by the Fourth and Cedar block. The city had intended to pay for the property acquisition itself, as part of a plan to redevelop part of the block.

The project budget was at \$913.9 million and the CEI was at \$24.37 when meetings began Aug. 26. After all the votes were taken the project budget was at \$937.3 million, with a CEI of \$24.88 to \$24.99. Those revised figures don't include the city's contribution for an infill station.

At various points during Central Corridor construction, available contingency dollars can be released. Those dollars are earmarked to cover cost overruns and the need to add cars for three-car trains. But the plan approved by the Corridor Management Committee provides additional contingency funds for the St. Paul section of the line, if dollars are available.

**Hey!**  
It's  
**FALL**  
**LULA**  
1587 SELBY AVE. ST. PAUL  
651-644-4110

**Bethel**  
Lutheran Church LCMS  
Pastor: Rev. David Seabaugh  
Sunday Service: 9:30 AM  
Sunday School: 10:45 AM  
670 W. Wheelock Pkwy. St. Paul, MN 55117  
651-488-6681 www.bethelstpaul.com

**CHURCH OF ST. ANTHONY**  
Pastor: Fr. Tony Dinzeo  
"A 21st Century Church"  
Sunday Mass at 1:00 p.m.  
Co-located in:  
Hamline United Methodist Church  
1514 Englewood Avenue  
651-224-0617  
Email: Tony.429@live.com  
"An Old Catholic Community"



At least one and possibly two of Central Corridor's much debated infill stations will be built along the light rail line, with the first most likely at Western and University avenues.

**Rice Street**  
**Art SCOOP**  
**Art for every Taste!**  
**Thursday October 8th**  
**5:00 to 8:00 PM**  
**Dar's Double Scoop**  
**1046 Rice Street**  
Pottery, Jewelry, Textiles, Painting, Floral Design & More!  
**Sponsored by:**  
Dar's Double Scoop  
Concilmember Lee Helgen's Office  
District 6 Planning Council  
Your Enchanted Florist  
North End Business Association  
Sparc

**SAINT PAUL STAR PROGRAM**



# Familiar faces of Rice Street brighten photo campaign

By DEBORAH BROTZ

North End residents may soon be doing a double take as they're walking down Rice Street. On Sept. 15, the welcoming, familiar faces of Rice Street merchants in poster-sized color photographs will be mounted in storefront windows on Rice Street as part of Sparc's innovative marketing project, "We Are the People in Your Neighborhood: A Celebration of Rice Street in Pictures."

The photographs of Rice Street merchants were taken by professional photographer Sara Stacke, who was awarded an artist grant by OverExposure, a nonprofit media arts organization, to record the North End as part of the second phase of "What's New." Sparc and District 6 Planning Council were awarded contracts with OverExposure to participate in the "What's New" project, which matched Stacke with them to document the changing diversity of the North End and South Como neighborhoods.

In early 2009, Sparc was awarded a Cultural Star grant from the City of St. Paul for the Lens on

the Community Project to bring the photographs back to the neighborhood, which had been on display at Minneapolis Central Library through February 2009. The grant is being used to create an exhibit and activities in the neighborhood, which has historically been underserved by arts activities or public art.

Sparc's marketing project is part of the "Lens on the Community" project.

"We're hoping it will encourage people who live in the neighborhood to support businesses in the neighborhood," said Allison Sharkey, program manager for Sparc. "We hope as we all get to know the people who run stores in the neighborhood that we'll spend more of our dollars with merchants here in the neighborhood instead of going farther for our shopping needs."

One of the marketing project goals is to increase access to public art in the North End. There will be two art exhibits. One will show photographs of community members at the Rice Street Library for one month. At the same time,

there will be a street level exhibit of Rice Street merchants blown up to poster-size in the windows of Rice Street merchants.

"We don't have this kind of gallery in the neighborhood," said Sharkey. "This is our way of setting up a temporary art gallery in the neighborhood."

Encouraging North End residents to shop at Rice Street businesses is the second marketing project goal.

"We hope that people will recognize some of the faces in the pictures and that when they go in a Rice Street store to shop, we hope people will strike up conversations more with people they see in the pictures," said Sharkey. "Once you build up that relationship, it will keep you coming back eating at that same restaurant or shopping."

This marketing project will also reinforce the idea that local businesses are owned by real people, not a soulless corporate entity.

"These folks who are in the pictures are people who own busi-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



The photographs of Rice Street merchants were taken by professional photographer Sara Stacke, who was awarded an artist grant by OverExposure, a nonprofit media arts organization, to record the North End as part of the second phase of "What's New."

**Building? Remodeling?**

**Waste Disposal -**  
Save lots by bringing it to us!

**REASONABLE RATES**

**Twin City Refuse**  
"The Original Recyclers" • 651-227-1549  
318 Water St., St. Paul  
An Environmentally Concerned Company

Mon.- Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-5

Think of us for disposing of...  
lumber scraps, sheetrock,  
water heaters, brush etc.

For Your Home:  
Trash • Appliances • Furniture • Tires  
For Your Business:  
Trash • Demolition Waste

Roll off Boxes for Large Jobs  
One Time Pick-Up Available  
West Side Owned & Operated

**Buy • Sell • Rent**

**WE BUY HOUSES**  
We'll make your payments  
Call Cathy at  
612.419.5350

**KNOCK OUT PROPERTIES**

**ACHE ALL OVER  
BABY CAN'T SLEEP  
WRENCHED BACK  
SLICED THINGS BETTER  
TWISTED SINCE 1965  
SORE THROAT  
BROKEN ARM**

FRIDLEY MEDICAL CENTER 763-785-4500  
ROSEVILLE MEDICAL CENTER 763-785-4300  
BLAINE MEDICAL CENTER 763-785-4200

**www.multicare-assoc.com**

**Need a more affordable smile makeover?**

You've heard a lot about smile makeovers. You've probably wondered whether a makeover might be right for you. And how much it would cost. Thanks to advances in cosmetic dentistry, you can straighten, whiten and perfect your smile – more affordably than you think.

Steven R. Hagerman, DDS, is known for helping patients achieve dazzling smiles. His expertise and experience in general and cosmetic dentistry are your assurance of exceptional results – without breaking the bank.

**FREE Smile Makeover Consultation**  
(Reg. \$250)

**50% OFF Zoom2® Advanced Power Whitening**  
(Reg. \$600)

Don't wait – these are limited-time offers. One offer per patient, please.

Dr. Hagerman has the skill, the staff and the state-of-the-art tools to make your smile everything you ever wanted.

Call to learn more today!  
**651.646.2392**

Ask Dr. Hagerman about: Porcelain veneers  
• Zoom2® Advanced Power whitening  
• Invisalign® clear aligners

**Family & Cosmetic DENTISTRY**  
STEVEN R. HAGERMAN, DDS  
Advanced dental care for a healthy, beautiful smile

1605 W. Minnehaha Avenue • Suite 101  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
[www.HagermanDentalCare.com](http://www.HagermanDentalCare.com)



# LETTERS

## Como resident responds to Pool story

This letter responds to points in your 8/09 Como Pool article.

1. City documents state the combined old pool capacities were 432 or 232/turnover shift (Pool Report 2009 p47; 1978 Park Master Plan p36).

2. Pool Replacement Task Force charge was to adopt only an "aquatic facility" design, nothing more, including circulation and parking related to that design. No park design for integrated street and parking improvements was endorsed.

3. There were 358 respondents to the Como Park Alliance 2008 survey. Findings were consistent with long held D10/D6 neighborhood views: most respondents desired a simple, affordable, aesthetically pleasing and environmentally low impact pool. Discussion at the Task Force and elsewhere focused upon whether to build less or more; not upon whether to have or not have a pool. The



On July 15 the St. Paul Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously passed a resolution of support for a new Como pool. The Como (District 10) Community Council unanimously adopted its own resolution in support of a replacement pool July 21.

value of building less to gain more quality (meaning less parking and congestion, less environmental impact on neighboring park areas, more aesthetically pleasing changing and deck areas, more durable and easy to maintain materials) was the view of most respondents. Many

viewed an aquatic facility with additional expensive features designed to camouflage equipment, costly to operate pumps, and more complex lifeguarding context as a "more is less" option.

4. Regarding the misunderstood Como Park Alliance

(CPA): no votes have been taken, except for the mission statement (posted at [comoparkalliance.org](http://comoparkalliance.org)). There is no membership procedure, no board, no fund raising, no legal status and no endorsed pool position. Anyone may attend these 1 hour gatherings on the third

Saturday of the month, at the Black Bear Crossings. A formal organization may develop from these monthly get-togethers. I appreciate that folks talking to folks about Como Park has potential to benefit the Park.

5. In the meantime, it is an error to say statements by any individual(s) who attend(s) this voluntary gathering (once or regularly) are the opinion of the CPA as a whole unless the opinion was voted upon by a discernible membership. I appreciate the excellent pilot work done by many individual volunteers who applied 2009 technology to the task of finding affordable and effective ways to gather neighboring community input for park planning. Their volunteer service was sincere, generous, and well informed. They are to be thanked for the time, talent and treasure put to this task. The CPA and the survey initiative are great opportunities for park visitors to "Care for Como Park" and for city staff to obtain early and ongoing community input for their planning.

S. Worku  
Como resident

## Sunday Forum discusses children

The Sunday Forum on Sunday September 20, 11 a.m. will be at Hamline United Methodist Church, Englewood and Simpson, and will address the topic: "So, how are the children?"

The title, a take-off on the Children's Defense Fund campaign slogan, is meant to highlight conditions in which youth in our society are living. Holly has worked with students and teachers in two high schools (P.E.A.S.E. Academy in Minneapolis & Avalon High School in St. Paul) and Colleen has worked with younger children (newborns through middle schoolers).

Both have a deep concern about young people's access to food, shelter, medical care, safe and challenging learning and recreation opportunities, and healthy communities. Because young people cannot vote and do not wield much power in our society, adult members of the community must advocate for children's well-being. Join us for this stimulating and informative discussion of a vitally important topic.

The leaders will be: Colleen Bell, Professor of Conflict Studies, Hamline University and Holly Bell, Registrar/Office Manager, Avalon High School

The Sunday Forum is a gathering of citizens and friends of the Midway neighborhood on the third Sunday of each month, for the purpose of exploring and discussing ideas and issues that impact on the social, spiritual and intellectual fabric of our community. We look to the community for other topics. All Forums will be at the Hamline United Methodist Church in the Educational Wing Parlor (lower level). Coffee, tea and a cookie or two are available prior to the Forum.



**Coolant Flush**  
Fall Special **\$69.95** (Reg. \$89.99)  
Offer good thru Oct. 15, 2009

**RD's Automotive**  
1360 Rice Street

**YOUR ONE STOP AUTO SHOP**  
Tires & Alignments • Full Auto Repair  
**651-488-4704**  
Friendly Professional Customer Service • Mon. - Fri. 8-5  
**TOWING AVAILABLE**

**BANKRUPTCY LAW GROUP LLC**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
Serving Bankruptcy Clients in Minnesota & Wisconsin

- ◆ Find out if a Chapter 7 or 13 Bankruptcy is right for you!
- ◆ Immediate relief from debt!
- ◆ No more annoying calls from creditors!
- ◆ Enjoy a "Fresh Start"!
- ◆ Affordable rates with no hidden charges!

**Call Attorney Michael O'Gara**  
**(651) 699-5257**  
FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION & FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING



We are a debt relief agency.  
We help people file for Bankruptcy under the Bankruptcy Code.

**COMMUNITY of PEACE ACADEMY**  
A PREK-12 CHARTERED PUBLIC SCHOOL  
471 MAGNOLIA AVE E., ST. PAUL  
*Celebrating our 15th Year!*



- 2007 National Charter School of the Year
- 2003 National School of Character
- Academic Program recognized by US Dept. of Education
- Peace Education/Ethics taught and modeled daily
- Music, Art and Choir
- Grades 7-12 Sports
- K-12 Access to Library and Technology
- All Day Kindergarten
- 3- and 5-day Pre K
- Small Class Size
- Tuition Free

**Join us for our...**  
Oct. 29 .... 15th Anniversary Celebration  
Dec. 3 .... Winter Program, 6:30-8 pm  
Feb. 25 .... 2010-2011 New Student Application Deadline  
May 20 .... Annual Meeting & Spring Concert, 6:30-8 pm  
**Public Tours:**  
**Wednesday at 9:30 am**

*Educating mind, body and will for wholeness and fullness of life for all.*

651-776-5151 #333  
<http://cpa.charter.k12.mn.us>

**sparc has**  
**Low-interest home improvement loans and grants available!**

Sparc offers home improvement loans with interest rates from 0% to 6%. Use for exterior and interior improvements, lead hazard abatement, energy conservation, etc.

Find out more. Call Bonmey at Sparc 651-488-1039.



**sparc**  
igniting community development

843 Rice Street, Saint Paul, MN 55117  
651-488-1039 phone | 651-488-6309 fax  
[www.sparcweb.org](http://www.sparcweb.org)



# TC Reptiles not your father's pet store

By JAN WILLMS

As you walk through the doors of Twin Cities Reptiles at 2363 University Ave., you are struck by a distinctive aroma and the sense that this is not your father's pet store.

Lizards and snakes rest in glass pet cages, some blending into the background so that they are barely seen and others standing out with their brightly colored skin. The raising of reptiles as pets might have once been considered a fad, but today is a common and thriving industry, according to Bruce Delles, owner of the pet

store.

He should know. He has been selling reptiles for more than 31 years. His interest began when he was growing up in California, and as a child used to hang around pet stores and collect a few reptiles. That interest grew when he moved to the Twin Cities and began working for a man who raised reptiles in the 1970s. When he left the business, Delles purchased the inventory from his retail store, the Pet Dragon.

"I started a mail order business, and we shipped reptiles to people throughout the United

States," Delles said. "Then I had some friends who wanted to get rid of their store, and I purchased their business in Hopkins. This is my 6th location, and I have been on University Avenue for 16 years."

Reptiles would be shipped throughout the country via Fed Ex or UPS, with heat packs provided in winter and ice packs in summer to keep them comfortable. Today they are still shipped Fed Ex, or through the airlines.

Delles' store measures almost 7,000 square feet, and it holds 100 to 150 reptiles. He also has a flexible population of small exotic mammals, ranging from four to 20 and consisting of rabbits, chinchillas, hedgehogs, fancy rats and gerbils. The store has 180-200 tropical fish.

"Twenty to thirty years ago, there was a minimum known about raising amphibians," Delles said. "We have come a long ways since then. Animals that were hard to keep alive are now breeding second and third generations."

He said pet owners of reptiles are a mixed lot. A lot of people want a pet reptile, and usually single people or people with children raise one. Other pet owners have larger collections of snakes or lizards.

"Reptiles are very easy to maintain," Delles said. "In my



Twin Cities Reptiles owner Bruce Delles holds a Black Dragon Lizard. He has been selling reptiles for more than 31 years. (Photo by Liberty Willms)



Reptiles are still shipped Fed Ex, or through the airlines. Above, two Eastern Bearded Dragons at Twin Cities Reptiles explore their home. The store carries between 100 and 150 reptiles. (Photo by Liberty Willms)

opinion, they are easier to care for than most any other type of animal overall."

He said that in most cases, reptiles can be left alone about five or six days. Snakes can be left for up to a week and a half without maintenance.

"It's not recommended, but it can be done," he said. "It's not that way with dogs or cats."

Delles said most food for reptiles is obtained through commercial sources. Rodents are captively

produced, as opposed to field collected. Commercial dry foods are also fed to reptiles.

"Field collecting of food in the wild is rare, because people are not sure of the pesticides that may be carried to their pet," he noted.

The life span of a reptile is extremely variable, according to Delles. He said that in general, most lizards live 7-15 years. Snakes that are not boas or

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

• New • Used • Rebuilt

## ACE AUTO PARTS

754 Rice Street • Saint Paul • Minnesota • 55117  
Established 1929 651-717-4240

**Midway Animal Hospital**  
Offering high quality, compassionate care for your pets.  
Pete Kelley, DVM & Teresa Nolte, DVM  
731 North Snelling Avenue / 651-644-2100  
Parking & Entrance in Rear / Mon. - Fri. 8 am - 6 pm, Sat. 9 am - 1 pm

**Relax in our GARDEN PATIO**

**Localvore's Happy Hour**

**\$1 Off MN Taps**  
**\$2 Off MN Wines**  
**\$5 Small Plates**

*A Deliciously Fresh Twist to Authentic Vietnamese Cuisine*  
www.ngonbistro.com  
651.222.3301  
Vietnamese Bistro 799 University Ave. St. Paul MN

**Looking for friendly pharmacists who know your name?**

- Professional prescription compounding
- FREE blood pressure monitoring
- Delivery in the Midway area

**Lloyd's Pharmacy** 651-645-8636  
729 N. Snelling Ave • St. Paul

**STUDIO 4 HIGH SCHOOL FOR RECORDING ARTS**

**ENROLL NOW!**

- HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA
- TECHNOLOGY CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS
- FREE RECORDING STUDIO
- GRAPHIC DESIGN

**EVENING HOURS AVAILABLE**

For more information stop by  
550 Vandalia Street, St. Paul, MN 55114

**651.287.0890**  
**minnesota.hsra.org**

**CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF GREAT FOOD**

**The COFFEE CUP**  
"Home Cooking Since 1967"

**1446 RICE • 489-0020**

**Ranch Breakfast \$7.15** AND 4 OTHER BREAKFAST SPECIALS

**Daily Lunch Specials**  
**Dinner Specials until 3:00pm**

**ALL TIME FAVORITES SERVED 7 DAYS A WEEK!**  
BAR-B-Q-RIBS  
LARGE BREADED COD  
HOT TURKEY SANDWICHES  
HOT BEEF SANDWICHES  
BREADED PORK CHOPS  
GYROS & GREEK SALADS

5:30am to 3:00pm Everyday  
Kitchen Open until 3:00pm

**BREAKFAST ALL DAY**  
**TAKE OUT ORDERS**



# Mayor gives Hamline-Midway Library last minute reprieve

By JANE MCCLURE

Hamline-Midway Branch Library users, rejoice. No libraries, including yours, will be closed by the city of St. Paul in 2010. But library hours citywide will be cut in 2010 as a budget-balancing measure. The materials budget will also be cut but the number of computers will increase. Those are among highlights of the proposed 2010 St. Paul Public Library Agency budget, which Mayor Chris Coleman presented Aug. 19.

More than half a dozen local library supporters attended the budget address. They carried signs thanking Coleman for keeping the library open. One was Carrie Pomeroy, who dressed in vintage clothes and wore a sash to honor the library's past in the community.

"We're very happy that the library will remain open," she said. Neighbors have rallied to keep the library open and formed a task force with ward Four Council Member Russ Stark to explore options. Closing the library would have saved about \$350,000 per year.

If the City Council adopts Coleman's budget in December, libraries will have an operating budget of \$17.216 million in 2010, down 6.7 percent from the 2009 operating budget of \$18.456 million. The debt service budget for libraries will decrease slightly at .7 percent, from \$1.173 million in 2009 to \$1.165 in 2010. The libraries' capital improvement budget will be slashed, from \$35,471 million in 2009 to zero in 2010.

In the proposed budget, libraries face 26.4 full-time equivalent job cuts, from 187.9 in 2009 to 161.5 in 2010. The city plans to cut a total of 120.8 full-time equivalent positions in 2010, with libraries taking a significant share of that cut.



No libraries, including Hamline-Midway Branch, will be closed by the city of St. Paul in 2010. But library hours citywide will be cut as a budget-balancing measure.

nificant share of that cut.

Libraries do draw on various grants including funds from Friends of the St. Paul Public Library. Last year the Friends contributed \$404,942, with \$380,485 anticipated in 2010.

Library advocates and City Council members said that while they hate to see cuts, it's understandable in tight budget times. "Obviously we hate to see cuts to hours," said Peter Pearson, executive director of Friends of the St. Paul Public Library.

The Friends will provide contributions to help the materials and program budgets but don't provide matches for staff or library hours of operations. The group will announce its 2010 contributions soon.

More than 70 people filled the Central Library magazine room to hear the budget address. Coleman spoke of how in difficult times, people need libraries. "In good times and bad times the library is one of the most important places in our communi-

ty," he said.

The city will reduce library hours systemwide, from 730 to 678.5. Central Library, the bookmobile and the small West Seventh Popular Library will maintain hours. Branch libraries will be grouped into tiers, and all will see some shifts and cuts in hours. The first tier, which includes Hamline Midway, Arlington Hills, Riverview and Dayton's Bluff, will be open 45 hours or six days per week. The second tier, which includes Mer-

riam Park, St. Anthony Park, Hayden Heights and Rice Street, will be open 48 hours or six days per week. The third tier of libraries including Highland, Rondo and Sunray will be open 63 hours or seven days per week. The hours will be spread citywide to have at least one library in an area open during morning, afternoon, evening or weekend hours. Systemwide, the reductions will be from two to 12 hours per week, and will vary by library.

Materials spending will also be cut. The overall materials budget in 2009 is \$1.6 million, and \$1.36 in 2010, which is a 15% reduction.

Despite the cuts, Library Director Kit Hadley said St. Paul will still rank in the top three library systems in the metropolitan area, when number of hours open is considered.

Ward Three Council Member Pat Harris, who chairs the Library Board, asked library staff for a library-by-library breakdown of hours lost and what it would cost to restore specific cuts. In total, it would cost about \$929,000 to restore all of the lost hours. Harris said one of his goals is to see where hours can be restored, without raising the property tax levy.

The library system includes 1,149,081 items in its collections.

There are 314 public access computers citywide, with 958,882 users last year. The city has added 55 computers over the past four years and hopes to add 52 more in 2010. In the past two years libraries have seen a 68 percent increase in computer use.

The library had 1,809,311 online visits in 2008 and 88,569 cardholders who checked out items last year.

See us online:  
[www.MonitorSaintPaul.com](http://www.MonitorSaintPaul.com)

**SOUTHWESTERN TREASURES**

**NATIVE AMERICAN ART SHOW & SALE**

**WEST ST. PAUL ARMORY**

**1346 Robert Street South**

**10,000 SQ. FT. OF REAL NATIVE ART**

Featuring Hundreds Of Authentic Indian Articles, Including: Hopi & Navajo Kachinas, Pottery from Santa Clara Hopi, Navajo, Jemez Isleta, San Ildefonso & Acoma. Music, Baskets, Artifacts, Bows, Arrows, Lances, Paintings, Jewelry, Rugs. Beautiful High Quality Southwestern Art, & Much More!

**Information: 918-633-1032**

**September 25, 26, 27**

**Friday, Saturday**  
**10a.m.—6p.m. &**  
**Sunday 11a.m.—4p.m.**

*Don't Miss This Event*  
*★ Below Retail To The Public ★*

**Artwork**  
**from over**  
**180 Artists**

Charge cards, checks accepted.

Direct Reservation Buyer  
From New Mexico

**FREE ADMISSION**

We are the people in  
your Neighborhood



Get to know your Rice Street business owners. Visit us and shop while viewing *A Celebration of Rice Street in Pictures*.

Pictures on view in storefronts along the Rice Street corridor and at the Rice Street Library **September 15—October 15**. Gallery opening **September 15, 7 PM** at Rice Street Library, 1011 Rice St.

Photos by  
Sarah Stacke

**RICE**  
street

1011

**sparc**  
igniting community development

**SAINT PAUL STAR PROGRAM**



# In Our Community

## Taste of Como Oktoberfest

Taste of Como Oktoberfest will be held on Friday, September 25th, from 5-9 p.m. The church is located at 1435 Midway Parkway, in Buchanan Hall and the "Pit". There will be a sampling of neighborhood restaurant specialties, many German beers and wines and live music. Cost is \$15/person or \$20 at the gate. Call Larry McMahon for tickets. 651-489-2428. No one under the age of 21 will be served.

## Knox Church seeks used books

Knox Church 1536 W. Minnehaha Ave. (corner of West Minnehaha Ave and Asbury St.) is asking members of the community to donate books, music, videos and hobby related magazines for a book fair to be held in the church basement on October 17th from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Donations may be brought to the Asbury Street entrance between 9-1 weekdays or contact the church at 651-645-6488 or [knoxpres@comcast.net](mailto:knoxpres@comcast.net) to arrange for someone to meet you outside of those hours. If you prefer, we will arrange to pick up your donation at your home or business in the Monitor delivery area. Your donation is tax deductible. All money raised by this event is used to support missions and over half is distributed to St. Paul Charities.

## Addiction Group welcomes new attendees!

If you are struggling to deal with alcohol or drug addiction issues of a child or other loved one, consider a local support group. The Como Park chapter of Families Anonymous (FA) holds its meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 1465 N. Victoria St., starting at 7 p.m. All are welcome.

FA is a Twelve-Step fellowship of concerned relatives and friends who are struggling to deal with a loved one's addiction to harmful substances. There are active groups in major cities across the United States and in more than twenty other countries. Attendees find that they benefit from sharing experiences with others, avoiding much of the misery, guilt, and foolish mistakes.

## Fundraiser for Stray Feral Rescue

Catoberfest, a fundraiser for Stray Feral Rescue, is 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3 at St. Paul Fellowship annex basement at Victoria and Sherburne. Free parking in the church parking lot. Proceeds benefit free and low-cost spay/neuter

## Free lecture given by Dr. Murray

Dr. Michael T. Murray, N.D., widely regarded as one of the world's leading authorities in the field of natural medicine, will give a free lecture at the U of M Continuing Education Center at 1890 Buford Avenue, Room 135, on September 29th from 7-9 p.m. He is a former faculty member and is on the board of Bastyr University in Seattle.

He is the author of 30 books including "How to Prevent and Treat Diabetes With Natural Medicine," "Hunger-Free Forever," and "What the Drug Companies Won't Tell You and Your Doctor Doesn't Know."

The lecture is presented by Mastel's Health Foods, and is free, but seating is limited. R.S.V.P. to Mastel's to reserve your seat at 651-690-1692. Ask about directions and parking.



programs. Gift certificates, gift cards, pet items, original art, gift baskets and other items will be for sale. A silent auction will also be held. Enjoy food and beverages and learn about cats available for adoption. FFI: 651-644-3890 or <http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/MN188.html>

## Almanac holds book release party

Now in its fourth year, the Saint Paul Almanac, the only guidebook dedicated to the city, will hold a book release party at The Black Dog Cafe, 308 Prince St., in St. Paul on Thursday, September 17th from 6 to 8 p.m. Many of the featured writers will attend, and books will be for sale for \$11.95. For more details on the event, go to [www.saintpaulalmanac.com](http://www.saintpaulalmanac.com)

The book features essays, poems, photos, maps and listings of yearly events for St. Paul in 2010. Many in the past have said they get an appreciation for St. Paul that they never had before after reading the book.

You may purchase the book online, and at mainstream and independent bookstores in the area.

## Fall Bazaar/Meatloaf Dinner October 10

Como Park Lutheran Church will hold its annual Fall Bazaar and Meatloaf Dinner on Saturday, Oct. 10, 1376 Hoyt Avenue West. Phone: 651-646-7127, bazaar noon to 6 p.m. Bazaar items include: knit items, canned goods, embroidered dish towels, candles, jewelry, bakery items, lefse, and coffee shop.

The meatloaf dinner will be

served 4:30 to 7 p.m. Menu: meatloaf, mashed potatoes, vegetable, rolls, dessert and beverages.

Proceeds benefit the Block Nurse program and missionary efforts in Tanzania, Madagascar, Guatemala, local food shelves and youth programs in our community.

## Fall classes at Jehovah Lutheran

Children pre-K through Sr. High and their families are invited to a breakfast on Rally Day, Sunday, September 13, at 9:15 a.m. in the fellowship hall of Jehovah Lutheran church, 1566 Thomas. The Board of Education is hosting the delicious breakfast to kick off the 2009-10 Sunday School classes. Returning and prospective students are welcome.

Adults, too, begin a fall series Sunday, Sep 13, at 9 a.m. They will study The Apostle Paul, his life and his letters to young congregations, with lectures by Professor of New Testament Luke Timothy Johnson lecturing on video followed by class interactive study. Dr. Johnson is a "great teacher" awardee acclaimed for his stimulating lectures. This Adult Bible Class begins with coffee and prayer fellowship; this series runs 12 weeks. No prior registration needed.

On alternate Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. the Women's Bible Study meets to study Esther: It's tough being a Woman. This 6-session Beth Moore Bible study profiles Esther's courage and contains many modern parallels for today's women. All are welcome to register by calling the church office: 651-644-1421 or contacting [bridgetkruchowski@comcast.net](mailto:bridgetkruchowski@comcast.net).

Finally on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Pastor Bob Benke leads a men's Bible study entitled

Galations: You Make Me So Mad! (An Angry Apostle's Epistle). The class begins September 24 in the lounge. All are welcome to this rousing study.

For all the above classes please enter at the Thomas Street door. Please check the calendar at [www.jehovahlutheran.org](http://www.jehovahlutheran.org) for details.

## Award winning author visits library

Minnesota Book Award winner Julie Kramer will discuss her books, Stalking Susan and Missing Mark at 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 6 at the Rice Street Branch Library.

Julie Kramer is a freelance TV producer for NBC news, where she covers stories for the Today Show, Nightly News, and Dateline. Prior to that, she was a national award-winning investigative producer for WCCO-TV in Minneapolis. She lives in White Bear Lake, MN. Stalking Susan, Kramer's debut novel, was released in 2008 and won the Minnesota Book Award for Genre Fiction. Missing Mark, her second novel, was released in July 2009.

The Rice Street Library is located at 1011 Rice Street between Lawson and Hatch. Hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 12:30-9 p.m.; Tuesday 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

For more event information, please call 651-558-2223 or visit [www.sppl.org](http://www.sppl.org).

## Rummage Sale at Holy Childhood

Holy Childhood Rummage Sale will be held in Buchanan Hall at Holy Childhood Church, 1435 Midway Parkway, on Thursday, October 8th, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Friday, October 9th, 9 a.m. to noon.

## Household chemical discussed

Reducing Harmful Household Chemicals will be the topic at a luncheon for seniors on October 13 beginning at 11:30 a.m. at 1415 Englewood Avenue (lower level, Hamline Methodist Church). Tara Roffler, Ramsey County Health will share the basics about using hazardous products safely and how to properly store and dispose of them. Call the office of Hamline Midway Elders 651-209-6542 to make reservations or request free transportation. A free will donation is asked for the meal.

Contact Hamline Midway Elders (651-209-6542) if you are a senior and are interested in any of the following: having a U of M veterinary student provide well pet assessments and advice in your

home, learning more about Healthy Moves, gentle in-home exercise instruction by trained volunteers, or if you would like assistance to help reducing household hazardous waste or the amount of junk mail you receive.

## Nutrition class/weight loss seminar

A 12-week free nutrition class and weight loss challenge seminar will be held every Wednesday at 6 p.m. at 960 Thomas Avenue beginning next Wednesday. The seminar will cover various areas of nutrition including protein, fat and carbohydrate metabolism. A cash prize will be given for the person who loses the most weight. Contact is Brian at 612-986-0671.

## Skon Chiropractic Clinic re-locates

The Skon Chiropractic Clinic has recently relocated to its former location at 1567 Selby Avenue @ Snelling to continue its 50-year family legacy in serving St. Paul and surrounding communities.

Dr. William H. Skon has treated chronic back and neck pain, headaches, and work and auto accidents for over 25 years. The clinic's newly renovated space offers chiropractic care and physical therapies in a rejuvenating, healing environment and a convenient location, with easy access to I-94.

The clinic will offer complimentary consultations and spinal exams during the month of September to individuals who bring food donations to the clinic for the benefit of local food shelves. Please call 651-644-3900 to make an appointment.

## Spooktacular Event planned Oct. 31

Halloween Spooktacular Event to be held to raise money to purchase a seizure alert/service dog for local child. Kylie Jo Gibbons (age 5) of Falcon Heights suffers from a rare genetic disease called Tuberous Sclerosis Complex. As a result she has uncontrolled seizures, brain tumor and developmental delays. Her grandmother is using her love of decorating for Halloween and her love for Kylie to hold a fundraising event, family event on Halloween Day, Saturday, Oct. 31. The time will be from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission for the event is \$5 per person. There will be carnival games, prizes, treats, and non threatening decorations. To learn more about the event and Kylie please visit the website at [www.halloweenspooktacular.myevent.com](http://www.halloweenspooktacular.myevent.com). She also has a caring-bridge site [www.caringbridge.org/mn/kylie](http://www.caringbridge.org/mn/kylie)



# Area CIB projects meet mixed fate

By JANE MCCLURE

Area projects met a mixed fate when Mayor Chris Coleman released his 2010-2011 Long-Range Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) recommendations in August. Part of the Como Pool project is in, as are a number of improvements to other parks and recreation facilities – including two parks that will lose their recreation centers if the budget is adopted by year's end.

Coleman's proposed budget is now in the hands of the St. Paul City Council, which will act on it and city operating budgets in December (See related stories).

The capital budget has already been through several months of review by the Long-Range CIB Committee, a citizens' group that studies and ranks every project through an extensive community process. More than 150 projects were submitted in January by city departments, district councils, community development corporations and business associations.

The pool missed out on funding by the CIB Committee. But Coleman has added in \$1 million for administrative, admissions, storage, men's and women's locker facilities, and family changing rooms. This would be the first phase of the project. However, the proposal is already meeting fierce lobbying from opponents, who have flooded City Council offices with

calls and emails.

The mayor is also adding in funding for improvements at Front and Sylvan recreation centers, where recreation center buildings would be closed and torn down. The city would add smaller restroom facilities and make other improvements, as field and play space would still remain for park users.

Area projects recommended by the mayor include:

- Como Historic Bridge. The bridge, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, is blocked off due to its condition. A \$212,000 allocation is recommended for 2011, to march federal funding for its repair as a park structure.
- Trillium site development. The intent is to continue development of the park and nature preserve just west of I-35E. The project began in 2000. Coleman recommends \$678,000 in 2010 and \$500,000 in 2011.
- Como Park play equipment, Midway Parkway and Estabrook Drive. Parks and Recreation wants to replace playground equipment that was installed in 1990, at a cost of \$313,000 in 2011.
- Pierce Butler Route extension. Public Works wants to extend the road from Dale Street to I-35E. CIB dollars

would be used to buy right-of-way and continue project design, at a cost of \$1.94 million. This doesn't include any funding to extend the road west of Highway 280.

- Hamline Avenue Bridge. Reconstruction of the bridge over Ayd Mill Road is penciled in for \$500,000 in 2010 and \$4.4 million in 2011.
- Wheelock Parkway Bridge. Public Works would replace the bridge, with \$2.32 million in 2010. The bridge is near Park and Sylvan streets.
- Lexington Parkway Bridge and bikeway. Public Works would connect the proposed off-road bikeway along Lexington and make improvements for bicyclists in 2010, at a cost of \$1.57 million.
- Central Corridor streetscape improvements. This project, in conjunction with the light rail line construction, provides \$500,000 in 2010 and \$1.5 million in 2011.
- Central Corridor off-street parking. \$175,000 is recommended per year, in 2010 and 2011.
- Raymond Avenue traffic calming improvements. New bicycle features and sidewalks, and reconfigured intersections between Univer-

sity and Hampden is slated for 2011, at a cost of \$190,000.

- Minnehaha Avenue reconstruction. Public Works will rebuild the street between Prior and Fairview avenues, as part of the Hewitt/Tatum RSVP in 2011, at a cost of \$1.1 million.
- Prior Avenue bicycle route. Mister Michael Recycles Bicycles, a volunteer bicycle repair business, wants bicycle lanes be striped on Prior from Summit Avenue to Pierce Butler Route. \$53,000 is in the budget for 2011.
- Sparc home improvement grant programs. The community development corporation is recommended for \$150,000 per year for home improvements in the North End, South Como and Hamline-Midway areas.
- Frogtown Facelift. Thomas-Dale Community Council and Greater Frogtown Community Development Corporation (GFCDC) are recommended for \$200,000 per year to help home owners address deferred maintenance and health and safety hazards.
- Frogtown Flexible Fund for Housing Development. Thomas-Dale Community Council and GFCDC would be awarded \$100,000 per

year to buy vacant lots and houses, demolish houses if needed and do housing rehabilitation and new construction.

- Capital Backyard Business Fund. Sparc and GFCDC want funds for targeted commercial revitalization projects on Rice Street, Dale Street and Snelling Avenue. A \$100,000 allocation is recommended per year.
- \* Sparc acquisition and rehabilitation fund. Sparc wants to rehabilitate and sell housing to families meeting income guidelines, and is recommended for \$100,000 in 2010.

Projects that didn't make the cut include Sparc emergency home improvement grants, Midway Stadium improvements, McMurray Field improvements, Merriam Park master planning process, Western Avenue reconstruction, Hamline Avenue reconstruction, improvements to the Rice Street Bridge near Sycamore Street, Marshall Avenue median improvements, Snelling Avenue green streets traffic calming, and Hampden Park improvements. Como Woodland Outdoor Classroom didn't make the cut for CIB dollars but the restoration of the historic "Dutch ovens" built in the park in 1936 should proceed thanks to state funding.

## THE SAINT PAUL WELCOME HOME TOUR

OPEN THE DOOR TO A NEW BEGINNING

**Time to turn over a new leaf?**  
Join us for a day of tours featuring  
fabulous homes, neighborhoods  
and fun!

For more info, check us out online  
at [thewelcomehometour.com](http://thewelcomehometour.com).

**See you there!**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH 2009 | 12PM-4PM**

See a variety of homes with GREAT potential! There will be information on financing and rehabbing available to buyers at the locations below.

**PICK UP A TOUR MAP AND INFORMATION ON THE 27TH AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:**

**FROGTOWN TOUR** | 533 North Dale St., Southwest corner of Charles and Dale

**NORTH END TOUR** | 843 Rice St., on the Northwest corner of Rice and Atwater

**SPONSORED BY:**

The Saint Paul Area Association of REALTORS  
Wells Fargo

**IN COOPERATION WITH OUR PARTNERS:**

Greater Frogtown CDC  
Invest Saint Paul Initiative  
District 6 Planning Council  
District 7 Planning Council  
Historic Saint Paul  
Sparc





# Plans move ahead to rebuild Rice and Maryland

By JANE MCCLURE

Plans to rebuild the Rice and Maryland intersection should have benefits for motorists. The intersection currently has the second-highest number of crashes of any St. Paul crossing, second only to Snelling and St. Anthony.

Adding a left turn lane and making other changes could cut down on the 50-plus crashes every year at Rice and Maryland but it will mean a loss of property. How property owners are compensated is an issue St. Paul officials will impact home owners and businesses in the area.

The St. Paul City Council gave the project the go-ahead Aug. 19, for property acquisition to take place this fall. Construction will get underway next year. The vote was 60; Ward Five Council Member Lee Helgen supports the project but was absent

due to a death in his family.

The intersection is a busy place, said Paul St. Martin of St. Paul Public Works. Maryland east of Rice carries between 16,000 and 17,000 vehicles per day. West of Rice the count drops to 10,000.

In about 1980, a left turn ban was enacted during rush hour, to reduce the number of vehicles turning south onto Rice Street from westbound Maryland.

"We believe this is a very good project," said St. Martin. It should make the intersection safer. Officials have met with community members as a group and have met individually with property owners.

The \$1.7 million project is a joint city-county venture, with funding coming from a federal safety grant obtained by Ramsey County. Public works depart-

ments from the city and county are involved in the project because both Rice and Maryland are classified as county-state aid highways.

Plans call for widening Maryland from Albemarle to Park streets, with permanent easements on the south and north side of the street and temporary easements to the north.

A total of 13 properties are affected. West of Rice Street, a longtime neighborhood barber shop and bar have already been acquired and torn down. On the north side of Maryland, businesses will lose some off-street parking.

But east of Rice, the widening will affect a convenience store as well as homes. Some home owners say if the city and county are going to take part of their front yard for the rebuilt street,

they may as well take it all.

One of the affected homes is owned by the St. Paul Public Housing Agency (PHA) John Wright of PHA said the family living there could lose 17 to 21 feet of front yard. "We'd ask that you acquire all of the property. Otherwise it will leave a very dangerous situation."

"If you have to take our yard, a buyout would be best," said Regina Bohmer, another Maryland Avenue resident. "We'd have almost no front yard left."

Bilal Alsadi owns the gas station and convenience store at Rice and Maryland. He will also lose property. But city officials have suggested that if homes to the east are taken, Alsadi's site can be reconfigured and the business can remain.

"My concern is to stay in business on this corner," he said.

City Council members said they understand the issues neighborhood residents and business owners are raising. They noted some home owners would have front doors just feet away from the street and the front sidewalk if their dwellings remain.

Some council members asked if a total buyout of affected home owners is possible. Bruce Engelbrecht of the city's real estate office said there are concerns that some people would lose up to two-thirds of their front yards. "We are open to looking at that and will continue to discuss that option with neighbors," he said.

The widening of and improvement to Maryland is important, said Ward Six Council Member Dan Bostrom. "There's no other east-west through street from Como Park to White Bear Avenue," he said.

## Reptiles

Continued from page 8

pythons typically average 18-21 years, and boas and pythons can live from 20-35 years.

Delles said there are a number of different laws involving reptiles at different stages.

"Federal laws protect certain animals from being brought into the country," he said. "With state laws, certain animals are not allowed in the state or to be possessed in the state. There are various municipal restrictions that may or may not have limitations."

Delles said he carries many reptiles that he thinks of as fairly common, but others consider rare. He thinks his most unique is the pair of water monitor lizards from Southeast Asia, called Black Dragons.

"There are not a lot of them in the country, to my knowledge," he said. He also has an albino python and albino red-eyed tree frogs.

Delles said he does not import any reptiles from out of the country. "I buy in the United States," he said. "I buy from people who do import and from private collectors. We also produce a fair amount of reptiles here."

Delles said that as far as reptiles being good children's pets, he

would say yes and no.

"I do not recommend one as a hands-on pet for a child under the age of 7," he said. "If they are just going to look at the pet, the children could be younger. Certain reptiles are more tolerant and more forgiving of handling."

A sign on the pet cages encourages customers to think before they buy.

"If I have someone come in who has no experience raising reptiles, and they want to buy one of the small snakes that will grow into a huge adult snake, I tell them no," he said. He said he is very careful about buyers, and he does not sell any venomous pets.

In that same vein, Delles sells numerous supplies, the largest selection for reptiles and amphibians in the Midwest.

"Our primary focus is getting you the right equipment for the longevity of the animal," Delles said. "I don't believe in slogans, but 'Service after the Sale' is what we provide." The store also offers a website, twincitiesreptiles.net.

Although he works with reptiles on a daily basis, Delles has some for pets, also.

"There are a large number of particular types of snakes, lizards, tortoises and frogs that my girlfriend and I have as pets," he said. "And a dog."

## Familiar faces

Continued from page 6

nesses or work there," said Sharkey. "We can see in the pictures the pride built in owning their business and can see that they're really an invested part of the community. We can all return the favor by investing in them."

Both the recession and bridge construction on Rice Street have had a negative effect on sales.

"A lot of business owners have seen their revenue down by 50 percent of so especially those by the bridge," said Sharkey. "The bridge should be done by the end of September. We haven't lost any businesses because of it."

Herb Yoch, 72, owner of Rice St Do It Best Hardware, at 1110 Rice St., who has been in business 29 years in the North End, decided to locate his business on Rice Street because he had managed another hardware store located there for many years before getting his

own store in 1980.

"At that time it was mostly homeowners," he said. "The area has been changing to a lot of rental. As homeowners started selling their homes, my business started decreasing."

Yoch feels having people see the photographs on Rice Street will help his business a lot.

"We need to do something to revitalize the area," he said. "It's important people know that if they don't support local businesses, they will just keep going out of business."

Yoch hopes the marketing campaign will increase his business.

"I hope it will actually improve or make more people think about shopping in their community," he said. "People come to us for service and knowledge. Many, many little hardware stores have gone out of business as people go to big hardware stores for the prices."

Addis Tsegaye, who has owned Hood Goodies, at 849 Rice St., for three years, located his business on Rice Street because when he came to Minnesota 10 years ago, he lived on Rice Street.

"I love the place," he said. "I don't want to go far away."

Tsegaye feels the photographs of business owners in storefronts will give his business more attention.

"It will give it a boost," he said. "That's positive. It's a nice idea."

The photographs will help redefine the neighborhood.

"It will change totally from old times and problems in the area they have," said Tsegaye. "It will bring a good image to the area. We have new buildings and flowers on Rice Street. The sidewalks got done last year. Now, it looks like it has life."

Sharkey looks forward to the gallery opening night at Rice Street Library, 1011 Rice St., on Sept. 15, where additional photographs of community members, many from last year's Rice Street Festival, will be shown.

"It will be fun because a lot of people in the community will be out at the same time looking at the pictures, and people will see someone they recognize," she said. "We encourage people to come."

## CORNELIA HOUSE

A Gracious Way of Life

### Independent Living, 62+

Not ready for a "senior community" yet? Neither are our residents. They simply like living on a *continuing care campus* with all the services they may ever need. The great neighbors are just the icing on the cake. Call Julie Niewald at **651-288-3931** for a tour. One of our gracious 1 or 2 BR apartments could be a smart move someday!

**1840 University Ave W • Saint Paul**  
Part of the Episcopal Homes family  
[www.ehomesmn.org](http://www.ehomesmn.org)

## IRIS PARK COMMONS

A Community of Heart

### Assisted Living, 55+

We offer comfy, secure 1 or 2 BR and studio apartments with a menu of assisted living services. Most units have great views of neighboring Iris Park or the green of our own private campus. Some are available through County programs. Call Mark Ladwig at **651-646-1026** for a tour. Come see why folks call us "*A Community of Heart.*"

**1850 University Ave W • Saint Paul**  
Part of the Episcopal Homes family  
[www.ehomesmn.org](http://www.ehomesmn.org)

The Midway Como Monitor is typically published the second Thursday-Friday of each month. If you're not receiving a timely delivery call 651-645-7045

## Mosaic ON A STICK

595 N. Snelling Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN 55104  
651-645-6600  
[www.mosaiconastick.com](http://www.mosaiconastick.com)

An artist-owned mosaic supply shop, community classroom & artist studio



# City Council moves to relax chicken regulations

By JANE MCCLURE

More chickens could come home to roost in St. Paul neighborhoods, as the St. Paul City Council prepared to relax regulations for those who want to keep their feathered friends. The council was to adopt revised regulations Sept. 9, following a public hearing Sept. 2.

As a result of the changes, a petition requirement could be dropped and a permit fee lowered. Many chicken owners and prospective chicken owners welcome the changes, saying there are benefits to keeping a small flock of hens in the city. Fresh eggs are just one boon. Another is the feathered friends themselves. People like keeping chickens, saying it's enjoyable to raise them. There is even a group, Midway Chickens, which has been active for more than a year.

Changing the chicken regulations has prompted some joking among council members and city licensing staff. Some of the staff has teased each other about being "Chicken Man," a 1970s mock super-hero. Ward Four Council Member Russ Stark found a rubber chicken at his spot on the council table on the day of the public hearing. Other council members brought chicken figurines or made clucking noises. But all were surprised when no one showed up Sept. 2 to testify against the changes.

Stark said that constituents have asked for the relaxed regulations for some time. "I don't see it as that big of a change," he said.

But the changes are worth

considering, given the growing popularity of urban chickens. In some neighborhoods, chicken owners split the costs of feed and share tips on care.

Cities throughout the Twin Cities area have different regulations for chickens. Minneapolis

allows chickens as do some suburbs. Other suburbs have banned the creatures.

Currently, keeping chickens in St. Paul has required a petition signed by at least 75 percent of property owners or occupants within 150 feet of the chicken owner's home. That distance is measured from the property boundaries. Or, a chicken owner must prove his or her property lines are more than 150 feet away from other structures. Chicken owners don't have to cross a street for permission.

The permit fee is \$75; Stark proposed reducing that to \$25.

Chickens are regulated un-

der the same city ordinance that governs keeping of regulated or wild and exotic animals. Regulated animals include lions, tigers, cougars, leopards, cheetahs, ocelots, servals, bears, wolves, raptor birds, pheasants, snakes, eagles, weasels, badgers, deer, bison and non-human primates including monkeys,

more than one rabbit, mink, ferret, chicken, turkey, duck, goose or pigeon or similar small animal. It doesn't apply to small birds or mammals kept as pets, such as hamsters or gerbils. The ordinance also spells out the need for permits if a

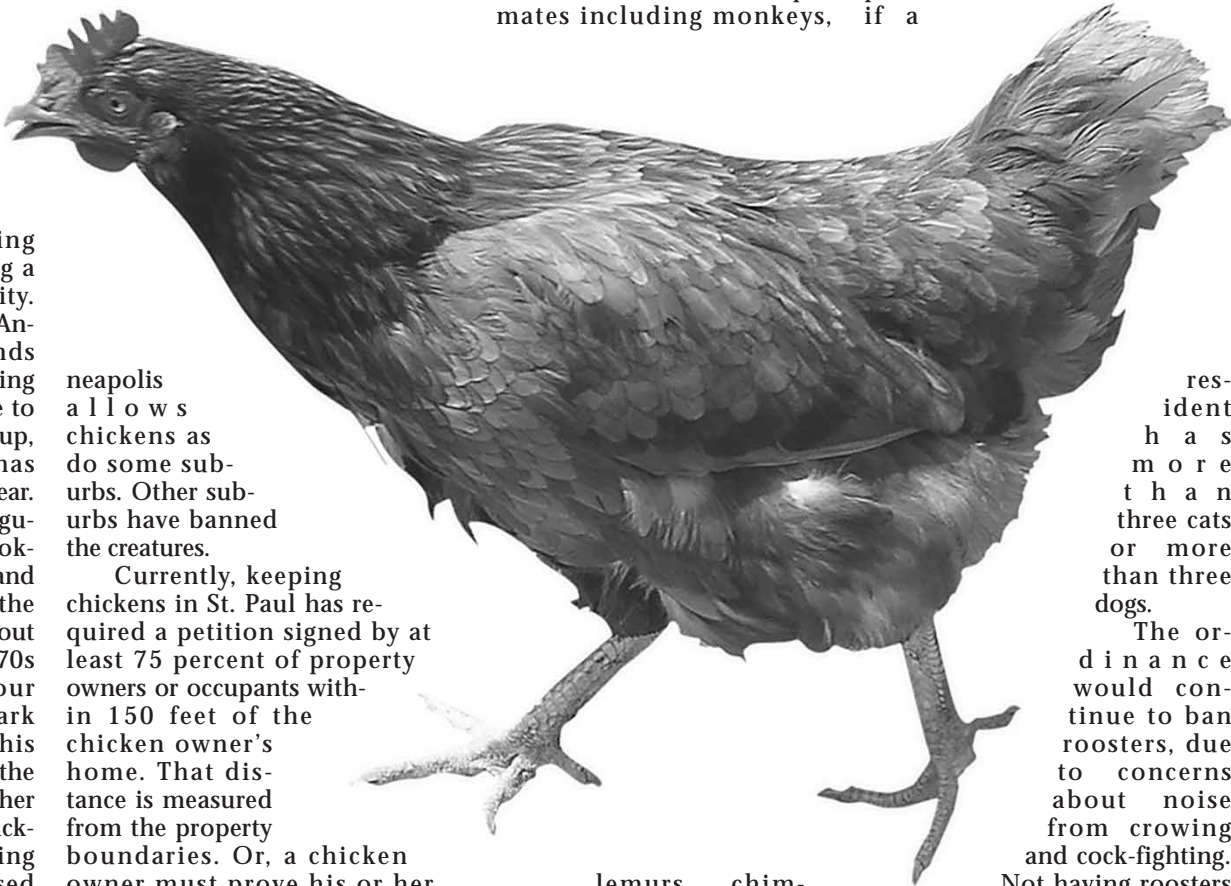
closure and coop. Feed would have to be kept in a rodent-proof container. Chicken owners cannot sell eggs or hens for consumption. Coops cannot be placed in front yards. The city would be able to crack down on chicken owners who don't clean up chicken manure.

Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI) Director Robert Kessler said that changing the chicken regulations has been a learning curve for his staff and for Mayor Chris Coleman's administration. Research on chicken ordinance changes began about 1 1/2 years ago.

Kessler had to explain to one administration official that the city won't be overrun with baby chicks if hens are allowed. That's because roosters are needed to fertilize the eggs to produce chicks – and roosters will still be banned. "We got to laughing so hard, we couldn't continue the meeting."

"We've issued permits for chickens for years," said Kessler. "These changes will just make it easier for people to have hens."

"A lot of people can't believe there is a demand to keep chickens in the city, but I have to admit, when you have fresh eggs, you can understand the arguments," he said. Yet opponents have concerns about chickens potentially becoming a nuisance and those need to be considered. Opponents have raised concerns at neighborhood meetings about noise, odor and public health. But proponents say chickens are clean, and eat items that would otherwise be tossed or composted.



resident has more than three cats or more than three dogs.

The ordinance would continue to ban roosters, due to concerns about noise from crowing and cock-fighting.

Not having roosters also reduce the problem of chicken overpopulation, as roosters are needed to fertilize eggs and have eggs hatch into chicks.

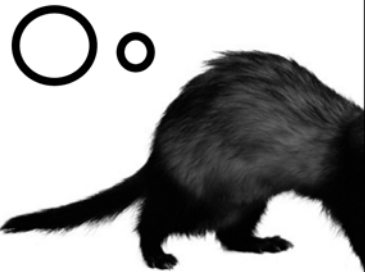
Other regulations wouldn't change. Chickens would still have to be kept in a fenced en-

closed area with lemur, chimpanzees, gorillas, orangutans, marmosets, lorises and tamarins. Animals that are cross-breeds between wild and domestic creatures are also governed by the ordinance.

The ordinance currently requires permits if a resident has

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

Your next pet is closer than you think.



1115 Beulah Lane, St. Paul, MN 55108  
(651) 645-7387  
[www.animalhumanesociety.org](http://www.animalhumanesociety.org)

...where the joy and spirit of music are brought to lives young and old.



Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet  
**ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL OF MUSIC**

Music lessons and classes for all ages and levels, master teachers, best value in the Twin Cities.

450 N. Syndicate St. Suite 350  
St. Paul, MN 55104

651.690.4364

[stjoseph-schoolofmusic.net](http://stjoseph-schoolofmusic.net)

## Minnehaha Academy Annual Arena Sale

4200 W. River Pkwy; Mpls. 55406

Fri, Sept. 18 9 am – 7 pm  
(\$3 adult admis. Fri. until 2 pm)  
Sat., Sept 19 9 am – 3 pm.

**No Strollers Allowed.**

**Food provided by Chris and Rob's restaurant.**  
Famous MA rolls available too.

Celebrating 125 Years 1880-2005

**Forward in Faith**

**HAMLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

8:00 AM Communion  
9:30 AM Worship  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Hospitality  
10:45 AM Youth Group  
11:00 AM Sunday Forum (3rd Sunday of each month)

1514 Englewood Avenue – St. Paul 651-645-0667

Details on website: [www.hamlinechurch.org](http://www.hamlinechurch.org)

Now in: peppers, melons, sweet corn, apples, carrots, zucchini, tomatoes, cucumbers, broccoli, herbs, green beans, cauliflower, potatoes, squash, cut flowers, perennials, meats, bakery, dairy, and much more.  
Products vary between markets

**SAINT PAUL FARMERS' MARKET**

Always 100% Fresh Locally Grown

**Huge Variety of Canning Vegetables**

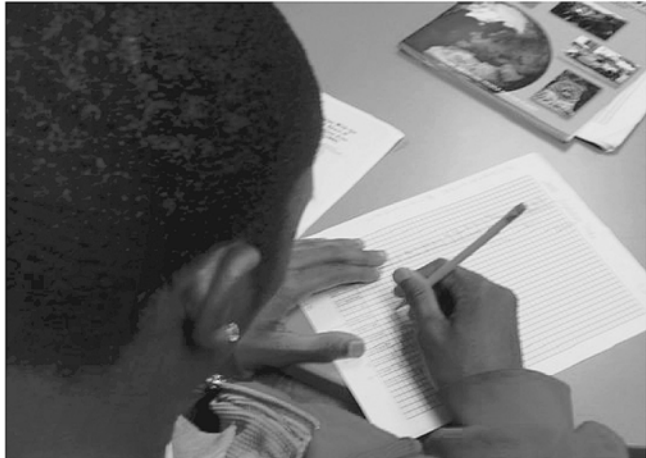
**Markets In Your Area:**

Falcon Heights	Across from Spire Federal Credit Union	Tuesdays, 8am - 12:30pm
Saint Thomas More Church	Summit & Lexington Avenue	Fridays, 1:15 - 5pm
Downtown	5th Ave and Wall St	Saturdays, 6am - 1pm • Sundays, 8am - 1pm
7th Place	7th and Wabasha	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am - 1:30pm

For a complete list of all 19 Saint Paul Farmers' Market locations and schedule, visit us at [www.stpaulfarmersmarket.com](http://www.stpaulfarmersmarket.com). Click on "Receive E-mail Updates" to be among the first to know when new products arrive.



**If your School doesn't work,  
neither will you!**



- Learn in small classes • Free College credit
- Get personal attention from caring, well-trained teachers
- Participate in a year-round program that helps make up credits
- Learn work skills through service learning and real world internships.

### **Skills for Tomorrow High School**

547 Wheeler St. N  
St. Paul, MN 55104

**Now Enrolling Students in Grades 9-12.  
For More Information or To Schedule A Visit  
Call:  
(651) 647-6000**

## **HAMPDEN PARK CO-OP**

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

### **DETOUR**

**To Hampden Park Co-op!**  
Railroad Bridge Construction on Raymond Avenue  
September & October are:  
Find New Ways to the Co-op months!



Clip out this ad, come in and  
spend \$30 or more and  
receive 1 free Chicobag®!  
- One bag per coupon -

## **Affordable Senior Living Apartment Now Available**



- Award winning community
- Extensive amenity package including two community rooms, exercise room and salon
- Spacious floorplans with washer/dryer hookup
- Residents 55 years and better!
- Exceptional value – rents from \$850

**Stop in Today!**

## **Osceola Place**

260 Osceola Avenue  
St. Clair and 35E  
**651.228.1042**



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



## **SERVICES • SERVICES • SERVICES • SERVICES • SERVICES**

**ROOFING**  
Nilles Builders, Inc.  
Full Warranty  
Licensed • Bonded • Insured #4690  
"We Work All Winter"  
**651-222-8701**  
[www.nillesbuilders.com](http://www.nillesbuilders.com)

**Sullivan Roofing & Siding**  
\* Expert Roofing/Siding \* Free Estimates  
\* Outstanding Quality \* Licensed & Insured  
\* Lowest Price \* **651-436-8975**  
\* 25 Years Exp. \* Lic. # 20515019

**Merriam Park Painting**  
• Exterior & Interior  
Painting - Enameling  
• Ceiling Texturing  
• Wallpapering  
• Free Estimates  
Call Ed 651-224-3860 or Norm, 651-208-7294

**A Quarter Century of Helping Homeowners**  
**See your sales rep for "Fall"ing Price Specials!**

- Shingle & Flat Roofs
- Siding & Gutters
- Exterior Restoration

Free Estimates, Many References  
licensed, bonded & insured

**AUSTAD CONSTRUCTION**  
Residential & Commercial

182A Ryan Lane  
651-482-0070 St. Paul

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

JamesHardie  
MasterElite  
BBB  
MN Lic. #20320318  
GAF

**HAR MAR LOCK & KEY**  
"We Solve Life's Little Problems"  
24 Hours A Day  
**651-636-8171**  
1551 W. LARPEUR AVE. ROSEVILLE, MN 55113

**ALL HANDYMAN SERVICES**  
Clean Ups & Haul Aways.  
Attics, Basements, Garages,  
Yards, Tear Offs and Roofing.  
We also do Demolishing & Repairs  
**CALL: 651-274-0263**

**Nilles Builders, Inc.**  
Additions • Remodeling  
Renovation • Windows & Siding  
Concrete • Garages  
Licensed • Bonded • Insured #4690  
**651-222-8701**  
[www.nillesbuilders.com](http://www.nillesbuilders.com)

**Painting**  
Professional Quality,  
Advice, Suggestions  
15 Years Experience  
**Chris Robichaud**  
651-633-3643  
651-450-4340

**GARY'S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR**

- Tire Repair
- Tune-Ups
- Brakes
- Exhaust
- Oil Changes
- Air Conditioning
- Computer Diagnosis
- General Repair

455 ATWATER ST. • ST. PAUL, MN 55117  
**651-776-9088 • 651-487-3659**  
MANAGER: GARY NIPPOLDT  
ASST. MANAGER: GREG NIPPOLDT

**McQUILLAN BROS**  
Since 1883  
**Plumbing and Heating Co.**  
Restoration Specialists  
688 Haguac  
**651-292-0124**



# Classifieds

Monitor Want Ads are now \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to Monitor Classifieds, Iris Park Place, 1885 University Avenue, Ste. #110, St. Paul, MN 55104. Classifieds must be prepaid via cash, check, or credit card. Classified ads can be e-mailed to [denisw@aplacetoremember.com](mailto:denisw@aplacetoremember.com). Want ads must be in the Monitor before September 28 for the October 8 issue. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Monitor's website at [www.MonitorSaintPaul.com](http://www.MonitorSaintPaul.com)

## BATHROOMS

Bathroom/kitchens!! Basement finishing. Bad water pressure? Sinks, toilets and tub/surrounds, etc. Ceramic tile. Basement bathrooms installed. Call 612-275-9815. 9-09

Need a handyman?? Any job, big or small plumbing? Remodeling? Decks? Etc. Call "Dynamo" Dave 612-701-2272. Competitive prices! 11-09

## CARPET CLEANING

Two average size rooms \$49.95. Owner/operator - Dave. 612-721-5105, 612-636-3073. 9-09

## COMMERCIAL SPACE

Professional Space for rent: MacGroveland/Snelling; 2 offices available; shared reception area; storage; in-space bathrooms; utilities (AC/heat); security system; convenient to both downtowns; visible, high-traffic location; newly remodeled, clean, quiet; ADA compliant; excellent for body-worker, therapist, consultant, or other professional. 651-699-7096. 11-09

## ESTATE SALE

Estate Sale, 365 No. Finn St., St. Paul, Aug. 13 & 14, Thursday & Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; also Aug. 21 and 22, Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. 8-09

## FOR SALE

For Sale: Vintage 1900-1949 lights, house hardware, doors, tubs, radiators, etc. Also furniture hardware. 651-644-9270. 20% off with ad. 12-09

## HANDYMAN

Need a handyman?? One call does it all. Any job, big or small. Plumbing? Remodeling? Don't tell my wife, but keeping your house in tip-top condition is more important than my own! Call "Dynamo" Dave 612-701-2272. 11-09

## HAULING

Just Call, We Haul - We haul away almost anything from old furniture and appliances to yard waste and construction debris. We'll do all the loading and cleanup for you. For free estimate on cleaning your garage, attic, basement, and yard. Just Call 612-724-9733. 9-09

Cleanups—all types and haul-aways. No restrictions or limits. 15 years experience. All Handyman Services, Richard—651-274-0263, 651-373-6652. B-08

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

## HARDWOOD FLOORS - Beautifully Refinished

**1/2 the Cost & 1 Day Service**

to Clean and Re-coat Your Existing Floors

**WOOD FLOORS BY McCORMICK**

Free Estimates • 31 Years of Experience • Call Leo at 488-1961

## CONCRETE SIDEWALKS, STEPS AND STUCCO REPAIR

## GLASS BLOCK WINDOW

good for basements  
any size

## CHIMNEY & FIREPLACE WORK

Call Mark Larson  
**651-642-5090**

## TOTAL HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Your Complete Contractor • Lic. #20095403

✓ Additions/Basements ✓ Decks/Porches  
✓ Bathrooms/Kitchens ✓ Renovations  
✓ Doors/Windows ✓ Roofing/Siding

Pictures & refs available

**651-777-3911**

## Norman Dale Electric Co.



Residential, Commercial  
& Industrial

**651-644-0655**

"Now Celebrating 30 Years" Free Est.

## LAWN SERVICE



Total Lawn Maintenance  
Large or Small Landscaping Projects  
Tree and Shrub Maintenance  
Plowing and Snow Removal

**John: 612-328-6893**

21 YEARS EXPERIENCE / MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

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

## LANDSCAPING

## LANDSCAPING

"No pressure - we listen"

- Retaining Walls
- Pavers • Sodding
- Ponds & Water Features
- Irrigation Systems
- Decorative Rock & Wood Mulches
- Natural Stone & Plastic Edging

Quality Service Since 1983

**FREE ESTIMATES**

**BEAKS 651-224-9299**

## Ornamental Step Rails

Licensed & Bonded  
Plain & Fancy  
New and Repair

- Quality Concrete Steps - New and Repair
- House Foundation Repair
- Retaining Walls Repaired and Re-Capped

Al Hansen 651 227-4320

## CHIMNEY REPAIR

St. Paul's Oldest Chimney Repair Co.

- TUCKPOINTING
- DAMPER REPAIR & REPLACEMENT
- BRICK, FOUNDATION & MASONRY WORK
- FIREPLACE REPAIR
- RAINCAPS & SCREENS
- FLASHING & ROOF REPAIR



LICENSED, BONDED, & INSURED  
Water Repellent Treatment  
Stops Leaks and Deterioration

**Leske Co**  
**651 488-9668**

## ROOFING SPECIALIST

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL  
Tear-Off • Re-Roof • Repairs

- ✓ Shingle
- ✓ Shakes
- ✓ Sheet Metal
- ✓ Siding
- ✓ Flat Roofs
- ✓ Tar & Gravel
- ✓ Rubber Roofs
- ✓ Concrete Driveways

CALL FOR FREE EST. & STORM DMG. EVAL

**AUSTAD**  
**651-482-0070**  
MN Lic. #20320318

## TSCHIDA BROS. PLUMBING

- Remodeling & Repairing
- Water Heaters
- Discount For Seniors

**1036 FRONT AVE.,**  
LICENSED • BONDED  
LIC. NO. 7212

**651-488-2596**

## Floyd Anderson Concrete Construction

Steps, sidewalks, driveways, patios, exposed aggregate patios, blockwork, patching basement & garage floors.

**Call 651 644-8567**

LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED



**Tectone**  
Construction LLC

Superior Craftsmanship

Additions  
Kitchens  
Bathrooms  
Renovations

We Know Old Houses  
And We Listen To You

**651-645-5429**

Minnesota Lic. # 20443135

Thanks Tom,  
for your high quality craftsmanship  
and attention to detail. What a  
difference — We love it!

— D.L. - Falcon Heights, MN

**651.492.3566**

- Remodeling - Interior & Exterior
- Repairs - Structural & Cosmetic
- Basement Finishes
- Siding - Wood & HardiePlank™
- Windows & Doors
- Garages - Attached & Detached
- Decks - Wood and Composites

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

**20 YEARS  
EXPERIENCE  
CALL TOM**

License# 20630418



1-800-669-TREE  
Complete Tree Service L.L.C.

Licensed & Insured  
LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

**651-459-7552**

**1-800-669-TREE (8733)**

All Major Credit Cards Accepted

RESIDENTIAL  
COMMERCIAL  
**FREE  
ESTIMATES**

Expert Climbers • Professional Service  
Tree Trimming & Removal • Stump Removal  
The latest in yard friendly equipment  
Aerial lift trucks • Large tree specialists

## AIR-CONDITIONER & FURNACE SALE

Over 25 Years Experience / Licensed • Bonded • Insured  
Furnace & Air Conditioners • Sheet Metal-Ductwork • Gravity System Ductwork Replacements

**KEVIN'S**  
HEATING & COOLING INC.

"Residential Installation Expert"

**651-270-0427**

**FREE ESTIMATES**

**MAYTAG**



Sales & Service  
**PAUL FALZ COMPANY**  
359 ATWATER  
24 Hour Answering • 24 Hour Service



# Classifieds

Continued from page 15

## HOME SERVICES

Budget Blinds: Save 33% off your entire order of Blinds, Shades, Shutters and more! Free in-home consultations, free installation, call today! 651-765-4545. www.budgetblinds.com 9-09

## LANDSCAPES

No pressure—I listen to your yard problems. 26 years experience. Brian—651-224-9299. B-09

## LEGAL

Quality affordable legal representation. Payment plans available. 651-270-1806. 10-09

## MONUMENTS

Monument/Marker sales—Care for any cemetery needs—restoration projects. Repair leaning monuments. Best prices anywhere. Cemetery lettering. 15 years experience. W/ad 10% OFF services/products. Ken, K&D Maintenance. Personal care in every project. 651-269-2191. 12-09

Painting/Repair—Interior/Exterior. Best workmanship, price guaranteed. Insured. 651-699-2832. B-08

Painting – wallpaper removal. Average 3 room paint job - \$250. Average house \$650. Average garage \$250. Painter Jim 651-698-0840. B-08

Interior/exterior painting, enameling, plaster patching, free estimates. Bob. 651-633-5565. 12-09

All Seasons Paint/Repair. Wood frames, stucco, power washing, quality workmanship, insured 651-699-2832. 9-09

## PET SITTING

Wagner's Pet Sitting. Walking - Day and Overnight Care. 651-771-0421. 10-09

## PSYCHIC READINGS

Experienced Psychic/Tarot Readings. Individuals and events. Local resident. Appointments 651-587-0046(Kathy). 11-09

## PIANO TUNING

Quality piano tuning and repair. Reasonable rates. Call Robert Clough @ 612-722-7586 or e-mail: robtclough@aol.com. 11-09

Registered piano technician with the Piano Technician's Guild. Call Charles Fruhstuck at 651-489-3181 or e-mail at CharlesFruhstuck@mac.com. BB-09

## REUNIONS

Washington High School Class of 1979 30 Year Reunion. Saturday, October 3, Minnesota Music Cafe. 5 p.m. until close. Food and drinks available for purchase. VickyL@bitstream.net or 651-776-7065 for more information. Check Classmates.com or Facebook.com also. 9-09

## SERVICES

RAM Handyman Services LCC. Good service, reasonable rates, "no job too small." Rich – 651-485-9680 – or www.ramhandyman.com. 6-10

Basement Window Guy – Replace those draft old basement windows with new energy efficient ones and save on energy costs. Free estimates. 651-208-8210. 9-09

Chimney Repairs – Phil Larson Construction. Family business since 1957. 612-414-4612. B-08

Need a handyman?? Any job, big or small plumbing? Remodeling? Decks? Etc. Call Dave 612-701-2272. Competitive prices! 11-09

Professional Exterior and Interior Painting, wall repair and plastering; ceiling texturing, wallpaper-hanging, moderate prices; free estimates, licensed, bonded, insured; Merriam Park Painting, 651-224-3660, 651-552-2090. B-08

## TUTORING

Help children learn to read. Wanted: caring adults (50+ yrs) to tutor K-3 students in St. Paul 4-15 hrs/wk Sept-June. Training provided. Small stipend available. Call now for fall placement: 612-617-7807. 8-09

Tutoring elementary age, reading K-6 and math K-2, reasonable rates. Call 651-644-5941. 10-09

## VACUUM CLEANER

Vacuum Cleaners: Sales, service and supplies. Experts since 1952. 666 University @ Dale. 651-222-6316. www.a-1vacuum.com 1-09

## VOCAL LESSONS

Vocal/drama coach in the Como neighborhood. Voice lessons for music theatre and interpretation technique. Florence Schaffer. 651-488-2212. 12-09

## WANTED TO BUY

Paying the most cash for your furniture, dishes, glassware, knicknacks, costume jewelry, antiques, pictures, lamps, household items etc. I make housecalls. Call Mary Anne 612-729-3110. 9-09

## Maternity of Mary-St. Andrew kicks off capital campaign, celebrates re-opening of new school

In a time when so many urban Catholic schools' enrollment is declining, Maternity of Mary - St. Andrew Catholic School has seen its enrollment steadily grow over the past two years, and in fact, started a 5 million dollar capital campaign this winter, and renovated the entire school and aging facilities this summer. MMSA is also in the process of adding a much-needed gymnasium to the school. MMSA Catholic School has never had a gymnasium in its 60+ year history.

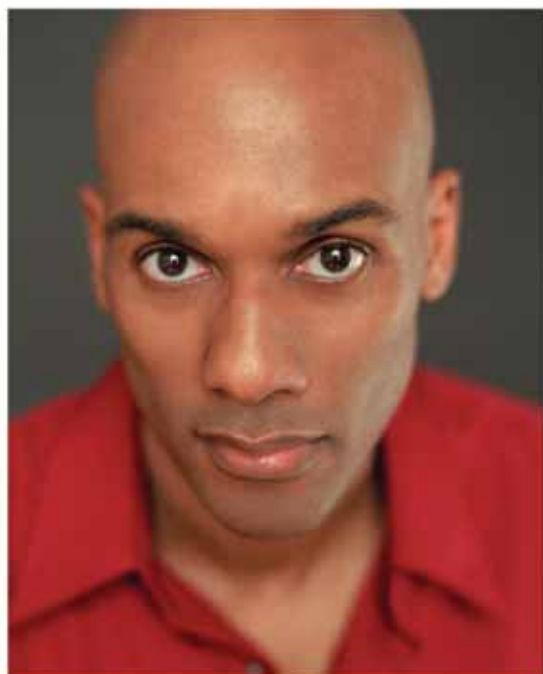
This summer, MMSA renovated all of its plumbing, electrical, and mechanical systems. The lighting in the hallways and classrooms were improved, as well as security, accessibility and safety features. The Library was expanded and renovated and a brand

new technology lab was added. The performance hall was also renovated with new carpet and paint. The bathrooms were re-modeled with all new plumbing, fixtures, and tile. Thus far, MMSA has raised over \$4 million of its total \$5 million goal. Just this summer, MMSA has welcomed over 50 new families to our school community, and their preschool enrollment is up 50%.

This year with the annual Maternity of Mary parish picnic, MMSA School will host a Grand Re-Opening Celebration of their new School. MMSA invites all of their past alumni, students, parents, and parishioners to come and appreciate the work of so many and to see what has been accomplished - Sunday, September 13th from 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Maternity of Mary - St. Andrew Catholic School has seen its enrollment steadily grow over the past two years, and started a 5 million dollar capital campaign this winter, and renovated the entire school and aging facilities this summer. MMSA is also in the process of adding a much-needed gymnasium to the school.



## HAMLINE UNIVERSITY Presents COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

Nationally known political and social commentator

**Keith Boykin**

will speak on "Social Justice in the Obama Era"

**When: Thursday, October 1, 2009 at 4 p.m.**

**Where: Hamline United Methodist Church, 1514 Englewood Avenue**

**Cost: Free and open to the public. Attendees must pick up tickets in advance; seats are limited. Tickets will be available September 21 at the Bush Student Center, 1551 Hewitt Avenue.**

**For more information: 651-523-2421**

Boykin, a CNBC-TV contributor and BET-TV host, also is the editor of the online news site, The Daily Voice, and a New York Times best-selling author of three books. In 1997 President Clinton appointed Boykin, along with Coretta Scott King and Reverend Jesse Jackson, to the United States presidential trade delegation to Zimbabwe.

Past Commitment to Community speakers include:

Winona LaDuke (activist)	Helen Zia (writer)
Kweisi Mfume (NAACP)	Rebecca Walker (activist and author)
Ray Suarez (writer and television correspondent)	J. Herman Blake (educator)
	Ronald Takaki (scholar, educator, and author)