

First Ave. takes reins at Turf Club

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Como Golf Course may go private

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Company of the second s

Midway a hoppin' new brew spot

Page 6



Your community newspaper since 1975

21,000 Circulation the game on a pass from Kidd.

"Those back-to-back overtime victories at home made the team believe they could win in any circumstance," Erickson said. The Cougars had a target on

their back for much of the season

as the No. 1 or No. 2-ranked team in Class A after the first week of competition. They start-

ed the season at No. 5. Regard-

less, they went unbeaten through the regular season in a tough

Saint Paul City Conference and

won their second consecutive

ings," Guzman said. "Rankings

really doesn't matter, it's the

heart you put into a game that

the section tournament with six of the top 10 teams in the state

did not phase the Cougars. They knocked off No. 6 Minneapolis Washburn 2-1 and No. 4 Blake 2-

0, allowing two goals for the en-

the section again," Erickson said.

"But that's again where our focus

on one game at a time really helped the game."

a challenge for the Cougars. Only five starters returned from the

2012 team, which reached the

state quarterfinals and graduated

10 seniors. McCune-Zierath took

over as the goalkeeper. Senior

captains Ba Blue Moo and Zach Lee took the lead on defense, which helped the Cougars allow

"Those two played huge roles in organizing our defense, getting that back line on the same page,"

outside right back for the first

time. Will moved to defense after

spending most of his soccer play-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Senior Jonah Lerguin played

0.8 goals per game.

ing days at midfield.

Erickson said.

Roster changes also provided

"There was some question about could we advance through

"We don't talk about rank-

Playing in a new section for

conference title.

tire tournament.

counts

Midway Como

November 2013 • Vol. 39 No. 7

By MATTHEW DAVIS

The Como Park high school boys soccer team brought the Como Park area a celebration it had never seen – a pep fest for a high school state team championship. "I feel like it brought the

community together more," Cougars sophomore midfielder Israel Guzman said.

A packed gym of students, faculty and fans celebrated the Cougars' recent Class A boys soccer championship from earlier in the day at the Metrodome on Thurs., Oct. 31. The Cougars (19-0-3) scored two late goals to beat the Hill-Murray Pioneers 2-1 for the school's first-ever state title.

"It just brings a lot of joy to me to see my players who have worked so hard to be so happy," Cougars coach Erick Erickson said. "I love them all like sons, and I'm proud of them. They give everything they got, and they always have."

The Cougar soccer family simply exploded at state with the rapidly growing fan support. A bus full of fans came to watch the Cougars edge once-unbeaten Waseca (17-1-1) 2-1 in the quarterfinals at Saint Louis Park on Oct. 23. Erickson studied the Blue Jays thoroughly from scouting reports and had his team execute a game plan to beat them.

Five buses of fans showed up for the Cougars first game at the dome in semifinals when senior forward Seik Seik had two goals in a 2-1 win over Sartell-Saint Stephen on Oct. 28. He scored his first at 5:22 into the first half, and junior midfielder Will Kidd assisted on Seik's second goal at 42:03. Though not a go-to goalscorer, Seik had three of the Cougars' four goals at the dome. "He's more opportunistic," Kidd said. "He takes what he gets."

The Cougars adjusted well to playing in the dome and on astro turf. They played only three games previously on turf. Prior

High-powered soccer squad brings Como Park first state title

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A packed gym of students, faculty and fans celebrated the Cougars' recent Class A boys soccer championship from earlier in the day at the Metrodome on Thursday, October 31. The Cougars (19-0-3) scored two late goals to beat the Hill-Murray Pioneers 2-1 for the school's first-ever state title. Above, the Cougars pose with the hardware from their state title.

to the games they held practices at Evan McMurray fields, which also has turf.

Fan support swelled to 15 buses full and around a 1,000 fans total to cheer on the Cougars in the state finals on Oct. 31. The Cougars and Pioneers had a scoreless battle going deep into the second half, and Cougars had only three shots on goal in the first half.

After the Pioneers tested Cougars senior goalkeeper Doug McCune-Zierath with three shots in a five-minutes span, Thor Will broke the tie at 65:59 with an unassisted goal. Seik padded the lead with a goal on the assist from junior midfielder Diriye Abdikarin at 73:29. Despite the closeness of the game, every player on the Cougars rosters played.

er on the Couga's rosters played. "There's a lot of trust," Erickson said. "We had every player contribute in the heat of competition."

The Cougars had a team

loaded with depth, tenacity and diversity. They used their whole bench in five of 22 games during the season.

"They're ready to come off the bench do whatever needed," Kidd said.

During the regular season, the Cougars won many close games including two overtime games on back to back days. In the second one, the Cougars trailed 1-0 until the final 30 seconds when Abdikarin knotted





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First Avenue takes the reins at Turf Club

By JILL BOOGREN The legendary First Avenue

began managing operations at the Turf Club (1601 University Ave.) in October and will assume ownership of it at the end of the year. Featuring local and national acts from country to metal, pop to indie rock, the iconic Turf Club is a mainstay in the local music scene. 'We're just super excited, and every day we've been real

busy getting everything going," said General Manager Nate Kranz. "I'm really excited for the future of the place, excited we had this opportunity. I'm extremely proud we were able to make this happen.

The Turf is one of his favorite places to hang out. What makes this club, with origins as a two-steppin' country bar, so en-ticing is hard to pin down. "I wish I knew what it was that I love about it so much. To me it's got a special character that's hard to describe," he said.

From a promoter's perspec-e — First Ave. has been puttive ting on shows regularly at the Turf for over a decade — Kranz said it's an awesome place to put on shows. "The sound is good, sight lines are good, the audience likes being there... and most importantly, the band walks in the room and they love it. They have a great time, and it makes us look good."

Sarah "SlayraH" Lawson, guitarist for God Came From Space, said her bandmates (also in Dumpster Juice) and she have all had bands play at the Turf



First Avenue general manager Nate Kranz at the Turf Club bar. First Ave. is now managing the iconic St. Paul music club and will assume ownership around the end of the year. (Photo by Jill Boogren)



One thing music lovers appreciate is that the Turf Club - like First Ave. and 7th St. Entry — is a music club first, not a place that just happens to have bands. Above, a section of the cowboy-themed mosaic, created by Angie Carlson Talle in 2011, on the east side of the Turf Club, 1601 University Ave.

over the years. One thing she appreciates is that the Turf Club like First Ave. and 7th St. Entry is a music club first, not a place that just happens to have bands.

It's an important distinction from, say, the neighborhood bowling alley. "The shoe guy that sells bowling stuff isn't running sound that night," Lawson said. "[At a music venue] you're finally there being appreciated for what you do.'

Host of The Current and Wonderground Radio Programmer Barb Abney is excited with the news. She recalls a Retribution Gospel Choir concert that "blew her mind" by playing a three-song set that lasted over an hour.

Abney also held her 40th birthday concert there with The Invincible Kids, Maudlin, The Alarmists, and Solid Gold singer Zach Coulter DJ'ing between sets with Ryan Olson (Polica, GAYN-GS). She thinks First Ave. will bring an added element of organization to the venue. The deal comes with the full

blessing of present owner Tom Scanlon, who also owns The Dubliner Pub on University Ave. "I haven't flinched in entrusting the club to First Avenue and I'm excited to see its continued success," he said in a press statement.

Lawson said there was no hint of a changeover when they played there in September and figures the transition will be fairly seamless. One major value she sees First Ave. bringing is help with promotions. "Bands don't have a lot of money, they need all the help promoting they can get," she said.

Green sign on the green line

It's fitting that a club housed in a 1937 Greyhound bus depot, as First Avenue is, will now connect to the "Best Remnant of the 40's" situated on the coming green line. Music fans will now be able to step off the rail at the Snelling Ave. station and walk right in the front door – a definite factor in First Ave.'s decision

"It's not just a total love of the club, the light rail played a part of it," said Kranz. As a Minneapolis resident, he's had to decide whether he was going to a show at the Turf, weighing having just one or two beers and driving home against potentially having to pay a hefty cab fare.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Soccer Champs

Continued from page 1

"These guvs moved unselfishly wherever they were needed to help the team," Erick-

They also missed senior captain defender Yang Yeng, who had still been recovering from an ACL tear. He made the most of his senior season from the sideline, however, by being an assistant-coach-like support for his team. He helped players de-

velop their skills. "I couldn't play, but I'm proud to be part of the team,

This team had plenty of diversity with players from seven different countries. They speak seven different languages, and some of them are still taking English as a second language.

"We're like one big family,"

Monitor In A Minute

Bicycle improvement projects going ahead

One of three area bicycle improvement projects is still going ahead this fall, but two others will be curbed until spring, according to the St. Paul Department of Public Works. Work on Charles Ave. in Hamline-Midway and Frogtown will start this fall but the Jefferson Ave. and Griggs St. projects will be rebid this winter as a package and completed in spring 2014. Public Works staff recently

Public Works staff recently told the city's Long-Range Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) Committee that project bids came in higher than anticipated. Paul Kurz of Public Works said there has been a trend statewide of bids coming in higher than anticipated. Charles Ave. would provide an

Charles Ave. would provide an east-west bicycle connection from Park Ave. to Aldine St., and would tie to north-south routes including Griggs and Prior Ave. Public Works Project Manager Lisa Falk-Thompson said the low bid was \$738,041.14, and the only other bid was \$855,742.45. The city's estimate was \$561,000, but it was found some cost estimates were low. City and federal money are being used for the project. Jefferson and Griggs are being

Jefferson and Griggs are being constructed together as part of one contract. The bids for that work also came in high, but Public Works decided to rebid this project over the winter and start the construction in the spring. The low bid for this project was \$1,672,258.34, and the only other bid was \$1,999,075.62. The engineer's estimate was around \$1.3 million. All three projects have generat-

All three projects have generated controversy in the past, with vocal supporters as well as opponents.

The projects use a variety of street improvements to promote bicycling, including signage, street marking and land striping, roundabouts and corner bumpouts. The city is in the process of releasing a new bike plan for city streets.

Proposal to reduce University traffic lanes

A proposal to reduce University Avenue's traffic lanes from two to one in each direction will be studied again in the months ahead. The idea, which has been discussed over the past few years as the Metro Green Line light rail was planned and built, gained new momentum in October at Rail-Volution, a national transit conference held in Seattle.

conference held in Seattle. The study will be funded with \$115,000 from the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative, the city of St. Paul and other sources. This will pay for community outreach and technical studies.

But the buck may stop with Ramsey County, because University Avenue is technically a county road. Although the commissioners reviewed the idea again last month, they have asked that any studies be delayed until after trains start running in 2014. Some business owners and St.

Some business owners and St. Paul city officials said they want to see the idea studied again. One longstanding concern about light rail construction is that despite promises to the contrary, the project took away most of University Avenue's on-street parking. University as rebuilt has two

University as rebuilt has two traffic lanes now, with parking banned in most areas. Light rail runs down the middle of the street and will start operations next year. Advocates for one lane in each direction contend it would allow for parking to be added back and could make the street safer for bicycle traffic and for pedestrians. Opponents, including some business owners, contend it would cause further traffic backups and even more cut-through traffic in neighborhoods. Another fear being raised is how snow storage would be handled.

City Council denies Piazza Market tobacco, beer license

A Snelling Avenue grocery store, where stolen goods were sold, cannot have city licenses to sell tobacco and beer, the St. Paul City Council decided Oct. 16. The council acted on licenses sought by Piazza Market, 512 N. Snelling Ave.

According to the St. Paul City Attorney's Office, the business sold stolen goods, including Tide detergent. The former owner of the store was convicted of sale of stolen property. He was also found to be selling tobacco and alcohol without proper city licenses.

without proper city licenses. But he applied for city licenses to sell tobacco and beer, in anticipation of selling the store to another party. Through his attorney, he argued that the licenses should be granted. But the city attorney and city licensing officials disagreed, and asked the council to deny the requests. What has complicated the is-

What has complicated the issue is that since the sale of stolen goods was discovered, the state has taken over grocery store licensing in St. Paul. That takeover was in June, so city officials have no further say on whether or not the business can be licensed to sell groceries. But the city can act on licenses to sell tobacco and alcohol.

Ward One Council Member Nathaniel Khaliq said he has seen a similar situation with a Selby Ave. market that got into trouble for selling or fencing stolen goods. Neighbors thought they had gotten the store shut down, only to see it quickly sold and reopened under a new owner. He and other council members said there needs to be sanctions.

Unidale Farmers' Market OK to reopen

The Unidale Mall Farmers' Market can reopen in 2014, thanks to St. Paul Planning Commission approval of a conditional use permit Oct. 18. Planning Commission approval is final unless an appeal is filed with the St. Paul City Council.

The new permit replaces one granted more than a decade ago. The need for a new permit was triggered by violations of the original permit, with too many vendors onsite, vendors taking up too much space and vendors selling items they had not grown.

A decision on the market at 544 University Ave. was laid over earlier last month to allow more time to work on the lot configuration and other details. Plans call for the market to be open 6am to 6pm, Fri., Sat., and Sun., May 25 to Oct. 31. Setup shall begin no earlier than 5:30am with everyone off-site by 7pm. The market will have no more than 65 vendors at a time. A detailed site plan for vendor space layout needs to be given to city zoning staff no later than Apr. 18, 2104. It's anticipated the new market permit will cover an area with 82 parking spaces.

The market shall have adequate trash collection facilities. One neighborhood complaint was that the market generates trash, which ends up in the surrounding area.

Another permit condition is that market management must make sure that vendors only sell the products of their farm, garden, apiary, greenhouse or forest directly to the public. This issue has caught the eye of the St. Paul City Council, and a decision on the matter has been laid over until November 13. City Council members are tightening ordinance language to prevent imported items from being sold at local farmers' markets.

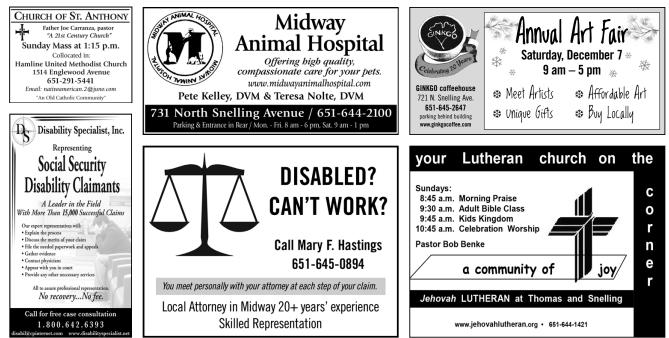
- Compiled by Jane McClure

Seven scouts achieve Eagle Scout status

Seven young men from Boy Scout troop 9243, chartered by Jehovah Lutheran Church, will receive Eagle Scout awards in December. The troop is in the North Star District of Boy Scouts of America. The Eagle Scout award is the highest achievement that a Boy Scout can receive. In order to obtain this award, the young men must complete many merit badges including community and world citizenship, outdoor activities, emergency preparedness, personal fitness camping and more

ness, camping and more. Recipients are Jared Bluhm, attending the University of Minnesota; Jacob Goodale, working at Lund's and planning to attend St. Paul College; Kaiden Hanan-Parker, in the Army National Guard and planning to attend Concordia University in St. Paul; Connor Heck, attending Concordia University in Mequon, WL; David Kolar, attending St. Paul College; Derek Murray, attending Minnesota State University in Moorhead; and Matthew Westpfahl, attending St. Paul College. Their leaders have included

Their leaders have included Brian Kruchowski, Jeff Strasser and Sandy Kolar at the Cub Scout level; and Jerry Gagner, Debbie Gagner and Sean Murray at the Boy Scout level. Jerry Gagner, who has devoted more than 37 years to the Boy Scouts of America, has helped more than 20 percent of Scouts under his direction achieve Eagle Scout status, compared with a national average of 7 percent.



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Each fall, the District 10 Como Community Council reaches out to our neighbors to solicit financial support. While grants from the City of St Paul and other funders provide much support for the Council's work, additional funding is needed just to maintain our current programs and meet new news in the Como Park neighborhood.

As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, the Council serves everyone who lives, owns property, or works in the Como Park neighborhood. Our purpose is to inform, educate, and connect the neighborhood to increase community pride and confidence. Many of you are familiar with our work to shape decisions made by the City of St Paul and other local government, but in reality, the bulk of our effort focuses on enhancing the quality of life in our neighborhood

Across the Como Park neighborhood, District 10's volunteers

Como Community Council Corner JON KNOX, BOARD CHAIR OF THE DISTRICT 10 COMO COMMUNITY COUNCIL Support your District Council's annual fund drive

work to celebrate our community connect our neighbors, beautify the neighborhood, and support the Council. Through activities large and small, our volunteers dedicate over 1,700 hours of time to the neighborhood. Our work includes Como Fest, our volunteer-maintained native plant garden on Como Lake, support for over 80 neighborhood block clubs, our annual Sunday Speaker Series and other workshops, distributing recycling bins, and helping connect hundreds of neighbors each year with the appropriate city resources to solve problems.

A contribution of as little as \$20 from our neighbors can make a substantial impact on what we can accomplish in 2014 and ensure we can continue to address new needs and issues, including the addition of the South Como neighborhood to our District. Your donation supports our communications efforts, including our weekly e-Newsletter (we send out nearly 50,000 copies each year), provides scholarships for our new community garden, enhances Como Fest, and helps fund staff time for neighborhood events and forums. It's easy to donate to District

10. Visit our website at www.district10comopark.org and click on the "Donate Now" button, click on the "Donate" button on our Facebook page, or send a check to our office at 1224 Lexington Park-way North, St Paul, MN 55103. Donations to District 10 are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law

It's easy to take a neighborhood asset like the District 10 Council for granted. Your financial support ensures that we'll be able to continue and expand our work in the future and keep our neighborhood strong.

Special Election

The District 10 Como Community Council plans to hold a special election on Tues., Dec. 17, at 7pm at the Historic Streetcar Station (1224 Lexington Parkway N.) for two new board positions created by the incorporation of the South Como neighborhood. Residents, business owners, or business representatives from within the new Subdistrict 4, bounded by Snelling and Dale between the northern and southern BNSF Railway tracks, are eligible to run for these positions, which will serve through our annual meeting in April.

All Subdistrict 4 neighbors are invited to vote in the election by attending the meeting. Indi-viduals interested in running for the board should call the District 10 office at (651) 644-3889 or send an email of interest to district10@district10comopark.org by 5pm on Tues., Dec. 3.

Turf Club

Continued from page 2

"Now it's going to be easier for people who live in Minneapolis, also people in downtown St. Paul. It's gonna be a lot more convenient," he said. "I gotta get excited when I drive down University and see it's going to be an eight-minute ride for students from the U of M.'

For anyone worried about the Turf losing its character, First Ave. offered this reassurance in their press statement: "As a venue with our own rich and distinct history, we recognize the impor-tance of embracing and maintaining what makes the Turf Club a gem of the Twin Cities. While we plan to keep the charm of the club, we will also be investing significantly in improvements to the venue.

Kranz said they'll spend the next few months learning the ropes, getting to know the neighborhood (Checkerboard Pizza is "a long, guilty pleasure" of his), then begin remodeling next year. "Not changing anything, just making it better," he said. "We wanna make the Turf Club the best possible 300-person room you can have, because the music

out." They plan to put in a kitchen, like The Depot Tavern at First Ave., but with a different menu. "We'll play around with some things we feel reflect the some things we feel reflect the vibe of the place and also what people of the neighborhood want to do." The Clown Lounge in the basement will stay.

is great, the beer is cold ... it's a

place where you wanna hang

One of Kranz's favorite shows at the club is one of the first he put on there, a concert with Ryan Adams. Arriving for an afternoon soundcheck Adams took a look at the room and wrote a song right there. He performed the song ("Firecracker") that evening, and it ended up on his next album. After the show Adams had a couple drinks then sat at the piano and played for another 45 minutes downstairs. Lucinda Williams was there.

"Everything about that night was so perfect," said Kranz. "I was able to look out and see the look on people's faces. I hope we have that a billion more times." Asked whether they plan to

add stars to the building, Kranz laughed and said they talked about adding band names to horseshoes, but it was only a joke. "Unless we do it, and then I guess it wasn't a joke.

Ever hanker to try your hand at printing something using natural objects? Then register for this fun family-friendly offering at the Harriet Alexander Nature Center! The date is Thurs., Nov. 21. 6-8pm and adults and kids aged 10 and up (with adult supervision) are welcome to sign up for just \$10 per person. They'll use leaves, feathers, pine

needles, and other fun items to create a unique design on greeting cards and t-shirt, tote bag, or other fabric item. They start the evening with a hike to enjoy the season and to collect materials for printing. Bring a light colored, blank t-shirt or other fabric item for printing on. Wear old clothing – fabric dyes are permanent! Registration is

Fun program slated at Nature Center

required by going online to www.CityOfRoseville.com/parks and following the link on the left side of the page; by calling Rose-ville Parks and Recreation at (651) 792-7006; or by stopping by in person at City Hall. The nature center is located at 2520 Dale St. N., Roseville 55113. For more information call (651) 765-HANC (4262).

Program to mark the 75th anniversary of the Holocaust

Vorld Without Genocide will commemorate the 75th anniversaries of Kristallnacht, the beginning of the Holocaust, and the kindertransports, efforts to rescue Jewish children, with a program on Mon., Dec. 9, 7pm. Mr. Benno Black, possibly Minnesota's only survivor of the kindertransport, will share his personal story at the event, held at the William Mitchell College of Law Auditorium, 875 Summit Ave.

During Kristallnacht, or Night of Broken Glass, German paramilitary and Nazi supporters burned more than a thousand synagogues and homes. destroyed 7,000 Jewish shops, and incarcerated more than 30,000 Jewish men in concentration camps. Kristallnacht is often referred to as the beginning of the Holocaust.

Five days after Kristallnacht. movement known as the kindertransports began moving mostly Jewish children from Nazi Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Poland to send them to safety in Great Britain.

Next Deadline: December 2 • Next Issue: December 12

These transports saved the lives of nearly 10,000 children.

In addition to remarks by Mr. Black, Dr. Ellen Kennedy, executive director of program's sponsor, World Without Genocide, will speak about Kristallnacht, the kindertransports, and the 65th anniversary of the signing of the Genocide Convention. \$10 general public, \$5 students and seniors, free to Mitchell students; \$35 for 2 standard CLE credits. No reservations necessarv.



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St. Paul considers private management of Como Golf Course

League members and residents have mixed feelings about proposal, changes in Como operation

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

St. Paul is considering partnering with a private company to run Como and Phalen golf courses starting next year. It's a move the golfers at Co-

mo have mixed feelings about.

"Members have concerns about how a private manager would work with the Men's Club," said Como Men's League Board Member Gary Ketchel. Among the questions are: will the condition of the course remain is it is, or will new managers cut corners maintaining the grounds to save monev? "Like any change there will always be apprehension and there is plenty of that here," Ketchel said. "Others feel like it could be

just what Como needs to remain viable and be here for future generations," he added.

Como Women's League Club President Kathy Zieman questions how the city is going to save money by going with an outside management company.

"By contracting out the operation and management of Phalen and Como, the city will shift the risk and expenses to a private vendor," explained city employee Brad Meyer.

In addition to removing the risk of loss, the city would also ask for a share of the profits. Plus, the city intends to ask vendors to make their own private investment into the required capital needs at the courses

"Without this private vendor option, the city would be required to start subsidizing golf from the general fund for almost \$1 million a year to keep the courses open (which is not a core value of the city)," pointed out Meyer. "This subsidizing would almost certainly impact other hard hit areas of the Parks and Recreation budget (like recreation centers) or require the



courses to close, which is not something the department would like to pursue.

CITY GOLF COURSES LOSING MONEY

Over the last 5 plus years, expenses at the city's four golf courses have exceeded revenues by at least \$600,000 annually (including more than a \$1 million this year), according Meyer.

This year, Como is expected to lose \$300,000. The number of people playing golf has gone down. This year was especially dif-ficult at Como because the course opened a month later due to poor weather conditions. Golf rounds have decreased almost 27% since 2005, according to St. Paul Special

Services Manager Susie Odegard. "After reviewing the current marketplace and the experience of other municipalities, going out to the marketplace is the only option that will allow for continued serv-ices at the courses," said Odegard. Losing \$600,000 plus for

more than 5 years is not sustain-able. Ramsey County was in a similar situation, but now after a few

years of operating within this model, the risk of loss is gone, and opportunities for profit are exponen-tially better," said Meyer. "We are hopeful that we can experience a similar trajectory.

PRIVATIZATION GROWING TREND

Ketchel pointed out that privatization of municipal courses is a growing trend in the industry. "In the old days, when golf was very popular, municipalities with golf courses made money almost by accident," he observed

Ketchel's opinion is that the government is inherently weak when it comes to running enter-prise-type operations. "This is where private management partnerships can help," said Ketchel.

"Private management will tweak the current business model to identify and maximize all the profit potential pieces of the golf course. These things may include looking at rate structure, staffing issues, food service potential, clothing and equipment sales, advertising, etc.

According to Ketchel, in recent years there has been a lapse in club-

house services, such as a fully stocked Pro Shop and restaurant choices. "A private manager would most likely focus on these things not only for a profit potential, but also as services that attract golfers to the course," he said. "Tee time sales could be improved by managing pricing better to fill open tee times at traditionally slow times of the day. Private management might do a better job of attracting and negotiating golf tournaments and leagues."

LEAGUE MEMBERS, **RESIDENTS TO BE INVOLVED**

Members from the city's parks and recreation department met with league members and local residents on Oct. 28 to discuss the Request for Proposals (RFP) process the city intends to use to solicit vendors

viewing and subsequent contract negotiation process," said Ketchel. "I think this was well received by

aged throughout the process, and we fully expect to continue active dialogues even after a vendor begins operating the courses," said Meyer. St. Paul will continue to oper-

Susie Odegard

- St. Paul Special Services Manager

ate the successful existing winter activity programs at the courses, including cross-country ski trails and the Alpine sports program that of-fers ski and snowboard activities.

The city intends to reassign the 20 or so affected staff to available positions at the Highland golf course or generally within the Parks Department. The private vendor may also opt to hire some of the displaced workers.

Personally, Ketchel isn't concerned that this would be bad for the Como Golf Course. "At its worst the city would show no gains in profitability," Ketchel said. "But keep in mind that no

management company is going to bid on this unless they feel strongly that they can profit. Hopefully the city will do a good job vetting any company that bids on this RFP

During a vote on Nov. 6, City Council members agreed to solicit RFPs on a 4-3 vote. "We're spend-ing too much now for what we're getting," said District 4 City Council Member Russ Stark.



A Cappella Choir Performance

The Hamline A Cappella Choir presents its annual Christmas concert, an afternoon of festive music perfect for the whole family featuring student soloists, conductor George S.T. Chu, and organist Helen Jensen. Hamline Professor Julie Neraas will give a reflection.

- 4 p.m. Sunday, December 8
- Hamline Church
- 1514 Englewood Avenue, Saint Paul

Women's Chorale and Hamline Winds Concert

Hamline students will perform holiday music and other pieces

• 2 p.m. Saturday, December 14 • Sundin Music Hall 1531 Hewitt Avenue, Saint Paul





"The goal and end result of this RFP

process is to continue to provide quality

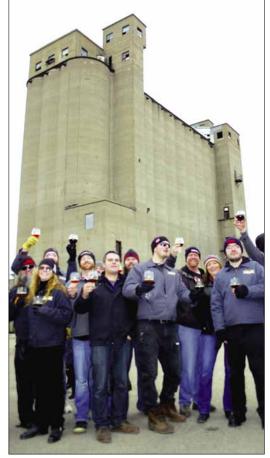
services at the golf courses, reassign

affected parks staff, and reduce the negative financial impacts to the city."

"It was promised that this group would be involved in RFP re-

most at the meeting." "Input from the district councils and neighbors will be encour-

MIDWAY: a hoppin' new brew destination



Members of the Surly family raise their glasses to celebrate the groundbreaking at the Malcolm-Midway location of their new "destination brewery. coming in late 2014. (Photo by Jill Boogren)



Get in the Bin: Co-owner Sandy Boss Febbo serves beer in the unique taproom at Bang Brewing (2320 Capp Rd., So. St. Anthony Park). The bin was conceived by Alchemy Architects (856 Raymond Ave.) and houses the only 100% organic brewery in the region. Hamline-Midway resident Isaac Evenhart (in bike helmet) is enjoying a Minn, a mild ale. The taproom is open Fridays 5-10pm and Saturdays 12noon-5pm. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

By JILL BOOGREN

Surly Brewing Co. broke ground in October on their new brewery at 520 Malcolm Ave. SE, just west of Hwy 280 in Minneapolis. It marks a huge leap forward for the brewery and "Surly Nation," the fans who helped give rise to Minnesota's - and now the Midway's — burgeoning beer scene.

"Everything that's happened at Surly has all happened with the support of the community, its fans," said Surly founder and president Omar Ansari.

The idea for a "destination brewery" - with a 300-person beer hall, beer garden, restaurant, and event center — began fermenting in 2010. But first Surly had to get past a prohibition-era law preventing brewers from selling pints of their own beer on premises. Thanks to the outpouring of support from craft beer lovers, the Minnesota legislature passed the "Surly law" in 2011 allowing taproom licenses.

Surly chose the 8.3 acre Malcolm Midway site because it was large enough to accommodate a near quadrupling of production to 100,000 barrels a year - but also because it's close to transit, bike routes and the light rail line. "We just wanted to be in a spot where people had options to get here and back." said Ansari.

Surly expects to be open by this time next year with head brewer Todd Haug at the helm.

They'll be in good company, as new breweries crop up in the Midway - each breaking its own

new ground. You can't miss **Bang Brewing** (2320 Capp Rd.), which husband and wife team Jay and Sandy Boss Febbo opened in September. Housed in a metal grain bin, the brewery is built for maximum efficiency. Its circular design and flexible use space is perfect for production flow, said Sandy. "We're able to do all this in 1,300 square feet."

Bang is the only 100% organ-ic brewery in the region. "Others do one organic beer out of, like, 15," said Hamline-Midway resident Isaac Everhart, who rode his bike there for a tasting one Satur-day afternoon. "This is all organic. It takes a lot of dedication to do that.

. They have two brews on tap so far: Neat, a very pale ale, and Minn, a mild. Jay's the lead brewer, "but we've done every batch together," said Sandy.

To round things out, the Boss Febbos have planted barley on the land outside the bin. They're rebuilding the soil so they can ultimately harvest quality organic grain. While it won't yield enough to feed their production, they'd like to find a homebrewer to use it.

"I love to garden," said Sandy. 'Now we get to farm and brew. And those days, when we're out there hand broadcasting the seeds, are so cool.

The location is perfect for the Boss Febbos, who wanted to be able to bike from their home in Mac-Groveland. They're also "huge fans" of mass transit. "Jay and I have shared a car for over a decade. We ride bikes, we both have Nice Ride keys, and we ride the bus and trains," said Sandy. "I can't wait for [the green line] to open.

Taproom hours are 5-10pm Fridays and 12noon-5pm Saturdays. Growlers are available.

Next door in a beautiful brick building (once home to St. Paul's municipal horses), Urban Growler Brewing Company (2325 Endicott St.) will be opening in 2014 as a packaging brewery with a tap-room, beer garden, and kitchen. Co-owners Iill Pavlak and Deb Loch believe UGBC is the first women-owned AND womenbrewed brewerv in the Midwest.

Their flagship beer is a Graffiti Rye IPA. Their "Plow to Pint" se-ries will feature beers made with seasonal ingredients, such as wild rice, pumpkin, blueberry, and rhubarb, provided by local urban farmers. "That's where we'll have interesting ideas and twists," said head brewer Loch

Pavlak said they've already been asked by a community gar-dener in St. Anthony Park what they should plant. This neighborhood connection is exactly what they'd hoped for. "The whole reason we wanted to do this was to involve the community, bring peo-ple together," she said.

They want to draw more women, too, by paying attention to what appeals to women. Some taprooms have few beers under 7% alcohol, said Loch, so she'll offer a breadth of flavors in a drinkable range. But lighter in alcohol doesn't mean lighter in flavor, she said. "Women like beer that tastes good, too.

When Pavlak visits taprooms she's either freezing or uncomfortable. So UGBC will be warmer and have more comfortable seating. They plan to serve food with beer pairings as well. Like the Boss Febbos, Pavlak

and Loch hail from Mac-Groveland and wanted to be close to light rail and bike paths. They're grateful for the supportive brewing community. "It only helps all of us, and it really will bring people into this area," said Loch.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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Sparc bids adieu to community

By JAN WILLMS

Although it has contributed over \$20 million through direct development and lending and provided services to more than 1,000 homeowners and business owners, Sparc will be closing its doors at the end of December.

"In the last few years we lost funding from foundations and the City of Saint Paul," said Matthew Ides, who has served as executive director of the organization for the past five years.

Sparc, which identified itself as a catalyst for economic and housing development, was formed in 2003. It was the result of a merger of the Hamline-Midway Area Rehabilitation Corporation (H-MARC) and North End Area Revitalization, Inc. (NEAR). The two community development corporations were responding to funding pressures and formed a new entity to continue their work.

Jonathon Sage-Martinson, former executive director of NEAR, served as Sparc's executive director until 2008.

Sparc's mission has been to create and maintain healthy, affordable and sustainable communities by improving residential and business vitality in the City of Saint Paul.

With offices at 855 Rice Street, Sparc has served the neighborhoods of Hamline-Midway, the North End and South Como.

According to Ides, the organization has provided \$5 million on single family housing rehab loans, \$2.5 million on commercial/industrial/retail financing to small businesses and \$15 million plus in direct development, covering Wards 1, 4 and 5 and a few citywide programs.



Four years ago Sparc worked with three farming entities to form North End Urban Farms, the biggest in St. Paul. Above (left), Sparc Associate Director Allison Sharkey takes part in the opening festivities for the urban farm with Mayor Chris Coleman.

"We worked on a big residential project, the Winnipeg Apartments on Rice Street, that was \$13 million," Ides said. "Four years ago, we worked with three farming entities to form North End Urban Farm, the biggest in St. Paul. And of course, we have always worked with Snelling and University Avenues."

The sources of capital used by Sparc were federal, state, county and city funds in addition to its own internal revolving loan funds, Ides said.

But a Nov. 9 article in the *Pioneer Press* stated that the City has ordered the North End Urban Farm on Maryland Avenue to be disassembled.

"City officials called due a loan and asked Sparc, which was behind on its property taxes, to put the 3-acre lot into city ownership or face foreclosure," the article reported.

Ides said losing some of the key foundation support was related to the difficulties with the economy the past few years. At present, Ides continues on a part-time basis as Sparc's director. He also is working in the Community Development Department at the City of Brooklyn Park.

Associate director Allison Sharkey has joined Lake Street Council in Minneapolis as an associate director, and will be taking over as executive director there in July.

Frank Sprandel, construction specialist with Sparc, is now a construction manager at Urban Homeworks in Minneapolis and will transition to full-time in December.

Cindy Anderson remains in a full-time capacity as financial manager at Sparc.

Ides said he believes Sparc has done good work in the field of community development and is sorry to see the organization close. At its annual meeting Oct. 30, the organization celebrated a decade of accomplishments, while at the same time saying farewell to the communities it has served.

Goodwill plans to convert Whitaker Buick building into retail

By KYLE MIANULLI

Goodwill specializes in tuming old into new, and the international nonprofit is now planning to bring new life to a long vacant building in the Hamline Midway neighborhood. Plans are moving ahead to convert the long-vacant Buick Whitaker car dealership building at 1221 University Ave. into a modern two story, 34,000 square foot space to house a new Goodwill retail store.

The project, which is on track for completion in November 2014, will include about 12,000 square feet of retail space, and 4,000 square feet for processing on the first floor, as well as another 16,000 square feet for offices on the second floor.

The retail portion of the current Goodwill location off Fairview Avenue will be moved to this new location, making room for an expansion of the corporate operations that currently share that building.

The site plan includes a sizable parking lot with 49 stalls, though that is only half the number of spaces at a typical Goodwill retail location, according to Scott Nelson of the Minneapolis-based DJR Architecture Inc. which is working on the project.

The parking lot, which was a main concern for residents who attended two community meetings hosted by the architecture firm, will be lined with rain gardens along the University Ave. side



Plans are moving ahead to convert the long-vacant Buick Whitaker car dealership building at 1221 University Avenue into a modern two story, 34,000 square foot space to house a new Goodwill retail store.

and will contain other types of landscaping throughout, according to the current site plans.

Neighbors are also concerned about an increase in traffic, especially considering the site will contain a drop-off bay at the rear of the building. To help alleviate some of these concerns, a buffered lane was added to the plans, Nelson said, to help keep drop-off traffic out of the alleyway.

Developers are also looking into various storm water management systems for the property, which will be Energy Star certified, Nelson said. Options being explored include using some form of permeable pavement for walkways and part of the parking lot.

Nelson expects to submit the current site plans to the city for approval by the end of November. There will be two separate submittals, one for the site plan the other for a parking variance which is required to provide more than 60 linear feet of parking along University. The current plan has 180 feet.

Developers have met with the Hamline Midway Coalition Development Committee, and have held two well-attended community meetings on the project to gather input from residents in the area. Nelson said people have been generally supportive of the plans, and that his firm has worked to incorporate revisions that alleviate concerns that were raised.

Assuming the plans are approved by the city upon submittal, there would then be a public hearing on the project before the St. Paul City Council. Nelson says they would also likely hold another community meeting before going ahead with the project.

(Kyle Mianulli (kyle@hamlinemidway.org) is communications coordinator for the Hamline Midway Coalition.)



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Daily Diner Frogtown serves up a big stack of food, assistance

By JAN WILLMS

There's a new place in town, at 615 University Ave. It has tempting fare, such as a big chunk of meatloaf, covered with caramelized onions, beef gravy and featuring a Scotch egg in the center, or cheesy Parmesan hash browns or a catfish sandwich on a hoagie roll.

But the Daily Diner Frogtown does more than serve up a mouth-watering menu. It provides a place for individuals who may have been down on their luck to get back on track while learning about careers in the food industry.

The Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities (UGMTC), which started in St. Paul in 1902 and has dedicated itself to helping the poor, the homeless and the addicted, is the sponsor of the training program offered at the Daily Diner Frogtown.

"A few years ago, we started dreaming a little bit," said Gail Gisi, director of communication and adult education at HGMTC

Daily Diner Frogtown

Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner Open Mon-Sat 7 am-7 pm Sundays 9 am-2 pm

"The Mission has a really comprehensive education and career de-velopment program already. We help individuals get their GED, write resumes and practice interviewing, but we offered no on-thejob training."

Ken Peterson, executive direc-tor of UGMTC, added that they wanted to help prepare people who may be hard to employ to go out and get a job.

Peterson said there is easy entrv into the food industry, and UGMTC could develop a needed public restaurant while at the same time providing a vocational program, Our Daily Bread, for qualified trainees. "The trainees could learn how to cook, be a hostess or server or prep cook, Gisi said. "There are a lot of poten-tial careers they could move into."

The restaurant opened its doors Apr. 15 of this year. It oper-ates with a full professional staff and currently has two trainees, Henry Wallace and Jonathan Sasa-da, learning the skills of the trade.

Nick Gisi, Gail's husband and director of men's programs for UGMTC, has a background of serving as manager of Perkins for 25 years, as well as working with other restaurants. Bringing this combination of experience with UGMTC and the hospitality industry, he has served as project man-



Top left, the Daily Diner Frogtown looks out over University Avenue; Center, Trainee Henry Wallace visits with a customer; Lower left, Nick Gisi and Mike Olinger in front of a mosaic by Lori Greene; Right, the Daily Diner's message, posted in a prominent spot on the wall in the restaurant--"Now serving dignity, self reliance and courage." (Photo by Jan Willms)

ager for the Daily Diner Frogtown and as interim general manager to get the restaurant up and running.

Both Gisis have a long history with UGMTC. Gail has been with the Mission for 19 years and Nick for 10

"We both started as volunteers," Gail Gisi explained. "We just fell in love with the work of the organization and the people it serves. It is so fulfilling to be part of easing suffering in our commu-nity and seeing people's lives changed in really significant ways.

Regarding the restaurant, Nick Gisi explained that both trainees work 40 hours a week in a 12week training program. "They are trained in every area of the restaurant, from front to back." he said. They also attend Serv-Safe training and become certified in that."

He said they are taken to food shows and other restaurants. He is in the process now of partnering with other restaurants so that upon completion of their training, Henry and Jonathan will be able to do a 40-hour internship. "It will offer them another perspective of how other restaurants are run. Nick Gisi said. "These two are our guinea pigs," he added, with a smile.

The trainees have already gone through several programs at UGMTC before they begin at Daily Diner Frogtown.

"We do a curriculum with them, working on soft skills that help such as attitude and goal-setting, where to look for a job and what job will fit their strengths and personality," Nick Gisi related. "What I like most is meeting

people," emphasized trainee Wallace. "Everything about this job

server, it helps for him to have also learned about preparing the food so that he can explain the ingredients of a dish to the customer

"It's hardest when we get a rush," he said, "but my coworkers

have not let me get lost in the shuffle. We work well together. Our teamwork is fantastic

Mike Olinger, who has just started as the new general manage er, agreed that everyone at the restaurant works well together. Olinger, who retired from 27 years at Unisys, taught as a substitute teacher for a couple years and then managed Sonic Drive-in five years, said this opportunity presented itself to him and intrigued him

"I've spent my whole life focused on people, and I really like the program offered here, where we can help those who need it make a life for themselves.

The Board of Directors for the restaurant, called the Fresh Start Board, is composed of people from the food industry. Board members include a chef who has written a cookbook, restaurant owners, and people from the hospitality and restaurant design field.

The restaurant is filled with work by local artists, including a mosaic by Lori Greene, owner of Mosaic on a Stick at 1564 LaFond Ave.; counter and ceiling art by Seitu Jones; bold and colorful paintings by Eric Pearson and a black and white mural depicting Frogtown.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



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In Our Community

Monitor

Send us your news! When you submit your press release it will be considered for both the newspaper as well as the Monitor Facebook page (facebook.com/monitorsaintpau)). You can also go to our website, MonitorSaintPaulcom and enter the information in the online Event Calendar.

Library to close for renovations

The Hamline Midway Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave., will be closing from Dec. 9-25 for renovation work.

In the meantime, on Monday nights, Nov. 18, 25, and Dec. 2 enjoy an evening storytime. Bring children to the library from 6:30-7pm for reading and activities with Volunteer Lark. On Fridays, Nov. 15 and 22, 10:30-11am, bring in your toddlers and preschoolers for morning storytime.

District 10 sponsors Como Lake Walk

Walk off your Thanksgiving dinner with your neighbors! Join District 10 Como Community Council members on a post-Turkey walk around Como Lake. Meet at the Como Lakeside Pavilion - look for the turkey(1) - at 10am or 4pm on Fri., Nov. 29. For more information, call (651) 644-3889.

Registration begins at Northwest Como Rec

Northwest Como Recreation Center Winter/Spring Class registration begins on Mon., Dec. 9. You can register at www.stpaul.gov/parks, call 651-298-5813 with a credit card, or come into Northwest Como, Mon.-Thur, 3-8pm, Fri. 3-6pm.

Registration for:

 Preschool Activities: Ballet/Creative Movement, Parent/ Child Soccer, Sesame Street Gang Art Class, Big and Messy Art Class.

• Youth Activities: Artist Workshop, Jazz/Ballet/Hip Hop, Hip Hop for Boys, Funtastic Fridays, Lego Fungineering, Archery, Floor Hockey, Ice Skating Lessons, Indoor Soccer, Tae Kwon Do.

• Teen Activities: Youth Jam, Archery, Mardi Gras Dance, Babysitting Training.

• Adult & Seniors: Line Dance, Gamers, Women's Basketball, Men's Soccer, Girls Night Out Art Class.

The Northwest Como Recreation Center is located at 1550 Hamline Ave. N.

Gospel of Matthew studied at Jehovah

The Gospel of Matthew will be the subject of Bible study at Jehovah Lutheran Church at 9:30am Sundays through Nov. 24. Luke Timothy Johnson, who teaches New Testament at Emory University in Atlanta, will lecture via DVD. The Gospel readings for the coming church year are from Matthew, organizers note, and Johnson's observations offer insight into the text. Coffee and treats are available. It's free and open to all. The church is at 1566 Thomas in St. Paul.

Local dance troupe opens 10th year



Local dance troupe TU Dance (2121 University W., St. Paul) will open their 10th Season with performances at the Minneapolis Cowles Center, Goodale Theater. The program features world premiere works by New York choreographers Dwight Rhoden and Gregory Dolbashian; the Minnesota premier of Alonzo King's evocative and shimmering duet Rasa, set to an original score by tabla virtuoso Zakir Hussain; and signature work by TU Dance's own Uri Sands. Performances will be Nov. 15 and 16 at 8pm and Nov. 17 at 2pm. Tickets are \$30-\$32 and can be obtained from the Goodale Theater Box Office: 612.206.3600 or online at www.thecowlescenter.org.

Chelsea Heights PTO fundraiser Nov. 21

Chelsea Heights Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is sponsoring a fundraising event with Davanni's Pizza in Roseville on Nov. 21 from 4-8pm. Davanni will donate a portion of their sales during that time period to Chelsea Heights PTO. Chelsea Heights School is located at 1557 N. Huron St.

Sign up now for winter baseball camp

Hamline University is hosting a six week baseball camp starting Jan. 11. Hamline head coach Jim Weyandt will direct the program in conjunction with U.S. Baseball Academy. Classes are available for players in grades 1-12 and are limited to six players per coach. Sessions are offered in advanced hitting, pitching, catching, fielding and base-running, Proceeds from the program will benefit amateur baseball in the St. Paul area. Space is limited. Registration is now under way. For more information, visit www.USBaseballAcademy.comor call toll-free 866-622-4487.

Save the date for holiday band concert

The Lex-Ham Community Band will perform a free concert of Christmas/Hanukkah music at 7:30pm, Dec. 15 at the Buetow Auditorium, Concordia University-St Paul, 310 N. Hamline Ave. Come and be ready to hear some great music and to sing holiday carols. See www.LexHamArts.org/band for more information about the ensemble and how you can get involved.

Barn Dance slated at Hamline Methodist

Hamline Church, United Methodist, 1514 Englewood Drive (use alley entrance), will be sponsoring a family barn dance with a band and caller; all ages are welcome, and no experience necessary. The dance will be held Sat., Nov. 23 from 6:30-8:30pm. Cost is \$5 per individual or \$15 family. Snacks will be available for purchase.

Be ready for city snow emergencies

Although the snow season may be a ways away, the city of St. Paul would like to remind people that now is a good time to prepare for any snow emergencies that may come our way this winter. Get prepared today by:

• Updating your account or subscribing to the city's SnowAlert system to receive email and/or text alerts, go to www.stpaul.gov/snowalert;

• Visiting the webpage at www.stpaul.gov/snow for snow emergency rules, general information and snow operation updates during the storm;

 And, if you don't have access to email or a cellular device, call the Snow Emergency hotline at (651)-266-PLOW (7569).

District 10 meeting scheduled Nov. 19

Mike Hahm, Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of St Paul, will be presenting an overview of the Parks and Recreation Department, discussing the various planning processes for Como Regional Park, and responding to neighborhood questions at the Nov. 19 District 10 Como Community Council meeting at 7pm at the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 Lexington Parkway N.

Fundraiser planned for Maxfield School

Do a little Shopping! Do a lot of good! Nettie & Friends are at it again with their irresistible, locally handcrafted goods. Come to the annual sale's opening reception on Sat., Dec. 7, from 4-7pm at the Egg and 1 East, 2550 University Ave. Shop for your holiday gifts. Continue shopping at Egg and I throughout December. When you buy gifts from Nettie & Friends, you're also benefiting the students at the Maxfield School in St. Paul's Rondo neighborhood. (Nettie & Friends is a registered 501C3 nonprofit organization).

La Leche Group meets December 10

Nutrition and Weaning is the topic of the evening meeting of the Como-Midway La Leche Group on Tues., Dec. 10. All expectant and nursing mothers are invited to attend with their babies and toddlers. Call Heidi at 651-659-9527 for more information.

New tenant moves into Energy Park

Wellington Management, Inc. announced that Buell Consulting has moved into its Energy Park Financial Building in the Midway. As a leader in the Midwest telecommunications industry for over 21 years, Buell Con-sulting provides a variety of services to its clients including cell site acquisition, zoning, permitting, right-of-way agreements and wireless zoning ordinance redrafting. Equally skilled at building new or making modifications to existing structures, Buell Consulting offers expertise in real estate acquisition as well as in project and construction management. It prides itself on maintaining positive working relationships with a variety of stakeholders such as municipalities and land owners. The firm moved into its new

The firm moved into its new 4,955 square foot office space in mid-October.

Dist. 10 to vote on bylaw revisions

At the Nov. 19 board meeting, the District 10 Como Community Council will be voting on bylaw revisions necessitated by the boundary change between Districts 6 and 10 that will take effect on Jan. 1, 2014. Proposed bylaw revisions can be viewed at www.district10como park.org, and comments/feedback may be submitted to boundarychange @district10comopark.org. A special election to fill newly-created seats will take place in December. The board meeting will be held at the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 Lexington Parkway N.

Volunteers needed for Mothers First

Provide transportation to mothers in recovery to/from groups with our Mothers First program. Reimbursement for mileage is provided. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age. For additional information, contact Ramsey County Community Human Services—Volunteer Services at 651-266-4090 or e-mail to Human Services Volunteer @co.ramsey.mn.us.

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In Our Community

Continued from page 9

Save young lungs; turn off engines...

For parents who pick up their children at school and for anyone who spends time waiting in the car, remember to turn off the engine while waiting. Children's lungs are still developing, and they inhale more pounds of pollution per pound of body weight than adults do, so they are especially vulnerable to vehicle air pollution.

Most air pollution comes from cars and trucks releasing fossil fuel exhaust. Exhaust from an idling car carries a higher load of pollutants than exhaust from a moving car, so reducing unnecessary idling is one easy way all drivers can do their part to improve air quality.

Turning off the engine while waiting will also save money on wasted fuel – in general, 10 seconds of idling uses more fuel than restarting the car – and it's the law.

Co-ed Drum Circle gathers November 22

A Co-ed Drum Circle will perform on Fri., Nov. 22, 6:30pm. Percussion, rhythm and freedom of expression will be explored. All levels of experience are welcomed and encouraged. The Women's Drum Center is located at 2242 University Ave. W. Drums are provided and the cost is \$10 at the door. Info and registration at www.womensdrumcenter.org.

Dinner with Santa planned for Dec. 6

St. Paul Parks and Recreation will be hosting a "Dinner with Santa and Mrs. Claus" Holiday Party on Fri., Dec. 6 from 5:30-7p.m. at Langford Recreation Center. Langford is located at 30 Lang ford Park in the St. Anthony Park neighborhood.

The event includes a spaghetti dinner, a holiday craft project, cookie decorating, face painting and of course a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus (bring your camera). Cost is \$5 per person with a maximum \$25 per immediate family cap. Ages 2 and under are free. To register, please call 651-298-5765 or sign up at your local recreation center. You may also visit www.stpaul.gov/parks and go to activity #11080.

District 10 Volunteer Open House scheduled

Take a break from the holiday hustle and bustle and learn more about opportunities to volunteer right in your own neighborhood with the District 10 Como Community Council. You'll have a chance to talk with other District 10 volunteers about their work and sign up for projects or committees that interest you. Stop by District 10's offices in the Historic Streetcar Station (1224 Lexington Parkway N.) on Sun., Dec. 8 from 12:30-3:30pm. Cocoa, cider, and cookies will be provided.

Agape students learn valuable driving lessons

"Many students don't realize the economic benefits of driving safely and earning good grades," says Stan Winne, Allstate Agent.

Winnie recently made a presentation to the Family and Consumer Science class at AGAPE High School (1037 University Ave. W.), on the importance of driver safety and the need for teenagers to understand the financial impact of driving decisions. Winnie discussed the "100 Deadliest Days" — the time between prom and Labor Day, when teen fatalities due to car accidents peak – as well as the financial implications of safe driving. The presentation was a part

The presentation was a part of BestPrep's Financial Matters program, a curriculum that equips students with the tools necessary to become financially literate and develop sound money management skills. Following their experience with the Insurance Matters presentation, students can identify the factors that raise and/or lower insurance premiums as well as the major causes of teen accidents.

BestPrep's mission and programs are based on the belief that students learn best through active participation in hands-on, experiential activities. BestPrep bridges classroom curriculum and the world of business, enriching the teaching and learning experience for Minnesota students and educators.

"Healing Sounds" to screen Nov. 3

The Theosophical Society will offer a free screening of the docu-mentary "Healing Sounds: The Principles of Sound Therapy 7pm Mon., Nov. 25, at Spirit United, 3204 Como Ave. SE, Minneapolis as part of its monthly "Ancient Mysteries, Ancient Wisdom" series. (Sacred Mysteries Productions, 2004, 1 hour, 43 min.) Based on Goldman's book now considered a classic in the field of sound healing, the documentary shows the extraordinary power of harmonics to heal and ransform. It includes Tibetan, Kabalistic and Shamanic sounds. as well as medical application of harmonic frequencies including the work of Alfred Thomas and Peter Guy Manners. There are also sections on "Vowels as Mantras" and "The Fundamentals of Vocal Harmonics" which allow you to discover how to create and experience the transformative benefits of vocal harmonics. Jonathan Goldman is a 30-year pioneer in bringing healing sound concepts A Pioneer Christmas at the Gibbs Museum

Celebrate a 1800s Minnesota Christmas of Pioneer and Dakotah Life at the Gibbs Museum on Sat., Dec. 7, 10am-2pm! Reservations are required – please call the Gibbs Museum at 651-646-8629.

Visitors will have the opportunity to travel back in time and experience a real Pioneer Christmas, including a bonfire, making corn husk angels, and visiting with the animals in the White Barn. Actors will be portraying friends of the Gibbs family in costumes of the era, and the buildings will be decorated in an authentic manner. Create your own very special Pioneer Christmas memories with your family, memories that will last for decades to come. Activities include:

Activities include: • The 2-hour program includes both indoor and outdoor activities, visitors are urged to dress warmly and appropriately for the weather.

 Sod House in 1849. Visit the original "soddy" house that Jane and Heman Gibbs first lived in, and discover how Christmas was celebrated during their first winters on the Minnesota prairie.

• Main House, Original Room in 1859. Celebrate Christmas in the one original room that the whole Gibbs family lived in.

• Parlor, Main House in 1869. As the family grew, so did the house. See how the Gibbs created Christmas in their new Victorian-era parlor with a reenactor portraying Mary Lake, a

into the mainstream consciousness. Free refreshments and parking is available in the lot east of the church building. \$5 suggested free-will donation. (651) 235-6645. www.theosophical.org/membership/localgroups/Minneapolis.

ta teacher who lived with the famnd ily.

• Main House Kitchen in 1879. Actors in period costumes will be preparing authentic holiday foods of the times, portraying carefully researched real-life characters, friends of the Gibbs family.

the Gibbs family. • White Barn. Visit the animals, and see a sleigh from the era, that families used to get around in the snow.

• One Room Schoolhouse. Make a corn husk angel like the one on the Gibbs family tree to take home and decorate your own tree.

• Dakota Village. Enjoy a roaring bonfire and hot chocolate with marshmallows in the Dakota Village, a reproduction of how Jane's Dakota friends lived during the time.

of how jate's parota time. • Gift Shop. The Gift Shop will be open with great gifts, old-time style toys and games, and ornaments.

Tickets are \$10 adults, \$9 for seniors, and \$7 for children. Ramsey County Historical Society members receive a 10% discount off of ticket prices. Reservations are timed so that small groups can experience the intimate family atmosphere, please reserve for a specific time The Gibbs Museum of

The Gibbs Museum of Pioneer & Dakotah Life is located on the corner of Larpenteur and Cleveland Aves in Falcon Heights. Our free parking lot for museum guests is located on Cleveland Avenue just north of the intersection of Larpenteur and Cleveland Avenues.

Minn State Fair wins prestigious award

The Minnesota State Fair organization was one of this year's winners of the Better Business Bureau of Minnesota and North Dakota (BBB) Torch Awards. Previously called the Integrity Awards, the Torch Award for Ethics recognizes worthy companies that strive to go above and beyond in their dealings with customers, employees, vendors and their community.

The Minnesota State Fair won the award in Category III, which represented companies with 51-175 employees.

The BBB presents the Torch Awards for Ethics each year to companies who exemplify ethical behavior and display integrity in all aspects of their operations. The Torch Awards are open to all for-profit businesses located within the Minnesota and North Dakota region. Nominees are offered the opportunity to submit an entry to the BBR, where a panel of independent volunteer business and community leaders review the entries and choose the winners.



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December 12 & 13. Please bring them in dozens to the front desk at the Lyngblomsten Care Center. Questions? Call (651) 632-5324.

Visit www.lyngblomsten.org/cookiefair2013 for more info.

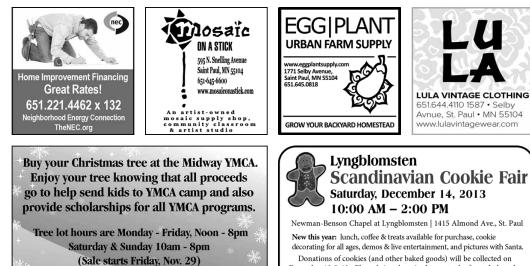
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Friday, Dec. 6 | 10 AM A Cup of Christmas Tea

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\$5 suggested donation. Questions? (651) 632-5335. www.lyngblomsten.org



We are located at 1761 University Avenue on the corner of Wheeler and University. For more information contact Dave Dominick at 651-646-4557.

Page 10

Classifieds

Monitor

Want ads must be in the Monitor before December 2 for the December 12 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

ATTORNEY Creative Solutions With a Personal Touch. Legal Services in

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etc. Ceramic tile. Basement bath-

rooms installed Call 612-275-

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Program is looking for volunteers to

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transportation to elderly seniors in

the community. Must be 55+ and

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ment. Contact Cory Ramel at: 651-

310-9450 or cory.ramel@lssmn.org.

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11-13

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REAL ESTATE

Homes for Sale - Contract for deed, 1395 Thomas 3+ BR, 868 Thomas 3 BR, Gar. 840 Marion Starter. 1406 Minnehaha 3 BR. DeLisle Co. 651-488-0561. 11-13

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WANTED TO BUY

WANTED - Old Stereo, HiFi Equipment, HAM, and Cameras. Andy 651-329-0515. 2-14

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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 denis@deruyternelson.com. Want ads must be in the Monitor before December 2 for the December 12 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 10-13

ADDITIONS

Martin Dynneson & Son. Kustom Building and Remodeling -Kustom additions. Roofing, siding, exterior/interior painting. Metal roofs, guaranteed for 100 years. Marty 612-724-8819. 2-14

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ANTIQUES

For Sale: Vintage 1900-1949 lights, house hardware, doors, tubs, radiators, etc. Also furniture hardware. 651-644-9270. 20% off with ad. B-13



Ginkgo to host annual art/craft fair

Ginkgo Coffeehouse will host its 11th annual Holiday Art and Craft Fair on Sat., Dec. 7, from 9am -5 pm. Artists present their own wares, giving you a chance to meet talented artists and learn more about how they make things. This year's event includes handmade glass beads and jewelry, mosaics, metal sculpture, chain maille jewelry, needle felted items, hand stamped dish towels, and much more!

For more information, visit our web site, www.ginkgo cof-fee.com, e-mail kathy@ginkgocoffee.com or call 651-645-2647.

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ence. Dave, 612-721-5105, cell 612-636-3073. 12-13 HOUSE CLEANING

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Feline Rescue enlarging its Midway facilities

By JANE MCCLURE

As need for its services grows, the nonprofit group Feline Rescue is enlarging its facilities. The cat rescue organization is making plans to expand across Fairview Avenue to the former Crown Elevator building. Once completed the expanded facilities will provide more space for spaying and neutering of cats, as well as more space for cat intake and ill cats. Needed meeting and storage areas will also be gained.

Feline Rescue helps feral, abandoned and abused cats and kittens. It's not a shelter where owners surrender their pets, but a place that helps cats with few other options. The nonprofit has been in Hamline-Midway neighborhood since 2005; before that it was in St. Anthony Park. It was founded in 1997 in Minneapolis.

The nonprofit will purchase the building at 600 N. Fairview Ave., across the street from its longtime home at 593 N. Fairview

Midway

west.

Breweries

Continued from page 6

Named for the fire-eating an-

After head brewer Breim-

tics of founders Dane Breimhorst

and Thom Foss, Burning Broth-

ers Brewing is the only dedicated gluten-free brewery in the Mid-

horst was diagnosed with Celiac,

a gluten intolerance, he was de-

termined to make a really good

gluten-free beer. He entered com-

petitions, receiving feedback from the judges that his was a

'good solid beer.'

Ave. The current building houses about 70 cats, along with offices, storage and other functions of the organization. The organization's volunteers take care of as many as 200 additional cats and kittens in foster homes. Volunteers also work to provide food and shelter to feral cats. Some feral cats are trapped, spayed or neutered and then released, to hold the population down.

The expansion has the support of neighborhood residents and Midway Chamber of Commerce. Feline Rescue operates with volunteers and donations to provide its services. The expansion would provide space for the programs it already has and it isn't meant to expand what is offered.

The building at 593 N. Fairview Ave. will continue to be Feline Rescue's main building, and the place where the public will interact with volunteers and cats. It will continue to be open seven days a week.

anyone it was gluten free before-

Being gluten free means no wheat, barley, rye or spelt is used.

Instead Breimhorst uses sorghum, buckwheat and millet, and has even tried quinoa.

canning facility, with some sea-sonal bottles and growler sales.

St. Paul is its primary market,

with priority going to restaurants like Brasa, which is committed to

providing a gluten-free dining ex-

get Burning Brothers beer on draft will be in their taproom. Be-

cause it's gluten free, they need to

guarantee their beer is always on a tap line that will never be used

for a beer containing gluten.

For now, the only place to

Breimhorst and Foss had to

Burning Brothers will be a

hand.

perience.

But the lack of space in the current building can make it a challenge to handle all of the organization's needs. One huge issue can be segregating newly arrived cats, some with illnesses, from the rest of the shelter's population. In a facility with tight quarters, it can be all too easy for diseases – especially upper respiratory diseases to spread among the cat population. That's one reason why more space is needed.

Space is tight and room for current activities is very much needed, especially for the MN SNAP neuter-spay service that visits Feline Rescue twice a month. We're running out of room," said Feline Rescue Board Chairman Alden Drew.

MN SNAP is a nonprofit that provides spay and neuter services for animals, helping owners who may not otherwise be able to af-ford to have the surgeries done. MN SNAP works throughout the region to provide its services. The



As need for its services grows, the nonprofit group Feline Rescue is enlarging its facilities. The nonprofit will purchase the building at 600 N. Fairview Ave., across the street from its longtime home at 593 N. Fairview Ave.

spay/neuter surgeries are done in MN SNAP's van, said Feline Rescue Treasurer Randi Helgeson. Space at Feline Rescue is used for dropping off and holding cats. While the program may attract as many as 30-40 cats for a day when the van is on-premises, not all cats are dropped off and picked up at the same time.

Feline Rescue volunteers met with neighbors to discuss the expansion and no one opposed the proposal. Crown Elevator typically had about 14 employees at its site each day, with Tuesdays bringing in more than 40 workers. Traffic from Feline Rescue is expected to be less, even on the designated spay/neuter service days when MN SNAP is on site.

The St. Paul Planning Commission approved a change in nonconforming use permit for Feline rescue Nov 1 That is final unless it is appealed to the St. Paul City Council. As of Monitor deadline no appeal had been filed. The expansion requires a change in nonconforming use from elevator repair service to allow for the nonprofit to locate there. The property is zoned for multi-family residential use. City staff recommended approval of the proposal, as did the Planning Commission Zoning Committee on Oct. 24. The committee was reassured that the new use will draw less motor vehicle traffic to the site than the former business occupant did.

City Planner Bill Dermody drew chuckles from the Zoning Committee when he referred to the new building as being "kitty-corner" from the current facility.

'You could also say 'catty-corner'," replied Zoning Committee Chairman Gaius Nelson.



Burning Brothers Brewing, 1750 Thomas Ave., the only 100% gluten-free brewery in the Midwest, expected to open by the end of this year. , (Photo by Jill Boogren)

the City of St. Paul to allow taprooms to operate in a mixed use neighborhood — a measure that passed handily and went into effect in July. Neighbors have al-ready told them they can't wait

for them to open. Burning Brothers expects to begin canning their Pyro Ameri-can Pale Ale by the end of this

year, with their "no frills" tap-room quick to follow.



Gail Gisi points to some historic photos of early Frogtown. (Photo by Jan Willms)

Daily Diner

Continued from page 8

It is kitty corner from the Rondo Library, with the windows of the restaurant forming a semi-circle that looks out upon University Ave.

Although admitting the area in the past may have not had a sterling reputation, Gail Gisi said she is hoping that will change.

There are a lot of great businesses here, and also some wonderful neighborhood history, with Rondo and Frogtown," Gail Gisi said. Photos in the restaurant reflect some of that

history. "This community is really committed to growth," she said.

community. "We're expecting the light rail will impact the number of people coming into the restau-rant," Gail Gisi said. "The busi-ness right now really fluctuates, but we are hoping to get the word out."

"And we want to be a part of the

Reflecting back on the trainees, Gail Gisi said they are expecting 15-20 a year will graduate from the program. "Whoever hires them will be

hiring a good employee, clean and sober with good work skills," she said. She said that UGMTC will not just help the participants find a job, but will follow them for three years, making sure the job is a good fit

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