

monitor

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



Hamline Midway artists work on turning lemons into lemonade

Snelling Avenue's Mosaic on a Stick plans move to Hamline Park Playground building...

By JAN WILLMS

Surviving as an artist is not easy in the best of times.

For artists and creative businesses along or near University Avenue, the economic downturn as well as the onset of light rail transit is making the survival even more difficult.

But for Lori Greene, the owner of Mosaic on a Stick at 595 Snelling, the trick is to learn how to turn lemons into lemonade. In spite of traffic congestion that has affected her sales, she is reinventing her business and planning to make a move in October to a bigger building just across the street from her present location.

She plans to move her business of eight years into the Hamline Park Playground building. Greene said the move has no connection to construction traffic, but is based upon her need for more space.

"I need a place for people to work, and where they feel like they are invited," Greene said.

She said that individuals often come in off the street and work on a mosaic project. "Another reason we're popular is that we are a neighborhood recycling center," Greene said. "People bring stuff in almost daily, and they are really happy to have a place to drop things off."

She is not denying that the work around the light rail is slowing business down.

"I have had people tell me they are not coming because they can't deal with the traffic," said Greene.

"I live in the neighborhood," she said, "and I don't drive down Snelling."

However, Greene is adding a nonprofit, Urban Mosaic, to her business and said the move is necessary to accommodate the things she will be doing.

"More than anything, my store is a community space, and that part is not dying down," she claimed. And with the nonprofit aspect, she will be collaborating with teens and teaching them how to plan and make a living working with art.

Concerns not only with the congestion of construction but with the possible uptick in costs for studios and rentals along the Central Corridor are worrying



Lori Greene, the owner of Mosaic on a Stick at 595 Snelling Avenue, is reinventing her business and planning to make a move in October to a bigger building just across the street from her present location. (Photo by Jan Willms)

business people and artists alike.

"I don't think the rates will go up right away, we first have to see some growth," Greene explained. But she said higher costs for studios and living spaces are always a concern for people

working in the arts.

"Artists move into a neighborhood and make it nice, then get forced out. People want to move in. If it wasn't for the Legacy Amendment, (which funds an array of arts programs), we would

not be doing well at all," Greene said. She said Minnesota has a lot more for the arts than other states, but when the economy is bad, the arts are the first to go.

"I don't think the arts get a lot of respect," Greene continued. "But our neighborhood is especially arts-friendly, and I hope we get more artists here."

She said that in spite of the construction problems, she is very involved in a lot of projects. This summer she is working on a mosaic mural with teens as a community project through a participatory arts program called COMPAS. The work on the mural is being done at Mosaic on a Stick, and when finished it will be put on a wall at Canvas, a teen art center located within the Hancock Rec Center at 1610 Hubbard Ave.

"I'm doing a mosaic at Café 180 at University and Dale," Greene added. The restaurant, set to open this fall, is training homeless people to operate the business.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

New Como Pool opening makes a splash



The new Como Pool made a big splash in its opening weekend celebration June 9 as crowds jammed the new facility to cool off over an unusually warm weekend. The new \$9 million facility features a 400-foot Lazy River with single rider and double rider tubes, an Aquatic Zip Line, and a Diving Well featuring a 1-meter diving board, two diving platforms, and an Aquatic Rock Climbing Wall. (Photos by Stefanie Berres)

What's INSIDE

News.....3



Projects share light rail funding

News.....5



Plans evolve for Rice & Maryland

News.....6



St. Paul Saints may be moving

News.....7



Community sets Walgreens standards

monitor

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

Publishers:
Calvin deRuyter, Tim Nelson

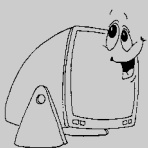
Managing Editor:
Denis Woulfe

Advertising:
Denis Woulfe
Colette Mullenmaster 651-494-8047

Photographers:
Stefanie Berres

Production/Illustrations:
Bob Wasiluk

Contributing Writers:
Eric Nathanson, Deborah Brotz,
Jane McClure, Jan Willms,



Now, communicate with the Monitor electronically!

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

And check us out on the web at: www.MonitorSaintPaul.com

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

All rights reserved. The contents of the Monitor cannot be reproduced without express written permission of the publisher. Copyright ©2012.

CHURCH OF ST. ANTHONY

Rev. Ron Johnson
"A 21st Century Church"
Sunday Mass at 1:15 p.m.
Co-located in:
Hamline United Methodist Church
1514 Englewood Avenue
651-895-3537
Email: ronski67@q.com
"An Old Catholic Community"

Disability Specialist, Inc.

Representing
Social Security
Disability Claimants

A Leader in the Field
With More Than 15,000 Successful Claims

Our expert representatives will:
• Explain the process
• Discuss the merits of your claim
• File the needed paperwork and appeals
• Gather evidence
• Contact physicians
• Appear with you in court
• Provide any other necessary services

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

Call for free case consultation
1.800.642.6393

disabil@cpinternet.com www.disabilityspecialist.net



Monitor in a Minute

Planning Commission allows refugees at St. Bernard's Church

St. Bernard's Catholic Church will be allowed to house refugees in its rectory, as the result of a vote June 1 by the St. Paul Planning Commission. The commission approved a conditional use permit to allow as many as 26 adults and children to live in the rectory, which has been vacant for several years.

The decision is final unless it is appealed to the St. Paul City Council.

The District 6 (North End-South Como) Land Use Task Force recommended approval, although the group did have some concerns about the number of people living at the property. They asked that the housing be for refugees only, a condition city officials agreed with.

The rectory was built in

1939 and in the past housed several priests. It has 5,600 square feet of space on two stories, with several one and two-bedroom suites and 3.5 baths. For the past few years, the remaining priest has lived elsewhere and refugees have lived in the rectory. Four families are living there now.

It wasn't until city officials recently inspected the property that the need for a conditional use permit was pointed out.

Tom Flood is the parish's refugee coordinator. The rectory residents get help with language skills, school enrollment, job placement and housing, and live in the church building for as long as 18 months before moving on. Flood said most want to find permanent homes and stay in the North End.

"These people are helping to revitalize St. Bernard's," he said. It makes more sense for such a large rectory to be used to house families, instead of just one person.

Council eases parking requirements

This summer more St. Paul restaurants will be able to seek wine, beer and liquor licenses without having to add off-street parking. On a 5-1 May 23 vote the St. Paul City Council eased its parking requirements for restaurants and bars.

Other business owners, community groups and City Council members continue to debate the ordinance change's impact. Ward Two Council Member Dave Thune, who cast the lone vote against, said the changes are "a solution in search of a problem." He said restaurants wanting to add alcohol could apply for parking variances if there is a lack of on-street parking available.

But Ward Four Council Member Russ Stark, who sponsored the ordinance, said it provides a compromise. He hears from restaurant owners wanting to add wine and beer, who cannot meet the current parking re-

quirements. Stark said the approach taken provides flexibility for businesses while also protecting neighborhoods from noise and behavior issues.

The restaurant and bar parking changes were originally proposed in 2010 as part of a city-wide package of off-street parking changes, but were laid over for more study at the council's request. In June 2011 the Planning Commission asked that the changes be considered again.

Most community groups support the changes, with Union Park District Council, Highland District Council's Community Development Committee, Hamline Midway Coalition, Grand Avenue Business Association, St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce, Midway Chamber of Commerce and the nonprofit community development group Sparc supporting the changes. Summit Hill Association (SHA), a few restaurant and bar owners and several Grand Avenue area residents oppose the changes.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

MONITOR

COUPON CUT-OUTS

Sandy's Professional Dog & Cat Grooming
"No Extra Charge for Love"
Grooming & boarding all breeds of dogs & cats
651-644-6475
360 Clifton St.
(Jefferson & Victoria)
M-Sat 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
mysandysdoggrooming.com

INTRODUCTORY OFFER
\$5 OFF Towards Grooming Service, Boarding or Nail Clipping
(Coupon good thru 7/31/12)

Coupon

Don't Forget
Grads and Dads
30% OFF
Regularly Priced
Gift Item
(Coupon expires June 30, 2012)

Father's Day is Sunday June 17. Check out our gift department... Candles, albums, picture frames, party ware, and much, much more.

Collectibles not included, coupon expires June 30th, 2012. Not good with any other coupons or special offers, one coupon per customer.

Family Owned & Operated for Over 50 Years

Setzer
PHARMACY
GIFT-CENTER

1685 RICE ST.
www.setzerrx.com
651-488-0251

Open 7 days a week: Hours: M-F 8am - 9pm
Sat: 9am - 7pm • Sun: 9am - 5pm

Metro Automotive
675 North Snelling Ave.
651-644-5208

Air Conditioning Special
\$59.95 (plus freon)
(Coupon good thru July 12, 2012)
Includes:
• Charge system to specs • System performance test
• Leak test components • Inspect belts/hoses

MASTEL'S HEALTH FOODS
Check out our Facebook page! [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/mastels)

Monitor readers: Welcome to Mastel's!
10% OFF Your Complete Purchase
with this coupon thru June 30, 2012
Not valid with any other offers or juicer purchases.

651-690-1692
1526 St. Clair Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105
(2 blocks East of Snelling)
M-F 9am - 8pm • Sat. 9am - 6pm
Sun. Noon - 5pm
Experience Years of Health!
www.mastels.com

GET ACQUAINTED OFFER!
Be sure your car is in good health!
Only **\$29.95**
A Regular \$109 Value

Present this card and receive a complete vehicle condition inspection for only \$29.95 including:

- Oil & filter change
- Tire rotation
- Check antifreeze & all fluids
- Check brake pads & shoes
- Check AC/heating system
- Inspect all belts & hoses
- 23 point vehicle inspection
- Test battery & charging system

Consultation on any problem with your vehicle. Includes up to 5 quarts of oil. More oil, synthetic oil, or exotic oil filters additional.

Minnesota REPAIR
Complete Auto Service
70 W Hyacinth Ave.
Saint Paul, MN 55117

651-487-3358
Shop Hours:
M-F 8:30 - 5:00
By I-35E & Maryland Ave.
3 blocks N of Maryland Ave.
1-1/2 blks East of Rice St.
This Is Where I Take My Car

Projects along the Central Corridor light rail line share \$15.4 million in funding

By JANE MCCLURE

Projects along the Central Corridor light rail line are among those that shared \$15.4 million in Metropolitan Council grant funding this spring. Seventeen grants were awarded, for projects in St. Paul, Minneapolis, Anoka, Apple Valley, Eden Prairie, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Richfield and St. Louis Park. The funds are for projects along transit lines. Grants range from \$2.7 million to \$40,000.

The projects were chosen from 28 applicants. Projects chosen are along current and future transit corridors, including North star commuter rail line, Hiawatha light rail transit (LRT), proposed Southwest Corridor LRT, and bus rapid transit corridors eyed for West Seventh Street, Cedar Avenue and Interstate 35W. The grants are a new Metropolitan Council Transit Oriented Development (TOD) fund program.

"Investing in development and job growth along corridors is a council priority as we work toward our goal of a 21st Century transit system," said Metropolitan Council Chair Susan Haigh. "As we continue to build out the region's transit system, we need to ensure that transit and development investments go hand-in-hand. That will help to not only ensure the success of transit investments, but also to improve



Projects along the Central Corridor light rail line are among those that shared \$15.4 million in Metropolitan Council grant funding this spring. Seventeen grants were awarded, for projects in St. Paul, Minneapolis, Anoka, Apple Valley, Eden Prairie, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Richfield and St. Louis Park. (Photo by Colette Mullenmaster)

connections between home, work and school so people can get where they need to go."

Metropolitan Council indicated that the \$15.4 million will help create about 1,000 construction jobs and another 1,000 full- and part-time jobs, 1,246 housing units, and leverage nearly \$272 million more in other public and private investment. The investment could also increase the market value of properties by nearly \$400 million.

The St. Paul projects include

locations in the Iris Park, Hamline-Midway and Frogtown neighborhoods. One of the most high-profile projects would be at Episcopal Homes, 1890 University Av., which received \$2 million from Metropolitan Council. The property is the site of the former Porky's restaurant and is near the planned Fairview LRT station. The 1.2 acre site is now eyed for a \$32 million complex with 170 units of senior housing. This would be broken down into memory care, assisted and inde-

pendent living, with a number of units set aside for low-income residents. The project would also include about 90 below-grade parking spots as well as a small 1,300 square foot coffee shop space on the main floor.

Another project that received a grant is at the site of Midway Chevrolet, at the northeast corner of Hamline and University. Project for Pride in Living would use a \$2.5 million grant to help build two four-story buildings next to the Hamline Avenue tran-

sit station. These buildings would contain 13,000 square feet of commercial space and 108 units of rental housing offered to families earning 60 percent of the area median income. It would also include underground parking and a small pocket park. The project has an estimated cost of \$24 million. The council funds would be used toward site cleanup.

A third project, in Frogtown, is at the Central Exchange site at 771-778 University Av. The project received \$979,100 to demolish two old commercial and residential buildings and replace them with 8,500 square feet of commercial space on the ground floor, 30 units of mixed-income housing and underground parking. The developer is Model Cities Community Development Corporation. The total project has a cost of more than \$2 million.

The lone Central Corridor project funded in Minneapolis is in Prospect Park, where \$2.7 million was awarded to the City of Minneapolis and Cornerstone Group. A former sheet metal fabrication plant will be purchased, torn down and redeveloped for mixed-use, near the Prospect Park/29th Avenue LRT station. This project would include 250 units of rental housing. The grant would be used to gain site control and clean up the property.

Como Evening Prayer

a candlelight
contemplative service
sundays at 7pm

Como Park Lutheran | 1376 Hoyt Avenue West | Saint Paul
651-646-7127 | ComoEveningPrayer.org



"Like" us on Facebook
and you could win
FREE SAINTS TICKETS!
www.facebook.com/monitorsaintpaul

Looking for Lending Options?

We should talk.

As an urban community bank, we have developed unique lending solutions with local and national partners to help businesses of all sizes.

Contact us today and discover what it means to keep your money working locally.

LEARN MORE: parkmidwaybank.com



Park Midway Bank
A Sunrise Community Bank



Member FDIC ©2012 Sunrise Community Banks

Now-August 31
Summer Reading Program
Read for **Prizes** | **100+** | free activities
www.sppl.org/summer
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC LIBRARY
651-266-7000 | www.sppl.org
The 2012 Summer Reading Program is made possible through the generous support of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library, and sponsors: Saint Paul Pioneer Press, MinnMoms.com, Minnesota Vikings, MELSA, Josten's Foundation, Lillian Wright and C. Emil Berglund Foundation, Kowalski's Market Grand Avenue, Culvers of St. Paul, Pearson Candy Company, Steppingstone Theatre for Youth Development, Red Balloon Bookstore, St. Anthony Park Library Association, St. Paul Linoleum and Carpet Company.

In 1974, the Federal Government changed the Urban Policy method of addressing municipal and neighborhood concerns by instituting the Housing and Communities Development Act of 1974; which allocated block grant funds to local municipalities. These funds were primarily designated for physical improvements to neighborhoods of low to moderate income. Part of the guidelines for the Community Development Program indicated there must be citizen participation in determining where and how federal funds were spent. In Saint Paul Minnesota, this resulted in dividing the city into seventeen Citizen Participation Districts where neighborhood organizations could provide resident input.

Throughout the time from 1975 until present the District Councils have evolved to address a multitude of issues pertaining to the unique neighborhoods of Saint Paul, for example, housing,

News from District 6

District councils created to address neighborhood concerns

land use, crime prevention, economic development, neighborhood long-term planning, employment and youth services to name a few, all issues need citizen input which is where the councils have a voice. In a nutshell District 6 Planning Council takes the collective thoughts of the neighborhood and makes recommendations to the City on that input.

"...participation is a process, not a structure. The City has a responsibility to develop a process that will ensure that everyone has the opportunity to communicate with City government, and further that everyone is assured that they

will be heard. This process cannot guarantee that there will always be agreement nor is it a substitution of one level of government for another or any other transfer of power."

- Formal definition of community participation, as adopted in 1975 by the Saint Paul City Council.

District 6 is governed by a Board of Directors and to ensure and promote participation District 6 is divided into five "precincts" as well as having 5 District Wide Seats. The Board meets the first Monday of the month (except July and Decem-

ber) at 1414 North Saint Albans beginning at 6:30 p.m.; the Land Use Task Force meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at the same time and location.

District Councils are an advisory board to the City and our Land Use Task Force makes recommendations to the City on all uses of land, including but not limited to; licensing, site plan review, variances, conditional use permits and modifications of permits. While Land Use makes the recommendations, one must remember that some applications that are brought forth are an allowable use under City

code. When that occurs, District 6 attempts to get applicants to utilize design guidelines, fencing, buffering, times of operation, security and traffic mitigation to ensure that the neighborhood is enjoying the same quality as before a development of business comes in. There is a balance of economic development and neighborhood wants, which at times is tricky. The Land Use Task Force is made up of residents who have attended three consecutive meetings. If you have met that then you may be seated as a member. The Task Force is a working committee and if you are interested please contact us at 651-488-4485. Check out our agendas at www.district6stpaul.org or call the office before the day of the meeting to see what's on the agenda. Also if you want to be on our list serve to receive information email us at district6ed@dist6pc.org. Hope to see you at a meeting!

Could you name each of the people who live within a stone's throw of your home? Do you and your neighbors ever get together to get to know each other and talk about mutual concerns? Do you keep an eye on your neighbor's house when they are on vacation? We're all so busy today that it sometimes seems like we each live in our own world, and our neighbors live in theirs, yet we all know that a strong neighborhood requires a strong community of neighbors.

To help bring neighbors together, the District 10 Community Council in the Como Park neighborhood helps facilitate the creation of block clubs, led by volunteer block club leaders. Traditionally, block clubs were groups of people who live on the

Como Council Corner

BY JON KNOX, BOARD CHAIR OF THE DISTRICT 10 COMO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Block clubs strengthen community's fabric

same block and joined together to improve the quality of life in their neighborhood. Initially, block clubs were created across the nation to address issues of crime and safety. Today, they have grown into a larger role where neighbors can get together, meet each other, share information, identify concerns, and act to address those concerns.

For many block clubs, the

annual National Night Out offers the opportunity to take the time to bring everyone together for a cookout or potluck. Celebrated this year on Tuesday, August 7, National Night Out is a great way to promote neighborhood spirit and share issues of mutual concern. I always look forward to National Night Out on my block and the chance to renew old acquaintances and meet new

neighbors. The great food that we share is a nice bonus, too! As Como Park block club leader Ted Blank noted, "Whenever we have a block event, we always have close to 100% turnout. People really seem to appreciate an excuse to get together and chat."

While the Como Park neighborhood has over 70 active block clubs, many blocks others do not have one. District 10 is actively

recruiting volunteer block club leaders to fill in these gaps. Block club leaders, with the support of District 10, welcome new residents to the neighborhood, coordinate block events, and share important information with neighbors, especially crime alerts. District 10 provides quarterly block club leader meetings, a Google email group to share information and tips, and a variety of useful information to share with neighbors. In addition, District 10 communicates crime alert bulletins to block club leaders as necessary. If you are interested in volunteering as a block club leader, please contact the District 10 office at 651-644-3889 or www.district10comopark.org.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



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

• New • Used • Rebuilt

ACE AUTO PARTS

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

EGG|PLANT
URBAN FARM SUPPLY



www.eggplantsupply.com
1771 Selby Avenue,
Saint Paul, MN 55104
651.645.0818



GROW YOUR BACKYARD HOMESTEAD

CORNELIA HOUSE
Gracious Independent Living

Independent Living, 62+

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

1840 University Ave W • Saint Paul
Part of the Episcopal Homes family
EpiscopalHomes.org

IRIS PARK COMMONS
A Community of Heart

Assisted Living, 62+




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

1850 University Ave W • Saint Paul
Part of the Episcopal Homes family
EpiscopalHomes.org

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF GREAT FOOD

The COFFEE CUP
"Home Cooking Since 1967"

1446 RICE • 489-0020

Ranch Breakfast \$7.50 AND 4 OTHER BREAKFAST SPECIALS
i.e. #6 - 2 Eggs & Toast \$3.85

Daily Lunch Specials
Dinner Specials until 3:00pm

ALL TIME FAVORITES SERVED 7 DAYS A WEEK!
LARGE BREADED COD
HOT TURKEY SANDWICHES
HOT BEEF SANDWICHES
BREADED PORK CHOPS
GYROS & GREEK SALADS

5:00am to 3:00pm Everyday
BREAKFAST ALL DAY
TAKE OUT ORDERS

Plans heat up for redevelopment at Rice and Maryland

By JANE MCCLURE

As work on the reconstruction of Rice Street and Maryland Avenue wound down this spring, plans began heating up for redevelopment at the southeast corner. The Rice Street Deli, 1200 Rice St., won a \$1 million legal settlement May 8 from the Ramsey County Board. Owner Bilal Alsadi and his wife and business partner Iman Akli will be able to rebuild their deli, convenience store and gas station with the settlement.

But rebuilding required city approval. On May 18, the couple won a needed conditional use permit from the St. Paul Planning Commission, despite concerns raised by some neighbors about the proximity of the new business to their homes. Neighbors are concerned about the traffic, trash and foot traffic impacts the business has on homes to the south and east.

The actions are among the last in the long process of rebuilding Rice and Maryland that has been discussed for many years. Several property owners lost part of their frontage along Maryland. Two businesses, a longtime barber shop and a bar, were torn down. By early June much of the work was done to reopen the intersection. The changes should make the intersection safer and reduce the number of crashes there.

Maryland Avenue has been reconstructed and has additional left turn lanes. But this meant the loss of about 20 feet of the business property for Rice Street Deli. The gas pumps, canopy and building must be torn down and rebuilt, triggering the need for a new conditional use permit.

The permit also had to be amended. A condition use permit for a new auto convenience



As work on the reconstruction of Rice Street and Maryland Avenue wound down this spring, plans began heating up for redevelopment at the southeast corner. The Rice Street Deli, 1200 Rice St., won a \$1 million legal settlement May 8 from the Ramsey County Board. (Photo by Stefanie Berres)

market in St. Paul requires at least 12,000 square feet; the land lost to road construction means the site is now 11,830 square feet. The Planning Commission granted a variance for the project along with the permit.

The property has been home to various gas stations and later convenience stores since at least 1940, according to city records. The current Rice Street Deli has gotten good reviews for its food. But the loss of land due to the intersection project sparked a three-year legal fight between the owners and the county.

Both the legal settlement and the conditional use permit have sparked controversy. The County Board vote was 6-1 with Commissioner Tony Bennett in opposition. Bennett questioned the worth of the property and

wanted more time to look into the matter. The settlement could ultimately be covered by state highway funds.

Commissioner Janice Rettman, who represents the area, said it was better to settle than to continue the legal fight

and keep running up costs. County staff recommended approval of the settlement.

County property tax records show the property market value at \$357,000. But the settlement amount rose over the past few years as the case went through a court process and to a commission that considers condemnation requests. The various legal decisions were appealed before both sides agreed to settle and not go to trial. The settlement will cover the business owners' legal costs but does require them to pay for new utility connections.

As for the conditional use permit and rebuild business, neighbor Dan Zangs spoke for community members who live south and east of the business.

District 6 (North End-South Como) Land Use Task Force recommended approval with several conditions meant to address neighborhood concerns about enclosure of trash receptacles, foot traffic behind the building, light spillover into the neighborhood, security cameras and street egress.

Como Council corner

Continued from page 4

Block clubs aren't limited only to people who live in houses, either. Many apartment complexes in the neighborhood don't have active building clubs. If you live in an apartment, I'd especially urge you to consider volunteering to create a building club. In many cases, the apart-

ment management is willing to help out, and your neighbors will really appreciate the chance to meet each other and learn more about safety and other neighborhood issues.

Summer is a great time to catch up with your neighbors, but it also seems to be one of the busiest times of the year. I encourage everyone to block out a little time, on National Night Out or any time, and have a conversation with the people who share your block. Your community will be the stronger for it.

(Jon Knox, elected in 2009, is the board chair of the District 10 Como Community Council. The Como Community Council serves an important role in advising the City about issues that directly affect residents in the Como Park neighborhood. The Council works with residents and community partners to promote public safety, maintain good housing, improve environmental quality, foster a healthy business climate and maintain a desirable neighborhood. Board Members are residents, business owners and volunteers who dedicate their time to education and outreach in the community. For more information, visit www.district10comopark.org.)

your Lutheran church on the

Sunday Mornings
9:30 Worship
10:45 Adult Bible Class
Pastor Bob Benke

a community of joy

Jehovah LUTHERAN at Thomas and Snelling

www.jehovahlutheran.org • 651-644-1421

c
o
r
n
e
r

Exceptional Senior Living

Just across from Como Park
Heated underground parking
Two elevators
Small pets welcome

COMO BY THE LAKE SENIOR APARTMENTS

901 East Como Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55103
651-489-3392

We think our new name says it all.

EntiraSM FAMILY CLINICS

Como/Roseville Clinic
1050 West Larpentour Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55113

Hours:
Monday - Friday: 7:00AM - 5:00PM
Evening Appointments Available
Appointments: 651-487-2831

Gloria Garcia, MD
Jane Kilian, MD
Kenneth Koch, MD
John Nichols, MD
Julia Perpich, MD
Grete Thomsen PA-C
William Wiencke, MD

New Patients Welcome!
SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE
Formerly "Family Health Services Minnesota"

St. Paul Saints may likely 'Play Ball' in Lowertown

By JAN WILLMS

A concept that has been in play for at least a couple of years may be coming to fruition as the St. Paul Port Authority recently signed a purchase agreement with Diamond Products in Lowertown.

The \$1.85 million purchase of that site, which currently houses an empty warehouse, would provide the location for a new Saints stadium. The current Saints location at Midway Stadium will be turned over to the Port Authority, eventually torn down and the spot designated for industrial use.

"The first trigger for this exchange is that the existing ballpark has long since reached its useful life," said Louis Jambois, president of the Port Authority. He said St. Paul had expressed interest in a replacement for the Midway site, and a new location was sought.

The Lowertown location, between the Farmers Market and Lafayette Bridge, seemed like a perfect fit, according to Jambois. The old Diamond Products/Gillette warehouse has been empty for some time.

"At one time they used to make Suave shampoo in the base-



The current Saints location at Midway Stadium will be turned over the Port Authority, eventually torn down and the spot designated for industrial use. (Photo by Jan Willms)

ment," said Tom Collins, director of marketing and communications for the Port Authority.

"You can still smell it down there," added Jambois.

"The ballpark's total cost is \$54 million," Jambois said. The city and Saints organization are planning to put up \$27 million, and the city has applied for a grant for \$27 million from the Minnesota Department of Economic Development (DEED) for

the non-city and non-team portion of the project.

Jambois said that by spending \$2 million of Port Authority money to buy the Diamond Product site, the city's share of the cost would be reduced.

"We're happy to acquisition a new ballpark," Jambois said. He said it would be a positive move for the city, and the Port Authority would end up with a new site in the middle of an existing rail de-

velopment.

"There is new housing in Lowertown and several new entertainment areas," Jambois added. He said the new stadium could hold 7,000 people.

It would provide serious economic benefit to downtown. He said that after the old stadium, which is showing its age, is torn down, there would be about 200,000 square feet to redevelop.

Collins said that experience has shown you can usually count on one new job per 1,000 square feet, so a minimum of 200 new jobs could be expected at the Midway area. And construction jobs would be plentiful at both sites.

There is no guarantee that DEED will award the \$27 million to the city of St. Paul for this project.

"Competition for the grant will be fierce, for sure," Jambois admitted. "But we have some real positive aspects. We are ready to proceed with the demolition of the Diamond Products/Gillette building. We can start in 2012."

With competition throughout the state for the \$47.5 million grant pool from DEED, Jambois said the Port Authority and the City intend to buy the property

regardless.

"The old Midway Stadium is obsolete and deteriorating and must be replaced," he explained. "The Lowertown site is still a better place for a regional ballpark, and the Midway site is still a better place for an industrial development. We are confident that DEED will find our application compelling."

DEED Commissioner Mark Phillips said the closing date for grant applications is at 4:30 p.m. on June 26.

"We haven't set a final date for determination," he said. "We don't know what kind of volume we will get, so we don't know how long it will take to go through all the applications. The matching funds criteria might eliminate some."

Phillips said it would take at least six weeks for DEED to go through all of the entries, so a decision might be made by early August.

"A lot have expressed interest in the grant," Phillips said. "I am assuming the City of St. Paul would have a very competitive proposal."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

\$5 OFF

any \$25 minimum order

with coupon through July 11, 2012
not good with any other offers

ASH photo restored to its
original place at Tim Cup's

1220 Rice Street • 651-487-7967

Celebrate Spring at Linder's

A Tradition For Over 100 Years

Everything you need to create a beautiful water garden

270 W Larpenteur Ave, St. Paul
M-F 8am - 8pm Sat 8am - 7pm Sun 9am - 6pm
www.linders.com

ADVERTISE!

Bethel

Lutheran Church LCMS

Pastor: Rev. David Seabaugh

Sunday Service: 9:30 AM
Sunday School: 10:45 AM

670 W. Wheelock Pkwy. St. Paul, MN 55117
651-488-6681 www.bethelstpaul.com

Hey! Lula has cute things!

1587 SELBY AVE. ST. PAUL
651-644-4110

Wheelock Parkway Apartments

1609 Woodbridge Street • St. Paul, MN 55117
651-488-9474

Stay cool in the pool!

MIDWAY LIQUOR STORE

Come visit us at our new headquarters!

1955 University Ave. (across from Menards on Prior)

Bring this coupon in for 15% off all wine.

(Coupon good thru June 30, 2012)

Come visit us for
our Father's Day
Specials!

Open: Mon - Thurs. 8 am - 8 pm, Fri and Sat. 8 am - 10 pm

COUPON

SAVE 5¢ per gallon ON GAS

with coupon-limit one - thru 7/12/12 - at
CLARK ON RICE
Corner of Rice St. & Arlington
651-487-2932
Deli-Pop-Ice Cream-Propane-Money Orders-
Stamps-Check Cashing

Mosaic ON A STICK

595 N. Snelling Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55104
651-645-6600
www.mosaiconastick.com

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

Community sets new standards for new Walgreens store



The District 10 Land Use Committee held a meeting on June 4 to discuss new proceedings in Semper Development's proposed redevelopment plan for a Walgreens store at 1102 Larpenteur Ave., on the southwest corner of Lexington Parkway and Larpenteur Avenue.

By DEBORAH BROTZ

Since December 2011, it looked like the major hurdles for a new Walgreens store at Lexington Parkway and Larpenteur Avenue had been jumped. But, recently, things have changed. The District 10 Land Use Committee held a meeting on June 4 to discuss new proceedings in Semper Development's proposed redevelopment plan for a Walgreens store at 1102 Larpenteur Ave., on the southwest corner of Lexington Parkway and Larpenteur Avenue.

The St. Paul Planning Commission had approved a Conditional Use Permit on Nov. 22, 2011, to rezone 1105-1125 California Avenue from R4 One-Family Residential to B2 Community Business. As a result of several community meetings in 2011,

District 10 supported approval of the Conditional Use Permit with conditions. Among the conditions the Planning Commission placed on the Conditional Use Permit request are that deliveries shall not be made prior to 7 a.m. or after 2 p.m. Another one is that the drive-through window must close by 10 p.m.

Now, Walgreens has requested District 10 to consider modifications to the conditions noted in the Conditional Use Permit. The modification requests were to extend the delivery hours to 5:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. from the approved 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. and to remove the restriction on the hours of operation of the drive-through window.

Kim Moon, Land Use Committee chair and District 10 board member, says Semper De-

velopment asked the Land Use Committee on behalf of Walgreens to change their operating hours and delivery hours from what they already supported.

"At an hour and a half earlier, people are still sleeping and getting ready for work, said Moon. "7 a.m. is early enough."

The Land Use Committee is asking District 10 to write a letter to the City Council about why they want the hours to stay the same.

"We decided this a year ago, and we're not changing our mind," he said.

MGM Liquor Warehouse, which has sold its property at 1102 Larpenteur Ave. to Semper Development about a month ago and has now moved its business,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Monitor in a Minute

Continued from page 2

The city has a per-ward cap on the number of on-sale liquor licenses, so those could only be added where licenses are available. It's expected that most requests will be to add wine and beer to menus.

Currently restaurants require one off-street parking space for every 100 to 125 square feet of total floor area. Additional parking is required for beer, wine and liquor licenses, based on floor space. If a business has an entertainment license, that ratchets up the parking needs.

Under the changes, an establishment with wine, beer or liquor that closes by midnight is a restaurant. Restaurants will need one off-street parking space for every 400 square feet of gross floor area in their establishment. That is the same standard for restaurants that don't sell alcohol, and for the city's office and retail uses.

A bar is defined as an establishment that serves alcohol past midnight. Bars will need one off-street parking space for every 150 square feet of floor area.

Council votes to hire law firm in code dispute

St. Paul's long and complex dispute with landlords over property code enforcement has taken another turn. The St. Paul City Council voted May 23 to hire the law firms of Dickstein Shapiro and Fredrikson & Byron to represent St. Paul in the Magner versus Gallagher case. The city is facing the possibility of federal litigation.

The case was filed in 2004-2005 by a group of about a dozen landlords who said they were unfairly targeted for increased property code enforcement. Some of the properties were in the Hamline-Midway and North End neighborhoods. Magner refers to property code enforcement official Steve Magner; Gallagher is landlord Thomas Gallagher. The current case is a consolidation of several lawsuits. The cases were merged in 2008.

Because the group of landlords had many low-income, minority tenants, the landlords claimed that the city's actions against them had what is known legally as "disparate impact" and reduced the amount of low-in-

come housing in St. Paul. City officials disagreed, saying that the properties had numerous code violations and needed repairs.

The Eighth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals found sufficient reasons in the landlords' arguments to allow a trial. The city appealed the case to the U.S. Supreme Court but withdrew the appeal in February at the behest of many low-income housing advocates and advocates for minority groups including former Vice President Walter Mondale, the NAACP and the ACLU.

The concern was that the Supreme Court, which leans conservative, could have made a ruling that would reduce protections for minorities in federal fair housing laws. The withdrawal sends the case back to a lower court. The law firms hired May 23 could represent the city if there is federal litigation tied to the city's withdrawal from the Supreme Court case. This spring the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform began scrutinizing the city's withdrawal from the case, and the role that President Barack Obama's administration played in that withdrawal. City officials aren't commenting on the House investigation.

Compiled by Jane McClure

FREE
Regular 6" Sub

with purchase of a 6" sub of equal or greater value & a 21 oz. soft drink

One coupon per customer per visit. Not valid with any other offer or on Premium or Double Stacked Subs. Expires 7/29/12

Good only at: 2121 University Ave. W. St. Paul (University & Transfer) 651-646-3096

We sharpen Reel Mowers

\$35 Clean up, Adjust, Lube (Fast Service)

Sales, too! Brands: Scotts, Brill, American®

Kendall's Ace Hardware & Paint

We offer same day service if you need it.

www.acehardware.com and kendalls@acehardware.com

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

SUMMER BBQ PACK Great for a Father's Day Cookout!

ONLY \$75.00

includes

- Chicken Wings (small) 4 lbs
- Boneless Chicken Breasts 2 lbs
- Boneless Pork Country Ribs 4 lbs
- Hamburger Patties 3 lbs
- Boneless Chuck Steak 3 lbs
- Sliced Bacon Rind (on & off) 1 lbs
- Homemade Fresh Bratwurst 1 lbs
- Polish Sausage (hot & mild) 1 lbs
- All Beef Hot Dogs 1 lbs
- Pork Steak 3 lbs

Limited time offer

Stasny's FOOD MARKET

1053 Western Avenue St Paul, MN 55107

651-489-2171

MONITOR ADS WORK FOR YOU!

"Sales are up 10%... thanks, Monitor!"

Kendall Crosby's son, Josh

"I have been reviewing the sales numbers for my two St. Paul hardware stores for the past year and I'm very pleased to learn that sales are up quite significantly. At the Dale Street store, specifically, my sales are up 10% and I attribute that to my monthly ad program in the Midway/Como/North End Monitor. Thank you, Monitor, for helping me boost sales!"

Kendall Crosby
Kendall's Ace Hardware

www.MonitorSaintPaul.com

monitor

Denis Woulfe 651.917.4183 Denis@deRuyterNelson.com

Colette Mullenmaster 651.494.8047 Colette@deRuyterNelson.com

Midway Como North End

New ball park

Continued from page 6

Kari Canfield, president of the Midway Chamber of Commerce, is hoping that the proposal will be a winner.

"We love having the Saints currently as part of the Midway," she said, "but they do need a better ballpark. And anything that draws people is great for Lowertown or any part of St. Paul. It's great for the Midway to have that developed as well."

Canfield added that the construction that comes with development is also good for the city.

The Saints organization, according to its executive vice president, Tom Whaley, supports the move as a good thing for the team and the city.

He said the need for a new stadium is evident.

"If you go up in the stands and see the seats, not much has changed in the 20 years we have been there," he said. "What has changed are the building systems, the infrastructure, the HVAC and electrical."

"You've got to renovate what you've got or look at something new," he stated. "Thirty years is about what you use for sports facilities. The infrastructure has taken a beating over the years."

He added that the Midway site will need soil remediation.

"Once that is done, it's a fairly prime industrial site," he said. As for the new location, he said the Saints have liked the downtown area from the beginning.

"We like it because it's downtown and has great transit connections," he explained. "The old Midway site has only one way in and out, and downtown has a few different ways. The Midway has been good for us, but it is not the ideal



Port Authority President Louis Jambois says that by spending \$2 million of Port Authority money to buy the Diamond Product site, the city's share of the cost would be reduced. (Photo by Jan Willms)

location for a ballpark."

For Tim Weiss, owner of Gabe's in the Park, the move might hold less promise. He answers his business phone by identifying his

restaurant as the home of the Saints. His business is extremely close to the Midway Stadium.

But Weiss said his business has been there before the Saints and

during the reign of the Saints and will hopefully be there if they decide to move downtown.

"I am all for what is best for the City of St. Paul," he said.

WEST BUILDING MAINTENANCE, LLC
 Cleaning Services
COMMERCIAL CLEANING
 Mike West — Serving the Minneapolis-St. Paul area since 1965
(800) 451-6753
www.westcleaning.com





LYNGBLOMSTEN MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL
 Arts | Music | Food | Games
Presented by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Thursday, July 19
3:00 - 9:00 PM
 1415 Almond Avenue
 St. Paul, MN 55108
 (651) 646-2941
 Join us as we celebrate summer! Rain or shine, affordable fun for all ages! Enjoy tasty food, free live entertainment on two stages, carnival games, creative activities, local artists at work, and more.
 Register online to increase your chance of winning our prize drawings, and download a festival guide for everything you need to know about:
 • Parking
 • Food & Treats
 • Creative Activities
 • Live Entertainment
 • Carnival Games
 • Artist Demonstrations
 • Cupcake Decorating
 • Gift Shop & Gently Used Jewelry Sales

www.lyngblomsten.org/MSF2012

Looking for friendly pharmacists who know your name?



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


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

Service, Price... Professional Advice
 from St. Paul's Largest Flooring Retailer
Hamernick's Quality Design Since 1960 Years
 1381 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55117
651-487-3211
www.hamernicksdecorating.com
 Hours: Monday - Thursday 8am - 8pm
 Friday 8am - 5:30pm • Saturday 8am - 4pm





DISABLED? CAN'T WORK?
 Call Mary F. Hastings
651-645-0894
 Local Attorney in Midway 19+ years' experience
 Skilled Representation

We're in your neighborhood!
ARBOR POINTE Senior Rentals



1 and 2 BR's from \$918
 Stop in Today!
Arbor Pointe
 Maryland and Dale
 651.793.5177
www.steven-scott.com

Walgreens store

Continued from page 7

MGM Wine & Spirits, across the street next to Roseville Bakery at 1149 Larpenleur Ave., was also at the June 4 meeting to discuss an appeal they have filed to the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) about the rear setback requirements for the houses they own on 1111 and 1117 California Ave. W. The rear yard setback of both properties was reduced as a result of the relocation of the property line southward to allow the construction of the new Walgreens store on the north side of the properties. Although a rear setback of 25 feet is required, MGM is requesting a variance of about 22 feet at 1117 California Ave. W. and a variance of 2 feet at 1111 California Ave. W. in order to keep the existing buildings at their current locations.

"The Board of Zoning did not approve of the variance the Maglich brothers are asking for," said Moon. "I was surprised the Board of Zoning opposed the request before we said yes or no."

At the meeting there were no objections so the Land Use Committee is recommending to the Board that they write a letter to the BZA approving of the variances being requested.

In the permitting process right now, Walgreens will begin initial construction once the permits have been issued.

Working on the proposed Walgreens development for several years, the Land Use Committee looks forward to seeing a new building that looks nicer than the current MGM and is set back further.

"We would like to see it finish up as soon as possible," said Moon. "We'd like to see a store in there."

Next deadline:
 July 2

In Our Community

Rummage Sale at Bethel Church June 13-16

Bethel Lutheran Church will hold its 11th Annual Rummage Sale benefiting the Children's Christian Education Fund on June 13 (Pre-sale 6-8 p.m.; \$3 admission), June 14 and 15 (9 a.m.-6 p.m.) and June 16 (9 a.m.-3 p.m.). Bethel is located in St. Paul's Como Park neighborhood at 670 W. Wheelock Parkway. We offer a wide range of items including books, furniture, tools, houseware items, dishes, glassware, stemware, crystal, collectibles of all kinds, arts & crafts, jewelry, office supplies, working electronics, sporting goods, gently used toys & clothing for the whole family. For more information about Bethel Lutheran Church, its programs and ministries visit www.bethelstpaul.com or call 651-488-6681.

Viking Toastmasters celebrate 50th

Viking Toastmasters, who are currently meeting at the Rice Street Library, 1011 Rice Street, held their 50 year celebration recently. The event was attended by former members and guests. Summer meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Toastmasters share ideas, work on communication skills and give a boost to member's self-confidence. Visitors are always welcome. For more information see our website <http://591.toastmastersclubs.org> or call Les or Nancy Anderson 651-735-3953. You may attend three meetings without charge.

Area candidates file for state seats

The filing for state office elections has closed and we now have a clear picture of the races coming up in the Monitor distribution area. Remember, because of redistricting, you may be in a different district than you were previously. To find out what district you are now in you can go to <http://www.gis.leg.mn/html/redistricting.html>.

In State Senate District 66, incumbent John Marty (DFL) will be challenged by Wayde Brooks (R).

In Senate District 65 there will be a runoff between 3 DFLers. Incumbent Sandy Pappas, Marcus Walker and Tom Goldstein will face off in a primary. The winner of the primary will face Rick Karschnia (R).

A small portion of the west Midway now falls into District 64—and in that race incumbent Dick Cohen (DFL) will be challenged in a primary by Alexander H. Jeffries (DFL). The winner of that race will face Sharon Anderson (R) in the November election.

Here are the upcoming candidates for Minnesota House seats in the Monitor distribution area: In 64A, incumbent Erin Murphy (DFL) will be challenged by Andrew Ojeda (R). In District 65A, Daniel Lipp (R) will run against incumbent Rena Moran (DFL).

In House District 66A, incumbent Alice Hausman (DFL) will be challenged by Dave Thomas (IND) and Mark Fotsch (R). In District 66B, incumbent John Lesch (DFL) will face Ben Blomgren (R).

Rice Street in Bloom on North End

Rice Street will bloom once again this year thanks to contributions by North End Business Association who will sponsor the baskets grown by Linder's. It's part of the Blooming Saint Paul program, which helps beautify the city by encouraging the use of hanging flower baskets in the public right of way. Private sponsors purchase discounted hanging baskets and the City of Saint Paul administers the program and maintains the flowers throughout the season. Come down to Rice Street this summer and enjoy the blooms while shopping, dining or doing business at one of the many great North End establishments.

Loan Program available through SPARC

SPARC, a neighborhood community development nonprofit organization, is introducing assistance programs for Saint Paul businesses and homeowners. Small businesses can apply for a financing program with forgivable loans up to \$50,000 for business needs such as equipment, signage, facade, building rehabilitation, etc. Struggling homeowners can apply for deferred forgivable loans for needed home repairs or grants to replace lead paint windows. Take advantage of these programs and visit www.sparcweb.org.

Hmong Sports Festival slated at Como Park

The 32nd Annual Hmong Sports Festival is slated for June 30 and July 1. This event brings thousands of people out to Como Park's McMurray Fields for a weekend of competitive soccer and volleyball tournaments, cultural shopping and food. The event's sponsor, Lao Family, welcomes everyone to this event to enjoy sports and festivities and learn more about the Hmong community. Saint Paul Police and Parks staff will be present at the event to address traffic, noise and other event-related issues. Learn more at www.laofamily.org/july4.

Queen's Tea Show planned for July 14

The Rice Street Festival Royalty Program will be holding their 2012 Queen's Tea Fashion Show, Luncheon and Raffle on July 14. Social hour and lunch starts at 11 a.m. with program starting at noon. The event will be held at Eventi Bella, 2900 Rice Street in Little Canada. They will showcase casual, business and bridal/evening wear by Casual Corner, Vault Denim and more, with vendors, raffle baskets and door prizes. Tickets \$17. To order tickets go to <http://www.ricestreetfestival.com>.

La Leche meets in Midway-Como

"The Art of Breastfeeding and Overcoming Difficulties" is the topic of the meeting of the Como-Midway La Leche Group on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month (June 19 and July 10). All expectant and nursing mothers are invited to attend with their babies and toddlers. Call Heidi at 651-659-9527 for more information on the time and place.

Luncheon for seniors planned July 10

Hamline Midway Elders are presenting "Cooking for One" at a luncheon for senior on Tuesday, July 10 at Hamline United Methodist Church, 1514 Englewood Ave. A \$4 free will donation is asked for the meal which begins at 11:30 a.m., and there is no cost to attend the program which begins at 12:15 p.m. Call for free transportation or to learn more how Hamline Midway Elders helps seniors live well at home 651-209-6542.

Register now for Rice St. Kiddie Parade

Register now for the Rice Street Area Kiddie Parade which will be held on Saturday, July 28. The theme for the 2012 Parade is "Sharing is Caring." Please bring a Rice Street Festival Button to participate (available for purchase on site for \$5) AND please bring a canned good! Food items will be donated to Keystone Services (food shelf). Children ages 12 and under are invited to decorate their bikes, trikes, scooters and wagons for this annual event. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. You can find the pre-registration form at <http://www.ricestreetfestival.com>

HD 66B Republicans to meet Sat., June 23

Minnesota House District 66B Republicans will be holding their next meeting on Saturday, June 23 from 9-11a.m. at the Michael Donald Glass room at the Como Park Pavilion, 1360 Lexington Pkwy. No.

Volunteer as an English teacher or tutor

The Minnesota Literacy Council is looking for volunteers to help adult refugees and immigrants learn the reading, writing and speaking skills needed to thrive in the US. Morning, afternoon or evening classes are available throughout the Twin Cities. The literacy council provides training and support. If interested, contact or call Allison at 651-251-9110. You can visit their website at: www.mnliteracy.org/volunteers/opportunities/adults.

Neighborhood Ice Cream Social

An Ice Cream Social and Resource Fair will be held Wed., July 18 from 6:30 – 8 p.m., NW lawn Hamline Church, 1514 Englewood Ave. Event will include music, free blood pressure checks, information booths and games for all ages. Call Hamline Midway Elders to request free transportation 651-209-6542 or if someone from your organization or business would like to display information.

Networking Group Promotes Resource and Idea Sharing

A casual networking group for persons 50+ meets at Groundswell Coffee, corner of Hamline and Thomas Aves., the third Thursday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to noon. For more information, contact Stephanie Digby at 642-1288 of HM Elders 651-209-6542.

Anxiety Support Group Meets in St. Paul Midway Area

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Minnesota sponsors free support groups for persons with anxiety disorders. The groups help individuals develop better coping skills and find strength through sharing their experiences. An Open Door Anxiety and Panic support group meets in St. Paul from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., on the 2nd & 4th Thursday

of the month, at Goodwill-Easter Seals, 553 Fairview Ave. N., in Room 123. For information, call NAMI at 651-645-2948, or go to www.namihelps.org.

Evil and hope: Book of Revelation Bible study continues at new time

A Bible study on Revelation continues at a new time at Jehovah Lutheran Church, 1566 Snelling. The new time is 10:45 a.m., after 9:30 a.m. worship. The Apocalypse of St. John, better known as the Book of Revelation, "discloses dimensions of two age-old mysteries: the character of evil and the nature of hope," says Craig Koester, a New Testament scholar at Luther Seminary in St. Paul. Koester leads the Bible study on Revelation via DVD. The sessions in the church library are free and open to all, with coffee and snacks provided. Information is available by calling the church office at 651-644-1421.

Hillcrest Rec Center presents 'Guys and Dolls'

Hillcrest Community Theater, a program of Hillcrest Community Recreation Center, announces this summer's musical production of Guys and Dolls, a musical with music and lyrics by Frank Loesser and book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows.

Guys and Dolls will be held on the weekends of July 26, 27, and 28 as well as August 2, 3, and 4 at the Como Lakeside Pavilion at 7 p.m. each evening. Tickets will be available during regular business hours at Hillcrest Recreation Center or at the door beginning approximately 1 hour prior to each showtime. Gates will open at 6:30. Tickets cost \$10 for individuals over 12 years of age and \$8 for children 12 and under.

For more information contact Hillcrest Recreation Center at 651-695-3706.

MORE NEWS ON facebook

Visit the **Monitor Facebook page** to find news that did not make it in this issue of the print publication.

www.Facebook.com/monitorsaintpaul

READ ABOUT:

- **Conny's Creamy Cones donates over 500 ice cream cones to Como Elementary Students**
- **Central Lutheran School lauds graduates**
- **Twin Cities Jazz Festival events planned at the St. Paul Public Library**

Midway artists

Continued from page 1

Greene is also doing a mosaic mural with Holistic Health Farms, an organization that is part of the urban neighborhood. "I'm doing a mosaic mural on food healthy lifestyles," she said. "It seems like everything I am doing is very local right now."

Being a destination business has helped, according to Greene. Yet her customers have said they are ordering online rather than struggle with traffic.

Regarding the light rail project, Greene said she is hoping it works and that it will eventually draw more customers.

"Change is always painful," she admitted. "But we need to change the way we get around and the way we use our resources."

For Ward 4 Councilmember Russ Stark, the concerns of the artists along the Central Corridor are warranted, but he is hopeful for the future.

"We've already started to see a lot of development interest in the University-Raymond areas," he

said. "A lot of artists who have been in cheap places have been displaced. But I don't know that it's as simple as rental increases."

Stark said developers see value in buildings for other uses. He said he thinks that artists are more concerned with loss of studio space than lack of housing in the area.

He said studio rentals have been relatively cheap for a long time, and many artists have worked regular jobs and done their art on the side. "They may need to scale up their art work to make it more of a business for themselves," Stark noted.

He said he has been doing some work with University United, SPARC and other organizations to try and identify buildings in the area that are good candidates to replicate a model in Brooklyn, NY, offering long-term affordable space for small creative businesses.

"We're narrowing down the search to find partners from the philanthropic community to try and make this a reality," he said. Stark indicated that although the public may be scaling back from purchases at this time, ultimately the light rail construction will end and more people will want to come and spend time on University Avenue.

"Both the arts and small cre-

"More than anything, my store is a community space, and that part is not dying down."

- Lori Greene
Mosaic on a Stick

ative businesses are an important part of the community and local economy," Stark continued. "We need to figure out as a city how we can do more to support small businesses."

Answering that call for support is the Creative Enterprise Zone, the result of team efforts by Jon Schumacher, executive director of the St. Paul Anthony Park Community Foundation; artist Catherine Day; architect Geoffrey Warner and Amy Sparks, director of the District 12 St. Anthony Park Community Council. Day said that 25 citizens from a cross-section of the area are looking at a vision during this time of transition and after.

"Our vision is for a livable, mix use community known and recognized as the transit-oriented center of creativity and enterprise," Day said. "We want to see more people make a living through cre-

ative arts."

She said it is important to stress the "make a living" aspect. She emphasized that this is not just about artists, but about creative businesses, whether it be graphic design, software, game development, light construction or a brewery.

"Our goal is to create conditions in which that kind of work can thrive and more people are attracted," Day explained. She cited a business at 550 Vandalia St. as an example. Developer Peter Remes bought the Old Mattress Factory and intends to rehab the space while retaining the current occupants, a group of woodworkers.

"People can stay informed through our Face book page, Creative Enterprise Zone, about what is happening," Day said. "Artists can use the page to make us aware of their enterprise."

She said an event is planned in mid-July called Give and Take. Speakers from the neighborhood will be present, and people can exchange information and share ideas.

"We provide technical assistance, communication, mentoring and building relationships," Day said.

Another boon for artists along the corridor comes from Springboard for the Arts, according to Laura Zabel, the organization's executive director. Under its auspices, a "creative place-making initiative" called Irrigate is training and supporting artists to help businesses during construction.


"We want to provide beautification along the corridor and see what the arts can do for the community," Zabel said.

Irrigate artists are designing temporary murals in the windows of Café 180 during its build out.

Zabel said there is also help for artists who are first-time home buyers, with a handbook and workshops centered around home ownership.

"We want to help creative businesses find space along the Central Corridor," she continued. "We want them to find a place to put down some roots."

Project QUIT!



Community Health with a Heart

THINKING ABOUT QUITTING SMOKING??

Project QUIT offers the following:

- Help in making a realistic plan to quit!
- Work through stress and triggers!
- Get help with withdrawal symptoms!

For more information contact Melinda Donaway at 651.290.9258

TOBACCO INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW!

- Half of all long-term smokers will die a tobacco-related death
- 70% of African-American smokers smoke menthol cigarettes
- Young ethnic minorities and women are targeted most when marketing menthol cigarette brands



Central Baptist Church
420 Roy Street N., St. Paul
651-646-2751
www.centralbaptistchurch.com
Dr. Ronald Saari, Senior Pastor

SUNDAYS AT CENTRAL
June 17 and 24
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES
5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Activities for Junior and Senior High Youth
See **Website** details.

VOA proposal reaches a compromise

By JANE MCCLURE

A proposal to open a re-entry program for offenders at 1394 Jackson St. ended with a compromise June 1. After much debate the St. Paul Planning Commission voted 7-5 to issue Volunteers of America (VOA) a conditional use permit for a Department of Corrections-licensed community residential facility. But the permit will only be for 34 residents, not the 74 VOA had requested.

North End residents and property owners had tried to block the project, which is in the Arlington-Jackson industrial area. They said the site should be redeveloped for industrial use, as specified in neighborhood plans.

A Planning Commission decision on a conditional use permit is final unless it is appealed to the St. Paul City Council in 10 days. The District 6 appeal of the VOA decision was just filed and released June 11.

The debate over the facility has been a long and complicated one, pitting the VOA's desire to reuse a large residential facility with neighborhood desires to see the redeveloped over the longer term. The site is in the Arlington-Jackson area, which has been envisioned as an industrial site and job creator since the 1980s.

The District 6 (North End-South Como) Land Use Task Force recommended denial of the permit in March. The city planning staff recommended approval, as did the Planning Commission Zoning Committee May 24.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



Igniting community development

Stability Loan Program

About the Sparc Housing Program

- Deferred forgivable loans for households with negative equity (underwater)
- For safety, health, and code compliance repairs
- Must meet income guidelines
- Must be owner occupied
- Funded by City of Saint Paul Capital Improvement Budget (CIB)

ABOUT SPARC

Sparc is a Community Economic Development Corporation. Since 1984, Sparc has provided over \$45 million in financing to over 1,500 Saint Paul homeowners and businesses as part of its mission to support vibrant Saint Paul neighborhoods.

CONTACT
Cindy Fowler, Financial Manager
855 Rice Street, Suite 200, Saint Paul, MN 55117
651-488-1039 x3 Cindy@sparcweb.org www.spacweb.org

89,675,340 pig visits to the umpire,
20 seasons of FUNpredictable ball deliveries!



vs. Sioux Falls Fighting Pheasants
June 22: BAE Systems Family Night plus Xcel Energy Friday Night Fireworks (7:05 p.m.)

June 23: Saturday night's all right...It's Minnesota Boxing Hall of Fame Night. Join us pre-game as we announce the Class of 2012 (7:05 p.m.)

June 24: Shake Your Pirate Booty presented by Science Museum of Minnesota. Kids run the bases and get autographs after the game on Family Sunday (1:05 p.m.)

20th SEASON 1993-2012

Don't Miss the Independence Day Celebration
Fireworks Super Show - Sunday, July 3 - 7:05 p.m.

651-644-6659
saintsbaseball.com

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 July 2 for the July 12 issue. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Monitors website at www.MonitorSaintPaul.com

ANTIQUES

For Sale: Vintage 1900-1949 lights, house hardware, doors, tubs, radiators, etc. Also furniture hardware. 651-644-9270. 20% off with ad. 6-12

ATTORNEY

Creative Solutions With a Personal Touch. Legal Services in the areas of: Small Business, Wills and Trusts, Real Estate, Family, and Bankruptcy. Kirsten Libby, 855 Rice Street, Suite 100, St. Paul, MN, 651-487-1208 www.libbylawoffice.com B-12

BATHROOMS

Bathroom/kitchens!! Basement finishing. Bad water pressure? Sinks, toilets and tub/surrounds, etc. Ceramic tile. Basement bathrooms installed. Call 612-275-9815. 6-12

BOOK SALE

Book Sale! 2000+ HCDJ Bestsellers \$1 each. Mostly fiction, murder/mysteries, espionage, thrillers and romance novels. Local authors too. June 16th & 17, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m., 1842 Feronia Ave., St. Paul.

EMPLOYMENT

Wanted: Licensed union residential pipefitter - Contact us at 763-783-4545. 6-12

HANDYMAN

Need a handyman?? One call does it all. Any job, big or small. Plumbing? Remodeling? Dont tell my wife, but keeping your house in tip-top condition is more important than my own! Call Dynamo Dave 612-701-2272. 12-12

HAULERS & MOVERS

Will haul away and clean up almost anything, or help you move. Any day. 651-274-0263 or 651-373-6652. B-12

LAWN CARE

Lawn Service, spring lawn cleanups, de-thatching, gutter cleaning. Best price guaranteed. 651-699-2832. B-12

Sorensen Lawn Care serving St. Paul for 17 years. Services include mowing, spring and fall clean-ups, aeration, fertilization, mulch installation, emerald ash borer treatment. Call Jeff 651-695-1230. 6-12

PAINTING

All Seasons painting/repair. Wood frames/stucco, power washing. Window glazing. Gutter cleaning. Quality workmanship. Insured. 651-699-2832. B-12

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

Painting, wallpaper removal, basement floors, paneling, porches, small wall repairs, average three rooms \$250, average garage \$250, small jobs wanted. Jim 651-698-0840. 6-12

PET SITTING

Wagners Pet Sitting. Walking Day and Overnight Care. 651-771-0421. B-12

PIANO TUNING

Quality piano tuning and repair. Reasonable rates. Call Robert Clough @ 612-722-7586 or e-mail: robtclough@aol.com. 12-12

Registered Piano Technician, charlesfruhstuck@mac.com, 651-489-3181. B-12

SERVICES

Need a handyman?? Any job, big or small plumbing? Remodeling? Decks? Etc. Call Dave 612-701-2272. Competitive prices! 12-12

Bathrooms, General Carpentry, Trim and Doors, Sheetrock and Repair, siding and decks. Mike 612-578-1611, 651-762-4705. B-12

RAM Handyman Services - Good service, reasonable rates, no job too small. Contact Rich - 651-485-9680 or rich@ramhandyman.com. 3-13

THERMOGRAPHY

Safer alternative to mammography. No radiation, non invasive, painless. Schedule appointment 651-917-3990, www.PictureMyHealth.com. 12-12

VACUUM CLEANER

Vacuum Cleaners: Sales, service, and supplies. Experts since 1952. 666 University & Dale. 651-222-6316. www.a-1vacuum.com B-12

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED - Old Stereo Equipment, Hi-fis & Hams. Andy 651-329-0515. 12-12

Top Cash Paid! Furniture (1940s or older), rugs pictures bookcases collectibles Beer items miscellaneous. Antiques 651-227-2469. 11-12

WINDOWS/SCREENS

Custom making/repairs. Thermal windows; fix frames, glazing. Kendall's--651-489-3210, 651-776-6996. B-12

Floyd Anderson Concrete Construction

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

Call 651 644-8567

LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED

FRANK'S HOME REPAIRS

Residential Projects / Repairs
Carpentry - Sheetrocking
Concrete - Tile Work
Electric - Plumbing
Exterior Drain Tile Systems
Decks - Fencing - Windows
Doors - Mold Abatement
Painting - Demolition - Landscaping
Tree Cutting - Clean-Ups and Hauling

Frank Durkin • 651-276-7094

Nilles Builders, Inc.
Additions • Remodeling
Renovation • Windows & Siding
Concrete • Garages
Licensed • Bonded • Insured #4690
651-222-8701
www.nillesbuilders.com

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

NormanDale Electric Co.
Residential, Commercial & Industrial
651-644-0655
"Now Celebrating 30 Years" Free Est.
Lic# CA01340

LAWN SERVICE
KERN
LAWN SERVICE, INC.
Total Lawn Maintenance
Large or Small Landscaping Projects
Office: 651-207-5396
Cell: 612.328.6893
Since 1984 / Major Credit Cards Accepted
www.kernlawnservice.com
LANDSCAPING

ROOFING
Nilles Builders, Inc.
Full Warranty
Licensed • Bonded • Insured #4690
"We Work All Winter"
651-222-8701
www.nillesbuilders.com

Ornamental Step Rails
Licensed & Bonded
Plain & Fancy / New & Repair
Concrete Step & Foundation Repair
Al Hansen 651-227-4320

CHIMNEY REPAIR
Family Owned & Operated Since 1954
• TUCKPOINTING & REBUILDING, ROOFING • BASEMENT WALL REPAIR
• BRICK, FOUNDATION & MASONRY WORK • RAINCAPS & SCREENS
Leske Masonry
MN LIC. BC648226
651 699-7089 www.leskemasonry.com
"We Stop Leaky Chimneys"

GARY'S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR
• Tire Repair • Oil Changes
• Tune-Ups • Air Conditioning
• Brakes • Computer Diagnosis
• Exhaust • General Repair
455 ATWATER ST. • ST. PAUL, MN 55117
651-776-9088 • 651-487-3659
MANAGER: GARY NIPPOLDT ASST. MANAGER: GREG NIPPOLDT

CAVANAUGH MASONRY, INC
RESTORATION & REPAIR
Masonry Repair Specialist
Scott Steps
651-453-1781 Brick & Stonework
Limestone Foundations
MN LIC: BC264470

SUMMER SPECIAL SAVE 10%
until 7/12/12
R.P. VOGEL REMODELING
• Additions • Roofing/Siding
• Kitchens • Windows/Doors
• Bathrooms • Decks/Porches
• Basement Finish
Putting Character in Contracting Since 1969
651.489.1110-St. Paul www.rpvogel.com
612.729.6653-Minneapolis info@rpvogel.com

CONCRETE SIDEWALKS, STEPS AND STUCCO REPAIR
GLASS BLOCK WINDOW
good for basements
any size
CHIMNEY & FIREPLACE WORK
Call Mark Larson
651-642-5090

A Quarter Century of Helping Homeowners
• Shingle & Flat Roofs
• Siding & Gutters
• Exterior Restoration
Free Estimates, Many References
Licensed, Bonded & Insured
FREE Preventative Roof Inspections & Storm Damage Assessments
Summer Specials On Roofing & Siding Projects, Call for Appointment
AUSTAD
CONSTRUCTION
Residential & Commercial
651-224-0566
www.austadconstruction.com
MasterLine JamesHardie BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS
MN Lic. # 20320318



What's Blooming...

By COLETTE MULLENMASTER

Lil Linder celebrates 102 years in St. Paul

CM: How did you come into this line of work?

LL: My family has had the greenhouses for over a 100 years. It has evolved from a celery farm to a traditional florist to the garden center it is today. I used to work as a kid, planting and doing anything I could to help my Dad and of course make a few bucks. I loved to be in the greenhouses, and the smell of all the plants.

CM: What do you like best about having a business in this community?

LL: I love the Como, Rice Street area. I grew up here and love the diverse people that live in the area.

CM: Going forward, how do you see your business growing/changing in this community?

LL: We are always trying to change with the times and striving to be better. The demographics of the area has changed a lot. We grow many diverse vegetables and plants that our community grows. With more people aging and choosing to live in townhomes and apartments we have introduced a Naturally Urban program with many ideas to help them with small space gardening. We are always listening to what our customers want and have also started our Everyday Value program. We identify what the most popular products are and offer them at a really good value consistently, instead of having sales on them.



For your next Container Garden,
try this lovely combination.



Daisy Duke's Delight

Exposure: Full to Partial Sun
White Argyranthemum
Blue Diascia
Pink Petunia



Go to www.monitorsaintpaul.com to see a video of Craig Corby,
Linder's manager hosting a tour of the garden center.
Linder's • 270 West Larpentour Ave St. Paul, MN 55113 • 651-488-1927

VOA deal

Continued from page 10

City officials noted that the facility has been used as housing since 1967, when it was built as a home for women with mental illness. That facility housed 114 women at its peak. In recent years it has housed other uses including adult day care, offices and a restaurant. Other redevelopment proposals have fallen through recently.

City staff had recommended approval of the conditional use permit for up to 74 residents; the District 6 (North End-South Como) Land Use Task Force recommended denial. Many neighbors had opposed the permit, although some were frustrated this spring when time issues kept them from testifying before the Planning Commission Zoning Committee.

The June 1 Planning Commission debate centered on the density at the building and whether it was an appropriate use in an area that has industrial neighbors on most sides. Proximity to other facilities and to the McDonough Homes low-income housing complex were additional concerns.

"It's just too great a variance," said Planning Commissioner David Wickiser.

But Planner Commissioner and Zoning Committee Chairman Gaius Nelson said the site was an institutional use for many years and that such reuse is rea-

sonable. He also pointed out that the plans don't put District 6 over its maximum number of community residential facility residents. City regulations on community residential facilities like the one proposed by VOA are capped at 1 percent of a planning district's population. Allowing the facility would have put the percentage at .23 percent.

At neighborhood meetings and the Zoning Committee, VOA representatives said their programs operate in a safe manner. VOA has operated social services programs in the Twin Cities region for 116 years and has had a state license to provide re-entry services since 1969.

The move to the North End is proposed because a similar facility VOA has operated in Roseville since 1985 has been asked by Ramsey County to relocate, to make way for redevelopment. That facility is less than two miles from the North End site.

Residents would serve the remaining 60 to 120 days of federal prison sentences at the Jackson Street location. Criminals who had committed drug offenses and white collar crimes would be housed there. No sex offenders or violent offenders are allowed. Residents would get help from the VOA with job readiness and placement, family reunification, and housing. Residents have to have their whereabouts verified 24/7 and follow strict rules. Unless residents work at night, they must abide by a 10 p.m. curfew.

See us online: www.MonitorSaintPaul.com!

summer events at HAMLINE UNIVERSITY

Minnesota Private College Week

June 25-29

9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Open house program for prospective students and their parents, featuring information sessions and campus tours. Learn about Hamline's rich history (dating back to 1854!) and tour residence halls, campus grounds, and classrooms. Meet other students and find out what life is like as a Hamline Piper. Please register in advance!

For additional information visit www.hamline.edu/mpcw or contact the Office of Undergraduate Admission at 651-523-2207 to make an appointment.

Children's Book Authors Present their Works

July 6-15

Authors/faculty and students in the master of arts in writing for children and young adults will gather for 11 days of intensive lectures, presentations, seminars, workshops, and readings.

Faculty, visiting writers, and graduating students give readings, deliver lectures, and conduct seminars that examine a broad range of issues for writers in the field. Hamline instructors/well-known children's authors include Jane Resh Thomas, Phyllis Root, Jackie Briggs Martin, Marsha Qualey, Marsha Chall, Eleanor Tate, Liza Ketchum, Kelly Easton, Laura Ruby, Swati Avasthi, Marilyn Nelson, Gene Yang, Ron Koertge, and Gary Schmidt. Guest authors include Chris Crutcher, Emily Jenkins, Anita Silvey, and David Small.

Check www.hamline.edu for events that are open to the public.

Hamline at the Minnesota State Fair

Come and visit the
Hamline booth at the fair!

August 23-September 3

Education Building
Contact: Tracy Sparby at 651-523-2707
or tsparby@hamline.edu



HAMLINE
UNIVERSITY