



Music & Memory program at Lyngblomsten helping dementia patients

PAGE 3



Friends School offers unique summer classes to stimulate and entertain

PAGE 7



Deneen Pottery rooted in the past while looking to the future

PAGE 16

## Midway Como

# Monitor



Your community newspaper since 1975

May 2018 • Vol. 43 No. 10

www.MonitorSaintPaul.com

21,000 Circulation

## Central Lutheran School seeks \$450,000 in GoFundMe campaign

*'In order to pay our faculty, staff, and many bills, we must raise lots of money quickly.'*

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

Staff members hope that a GoFundMe campaign will keep Central Lutheran School (CLS) open. The 130-year-old school (775 Lexington Pkwy. N.) seeks to raise \$450,000 through the campaign, enough to cover payroll and pay down old debt.

This may give the school time to reboot and move to a new funding model, according to Principal Elizabeth Wegner.

She pointed out that staff has spent the last eight months getting the school's books and accounts in workable shape to try to understand its cash flow issues. An angel donor paid for accounting services, which provided staff its first accurate numbers in January.

"Now, we have a good grip on our issues," said Wegner. "We needed to get the word out quickly and involve more than our usual mailing list."

"The story is simple. We are in deep financial trouble," explains the GoFundMe page. "In order to pay our faculty, staff, and many bills, we must raise lots of money quickly. If we don't, the great things we do for Jesus at CLS will end, and the school will close. Act now and be very generous, more generous than you thought you could. It is time to SOS (Save Our School)."

In its first 18 days, the GoFundMe campaign had raised \$10,321.

As the school struggles to find new revenue streams, the five full-time and two part-time teachers who manage the 80 students in the K-8 school have been working at lower pay for the last couple of months. The school's separate year-round toddler care and preschool section, with 34 students, gets some state and county funding.

The funding model of the one-story 27,000-square-foot yellow brick school building has changed over the years. While tuition covered most expenses at one time, today roughly 80% of CLS students receive some form of financial aid, and more than half receive free or reduced-price lunches. Only about five families can pay the full tuition.

The mission-based school does not turn away students based on financial need.

A chunk of the school's \$950,000 operating budget is paid by four Lutheran churches: Bethel Lutheran, Emmaus Lutheran, Jehovah Lutheran, and St. Stephanus



Citing deep financial trouble, Central Lutheran School launches GoFundMe campaign to raise \$450,000 and keep the school doors open. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Lutheran.

### Immigrants have always been part of CLS

Students and families come from many different ethnic, economic and religious backgrounds.

In the last 5-6 years, the ethnic profile at CLS has changed drastically.

"We went from about 70% white and 30% other to 50% white, 30% African American with a large portion of that number being immigrants from East Africa (Eritrea and Ethiopia), 15% Karen and 5% other," remarked Wegner. "This brings challenges in the areas of ability to pay tuition, as families achieve their footing in a new country, and also language barriers. However, we are still close-knit and revel in our differences."

The school itself was started by immigrants from Germany, who started their school before they'd even started their churches.

When the school association came together and built the current facility, there were about 600 students attending.

These association churches experienced a shift in membership as people moved from the city to the suburbs in the 1970s and 80s, taking members to other churches. That, in turn, affected enrollment and funding at CLS, as did the 2008 recession.

When Wegner and her husband started at CLS, K-8 enrollment was 225 with a small preschool.

### A family affair

CLS has been a family affair for the Wegners.

"From when we first walked in when we were looking for first grade for our son, there was a feeling of family and community," re-

marked Wegner. "This atmosphere, plus a Christ-centered focus and our commitment to mission and ministry at CLS, keeps us at this school."

Her son Ben graduated from eighth grade at CLS in 2006, and her daughter Abby in 2009. Both are now educators. Husband Bruce is the head custodian.

Wegner began working at CLS as the music director in 1998. In 2014, the school board asked her

to take on administrative duties, as well.

She's found much to love about CLS.

### Diversity sets school apart

"Other than the big draw of family and community, the rising level of diversity sets us apart," Wegner observe. "Also, because of combined grades, each child has a two-year relationship with each teacher (except kindergarten which is a single grade). We all know each student and family very well."

In knowing each child personally, the staff knows their strengths and challenges. "We work together to address these," Wegner pointed out. For example, if an upper-grade student has trouble in reading, a lower grade teacher is right there to suggest other resources.

There is a time in the day for Reader Friends during which older students and younger students read together.

Because CLS only uses St. Paul Public School busing in the afternoon, its school day is 7 hours long. This allows for a 25-minute

outdoor recess period for each class every day.

CLS implemented a new curriculum in 2016 grounded in science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics (STEAM). The school also offers social studies, art, music (vocal and instrumental) and PE throughout the school year instead of by quarter or trimester. Plus, students compete on sports teams, play in musical ensembles, and participate in choir trips. Students focus on giving back to their community and recently donated Play-Doh to the cancer ward at Children's Hospital.

Wegner hopes people consider donating through the GoFundMe campaign, and she also asks for prayer.

"Come over and visit us. Meet our faculty and kids," she encouraged. "Spread the word!"

To donate to the GoFundMe campaign go online to [www.gofundme.com/saving-central-lutheran-school](http://www.gofundme.com/saving-central-lutheran-school).

For more information or to schedule a tour of the school, contact Elizabeth Wegner at [ewegner@clssp.org](mailto:ewegner@clssp.org).

## Como Harbor coming in late 2019

*New space at Como Zoo will more closely resemble natural habitat for sea lions and seals and be home to Sparky*

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

Minnesota's beloved Sparky at Como Zoo is getting new living quarters this year, thanks to a public-private partnership.

In addition to providing a healthier home for the sea lions and seals in the heart of Como Zoo, the \$20 million makeover in the existing Seal Island and amphitheater area will also improve the public experience.

Como's seals and sea lions have been living in a space built in the 1930s during the WPA as Monkey Island. The freshwater area was retrofitted for seals and sea lions in the 1970s, and an amphitheater added.

One of the biggest changes that the new 64,500-square-foot Como Harbor will bring is a transition to salt water.

The new heated saltwater environment will minimize the eye and coat irritation that can be caused by freshwater environments pointed out Como Marketing and Public Relations Manager Matt Reinartz. It will in-



Sparky loves the play and interaction with his humans, and doesn't mind "hamming it up" for the camera. (Photo courtesy of Como Zoo)

crease the animal's enjoyment of their environment as it will more closely resemble their natural habitat.

Also, because the water will not freeze, they can stay in the same place year-round. Currently,

Como Zoo must move pinnipeds off Seal Island every fall with the approach of freezing temperatures, leaving it empty almost half the year. The new design allows

*Continued on page 10*



# Music & Memory program at Lyngblomsten helping dementia patients

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Music & Memory is the name of a national non-profit organization started in 2010. Grounded in research about how the human brain responds to music, the Music & Memory program puts the healing power of music to therapeutic use by bringing iPods loaded with personalized playlists to people with dementia and other forms of cognitive loss.

The Lyngblomsten Care Center in the Como neighborhood brought the program to their residents two years ago. According to Music & Memory co-director Shelli Beck, "Our goal is to have an iPod available for each of the 237 residents in our Care Center. We believe that by having them choose music from their past,

they feel more connected to their memories, to their lives, and to each other."

Therapeutic recreation coordinator Emma Flotterud explained, "The reason these connections work is because of how music memories are stored. I've seen Parkinson's patients who can't speak without stuttering, but they can sing a song from beginning to end with no problem. We've had patients who don't speak or tend to speak only in whispers, and they can sing a long-remembered song at normal volume."

While the program may sound simple, its benefits are substantial. In addition to being an enjoyable pastime, listening to music has been shown to awaken memories from the past, lessen

reliance on certain medications, and enhance social skills. Initially designed for persons with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, Music & Memory has been used successfully with older adults suffering from chronic pain, anxiety, and depression.

Flotterud explained, "As a health care professional, my goal is to try non-pharmaceutical interventions before medication. There may be a need for medication for some dementia patients, but there are many alternatives worth trying—and Music & Memory is one of them."

Another reason for the program's success is the volunteers at Lyngblomsten who help make it happen. Como resident (and Central High School junior) Andrew Tisell is one of them. "As

soon as I could, I signed up to be a volunteer here," Tisell said. "When I was 12, I started playing the piano for sing-alongs. Three years ago, Shelli Beck approached me about wanting to bring in the Music & Memory program. I was intrigued. Being a classically trained cellist and pianist, I love listening to music, and I thought it would be a chance for me to broaden my musical understanding. Initially, we started out with a handful of CD's and began a music library of our own."

"My first involvement," Tisell continued, "was programming the iPods, and writing a manual so that other people could understand how to do that too. Then I started doing interviews with residents about what kind of music they liked, and how music has

been part of their lives. I think Music & Memory is an amazing program—the science behind it is proven. When someone starts to experience memory loss, the part of their brain responsible for music memory is the last to go. Music brings back memories in ways that nothing else can."

The model of iPod that Lyngblomsten prefers for their residents is called the iPod Shuffle. It is no longer manufactured, so gently used donations are the best way for them to grow their inventory. There is a donation box in the front lobby located at 1415 Almond Ave. iTunes gift cards are also appreciated. Contact Shelli Beck, Music & Memory co-director, with inquiries about volunteering at [sbeck@lyngblomsten.org](mailto:sbeck@lyngblomsten.org).



Therapeutic recreation coordinator Emma Flotterud (pictured right) brought a Lyngblomsten resident her personalized iPod for music enjoyment. The Music & Memory program has been implemented at Lyngblomsten for two years. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

**CHILDREN AGES 2.5 - 12**

- Parent & Me
- Boy's Club Camp
- Paddington Bear Camp
- Dance, Art, Yoga Camp
- Intro to Ballet
- Beginning Ballet
- Parent & Me

**SUMMER DANCE!**

**ADULTS AND TEENS**

- Lifelong for older adults
- Fundamentals of Ballet
- Beginning Ballet
- Open Ballet
- Men welcome!

In the neighborhood:  
655 Fairview Avenue N

ST PAUL BALLET
SPBALLET.ORG  
651-690-1588

Come to a pharmacy  
that cares.

Independently Owned and Operated  
Fast, Friendly Service  
Professional Prescription Compounding  
Delivery in the Midway Area  
New Customers Always Welcome

Lloyd's  
pharmacy

Est. 1949

720 Snelling Avenue North  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
(651) 645-8636  
[www.lloydsrx.com](http://www.lloydsrx.com)

Business Hours:

Monday 8:30am - 7:00pm  
Tuesday 8:30 am - 7:00pm  
Wednesday 8:30 am - 7:00pm  
Thursday 8:30am - 7:00pm  
Friday 8:30am - 7:00pm  
Saturday 8:30am - 6:00pm  
Sunday 9:00am - 1:00pm

ROSELAWN CEMETERY

37th Annual

Memorial Weekend  
Celebration

Organ Music  
by Sara Drinane

Sat., May 26 • 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Sun., May 27 • 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Mon., May 28 • 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Refreshments Served  
in the Gathering Room

Memorial Day Service  
Monday, May 28 - 10:00 a.m.

Presented by:  
Rosetown Legion & Roseville V.F.W.  
Songs by North Suburban Chorus

803 West Larpenteur Avenue | Roseville, MN 55113  
651.489.1720 | [WWW.ROSELAWNCEMETERY.COM](http://WWW.ROSELAWNCEMETERY.COM)



# A downsized Big Top wants variance on distance requirement

By JANE MCCLURE

Longtime Midway Center tenant Big Top Wine & Spirits could become a lot smaller. The liquor store must relocate as part of the Allianz Field soccer stadium development. But will city officials amend a longstanding policy of distance requirements between liquor stores, to allow even an interim move?

Plans call for the store to move temporarily from Snelling and Spruce Tree Drive to the former Midway Perkins restaurant building at 1544 University Ave. The Union Park District Council (UPDC) Land Use Committee voted Apr. 16 to support the liquor store's efforts to relocate. That includes support for a pending city ordinance change as well as a waiver of the 45-day wait-

ing period on the changed address.

Nancy Rosenberg, managing partner for Big Top, said the interim move is needed because the current store's lease expires January 20, 2019. The building will be torn down and replaced with an extension of Shields Ave. to the east, as well as sidewalks and an interim parking area. Longer-term, part of the site is slated for denser redevelopment.

The move to the former restaurant is temporary, said Rosenberg, and will be only until a new location is found. Perkins closed in the fall of 2017. Big Top could wind up in a redeveloped Midway Center or elsewhere in the area.

This temporary location for Big Top wouldn't be as big, dropping

from about 15,000 to 6,000 square feet. The relocated store would also sell more prepackaged foods including sandwiches, salads, meat, and cheese.

"The look and feel of the store would be very different from what you see now," Rosenberg said.

Most UPDC committee members said they'd like to see the city find a way to address the distance issue. Several people said Big Top has been a good community business and should be able to stay at Midway Center.

Committee member Scott Berger said he'd like to see more done to address behaviors around a relocated store, especially one so close to a busy transit area. "It's a liquor store, and things happen that are not the most appealing," he said. Berger asked what Rosenberg would do to make a relocated store more appealing and attractive.

The relocated store would open at 9am Monday through Saturday, instead of the current 8am opening. That could reduce some problems, Rosenberg said. The store would continue to close at 8pm Monday through Thursday, and 10pm Friday and Saturday. Sunday hours would remain 11am to 6pm.

How liquor stores in St. Paul are regulated complicates the move. Big Top has been at Midway Center since 1978, founded as part of the late entrepreneur Sid Applebaum's empire of grocery stores that included Applebaum's,

National Tea, Rainbow Foods, Holiday Food and other Big Top locations. Rosenberg, who is one of Applebaum's daughters, said the family has had some retail presence at or near University and Snelling for more than 60 years.

What could trip up a move is an existing city ordinance.

In the 1980s the St. Paul City Council set distance requirements between off-sale liquor stores. The concern was that some neighborhoods had concentrations of several liquor stores, which caused problems with public drinking, loitering, and bad behavior. Existing stores, including Big Top and Snelling Avenue Fine Wines and Liquors to the north (500 N. Snelling Ave.), were grandfathered in. New stores, and existing stores that try to relocate, now have to meet a minimum one-half mile or 2,640-foot minimum distance separation. Over the years a few stores that wanted to relocate couldn't because of the distance requirement.

The ordinance change hasn't been released yet by the St. Paul City Attorney's Office. One idea would be to allow liquor stores to move within a development area under the same ownership and waive the distance requirement. A future Big Top move outside of Midway Center would likely mean an additional license approval process.

If any neighbors file a complaint with the city, the license issue

will go to a legislative hearing officer before moving on to the St. Paul City Council.

City officials have never allowed the distance requirement to be waived in neighborhoods, but whether it is still needed is debatable. Having too many liquor stores in an area has been criticized as being a blighting influence by some. Others say the distance requirements are onerous.

Enforcement has not been consistent. In a 2005 disagreement between Macalester-Groveland stores Thomas Liquors and Wine Thief over distance requirements, city staff ruled that the measurements need to be building to building.

In 2014-2015 when Midway SuperTarget made plans to add a liquor store, Big Top and some area residents questioned if the new store met the minimum distance requirement. The controversy then was how distance was measured. City officials measured the distance from the shared store-liquor store door. Then Big Top and its allies contended the distance should be measured from the westernmost corner of the SuperTarget store and shouldn't be granted. Measuring from the western wall didn't meet the half-mile requirement, but measure from the store door did. City staff and Target corporate officials said the measurement should be from store to store.

## Monitor

125 First Ave. NW, PO Box 168 • Minneapolis MN 55369  
651-645-7045

### Publishers:

Calvin deRuyter, Tim Nelson

### Managing Editor:

Calvin deRuyter, editorial@deruyternelson.com

### Advertising:

Denis Wouffe (651-917-4183);  
denis@deruyternelson.com

### Production:

Tim Nelson

### Contributing Writers:

Jane McClure, Jan Willms,  
Tessa M. Christensen, Jon Knox,  
Jill Boogren, Margie O'Loughlin, Matthew Davis

### 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 editorial@deruyternelson.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

The Monitor is a monthly community publication in the Midway and Como areas of St. Paul, owned and operated by deRuyter-Nelson Publications, Inc. All correspondence should be sent to the Monitor, 125 First Ave. NW, PO Box 168, Minneapolis, MN 55369. To contact the editor, call Calvin at 651-917-4182. To reach the advertising department, call Denis at 651-917-4183. 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 © 2016.

## Hamline Midway Coalition

By MELISSA CORTES, Community Organizer

### Coalition seeks applications for Executive Director

Hamline Midway Coalition is looking for a new Executive Director. Michael Jon Olson, HMC's current ED, is stepping down after 13 years in the role. To request the job posting, send an email to michaeljon@hamlinemidway.org. To apply, send a resume and cover letter to edsearch@hamlinemidway.org no later than Sun., May 20.

### Engagement Committee starts its work

Hamline Midway Coalition newly formed Community Engagement Committee will hold its first meeting on Tues., May

15, starting at 7pm at Ginkgo's Coffeehouse, 721 N. Snelling Ave. This committee is hoping to work on ever-present issues in and around the Hamline Midway community and connect with neighbors, businesses, and new residents to continue to make this neighborhood a lively and safe place to live, learn, work, and play! If you are interested in this committee, please email communityengagement@hamlinemidway.org or call 651-494-7683 to stay updated on communications.

(Note: To our Muslim neighbors, businesses, colleagues, and friends celebrating Ramadan: we under-

stand and respect this spiritual time of devotion and worship on this day. We will provide detailed notes of the meeting online at [www.hamlinemidway.org/communityengagement](http://www.hamlinemidway.org/communityengagement) for those who cannot make meetings.)

### Sidewalk on Wheeler Ave.

Hamline Midway's Transportation Committee responded to the neighbors and frequent users of Wheeler Ave. between University and Thomas avenues with a recommendation to St. Paul City Council for approval to complete the sidewalk on the west side of Wheeler Ave.

Through meetings and communications with businesses, stakeholders, concerned neighbors, and City of Saint Paul it became apparent that the incomplete sidewalk posed major safety concerns for those accessing the businesses and amenities in the area.

For more information on this topic or to provide comments contact transportation@hamlinemidway.org. A public hearing at the St. Paul's City Council is expected May 16 at 5:30pm.

### Environment Committee

The Environment committee meeting has been moved to Mon., May 21, 6:30-8pm. This committee typically meets on the 4th Monday of each month. To follow the work of this committee, visit [www.hamlinemidway.org/environment](http://www.hamlinemidway.org/environment).

## Windows / Screens Repair

### We solve problems!

- We: • Fix frames • Re-Screen • Re-Glaze • Fix Rotted Windows
- Make & Repair Thermal Windows • Custom-Make Windows & Screens
- Glass Cutting

978 Dale Street North, Saint Paul -  
(651) 489-3210

**Kendall's**  
Ace Hardware & Paint

840 Payne Ave., St. Paul -  
(651) 776-6996

We offer same day service if you need it.

[kendalls@acehardware.com](mailto:kendalls@acehardware.com)

"The Friendliest Stores in Town" ...Free Popcorn



PROJECT FOR  
PRIDE IN  
LIVING

## FREE! Spring Classes 2018!

### Employment Training Programs

- Banking Class (tellers, personal bankers)
- Re-Entry To Work (training for those with criminal backgrounds)

### Let's get started!

Join us for a one-hour Information Session held every Monday at 9:00 a.m.

PPL Learning Center  
1925 Chicago Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Center hours: Mon - Fri, 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM  
612-455-5300 or [www.ppl-inc.org](http://www.ppl-inc.org)

70+ juried artists

**ST. ANTHONY PARK Arts FESTIVAL**

**June 2, 2018**  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Como & Carter, St. Paul 55108  
Art, Music & Food at the steps of the  
**ST. ANTHONY PARK LIBRARY**

With support from The Harlan Bass Foundation for the Arts

[sapfest.org](http://sapfest.org)



# TCGIS neighbors want community 'anchor' to remain

School discusses razing former St. Andrew's church building and constructing more efficient and larger building

By TESHAM. CHRISTENSEN

Twin Cities German Immersion School (TCGIS) neighbors are concerned that the school has already made up its mind about razing the old St. Andrew's Church building at 1031 Como Ave., and is moving with a sense of urgency on the project that may not be necessary.

"I'm very opposed to the possibility that the church could be razed," stated Muriel Gubasta during a community meeting on Apr. 9. She attended grade school at St. Andrew's, along with all six of her children.

Gubasta thanked school staff for holding the informational meeting, and stated, "I'm very happy to see this as a school."

But she encouraged the TCGIS to take its time making a decision and not rush into anything. "Let's not rush to failure," Gubasta said. "You have a lot of people here who really love this beautiful space."

Fellow neighborhood resident Kate Konkel agreed and pointed out that TCGIS isn't the first school to operate in the space. In fact, it was preceded by the French Immersion School, which was only there a few years.

"The history of schools in this area has been transient," Konkel said. "This building is very much a part of this neighborhood and the history of St. Paul."

According to TCGIS Facilities Committee Chair Nic Ludwig, "We're not set in stone. The board has not approved any of this. This is the first of hopefully many listening sessions." Ludwig pointed out that he spends time every day considering the issues around tearing down or keeping the existing Byzantine-Romanesque structure built in 1927.

However, Ludwig observed that the school board could vote on this issue within the next few months to keep with a schedule that opens the new space for the 2019-2020 school year.

Residents were concerned that this doesn't give them much time to investigate options, such as raising money to save the former church building.

## A space crunch

When the tuition-free, K-8 German Immersion School moved to its current location in the fall of 2005, organizers planned for three sections in grades K-4 and two sections in grades 5-8. Based on the lack of attrition at the school, planners are working to figure out how to expand to three sections for grades 5-8 for a total projected student population of 613 in the 2021-22 school year.

The school began experiencing a space crunch this year.

"Teachers and students are already using hallways and other nooks," pointed out Ludwig. Some teachers don't get prep time be-



TCGIS Facilities Committee Chair Nic Ludwig (front) and finance chair Sam Wallig explain the choices driving the school during a community meeting on Apr. 9. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

cause they are sharing their classrooms with other teachers. The kindergartners and first graders have gym in the cafeteria. The school has eliminated spaces such as the computer lab and plans to eliminate the boardroom/gathering room next year. Next, they'll need to rotate students through lunch, but that will cut into the time that the space is also used for students to be active.

Planners project that the school needs four additional classrooms, two specialty spaces, four special education/student auxiliary spaces, five administration/staff spaces, gym space and a larger cafeteria for the 2019-2020 school year.

When some in attendance questioned how much of this was necessary, TCGIS Principal Ted Anderson stated, "We don't spend a lot of time talking about our wants. We talk about our needs."

Finance Committee Chair Sam Wallig pointed out that whereas St. Paul Public Schools typically received about \$15,000 in funding per student, TCGIS receives \$10,000. TCGIS is a public charter school, but it is not part of the St. Paul Public School district.

## Number of students

Of the 560 students at TCGIS, 250 come from St. Paul, 50 from Roseville/Falcon Heights, and 130 from Minneapolis, so planners want to remain in the area they're in. Plus, TCGIS is working with Central High School, which has added a German tract that is in its second year for TCGIS students to move into seamlessly.

Each year, the school receives more student applications than there is space for. Priority is given to siblings and students of staff, observed Anderson.

The school currently employs 80 full-time staff and nine part-time. This is projected to increase to 90 full-time and ten part-time.

Some attendees expressed their concern about the number of students at the school and stated that they don't think this site can handle more.

Steve Green, a neighborhood resident since 1983 and a former member of St. Andrew's, said, "I'm opposed to your expansion." He cited existing traffic problems that will get worse with more students. He encouraged TCGIS to put a cap on enrollment where it is now.

"This is a beautiful building. It's unique. It shouldn't be torn down," Green said.

## Buy or lease?

The school's facilities committee has spent the last year looking for space and has considered buying and leasing, which is expensive in the long-term. The spaces nearby are either too big or too small, ac-

ording to Ludwig. TCGIS isn't interested in having two campuses because of the duplicated administration costs.

The Mission Orthodox Presbyterian church across the street wasn't interested in selling and plans to lease that space didn't work out. The school is working with the city on the possibility of using parking at the nearby Como Pool.

As charter schools cannot own property, the current site is owned by the TCGIS Building Company. To purchase the site and renovate it, the building company issued \$9 million in bonds that are paid by the lease payments the school makes. Bond payments are currently between \$500,000 and \$560,000 a year. The state of Minnesota pays up to 90% of the lease payments, up to \$1,314 per pupil unit. A portion of the lease payments can be used to improve the building, and this fund currently has about \$400,000.

## Old buildings need work

The projected maintenance costs at the former church building, or the Aula, are estimated to be

\$1,195,000 over the next seven to 10 years, while the classroom building needs about \$535,000.

The long-term maintenance needed on the former church building includes: a boiler (\$120,000), water heaters (\$20,000), windows/doors (\$75,000), roof (\$500-750,000), masonry (\$120,000), sound dampening (\$10,000), and an optional sprinkler system (\$100,000).

Items at the classroom building include: a boiler (\$120,000), asbestos in the boiler room (\$40,000), unit heaters and thermostats (\$65,000), water heater (\$10,000), roof (\$150,000), south windows (\$65,000), north windows (\$65,000), and entry doors (\$20,000).

Spread over seven years, the annual cost of maintenance is \$250,000. That will consume most of the surplus—which is \$260,000 this year, pointed out finance chair Sam Wallig.

The school's growth may support a new bond issuance, but the school can't support the projected maintenance costs plus

Continued on page 5

## Committee formed to save St. Andrew's Church building

*Editor's Note: the following was received after deadline. Watch for more comprehensive coverage in the following months.*

Neighbors in the Warrendale neighborhood of Como Park formed a neighbor-led ad hoc committee to prevent the demolition of the former St. Andrew's Church. Demolition is being considered by the Twin Cities German Immersion School (TCGIS). The committee is circulating a petition calling for "the proposed plan for the St. Andrew's Church Structure be delayed until June 2020."

According to Bonnie Youngquist, the project delay would provide:

— Time to select 1-2 architects to review the needs of the school and offer alternative solutions and estimates

— Obtain expert advice from Thomas Zahn, former Preservation Planner for the City of St. Paul.

— Meet with Thomas Fischer, UMN professor, Director of the Minnesota Design Center, and Dayton Hudson Chair in Urban Design

— Time to get a second opinion on the condition of the Aula roof and provide an additional cost estimate for maintenance

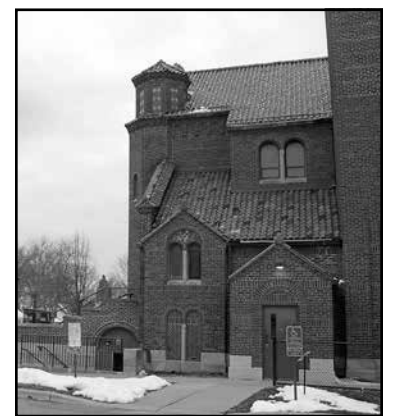
— Generate alternative solutions

not previously considered — Time to determine whether or not a historical designation is feasible.

The committee says that they aim to connect community stakeholders to create a viable solution for both the Warrendale neighborhood and TCGIS as they develop their expansion proposal. Neighbors say that they have been working with the school to resolve issues, but there is still much to be done even at the current size. Neighborhood concerns include parking, noise, traffic flow, bike and pedestrian safety, etc.

Built in 1927, St. Andrew's Church is a Romanesque building is listed as a "Site of Major Significance" in the 1983 Historic Resources Survey (the most recent completed for the neighborhood). The structure has a designation in Larry Millet's "American Institute of Architecture's Guide to the Twin Cities" as, "one of St. Paul's best Period revival churches."

"The former St. Andrew's Church is a historic structure that has served as a meaningful community anchor and a visible



To solve its space needs, the Twin Cities German Immersion School has considered a variety of options, including tearing down the existing Byzantine-Romanesque structure built in 1927. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

symbol of the stability of the surrounding neighborhood for nearly a century," according to neighbor Mary Burnison.

According to the committee, the proposed demolition of this building also does not support the District 10 Community Plan.

**A-1 VACUUM**

- Sales, Service & Supplies
- Free Estimates
- Bags, Belts & Filters
- Trade-Ins Welcomed
- Dyson, Miele & Riccar etc.

2575 Fairview Ave. N. | Roseville, MN  
**651-222-6316**  
 9-5 Mon & Fri | 9-6 Tues-Wed-Thurs | 10-2 Sat  
[www.A-1Vacuum.com](http://www.A-1Vacuum.com)

**your Lutheran church on the**

Free Community Fellowship Meals:  
 Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 p.m., May 2, 9, 16, & 23

**SUNDAY MORNINGS**

9:30 Kids Kingdom  
 10:15 Worship  
 11:30 Bible Study

May 10: Ascension of Our Lord  
 May 20: Pentecost Sunday

a community of joy

**Jehovah LUTHERAN at Thomas and Snelling**

[www.jehovahlutheran.org](http://www.jehovahlutheran.org) • 651-644-1421  
 Pastor Ted Andrada

**C**  
**o**  
**r**  
**n**  
**e**  
**r**

**L**  
 LYNGBLOMSTEN

**Healthcare, Housing, & Services for Older Adults since 1906**

St. Paul

[www.lyngblomsten.org](http://www.lyngblomsten.org) • (651) 646-2941

- Senior Housing with Assisted Living Services
- Rehab & Transitional Care
- Alzheimer's & Parkinson's Care
- Long-term Nursing Care
- Caregiver Support

Save the Date for the  
**LYNGBLOMSTEN MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL**  
 A Celebration of Arts & Lifelong Learning

Friday, July 20, 2018 | 2-8 PM  
[www.CelebrateMSF.com](http://www.CelebrateMSF.com)



# Development Roundup

By JANE MCCLURE

## Local projects apply for development and cleanup grants

Several area projects are in the chase for various development and cleanup grants administered by the Metropolitan Council. The St. Paul City Council in April authorized applications for funding. Decisions and fund awards will be announced later this year.

The funds are sought through the city's Department of Planning and Economic Development (PED). More than a dozen projects are in the running for Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development for Contamination Cleanup and Investigation Grants, and to the Metropolitan Council for Tax Base Revitalization Account Program (TBRA).

Area projects include Ain Dah Yung supportive youth housing near Sherburne and Victoria, the Millberry Apartments/Legends at Berry at 700 Emerald St. at the former Weyerhaeuser Lumber facility, Metro Deaf School at 1123 Energy Park Dr., and the Neighborhood Develop-

ment Center mixed-use project at the northwest corner of Dale St. and University Ave. If projects are funded, the city acts as the grants administrator.

The council in April also authorized the Neighborhood Development Center as one of three applicants for Livable Communities Transit Oriented Development funding. That project encompasses several properties at the northwest corner of Dale St. and University Ave.

The various grants are used to promote redevelopment and in the case of TBRA, to clean up sites for redevelopment. The grants have been extensively used

for redevelopment along Green Line light rail.

### School gets bonding for move

Metro Deaf School is on the move. The St. Paul City Council, acting as the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Board Apr. 25, approved the issuance of up to \$16 million in conduit charter school lease revenue bonds for the 1House2Hands, Inc. project.

Metro Deaf School currently operates at 1471 Brewster St. The school was established in 1993 to serve deaf and hard of hearing students in grades K-8. It has since grown to offer early

childhood family education and high school. Students are from the Twin Cities and western Wisconsin. The school has about 100 pupils.

The school would like to relocate and purchase an office/warehouse building located at 1125 Energy Park Dr. The building is nearly 113,000 square feet, which includes approximately 23,000 square feet of warehouse space and approximately 90,000 square feet of office space. The warehouse space is vacant. A single tenant in the office space has a lease for approximately 17,000 square feet.

School officials plan to ren-

ovate the building, excluding the space currently occupied, to operate their school. The new facility will allow the school to expand enrollment to approximately 120 students. Green space and a playground are planned. The school is also seeking environmental cleanup funds.

The data center tenant would stay in the building.

The school's current location is next to Hmong College Prep. That school wishes to purchase the current Metro Deaf facilities. Metro Deaf began experiencing parking issues once Hmong College Prep started expanding in the area. The parking issue and the need for more space have led Metro Deaf to work to locate a new facility.

Renovations would start in late spring or early summer, with the hope to occupy the new space in January 2019, following winter break.

The move has the support of Como Community Council (District 10).

## Planning Commission overrules staff recommendation, will allow BP rebuild

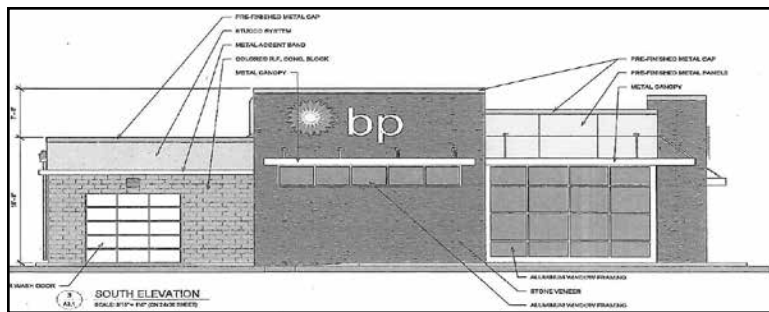
By JANE MCCLURE

An aging BP gas station, convenience store and car wash at the northwest corner of Hamline and University avenues, can be replaced with a new, larger structure. The St. Paul Planning Commission Apr. 20 approved a conditional use permit needed to replace the business at 1347 University Ave.

The station's location is in an area eyed for future mixed-use redevelopment. It was rezoned from commercial to traditional neighborhoods (TN) zoning in 2011 as part of the Hamline Station study area. One challenge for the Planning Commission was to weigh the intent of city plans for change versus the site itself and what is practical.

Commissioner Daniel Edgerton, who chairs the Zoning Committee, said the committee could have voted the project up or down. At an Apr. 12 Zoning Committee hearing, the committee debated the merits of allowing the facility to be replaced, or strictly adhering to the city's vision for the area.

While there are long-term goals for mixed-use development, those must be weighed against issues including site size, and the



The South Elevation, with a drive-through car wash door on the left, faces University Ave. (Illustration from the St. Paul city website)

need to pull fuel tanks and clean up any potential pollution when and if the gas station use goes away.

The city's comprehensive plan identifies University as a mixed-use corridor, with a goal of adding new land uses with higher densities. The site is covered by the Hamline Station Area Plan, which calls for increasing density specifically in the area around the light rail station. It also calls for redevelopment that creates a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly space.

Senior City Planner Josh Williams said that a new BP station isn't consistent with those plans. But he also noted that achieving

the vision and goals for change along University will take time. Recognition of the potential for longer-term change was a factor in the Planning Commission recommendation to ultimately let the project go forward.

City records indicate there has been a gas station on the property since at least 1969. The business and other St. Paul gas stations and auto convenience stores in St. Paul are required to have conditional use permits, which allow the Planning Commission to place restrictions on a wide range of site issues. These two types of business must meet additional conditions. The

current station received a conditional use permit in 1992. Demolishing and replacing the building triggers a new permit requirement.

City staff had recommended against the conditional use permit, citing noncompliance with the comprehensive plan and building requirements that call for new structures to fill more of the site. Practical difficulties weren't found in designing a building that meets the city requirements that redeveloper be denser. Nor does the site have any unique circumstances that create a hardship for the owner.

But the commission and its Zoning Committee reversed the staff recommendation. Station representatives indicated that a city suggestion to build a two-story building for more density isn't practical and would be difficult to finance. Midway University and Hamline Properties LLC is the owner, working with Rosa Architectural Group.

Two permit modifications are needed to replace the BP station. One is to allow the fuel pump islands to be between Hamline and the building.

More complicated is a vari-

ance of minimum floor area ratio (FAR) required under its zoning. A .5 FAR is required, and a .16 is proposed. FAR is the relationship between the total amount of usable floor area that a building has, and the total area of the lot on which the building stands. Higher FARs are encouraged in mixed-use districts.

The site is a little larger than one-half acre, at 22,333 square feet. The current building has a FAR of .07. The staff report stated that the failure to "even come close to meeting the minimum FAR is not consistent" with the underlying zoning. The zoning is meant to foster compact, pedestrian-oriented commercial and residential development that in turn can support and increase transit use.

One change that will make the area safer for walking is that the new station will have fewer vehicular egress point. St. Paul and Ramsey County Departments of Public Works are requiring that a driveway on University just west of Hamline be closed. That will mean one egress point on Hamline and one on University.

## TCGIS expansion plans discussed

Continued from page 4

additional bonds, said Wallig. The school could restrict enrollment to two sections per grade, but that wouldn't be enough to pay the maintenance costs and make the bond payments.

If the school doesn't build and offers three sections, programming will suffer from lack of classroom space and the maintenance costs of the Aula, according to Ludwig.

### A new building

The proposed three-story, 20,600-square-foot-addition built on the site of the Aula would have two gyms on the first floor. The second floor would house classrooms.

A phase two addition on the east side would add a total of 23,150 square feet on three levels.

The project cost is an estimated \$5.7 million. Ludwig pointed out that project costs will go up if the school waits.

The next steps are to meet with staff and user groups to develop a schematic design, and to create a

construction plan, while also completing a bond underwriter review.

District 10 Community Council's Land Use Committee anticipated hearing about the project at its May meeting, and from there it will need to go to the city council.

### An anchor

"This is an anchor place in this community," pointed out Mary Burnison. "It's more than a building." She added, "It's holistically, organically a part of this community."

Ludwig responded that he

has lived in the neighborhood for the past seven years. "I also like the church building," he said. However, school representatives have met with companies that have worked on this building in the past to figure out the scope of the work needed and to obtain quotes, and believe that it is more cost effective to raze the former church building.

Andy Ashton's family moved to the neighborhood because of TCGIS, and his father-in-law attended school at St. Andrew's. He pointed out that

the building is important to his family, as well, but it is more important that the school stay in the neighborhood.

Some residents proposed keeping part of the church building, such as the facade, retaining the shell, or reusing pieces within a new structure. However, Ludwig noted that the existing footprint of the church building is not large enough to add the space needed.

Ninety-seven-year-old John Forliti's dad began attending St. Andrew's at age 14. Forliti is happy to see a school community active at the former church. "Whether people went to this church or not, it's still an anchor," he pointed out.

### Upcoming meetings

Neighbors expressed a desire to be more involved in what happens at the school. They were encouraged to attend public board meetings and facilities committee meetings (second Thursdays at 6pm), which are posted on the school's website.

**Midway Animal Hospital**  
Offering high quality, compassionate care for your pets.  
www.midwayanimalhospital.com  
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

**LULA**  
LULA VINTAGE CLOTHING  
651.644.4110 1587 • Selby  
Avenue, St. Paul • MN 55104  
www.lulavintagewear.com

**Mosaic**  
ON A STICK  
1564 Lafond Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN 55104  
651-645-6600  
www.mosaiconastick.com  
An artist-owned mosaic supply shop, community classroom & artist studio



# Planning Commission rejects drive-through for Mac's and Dunkin' D's

By JANE MCCLURE

Mac's Fish and Chips and Dunkin' Donuts could provide an interesting taste combination at Larpenteur and Hamline avenues. But a restaurant-coffee and donut shop development proposed there cannot have a drive-through lane. On Apr. 20 the St. Paul Planning Commission rejected a conditional use permit needed to allow for the drive-through lane at 1330 Larpenteur Ave. W. and 1672 Hamline Ave.

The developers had ten days in which to appeal the Planning Commission decision to the City Council. As of *Monitor* deadline no appeal had been filed.

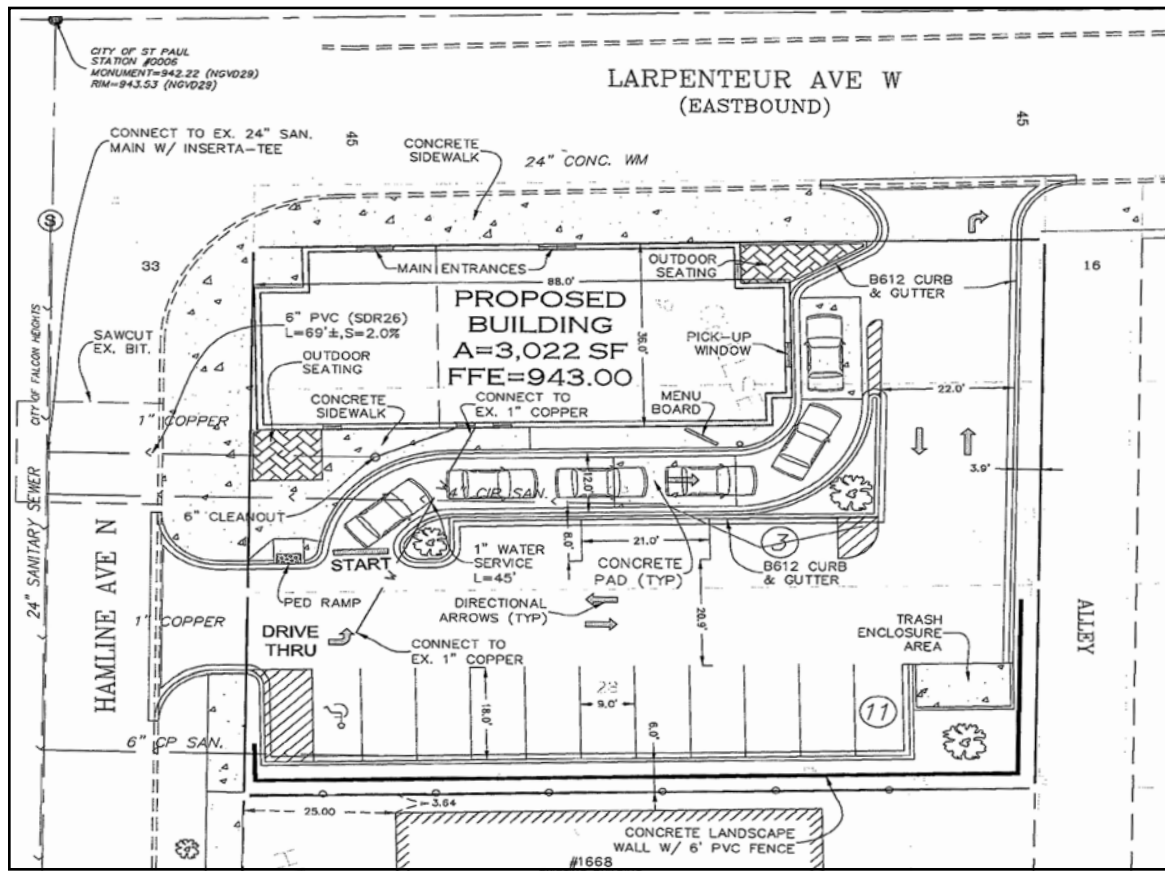
A development with the two businesses could still be built at the corner where Mac's and Midtown Cleaners & Tailors have stood for many years. Mac's is in a converted gas station and would stay in a new development. Midtown would relocate.

Sarin Development wished to tear down the buildings and replace them with one new 3,000 square foot one-story structure. That required a conditional use permit for the drive-through lane, as well as modifications to city-required conditions.

But developers seeking drive-through lanes in St. Paul have collided with complaints. The specter of the traffic tie-ups, wrong-way turns and vehicle mishaps at Marshall and Snelling avenues where Starbucks opened more than a year ago have raised red flags city-wide. That was also on the minds of the Zoning Committee during its Apr. 12 public hearing.

The Union Park District Council has called for the Starbucks drive-through's conditional use permit to be revoked, citing traffic tie-ups and vehicles blocking the Marshall Ave. bike lane. City staff and Starbucks have responded by trying different turn restrictions and site modifications.

Earlier this year when a Dunkin' Donuts and a pizza restaurant were proposed just a



Site plan for Mac's Fish and Chips and Dunkin' Donuts at Larpenteur and Hamline. The Planning Commission rejected a conditional use permit for the drive-through in the plans. (Illustration from the City of St. Paul website)



Ground level illustration of the proposed Mac's Fish and Chips and Dunkin' Donuts at Larpenteur and Hamline. The pickup window, which is shown on the left side of the building, has been rejected by the Planning Commission. (Illustration from the St. Paul website)

few blocks to the south at Snelling and Hague avenues, one of the first questions asked was whether there would be a drive-through. That building has no drive-through planned.

"The big question is, what will be the impact on the neighborhood?" said Zoning Committee Chair Daniel Edgerton.

The Planning Commission and its Zoning Committee heard

from several neighbors who oppose the Larpenteur-Hamline project. Concerns were raised about street and alley traffic and potential changes to neighborhood character. A SuperAmerica store to the west already causes traffic tie-ups when it is busy. Neighbors also objected to a building design that was right up to the corner, especially if the design had few windows. A Walgreens recently built at Larpenteur Ave. and Lexington Pkwy. has drawn complaints because it lacks windows and eyes on the street.

"To paraphrase our (State) Fair lingo: this is congestion on a stick," said neighbor Craig Norman. "With just SA across the street from this project, things can get interesting during rush hour. Adding another busy driveway

on the other side will really mess things up." Other neighbors said that while they want to see new development, it needs to happen with more consideration for traffic issues.

Como Community Council (District 10) Land Use Committee gave the project conditional support, asking that improvements to plans be made. The district council committee raised concerns about potential traffic backups and traffic flow, as well as queuing capacity for vehicles using the drive-through window. Plans called for vehicles to enter off Hamline and exit onto the north-south alley that is east of the site.

Developers and their architect said changes had been made to the project to address neighborhood concerns, and that the conditional use permit should be modified to meet site conditions.

A minimum 60-foot separation is needed for a drive-through lane and residential property. The closest residential property is 54.9 feet away. The vehicle egress is to be at least 60 feet from residential property; the actual distance would be 20.9 feet. A six-foot buffer with screen planting is also required between the development and residential property. An opaque fence is proposed on top of a wall that would be 2.5 feet high. Zoning Committee members said they are concerned about the impact on adjacent residential properties.

Another objection is non-compliance with the city's comprehensive plan. The area is defined as a residential corridor with established neighborhoods to the south. A drive-through is an inappropriate use because commercial development at corners needs to have buffers that protect adjacent residences. The potential for increased noise and traffic, and the need for more evaluation of the drive-through's impact on area streets and traffic, also had to be considered.

In the process of making something amazing at Hamline Elementary, here's one thing we know to be true: a school is more than a building—it's a living thing, an ecosystem full of people and possibility. And for all the learning and connection that happens within its walls, it's that learning and connection that happens beyond that gives it that extra dose of awesome. It's about seeing and being seen by your community. It's about giving and receiving support. It's about love.

Because our community partners and neighbors help us create this dynamic, beautiful thing every day, we'd like to thank them for it.

Thank you:

- Hamline Midway Elders, for visiting and reading with our third graders every month
- Reading Partners and your team of volunteers for daily, awesome support of Hamline readers
- NeighborWorks Home Partners, for sharing resources with our families and partnering with us to host a homeownership workshop at the school
- St. Paul Tool Library, for building a beautiful book collection box and for donating two-year-long memberships for a drawing

## Hamline Elementary School

By JESSICA KOPP

### Hamline + Community = Love

at our recent homeownership workshop

- Children's Book Express, for helping us set up a book-sharing program that has collected and made available over 500 books for families to choose for their home libraries
- Hamline Church, for organizing another bread-making and baking experience this year, supporting last fall's fence-weaving project, making regular donations to our family resource room, and partnering with us to provide weekend meals to families through Sheridan Story
- Sheridan Story, for helping us support over 40 families with weekend meals
- Greg's PC Repair, for being the first neighborhood business to provide services during school hours in our family resource room
- Hancock Recreation Center, for collaboration on community

events and general awesomeness

- The Hamline to Hamline Collaboration, for the tutors, the mentors, the programs, the pairings, the special events, the mini-grants, and the leadership team that keeps it all running
- Hamline University, for sharing your campus, expertise, passion, and people with us every day
- Midway Public Art Working Group, for all the work going into this spring's Paint the Pavement project on the school's basketball court and this summer's Snelling Ave. mural
- The Hamline Midway Coalition, for your support of last year's fence-weaving project
- Midway Men's Club, for your support of last year's fence-weaving project
- Neighbors, who donated and helped us fill over 40 backpacks in the last year, made donations to our family resource room, dropped off pre-loved books,

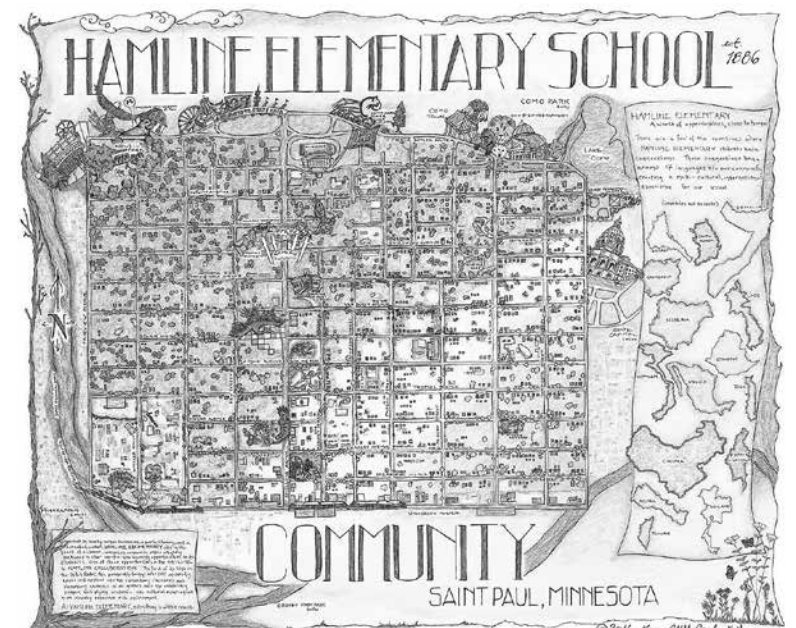
and celebrated with us at the Fall Festival

- Whomever I forgot, know that you matter to someone in our

school community

New partnerships on the way, we can't wait for you to get here.

Illustration below: A little under three years ago Hamline Elementary began work to be more visible in the neighborhood. During the process Karen McCauley began creating a map to represent what were the greatest strengths in the community. (Image provided)





# Friends School offers unique summer classes to stimulate and entertain

By JAN WILLMS

Summer is approaching, and with the season comes a multitude of camps for children that are offered in the Twin Cities. (See the March *Monitor* for dozens of summer opportunities.) But one organization, the Friends School of Minnesota, has been offering a wide selection of camps for the past 20 years.

The Quaker school has "a long tradition" of offering unusual camps for children preschool through the 8th grade, according to Andrea Hasan, summer camp director.

This is her first year as director, and she said one of the offerings that she is most excited about is a series of camps for preschool and kindergartners that explore different cultures.

The camps explore countries of the North, South, East, and West.

"Each week campers will journey in a different direction and learn about people and cultures around the world," Hasan continued. "They will be doing cooking and art activities, and have a lot of hands-on art experiences and play outside. One of our Quaker values is peace, and through understanding and appreciating diversity, we hope to build a foundation for that."

Hasan said the school has



There is a wide variety of programs available at Friends School. (Photo provided)

always done preschool and kindergarten camps, but this is the first year they have cultural awareness themes.

She said another exciting new camp this year is an alternative energy camp, where kids will build solar-powered cars and other creations out of

LEGOS, learning about alternative concepts and engineering.

There is also an amusement park camp, in which campers will build all the components of an amusement park with LEGOS. These camps are being partnered with Snapology, an art organization in Minneapolis that focuses on children learning through interaction and creativity using LEGOS.

"We are also partnering with SteppingStone Theater for youth development," Hasan continued. "We will be offering creative writing and improvisational camps."

Another camp that is new this year is one on robotics.

Travis Bell, a librarian and front office manager at the school, is putting on a Harry

Potter camp. "I mentioned the idea to Andrea, and there got to be a lot of excitement," Bell said.

"The first day we will be having a sorting ceremony, with the kids divided into different houses, representing four values that are part of the Friends School culture." He said there will be a day focusing on herbology, where someone will teach the campers about planting. Another day a science teacher will explore potions, presenting science experiments for the kids to work on.

"We have another teacher here, Max, who will be teaching the kids how to play Quidditch," Bell said. Quidditch is a game played on a field, with the participants riding broomsticks. The game was created by J.K. Rowling, the author of the Harry Potter books.

"Max is a member of the Twin Cities Quidditch Club, and he has played in national tournaments, so he's the real deal," added Hasan. "We'll be creating a junior version of Quidditch."

Bell said they would also be crafting things, and the last day of the camp will have a more reflective celebration, feast, and camp ceremony.

The majority of the camps will be held at the Friends School at 1365 Englewood. The biking camps will meet at the school and then explore different parts of the city by bike. "We have a bus and a trailer for the bikes so that they can go pretty far," Hasan said.

One other camp, Nature, Art and the City, will meet at the school and then children will have the opportunity to visit some of the best nature areas in the Twin Cities, where they can explore and play.

There are also camps on film production, outdoor activities, bike riding, chess, art his-

tory and craft labs.

All of the camps are open to the public, except some overnight Skipping Stone weekend camps, which are only for students of Friends School. At these camps, participants will build campfires and stay in a campground.

"Our school is for kids K-8," Hasan said. "Offering camps for the public for pre-K gives families an opportunity to become connected with our school. Incoming kindergartners can have the experience of being in our building and meeting the staff, and it eases the transition."

She said the camps begin June 18 and end the week of July 9. Camp size varies, but most are capped at 20. "For some, like the bike camps, we try to limit the size to 12 to keep the experience personal," Hasan said.

"I think the thing that makes our camps stand out is the quality of teachers," she explained. "Some camps have random high school and college students, but everyone leading our camps has a vast number of years of experience and a passion for what they do. We pride ourselves on creating a diverse and inclusive community."

Hasan said the Friends Summer Camps values time spent outside and in nature. "You can tell some of our camps really reflect that," she said. "Our Skipping Stones overnight camps are sold out right away, but we have a waitlist."

Hasan suggested that parents register online at the school's website, [www.fsmn.org](http://www.fsmn.org). "Click on the tab for summer camps and register now," she said. "Don't be discouraged if a camp is sold out. Get your kids on a waitlist. And we still have openings in some of the camps."

**Service, Price...  
Professional Advice**  
from St. Paul's Largest Flooring Retailer

*Hamernick's*  
Quality Design  
Over 60 Years

1381 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55117  
**651-487-3211**  
[www.hamernicksdecorating.com](http://www.hamernicksdecorating.com)  
Hours: Monday - Thursday 8am - 8pm  
Friday 8am - 5:30pm • Saturday 8am - 4pm

**MYTH:**  
**SOLAR**  
**IS TOO EXPENSIVE**

**TRUTH:**  
**OPTIONS START AT \$0 DOWN**

LEARN HOW MUCH YOU COULD BE SAVING AND VISIT US ONLINE TODAY!

AllEnergySolar.com  
Phone: +1 651 401 8522  
1642 Carroll Ave. Saint Paul, MN 55104

**ALL ENERGY**  
| SOLAR |

**Late Night Eats**

**THE BLUE DOOR PUB**

**THEBDP.COM | HOME OF THE BLUCY**  
**Now with four Twin Cities locations!**  
OPEN LATE | TAKEOUT | DAILY HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS

**CAREER PATHWAYS**  
A Public Charter Secondary School

Enrolling grades 6 to 11 for the 18-19 school year.  
1355 W Pierce Butler Rt in St. Paul's Midway Area  
[cpathmn.org](http://cpathmn.org) (651) 400-1781



**What makes us special?**

- ▶ Career & College Focus
- ▶ Small Class Sizes
- ▶ Experiential Learning
- ▶ Mixed-Age Classes
- ▶ Project-based and Traditional learning opportunities
- ▶ PSEO, Internships, Work credit
- ▶ Personalized Graduation Plans
- ▶ Catch-up on missing credits



# Spring Saint Paul Art Crawl included many Midway Como locations

Photos by MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

The 2018 Spring Saint Paul Art Crawl took place throughout the city on the last weekend of April. This was the 27th year for the art crawl, and over 400 artists showed their work in 34 different locations—more than 70 of those artists were in the Hamline Midway and Como neighborhoods alone.



Burning Brothers Brewing at 1750 Thomas Ave. was a first time participating venue. In the shadow of their brew kettles, Goblets of Fire showed their hand-blown glass art in the form of platters, vessels, and collectible animals.



Artist Marcia Soderman makes paintings in acrylic, watercolor, and digital media. She has had a varied career as a studio artist, WARM mentor (Women's Art Resources of Minnesota), and professor of art history at the University of Minnesota and Hamline University.



Designer Amy Mills of Kasasagi Designs, worked on-site on her beaded jewelry and accessories. She creates custom jewelry with seed and crystal beads, specializing in commissioned pieces that can't be found in a store.



Khanh Tran is the owner of the Dow Art Gallery, and a master framer. "We moved in three years ago, right after the Green Line opened," he said. "There are 35 independent artists who exhibit their work in this space. They're an eclectic group of artists, and their work is available for purchase six days/week."



Ceramic artist Michael Egan has been throwing pots for a remarkably short time—only eight years. Outside of a handful of community education and Northern Clay Center classes, he has taught himself the craft of making functional stoneware that is as beautiful as it is durable.



At the Dow Building, 2242 University Ave., multi-media artist Mary Gross explained her suit of armor, saying, "I believe we all wear a suit of armor, of sorts. We're armored with the skills we need to cope and survive." Gross exhibits her mixed media sculpture, pencil drawings, and paintings at the Dow Art Gallery year round.



Wood turner Mark Reshke brought an assortment of hand-turned wood accessories to the art crawl. He said, "The process of woodturning starts with a raw log and a chainsaw. I've been lucky to be able to do this work for 35+ years. On hand were his lense turning sticks, dipping cups, and flawlessly carved spoons of different sizes."

## Fall Saint Paul Art Crawl planned Oct. 11-14

For more information, email [info@saintpaulartcrawl.org](mailto:info@saintpaulartcrawl.org).

The Saint Paul Art Crawl is a program of the Saint Paul Art Collective. The art crawl dates back to 1977 when the founding artists of the Saint Paul Art Collective had their first group exhibition at the Union Depot. In the 15 years that followed, the artists of the collective continued to hold loosely organized group events in and around downtown St. Paul. In 1991, the collective decided to coordinate a multiple building, weekend long, open studio event, and the Saint Paul Art Crawl was born.

The St. Paul Art Collective has been hosting the art crawl ever since, with the number of visitors averaging around 20,000 for each semi-annual, three-day event. The collective and its member artists receive a tremendous amount of support from residents, businesses, and local government to stage an event of this size. In return, they give St. Paul a close-knit, vibrant, and energetic art community that actively contributes to the greater Twin Cities cultural landscape.

# EXCLUSIVE SAVINGS

at the #1 NEW Thrift Store in Town!

# 50% OFF STOREWIDE

VALID THRU 5/24/18

1657 Rice St, St Paul, MN 55117 • [mythriftstores.com](http://mythriftstores.com)

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Valid for 1 purchase only.



# Central Baptist Church celebrates 125 years of community service

The weekend of Apr. 27-29 was a celebration marking 125 years of service for Central Baptist Church, 420 N. Roy St.

The church was established as the Second Swedish Baptist Church in 1893 at the corner of Front Ave. and Albemarle St. In

1911 the congregation decided to move, and the original church building was finished in 1913 at its current location. There have been additions in 1948, 1962, and a new Sanctuary in 1975. To celebrate this history, the church sponsored the following week-

end events:

- Friday evening was a time of worship and prayer
- Saturday evening there was a community potluck dinner followed by a program focusing on the vision for the church's future
- Sunday morning they held a

continental breakfast followed by the Sunday morning worship service.

The church community noted that they very much realize that the church is located at the crossroads of the Twin Cities in a rapidly changing

neighborhood. They plan to remain "A Community of Faithful Presence" at the heart of the Midway and look forward to the next 125 years of "proclaiming the Gospel of Christ to those around us and serving the neighborhood."



Entrance to Central Baptist Church with banner and flag highlighting the anniversary. (Photo provided)



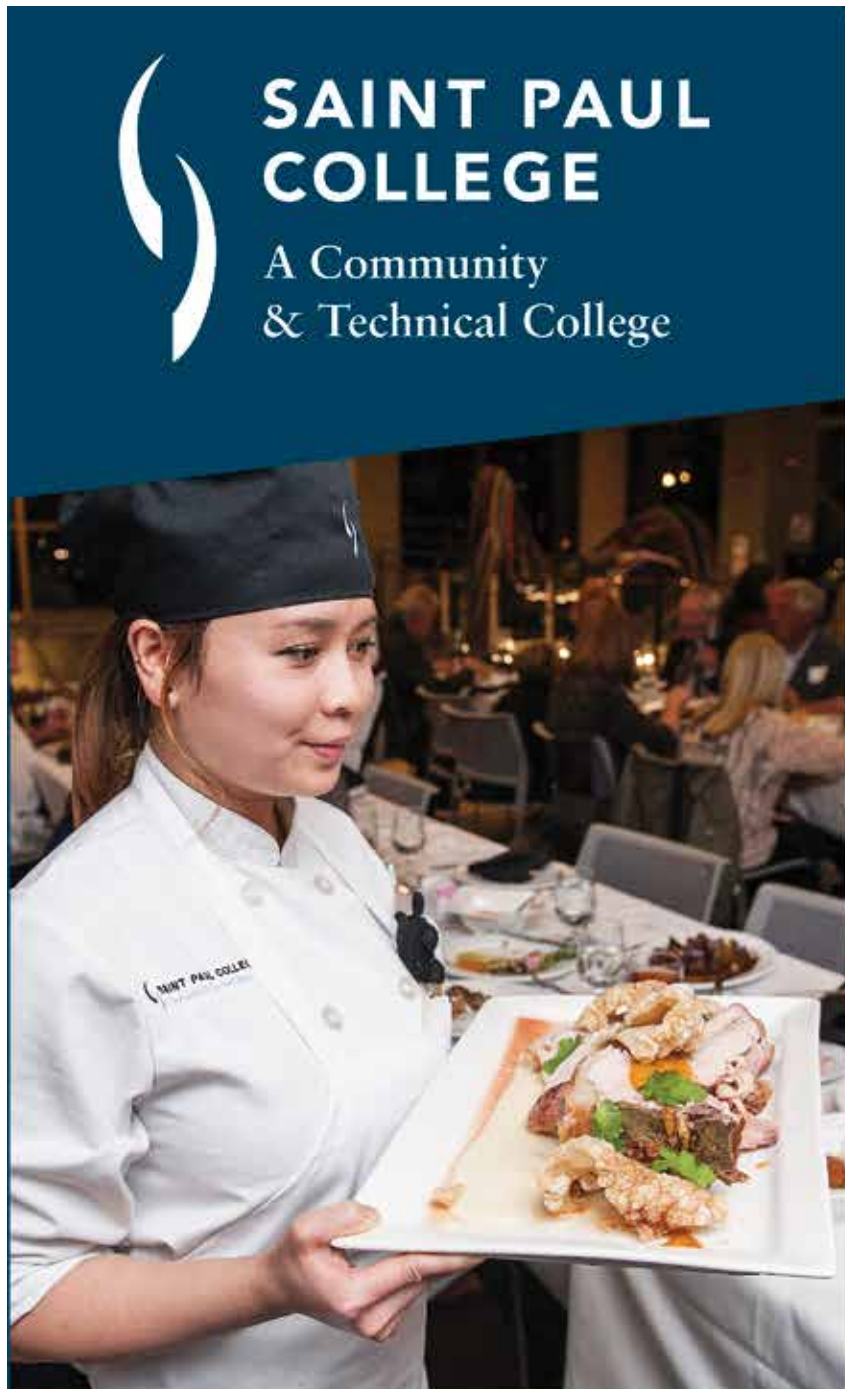
An overhead shot of the potluck dinner on Saturday evening in the Sanctuary. (Photo provided)



A choir of current and former members sing during worship on Sunday. (Photo provided)



Central's community project is highlighting the diversity within the congregation, with member Nancy Mosbeck. (Photo provided)



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

## 2018 program INFORMATION sessions

all sessions begin at 6pm

**June 5 - Wellness & Service**

**June 6 - Culinary Arts & Wine Professional**

**June 12 - Make It Count Night**  
FREE Tuition for First-Time College Students 24+

Let us know you're coming!  
[saintpaul.edu/InfoSession](http://saintpaul.edu/InfoSession)

Disability accommodations available by contacting 651.846.1547 or [AccessResources@saintpaul.edu](mailto:AccessResources@saintpaul.edu). Saint Paul College is an Equal Opportunity employer and educator.

MINNESOTA STATE Saint Paul College, A member of Minnesota State



## Como Harbor

Continued from page 1

for easy underwater transfers from one area to the next.

With the new design, the public will be much closer to the animals and their care and training. At the underwater viewing areas, they will be a pane of glass away. At the care and training stations, the public will see how they live behind the scenes.

Acknowledging that animal training is key to their well-being by keeping them active and engaged, the new facility features a state-of-the-art training facility.

Other upgrades include larger and better bathrooms, a new and better restaurant, and a new picnic area. All of the areas will be fully wheelchair accessible. Plus the design features a shade structure over the new amphitheater.

### Pacific coastline design

Designed to reflect a northern Pacific coastline, the exhibit will include rocky outcroppings where seals and sea lions can bask, deeper pools for diving, a natural substrate, and trees and shrubs to provide natural shade throughout the day. The new design will feature an indoor, underwater viewing area similar to the one at Polar Bear Odyssey.

The updated space will have two new pools, a 5,000-square foot central exhibit pool, and a 900-square foot "Cove Habitat" pool that will dramatically expand the swimming areas for up to eight seals and sea lions from 146,000 gallons to 244,000 gallons.

When Seal Island is renovated, all the seals and sea lions will be housed together, rather than in groups of two or three which makes

it more efficient for training.

### Working to rehab animals

"Como is one of the last free zoos in the country. It is also the sixth-most visited, outdrawing the main zoos in New York and Los Angeles," pointed out Reinartz.

The current Seal Island could not be upgraded for salt water, and the aging infrastructure needed more maintenance. The habitats were not built with training and updated standards of animal management. The space was not expected to meet the new standards and regulations for marine mammal care and conservation about to be released by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, and other governing bodies.

"If Como does not make the necessary changes, our ability to receive new animals in the future will be limited. Como has been an approved facility working with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to bring in animals from the wild that are deemed unreleasable," said Reinartz.

All of Como's seals and sea lions are rehabilitated animals—wild animals that had been injured and were rescued but had a physical limitation that prevented a return to the wild.

Subee, for example, was found eight years ago injured on the coast of California and was recommended to Como because the staff has experience with older animals and so could deal with her possible arthritis issues as she ages. Sparky V was the second oldest captive sea lion in North America when he passed away after performing for more than 20 years.

Chino, another seal lion, was found near death with a fishing



The new Como Harbor will open in late 2019. It will feature two saltwater pools and an indoor, underwater viewing area similar to the one at Polar Bear Odyssey. Designed to reflect a northern Pacific coastline, the exhibit will include rocky outcroppings where seals and sea lions can bask, deeper pools for diving, and natural substrate, trees and shrubs to provide natural shade throughout the day. (Image courtesy of Como Zoo)

line caught around his head. The scarring made it impossible for him to fish on his own and so he was deemed nonreleasable. When he arrived at Como, he was underweight and had pneumonia. With the care of the Como team, he recovered and thrived, gaining over 500

pounds. Now he is in a breeding group at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha.

### Vision for the future

The update to Seal Island follows the \$15 million Polar Bear Odyssey that opened in June 2010 and

the \$11 million Gorilla Forest that opened in June 2013. These new exhibits are elements of a larger strategic vision for Como, according to Reinartz.

"The new Como Harbor will be the most dramatic example of Como's vision for the future. The public experience will be more intimate, and the conditions for the animals will be greatly improved," he said.

Reinartz added, "Sparky is an ambassador for conservation education, through the 2 million-plus visitors to Como Park Zoo and Conservatory each year, including 500,000 school age kids taking part in some educational programming. Today we see multi-generations visiting and making connections with the animals like Sparky, and our hope is that this will continue for generations."

After seeking funding for several years, the 2017 Minnesota Legislature approved \$15 million for the project. Como Friends, the non-profit partner of Como Park Zoo and Conservatory, is raising the remaining needed \$4.9 million with gifts from Minnesota foundations, corporations and individuals.

"This continues the success of the city's public-private partnership with Como Friends, which has invested more than \$38 million in projects and programs since 1999," said Reinartz. Lancer is also investing in the project to pay for a food service building.

The Marine Mammal Building will remain open during construction, so visitors can continue to see Sparky and the other seals and sea lions, along with the penguins and puffins.

The new Como Harbor will open in late 2019.

# Graduation Notice

Hamline Commencement  
Saturday, May 19, 2018

While we welcome friends and families of our graduates to the neighborhood, please note that Hewitt Avenue will be closed from Snelling Avenue to N. Pascal Street due to crowds. Detours will be posted. For a map detailing further closures and parking, visit [hamline.edu/gradparking](http://hamline.edu/gradparking).

Baccalaureate multifaith service:  
9 a.m. in Hamline Church

Undergraduate Commencement ceremony:  
11 a.m. at Old Main Mall

Graduate Commencement ceremony:  
3 p.m. at Old Main Mall



MCS10074 0418



# In Our Community

## Monitor

Send us your news! When you submit your press release it will be considered for the next print edition of the Monitor. You can also go to our website, [MonitorSaintPaul.com](http://MonitorSaintPaul.com) and enter your information in the online Event Calendar.

### NAMI holds partner support group

NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) sponsors a support group specifically for partners or spouses of someone who lives with a mental illness. The Partners and Spouses Support Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm, at Falcon Heights United Church of Christ, 1795 Holton St. (Holton and Garden). For more information, call Melissa at 651-354-0825 or Sara at 763-350-6502.

### La Leche League meets June 12

The next meeting of the La Leche League of St. Paul Como-Midway will be held on Tues., June 12, from 7-8:45pm. The discussion will focus on breastfeeding-related issues. Please contact Heidi at 651-659-9527 for more details.

### Emotions Anonymous meets Wednesdays

Do you often feel nervous, anxious, lonely, or fearful? Do you suffer from mood swings? Are you suffering from depression, panic attacks or crying spells? You can find help in a 12-Step Group called Emotions Anonymous (EA).

The meetings are open to anyone who is seeking to achieve and maintain emotional balance. EA is not a religious group, and they welcome people of any religious affiliation or no religious affiliation. There is no cost to attend meetings. Only first names are used, and everything said at a meeting is confidential.

EA meets each Wednesday, 7pm, at the Hamline United Methodist Church, 1514 Englewood Ave. Use the rear entrance and ring the bell to gain admittance. The meeting is upstairs in Room 7.

### Events at Merriam Park Library

The Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave, is planning several events in the coming weeks.

Family Storytimes are planned on Fridays, 10:30-11am. Spend time sharing stories, songs, and rhymes with your child while building a foundation for reading success. Preschoolers, toddlers, and babies are welcome!

Open Lab for Writers meets every Thursday, 10:30am-noon. There is no instructor. This is an opportunity to meet, discuss, or work on whatever you're writing. All styles welcome!

Tech Help Clinics are scheduled for Fridays, noon-2pm, and Saturdays, 11:30am-12:30pm. The clinics are for all tablets and smartphones. Bring your ques-

### Gallery opens new exhibit May 18



SANDRA PETERSON

NICK EARL

The Raymond Avenue Gallery, 761 Raymond Ave., sponsors its 2018 second quarter exhibition featuring Wabi Sabi in Conjunction with Animal Spirits, with potter Nick Earl and painter Sandra Peterson. An opening reception is planned Fri., May 18, 6-8pm, and the show runs through July 20. Regular gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 10am-4pm, with special Saturday hours noon-4pm on May 19, June 16 and July 7.

Earl is a potter who lives in Stillwater. He received his BA in Art from the University of Vermont, Burlington in 2011, and apprenticed with potter Dick Cooter in Two Harbors from 2012-2014. Earl currently maintains his studio at the Abnet Farm eight miles north of Stillwater. His wheel-thrown pots are influenced by Korean, Japanese and English folk pottery, as well as by nature, food and a wabi-sabi philosophy.

Peterson's paintings revolve around the portrayal of wild animals: lions, cheetahs, leopards, wolves, zebras, elephants and other fauna. But, her animals are not merely illustrative depictions of these creatures, they hint at the projection of psychological elements. One might say each animal in her work has a subtle link to some human emotion.

tions, problems, and concerns. If we can't answer the question, we'll find resources or organizations that can! No registration required. Jack and Kitty, an interactive, high-energy organic vaudeville and jug band folk performance, is planned for Tues., May 15, 11am-12pm. Enjoy new and interesting instruments in this song and dance party for families!

During regular library hours through May 20, visit the MN Audubon Identify Urban Birds display and talk with a birding expert to learn how to identify birds. This Nature Smart event is family friendly and gives an opportunity to do birding activities.

Merriam Park Book Club meets Mon., May 21, 6:30-7:30pm. The book this month is "The Radium Girls: America's Dark Story of America's Shining Women" by Kate Moore.

### Dr. Deep drops in at Dreamland Arts

Dreamland Arts presents Dr. Deep - "Life Sucks, But I'm Cool With It," a new lecture on happiness by Dr. Deep, a fictional character created by theater artist Zaraqar Mistry. Performances are at Dreamland Arts, 677 Hamline Ave. N., Fri. and Sat., May 18-19, at 7:30pm, and Sun., May 20 at 2pm.

Dr. Deep is the founder of Ultimate Liberation Philosophy, a metaphysical study focusing on

the relationship of the individual to their existence. This new lecture on happiness is the second in a series that examines the intersection of science, spirituality, and nonsense.

The first lecture, titled "Shake Your Noggin Like a Bobblehead," premiered at Dreamland Arts in 2015 and was presented during Illusion Theater's Fresh Ink series and at the Minnesota Fringe Festival (*Star Tribune's* 10 Best Shows of the Fringe).

### Master Gardeners plant sale May 19

As spring approaches, the University of Minnesota Extension's Ramsey County Master Gardeners are gearing up for their biggest and best plant sale to date on Sat., May 19, from 8am to noon.

"The Barn," 2020 White Bear Ave., Maplewood, will be packed with perennials for sun and shade, vibrantly-blossoming bedding plants, and nearly thirty varieties of tomato plants! There will be a great selection of hosta once again, and an ever-increasing selection of herbs and native plants. This year's sale will also feature winners of the Upper Midwest seed trials, proven to be hard-working and high-performing in our climate and soils, for purchase.

There is no better time to select your plants from the master gar-

### Free Mother's Day Concert set May 13



The Saint Paul Civic Symphony will hold their free annual Mother's Day Concert on Sun., May 13, 1-3pm at Landmark Center, 75 W. 5th St. The concert will feature Hétu's "Légendes," and Saint-Saens "Cello Concerto in a minor" performed by 2016 FMO Young Artists Competition winner Cicely Parnas on the cello. The concert will also perform Bruch's "Kol Nidre for cello & orchestra" and Stravinsky's "Firebird Suite" (1945 version).

deners who grow them and who are present to answer your lawn and garden questions and help you with your plant selections.

This year's shoppers can also join in a brief presentation on pollinator-friendly plants, ongoing throughout the day!

Proceeds from the sale are used to support community programs that engage Ramsey County youth in horticulture projects and for University of Minnesota Scholarship.

### Understanding Early Episode Psychosis

NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will offer a free, class to help young people who have experienced psychosis and their family members and loved ones understand symptoms, causes, and treatments of psychosis.

Participants who have experienced psychosis will learn how to self-advocate and get back to work or school and achieve recovery. Loved ones and family members will learn how to help and support a young person through recovery.

The class will be held in St. Paul on Tues., May 15, 6:30-8:30pm, at NAMI Minnesota, 1919 University Ave. W., Suite 400. For more information or to register (required), call 651-645-2948 or go to [namihelps.org](http://namihelps.org).

### New Lex-Ham play opens June 1

Lex-Ham Community Theater presents Sarah Ruhl's comic play "Dead Man's Cell Phone," about technology and how it is capable of connecting people—sometimes in very unexpected ways. Performances will be June 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 at 7:30pm, and at 2pm on

June 2 and 3 at Dreamland Arts, 677 Hamline Ave. N. The play is directed by Natalie Novacek. Note that the language in the play may not be appropriate for younger audience members.

### YMCA Garage Sale planned May 10-12

YMCA Camps Widjiwagan and du Nord Spring Garage Sale will be held Thur.-Fri., May 10-11 from 9am-7:30pm and Sat., May 12, 8am-4pm, at the State Fairgrounds Merchandise Mart. There is free admission to this event.

More than 250 families contribute good quality clothing for all ages, sporting and camping equipment, household items, toys, books, antiques, etc. All proceeds fund Camper Scholarship Endowment. For more information, call 651-645-6605.

### Park Arts Festival scheduled June 2

The 49th annual St. Anthony Park Arts Festival will be held outside the St. Anthony Park Branch Library, 2245 Como Ave., on Sat., June 2, 10am-6pm.

The Festival is a free, family-friendly one-day celebration of fine arts and community, and features over 70 juried artists, food, live music, used book sale, garden club plant sale, and art activities for children. The 2018 Featured Artists are: Steve Claypatch (Glass), Peter Jadoonath (Ceramics), and Jim Sannerud (Woodworking) For more information, visit [www.sapfest.org](http://www.sapfest.org).

Proceeds from the book sale benefit programming for the St. Anthony Park Library.

Continued on page 12



## In Our Community

Continued from page 11

### Frogtown Farms is hiring several staff

Frogtown Farm is in the process of hiring an Executive Director, an AmeriCorps VISTA Communication and Volunteer Specialist, and has positions open for a Culinary Education intern and for Education Program intern. To see further requirements and details on how to apply, visit their website at [www.frogtownfarm.org/work-with-us](http://www.frogtownfarm.org/work-with-us).

### Cookie Fun 5K scheduled June 2

The Cookie Fun 5K will be held at Como Lake on Sat., June 2, 8:30-10am. The 5K is a fundraiser for HeroSearch.org, a neighborhood nonprofit. All participants get a t-shirt or cape and free cookies! HeroSearch.org is a free service to residents, and you can find out where you can locally donate your stuff to directly benefit people in the community. Race Info can be found online at [www.herosearch.org/2018-herosearch-cookie-5k.html](http://www.herosearch.org/2018-herosearch-cookie-5k.html).

### Intro to Drumming for women May 12

Women's Drum Center, 2242 University Ave. W., will sponsor an Intro to Hand Drumming Workshop for women on Sat., May 12, 10am to 12pm. This fun introductory workshop will teach basic techniques that make the drum come alive. Drums are provided and the fee: is \$30. Info and registration can be found at [www.womensdrumcenter.org](http://www.womensdrumcenter.org).

### Yes We Can Can every month

Can Can Wonderland's Yes We Can Can Variety Show is a nod to and a reimagining of the vaudeville shows of the early 20th century. Local artists perform short-form acts (i.e., singers, musicians, aerialists, burlesque, drag, dance, comedy, improv, juggling, spoken word, mime, and more). Their acts are interspersed with music and song from the incredible Kalliah and the Black Water, and witty repartee from local celebrity host MC Foxy Tann, the boss of burlesque, and the international burlesque sensation, Tre' Da Marc!

While the acts engage in friendly competition to be the crowd favorite and win the \$100 cash prize at the end of the night, all artists encourage and cheer each other on as does the audience.

Check out all the amazing performances that cross the Indeed Brewing Company stage at Can Can Wonderland (755 Prior Ave. N.) the first and third Thursday of every month at the Yes We Can Can Variety Show, 9-11pm. You must be 21 years + to attend.

### Kids dance party monthly at Can Can

Every first Sunday of the month, The Pledge Party Team & Pledge Empire Records produces a fun kids dance party at Can Can

## Hamline Midway Elders plan May events



Hamline Midway Elders (HME) is planning their Community Dinner for Thur., May 17, 6pm at Hamline Church United Methodist, 1514 Englewood Ave. Chef Erik Hendrickson will prepare a wonderful meal and DrumHeart, the performing ensemble of the Women's Drum Center will play West African Drum Music. Since a large crowd is expected, reservations are strongly suggested as it helps us know how many meals to prepare. Free-will donations (suggested \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors/children) are appreciated along with donations to a local food shelf.

The HME Knitting Group meets Mondays, 1-3pm at Hamline Church United Methodist. HME provides the yarn and needles along with some light snacks. The participants work on projects, such as making shawls to be donated to a local hospice or blankets for a child care center. But it has also become a nice social gathering for a group of 8-10 elders and new participants are welcome. We are also seeking donations of yarn.

The HME Walking Group meets Tuesdays at 10am in the parking lot of Hamline Church United Methodist. Each weekly walk will lead to a specific destination in the neighborhood, so walkers can get some exercise, make some social connections and learn something new about the neighborhood.

Chair Yoga Classes run Thursdays through May 31, 10:30-11:30am at Hamline Midway Library. Nancy Giguere is leading another series of classes, and new participants are welcome to join these free classes at any time.

Healthy Aging Day is Wed., May 23, 9am-1pm at the Midway YMCA, visit our display table at this health/wellness community event.

Jody's Documentary Film Series shows Wed., May 30 at 1 pm at Hamline Midway Library. This POV film "Waging A Living" follows four diverse low-wage earners trying to work hard and get ahead. No registration is necessary for this last Wednesday of the month film series. So just enjoy the documentary, some snacks and a lively discussion led by Jody Huber after the film.

For more information, please contact Tom Fitzpatrick at Hamline Midway Elders at 651-209-6542 or [tom@hmelders.org](mailto:tom@hmelders.org).

Wonderland, 10am-12:30pm! This is a kids dance party for kids from all walks of life. There are balloons around for all the kids, along with coloring books and workstations and treats for the kids. Also, National DJ Airman Heat will keep your kids dancing all day with the favorites in kids dance songs. Entry fee is \$2, with kids under 12 free.

### Como golf course open for business

The long wait was finally over, and golf courses have teed-off the 2018 season. Como Golf Course opened 9 holes only on Apr. 28. To help preserve the quality of the turf, cart usage may be limited. Tee times may be booked online at [www.stpaul.golf](http://www.stpaul.golf).

Course and driving range hours are weather dependent, so golfers are encouraged to check with the clubhouse, or visit [www.stpaul.golf](http://www.stpaul.golf) for the most up to date information.

### ComiCon 2018 to run May 19-20

The 30th MSP ComiCon opens at the Minnesota State Fairground Grandstand, 1265 Snelling Ave. N., Sat., May 19 from 10am-6pm, and Sun., May 20, 10am-5pm. Tickets at the door are \$14.

The spacious, historical Grandstand provides enough room for all of the extreme comic

book action to take place under one roof, in one giant room. Over 200 creators, artists, and writers will be on hand. Expect retailers, dealers, and hucksters from all over the United States.

Enjoy a 60,000 square foot marketplace where they will be buying selling and trading all things comic books and fun! Get a full list of creators, dealers and other events at [www.mcbacomicons.com](http://www.mcbacomicons.com).

### St. Mark's Church plans annual bash

St. Mark's Church will hold their annual Festival on Fri., May 18, 5-10pm and Sat., May 19, 11am-10pm. The festival includes food, rides, and music with the featured entertainment Claudia and the Wise Guys on Sat. night 7:30-10pm.

There is something for everyone on the menu, from brats, egg rolls, and veggie cheeseburgers, to pies, bananas on a stick, and a malt wagon. Beverages range from soda to coffee, with beer and wine for the adults. And, don't miss the youth group's lemonade stand!

There is a silent auction (Fri., 5-9:30pm), kids games (Sat., 11am-5pm), and henna, fair hair, a medallion hunt, Zumba, school and church tours, and trivia scattered throughout the festival. Don't miss the 3rd-grade play (Sat., 2:30-3:15pm) or, of course, bingo (Sat., 12:15-2:15pm). All food and rides will be closed for the outdoor mass Sat. 5-6pm.

Entertainment includes Tipper Road Irish Band (Fri., 6-7:30pm), a street dance (Fri., 8-10pm), and the school musical and band performance in the gym (Sat., 11am-noon).

You can purchase a festival button for \$3, which you need if you want to participate in the Medallion Hunt, or you can purchase early bird tickets from May 9-13 at the parish center or the school when you get them for 33% off. Regular ride tickets are available the days of the festival.

### Drop off your junk at fairground June 9

The annual Citywide Drop-Off at the State Fairgrounds is much earlier than usual in 2018—it's Sat., June 9 from 8am-1pm. The Drop-Off, organized by St. Paul and District 10, is a great chance to get rid of the junk you can't throw in the trash—and do it at very reasonable prices. The best price is if you volunteer to staff the event you can get rid of a load of your junk for free. There is a cost for most items dropped off, and you can see that full list and their prices online by entering "St. Paul citywide drop-off" into your browser search engine.

### Two local students to go on to nationals

On Sat., Apr. 28, nearly 1,300 middle and high school students from across Minnesota gathered at the University of Minnesota for the 2018 State History Day competition. First and second place winners will move on to the National History Day competition in Washington, D.C., June 10-14.

Among the winners were two students from the Twin Cities German Immersion School, 1031 Como Ave.:

—Grace Philippon received a 1st place for her Junior Paper "The Wilderness Act of 1964."

—Simona Simha, Umay Pankratz and Lizzy Kile, received a 2nd place award for their Junior Group Website, "The Compromise of 1790"

### Lunch, Learn & Laugh slated May 23

The Lunch, Learn & Laugh with Episcopal Homes will be held Wed., May 23, 11:30am-12:30pm at the Seabury Senior Housing, 1830 University Ave. Please RSVP by May 21 to Kire Meyer Quist at [KMeyer@EpiscopalHomes.org](mailto:KMeyer@EpiscopalHomes.org) or by phone at 651-379-5102.

May's program will be "Movin' w/ Matt," with Matt Demma, Fitness Specialist and Personal Trainer at Episcopal Homes. Matt will teach you how to set achievable health goals at any age. Learn about valuable tools to help keep you motivated, increase muscle mass and strength, improve balance, and find a healthy weight.

Menu for lunch includes Chicken Caesar Salad, breadsticks, and fruit, and the cost is \$8 (cash or check only).

### Respite volunteers sought by 2nd Half

Lyngblomsten, a St. Paul-based, nonprofit, senior care provider, is seeking volunteers to help provide

respite services to older adults with memory loss and their family caregivers in the Twin Cities.

Respite is a short-term relief for caregivers that allows them to take a break from their caregiving duties. 2nd Half with Lyngblomsten, a life enrichment center that takes an integrative approach to supporting adults aging well in their communities, has opportunities for an individual to serve as volunteers for in-home respite and group respite programs.

Volunteers for the in-home respite care program would visit the home of an older adult with memory loss once a week for two to three hours. These volunteers will receive training through 2nd Half with Lyngblomsten, which offers a nationally recognized, evidence-based program call REST® (Respite Education & Support Tools) that provides individuals with the education and tools they need to be confident and successful respite companions.

The Respite program is ideal for individuals who enjoy interacting with others one-on-one and find meaning in building and sustaining relationships as part of their volunteer work.

To learn more about becoming an in-home respite companion, contact Lyngblomsten Volunteer Services at (651) 632-5406 or [volunteer@lyngblomsten.org](mailto:volunteer@lyngblomsten.org).

### Co-op plans 2018 MayFest May 12

Hampden Park Co-op, longtime community hub and cooperative grocery at 928 Raymond Ave., is gearing up for their annual Mayfest festival the day before Mother's Day, May 12, 11am- 3pm. Mayfest is an outdoor, rain-or-shine and zero-waste event held in the parking lot of Hampden Park Co-op. More than just a plant sale, it will be an extravaganza of music, food, and activities. It's a party with plants— but you don't have to be a gardener to have a good time!

Everyone is welcome at this family-friendly celebration. Stay for a few minutes or a few hours. Events for Mayfest 2018 include:

—A diverse line-up of local music (Dawn Tanner, Mama Caught Fire, The Old Smugglers, Just Wolf)

—Food and craft beer (Foxy Falafel food truck and Urban Growler beer on tap), and several vendors with free samples

—Kids Activities (face painting, games, etc.)

—Pollinator-friendly plants from Minnesota greenhouse, Glacial Ridge Growers (annuals, perennials, vegetables, herbs, hanging baskets, seeds)

—Plant experts to answer your questions

—Community partners

### Midway's Rosas to appear in LTYM

Midway resident and Visitation School teacher Amanda Rosas will be one of 12 women presenting at the sold-out Listen to Your Mother show on May 10 at the Riverview Theater in Minneapolis.

According to their website, "The goal of every Listen to Your Mother show is to take the audience on a well-crafted, 90-minute journey of diverse true stories about motherhood—being a mom, having a mom, losing a mom, finding a mom—as many interpretations *Continued on page 13*



# Monitor In A Minute

By JANE MCCLURE

## Port, city approve Lyngblomsten changes

Changes to a longtime Como neighborhood facility for elders are expected to improve life for residents there. On Apr. 25 the St. Paul City Council unanimously approved the issuance of approximately \$10 million in bank-qualified conduit tax-exempt and taxable revenue bonds for Lyngblomsten, 1415 Almond Ave.

The funding, which won approval earlier this spring from the St. Paul Port Authority, will be used to finance construction and equipping of improvements to the existing 277,000 square-foot, 237-bed skilled nursing facility. Facility improvements intend to allow Lyngblomsten to provide senior care services benefitting its patients more efficiently.

Lyngblomsten has been in the Como neighborhood since 1906. It provides a continuum of senior housing and care options.

The bonds will not create financial risk for the city or the Port. The bonds are classified as two

types of health care facilities revenue bonds under the Minnesota Municipal Industrial Act.

Similar bond issues have been used for projects at charter schools, health care facilities, colleges, and universities.

One goal for the upcoming Lyngblomsten project is to reduce the number of skilled nursing home beds from 237 to 225.

## Mini golf changes course

Como Park's miniature golf course has a new management company. The St. Paul City Council approved on Apr. 25 a management agreement with Wheel Fun Rentals for the course.

Longtime course operator Putt'er There Miniature Golf saw its lease end in fall 2017. Owner Thomas Annunziata, who saw his plans to improve the course denied several years ago, didn't reapply. He had played mini-golf at the course as a child and operated the course for more than two decades. He had objected to the city process for contracting the business out and saw

the course's success as a reason he was pushed out. City staff disputed that and said they seek requests for proposals for all city facilities.

The mini-golf course sees about 25,000 visitors per year.

Wheel Fun Rentals is a California-based company. It operates attractions at many Twin Cities and Minnesota parks.

The 12-page agreement calls for the company to invest \$200,000 into the facility by the year 2020, with \$20,000 up front. The agreement also calls for the city to receive nine to 10 percent of gross monthly revenue before sales taxes. That is at a minimum of \$10,000 per year. As is standard for city contracts, the new operators must provide profit and loss statements, and monthly records of revenues and expenses.

The contract is one of two Como Park-related changes the City Council authorized in April. The council also gave Parks and Recreation the go-ahead to enter into a grant agreement with the State of Minnesota through Metropolitan Council for bonding appropriations for Como Park Zoo and Con-

servatory's Seal and Seal Lion Project.

The Minnesota Legislature has awarded a \$15 million grant for predesign, design, engineering, and construction for the seal and sea lion habitat at Como Zoo. The funding was a city priority at the Capitol for years and was approved last legislative session.

## Garbage update

St. Paul's move toward organized residential trash collection took another step forward Apr. 25. The St. Paul City Council agreed to spend up to \$4 million to purchase new wheeled, lidded garbage carts.

The cart purchase is in tandem with a flurry of other steps led by the St. Paul Department of Public Works. The goal is to start the organized collection at all home and smaller multi-family buildings on Oct. 1. Before then residents will get information, via mail and online, about the changes.

In November 2017 the council approved a contract with city residential trash haulers, who or-

ganized as St. Paul Haulers, LLC. Since then three smaller firms—East Metro Environmental and two Garbageman franchises—have been sold to larger companies. Other companies aren't taking new clients leading up to the switch.

The city's website outlines several steps. Residents and landlords need to request cart size by June 1. Otherwise, a cart size will be assigned based on existing service. Cart delivery starts in mid-August and continues through September. This summer is when residents will learn who their hauler is.

The change to organized collection is welcomed by those who deal with illegal trash dumping, and residents and landlords who don't purchase trash pickup service. But for many people, the move to a city-hauler consortium service will lead to much higher costs. The option to share a trash can with a neighbor won't be possible.

*Continued on page 15*

The Hamline Midway Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave., is your neighborhood spot to connect with your community, enjoy great programs, access the Internet, and stock up on books, CDs, and DVDs, all free with your library card. As the weather warms, the library also will be hosting its usual wide range of programs for all ages.

## News from Hamline Midway Library

By CARRIE POMEROY

### Programs planned for every member of the family

#### Programs for families and kids

The Lakeshore Players Theater group will perform on Wed., May 16, 1-2pm. Sing songs, make puppets, and play as you explore cultures around the world. No preregistration required. This event is part of the library's Kaleidoscope series of performing arts programs for preschoolers and their caregivers.

Preschool Storytimes in English happen Fridays, 10:30-11am, with upcoming events on May 11 and 18 and June 1, 8, and 15. Storytimes feature stories, songs, puppets, and more. They're a great way for caregivers to bond with children and build social skills, lis-

tening comprehension, and letter and number recognition while creating a solid foundation for lifelong learning. Children of all activity levels are welcome!

The Show and Tell Book Club for grades 1-3 meets on Sat., June 2, from 1:30-2:15pm.

The Summer Spark program kicks off on Sat., June 9, 1:30-2:30pm when Como Park Zoo and Conservatory presents Penguins, featuring a visit from a real-live penguin! Learn about penguins' many adaptations to life in the ocean while discovering more about their unique habitats. This program is part of the summer reading program at the library, which lets chil-

dren and teens earn a free book by tracking their reading hours or trying and tracking fun hands-on activities.

The Hamline Midway Library Association is hosting a garden clean-up day in our library's pollinator garden on Sat., May 12, noon-1:30pm. Please bring gardening gloves and trowels if you have them and enjoy some time with your neighbors beautifying the community garden and getting ready for the arrival of monarchs and other pollinator friends. Children are welcome, as long as children under 10 are accompanied by an adult. Contact volunteer Carrie Pomeroy at 651-645-1196 or car-

riepomeroy@icloud.com with any questions.

#### For adults

Seated Chair Yoga happens on Thur., May 17, 10:30-11:30am and continues on May 24 and 31. All movement is done while seated or standing while using a chair for balance. The class is taught by Nancy Giguere from the Hamline Midway Elders Association.

On Wed., May 30, 1-3pm, Jody's Documentary Film Series will feature a free documentary film from PBS's acclaimed POV series. This month, the film being screened is "Waging A Liv-

ing" by filmmaker Roger Weisberg. See how the American Dream of working to get ahead is going, day-to-day, for four diverse low-wage earners. Enjoy the free film and snacks and stay for the post-film discussion facilitated by Jody. This program is a collaboration of the award-winning POV documentary series and the Hamline Midway Elders Association.

The Novels at Night Book Club meets on Thur., May 31, 6:30-7:30pm. This book club aimed at adult fiction enthusiasts will discuss "The Orchardist" by Amanda Coplin.

On Sat., June 2, 1-2pm, the Saints and Sinners Book Club meets to discuss good mysteries. Contact volunteer G. Balter for book lists and more information at gerribalter@gmail.com or 651-224-5570.

#### Library closure

The library will be closed May 26-28 for the Memorial Day holiday.

## City Council will act soon on controversial rezoning for 2330 Long Ave.

By JANE MCCLURE

Change continues at a quick pace in the West Midway. The St. Paul City Council is poised to act in late spring or early summer on a rezoning request for another multi-unit housing development. And part of the longtime Minnesota Chemical Company complex is poised to be transformed into office space.

The proposed redevelopment of 2330 Long Ave. has generated controversy in South St. Anthony Park and the Raymond-University area. Developer LB 842 Ray LLC

is seeking to rezone what is now a parking area from traditional neighborhoods two to traditional neighborhoods three use. The zoning already allows for dense, mixed-use redevelopment. The change would allow higher heights and more density. City staff recommended approval, citing consistency with the city's comprehensive plan, and the site's proximity to Green Line light rail and other transit.

Jamie Stolpestad appeared before the Zoning Committee to explain the project. He is a veteran

developer and development consultant. He explained that the zoning change would allow for a building of up to four stories. The zoning as proposed would allow a height of up to 45 feet, with more height if there are building step-backs.

While no building plans are set, Stolpestad outlined ideas for multi-generational housing.

The project has generated a mixed reaction.

Longtime South St. Anthony Park resident Ray Bryan said he and his family have already made many

accommodations as housing development has grown all around them. He and other neighbors raised concerns about possible displacement as more sites are redeveloped.

Businesses including Alchemy Architects, Skon Chiropractic, and Salon George raised concerns about loss of parking and overcrowding. Patty George, Salon George owner, said she is worried about the neighborhood being overrun by redevelopment.

But other area businesses, residents, and property owners sent letters of support, saying the proposed housing would meet a need.

Stolpestad is working with Land Bank Twin Cities, which focuses on real estate projects to help people with low to moderate incomes who face barriers to housing. The Land Bank works with developers, nonprofit service providers, and other organizations through brokering, land banking, and lending. The project also involved EG Capital LLC, which is based in Minneapolis and New York City.

No specific building plans were presented. Those aren't needed for a rezoning.

Stolpestad's family members lead longtime St. Paul real estate developer Exeter Group. Exeter's projects include the C&E Lofts at University and Raymond, the downtown post office turned Custom House, and East Side 3M site redevelopment.

It was recently announced that Exeter would be redeveloping two of the longtime Minnesota Chemical Company properties as office space for a wide range of potential tenants. The buildings are at 2295 Hampden Ave. The two buildings date from the early 20th century.

Minnesota Chemical doesn't need the buildings for its current product lines and work. Part of one building is leased month-to-month as artists' workspace.

Exeter has discussed the possibility of pollution cleanup funding with the St. Paul Port Authority, through applications to the state and Ramsey County.

## In Our Community

*Continued from page 12*

on the theme of mothering as you can imagine."

Rosas was among approximately 80 women who auditioned to participate in 2018's Twin Cities edition of LTYM; she will read a prose poem she wrote about three generations of mothers in her Mexican-American family. (Rosas origi-

nally hails from Texas.)

It is no wonder that Rosas felt called to participate in this production, as she lives and models the ideals of female empowerment at all levels. The mother of two young girls, Rosas teaches a popular women's studies class at Visitation (in addition to teaching four sections of Spanish language and culture). She is the adult mentor for Women ActiVISTs, a student-led group at Visitation that focuses on

a wide range of issues affecting girls and women worldwide—from sexual harassment to female genital mutilation. On Apr. 28, she spearheaded a high-school-wide service project on behalf of Days for Girls, a charity that provides reusable, sustainable feminine hygiene products for girls in developing nations. In the fall, Rosas will be teaching an additional women's studies course through the Online School for Girls.



• Members of Como Park High School's National Honor Society (NHS) have been busy serving the community throughout the year. Aside from being recognized for outstanding academic achievement and leadership, NHS members develop and implement service projects.

Recently, NHS members teamed up with the Children's Book Express to collect over 500 books for students at Como Park Elementary School. The culminating event was the presentation of the books to Principal Christine Vang and her students, who were excited to choose books they could read and own.

• Another service project that concluded last month was the NHS Teacher Grant Program. NHS members voted to award over \$1,000 from fundraising back to five classroom teachers who submitted competitive grants. Awarded requests include \$300 to Ms. Thao's English class for a new set of 35 novels, \$300 to Jane Sevald's ELL class for a field trip to the Urban Roots Learning Program, \$168 to Ms. Carole Whitney's choir students to purchase high-quality music folders for performances, \$150 to Anne Strupeck's ELL class for an end-of-year picnic, and \$90 to Sydney Willcox's painting class for quality watercolor paper.

• "Pennies for Patients" is another NHS service project ongoing through May. Donation boxes for collecting pennies are located in each classroom. Student contributions will be pooled together and donated to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Last year Pennies for Patients raised \$300 at Como, and the goal is to top that number this year. Every penny counts.

• 100% of Como seniors in the College Possible program were accepted into college. On May 2, the 52 College Possible students from Como's class of 2018 announced their official college decisions at

# News from Como Park High School

Compiled by ERIC ERICKSON, Social Studies Teacher

## NHS Service Projects, Music, Academic and Athletic Awards



Como Elementary students enjoyed receiving over 500 books from the Como Park High School National Honor Society's book drive. (Photo by Mary Weyandt)

an after-school event that was celebrated by participating students, peers and teachers. The mission of College Possible is to make college admission and success possible for low-income, first-generation college students through an intensive curriculum of coaching and support. College Possible also supports and continues to work with students until they get a degree no matter how long it takes.

• French students participated in the annual A Vous la Parole French-speaking contest held at the University of Minnesota on Apr. 26. Sponsored annually by the Minnesota Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French, with support from the U of M's French Department, the contest recognizes excellence in French-speaking skills. Students performed French poems, songs, a theater piece or original skit, and read a text in French for judges who evaluated their language and performance skills. Students are given ratings based on a four-star system with four stars earning blue medal status. Como students earning blue

medals were: Diane Sabwe, So Reh, Granda Sayavong, Amara Abou-Shenab, Thomas Etter, Aiyana Aikens, Deborah Inanezera, Claire Olson, Celia Olson, Serena Rath and Kevin Iragaba.

• Academy of Finance (AOF) sophomore Isaac Vu was accepted to the Business Emerging Leaders (BEL) program at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Vu will attend a camp this summer, and if successful, continue summer camps with the opportunity to Madison's business school tuition-free upon high school graduation. Vu competed among other top scholars to be accepted. All applicants were required to produce essays and create a marketing video.

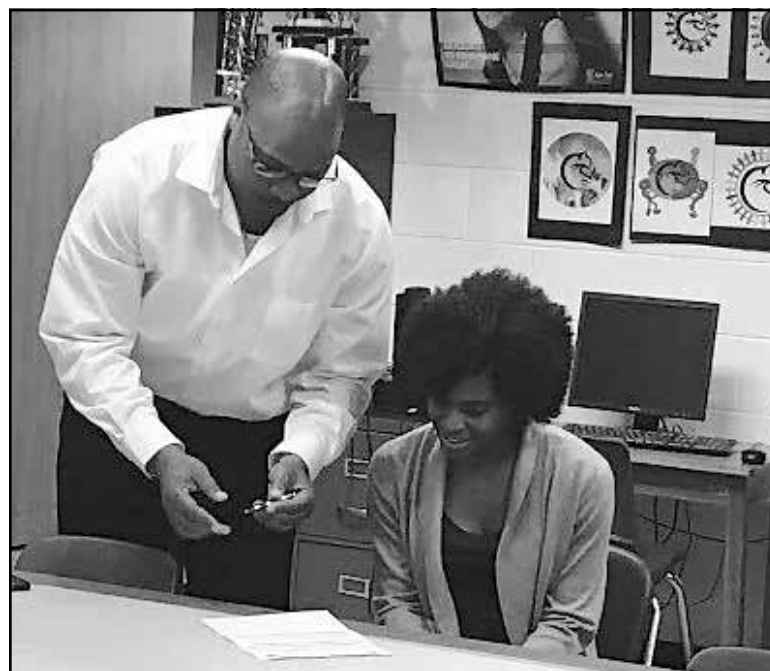
• The spring concert for the Como Choirs was held on Apr. 30 in the Como Auditorium which featured all five choirs. The spring band and orchestra concert is scheduled for Thur., May 24 in the auditorium at 7pm.

Over 30 Como musicians performed in the St. Paul Public Schools Honors Concert at the Or-

chestra on Apr. 17. Como junior Marco Tabacman was selected to the All-State Choir. Sophomore Amelia Schucker was selected to the All-State Orchestra.

• Several of St. Paul Public Schools' JRTOC programs practiced orienteering skills at Lake Maria State Park in Monticello, MN on Apr. 21. Thirty-nine cadets from Como's Marine Corps JROTC ventured out into slushy, muddy woods to gain valuable skills in map analysis, physical fitness, terrain appreciation, conservation, and camaraderie.

Cadets were placed into teams and challenged to navigate a course. Como's first place team with the fastest navigation of the course while hitting all checkpoints was Ta-



Como senior Raiyne Adams signed her college letter of intent on the same day she was honored at the St. Paul Area Athena Award Banquet. (Photo by Eric Erickson)

Ways and Timothy Vann.

• The 2018 Como Prom will be held on May 19 in downtown St. Paul at the James J. Hill Center Library. The theme will be a Masquerade Ball with the Grand March scheduled for 7pm. The junior and senior classes of Como are excited about the event and looking forward to a festive night.

• Raiyne Adams represented Como at the Athena Awards Banquet on Apr. 25 as a top student-athlete in the St. Paul Area. The annual event was held at the Envision Event Center in Oakdale and was hosted by KARE 11 news anchor Randy Shaver. Adams played varsity basketball for four years and also was a varsity letter winner in volleyball and track.

Later the same day of the Athena Banquet, Adams signed her letter of intent to play basketball and study at Anoka-Ramsey Community College. The signing took place in the athletic office at Como with family, friends and both her high school coach and new college coach.

Congratulations to the eight residents elected to the Como Community Council board during the District 10 Annual Meeting on Apr. 17. Newly elected are:

- Vice chair: Amy Perna (previously was Dist. 10 treasurer)
- Treasurer: Anne Hartman
- Sub-District 1: Rebecca Calvo
- Sub-District 2: Annie Huidekoper
- Sub-District 3: Thomas Coburn
- Sub-District 4: Cody Zwiefelhofer
- At-Large: Melissa Liu (incumbent), Olivia Mulvey Morawiecki

A total of 15 candidates ran for the eight vacant seats. More than 100 community members turned out to vote, nearly doubling the turnout in recent years.

The new board members replace the following, outgoing board members (all of whom "retired"): Joao Medeiros (vice chair), Jon Heyer (Sub-District 1), Erin Doolley (Sub-District 2), Debra Pursley (Sub-District 3), Joe Mueller (Sub-District 4), and Kevin Dahm (At-Large).

### Fairgrounds Drop-Off is June 9

The annual Citywide Drop-Off at the State Fairgrounds is much earlier than usual in 2018: It's Sat., June 9 from 8am-1pm. The Drop-Off, organized by St. Paul and District 10, is a great chance to get rid of the junk you can't throw in the trash (for a reasonable price). Look for the brochure in your mail that details what you can bring to the Drop-Off and how much it will cost.

## Como Community Council Corner

By MICHAEL KUCHTA, Executive Director

### Eight elected to District 10 Board

Good for both of us: If you volunteer to help staff the event, you can get rid of a load of your junk for free. Sign up to volunteer at [www.district10comopark.org/volunteer\\_form.html](http://www.district10comopark.org/volunteer_form.html).

#### Details on trash collection

St. Paul is firming up its timeline to start coordinated trash collection. Here's what is penciled in:

- Early May: Residents will receive a brochure in the mail providing general information. Residents also receive a second mailing—a postcard—asking them to select which service and size of cart they want.
- June 1: Deadline to mail back the postcard locking in the type of service and size of cart.
- August: City announces which haulers serve which neighborhoods.
- August-September: Carts arrive.
- September: Haulers send the bill for the first three months of service.
- Oct. 1: Coordinated collection starts.

The city is dividing service among 11 haulers. Each hauler will handle every single-family home,

duplex, and apartment building (up to four units) within a designated geographic area. For most of the city, trash and recycling will be picked up on the same day. In Como, that would mean Fridays. Residents have four service options:

- 32-gallon cart, picked up every other week: \$19.79 per month
- 32-gallon cart, picked up every week: \$22.85 per month
- 65-gallon cart, picked up every week: \$32.03 per month
- 95-gallon cart, picked up every week: \$34.15 per month

Bills are sent quarterly, which means we pay for three months of service in advance. Property owners are responsible for the bill. In addition, an administrative fee of \$24.60 per year is added to property tax bills.

#### Rain barrel is a bargain—advice is even better

District 10's Environment Committee and the Capitol Region Watershed District hold a Rain Barrel Workshop on Sat., May 19 from 1-3pm at Twin Cities German Im-

mersion School, 1031 Como Ave. Participants can get a rain barrel for the unheard of price of \$29 (plus tax), and learn how to set it up, so it works the way it's supposed to. (If you already have rain barrels at your home, you can show up and learn to use them correctly—for free.) Space is limited, so register now at [www.bit.ly/d10-rainbarrels](http://www.bit.ly/d10-rainbarrels).

#### Other things

- Sun., June 3: District 10 Sunday Series: Como Park Tree Trek, 1-2:30pm. Meet outside the Lakeside Pavilion. Arborist Tim Morgan leads a walk to help us better identify and understand local tree species, their health, and the diseases and pests that affect them.
- Sun., June 3: Block Party in the Park, 4-7pm, Orchard Park. Neighbors hanging out with neighbors. You don't have to live in South Como to join the fun.
- Sat., June 16: Como Neighborhood Garage Sale. By popular demand, it's later than usual this year (cross your fingers for better weather). Register at [www.district10como.org/2018\\_garage\\_sale.html](http://www.district10como.org/2018_garage_sale.html).

[park.org/2018\\_garage\\_sale.html](http://www.district10como.org/2018_garage_sale.html).

• Sat., June 23: Como Lake Rain Garden Workshop, 9am-noon, Streetcar Station. Capitol Region Watershed District leads a hands-on workshop to identify locations for the next wave of boulevard rain gardens in District 10. These are among the most cost-effective ways to collect and filter polluted street runoff before it reaches Como Lake. The best part: The selected locations will get rain gardens installed at no cost.

#### Upcoming District 10 Meetings

- Como Community Council Monthly Meeting: Tues., May 15. Discussion includes Saint Paul's draft citywide Comprehensive Plan, and the proposed crosswalk on Lexington and Horton.
- Environment Committee: Wed., May 30
- Neighborhood Relations and Safety Committee: Tues., June 5
- Land Use Committee: Wed., June 6

All meetings begin at 7pm., typically at the Como Park Streetcar Station, which is at the northeast corner of Lexington and Horton. Community members are always welcome to attend and participate. Whenever possible, agendas are posted in advance in the "Board News" section of District 10's website.



# Local company helps people find access to healthcare

If you don't get insurance through your job, it can be confusing to know when, and how, to enroll in coverage. MNsure's next "Open Enrollment" period, when private insurance plans are sold for the coming year, starts in November. But many people don't have to wait until November to enroll.

Health Access MN is a MNsure-certified navigator located in the Midway neighborhood of St. Paul. Health Access navigators help people use MNsure, Minnesota's on-line health insurance marketplace, to sign-up for Medical Assistance (MA/Medicaid), MinnesotaCare, or tax credits for private insurance, at no cost to you. Here are a few examples of people who can enroll through MNsure now:

Jeff was referred to Health Access after calling MNsure in March, right after he got a new job. The insurance at his old job was ending, but the insurance at his new job didn't kick in for three months. A Health Access

navigator helped him compare health insurance plans and enroll in a plan that started immediately after his old insurance ended.

Karen moved to Minnesota a few months ago and has been unable to work full time due to a painful condition in her legs. She visited the Health Access office and learned that her income qualified her for Medical Assistance (MA). Kay was relieved to get healthcare with no monthly premiums, and very small co-pays. Best of all, she was able to quickly make an appointment to see a doctor for her leg pain.

Stephanie met with a Health Access navigator at a community outreach event. At the time, she was moving from a job to self-employment. One of her children had just been diagnosed with a chronic illness, so getting health coverage was essential for her family. Stephanie found out that she and her husband could enroll in MinnesotaCare with a combined \$140 monthly premium, \$3 monthly deductible, and

their two children qualified for MA with no premiums.

Adults, children, and families who are eligible for MA or MinnesotaCare, like Karen and Stephanie, can enroll through MNsure.org any time of year. Health Access navigators can help.

Families that earn too much to get MA and MinnesotaCare can buy private insurance through MNsure during Open Enrollment, but they can also buy insurance any time in certain situations. Jeff's loss of his employer insurance was a "qualifying life event" that allowed him to enroll in new coverage 60 days before or after the end of his old insurance plan. Other examples of "qualifying life events" are marriage, divorce, the birth of a child, experiencing domestic violence, moving, or a change in your immigration status.

There is no better time to check out your options on MNsure.org. You may find out that you or your children can sign up

for health care today, and a navigator can help.

You can call Health Access MN to schedule an appointment in their Midway office, 2314 University Ave W., Ste. 12, or with

one of their navigators located throughout the metro and Southeast Minnesota. The assister directory on MNsure.org can help you find in-person help around the state.

## Monitor in a Minute

*Continued from page 13*

An interactive map of collection routes will be made available by early August at [stpaul.gov/garbage](http://stpaul.gov/garbage).

## University Ave. bar changes

Longtime Frogtown bar Johnny Baby's, 981 University Ave., will be allowed to close at 2am. In April the St. Paul City Council approved the extension of its hours. The change, which went to a legislative hearing officer earlier this spring, also went through a neighborhood review process.

The license request went to a legislative hearing after a neighborhood complaint was received.

The extension of hours was approved with several conditions, including daily trash pickup at the property perimeter, wanding of patrons for weapons before entry when security is on duty, having properly trained security personnel from 8pm until closing, and several conditions on how security guards will conduct themselves and do their work. Having a lighting placement and video surveillance plan is also required.

The change is one of the latest for University Avenue's bar and restaurant community. Tracks Bar and Grill, which was part of the Days Inn complex at University and Prior avenues for years, has reopened on Rice St. Hot Rod's, 1553 University Ave., recently closed.

# Classifieds

## Monitor

Want ads must be received by the Monitor by June 4 for the June 14 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)

**Monitor Want Ads** are \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to *Monitor Classifieds*, 125 1st Ave. NW, PO Box 168, Minneapolis, MN 55369. Want ads must be mailed to the *Monitor* by June 4 for the June 14 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to [denis@deruyternelson.com](mailto:denis@deruyternelson.com). 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)

### ATTORNEY

Creative Solutions With a Personal Touch. Legal Services in the areas of: Small Business, Wills and Trusts, Probate, Real Estate, and Family. Kirsten Libby, 855 Rice Street, Suite 100, St. Paul, MN, 651-487-1208 [www.libby-lawoffice.com](http://www.libby-lawoffice.com). B-18

### AUTO STORAGE

Secured auto and boat storage near Snelling and University. Short term or long term. Heated and unheated available. 570 Asbury Street. 651-641-0166. [hamlineparkstorage.com](http://hamlineparkstorage.com). 4-18

### GARAGE SALE

Garage Sale! Kitchenware, 80s/90s toys, Schmidt Beer Collectibles, Crafting Supplies, Bedding and Housewares. May 12, 8am-5pm. 865 North Howell St. 5-18

### LAWN CARE

Lawn Care - Midway area. Average cost \$20-\$30 cut. Spring clean up \$65. 651-224-8593. 5-18

Lawn mowing, garden services, spring clean-ups. Call Larry at 651-635-9228. 7-18

Lawn/Snow Service, Yard/Gutter Cleaning. Roof Snow/Ice. 651-688-9977. B-18

### OFFICE SPACE

Quiet, professional office space with free, attached parking. Single offices up to 10,000 sf. Building information available at [hamlinepp.com](http://hamlinepp.com). Contact Eric with Colliers at 952-837-3087. 4-18

### PAINTING

Interior Exterior Painting / Repair. Wallpaper Removal, etc. Gutter Cleaning. Insured. 651-699-2832. B-18

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

Painter Jim. 35 years experience. Wallpaper removal. Small painting jobs wanted. 612-202-5514. 4-18

### WINDOW CLEANING

Larry's Window Washing - You will see the difference. Inside and out. 651-635-9228. 5-18

**Classifieds ONLY \$1/WORD**

**A-Tree Service, Inc.**  
35 Years of Professional Service  
Owner/Operator  
Cleve Volk  
Licensed & Insured  
1849 E. 38th St.  
South Mpls.  
We accept   
**612-724-6045**  
Tree trimming/removals • Firewood  
Stump grinding • Straw  
[www.atreeservices.com](http://www.atreeservices.com)

**Next Deadline**  
JUNE 4  
**Next Publication**  
JUNE 14

## Floyd Anderson Concrete Construction

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

**Call 651 644-8567**

LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED

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

**Merriam Park Painting**  
• Exterior & Interior  
Painting - Enameling  
• Ceiling Texturing  
• Wallpapering  
• Free Estimates  
**Call Ed 651-224-3660**

**LAWN SERVICE**  
**KERN**  
LAWN SERVICE, INC.  
Total Lawn Maintenance  
Large or Small  
Landscaping Projects  
Office: 651-207-5396  
Cell: 612-328-6893  
Since 1984 / Major Credit Cards Accepted  
[www.kernlawnservice.com](http://www.kernlawnservice.com)  
**LANDSCAPING**

**CONCRETE SIDEWALKS, STEPS, NEW OR REPAIR,**  
**GLASS BLOCK WINDOW**  
good for basements any size  
**BRICK, BLOCK & STUCCO REPAIR**  
Over 25 years experience  
Call Mark Larson  
**651-642-5090**

LIFE-CHANGING CARE.  
**WORLD-CHANGING DIFFERENCE.**  
*A Career Connection Worth Making.*

Relationships. That's what a Fresenius nursing career is all about. If you're looking to elevate your career from a practice to a way of life, join our devoted, supportive team and find yourself an essential member in our community of caring. Looking for some stability from your company? Fresenius can offer that! We are currently seeking applicants for the positions below in St. Paul, MN.

**Patient Care Technician**  
Part-Time and Full-Time  
All Necessary Training Provided

**Nursing Assistants, Medical Technologists and Phlebotomists Encouraged to Apply**

We offer a generous compensation and benefits package that includes Fresenius' growth opportunities, medical and dental, 401(k) match, short and long term disability, tuition reimbursement, and a generous paid time off program. To discover the difference between a job and real job satisfaction, visit us online: [jobs.fmca.com](http://jobs.fmca.com)

**FRESENIUS KIDNEY CARE**  
Fresenius Medical Care North America is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



# Deneen Pottery rooted in the past while looking to the future

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Deneen Pottery is a second generation, family-owned business in the Midway that, according to President Niles Deneen, "produces the finest mugs on the planet." Their mission is to collaborate with integrity, sharing the legacy of their craftsmanship and the beauty of their products with the world. With retailers located as far away as Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Germany, it appears that they are doing just that.

The wholesale company was started in 1972 by Niles's parents, Peter and Mary, in their two-car garage. Deneen said, "Custom designed, hand-thrown ceramic mugs have always been our mainstay. In the beginning, most of our customers were innkeepers. Over the years, our customer base has grown to include restaurants, breweries, state and national parks."

Mugs made by Deneen Pottery are easily recognizable, despite there being 16 mug styles and 170 color choices, for a total of 2,400 possible variations on a coffee mug. No matter what shape or color, every mug that comes out of the pottery bears their signature, glaze-engraved medallion personalized for the company that ordered it.

"It's not easy to stylishly represent the essence of a place or business on a paper-thin, two and a quarter inch piece of clay," Deneen explained. "Thanks to our talented designers, and the collaboration that we share with our clients, we have the ability to do that. Once the medallion artwork is set into the medium of clay, it will last a



Company president Niles Deneen said, "In our family, pottery runs in our blood." Pictured with Olive, the Deneen Pottery Canine Executive Officer. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

lifetime. Many of our customers never change the design of their medallion; they just select different styles or colors of mugs—year in and year out. We figure that customer retention is like employee retention: treat people the way you'd like to be treated, and your business will do well. It's worked for us."

"We have a vibrant, dedicated workforce here: currently 56% Hmong and 44% Caucasian," Deneen said. "Our middle man-



The Deneen Pottery company motto is, "Our life's work is in your hands." Their 170 glazes are all mixed from scratch, and based on recipes developed by company founder Peter Deneen. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

agement reflects the ethnic and gender diversity of our employee base almost to the decimal point. When I came onboard in 2005, we had 22 employees and were making 500-600 mugs per day. Our business volume has grown 20% every year for the last five years. We currently produce 2,500 mugs per day and have a staff of 85 employees, including 12 full-time ceramic artists working at the wheel. No fewer than 24 pairs of hands touch each mug before it is packed for shipping."

Deneen Pottery received a leadership award from the Midway Chamber of Commerce last month, in recognition of significant contributions made to the chamber and the community.

Deneen said, "We were surprised and delighted to be chosen for that award. Our next big project is that we're installing solar panels on the roof of our building, located at 2325 Endicott St. We purchased the historic brick building in 2015 (after years of leasing it), and bringing in solar was at the top of our

list of improvements. We'll have a total of 400 panels, and the system capacity is estimated to be 127kW."

"All 14 of our kilns are electric, so the benefits of solar power will be significant. We use a lot of electricity! We're excited to get the system plugged in so we can say, "Our mugs are 100% crafted by hand, and 50% fired by the sun."

"Our approach has always been 'to leave it better than we found it.' Of necessity, we have to ship our products, but we've chosen to use biodegradable packing peanuts made of water-soluble starch, and recyclable packing paper and corrugated boxes."

Deneen Pottery has prospered through almost four decades of environmental, economic, technological, and workforce changes. The only thing that hasn't changed is their commitment to creating beautiful, functional, hand-thrown stoneware for their customers. To learn more about their wholesale business, visit [www.deneenpottery.com](http://www.deneenpottery.com).



A potter at the wheel, using the custom blend of red-bodied clay that gives Deneen Pottery mugs their strength and durability. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

**COMO TOWN**  
Amusement Park

**Como Zoo**

**FREE! EVERY DAY!**  
**KIDS' FOAM PARTY**

**Over 18 Rides & Attractions**

**PLAN A COMO TOWN BIRTHDAY PARTY!**

**Choose from two birthday party packages.**

- Easy online booking.
- Party supplies included.
- FREE adult wristband for every child.

1301 Midway Parkway, St Paul, MN 55103  
[www.comotown.com](http://www.comotown.com) • 651.487.2121