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# monitor

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



## What's INSIDE

### News.....4



**West University Ave.  
hit by graffiti vandals**

### News.....5



**Business owners  
angry with Met Council**

### Feature.....8



**Area teen earns  
video game award**



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## Hamline University launches ahead, breaks ground on new student center



A ground-breaking ceremony April 11 kicked off the construction of the 75,000-square-foot building at the corner of Snelling and Englewood Avenues in St. Paul.

By JAN WILLMS

In spite of an economic climate that has dumped cold showers on many expanding projects requiring a financial commitment, Hamline University has focused its efforts on building a new student center and is moving full steam ahead.

A ground-breaking ceremony April 11 kicked off the construction of the 75,000-square-foot building at the corner of Snelling and Englewood Avenues in St. Paul.

According to Dean of Students Alan Sickbert, the student center is part of a 20-year master plan developed by the university in 2008.

"It was decided that within the first five years, the plan would include a new university center

and building," Sickbert explained. "This is the first major domino in that plan."

Sickbert said Hamline has been short of space on campus, and the old student center, built in the 1960s, did not provide the type of gathering place required. Nor has there been an easy accessibility to food service.

"The current dining is in Sorin, which doubles as student living, with dorms upstairs," said Tony Grundhauser, vice president of development and alumni relations.

"One of the hallmarks of the new center is its multipurpose ability," added Sickbert. "There will be three programming centers, which can be used separately or in tandem. The building is very flexible, not extremely large but

very modern looking."

Hamline is planning to meet the U.S. Green Building Council's standards for LEED silver, in part through solar panels and a green roof.

"There will be a cascading of light throughout the entire building," Sickbert said. He said the first floor will feature a coffee shop, fireplace area, lounges, convenience store and information desk. On the second floor will be a new dining center and retail space. The third floor of the building will provide space for student government, student affairs, meeting and program needs.

"The third floor will also have a meditation center and outdoor patio," Sickbert added. "The walk-out patio is in the midst of a green roof." Sickbert also noted that there will be underground parking with 105-110 spaces available.

Grundhauser said the new student center will be a key piece of the puzzle to provide student spaces and resources immediately. The center is expected to be completed by August 2012.

"One of the things we recognize is that this gives us more options with the spaces we do have on campus," Grundhauser noted. He said the Klas building, erected in 2004, created an awareness of Hamline University for those driving on Snelling from the Fairgrounds.

"For those coming north on Snelling, they could pass the University without knowing it's there," he explained. "This building will be welcoming to our students and the community."

Grundhauser admitted this

has been a difficult time for fundraising, a factor that Sickbert agreed with.

A donation of \$8.3 million has been given to Hamline by alumnus Carol Anderson and her late husband, Dennis. In honor of their major donation, the center will be named the Carol Young Anderson and Dennis L. Anderson University Center.

"We have been so fortunate to have people like the Andersons," Grundhauser said. "And with the groundbreaking, we can talk to a wider array of people about the project."

So far, the school has raised approximately \$14.5 million towards the \$36 million cost of the building. Grundhauser said Hamline hopes to raise up to \$24 million by fundraising and have the other \$12 million come in through long-term investments.

He said two major factors are to have the alumni understand the need for the facility and to generate excitement on campus.

"There has been a lot of excitement on campus," Sickbert said. "And this project is set aside from the cost of tuition, so students should not feel an impact."

He said there are hopes the new building will maintain the current student population, as well as attract students in general. "We have seen in other schools a correlation between a new building and the student population rising," he added.

Hamline is the oldest continuously running university in the state of Minnesota, opening in



Hamline University alumnus Carol Anderson, class of 1946, and President Linda Hanson turn the first shovels of dirt at the groundbreaking ceremony April 11 for Hamline's new \$36 million University Center. Anderson and her late husband, Dennis, donated \$8.3 million to the project. This is the first major project in Hamline's 20 year master plan for development.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

# monitor

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## Monitor in a Minute

### Firefighters protest sidelining fire rig

Area residents and business owners have had many questions since recently receiving notices stating "Your engine is getting the pink slip." During the last week of April, St. Paul firefighters distributed the notices throughout the Hamline-Midway, Como and St. Anthony Park neighborhoods.

The issue is staffing shortage and the lack of use of Engine 13. The rig operated out of Station 23 at 1929 Como Ave. The department has not used the rig for more than half the days in February, March and April due to staff shortages, according to fire administration and International Association of Fire Fighters Local 21.

Union members contend that sidelining the rig is a public safety issue and affects response times. But the flier has generated confusion, with some people calling city officials to ask if the station is closing. Ward Four Council Member Russ Stark said that is not the case. Nor is the city laying off firefighters. But the department strength is down as 35 of 434 firefighters aren't on duty due to military leave, training or injuries. One solution is that fire academy members will graduate May 20, and will be placed in stations soon.

### Recreation centers eyed

No more St. Paul recreation centers should be torn down, the St. Paul City Council declared April 20. The council passed a resolution opposing the demolition of recreation centers. The resolution was brought forward by Ward Six Council Member Dan Bostrom, who is trying to stave off two recreation center closings in his

ward. The Parks and Recreation Commission approved a parks system plan in January which calls for two centers in Ward Six to close.

The resolution may be largely symbolic as the decision to actually close and demolish recreation centers is up to the mayor's administration. The city has closed more than a dozen recreation centers in recent years due to tight budgets. The fear council members have is that once a building is torn down, a neighborhood loses its recreation center for good.

"Once you lose a recreation center, you never get it back," Bostrom told fellow council members at a recent policy session.

The North End neighborhood has lost two longtime recreation centers in recent years, Front and Sylvan.

The council is allowing one center to be torn down. The old Valley Recreation Center, which is northeast of the State Capitol, will be torn down as a result of a property swap approved April 20 by the City Council. The St. Paul School Board approved the swap April 19. Valley will be torn down and replaced with the former Franklin Elementary School. The Mount Airy Boys and Girls Club, which has leased Valley for more than a decade, will move to Franklin. Franklin will be given to the city.

In return the city will give the school district control of the East Side Community Center on East Sixth Street.

### Activist is remembered

Verna Gilson, a longtime North End community activist and block club leader, was remembered by the St. Paul City Council April 13.

Gilson died April 10. She

was 79 years old.

The council declared April 13 to be Verna Gilson Day. Ward Five Council Member Lee Helgen called her "a treasure of the North End" and noted that Gilson had been involved with the district council system since its beginning. She served for many years on the District 6 (North End/South Como) Land Use Task Force.

She was also remembered for having a pragmatic "let's get something done" attitude. She was also very active in her children's and grandchildren's activities, and at First Baptist Church. Services have been held.

### Construction funds allocated by Council

Rice and Maryland intersection reconstruction can move ahead as a result of St. Paul City Council action April 20. The council approved an amended project financing and spending plan. The city's Long-Range Capital Improvement Budget Committee recommended approval of the changes in March.

The amendment is to reflect a cooperative agreement with Ramsey County on the project, as Rice Street is a county road. The county is contributing \$1.76 million toward the project.

Much work on the project has already been done, including the demolition of a longtime neighborhood barbershop and the old Sports Break bar building at the southwest corner of Rice and Maryland. City staff has also worked with businesses and residential property owners east of the intersection to buy needed right-of-way for street widening.

The widened intersection, which will also have new traffic signals, will provide more safety to motorists.

### Fireworks tent approved by city

TNT Fireworks can put up a tent at Midway Marketplace, the St. Paul Planning Commission decided April 29. But the vendor can only have the tent up for a short time and must follow requirements spelled out in a conditional use permit.

The Planning Commission decision is final unless it is appealed to the City Council within 10 days. As of *Monitor* deadline no appeal had been filed.

The fireworks tent will be erected near Wal-Mart. It can only be in place June 25-July 5, and can only operate between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. It must have a permit issued by the city fire marshal's office.

TNT Fireworks must also meet all local and state requirements pertaining to the sale of commercial fireworks. The fireworks must be stored securely when the tent isn't open.

Union Park District Council took no position on the request, even though the district council's land use committee opposes the sale of fireworks there. But in a letter the district council indicated that state law doesn't allow the city to simply prohibit fireworks sales. The district council did ask that the 50-foot smoking perimeter around the area be physically marked off, as that hasn't been seen with other fireworks tents in the past. The council also asked that the sales period not be extended.

No one appeared at a Planning Commission Zoning Committee hearing to speak against the request, although one letter was received.



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# Hamline Midway Spring Festival celebrates the delights of living in the neighborhood

By DEBORAH BROTZ

Now in its third year, the Hamline Midway Spring Festival is really the merger of two events, the Hamline Midway Coalition Annual Meeting and the Hamline Midway Folk Festival. Besides giving residents the chance to vote for board members and see local entertainment, the event celebrates all the delights of living in the Hamline Midway neighborhood.

This year's Hamline Midway Spring Festival will be held Sat., June 4, from noon to 8 p.m., at Newell Park, 900 N. Fairview Ave. This free, family-friendly outdoor festival features art, community, and music. It showcases local bands, theater performances, visual arts, food vendors, civic engagement opportunities, and resources for residents.

Growing bigger over the years, the festival will have two stages this year featuring 16 different music, theater, dance, and spoken word acts as well as board candidate speeches.

"This is our opportunity to bring together the musical and visual talents of the neighborhood," said Faith Krogstad, Hamline Midway Coalition community organizer. "We want to get people out to spend time in the sun. It's our time to elect board members for the organization. We want to get people out so we get a representative vote of the neighborhood. We want to celebrate the talents of people in the area."

The Spring Festival came about by combining two events.

"In the past, there has always been an annual meeting when residents come out to vote for board members," said Krogstad. "It's been a dry meeting. The festival grew out of a partnership between Arie Kroeger holding a Folk Festival and the Coalition. We wanted to bring more people out to get involved in local politics."

The festival's focus is on the local neighborhood.

"The food vendors are neighborhood based," said Krogstad. "The vast majority of musicians and artists have strong ties to the neighborhood. It's all about getting to know what's going on. We want people to know all the great things happening in the neighborhood and having time to cele-



This year's Hamline Midway Spring Festival will be held Sat., June 4, from noon to 8 p.m., at Newell Park, 900 N. Fairview Ave. This free, family-friendly outdoor festival features art, community, and music. It showcases local bands, theater performances, visual arts, food vendors, civic engagement opportunities, and resources for residents. One of the performances will feature Martin DeVaney with Americana music.

brate that."

The Coalition's Community Building Committee, a group of eight people, have been in charge of the festival: Arie Kroeger, Erin Pavlica, Justin James, Karen Shapiro, Kathy Carlson, Sasha Mackin, Seth McCoy, and Rob Clapp.

"The real focus is community building and getting neighbors out to know each other," said Krogstad. "Committee members set the direction and vision. They're doing a lot of work to make this happen."

Krogstad emphasizes this is a volunteer-run festival.

"This speaks a lot to people on the committee," she said. "People have done a ton of work to make this happen. We want to see them recognized for the work they've done."

For children at the festival, Leonardo's Basement will be doing a science expose. Mighty Midway Storytellers will have a storytime at 12:30 p.m. Midway Independent Businesses will have a Fish Pond, The Canvas Teen Arts Center will be on stage 2 at 3:40 p.m., and Moronic State, a youth

garage band, will be on stage 2 at 4:30 p.m. The Center for Irish Music & O'Shea Irish Dance will be on stage 1 at 1 p.m., and Adam Levy & the Bunny Clogs will be on stage 1 at 1:45 p.m., which is kid-oriented rock hip-hop jazz fusion music.

The two stages will feature a wide variety of entertainment. Stage 1 will have the Roe Family Singers with folk bluegrass music

at noon, Bitter Spills with folk rock music at 2:45 p.m., Martin DeVaney with Americana music at 3:45 p.m., Mayda with R&B soul and rock at 5 p.m., John Ewing with folk rock at 6 p.m., and Loudray with folk rock at 7 p.m. Stage 2 will have Pocahantas County with bluegrass music at noon, Denise Armstead, of DA Dance, with interpretive dance at 12:50 p.m., Leslye Orr, of Dream-

land Arts, with a children's performance act at 1:20 p.m., Midway Frogtown Arborators with Big Band music of the 1920s and 1930s at 2 p.m., Dancers Studio with Latin dance at 3 p.m., The Canvas with spoken word and creative dance at 3:40 p.m., Moronic State at 4:30 p.m., and Pop Wagner with blues, country, and folk music at 5:20 p.m.

Chicks on Sticks will be stilt-walking, and Heather Reade will be doing Dr. Lam's Thai Chi. There will also be kite making with Marie Oberpriller and a free yoga class at 2 p.m. with Midway Movement Arts.

There will be food available to purchase from Ginkgo's, Zander, and Flamingo.

Krogstad feels the festival is important for community building.

"It's important to do this to celebrate the wonderful community we have here," she said. "We have lots of creative residents in the neighborhood. We want to make sure residents know what's going on and have a chance to get involved. We want to celebrate the great neighborhood we have."

Now, with two stages and the addition of spoken arts, this growing festival promises to bring people together for a fun day.

"I hope everybody comes out to Newell Park, and we have a good turnout," said Krogstad. "I hope everybody brings their kids and has a good time."

For further information visit [hamlinemidway.org](http://hamlinemidway.org) or call 651-646-1986.

## Hamline

Continued from page 1

Red Wing in 1854. The student population overall is close to 5,000. The undergraduate population is just under 2,000 with graduate students enrolled in business, education, nonprofit management and creative writing programs.

Sickbert said there has been very detailed thought put into the process of the building construction, considering also that streets in the Midway are currently torn up preparing for light rail.

He said care has gone into the trucks hauling dirt, making the appropriate turns and setting up a route and time table for the day. "There's much more detail than ever dreamed of," Sickbert said.

"Most of the work is limited to a fenced-off area," Grundhauser added. "There will be pretty minimal interruption, some increased deliveries but things will be kept quite contained."

"We are focusing on this piece of the plan right now," Grundhauser said. "Down the line, we might expand on our campus living opportunities."

"One of the real motivations for this decision this year is that it was a perfect storm as far as the cost of materials and the financing costs," Sickbert explained. "Both of those things are at an all-time low, and there are low interest rates."

"I think the students are excited about what's going to be there, and it will be a wonderful new welcoming feature for Hamline University," Sickbert said.

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# West University Avenue area hit hard by graffiti

By JANE MCCLURE

The arrival of spring – such as it has been – has also been marked by a resurgence of graffiti in area neighborhoods. One area that was especially hard-hit was a two-mile stretch of West University Avenue, which was tagged overnight April 25. Graffiti was scrawled on about two dozen buildings between Raymond and Snelling avenues, in black, white, yellow and red paint.

Other neighborhoods, including a stretch of Selby Avenue in Summit-University neighborhood, have also been struck by graffiti vandals recently. Other taggers have also been hitting buildings and fixtures along

north-south streets that cross University.

While St. Paul Police and Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI) staffs say they typically see an upswing in graffiti every spring, any vandalism is a concern. The amount of damage along West University is troubling as the area has been the subject of additional police patrols since the Central Corridor light rail construction work began earlier this year.

Police said the West University tagging isn't believed to be gang-related. It did include profanity and sexually explicit language, as well as the words "Becker," "NK" and "Boozer."

The vandals also hit portable toilets, piles of construction materials, street signs, light posts, junction boxes and other street fixtures. Most of the graffiti was cleaned up within 72 hours, with the city handling some cleanup and property owners doing the rest of the work themselves.

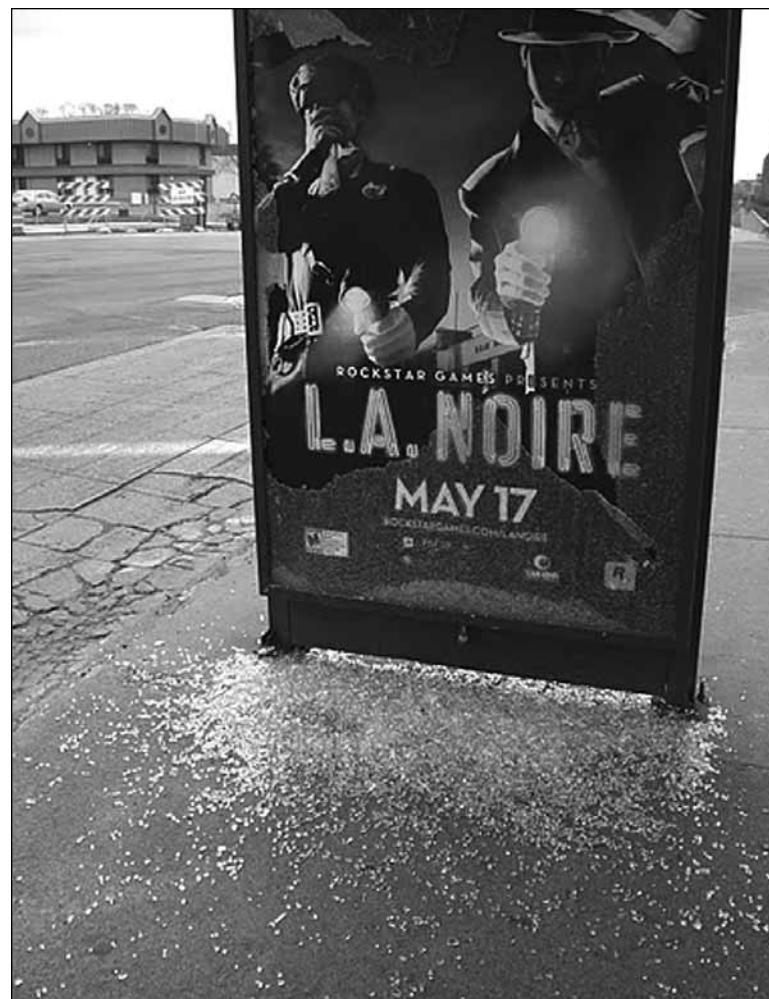
City staff aid they hope the graffiti isn't indicative of a trend. "Generally, we've seen a decline in gang-related graffiti," said St. Paul Police Department spokesperson John Keating. Instead, graffiti by so-called "taggers" has been on the upswing.

Taggers are graffiti vandals who use a specific word or "tag" when they commit vandalism.

Keating said it's not clear whether there has been an increase in graffiti this spring as compared to past years. A check with area district councils and block clubs indicated that graffiti is up in some areas. For example, some brick apartment buildings in Merriam Park west of Selby-Snelling have been hit.

But the worst-hit area may be University Avenue. Several building owners and managers said they have never seen so much graffiti, in all of their years owning and managing properties.

Jack McCann, an owner of Update Companies, said three of his buildings sustained tens of thousands of dollars in damage. The Specialty Building at the southeast corner of University and Raymond also sustained ex-



The arrival of spring – such as it has been – has also been marked by a resurgence of graffiti in area neighborhoods. One area that was especially hard-hit was a two-mile stretch of West University Avenue, which was tagged overnight April 25. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)



Graffiti was scrawled on about two dozen buildings between Raymond and Snelling avenues, in black, white, yellow and red paint. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

tensive damage with graffiti plastered on the building's front, according to building management there.

Police have stepped up patrols in the area and are also looking at surveillance video from University area buildings. As of last week no arrests had been made in connection with the University Avenue graffiti.

According to the city web-

site, graffiti vandalism has been an ongoing problem since 1991 with youth aged from twelve to their mid-twenties being responsible for the approximately \$300,000 to \$500,000 in property damage each year. In the early 1990s the police set up a graffiti unit within the gang unit.

Several St. Paul city departments work on graffiti vandalism and cleanup issues, including police, public works, parks and recreation, and DSI. Graffiti vandalism is a misdemeanor under city ordinance. The city doesn't allow property owners to have graffiti on their property, because gangs use the tags to mark territory. Removing gang graffiti is seen as limiting gang activities.

But property owners can take steps to make sure graffiti is cleaned up, said Angie Wiese of DSI. Property owners can go online and file forms with the city, giving permission to have the city clean up any graffiti that is found. If permission is on file, the city can go in and clean up the vandalism at no cost to the property owner.

Otherwise, if the city has to clean up graffiti on private property without owner permission, it does so through a process called "summary abatement." That process can result in the cleanup costs being assessed back to the property owner. The costs can easily get into hundreds of dollars. Occasionally disputes over the cleanup costs do land before the St. Paul City Council.

Wiese said property owners should consider signing up for the graffiti cleanup. "Once we have your permission on file to clean up property, it's on file and the cleanup is ongoing," she said.

Graffiti vandalism can be reported by calling 651-266-8989 or by filling out forms online through the Safety and Inspections tab on the city website. Anyone needing to make a police report about graffiti can call 651-291-1111.

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# University business community angry with Met Council report on LRT impacts

By JANE MCCLURE

University Avenue business owners and advocates for minority communities are disappointed with a Federal Transit Administration (FTA)-Metropolitan Council report on Central Corridor light rail construction impacts on businesses. The 700-plus page report, released April 20, has an official "finding of no significant impact," also known as a FONSI.

The report came just days before federal, state and local officials gathered to celebrate federal approval of the full funding grant agreement April 26, which means that half of the \$947 million project will be paid for with federal dollars. Project work to date has been done with local funds from Ramsey and Hennepin counties and a regional transit fund.

The report is one of the steps needed to complete environmental studies of the Central Corridor project. It indicates that it will be difficult to separate business impacts caused by light rail construction from other impacts, such as an economic downturn and other

external factors. "Business revenue will be adversely affected during construction of the Central Corridor project, but the extent to which business revenue will be adversely affected as a result of construction activity is speculative in the extreme," the report said.

It also states that "providing any hard estimate of future lost revenues is not possible given the current state of knowledge . . . and (would) have the effect of understating the actual impacts some businesses may incur during the construction phase." But the report also notes that the \$957 million project will create impacts that small businesses and minority-owned businesses will feel.

The report also notes more than \$14 million in mitigation efforts, including more than \$4 million spent on communications, outreach coordinators to work with affected businesses and signage.

The report findings frustrated advocates. University Avenue Betterment Association (UABA),

which submitted more than 250 pages of findings to the FTA and Metropolitan Council, is disappointed yet not surprised with the findings, said UABA President Jack McCann.

"We feel like they're (FTA and Metropolitan Council) not in touch with what the business community is saying," McCann said. He said that many businesses have already moved off of University Avenue or closed and that more will follow. He disputed the report's contention that there are adequate programs in place to help businesses and said many businesses are struggling.

"We submit all of these documents and all of this testimony and yet they conclude that the project won't have a significant impact," he said.

What was not clear as of last week is whether the plaintiffs in a federal court case will use the report as a basis for an appeal. The Preserve and Benefit Historic Rondo Committee and NAACP sued over the project. The additional environmental assessment on



University Avenue business owners and advocates for minority communities are disappointed with a Federal Transit Administration (FTA)-Metropolitan Council report on Central Corridor light rail construction impacts on businesses.

business impacts was ordered in January by a federal judge in response to that lawsuit, which was filed against the U.S. Department of Transportation. Earlier this year an attorney for the group said they would wait and see before deciding whether or not to take further legal action.

One requirement in the report that is encouraging is that as of May 10, Metropolitan Council must make monthly reports to the FTA on the extent of business mitigation measures taken. This will include construction complaints and what is being done to respond to each complaint.

## Money for Central Corridor businesses subject of debate

By JANE MCCLURE

An announcement that more than \$11 million is available for businesses affected by Central Corridor construction is hailed by elected officials and the St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce. However, it is questioned by small businesses represented by University Avenue Betterment Association (UABA).

"They are finally listening, but survival time is short for many businesses. We need to get these resources into the community now," said UABA President Jack McCann.

Susan Haigh, Metropolitan Council chair, said that since a February forum and March public hearings on an environmental assessment of the light rail project, she and others have been working to identify more resources for businesses affected by Central Corridor construction. The package includes more than \$6 million in forgivable loans and grants. It was reviewed by the Central Corridor Coordinating Committee and Metropolitan Council April 13, and approved by the council that same day.

The business issues were raised before and during the March public comment period on a Supplemental Environmental Assessment conducted by Metropolitan Council and Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Many business owners have said their sales have dropped dramatically since construction began and several businesses have closed or relocated. More than 70 comments were received before the environmental assessment comment period closed. FTA and Metropolitan Council staff is currently working to respond to the comments.

The assessment is needed after a January federal court order that the Central Corridor project has to supplement its analysis of business interruption impacts on businesses during light rail construction.

Haigh told the coordinating committee that St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Hennepin and Ramsey counties officials have

sought ways to help businesses since meetings and hearings in February and March. "We had to ask, 'How can we respond?'"

The Central Corridor Funders Collaborative and Living Cities philanthropic collaborative have also been involved in the quest for more money. The resources available now include more than \$5.6 million, \$650,000 in grants and \$4.9 million in other forms of assistance for a total of \$11.1 million.

This represents an increase from an initial package totaling \$7.8 million. Haigh called the increase in forgivable loans and

grants "key." She added, "Even while the project itself is creating many hundreds of jobs and is great news for some businesses, other business owners are struggling due to issues of access and parking. We've heard their voices. They're valued members of the community and the funding partners want to lend financial support. And, we want to get the word out that businesses in the Central Corridor are open for business during construction."

Mark Fuhrmann, Central Corridor project director, outlined the new sources of funding for the coordinating committee.

Of the additional \$3.335 million, the largest amount is \$3.5 million in forgivable loans. In turn \$1 million in non-forgivable loans was eliminated. Funds were also added for business marketing support, alley improvements and access signage, street lighting and streetscape improvements. "These are critical, important resources to businesses when they are experiencing a dip in their revenues due to construction," Fuhrmann said.

One idea Fuhrmann raised is that of using the Central Corridor's "rolling billboards" to advertise. "We call them buses," he

quipped.

Other partners hailed the extra money. "We've long been interested in supporting businesses in the corridor as they prepare for the market changes brought about by construction and the impending operation of the Central Corridor Light Rail Line," said Jonathan Sage-Martinson, director of the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative. The collaborative, which includes several regional and national foundations, has already invested more than \$1 million for businesses.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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# City Council approves dramatic zoning changes to Central Corridor

By JANE MCCLURE

Dramatic changes to zoning along University Avenue and the planned Central Corridor light rail route won unanimously approval from the St. Paul City Council April 20, capping years of study and debate. More work will get underway as the council is also asking the city's Planning Commission to study a number of concerns raised by community members, ranging from alley access and use policy to creation of an anti-displacement action plan to keep residents and businesses in the community.

The adopted zoning changes, which affect properties on and around University, extend from Marion Street to the west city limits. Many of the properties currently zoned for commercial, residential and industrial uses will be changed to traditional neighborhoods (TN) use. This zoning classification is meant to promote denser, mixed-use redevelopment over time. Existing land uses can stay in place.

But the intensity of the TN zoning to be implemented was scaled back by the council in the April 20 vote, due to objections from the NAACP, the Preserve and Benefit Historic Rondo Committee, and residents and business owners in the Frogtown and Summit-University neighborhoods. Many people there contend that the higher-density zoning classification could ultimately result in gentrification and force them out.

The TN zoning classification initially eyed for parts of that stretch of University could have allowed buildings up to 45 to 55 feet tall. With a conditional use permit from the Planning Commission, those structures could have been built up to 90 feet tall. Advocates said that could have created a situation in which buildings towered over neighboring single-family homes.

The changes brought in by Ward One Council Member Melvin Carter III adopted limit the height of new structures to two to three stories or 35 feet. In areas within 600 feet of planned transit stations, the heights could go to 45 feet. Anything taller would require a conditional use permit or about two or three stories. With a conditional-use permit, the limit will be 45 feet for structures within 600 feet of a transit stop.

The changes dismayed many members of the St. Paul Planning Commission, who questioned whether reducing the potential size of new buildings was a good move. They question whether reducing density means redevelopment may not happen at all, and instead is pushed to the western stretch of University.

Planning Commission Chairman Jon Commers said the change was disappointing, given the years of work on the zoning and the Central Corridor development strategy itself. He said the commission had a very thorough process, over a number of years.

More than a dozen people attended the public hearing, with supporters of the change outnumbering opponents.

The change drew protests from advocates of transit-oriented development (TOD) and more density. Brian McMahon, executive director of University UNITED, said the changes undermine years of planning for change tied to Central Corridor, UNITED, a coalition of district councils, businesses and community groups along University, has been advocating for mixed-use development and more density along the avenue since the 1980s.

He questioned changing the vision for University Avenue at the eleventh hour, after years of community support and input. "We produced a great plan and now it is being nicked and dimed to death." The change cuts

the freeway was built.

Other council members agreed that the lower density is appropriate. "These people ought to be able to see the sun every once in a while," quipped Council President Kathy Lantry.

"It's a balancing act," said Ward Four Council Member Russ Stark. "I'm concerned this may prevent some redevelopment from happening." But another effect may be to push the higher-density redevelopment to the west end of University, into his ward.

Stark also addressed issues raised by Union Park District Council (UPDC). The council's Land Use Committee is asking that two properties on Pelham Boulevard near Wabash Street be rezoned for high-density TN use, rather than be kept as industrial zoning. The properties have been used by trucking companies for

**"We produced a great plan and now it is being nicked and dimed to death."**

**- University UNITED executive director Brian McMahon**

the potential for more density in half.

"What we're ending up with now is TOD-lite," McMahon said. "We think this is bad policy."

Reducing the density also puts the zoning in direct conflict with the city's Comprehensive Plan, which calls for more density along University. "This is not a small, subtle change," McMahon added. "This is a huge change."

Veronica Burt, cultural organizer and policy advocate for Preserve and Benefit Historic Rondo Committee, said the change is needed. "People are very concerned about having a potential for downtown Manhattan to be right outside their doorsteps," she said. Asking for the density to be lowered is a reasonable compromise.

Jeff Martin, president of the St. Paul chapter of the NAACP, thanked the council for the amendment. He said McMahon's comments disturbed him and that the City Council needs to consider the current residents of the neighborhoods along University.

Area resident Keith Swan, who heckled McMahon while he spoke, said "Don't forget Rondo. Please don't forget Rondo." Much of the historic African-American neighborhood was wiped out due to construction of Interstate 94 and urban renewal in the 1960s and 1970s.

Carter said the wishes of the neighborhood residents should be taken into account when zoning changes are made. "We have heard concerns from community members who feel like they are being walled off," he said. Carter's own family has lived in the area for five generations. Family members lost several properties when

decades and are candidate for light industrial-warehouse redevelopment by the St. Paul Port Authority and am private owner.

UPDC Community Organizer Annie Johnson said the district council and the desnoyer Park Improvement Association (DPIA) want TN zoning to promote redevelopment as mixed-use. But Stark noted that the two properties in question are the furthest from a proposed station area. He also pointed out that leaving the properties as industrial use now doesn't prevent any long-term efforts toward redevelopment.

During the months of review of the zoning changes much of the West Midway was proposed for rezoning to TN or restricted industrial use, promoting objections from property owners, business owners, the Port and business groups.

Stark also bought in a resolution asking that the Planning Commission and city staff study several issues that were raised during the zoning change process. One study focuses on alley access and the planned use of residential permit parking in the neighborhoods around Central Corridor. Stark is asking that process and timeline on these issues be brought back to the City Council in one month.

He is also asking for more study of ways to promote more affordable housing, through incentives for developers. Another idea is that of allowing detached accessory dwelling units on single-family lots in the Central Corridor area. He is also asking that ways be found to promote more small businesses, by asking developers of large new retail uses to include spaces for small businesses.

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# Station area plans go to City Council for vote

By JANE MCCLURE

Station area plans for the Hamline, Western and Victoria areas will be voted on by the St. Paul City Council next month. The vote will cap years of planning for how neighborhoods around Central Corridor light rail stops could be redeveloped in the future.

But one of the plans will have some key changes. One is the elimination of references to the Victoria station area as a "world cultural heritage district."

Hamline, Victoria and Western weren't originally set to have light rail stations. After a lobbying campaign by a number of community groups, Metropolitan Council agreed to add the stations to the Central Corridor plans. But by that time the City of St. Paul had already done the work to plan for new land uses and future development around the other light rail stations. So the three stations, originally referred to as "infill" stations, had their own planning process.

The plans, which were developed by a community-Planning Commission committee, were the topic of a commission public hearing earlier this year. Several comments from the public hearing were incorporated into the plan that the commission approved April 15 and sent to the City Council.

City planners Jess Rosenfeld and Christina Morrison said the amount of public comment was a



Station area plans for the Hamline, Western and Victoria areas will be voted on by the St. Paul City Council next month. The vote will cap years of planning for how neighborhoods around Central Corridor light rail stops could be redeveloped in the future.

factor in how the plans were shaped. One key change in the Victoria plan was the removal of reference to the area as a potential "world cultural heritage district." That concept has been promoted for a number of years by a Concordia University professor and various planning consultants, and is referenced in other city planning documents. But some area business owners and residents object to that designation, saying it's not something they would choose.

Planning Commission members agreed. "My sense is that should a name be chosen, it needs to be something that is more organic to the neighborhood," said Commissioner Paula Merrigan. "It shouldn't be something overlaid by a consultant."

"Obviously there is disagreement about the designation," said Planning Administrator Donna Drummond. She said there is community support for the designation, which has long been seen as providing a way to market the

area. Planners and commission members agreed that the designation could be brought back at a later time, if there is more community support.

Most of the comments came from Hamline area residents, including many residents of the Skyline Towers high-rise. While the Planning Commission was able to add more general language about future parks, so as not to restrict use, many of the jobs and education concerns raised by Skyline Towers residents cannot be easily

addressed in a land use plan, commissioners said.

Station area plans for Central Corridor light rail stations at Hamline, Victoria and Western are seen as providing opportunities for area residents, especially those who are transit-dependent. However, any long-term land use changes need to help people who need access to shopping, jobs and educational opportunities. Those were among the key comments at a February commission public hearing.

## Hamline Midway Library kicks off summer programming

Hamline Midway Library is kicking off the start of summer with lots of creative programming!

On Saturday, May 14, join MacPhail Center for Music's early childhood music specialists as we explore the magic of music and play in this bilingual program featuring the English and Somali languages. We will sing, rhyme, read, move and create! Please call to register.

Career Solutions, a community-based nonprofit dedicated to providing hope and help to people in career transitions since 1974, will be in the library on Thursday, May 19 and Thursday, June 9 from 11 a.m. to noon for open lab assistance in cover letter and resume writing.

Before your summer break starts, you can make an original accordion pocket folder book with a bookmaking artist from Minnesota Center for Book Arts. The four-pocket folder will be a great way to keep your summer memories and your stories. Participants will learn how to make a four section accordion pocket folder book by using one big sheet of paper. This program is on Saturday, May 14 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and designed for kids in grades one through four. Please call the library to register.

Come share your talent, whatever it is—join the Cabaret! The Cabaret talent show is May 21 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Performers sign up for a five-minute slot. All types of performances welcome: singing, playing an instrument, reciting a poem, telling or reading a story, or buzzing on a kazoo. Refreshments will be served. Prizes

awarded by our crack panel of expert judges. Admission is a suggested donation of one thin quarter, though no one will be turned away. Proceeds benefit Hamline Midway Library Association.

Paw Pals will be at the library on May 21 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Call to register your child for this opportunity to read with our favorite dog, Toby! For kids ages 6-12 who enjoy dogs and reading.

The library will host a Brain Fitness Workshop at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 24. This Alzheimer's Association workshop is for anyone with an interest in learning more about how to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Topics covered are based on scientific evidence that shows us how to improve the way our brains work, and potentially lower our risk factors for developing the disease.

On Saturday, June 4th, the Kids Book Club will meet from 1pm and the Teen Book Club will meet at 2 p.m. in Newell Park at the Hamline Midway Spring Festival. Hope to see you there! New members are welcome.

Saint & Sinners Mystery Book Club will meet in the library on June 4th at 1 p.m. E-mail gerrib13@q.com for information. Please include "Saints & Sinners" in the subject line.

Explore 3D in bookmaking with an artist from Minnesota Center for Book Arts! Your own story can be made into a 3D pop-up book by paper engineering. Students will learn a variety of box pop-up techniques to construct a landscape scene and space for additional writing. This program

is on Saturday, June 11 from 2-3:30 p.m. and is specifically designed for kids in grades 4-8. Please call the library to register.


The library continues to offer

toddler and preschool storytimes at 10:30 a.m. on Friday mornings. Come share the joys of reading with your children!

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the library at 1558 W Minnehaha Ave, near the intersection of Snelling and Minnehaha, to sign up for events that require registration. All events are free.

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# Hamline-Midway teen earns national award for video game creation

By JAN WILLMS

It's a frequent wish that is often heard from a teenager.

"I wish I could just spend my time creating video games. Wouldn't that be great?"

For Ansel Lies, 17, who lives in the Hamline-Midway area, the wish has come true. Lies will be receiving a national gold medal in the video game category of a ceremony in Carnegie Hall in New York City at the end of the month. The award is for the video game, Binary, which Lies created.

Although Lies certainly does not spend all his time on video games, he has already reached a point where he is being paid money for his creation.

Lies said he started working on developing video games when he was around 12 or 13. He taught himself, and he has noted that the task is not an easy one.

"You can't just design a video game by playing a lot of games," Lies said. "You have to be able to draw and animate and program the game. There's a lot of work involved."

For his award-winning game,

Binary, Lies did the drawing and the programming, using Adobe flash.

"I have my computer at home, the software and a Wacom drawing tablet," Lies said. He explained that the drawing table consists of a little plastic pad and a small pen that corresponds to movements on screen.

"It's like a computer mouse, but shaped like a pen. That works the same way," Lies said.

About the same time that Lies started developing video games, a friend told him about the Arts High School at the Perpich Center for Arts Education in Golden Valley.

"I worked on the video games myself, but I went to Perpich because of the art work. I draw and paint as well," Lies said.

He said the high school, where he is a senior, has its art education divided into six sections.

"There is visual arts, which focuses on fine arts. I am in that section," Lies said. "There is literature, which specializes in writing in various forms. The other sections are dance, music, drama

and media art, which includes photography and film."

Lies created Binary in a rush, he said, completing it in two and a half weeks last July.

"That was really continuous work, every day," he said. Since he created the game during summer vacation, he was able to spend a lot of hours every day on it.

He has Binary on a website that is sponsored by Newgrounds, the largest and oldest flash development website on the Internet.

"You contact them and tell them what you have," Lies said. "You receive the rights to your game, and you can receive money as ads come in."

Lies and his father are heading for New York City for the awards ceremony on May 31. His award is in the top 1500 chosen from 185,000 art entries submitted nationally.

As to whether Lies continues in the field of video game creation, he is not yet sure. He has narrowed his college choices down to Minneapolis College of Art and design (MCAD) or DigiPen, a school in Washington on



Hamline-Midway resident Ansel Lies, 17, will be receiving a national gold medal in the video game category of a ceremony in Carnegie Hall in New York City at the end of the month. The award is for the video game, Binary, which Lies created.

the west coast. DigiPen focuses on video game development exclusively. MCAD would offer Lies a broader career in the visual arts as a whole. He would still work on video games, but not spend as much time on their development.

Lies will soon make a choice. Whatever his decision, he

does say that making video games is a very challenging thing to do and requires a huge amount of effort and time.

But the end result is worth it, he said. "Making video games is more fun and rewarding than anything I have tried. No other art form has advanced as quickly."

## Money

Continued from page 5

Nancy Homans, senior policy advisor to St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman, said St. Paul and Minneapolis officials hope to have a

lending organization picked and ready to make business loans by June 1. "I think we have heard the message from the businesses and we are trying to respond in a proactive manner."

The St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to see more money available for busi-

nesses. "The corridor during construction is dirty, it's dusty and it's vibrant," said Chamber President Matt Kramer. "The increase in business assistance provides corridor business owners with additional resources to help them through the construction phase and ultimately prosper

along the future transitway." He called the announcement "fantastic news" although he did express concern about the potential wait for business loans.

But UABA leaders said the announcement raised more questions than answers. UABA submitted more than 200 pages of comments as part of the supplemental environmental assessment.

One question UABA raised is whether the maximum loan amount of \$10,000 was increased. Homans said there has

been no decision on that yet. The amount, which business owners have criticized as inadequate, could be raised or there could be a second application process available, Homans said.

UABA is questioning other aspects of the package, as well as the \$4 million that has been spent on project outreach coordinators. The business group, which has about 240 members, is tracking business closings and commercial vacancies along University Avenue and hopes to release a report soon.

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# Como Shuttle launches service for the season

'Get Closer' to Como Park Zoo & Conservatory's plants, animals, and the front door with the Como Shuttle. The Como Shuttle is a quick, convenient and free bus service to the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory.

The free shuttle service begins weekends April 30-September 25 (with the exception of June 17-19 & July 2-4, when there will be no service), and daily service begins June 4 - August 7. The shuttle bus allows passengers to board at the staffed off-site parking lot at the Minnesota State Fair Grounds, located on the south side of Como

Avenue across from the State Fair's Warner Coliseum, and within minutes of the front doors of Como's Visitor Center. The shuttle runs continuously 9:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. The busses are wheelchair and stroller accessible.

This is the third year of the free shuttle service. The four low-emission diesel shuttle buses, each wildly designed, aim to improve service, ease traffic congestion in and around the park, improve safety, and mitigate vehicle emissions thus improving air quality while reducing greenhouse gasses. "Como encourages

walking, biking and public transportation" said Michelle Furrer, Como Campus Manager. "If visitors choose to drive to Como, we strongly encourage they use the free shuttle service."

The City of Saint Paul is implementing residential permit parking restrictions effective May 1st on streets west of Como Park. Taking the shuttle will be the most convenient and best alternative to finding parking at Como Park Zoo & Conservatory, a premier family attraction in the state of Minnesota with over 2 million annual visitors.

# Carousel seeks volunteers for eleventh season in Park

Cafesjian's Carousel—the historic and treasured merry-go-round that has delighted riders for eleven seasons at St. Paul's Como Park—is seeking additional volunteers for its eleventh season, which began May 1.

Volunteers operate the carousel, sell tickets, and sell merchandise at the gift shop. They work 3- or 4-hour shifts, two or more times each month. New volunteers are encouraged to apply individually, in pairs or as groups. Training is provided for all positions, and free parking is available. For information about volunteers opportunities, contact Cafesjian's Carousel at 651-489-4628 or volunteer@ourfaircarousel.org, or visit our website at [www.ourfaircarousel.org](http://www.ourfaircarousel.org).

Cafesjian's Carousel originally operated for 75 years at the Minnesota State Fair. It is now owned and operated by the non-profit organization Our Fair Carousel, Inc. Volunteers have restored the carousel to its 1914 appearance and installed it in its new pavilion next to the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory at Como Park in 2000. The group pays operational expenses through ticket and gift sales.

The carousel operates Tuesdays through Sundays from May 1 through Labor Day, and weekends from Labor Day until the end of October.

These are the hours: May 1-Sept. 4: Tuesday-Friday 11



*Cafesjian's Carousel—the historic and treasured merry-go-round that has delighted riders for eleven seasons at St. Paul's Como Park—is seeking additional volunteers for its eleventh season, which began May 1.*

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Infants under age 1 ride free; tickets for all other riders are \$1.50.

The historic carousel that graced the Minnesota State Fair for 75 years (and was in downtown St. Paul for a few years) has operated since 2000 in a \$1.1 million pavilion just next to the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory at Como Park and the new Visitor Center.

The carousel's 68 horses and

two chariots have been fully restored to the way they looked when new in 1914, and a fully restored band organ plays waltzes, marches and popular tunes. About 100,000 people ride the carousel each season.

The carousel is owned and operated by Our Fair Carousel, the non-profit community group that saved it from being auctioned to collectors in 1988. More volunteers are needed to operate the ride, assist riders, and sell tickets and merchandise. For information, call (651) 489-4628 or see [www.ourfaircarousel.org](http://www.ourfaircarousel.org).

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# In Our Community

## District 10 holds 10th Annual Garage Sale

With close to 50 official garage sale locations in the Como Park neighborhood, bargain hunters are sure to find a deal at the 10th Annual District 10 Neighborhood Garage Sale, Saturday, May 21. This event is sponsored by the District 10 Como Community Council. Garage sale maps with sale locations and descriptions are available for download at [www.district10comopark.org/2011GarageSale](http://www.district10comopark.org/2011GarageSale), and are also available for pick up at our office at the Historic Streetcar Station (1224 Lexington Parkway North) and other local locations. Check out the website for more information.

## Historians gather May 21st

The Hamline Midway History Corps will hold its next Sharing Meeting on Saturday, May 21, from 2-4 p.m. Meetings are on the third Saturday of the month at Ginkgo Coffeehouse, 721 Snelling Avenue (at Minnehaha). The public is invited to share items or stories about local history. A new feature: ask History Corps members for family history/genealogy help. Upcoming dates are June 18 and July 16. Visit [www.HamlineMidwayHistory.org](http://www.HamlineMidwayHistory.org) for more information.

## Bike safety rodeo at Hancock June 11

Kids can practice their safety skills at a bike safety rodeo at Hancock Recreation Center, 1610 Hubbard Avenue, on Saturday, June 11, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. \$5 per participant covers a bike safety rodeo and bicycle safety check and tune-up, as well as a helmet for participants who need one. Contact Hancock Recreation Center at 651-298-4393 for details.

## Rummage Sale June 3, 4

Spring is here and it's time to start thinking about summer activities for the kids here at Zion Lutheran Church, 1697 Lafond Avenue. They are really looking forward to Bible Camp this summer. We will be having a Rummage Sale June 3 and 4 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in hopes of raising enough money to send all of the children to camp. On June 1st and 2nd we will be accepting donated items, no appliances or big furniture. Everyone come and see what treasures we have! Lunch will be available (for a small fee) all day.

## Safe Medication Use June 14

Luncheon seminars are held by Hamline Midway Elders the 2nd

Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at Hamline Church, 1514 Englewood Avenue. June 14 the topic will be "Safe Medication Use." A Pharmacist PhD will address the do's & don'ts for safe medicine use, common drug interactions when medicines are mixed and how a pharmacist can help. Call 651-209-6542 to make reservations or to request free transportation for the events, grocery shopping or medical appointments. A free-will donation is requested for the meal. Presentations are free and begin at 12:15 p.m.

## 'Healthy Moves' program helps seniors

Healthy Moves" is a free, home based, physical activity program specifically designed to help adults age 62+ build strength, increase flexibility and reduce the risk of falls. Enrollment is a three-month commitment and includes goal-setting, instruction and weekly check-ins conducted by staff trained through the Wilder Foundation. Exercises are extremely gentle and can be done sitting or standing. Call the office of HM Elders to learn more, 651-209-6542.

## The Breastfed Baby discussed June 14

The Baby Arrives: The Family and the Breastfed Baby is the topic of the meeting of the Como-Midway La Leche Group on Tuesday, June 14. All expectant and nursing mothers are invited to attend with their babies and toddlers. Call Heidi at 651-659-9527 for more information.

## N.T. Wright Summer Study

Pastor Bob Benke will help unfold each of the 13 chapter of I Corinthians this summer on 13 consecutive Sundays at Jehovah Lutheran Church, corner of Thomas and Snelling in the Midway. The study begins June 5 at 10:45 a.m. in the lounge of the church. N.T. Wright, bishop of Durham and a well-known scholar who taught New Testament studies for twenty years at Cambridge in England, authored the study guide. All are welcome for coffee and interactive study and fellowship. Call Dawn at 651-644-1421 with questions.

## Senior Driving Course at Jehovah

A MN Highway Safety and Research Center "certified" instructor will teach a 4-hour refresher course in senior driver improvement at Jehovah Lutheran Church, 1566 Thomas

Avenue, May 15 from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the lounge. Persons age 55 and older who complete the course qualify for a ten percent discount on their auto insurance premiums for three years, according to Minnesota law. For more information, or to register, call TOLL FREE 1-888-234-1294. Please enter at the Thomas Avenue door.

## A Fun Saints Baseball Package with Jehovah

Jehovah Lutheran Church is partnering with the St. Paul Saints for a fun-filled afternoon at the ballpark on Sunday, June 12, starting at 1:05 p.m. Kids can run the bases and get autographs from the team after the game. The cost is only \$15 for an admission ticket, hot dog and soda voucher and a Saints hat! A great idea for a family outing. Go to Home page or Neighborhood page and click on the Saints logo for full information for ordering or go directly to [SAINTSGROUPS.com](http://SAINTSGROUPS.com) and use the password: Jehovah.

## Donations for Sale at Bethel Church

Bethel Lutheran Church will hold its 10th Annual Rummage Sale benefiting the Children's Christian Education Fund on June 15 (Pre-sale 6-8 p.m.; \$3 admission), June 16 and 17 (9 a.m.-6 p.m.) and June 18 (9 a.m.-4 p.m.). Bethel is located in St. Paul's Como Park neighborhood at 670 W. Wheelock Parkway.

We are looking for a wide range of 'almost new' donations including books, furniture, tools, houseware items, dishes, glassware, stemware, crystal, collectibles of all kinds, arts & crafts, jewelry, office supplies, functional electronics, sporting goods, gently used toys & clothing for the whole family. Sorry, we can't accept mattresses, tires, computers, exercise bikes, Christmas trees, hazardous waste, or just plain junk. The church will be open to receive your donations from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, May 28th, June 4th and 11th.

For more information about Bethel Lutheran Church, its programs and ministries visit [www.bethelstpaul.com](http://www.bethelstpaul.com) or call 651-488-6681.

## Coffee and Community Gatherings

RSVP Volunteer Program Presents: 55+ Coffee & Community Gatherings! Free coffee at Perkins when you join us to learn of local volunteer opportunities. Are you over 55 and looking for more ways to be involved in your community? You're invited to

join us for a FREE cup o' joe and muffin at your friendly neighborhood Perkins!

Come on down: meet current volunteers and learn how we can connect your skills and interests to a rewarding volunteer opportunity in your community. Please Join us at Midway Perkins on Wednesday, May 25, 2-3:30 p.m., 1544 University Avenue. Response appreciated: Call 952-945-4165 to reserve your spot today!

RSVP of the Greater Twin Cities is a program of the MN Senior Corps, and is locally sponsored by Volunteers of America of MN. The RSVP program connects people 55 and over with meaningful opportunities to become engaged as volunteers—while providing a variety of benefits and ongoing support.

## Como Park Funtastic Carnival May 26

The Como Park Elementary Funtastic Carnival is scheduled for Thursday, May 26th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at 780 West Wheelock Parkway. We will have a raffle, games, bingo, face painting, crazy hair, inflatables castles and crafts. Please come and join us for a night of good food and fun activities with your family. Proceeds go to maintain our school playground and equipment.

## Mississippi Creative Arts Magnet Spring Carnival June 8th

The Mississippi Creative Arts Magnet School Spring Carnival is scheduled for Wednesday, June 8th, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at 1575 L'Orient Avenue, Saint Paul. The location is near Wheelock Parkway and 35E.

We will have games, face painting, crazy hair, inflatable castles, kite making, free crafts and more. Please come and join us for a great time with your family, teachers and friends. Food will be available for sale.

All funds raised will support the purchase of new books for our school library. We hope to see you there!

## Plant Expo held June 4

Landscape Revival: Native Plant Expo and Market will be held on Saturday, June 4, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Community Pavilion at Rainbow Foods in Roseville, 1201 Larpenteur.

The Expo and Market offers gardeners the chance to learn more about how native plants can benefit their properties, and birds and wildlife, and then a convenient, one-stop location for

buying natives from a variety of local growers.

A number of conservation organizations and agencies will provide information about native plants. Eleven local native plant growers will sell non-hybridized native plants and accessory products, such as organic compost, organic pest control products, rain barrels and native plant seeds.

Everyone is welcome at this free event, so bring your friends and neighbors to a celebration and sale of plants that are native to our area. The only charge will be for plants you purchase.

## Drum Center holds workshop May 28 at Center

Women's Drum Center, 2242 University Ave. W., invites women to experience the joy of music from West Africa. In this workshop you will practice basic hand drum, stick and bell playing techniques and then apply the techniques as the class learns West African drum songs. They have drums and percussion instruments to share. Beginners welcome. Saturday, May 28, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Fee: \$25. Info and registration at [www.womensdrum-center.org](http://www.womensdrum-center.org).

## Carnival benefiting KidsPark June 4

A community carnival is going to be held at Desnoyer Park Saturday, June 4th 10 a.m.-3 p.m., benefiting KidsPark childcare center! There will be a whole lot-a' fun for children and their families!

Come enjoy carnival games, face painting, cupcake walk, moon bounce, petting zoo and more!

Tickets for activities will be \$1 a piece; or \$15 for an all day wristband that will include - unlimited time in the bouncy, petting zoo, games, one face painting and one time in the cake-walk. The Carnival will be held at Desnoyer Park, 525 Pelham Blvd N. This event is cash only. For more information, visit.

KidsPark is a non-profit, hourly drop-in childcare center for children 6 weeks to 5 years.

## Parkway Garden Club sale May 14

Parkway Garden Club Annual Perennial Plant Sale. Saturday, May 14, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 1407 Arundel St. Proven plants from members' gardens. For more information call Nanette at 651-353-4284 or email [parkwaygardenclub@comcast.net](mailto:parkwaygardenclub@comcast.net)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

# In Our Community

Continued from page 10

## 5K run/walk at Como Park on May 20

Participants in a 5K run/walk at Como Park will learn whether they are faster than a fifth grader when the fastest fifth grader crosses the finish line on Friday, May 20. The family friendly event, sponsored by Saint Paul Public Schools and Ramsey County, is part of the Exercise Your Right to Feel Better Minnesota (EYR) campaign, an initiative to encourage individuals and families to make simple steps to eat better and move more.

EYR was launched in 2009 by Saint Paul – Ramsey County Public Health to promote healthy eating and physical activity. Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) became a participant in 2010 with multiple health improvement events including the first 5K run/walk that included about 600 participants.

The event supports Saint Paul Public Schools wellness policy to improve the health of students and staff by implementing systemic changes in the school environment. The Board of Education approved the policy following a groundbreaking 2005 study in the New England Journal of Medicine that predicted that “unless effective population-level interventions to reduce obesity are developed, the steady rise in life expectancy observed in the modern era may soon come to an end and the youth of today may, on average, live less healthy and possibly even

shorter lives than their parents.”

Financial aid is available. Families can register on the day of the race.

To register online go to <http://www.midwestevents.us/event/1965>

## Downey Side event

The Downey Side families for youth, invites community members to attend a FREE information session regarding adoption and Minnesota's Waiting Children. Downey Side's next information session will be Tuesday, May 17th, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM at Downey Side Minnesota, 450 North Syndicate Street, Suite 90, St. Paul, MN 55104. Pre-registration required. To register, email or call 651-228-0117

## Free community breakfast

A free community breakfast will be held May 22nd, and every 4th Sunday of each month, served 8-9 a.m. at North Emanuel Lutheran Church, 301 Hatch Ave. at Matilda Street. Pastor Kisten Thompson, and the members of North Emanuel welcome all every 4th Sunday. E-mail address is [nemanuel@juno.com](mailto:nemanuel@juno.com). Church phone is 651-489-5611. Questions, you may call Larry 651-373-5797 or Sandy 651-283-1681.

## Como Conservatory Summer Flower Show runs through October 2



The Summer Flower Show now open at Como Park displays the greatest plant diversity of any of the Sunken Garden Flower Shows, as well as the longest season. Roses, Statice, Geraniums, Asiatic Lilies, Heliotrope, New Guinea Impatiens, Petunias and Caladiums are some of the floral features, representing a rainbow of colors, bloom sequence, form and fragrance.

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## Your Engine is Getting the *Pink Slip*



- **Fire Engine 13** located at Station 23, the primary response fire engine for your neighborhood (Saint Anthony Park, Hamline-Midway, Desnoyer Park, and Como Park) **is being shut down on a near daily basis and is a target for permanent closure.**
- Your tax dollars that should have gone to staffing your fire engine have instead been used to cover for-profit events in Saint Paul such as The State Fair, Twin Cities Marathon, Grand Old Day and Taste of Minnesota. **These events do not reimburse the fire departments for the cost of the services it provides.**
- Closing Engine 13 **increases response times and decreases fire protection.**
- In 2003, Fire Engine 20 located at University & Vandalia was **CLOSED PERMANENTLY**. The closing of Engine 13 only further **degrades fire protection in your neighborhood.**
- Fire Department run volume has increased by 80% in the last 20 years and increases every year. **Cuts in funding equal decreased level of service.**

## What can you do?

- ✓ Stop by Station 23 and become informed about the plight of Engine 13 and its importance to your safety.
- ✓ Contact Mayor Chris Coleman at **651-266-8510** and Fire Chief Tim Butler **651-224-7811** to demand Engine 13 remain open.
- ✓ Contact Councilmember Russ Stark at **651-266-8640** or [ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us) and tell him you want Engine 13 in service 24/7.
- ✓ Support your Saint Paul firefighters in their efforts to stop cuts to our city's public safety.

Paid For By Saint Paul Fire Fighters Local 21, IAFF

# Parks and Trillium site earn top rankings from CIB Long-Range Budget task forces

By JANE MCCLURE

Stinson and Cayuga parks and Griggs play areas, Trillium site development, a study of a new animal control facility and bridge replacement projects are among the area proposals winning high rankings from 2012-2013 Long-Range Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) task forces. But other much-desired projects may miss out on funding this time around.

The city's CIB citizen-driven ranking and review process is in the home stretch. Task forces on community facilities, streets and utilities and residential and economic development had their project rankings completed by mid-April. Each task force spent the past several weeks hearing presentations on each project. One highlight was a bus tour of project sites.

The task force rankings now go to the full CIB Committee, which meets twice in May to make its final recommendation.

The CIB Committee rankings move to Mayor Chris Coleman and the St. Paul City Council for a final vote by year's end. That in turn determines which capital projects are completed in the next two years and which will be left behind.

What was different this CIB cycle is that each task force needed only one meeting to complete its rankings. In past years those ranking meetings have gone on for two or more weeks. CIB Committee Chair D'Ann Urbaniak Lesch credits changes to the CIB process to the streamlined ranking work.

The new process was designed with help from University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute students after the 2010-2011 CIB process. "I think we were able to have a smoother process and gave

proposals the reviews they deserved," said Urbaniak Lesch.

More of the CIB information, as well as project submissions and task force member rankings, were done online this round. That saved the stacks of paper city staff had to generate in the past.

A number of procedural changes were also made, including how district council and city department project rankings were factored into task force decisions. In the past there were questions among task force and CIB Committee members about how much weight those rankings should get.

Another change is that CIB projects were reviewed by the Planning Commission for consistency with the city's Comprehensive Plan. That also affected project rankings.

Urbaniak Lesch said that when the CIB Committee does its review and final rankings, the committee will be looking at the various local, state and federal funding sources for capital projects. The type of funding a project receives could be a factor as to whether or not it is funded, and whether projects that don't rank as highly can move up in the process. Another factor can be if a project is part of a larger plan, such as a street that is in a residential street paving project area.

Here's how the task forces ranked area projects:

**Streets and Utilities:** With 54 projects, this was the largest group to be reviewed. At the top of the heap is the LaFayette Bridge reconstruction. The city is being asked to chip in \$500,000 toward the \$130.4 million project. Most of the funding will come from the state.

Reconstruction of the Hamline Avenue Bridge over Ayd Mill

Road ranked a close second, at a cost of \$6.876 million.

Reconstruction of the Wheelock Parkway Bridge between Park and Able streets (\$1 million) ranked sixth overall, with the city's share of the I-35E/Cayuga Bridge work (\$500,000) ranking seventh.

Various projects related to the Central Corridor light rail project had mixed rankings. A \$3 million request for Central corridor streetscape improvements from Rice Street to the west city limits ranked ninth overall. The Central Corridor Friendly Streets Initiative ranked 22nd overall. This \$40,000 project would improve neighborhood streets just north of University Avenue and the planned light rail line.

Streetscape and pedestrian safety improvements along St. Anthony Avenue near Skyline Towers, the Union Park District Council's top priority, ranked 10. This project has an estimated cost of \$178,000.

A high priority for many people in Hamline-Midway neighborhood is the Snelling Avenue Green Streets initiative which would make improvements on Snelling north of University. This project, which has a cost of \$880,000, ranked 17th.

Raymond Avenue storm water management (\$395,000) which is tied to the Hampden Park master planning process, ranked 12th. Raymond Avenue streetscape (\$1.5 million) from University to Hampden ranked 13th. The Pierce Butler-Lexington Parkway bicycle connection (\$200,000) ranked 15th. New lighting for Rice Street from University to Acker (\$555,000) ranked 21st, with the stretch from Rose to Larpeur (\$1 million) ranking 36th.

The Marshall Avenue Green

Streets project, which would complete the median work on Marshall Avenue between the Mississippi River and Snelling Avenue, ranked 24th. This project has an estimated cost of \$510,000.

The Pierce Butler east extension (\$6.3 million) ranked 28th. Arlington Avenue reconstruction between Dale and Jackson streets (\$6.2 million) ranked 31st.

Sycamore Street reconstruction between East Jackson and West Jackson (\$342,000) ranked 47th. The Pascal Street bikeway connection (\$65,000) ranked 50th.

**Community facilities:** The top-ranked project in the city out of 52 submissions is the Indian Mounds Regional Park play area (\$500,000). The area project with the highest ranking is the North End's Stinson Park play improvements (\$331,000), at second overall, with Cayuga play area improvements (\$330,000), in third place, followed by the sixth-ranked Griggs play area improvements (\$387,800).

Site development at Trillium (\$1.1 million), a long-awaited North End nature preserve and park, ranked eighth. Ranked seventh citywide is the Desnoyer Park Safety Initiative (\$5,600), sought by the KidsPark child care center. The child care program wants a fence on the north side of its building.

A study of a new animal control facility (\$65,000) ranked tenth. The current facility by Como Park is cramped and deteriorated.

Frogtown Farm and Park, an ambitious plan to redo the former Wilder Foundation property and create an urban farm, ranked 15th. Backers sought \$75,000 in planning funds. The property was recently put up for sale. Another Frogtown project, replacement of

Scheffer Recreation Center (\$7.7 million) ranked 19th.

Dickerman Park improvements (\$3 million) ranked 24th.

The replacement of Central team police facilities (\$9.5 million) ranked 30th overall. One strike against all fire and police projects is that they are not covered in the city's comprehensive plan. Area residents have been trying to replace the police station since it was moved from Rice and Arlington, and incorporated into police headquarters north of downtown.

The Hamline-Hoyt beautification and block improvement project (\$485,000) ranked 31st. Merriam Park master plan implementation (\$64,000) ranked 34th. McMurray Field improvements (\$2.95 million) ranked 35th and a study of the Como Park golf course (\$100,000) ranked 38th. The future of the golf course has been raised as an issue, as golfing declines in the city.

Residential and economic development. The top-ranked project citywide is Dayton Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services' East Side Home Improvement Revolving Loan Fund (\$1 million). It topped a field of 19 projects.

Of area projects, Frogtown Facelift Too (\$600,000) ranked third. Sparc's Stay in St. Paul Program (\$200,000), which targets businesses affected by Central Corridor construction, ranked fourth. Sparc's deferred loan programs (\$1 million) ranked fifth. Historic St. Paul's Restore St. Paul Commercial Façade Improvement Program (\$500,000) ranked seventh. A city-sponsored Commercial Corridor and Economic Development Program (\$500,000) ranked ninth.

Frogtown Facelift (\$698,000) ranked 11th and the Frogtown Flexible Fund (\$750,000) ranked 12th.



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# Neighborhood star applications under review by STAR Board

By JANE MCCLURE

Twenty-two projects and a request grand total of \$2,934,121 are in the hands of St. Paul's Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) Board. The applications, which were due at City Hall March 31, are undergoing review this month. The Neighborhood STAR Board will interview applicants in the weeks ahead, prepare its ranking and then send those rankings to Mayor Chris Coleman and the St. Paul City Council later this spring or early this summer.

The proposed projects range from improving a dog day care business to renovating the historic Victoria Theater.

This is the second year St. Paul has had just one Neighborhood STAR review process. Last year the board combined the large grant and loan and small grants programs into one application process.

Neighborhood STAR Board Chair Kerry Antrim said it is encouraging to see many different types of projects, from all around the city. "I think we have a good variety of different types of projects to review and choose from," she said.

Nine projects are in Ward One, with six in Ward Two, none in Ward Three, six in Ward Four, three in Ward Five, three in Ward Six and two in Ward Seven. Some projects are in more than one council ward. The applications include requests for park improvements, commercial building improvements and housing rehabilitation.

The applications can be broken down into \$1,828,220 in grants and \$1,105,901 in loans. The matches pledged total \$3,959,677.

The most high-profile request may be to rehabilitate the Victoria Theater, 825 University Ave. The building, which has been the focus of preservation efforts, was awarded local historic designation April 13 by the St. Paul City Council. Building owners Bee and Lamena Vue are seeking a \$100,000 grant and a \$100,000 loan to install new doors, floors, a sprinkler system, an electrical system, restrooms and heating, cooling and ventilation improvements so that the

building can be reused as a theater and community gathering spaces. The Vues have pledged a \$205,000 match.

Of all applicants the largest request is for a \$500,000 loan and a \$500,000 grant from Midway Residence, a proposed mixed-use development at 1563 University Av. Minneapolis-based developer Emad Abed has pledged a \$1.2 million match. Proposed is a two-story building with retail on the main floor and four 1,500 square foot apartments on the second floor. The site is currently occupied by a building that was extensively damaged a few years ago in a suspicious fire.

Other area projects vying for Neighborhood STAR funds include:

\*Rainbow Child Development Center, 605 Como Av. The center, which is currently in Hamline-Midway neighborhood, wants a \$63,050 grant and a \$94,575 loan to renovate a former auto sales building into a child care center, employing 9 workers and caring for 42 children. Match is \$167,325.

\*Sparc job creation and retention fund. The area community development corporation would use an \$111,000 grant to help 12 commercial property owners make improvements that would help them retain or create jobs. Match is \$111,000.

\*Lead window replacement program. Sparc is seeking a \$25,000 grant to help about 30 area low-income home owners replace windows containing lead paint. Homes with children under the age of six would be targeted. Match is \$152,500.

\*Rental rehabilitation program. Greater Frogtown Community development Corporation wants a \$120,000 grant to help landlords improve properties that house low-income neighborhood residents. Match is \$120,000.

\*Dog Days. The dog day care center at 350 University Av. is seeking a \$93,250 grant and a \$93,250 loan to make exterior improvements to its building including new awnings, windows, railings, doors, a new stone facade and new roof. Soil corrections and a new parking lot would also be added. Match is \$186,500.

\*Langford Park Recreation Center. The St. Anthony Park Booster Club wants a \$19,975 grant to build a storage building with a green roof. This would house ice rink equipment. Match is \$25,975.

\*South St. Anthony Park. Joy to the People Soccer Club wants a \$13,125 grant to convert a softball field into a sand soccer/volleyball court, with bleachers, community garden space and a walking path. Match is \$19,815.

\*Hampden Park Master Plan. St. Anthony Park Community Council and St. Paul Parks and Recreation want a \$60,000 grant to create a plaza/public gathering space, plant more trees and add lighting, sidewalks and trash cans. Match is \$60,000.

\*Keo Enterprise, 867 Pierce Butler Route. The company wants to replace its building roof with an energy-efficient white roof, with a \$41,148 grant and a \$41,148 loan. Match is \$82,296.

Anyone applying for Neighborhood STAR funds must pledge a one-to-one match of money, materials, professional services or "sweat equity."

## Central Corridor noise can now exceed city decibel limits

By JANE MCCLURE

Those who live and work along University Avenue already know that Central Corridor light rail construction can be noisy. That noise can now exceed city decibel limits, as a result of St. Paul City Council approval of a noise variance May 4. The variance, which does cover some overnight work, will be in effect until Dec. 31. It covers University Avenue from Emerald Street, the west city limits, to Syndicate Street.

Eight groups including Union Park District Council (UP-ODC) weighed in in opposition to or with concerns about the noise variance. Only one person, St. Anthony Park resident John Schumacher, testified in opposition.

Some city staff and council members were surprised that more people didn't attend the public hearing. A 20-page list of approximately 400 addresses was notified about the variance and council hearing. The notification list covered blocks north and south of University Avenue. The area notified varied along the corridor, with a larger north-south area notified at the western end and notice only going a block north at the east end.

The council did amend the variance request to accommodate residential properties and hotels that are within 200 feet of the work, so that extended overnight work time won't be allowed. That affects a number of sites along Central Corridor, including Episcopal Homes at University and Fairview, Carleton Lofts and apartments near University and Raymond and a large group of apartments and condos near University and Emerald. It also affects Midwest Hotel at University and Cretin-Vandalia and Days Inn at University and Prior.

Ward Four Council Member

Russ Stark asked for the amendment. While saying it's important for light rail construction to remain on schedule, and that work needs to be expedited, he said those who live or stay along the light rail line need not be disrupted late at night or early in the morning.

Schumacher said the noise has the potential to affect more than 1,000 people who live along or near the light rail construction work. He also expressed concern about the number of times overnight noise would occur, saying residents affected by the noise would like a finite number of variances.

UPDC's resolution stated the district council would oppose a blanket noise variance and wants to see overnight noise addressed on a case-by-case basis. The district council also wants to see more attention paid to noise in the rail project's construction management plan. Other written comments the city received include concerns from people who live close to University and objections to the early start and late finish for the noise variance.

"I'm satisfied that the process we have put in place lets (city licensing staff) use their judgment as to what times are reasonable," Stark said. "It would be nice if the (light rail) project office had a better idea of their needs but at this point they don't."

The variance is for the hours of 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. It allows extended work hours between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. It covers the time period of May 5 to December 31. The variance is needed to accommodate heavy equipment, compressors, excavation equipment and paving equipment. The variance was filed by Kevin Ryan, Metropolitan Council manager of transitways.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



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Saint Thomas More Church	Summit & Lexington Avenue	Fridays, 1:15 - 5pm, through Sept 2 Fridays, 3:30 - 5:30, Sept 9 - Oct 28
Downtown	5th Ave and Wall St FREE Horse-drawn Wagon Rides	Saturdays, 6am - 1pm • Sundays, 8am - 1pm
7th Place (Opens June 9)	7th and Wabasha	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am - 1:30pm

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# Como Park Zoo and Conservatory plans upcoming events

Como Ordway Memorial Japanese Garden Opening  
May 1 - September 30

The Como Ordway Memorial Japanese Garden is a living symbol of the peace and friendship that exists between Saint Paul and its sister city Nagasaki, Japan. A renowned landscape designer in Nagasaki, Masami Matsuda, created the garden according to time honored Japanese design principles using plants and trees that are hardy in Minnesota. Infused with true Japanese design, the garden is meant to delight your senses.

Summer Flower Show  
May 7 - October 2

The Summer Flower Show displays the greatest plant diversity of any of the Sunken Garden Flower Shows, as well as the longest season. Roses, Statice, Geraniums, Asiatic Lilies, Heliotrope, New Guinea Impatiens, Petunias and

Caladiums are some of the floral features, representing a rainbow of colors, bloom sequence, form and fragrance. Sunken Garden will be closed May 2 - May 6.

TPT Family Fun Day  
Como Town & Como Zoo  
May 21, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Meet Cat In The Hat, Curious George, Super Why & Clifford! Bring the whole family for a day filled with fun activities. Questions about this event? Call 651-229-1330 or 1-866-229-1300.

American Garden Award  
May 23 - August, 2011

The American Garden Award is a unique opportunity for the gardening public to vote on a specific flower or plant that they think has the most appealing garden characteristics. Some of the world's most prominent breeders have chosen their best varieties to enter into this competition. In cooper-

ation with All-America Selections, the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory displays seven different flower entries so garden visitors can view the plants in person and vote on their favorite. For those consumers and home gardeners who are unable to view these plants in person, a link on the American Garden Award website: [www.americangardenaward.org](http://www.americangardenaward.org) allows for online voting. When visiting us, you can find the American Garden Award entries on display along the walkway in front of the Visitor Center.

Sparky the Sea Lion Show

May 28 - September 5  
11:30 a.m. Monday - Friday  
11:30 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. Saturday, Sunday & Holidays

Sparky presents "Sparky's Zoo Hop". Sparky is excited to visit some of his friends in other zoos. Watch as Sparky imitates many of his zoo buddies. Each show is a



little different - you never know what you might see!

Creature Feature

May 28 - September 5  
12:30 & 3:00 p.m.  
Monday - Friday  
12:30 p.m. Saturday, Sunday & Holidays

A garden has been ransacked and the critters of the Creature Feature

are on the case. Audiences will be up to their ears in "whodunit" fun as the Creature Feature animals solve the mystery of the Great Garden Caper.\*

This year's Creature Feature will highlight a variety of small animals whose stories will delight audiences of all ages.

\*show subject to change due to weather.

Roots, Shoots & Fruits - The Incredible Edible Garden

June 17 - September 5

Featuring an array of vegetables, small fruits, and tasty herbs cultivated in an imaginative garden display located south of the Visitor Center. Learn effective growing techniques, fun ways to harvest & prepare the fresh food from your garden, pollinator friendly tips, natural pest control and creative edible landscape design. It's not just about a row of tomatoes and bush beans!

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Those who live and work along University Avenue already know that Central Corridor light rail construction can be noisy. That noise can now exceed city decibel limits, as a result of St. Paul City Council approval of a noise variance May 4. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

## Noise

Continued from page 13

According to Ryan, Metropolitan Council will submit any request for overnight work to the city's Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI). The requests will be for specific times, dates and locations. DSI and Public Works will review and then approve or deny each specific request. If a specific request is approved for overnight work, Metropolitan Council will notify property owners within 200 feet within writing, 72 hours prior to work getting underway.

Contractors and utility companies will use best practicable methods to control the noise. "Construction activities between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. will only be done if there are no reasonable alternatives," the variance application stated. Construction and demolition noise limitations shall be as follows:

Regulation of noise from construction activities is specifically spelled out in city ordinance. The maximum noise level is 85 decibels at a distance of 50 feet measured from the source. If a construction site is within or abuts residentially zoned property, additional noise regulations apply.

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# Classifieds

Monitor Want Ads are now \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to Monitor Classifieds, Iris Park Place, 1885 University Avenue, Ste. #110, St. Paul, MN 55104. Classifieds must be prepaid via cash, check, or credit card. Classified ads can be e-mailed to [denisw@aplacetoremember.com](mailto:denisw@aplacetoremember.com). Want ads must be in the Monitor before May 27 for the June 9 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)

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For Sale: Vintage 1900-1949 lights, house hardware, doors, tubs, radiators, etc. Also furniture hardware. 651-644-9270. 20% off with ad. 6-11

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

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## Classifieds

Continued from page 15

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## WEST DISTRICT COMMUNITY MEETING



**WHEN: Tuesday May 17, 2011  
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**WHERE: Western District Police Office  
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# HAMLIN UNIVERSITY congratulates ITS 2011 GRADUATES!

Hamline University's Commencement ceremonies and accompanying events will be held on **Friday, May 20 from 6 to 8 p.m.** and on **Saturday, May 21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.** We ask for your patience as we welcome the friends and families of our graduates to the neighborhood.

For more information on Commencement, please visit [www.hamline.edu/commencement](http://www.hamline.edu/commencement).

