

monitor

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What's

INSIDE

News3



**Como Pool
needs repair**

News4



**Como debates
Sholom reuse**

News6



**Local schools
targeted by district**

Opinion7



**A wish for
pedestrians**

HOLLYWOOD

comes to Rice Street

On a mild Tuesday in late September, the calendar flipped back to the 1960s on the corner of Rice and Jessamine.

Joel and Ethan Coen have been filming parts of their latest movie, "A Serious Man," throughout the Twin Cities. A somewhat biographical look at their lives, growing up in the St. Louis Park area, the film is reportedly a pet project for the brothers.

"This is not a film Hollywood wants the Coens to do," said Paul Horvath, a Rice Street promoter who contracted to reconstruct the Klub Haus at 1079 Rice Street in 2002-2003.

Today he and Fred Verdeja serve as general managers of the building.

"This is a lower budget movie that relates to their growing up in Minnesota in the 1960s," Horvath said.

The film is described as a black comedy depicting a professor whose life is in turmoil because of the actions of his wife, his brother and his children. He

seeks advice from three rabbis as he attempts to resolve his problems. The film takes place around 1967 in a Minneapolis suburb. The Coens' parents were professors, and some of the aspects of the film relate to their years in Minnesota.

Horvath said he heard about the filming and the era that was going to be represented, and he contacted the production crew.

"They selected Rice Street for part of the filming because it has a 60s look," Horvath said. "Many of the buildings along the street are period buildings; they aren't new. Especially the corner where they chose to film."

Once Rice Street was picked as a filming site, the production crew needed a place to operate from.

"They contacted me, came by and said they were looking for a centralized place for catering and parking," Horvath said. He said he thought the Klub Haus, because of its vintage, would be the perfect spot. He arranged free



Ethan and Joel Coen (at top) discuss a shot on Rice Street before the technical crew sets up for the shoot. The Coen brothers' new film takes place around 1967 in a Minneapolis suburb. (Photos courtesy of Steve Deutsch and Paul Horvath)

parking for the film crew with the Capital Bank and Bradshaw Funeral Home and Cremation Service. And he encouraged the crew to contact area businesses.

The corner of Rice and Jessamine was selected because of its businesses, a grocery and a hardware store, according to Kelly Rae Hemenway, who worked as a street foreman for this film. A few days before the shooting of a car crash scene on this corner, Hemenway was busy painting signs and making the new signs appear older.

"I mix colors that look like dirt," said Hemenway, who lives in St. Paul and has worked in the film business for the past 20 years.

As she painted a sign with the words Gurlock Hardware, she added polyurethane to her paint, watering it down.

"I use something like a rain simulator and make the signs appear weathered," she said.

Hemenway said she and her boss scout for a potential scene.

"We measure and replace signs. For this film, I designed things the way they were in the



1960s," she said.

"We go by the color palette in the film," Hemenway added. "We never want things to stand out too much; the story is about the characters."

Hemenway said she coordinates with graphic designers, painters, printers and assorted laborers.



The corner of Rice and Jessamine was selected because of its businesses, a grocery and a hardware store, according to Kelly Rae Hemenway, who worked as a street foreman for this film. (Photos courtesy of Steve Deutsch and Paul Horvath)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

monitor

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Monitor in a Minute

Lonetti reaches agreement on license violations

A Rice Street bar and city officials have reached agreement over alleged license violations, which meant closing the business September 14-18. The St. Paul City Council approved the agreement with Lonetti's Lounge, 1091 Rice St., September 10. The agreement in turn canceled a hearing scheduled for September 12.

At issue was a June violation, in which the city claimed that patrons were seen consuming alcohol at the bar after 2 a.m. A second notice of violation was issued by the city in July. Lonetti's denied both allegations and asked for a hearing before an administrative law judge.

But since then Lonetti's owner and city licensing staff agreed to resolve the matter without the expense of a hearing. Administrative law judge hearing costs can easily top the \$2,000 mark, with the costs of a fine or other penalty.

Ward Five Council Member Lee Helgen said the agreement is a good compromise. Lonetti's already has another adverse action from March 2008, giving the business three violations in four months.

Part of the penalty imposed

September 10 is a 43,000 fine. The City Council suspended the fine for six months. Instead, Lonetti's will be allowed to invest \$3,000 in improving its kitchen and making other changes to allow the establishment to serve food daily. Lonetti's will have to provide receipts for the work to city licensing officials. If less than \$3,000 is spent the remaining funds are due to the city.

Yet another condition of the City Council agreement affects any future 2 a.m. license obtained by Lonetti's. That would prohibit new patrons from entering the establishment after 1 a.m., with last call no later than 1:30 a.m. Lonetti's recently lost its right to stay open until 2 a.m. but could reapply for 2 a.m. closing in the future.

Carleton Place looks for conditional use permit

Another key piece of the Carleton Place development could be built soon as the St. Paul Planning Commission unanimously approved a conditional use permit for the project September 11. The permit allows a building 67 feet high in a Traditional Neighborhoods (TN) 3 district. The maximum building height allowed is 55 feet. With a conditional use permit, a building in a TN-zoned area can be up to 90 feet.

The Planning Commission decision is final unless it is appealed to the City Council within

10 days. However, with limited opposition an appeal seems unlikely.

The new addition will be built in the block bounded by University, Hampden, Charles and Carleton, near the Hampden-University and Hampden-Charles corners. Existing warehouses on the block have been previously rehabilitated into housing. The property housed Johnson Brothers, a liquor distributing business, for many years.

The new six-story addition will be mixed use, and will complement the surrounding buildings in its design. The height will be only a few feet taller than the existing buildings to the west. The new space will include retail/office uses on the first floor and market rate rental housing above. It is U-shaped, with an entrance off of Hampden and a tie to the parking area to the west for the rest of the development.

Developer Brad Johnson and architect Gary Vogel of BKV Architects presented the plans to the Planning Commission Zoning Committee September 11. The plans have the support of the St. Anthony Park Community Council and also garnered an additional letter of support. One letter was received in opposition expressing concern about the building height.

The grounds near the building will be landscaped with a 60 to 70-seat theater at one side. It is mainly intended for use by the community living at Carleton Place, said Vogel.

The project will need building permit approval from the St. Paul

Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) as it is in the University-Raymond Historic District.

Residents fear spillover parking from LRT

Even though the Central Corridor light rail line is at least six years away from operation, residents and business owners in neighborhoods along University Avenue are worried about spillover parking. Residents of the Howard Park neighborhood, which is southwest of the University-Snelling intersection, want city and regional officials to consider building a park and ride lot at the former Metro Transit bus barn site on Snelling Avenue. But their plea for Union Park District Council support September 3 fell on a 3-9-5 vote.

Although park and ride commuter parking has been discussed for the past few years along University Avenue, Union Park is the first area district council to take a vote on the idea of actually creating a lot.

David Rasmussen, a district council member and Howard Park resident, collected more than 1,000 petition signatures during the Minnesota State Fair. That's when the site at Snelling and St. Anthony Avenue is used for State Fair shuttle bus parking. It is one of the most heavily used State Fair parking sites.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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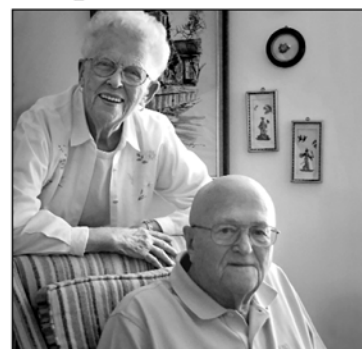


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Future in doubt...

Como Pool in need of major repairs

By JANE MCCLURE

St. Paul Parks and Recreation Director Bob Bierscheid sometimes describes the condition of the Como Park Pool by saying that every spring, "We turn on the water and we pray."

But prayer may not be enough. The pool is in such a deteriorated condition that its ability to open for swimming in 2009 is in doubt. Major repairs are needed for the 1960s-era facility.

Last week at a budget meeting in City Hall Bierscheid was even more emphatic about Como Pool's prognosis. "It will not operate in 2009," Bierscheid said. "It is totally out of service."

This fall a pool task force holds its first meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, October 30 at the Como Visitors Center. Como Community Council and North End/South Como Planning Council, as well as the Como Park Alliance and the general public, will start discussing the future of the pool.

A preliminary plan for the pool has been prepared and posted on the Web but city staff emphasize that no final decisions have been made yet.

This fall a task force with representatives from the community, which holds its first meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, October 30 at the Como Visitors Center.

Como Community Council and North End/South Como Planning Council will start discussing the future of the pool. A preliminary plan for the pool has been prepared and posted on the Web but city staff emphasize that no final decisions have been made yet.

Anyone interested in following the task force process should contact their local district council.

The task force will look at options including renovating, updating or replacing the pool. No meeting dates have been set.

The city has one city-owned indoor pool, the Great River Water Park (formerly Oxford Pool) and outdoor pools at Como, Highland and Phalen. All of the facilities were studied a few years ago and improvements suggested by consultants. Highland and Great River Water Park are the two most recently renovated.

But a suggestion that Como become a water park met opposition from neighbors and is credited for motivating a number of park neighbors to organize as the Como Park Alliance. Susan Janda, one of the alliance leaders, said that while neighbors understand the need to upgrade and improve the pool, the notion of a large water park and adjacent parking lot raised concerns about increased traffic and parking demands.

"I think people are afraid of being overrun by the city," said Janda.

The alliance, which works on a number of park-related projects including a new park shuttle service set to start in 2009, has been conducting a survey about the park on its web site. The survey

deadline has recently been updated to collect more input.

Janda said the sentiments the alliance is hearing is that people do want the pool to be upgraded and improved, but they don't want it to change a lot.

The pool is in such a deteriorated condition that its ability to open for swimming in 2009 is in doubt. Major repairs are needed for the 1960s-era facility.



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Under intense community pressure, RS Eden backs away...

Como neighborhood abuzz about Sholom Home reuse

By DEBORAH BROTZ

Como Park residents who live near the Sholom Home, at 1554 Midway Parkway, have been buzzing about RS Eden, a drug and alcohol rehabilitation agency, which has been exploring acquiring the Sholom Home site. The Sholom Home is moving to 7th and Otto Streets between Feb. 24 and Mar. 1.

But as this issue of the Monitor was going to press, RS Eden announced that it had decided against pursuing a supportive housing development at the Sholom site.

With several residents raising concerns at the District 10 Board and Community monthly meeting on Aug. 19, RS Eden had agreed to a community forum on Oct. 23, from 7-9 p.m., at the Lyngblomsten Chapel, 1415 Almond Ave. Although RS Eden's interest in the property has been withdrawn, they agreed to meet with the community nonetheless to discuss the general reuse of the site as well as the concept of supportive housing.

Meanwhile, emotions in Como Park have been running high.

The contentious issue had prompted some neighbors to work overtime to shut down, or at least send a message to RS Eden that any programming is not welcome in Como Park. In

hindsight, that message seems to have worked.

St. Paul Ward 4 City Councilmember Russ Stark says his office has gotten a number of calls and a few dozen emails from Co-

mo residents about RS Eden acquiring the Sholom Home. Signs had also appeared in some neighbors' yards with the message: "Stop Eden!"

But Stark says that some neighbors had formed an impression on RS Eden based on misinformation.

"A lot of people were asking me to take a clear cut position against RS Eden," he said. "In part, the opposition got organized at a Land Use Committee meeting in August. The opposition is based on secondhand information gotten from the meeting."

Many Como residents were lined up against RS Eden coming to the neighborhood for a variety of reasons.

"People were getting bits of information about ex-offenders housed there," said Stark. "RS Eden has some ex-offenders but would not house offenders with certain types of backgrounds, such as sex offenders."

Regardless of the applicant, Stark feels it's important for people to make an informed decision about the re-use of

Sholom Home.

"It's wonderful to see so many people getting informed," he said. "(But) I don't want to see people make up their minds on secondhand information."

Information disseminated around the neighborhood, Stark said, has not all been factual.

Dan Cain, president of RS Eden, was surprised when the Post Office called him to say if he put any more flyers in mailboxes, he would either be prosecuted or charged postage. He explained to them he did not put anything in people's mailboxes or knew anything about the flyers.

RS Eden had not made a formal proposal on the Sholom Home site yet.

"It hadn't proposing anything," said Cain. "That's where some of the confusion is coming in. We're a multi-dimensional social service agency with a whole wide range of services."

In talking with St. Paul Planning and Economic Development, RS Eden found out about the availability of Sholom Home.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



Como Park residents who live near the Sholom Home, at 1554 Midway Parkway, have been buzzing about RS Eden, a drug and alcohol rehabilitation agency, which just announced that it's no longer pursuing an interest in the Sholom Home site.

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Up in arms against RS Eden

I am a neighbor to the Sholom Home and have lived in my home since 1978. I strongly object to the introduction into the neighborhood of an RS Eden house for recovering drug users and alcoholics, although RS Eden refuses to be clear on their plan for the property.

But looking at the other RS Eden residences, it is clear that this would be pretty much the same, with even larger population than their other residences.

I object because this facility wants to impose itself upon a residential neighborhood that already supports within an approximately 1/2 mile radius, the State Fair, The HHH Job Corps, The Salvation Army Booth Brown house for troubled and addicted young adults (which is reputed to be planning to add 30 beds to the program.) In addition there is the Lyngblomsten Senior Center, new senior housing, the up-grading of Como Park inviting thousands of visitors, with its multiple picnic pavilions, the Como Zoo, and the Conservatory.

There are many children who attend various elementary neighborhood schools, and wait for buses. There are families that have lived in this neighborhood for decades like myself, and feel we contribute every day to the transient traffic, support of the elderly, etc.

This neighborhood is up in arms for good reasons. We do our share, and just because a large property comes on the market, we will not accept this type of added pressure on an already highly pressured community. We are organized, and will oppose RS Eden's purchase and entry into this neighborhood vigorously.

RS Eden has stated it will not make an offer for the Sholom property if there is opposition in the community. There is massive opposition. There is an Oct. 23, 2008 meeting of RS Eden, the community,

and members of local government, most likely at the Sholom home itself.

If RS Eden keeps its word, and makes no offer, and leaves this neighborhood alone, as the opposition to their presence is monumental, then there should be a statement of disinterest by RS Eden at that meeting.

If they go back on their word, they can expect organized opposition in huge proportions. We are fighting for our heavily publicly used neighborhood. We are good neighbors. This community should be complemented, and protected from any further land use of this nature.

Leah Avriana Amiliani
Como Park

An orgy of official lawlessness?

After the Republican convention, why should we hire and equip any more police officers (Monitor, September)?

They had \$50 million dollars to spend for "security" here, and they spent it in an orgy of official lawlessness:

Arresting at least 30 journalists; arresting legal observers, medics, and scores of innocent bystanders; beating prisoners in custody; lining the streets with stormtroopers; promiscuously deploying their armament of grenades, pepper spray, tasers, rubber bullets, and riot clubs against the public; seizing cameras and cell phones to prevent onlookers from recording police conduct; and committing many more inexcusable abuses.

As long as the police in St. Paul are being subverted for the purpose of political intimidation and violation of citizens' rights, with impunity and immunity, I see no reason to add to their ranks. Far from making us feel any safer, the events of the past few weeks have left us feeling the chilling threat of a fascist police state.

Oliver Steinberg
St. Anthony Park

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Arlington, Washington targeted by St. Paul School District

By JAN WILLMS

Arlington Senior High School and Washington Middle School have both been targeted by Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) as warranting changes, based on federal, national and district criteria.

Arlington is in a "pre-restructuring" phase and Washington in "corrective action."

The Shared Accountability Framework, which calls for clear expectations for students, staff, parents and community members, and the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) has set requirements for schools in these statuses.

The Shared Accountability Framework calls for a restructured internal organization in these cases. MDE requirements for a school in corrective action compels the district to implement at least one of the following:

Replace staff members, insti-

tute and fully implement a new curriculum, decrease management authority at the school level, appoint an outside expert to advise, extend the length of the school year or day, or restructure the school's internal organization.

With Washington Middle School, considerations are to continue progress put in place for school year 2008-09.

Changes include implementation of BioSmart pathways and classes, second-year of math adoption and math coaches, expanded collaboration with ELL and special education.

"We will look at the strategies we can put in place, and at the curriculum focus," said Michelle Walker, chief accounting officer for SPPS.

"We are keeping the best things at the school, and we are doing what we can to make corrections," she said.

Meeting MDE requirements



Arlington Senior High School and Washington Middle School have both been targeted by Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) as warranting changes, based on federal, national and district criteria.

for Arlington will require significant changes in current staff and governance, according to a report

on school and program changes. These changes revolve around the implementation of the Bio-

Smart program and would require board action, except in cases normally under the authority of administration.

Also under consideration is the completion of a comprehensive review of the organizational and instructional health of the school.

Since Arlington is the only high school without any attendance boundary, the issue of whether one is needed must be resolved. Currently students from all over the city are allowed to enroll.

Formal observations of all teaching staff to identify areas for improvement and take appropriate action is also a consideration.

Walker said the school has already begun the process of improving. It has received a BioSmart grant and is focusing on technology.

"The school will continue to have that focus," Walker said. "It is a good catalyst for change."

Hollywood

Continued from page 1

"We want to make the least disturbance for the city and the businesses," she said. She added that the production crew is very good to work with.

"When you work this hard, there's no room for attitude," she said.

She also found the Rice Street business people very positive to work with.

That sentiment was also shared by the businesses for the film crew.

"This has been a very, very exciting thing," said Herb Yoch, owner of Rice Street Do It Best Hardware, which for a day became Gurlock's Hardware.

The change in the signs caused one customer to come in

and ask him if he was selling his business.

"They have transformed our store," Yoch said. "Hopefully people don't come in and ask for the prices advertised that are going back to the 60s."

He said about 10 people came in his store ahead of the shoot, changing signs and painting the front of the store and making improvements.

"They're very nice people to work with," Yoch said. The crew purchased supplies from him, which they then used to paint his store and some of the other buildings in the shoot. He and other businesses were also compensated for the day's use of their building.

The hardware was open for walk-in business, although no cars were allowed in the area. Instead, about 50 vehicles from the 1950s and 60s were brought in.

Horvath said he was amazed at how authentic everything looked.

"They did such a good job of casting, I felt like I was back in the 60s," he said. "They sprayed the cars so they wouldn't look new, and they changed the license plates to look like ones from that era."

To readers who have followed the Coen brothers' careers, Horvath and other Rice Streeters witnessed the Coens present during most of the filming.

Big Market, the corner grocery, had been closed for the past year and a half and opened only a month ago by owner Yisr Ali. Although he had made some changes to the building, the film crew painted the front of his store and put up some lettering he will be able to use after the scene is shot.

The store's windows were covered with old mayonnaise ads and other grocery items dating from that time period.

Tschida's Bakery, next to the grocery, was also part of the scene.

"We took out the Halloween decorations and put in artificial pies that would show up well in the window," said Kathy Lachsinger, an employee of the store for the past 17 years.

The bakery, owned by Brian Anderson, was also a part of the film, "Grumpier Old Men," shot in 1996. And when "Jingle All The Way" was being filmed, Arnold Schwarzenegger ordered coffee cakes from Tschida's.

"We're going to get some pictures signed by the cast," said Lachsinger, a fringe benefit for letting the bakery be filmed.

Across the street, chiropractor Kao Xiong said he had just come back from vacation and was surprised to see that his office had been turned into a bank. A sign on the outside proclaims the building to be Bank and Trust, and offers a free toaster to cus-

tomers opening accounts.

Horvath had nothing but praise for the film crew.

"I was skeptical of what might happen because of the number of people involved," he said, "but they were the best tenants we ever had. They were here from 4 a.m. until about 6 p.m., when they finished shooting. They used the Klub Haus for makeup and had meals catered here. When they were finished, they cleaned the whole place up. They did the work we expected to do."

Horvath said the crew and cast for the Coen films are completely green, also.

"They had their own compost," he said. "Their cups were made of corn, to be composted after use. It was great."

Yoch said the film crew told him how pleased they were to be filming in Minnesota, and how much they would like to come back.

And Yoch hopes the spotlight might once again shine on Rice Street.



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Guest Column

By RUSS STARK Ward 4 City Council

A wish for pedestrians on Snelling Avenue

If, like me, you enjoy walking, you have probably been frustrated trying to cross a busy street at an unsignalized intersection. Snelling Avenue is particularly challenging. We've all seen the constant line of cars whose drivers look right past pedestrians and keep going.

Ironically, often the most dangerous situation of all is the courteous driver who stops for us while the driver in the adjacent lane races on. We stand there knowing it isn't safe for us to step off the curb. We tell our kids not to even try without an adult around.

I want to reverse this situation. I want pedestrians on Snelling Avenue, and everywhere in Saint Paul, to be comfortable and safe when we cross the street. I want us to be shocked when drivers don't stop.

Why is this so important to our community? The benefits of walking are clear. Walking improves the health of individuals and makes neighborhoods safer because more people are out and about. We have more eyes on the sidewalks and streets. We get to know each other; we stop to chat.

In the Ward 4 that I envision, crossing streets on foot is welcoming and safe. And we feel safe

walking, so we are all less dependent on cars for short trips.

We are a long way from that goal. Citywide, between June 2006 and June 2008, there were 454 incidents of pedestrians being struck by vehicles. In Ward 4 alone, 85 people were struck in that same time period. According to the Minnesota Department of Health, statewide, pedestrian injuries are decreasing but emergency room visits are increasing. That tells us that the accidents that do occur are more serious.

These incidents not only affect the victims—our neighbors—but everyone in our community. I am committed to reversing these negative trends for pedestrians in Saint Paul.

It is state law in Minnesota that drivers must stop for pedestrians at corners—corners with marked or unmarked crosswalks. I have been working with a wide range of organizations to increase public education about the law. The Minnesota Safety Council, MN Department of Health, MN-DOT, and Ramsey County are among many partners working together to develop a statewide initiative to educate the public about the crosswalk law.

While that initiative is being planned, I have been working

with Saint Paul organizations like Transit for Livable Communities, Saint Paul Smart-Trips, District Councils, Ramsey County Public Health, County Commissioners, and City staff to develop a pilot campaign on North Snelling. This pedestrian safety campaign will include public education, public action, and enforcement components and will serve as a model for other areas in the City of Saint Paul and beyond. An enforcement period by the Saint Paul Police Department on North Snelling from October 14-17, 2008, will include education and will also be preceded by education in the Hamline Midway neighborhood.

The most important thing you can do is to keep walking. Keep encouraging motorists to see you and to stop for you. Wear bright colors and be visible. When walking in poor light, wear bright colors or carry a reflector. When you drive, make a point to stop for pedestrians, and always drive the speed limit.

To get involved, or for more information about the pedestrian safety campaign on North Snelling Avenue, please contact my legislative aide, Samantha Henningson at Samantha.henningson@ci.stpaul.mn.us or 651-266-8641.

In a minute

Continued from page 2

Rasmussen also door-knocked in his neighborhood and got more than 20 residents to support the park and ride lot idea. Rasmussen said his neighborhood already deals with people who park, then hop onto one of five bus routes that pass through the

area. Although there is residential permit parking, it isn't always enforced.

"People have major issues with the idea that there will be a light rail station just east of Snelling and University," he said.

Rasmussen said the lot could be built underground, which would still allow the site to be redeveloped. But while some UPDC members said they are more sym-

pathetic with the need for Central Corridor park and ride facilities than they have been in the past, they weren't ready to take the step of endorsing the lot. Others said they would like to see a more specific plan.

- Compiled by Jane McClure

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Local candidates should benefit from high turnout November 4

By JAN WILLMS

The presidential and senate races on November 4 will likely bring a large number of voters to the polls, and the local candidates should benefit from the high voter turnout.

Many of the state issues of interest reflect the concerns that affect the nation, and area candidates paused in their campaigns to voice their opinions.

John Lesch is running for his fourth term as a representative of Minnesota District 66A.

He has worked on issues of public safety protection.

He sought to prevent gang members from congregating in neighborhood hot spots.

"Consumer protection is another issue I have worked on," he said. Lesch tried to get major companies, such as Wal-Mart, pay their fair share of health care. He worked on a bill that would require companies whose employees used Minnesota Care to reimburse the state.

"The legislation was struck down, but we're still working on it," he said.

"With the upcoming session, the budget will be the major issue," he stated.

Lesch expressed concern that the financial institutions of the country have run roughshod for too long. "We need regulations on a state level, as well as a national level," he said.

Lesch also said he is very concerned about voter protection issues.

"I want to make sure this is addressed in the next election," he said. "There are concentrated efforts on the part of some people to disenfranchise certain levels of individuals."

Lesch earned his B.A. from Saint Louis University in 1995 with a double major in Philosophy and Psychology, and a J.D. from Hamline University School of Law in 1998 with a concentration in Government and Regulatory Affairs.

Lesch fancies himself an unpublished poet, an unemployed philosopher, and an unrepentant pragmatist. He serves as an assistant city attorney in St. Paul. He and his daughter, Alice, live in

Saint Paul's North End neighborhood.

Running against Lesch is Gilbert Higuera.

Gilbert Higuera is a Ron Paul Republican, according to his words. He is running against John Lesch in District 66A for the House of Representatives seat.

Higuera said he is fed up with things as they are and has been motivated by the activity of the Paul campaign, and the enthusiasm of his supporters.

He said his district will require someone palatable to both the left and the right.

"I'm running to cut taxes, cut spending and cut regulations," Higuera said.

"Those are my three issues."

He said he is trying to appeal to everybody. "I don't think we have the luxury of having any sacred cows," he stated. "We need to put everything on the table."

He said he would like to take ideas from both sides of the political spectrum.

"I would like to look at where we can save money," he said. "If the economic downturn is as bad

as some are predicting, we need to be responsible and ease up on regulations."

Higuera added that he is one of only eight candidates who has refused campaign subsidy.

"People who don't support you shouldn't have to pay for your campaign," he said.

Higuera, who is single and resides in the Rice and Maryland area, attended the University of Michigan and earned a bachelor's degree in International Studies, with a minor in Psychology.

He has worked for 21 years with Northwest Airlines in customer service.

Alice Hausman is running for her 11th term in District 66B.

She said her primary legislative focus continues to be transportation and infrastructure.

She said higher education, the environment and clean water are all a part of that infrastructure.

"For all of us this year, the two high profile issues are education and health care," Hausman stated.

"Education continues to be the primary source for us to build

a healthy economy," she said. She said there is a need for strong education from early childhood to K-12 and beyond, in order to have a well-trained workforce.

"Health care is looming as a crisis," Hausman cautioned. "We in the state have to be concerned about health care costs." She said those costs represent a burden that could decimate the budget.

"More money isn't the issue," Hausman said. "We spend more than any other industrialized country on our health care. It is how we are spending it."

Hausman expressed concern that this country spends billions trying to decide who pays for health care.

"It's just an interesting way of saying we're going over the edge in terms of a system we have to overhaul," Hausman said.

She said another concern is the importance of connecting the East Metro to public mass transit. "We continue to work with the East Metro so it is not left off the transit map," Hausman said.

Hausman holds a B.S. in education and an M.A. in education from Concordia University. She and her husband, Robert, reside in St. Anthony Park.

Attempting to unseat Hausman is Mark Roosevelt, who won the Republican primary.

He made an unsuccessful run for 4th ward city council member in the late 1990s.

Roosevelt said that after a lot of years in office, he thinks people become stagnant.

"I'm running to bring fresh ideas and fresh leadership to this office," he said.

He said he has a running platform based on the word "plan."

"P is for public safety," he said. "We need to make sure the police and fire departments have the tools and manpower needed."

"L is for leadership," Roosevelt continued. "I want to put the people of Minnesota first. There is so much party bickering, and nothing gets done. I know it won't happen overnight, but I want to reach across the aisle and do what is best for the state."

"A is for access to government. It is too bureaucratic and out of reach," Roosevelt said. "I want to bring government back to the people and would like to hold meetings twice a year in the community."

Finally, the N in Roosevelt's platform stands for neighborhood.

"The strength of the neighborhood drew me to this area," said Roosevelt, who has lived with his wife for the past 11½ years in the Hamline-Midway area. "It's very family-oriented, and I want to continue that trend."

Roosevelt said he does not consider politics as a career, but as a chance to serve the community.

He works as an assistant national account manager for Securian Security Services. He has a BA from Metropolitan State in Human Services and a master's from St. Thomas in Public Safety Leadership.



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*This month we honor,
Livy Yang*



Livy Yang is well-deserving of the honor of being selected as New Spirit School's Star Student of the Month for September. Mr. Yang returned from his summer break ready to once again tackle any and all academic challenges that might face him in the new school year. His intellectual curiosity, calm demeanor, and maturity were apparent from the first day back, and he earns the respect of his peers not just for his grades but for his leadership qualities as well. Livy Yang has long been a top scholar at New Spirit School, so it is fitting that he has been named its Star Student of the Month.

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In Our Community

Sholom Home forum planned October 23

A community forum on the redevelopment of Sholom Home, will be held October 23 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Lyngblomsten Chapel, 1415 Almond Avenue.

The purpose of this forum is to answer Como area residents' questions and gather their ideas on redevelopment of this multi-building facility. St. Paul City Councilmember Russ Stark, will be on hand to answer residents' questions. Representatives of RS Eden and Sholom Home will also be available to take questions.

This forum is sponsored by District 10 Como Community Council. For more information, visit: www.comopark.org

Central Police hold meetings

The St. Paul Police Department's Central Police Team holds monthly community meetings to discuss public safety concerns, crime prevention and other related issues on the second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Rice Street Recreation Center/Washington Middle School, 1021 Marion Street. These provide a great opportunity to learn about how your police department is working for you. The meetings are led by members of the Police Department, and also regularly include guest speakers on topics of interest such as juvenile justice, gangs, graffiti, and community prosecution. We welcome all residents and businesses in the area to attend.

Zion's Costume Party October 31

Zion Lutheran Church, 1697 Lafond Ave. at Aldine St., (651-645-0851) will be hosting their 3rd annual Costume Party on Friday, October 31st (Halloween) from 5 to 7 p.m. We welcome all ages to come in costume for fun and fellowship. There will be games, food and prizes for all. Cost is 1 non-perishable food item for the Keystone Community Food Shelf.

Fall Bazaar and Meatloaf Dinner

Como Park Lutheran Church - 1576 Hoyt (one block west of Hoyt and Hamline Streets, will hold its Annual fall bazaar and Meatloaf dinner - Saturday, November 1, with the Bazaar running 12 noon to 6 p.m.

Meatloaf Dinner (all benefits to support the Block Nurse Program) 4:30 to 7 pm

The bazaar includes a bake sale, crafts: jewelry, knit goods, baby quilts, mosaic vases, canned

Romeo & Juliet



Hamline University opens its 78th season with Shakespeare's ageless story of young passion. "Romeo & Juliet" begins as a long hot summer in Verona enflames an old feud between the Capulet and Montague families. Tickets are \$2 for ACTC students, \$7 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors, and \$4.50 for groups of ten or more. Make advance reservations through Hamline University Theatre Box Office at 651-523-2905 or via e-mail at tickets@hamline.edu. Reservations suggested as seating is limited.

pickles, jams, apple butter, and an International Bazaar section with art and jewelry from Tanzania.

Hamline Midway seniors lunch

"The Hamline Midway Coalition: Get Involved in Your Neighborhood," will be the topic at a luncheon for Hamline Midway seniors on Tuesday, October 14 beginning at 11:30 at 1514 Englewood Avenue. Community Organizer Jun-Li Wang will be the speaker. Call the office of Hamline Midway Elders 651-209-6542 to make reservations for the luncheon and request free transportation. Hamline Midway Elders provides volunteer and professional assistance to enable seniors to remain in their own homes. If you are a senior, caregiver or neighbor and would like information about our services, visit www.blocknurse.org

HM seniors who would like their pet to be seen for a check-up in their home by a supervised U of M vet student, or, anyone willing to adopt the house of a senior to shovel snow, please call the office of Hamline Midway Elders to schedule, 651-209-6542. Shovelers will be matched with someone close to their own home.

Two festivals at Jehovah Lutheran

On Sunday, October 26, members and friends of Jehovah Lutheran Church, corner of Thomas and Snelling in the Midway, will gather at 10:30 a.m. for a Reformation Festival Worship led by Pastor Bob Benke. Special music includes the choirs from Jehovah and Central Lutheran School.

On Saturday, November 1, Jehovah hosts, Festival of Friends, a free family fun time from 4- 7

p.m. in the church fellowship hall featuring games, a light meal and supervised pumpkin carving for children 6-12 years of age. Also, Foosball, ping pong and darts will be available in the youth room to kids over 12 years of age. The pumpkins will be carved with Christian designs and then lit with candles and used in the celebration of All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 2 at the morning worship. All Saints' day, November 1, is dedicated to the remembrance of those who have died whom we hold dear in our memories. The community is invited to all these events. Call Dawn at 651-644-1421 or check the website at www.jehovahlutheran.org.

St. Stephanus holds Sauerkraut Supper

The St. Stephanus Lutheran Church Men's Club will be hosting their annual Sauerkraut Supper on Saturday, November 8, 2008 from 5-7 pm at: St. Stephanus Lutheran Church, 739 Grotto (corner of Lafond and Grotto) in St. Paul. Dinner consists of pork loin, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, green beans, beverage, and pumpkin desert: Prices: Adults: \$9.00; Children \$5.00, Children under 5 Free: Adult Household: \$22.00. Tickets available at the door.

Craft and Collectable Fair October 25

Bethlehem Lutheran's 5th Annual Craft & Collectable Fair, including Bake Sale, Holiday Baking & Eating Nuts, Lunch & Raffle (with drawing at 3:30 p.m.- need not be present to win) will be Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 436 North Roy Street, 1 blk South of University and Snelling.

'Evening in Munich' at St. Agnes Church

Reservations are being taken now for an "Evening in Munich," part of the annual Fall Festival at the Church of St. Agnes, 548 Lafond Ave.

The adults-only event is from 6 to 9:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 18, and features a German-style pork loin dinner by TST Creative Catering, microbrew beers and beer lore from Flat Earth Brewing Co. and accordion music by Dan Turpening. The cost is \$35 per person.

Raffle tickets will be on sale during the "Evening in Munich" for a vacation for two in Germany and other prizes. For more information and reservations, call Gerrie weekdays at 651-228-1988 or go to www.stagnes.net.

The parish will serve its famous booya dinner from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 19, in St. Agnes' Gruden Hall cafeteria. Tickets are \$5 for booya, bread and a beverage; takeout booya will be on sale, also. Activities in Bandas Hall include games and entertainment for children, teens and adults; raffles; and sales of beer, caramel apples, home-baked goodies, and crafts.

Hoover at Library Oct. 23

Joe Hoover and "Placeography" will be part of the Hamline Midway History Corps Speaker Series on Thursday, October 23, 7 p.m. at the Hamline Midway Branch Library Auditorium 1538 West Minnehaha Avenue.

Joe Hoover, a web designer for the Minnesota Historical Society, will introduce us to and demonstrate how to use Placeography - a new website developed by MHS. Placeography (www.placeography.org) is designed as a wiki so that any web user can contribute historic information, photos, or stories about a house, building, or neighborhood. The Hamline Midway History Corps is excited to host this presentation to broaden our options for sharing neighborhood and historical information.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information about the Hamline Midway History Corps please visit our website at www.HamlineMidwayHistory.org

'Get involved' discussed at seniors lunch

"The Hamline Midway Coalition: Get Involved in Your Neighborhood," will be the topic at a luncheon for Hamline Midway seniors on Tuesday, October 14 beginning at 11:30 at 1514 Englewood Avenue. Community Organizer Jun-Li Wang will be the speaker. Call the office of Hamline Midway Elders 651-209-6542 to make reservations for the luncheon and request free transportation.

Hamline Midway Elders provides volunteer and professional assistance to enable seniors to remain in their own homes. If you are a senior, caregiver or neighbor and would like information about our services, visit www.blocknurse.org

HM seniors who would like their pet to be seen for a check-up in their home by a supervised U of M vet student, or, anyone willing to adopt the house of a senior to shovel snow, please call the office of Hamline Midway Elders to schedule 651-209-6542. Shovelers will be matched with someone close to their own home.

Book Fair, Rummage Sale October 18

Knox Presbyterian Church, 1536 W. Minnehaha Ave., will hold its annual Book Fair and Rummage Sale on Saturday, October 18th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. A Sloppy Joe lunch will be sold from 11-2. Books, baked goods, holiday items, household items. Proceeds of the sale support local and national missions. To donate books call the church office at 651-645-6488 between 9:00 a.m. and noon.

Sr. Hi-Rise Annual Bazaar

The senior hi-rise at 777 Hamline, will be hosting its annual bazaar Nov. 8 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. It will feature a silent auction of porcelain dolls, a nativity, patriotic afghan and a complete set of eight in the royal blue star pattern. Also featured will be crafts, jewelry, Christmas, bake sale and raffle. There will be lunch available.

Free Yoga for Beginners

Free yoga for beginners will be offered at Hamline Midway Library in Saint Paul on Tuesdays in October from noon until 1 p.m.

Chris Gordon from Big River BodyWorks will lead these classes of gentle yoga geared for all ages beginning Tuesday, October 7. Gordon asks that all participants wear comfortable clothing and bring their own mat, if they have one. Anyone interested in attending should call 651-642-0293, but walk-ins are welcome as space allows.

Saint Paul Public Library offers more than 14,000 health-related books, DVDs, downloadable audio books, CDs and the Health and Wellness Resource Center online to inspire patrons to learn more about health and well-being. Yoga for Beginners is a part of the Health and Wellness Program Series. For more information, visit www.sppl.org or call 651-266-7000.

Hamline Midway Library is located at 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave., Saint Paul. 651-642-0293.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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Registration for basketball begins Oct. 13-17

Registration for October activities is beginning. Most activities and special events have a limited space and are filled on a first-come, first serve basis. Registration options include on-site, through the mail by check or online at www.stpaul.gov/parks.

Upcoming activities at Hancock Recreation Center include: Rec Check, a free after school program for youth in grades 1-6 takes place at Hancock Recreation Center every Mon., Wed., and Fri., from 3-6pm on all public school days except early release. No School Day Programming for Oct. 16 & 17 for youth in grades K-6 will take place from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pre-register at Hancock Recreation Center during

normal building hours. Hancock Recreation Center will host their first Family Disco on Sat., Nov. 8 from 5-7 p.m. Families with ages 10 & under will enjoy disco dancing to their favorite beats and karaoke. The cost is \$10/family and concessions will be sold.

Griggs Recreation Center's annual Halloween Party is Fri., Oct. 24 between the hours of 6-7:30 p.m. for youth 10 & under. The party will include pumpkin guess, haystack scramble, bean bag toss, candy guess, coloring, craft, snack and bonfire. Griggs will also continue Craft Time on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and Top Chef on Thursdays at 6 p.m. The cost for these classes are \$1./each time.

The Southwest Area Halloween Party is Sat., Oct. 25 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Edgcombe Recreation Center for youth of all ages. Activities include: carnival games, craft project, moon walk and a meal deal for \$3/person.

Langford Recreation Center will hold their annual Halloween Party on Tues., Oct. 28 between 4:30-6 p.m. for ages 12 & under. Carnival games, refreshments and cookies will be offered.

The Southwest Area Teen Connection will take place on Fri., Nov. 7 at Merriam Park Recreation Center from 6-8 p.m. for ages 12-16.

For more information about Saint Paul Parks & Recreation visit www.stpaul.gov/parks

RS Eden

Continued from page 4

"The need for affordable housing is well-established," said Cain. "We build housing for people who are willing to meet our expectation of responsible behavior. We're interested in giving people a hand up. People can move on and become self-sufficient without supportive services."

Cain says success is measured differently at all their program sites.

"With housing, the main goal is to keep people housed," he said. "We want to be good tenants and contribute to the community. In 1997, when the Alliance Apartments were built (in Minneapolis), crime went down 31 percent in a two-block area in the 12 months before it

opened and the 12 months after it opened. Nowhere have property values gone down."

While RS Eden isn't necessarily looking to have a housing unit in the Como Park area, they would like to have housing with supportive services in Ramsey County, where none exists.

"Empty nursing homes tend to be a tremendous problem for neighborhoods," said Cain. "There's very little they can be developed into. There's a moratorium on any new nursing home beds. If a building is vacant, they can draw an unsavory element."

Cain says not everyone who lives in their housing is in recovery.

"Everybody as part of the lease agrees to live sober," he said. "In Alliance Apartments, 10-15 percent has never had a problem with substances. They

want affordable housing. People have to come with a referral agency that knows them. They have to document 60 days of sobriety."

Cain says it's important to have housing like RS Eden because Ramsey County doesn't have any right now.

"Permanent supportive housing is lacking in Ramsey County," he said. "On site are managers who make sure people satisfy their lease requirements and work toward being self-sufficient."

"We hope to develop a type of housing needed in Ramsey County—if not at this site, then another site." Cain said. "That's why we go to the neighborhood first. We don't want to spend a lot of money to find it's not going to work. If that's the case, then we want to find out as soon as possible and find something else."

In Our Community

Continued from page 11

Memorial concert coming October 12

Ring in the fall with the Husby Memorial Concert featuring Bells of the Lakes. This internationally famous group performs with handbells and will give a full concert at the Lyngblomsten Newman-Benson Chapel, 1415 Almond Ave., St. Paul, on Sunday, October 12 at 3 p.m. The concert is FREE and open to the public. Questions? Call 651-646-2941 or visit www.lyngblomsten.org

Rice Street Library offers activities

The Rice Street Branch Library has many activities planned for October and early-November. Please stop in and join us!

The library will offer family story times on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10:30-11 a.m. Join Rice Street's storytelling experts for stories, finger plays, rhymes, and songs. All ages welcome.

A Bilingual Spanish-English story time will be offered on Friday, Oct 31 from 10:30-11 a.m.

Saturday Movie Matinees to be shown in October are: Beetlejuice, Oct. 11; Addams

Family, Oct. 18; and, Addams Family Values, Oct. 25. All movies begin at 2 and treats will be provided courtesy of the Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library.

Teens in Action will meet on Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00. Get involved, get connected! Campfire Teens In Action hosts activities that help you make your community better. Ages 12 & up.

Teen Time will be offered Wednesdays from 3:30-5 p.m. Join us for a rotating roster of activities each Wednesday! Book clubs, board games, video games, & crafts are just a few of the activities teens can do.

The first meeting of the Teen Book Club will be Wednesday, Nov. 5 from 3:30-5 p.m. We will be discussing Twilight by Stephanie Meyer.

The Runescape Club will meet on Thursdays from 3:30-5 p.m. Each week it's nothin' but Runescape. Bring your friends! Register at Rice Street's Reference desk.

Free Job Search Assistance will be offered by a consultant from Goodwill-Easter Seals on Friday, October 17 & 31 from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

The North End Book Club will discuss Garden Spells by Sarah Addison Allen from 12:30-2:30 on Monday, October 27. For more information or to register, please call Sandy at 651-293-8811. This group is offered in partnership with North End Community Education.

The library will offer a Senior Social Hour on Thursdays from 1:00-2:30 p.m. beginning November 6. Join your friends and neighbors for a rotating variety of diversions, including cards, board games, activities, and lectures.

Rice Street Library will host a Greatest Generation film program on Friday, Nov. 7 at 10:30 a.m. This program, sponsored by MELSA and the Minnesota Historical Society, highlights the Greatest Generation in films produced by local artists. This year's theme is the 1950s.

Computer classes continue on Tuesday and Friday mornings. For more information or to register, please call Sandy at 651-293-8811. Classes are offered in partnership with North End Community Education.

The STARS Homework Help Center is a quiet place for students of all ages to work on schoolwork. If you need help with homework or would like to be a Homework Helper, please visit STARS Monday through Thursday from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

The Read with Me literacy program is beginning again! If you know of a child in 1st, 2nd or 3rd grade who needs help with reading or writing, or if you would like to tutor a child in the Read with Me program, please visit any branch of the Saint Paul Public Library to complete an application or call 651-266-7437 for more information.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

Taco Bell to be torn down for replacement building

By JANE MCCLURE

Another of Rice Street's fast-food establishments will be biting the dust soon, to make way for its replacement. Taco Bell, 1672 Rice St., and a one-story multi-tenant building at 1664 Rice St., will be torn down to make way for a new, larger Taco Bell. The St. Paul Planning Commission unanimously approved a conditional use permit for the project September 19. The commission decision is final as no appeal was filed with the City Council within a 10-day period.

Taco Bell will be the second Rice Street restaurant to be torn down and replaced. A new McDonald's is under construction just a few blocks to the south.

Jim Erickson of Border Foods, which owns the Rice Street Taco Bell, said the company is in the midst of replacing its four St. Paul locations. A Taco Bell was rebuilt several months ago in the SunRay area, and a new Sonic restaurant added be-

side it. The Rice Street project, which doesn't include Sonic, is the second Taco Bell replacement. Other Taco Bells that the company hopes to eventually replace are on North Snelling Avenue in Hamline-Midway neighborhood and on West Seventh Street.

The restaurant will operate for 24 hours. It will have egress points on Larpenteur and on Rice. The building will have its parking lot closest to Rice Street. The lot includes about 28 spaces. The building will be closest to the eastern property line, with the drive-through lane to the east of the structure.

A new fast-food restaurant in St. Paul requires a conditional use permit. This is used to place conditions on the development, related to the drive-through window. The Planning Commission granted the permit and modified the drive-through placement standards, allowing the new drive-through window to be less

than 60 feet from residential properties to the east.

Modification is to the placement of the drive-through window itself. The zoning line where the 60 feet is measured is in the middle of Camelot Street, the north-south street just east of Rice Street in that part of the North End. If the entire street right-of-way is measured the window is more than 60 feet from homes. The site plan shows a solid fence on the Camelot side, as well as landscaping, which should muffle noise. Taco Bell also supplied the Planning Commission with information on its drive-through talk boxes and speakers, which are designed to keep noise down.

City Planner Sarah Zorn explained that drive-through windows are supposed to be located at the side or rear of buildings. The new development's placement on three public streets makes placement of the drive-through difficult.

The restaurant will be 2,263 square feet, in a rectangular shape. Plans show outdoor dining space as well as use of many

trees, shrubs and pavers to beautify the site.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

'Sohrab and Rustum' at Dreamland Arts



'Sohrab and Rustum' will be performed at Dreamland Arts, 677 Hamline Avenue North, October 10-11 and 17-18, Fri.-Sat. at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20. The story of the warrior Rustum and his son Sohrab is a beloved tale from the Iranian national epic, Ferdowsi's Shahnameh. Zaraqwar Mistry's solo work intertwines the ancient legend with a contemporary tragi-comic story of a modern day Zoroastrian family from Bombay. Playing a dozen different characters, and using a handful of objects to evoke multiple settings, Mistry performs a riveting drama of family, war and migration, set to music performed live by Persian music virtuosos Tim O'Keefe and Maryam Yusefzadeh. For more information or for tickets call 651-645-5506.

Discover How to Avoid the 6 Biggest Mistakes Homebuyers Make

A new report has just been released which identifies the 6 most common and **costly mistakes** that homebuyers make when buying a home.

Mortgage regulations have changed significantly over the last few years, making your options wider than ever. Subtle changes in the way you approach mortgage shopping, and even small differences in the way you structure your mortgage, can cost or save you literally thousands of dollars and years of expense.

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first home, or are planning to make a move to your next home, it is critical that you inform yourself about the factors involved.

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Saturday 4 pm - 10 pm
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Ward 5 City Councilmember Lee Helgen, on behalf of the City of Saint Paul, the District 6 Planning Council and Sparc would like to thank Linder's Greenhouses and Garden Center for providing the flowers along Rice Street. We would also like to thank Mark Granlund, St. Paul's Arts and Gardens Coordinator, and all the city staff who maintained the baskets. The program could not have happened without the generous participation of the following businesses and individuals:



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In Our Community

Continued from page 12

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

will be closed Monday October 13 for Staff Training Day.

For more information about these events, contact the Rice Street Branch Library at 651-558-2223.

Oktoberfest on Rice St.

Come and experience German culture on Saturday, October 11 at the 8th annual Saint Paul Oktoberfest. The family-oriented

festivities are from noon until 11 p.m. on Rice Street between Rose and Geranium Avenues on the north end of Saint Paul. For more detailed information, please check the website at www.saintpauloktoberfest.org.

Admission to the event is free. Three well known German bands—Alpensterne, Bavarian Musikmeisters and the Joey Johnson Band—will perform at various times throughout the event in addition to other enter-

tainment. Patrons to Oktoberfest will enjoy authentic German foods and drinks, Bed Races, Dachshund Races, Renewal of Wedding Vows, and activities for children and teens.

New events include:

Dachshund Races – a popular event common at Oktoberfests around the world. The races will be held at 4 p.m. on the grassy lot near the corner of Rose Avenue and Albemarle

Street. Advance registration of your dachshund is required, so please contact Tyrone Schenk at 612-275-7260.

Teen Activities – Guitar Hero and Dance Dance Revolution will be available in the Saint Bernard's Bowling lanes during the event.

Saint Bernard's Bowling Lanes – The Lanes will be available to all patrons of the Oktoberfest for \$1.50 per game including shoe rental.

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. Want ads must be in the Monitor before November 3 for the November 13 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

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'04 Navy Blue Ford Escape Limited \$10,499 or best offer. 60,000 miles, heated seats, auto start. Great Condition! Call Becky- 612-232-7497. 10-08

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CRAFT SALE

North Dale Recreation Center's Annual Craft Sale, October 18th, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., 1414 N. St. Albans St., (Dale and Arlington). Stock up on a variety of locally hand-made goods. Purses, decorations, baby gifts, bath products, jewelry, housewares, knit goods, and more! 10-08

EMPLOYMENT

Como Zoo seeks volunteers for ZooBoo. Training begins soon. Visit Comozooconservatory.org/vol or call 651-487-8252. 10-08

Help children learn to read. Wanted: caring adults (50+ yrs) to tutor K-3 students in St Paul 4-15 hrs/wk Sep-June. Training provided. Small stipend available for those who qualify. Call now for fall placement. 612-617-7807. 10-08

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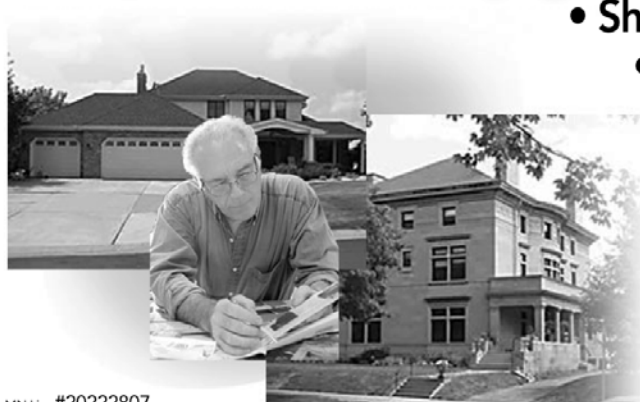
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Taco Bell

Continued from page 13

District 6 (North End-South Como) Planning Council has recommended that the conditional use permit be approved. The district council and city officials did ask for a restaurant design that is as pedestrian-friendly as possible, which city staff concedes is a challenge for a business that will have many of its customers use a drive-through lane. Taco Bell has also agreed to include a bicycle rack as part of its plans, to help address this issue.

Issues the Planning Commission discussed with Erickson include the adequacy of space for food deliveries and the space for turning movements. No one appeared at the commission's public hearing to speak against the plans.

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Sliding housing market impacts Ramsey County, School District

By JANE MCCLURE

Neighborhood by neighborhood, the impacts of a sliding housing market and a mortgage foreclosure crisis are being felt in different ways. As St. Paul Ramsey County and St. Paul Public Schools officials review proposed 2009 proposed levies and budgets, they do so with an eye on what is happening to property values. The shifts currently being seen indicate that as more of the tax burden moves away from homes, it will fall on commercial and industrial properties.

In the meantime median taxable home values have been falling in most of the city, at a rate of as much as 11.4 percent in one area neighborhood.

Ramsey County Property Records and Revenue have been providing elected officials with detailed property information over the past several weeks, as 2009 maximum levies are set. Chris Samuel, manager of county property records and revenue, is tracking the trends. He noted that commercial and industrial properties will be shouldering more of the property tax burden in 2009.

If types of St. Paul properties are considered, commercial properties in St. Paul will on average see a 6 percent increase in taxable market value from 2008 to 2009. For industry, utility and railroad property, the increase will be 3.4 percent. Apartments will increase 2.5 percent. But residential properties will fall 3.2.

In their discussions of the impacts on commercial and residential properties, City Council mem-

bers have expressed concern that struggling businesses not have to take on an even higher property tax burden. City Council President Kathy Lantry said that she isn't sure how much more burden some small businesses can take on.

"Some of these small businesses are hanging on by a thread," she said.

What's challenging about tracking citywide or even neighborhood by neighborhood property tax increases for commercial and industrial properties is the wide variation in property values, even in a single neighborhood. For comparison purposes county officials typically track commercial properties including a Rice Street Dairy Queen, the St. Patrick's Guild store at Snelling and Randolph, and the downtown Macy's department store. Neighborhood by neighborhood comparisons aren't done for businesses as they are for homes.

Macy's would see its property taxes go up \$7,713 from 2008 to 2009, or 2.1 percent on a bill that increases from \$363,391 in 2008 to an estimated \$371,104 in 2009. St. Patrick's Guild would have an increase of 13.3 percent or \$1,524, from \$11,430 in 2008 to an estimated \$12,954 in 2009.

The Rice Street Dairy Queen would have a 2.1 percent of \$87 property tax increase, from \$4,130 in 2008 to an estimated \$4,217 in 2009.

More detailed information by neighborhood and citywide average is prepared for homes. In St. Paul, the median taxable value

single family home has a value of \$183,000. The median-valued home in St. Paul is at \$183,000. That figure is assuming a 4.6 percent decrease in the home's taxable market value. The taxes payable on this home for 2008 were \$2,023. That amount is expected to stay about the same for 2009. County officials had initially calculated a decline of \$33 but that was before factoring the school district's levy increase. Now it's assumed that the taxes on that typical home will remain unchanged.

Still, some elected officials caution that not every homeowner will see a property tax decrease. What is assessed is also affected by home sales in an area, and whether or not improvements have been made to a property. Ward three Council Member Pat Harris, whose ward has seen some of the great property tax increases in recent years, cautions that not everyone can count on the trends of flat or declining residential property values being seen in every neighborhood.

The median taxable market values of single-family residential property in St. Paul vary widely when the city's 17 planning districts are considered. County officials have compared the median taxable home market values from 2008 to 2009.

The largest drop in values from 2008 to 2009 is seen in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood, where values have dropped 12.9 percent. The decrease is from \$156,000 for 2008 taxation purposes to \$136,200 for 2009.



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Monday, October 6

Yusuf Mohamed Ismail, Somali Ambassador to the UN

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Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Sundin Music Hall

Cost: Free and open to the public

Seeing Ourselves through the Eyes of Others: The 2008 World Press Institute Forum

What do people from other countries think about the United States? And Americans? Journalists from around the country share their observations and impressions. Featuring panel moderator Denise Johnson, editorial write from the *Star Tribune*. Presented by Hamline's Certificate in International Journalism.

Time: 7-8:30 p.m.

Location: Klas Center,

Kay Fredericks Room

Cost: Free and open to the public



Tuesday, October 7

Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel

"Hayden & Mozart: Humor and Heartache"

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Sundin Music Hall

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Sunday, October 12

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in F minor, No. 11, Op. 122, and Sibelius Quartet in D minor, Op. 56, "Intimate Voices."

Time: 4 p.m.

Location: Sundin Music Hall

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Sunday, October 16

Hamline Dialogues Series: "Educating the Global Citizen: Beyond Marketplace Hegemony, Toward Human Rights"

Listen as panelists discuss what it means to educate the global citizen. Panelists include Paul Gorski, George Mason University; Frank Hernandez, Hamline University; and Kristi Rudelius-Palmer, Human Rights Center of the University of Minnesota. The 2008-2009 Hamline Dialogues Series is presented by Hamline

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Time: Registration and reception

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