

Rapper Carnage the Executioner remembers his roots

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Midway Como

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Central High School transformed for its 150th anniversary year

Improved landscaping, stormwater management, outdoor classroom and paved pathway to Lexington part of project

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

When students arrived at Central High School for the start of the sesquicentennial school year, the "prison" looked a little more inviting.

The transformation of the state's oldest, continuously-operating, and only five-story high school campus began on June 13. It included improved landscaping and stormwater management, an outdoor classroom, and a paved pathway across campus to Lexington Pkwy.

Before these updates, longtime Principal Mary Mackbee described the front entryway as "bland." As work progressed over the summer, she was looking forward to returning students passing through the project area and seeing all the new things in front. "It's wonderful," Mackbee stated.

"We always joked that Central resembled a prison—and maybe took some pride in that—but these updates will make it have a sense of place, make it feel like the great academic school it is," stated St. Paul Council Member and Assistant Hennepin County Attorney Chris Tolbert, who graduated in 2001

Tolbert praised the group of parents who have worked on this update for years. "This project would not have happened but for their persistence, dedication, and resourcefulness," said Tolbert. "I hope that we can keep that level of dedication from parents for generations."

Committee members included Deb Ahlquist, Beth Black, Amber Buckner, Patricia Eaves, Craig Davies, Sally Gagne, Kris Hageman, Lisa Heyman, Ann Hobbie, Margaret Jones, Julie Marckel, Dana Murdoch, Maggie O'Reilly, Jeff Risberg, and Nina Tuttle.

"We thought that Central's drab and uninviting exterior did not reflect the diverse, welcoming and vibrant community inside," observed committee member Heyman. "With the addition of the outdoor classroom and seated planters there will be so many more places to sit. The paved pathway to Lexington will bring dignity to all students. No longer will they trudge through the mud to get to their buses."

Someone cared enough

"Appearance plays a big role in the way people feel," remarked Adrian Perryman, a 2003 Central High School graduate and current Concordia University employee. "Knowing that someone cared enough to invest their time into this project will make students feel special. I don't recall any improvements when I was a student, but the appearance of the school and the grounds was definitely a topic of discussion."

According to Maggie O'Reilly, the effort to upgrade and renovate the outdoor campus started five years ago when parents on the committee noted the compacted soil on the grounds, excessive water runoff, worn trees and landscaping, and unattractive entrance. They also noted a need for outdoor seating and a paved walking path from the plaza to Lexington Ave.

The Transforming Central project officially got underway by a dedicated group of parents, students and community members in the fall of 2011 when the committee partnered with the Root and Shoots

Continued on page 6



Members of the Transforming Central Committee are excited to see five years of work coming to fruition. The changes to the stormwater system and front plaza were sparked by students, staff, and parents. The project completion kicks off the sesquicentennial celebration of the school. Left to right: Ann Hobbie, Lisa Heyman, Maggie O'Reilly, Principal Mary Mackbee, Julie Marckel, Olive Murdoch Meyer and Nina Tuttle. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

St. Paul Tool Library soon to open in Midway

Story and photo by MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

A different kind of library is opening this fall in the former American Can building, 755 Prior Ave. N. The St. Paul Tool Library will be the first of its kind in the city. The North East Minneapolis Tool Library (NEMTL) opened 15 months ago, and the two will share a common board, tool inventory, and membership base.

The new home for the St. Paul Tool Library was announced at a launch party/fundraiser Aug. 16. The event was held to further the St. Paul Tool Library's crowd funding campaign that runs until Sept. 17. The goal is to raise at least \$12910 including a \$5,000 community support match grant from the Knight Foundation.

What exactly is a tool library?

A tool library is a space filled with tools that can be checked out and taken home by members for a set period. Like a book library, a tool library gives members the freedom to use the tools they need without having to buy them. A tool library also offers skill-building classes to help members learn to use new tools, and the chance to meet other members working on projects in the shared workshop space.

Power tools, hand tools, automotive tools, and yard tools will



Zach Wefel, of the North East Minneapolis Tool Library, greeted a prospective St. Paul Tool Library member at the launch party at Monster Lake Brewing. The Minneapolis and St. Paul tool libraries will be two branches of the same organization, sharing a common board to advise their growth and development.

all be available when the Tool Library opens. Skill-building classes will include basic electrical wiring, and introductory woodworking projects such as how to build a beebox, a raised garden bed, or picture frames.

If the success of the NEMTL is any indication, a lot of people believe in access over ownership when it comes to tools.

Zach Wefel, founder and president of the NEMTL, said, "The response in our neighborhood has

been fantastic. We exceeded our membership goal of 250 in the first year, and are on track to exceed our goal of 400 in the second year."

Wefel is an enthusiastic promoter of tool libraries. "My wife and I bought a 115-year-old house when we moved to Minneapolis. There were so many repairs that needed doing, and I would have had to buy a bunch of tools that were only needed for one or two special projects. The idea for a tool library just made sense."

John Bailey has been instrumental in getting the St. Paul Tool Library up and running. A independent consultant by day, he claims to be, "neither a 'tool -head' nor a maker/builder." Bailey said, "Mostly I like to find ways to organize things better. I helped to start the City Car Share in San Francisco in the 1990's. When creating a shared economy, like car sharing or tool lending, it's a question of using resources efficiently. I see it as a way to practice good environmental stewardship, and I'm also kind of cheap."

The new location for the St. Paul Tool Library is in the heart of the city's Creative Enterprise Zone. The zone stretches from Prior Ave. to Highway 280, and from University Ave. to Energy Park Dr. The Creative Enterprise Zone is successfully attracting and fostering small, artist-owned businesses, capitalizing on a long history of small manufacturing and hard work. The zone's motto is, "We make it here." That motto hits the nail right on the head for the St. Paul Tool Library.

For more information about membership, when the doors will open, or to contribute to the St. Paul Tool Library crowd funding campaign, email StPToolLib@gmail. com, or visit facebook.com/Saint-PaulToolLibrary. The crowed funding page can be found at www.ioby. org/project/saint-paul-tool-library.

Staying true to your past and culture; staying true to yourself

From his early years growing up in the Midway, to a student at Hamline U., to the rapper Carnage the Executioner

By JAN WILLMS

An imposing strength and a fierce look on the face of Carnage the Executioner reflect the image of his name as the rapper performs onstage. But when a smile breaks out, the gentle soul of Terrell Woods, the man, comes shining through.

Born in Chicago, Woods moved with his mom to St. Paul when he was around 5. "We lived in the Midway area, on Sherburne Ave. I first went to school at Maxfield," he recalled.

But life was not easy, and as his mother struggled with alcoholism and addiction, Woods was placed in foster care at age 12. This was the beginning of moves throughout the Metro, from St. Paul to North Minneapolis to South Minneapolis and back and forth, as Woods lived in foster homes and group homes.

"I learned how to survive in the system," Woods said. "I did some things to fit in, but never robbed or killed anybody or went to prison. Most of the kids were quite a bit more unruly than me, and I was good at staying afloat and making friends."

One of the survival tactics Woods relied on was his love of music. "As early as I can remember I would hear certain songs. My mom wasn't a musician, but she played a lot of the music that was popular and that I liked."

"The first thing I wanted to do was play drums. I was 5 or 6, and I would set up pillows on the couch when my mom wasn't home, and I would turn on the TV and get wooden spoons and hit the pillows, playing fake drums to every song on TV."

He listened to Herbie Hancock and Run-D.M.C., one of the most well-known hip-hop acts of the 1980s. "I was at a friend's house, and his dad was playing that group. I remember the beat. That was my first introduction to hip-hop, and I asked his dad to play it again and again and again."

When Woods was as young as 8, he started working on the







"I made it through every possible peril that was presented to me. So the name (Carnage the Executioner) started having the symbolic message of a journey. I have learned to deal with carnage. Carnage is the artist; Terrell Woods is the person," Woods said. (Photos by, from l to r, Mike Madison, Sarah Dope and Patrick Pegg)

art he has perfected today, beatboxing, making drum sounds with his mouth. "I started teaching myself," he said.

As well as wanting to be a drummer, he wanted to be a DJ, one of the other elements of hip-hop culture. "I was also getting into breakdancing, and the DJs were the ones spinning the records for the break-dancers," Woods noted. "But drums and turntables were expensive, and I couldn't afford them. So beat box came around right when it was supposed to because I could do that without buying an instrument."

He was not yet in his teens, but as he entered high school in Bloomington, he became more involved with hip-hop, and he started writing his own songs. He was a senior when he recorded his first song.

And, although music was such a big part of his life, Woods was still thinking of it as a hobby. He started Hamline University, studying psychology.

"I didn't see how studying music in college would really help me," he reflected. "I needed a backup if something happened with the music, and having education as a foundation was important to me. I thought I would get a good job, and

music would just be fun. But I never gave it up."

He completed his first album while attending Hamline, and when he graduated in 1997, he began a career in social services. He returned to the foster care and group home system in which he had grown up, but this time as a social worker. "I thought it would be cool to work at all the places I had lived as a kid," Woods said.

However, performing as a rapper was in his blood, and he could not let it go. He said he thought of how the hip-hop culture had helped him survive his childhood, and he wanted to give back to that culture. Finally, in February 2007, he took the step to make his living as a musician.

He has performed with Desdamona, providing backup sound to her spoken word. And he was close to Micheal "Eyedea" Larsen, the multi-talented Minneapolis rapper who died tragically in 2010. As he gained experience from working with other performers, he was honing his skills for his own songs, albums, and solo work.

Woods is a strong believer in the basis of respect that is so much a part of hip-hop, and his music has drawn the respect of fellow artists. "I'm your favorite rapper's favorite rapper," he claims. "I don't know any of my peers who don't respect what I do."

For many of his songs, Woods has drawn on his own past to create his volume of

Fri and Sat 12:00pm-10:00pm

work. And he has drawn on his past in choosing his performing name, Carnage the Executioner.

"When I first came up with the name, I wanted something flashy and abrasive and memorable," he said. "It didn't take me too long to start figuring out how to justify the name, and it turned from just sounding cool to having some meaning."

Woods describes it as being about a journey from where he came from and to where he is going. "Where I came from, there has been a lot of carnage in my life," he explained. "As I have gotten older, I realize that if you don't grow from your past, you are just a puppet to it. You become a victim of your circumstance."

"I made it through every possible peril that was presented to me. So the name started having the symbolic message of a journey. I have learned to deal with carnage. Carnage is the artist; Terrell Woods is the person," he said.

In listening to Woods perform as Carnage, the sounds he creates with his mouth can provide a full musical background for his words. He could be called the Bobby Mc-Ferrin of hip-hop. In forming his sound, he likes loop, allowing him to make a sound and play if over and over like a backdrop. He has added an effects pedal that he hits with his foot. "It's kind of like a keyboard but has a pedal that I operate with my feet. With it,

if I wanted something to sound like a crazy spaceship, I can do it," Woods said. "It adds texture to the performance."

"I think I can stay true to the culture by staying true to myself and do music for a wider base of people," he commented. "I'm about trying to connect with people. It's important. If someone spends four minutes listening to a song, that's four minutes they can't get back. If they're going to put their money on you, you have to make it worth their while."

Besides writing songs and performing, Woods teaches youth how to beat box and still draws on his social work skills and experience. He has worked with McPhail and the Stepping Stone Theater Company, and he has a record deal in France, where he is a staple in French hip-hop. He said he loves to perform, enjoys being in the studio and writing. The hardest part is marketing himself, trying to be seen and be known.

"I can only speak for how hard I work to be this good and how many years I have put in," he noted. "I do this for other people's enjoyment."

Having done much of his performing in Minneapolis, Woods is now living in a St. Paul suburb and focusing many of his concerts on this side of the river. "St. Paul should be ready to give me a chance—they're going to see a lot more of me," he quipped with a smile.

Monitor

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Approvals and votes start falling into place for soccer stadium

By JANE MCCLURE

Approvals are falling into place for a Major League Soccer stadium near Snelling and University avenues and redevelopment of Midway Center, with an eye toward stadium completion and soccer games here in mid-

Soccer fans cheered the Aug. 19 announcement that Minnesota United FC will start play in the league in March 2017. The team will play at the University of Minnesota's TCF Bank Stadium until the St. Paul facility is complete.

St. Paul City Council approvals Aug. 17 of several measures helped the stadium project along and also set the stage for longer-term Midway Center redevelopment. The stadium site plan, Midway Center master plan, a technical zoning amendment and property plan changes all passed 5-1. The council unanimously approved a community benefits agreement tied to redevelopment.

But Gov. Mark Dayton's Aug. 18 announcement that there won't be a 2016 legislative special session does hold up the stadium's sought-after tax exemptions. Minnesota United sought a property tax exemption for the site and a sales tax exemption on construction materials for the \$150 million facility. Dayton and legislative leaders were unable to agree on details of a special

session, including funding for Southwest light rail.

At the Aug. 19 announcement of the start of MLS play, Dayton said he'd do everything he can to get the exemption passed during the 2017 legislative session. Bill McGuire, a primary owner of the soccer team, has repeatedly said that the team is confident that the exemptions will be approved. The property tax exemption was in the tax bill passed by the House and Senate, but Dayton wouldn't sign it because of a technical error related to another part of the legislation.

The City Council's actions cap a planning process that began late last year. The stadium and Midway Center plans went through review by a community task force and were recommended for approval by the St. Paul Planning Commission. Work will continue with further studies on transportation, traffic and transit use, issues which emerged as red flags during studies of the project's transportation impacts.

Ward Seven Council Member Jane Prince cast the lone votes against the project pieces; her main objection is that the actions "are both rushed and premature." She cited similar concerns raised by members of the Snelling Midway Community Advisory Committee, who had to make recommendations before environmental impact studies were even completed.

Prince also quoted a project staff report on the Midway Center site plan which cited a "critical lack of detail" on the project. "Uncertainty abounds," said Prince. She raised questions about potential developer and business interest in a redeveloped Midway Center, as well as the uncertainty about the requested tax exemptions, as other reasons to not support the actions.

Other council members said that while they may also have questions, they are confident that the stadium and shopping center redevelopment will be a success. Council President Russ Stark described the community review process as "extensive."

Stark said that while some issues are unresolved, he is excited about the master plan for the redevelopment of the 34.4acre Midway Center site and the soccer stadium site plan. He lives just two blocks from the shopping center and the superblock bounded by Pascal St. and St. Anthony, Snelling and University avenues. "It's exciting to see the opportunity to redevelop this site and to see investment."

Midway Center owner Rick Birdoff has said that the stadium project is the catalyst for shopping center redevelopment.

This is really a game change for that neighborhood and the whole city," said Ward Three Council Member Chris Tolbert.

Other council members said

they are torn by the uncertainties about the projects, but voted for it despite that. Ward One Council Member Dai Thao said the benefits outweigh the uncertainties, adding that visitors to the city will no longer drive up Snelling Ave. past a "graveyard for buses.

Thao got unanimous support for a community benefits agreement tied to the projects, drawing on input from the community advisory committee and other public meetings. The resolution spells out some community benefits any developers must commit to. One idea Thao included is that the developers have a community liaison to work with neighbors during and after development. One oft-heard complaint during the community advisory committee process was Midway Center management's lack of attention to issues ranging from trash to shopping carts abandoned throughout the com-

The resolution suggests, but doesn't require, that a fund be created to pay for neighborhood issues related to redevelopment. It also urges that developers avoid displacing businesses, provide affordable housing at the site and bring in a diverse workforce. Thao said his intent is to bring forward something that works for everybody. He also has an eye toward tying some community benefits to tax increment

financing, if that is used in the future to redevelop the shopping

Ward Six Council Member Dan Bostrom was absent for the

After the council votes, Mayor Chris Coleman issued a statement saying that the day had marked "a huge milestone for St. Paul and the entire region." The mayor also said the votes bring St. Paul "one step closer to seeing incredible redevelopment in the heart of the Twin Cities—made possible by the catalyst of this proposed stadium—and one step closer to bringing Major League Soccer to Minnesota."

The stadium site plan covers the 16-acre stadium site, indicating where streets, parking, rain garden, sidewalks, bicycle accommodations, a transit dropoff plaza and green space will be. It also lays out some details on the development of the 20,000seat stadium. The Midway Center master plan is more visionary, with an ambitious scenario of mixed-use redevelopment.

The council approvals also set plat boundary lines and made a technical zoning change to allow a stadium in a traditional neighborhood-zoned property. Those and recent Planning Commission approval of two technical amendments to the stadium site plan complete city approvals, for now.

City Council says they will find money for Central

Central High School's Transforming Central project will receive assistance through the St. Paul Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) Program. The St. Paul City Council Aug. 3 agreed to work with project supporters to find \$100,000 in unspent past project fund bal-

The council also approved funding totaling \$1.933 million for 18 other projects.

Transforming Central project backers sought a \$100,000 grant, with a \$560,249 match (see stories on pages 1 and 7).

Ward Three Council Member and Central High alumnus Chris Tolbert worked with parents to find

Development Roundup

By JANE MCCLURE

Money for Central High; Furniture Barn to relocate on University Ave.

funding.

Several other area projects were among the 18 recommended by the Neighborhood STAR Board. Ranked second citywide are patio improvements at Burning Brother Brewing, 1750 Thomas Av. The business won a \$10,000 grant and \$10,000 loan.

Other requests approved included Minnesota Cameroon Com-

munity's \$37,000 grant for building improvements at 1020 Bandana Blvd.; a \$5,000 grant to soundproof meeting rooms at Independent Filmmaker Project Minnesota, 550 Vandalia St.; and a \$50,000 grant and \$50,000 loan toward further redevelopment at the former Old Home Dairy building at Western and University.

A total of 39 projects came in

for the 2016 competitive grant and loan round, with 38 undergoing review. The recommended total was \$1.245 in grants and \$687,500 in loans. The 18 approved projects listed matches totaling \$14.765 mil-

Furniture Barn to relocate

Furniture Barn, a longtime Mid-





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way business, will be relocating to the former Midway Chevrolet building at University Ave. and Albert St. Work began on the building this summer and will continue with a new roof and refurbished interior.

The building has been vacant for almost a decade. It dates from the 1920s and is one of the last vestiges of University Aveenue's "auto row." It is owned by the Krebsbach family, owners of the motor vehicle dealership for many years.

Anderson Companies is leading the renovation. Work was done on the building three years ago to remove hazardous mate-

Store representatives had raised questions during the Major League Soccer planning process about how a new stadium would affect them.

Furniture Barn has had a presence in the Midway area for more than 40 years and currently operates a store at 453 N. Snelling Ave.

Furniture Barn has not announced how long it will maintain the Snelling location. The new site is expected to open this winter.



Monitor In A Minute

Business is in the doghouse

A canine daycare and overnight boarding business, which has been open since February, is in the regulatory dog house. The St. Paul Planning Commission must decide if Saint Paws, 1921 University Ave., should be granted determination of similar use status. If the Planning Commission follows a city staff recommendation for denial, the business will have to close or move. The case goes to the commission's Zoning committee Sept. 22.

The need for Planning Commission approval wasn't known to Saint Paws owner Susan Dunn and her father/ landlord Thomas Dunn. The Dunns pulled city building permits to renovate the space. Susan Dunn said they indicated what type of business the permits were for. They applied for and obtained a city certificate of occupancy. But they did not obtain a dog daycare license.

They have petitions of

support signed by all of their and Economic Development neighbors and in October 2015 obtained a letter of support from the Union Park District Council.

But after a complaint in May about an illegal business, the city's Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI) sent a city inspector to investigate the dog daycare operating on the premises. Saint Paws was told to seek approval from the Planning Commission.

Saint Paws needs a determination of similar use to remain in business at the University Ave. location. The Planning Commission must determine whether indoor dog daycare and overnight boarding is similar to other uses allowed in a traditional neighborhood zoning district.

At issue with Saint Paws is where the dogs relieve themselves. Saint Paws has been walking its dogs in the surrounding neighborhood and using nearby Iris Park as a relief spot. A Department of Planning

(PED) staff report pointed out that such use "has the potential for significant negative impacts on the maintenance and appearance of the park above and beyond the impacts typically found with other (traditional neighborhoods-zoned) uses." Other than the Iris Park issue, the business would meet all other conditions for a determination of similar use.

Dickerman Park gets a boost

The ongoing Dickerman Park improvement project will get more city funding. On Aug. 3, the St. Paul City Council approved \$50,000 from the Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) Program for improvements at the park, located along University Ave. between Fairview Ave. and Aldine St.

The long, narrow property was donated to the City in 1909 for park and parkway purposes. But buildings were built right up to its lot line and parking was allowed there for many years. The parking lots have been removed and work started to make Dickerman a true park. A community design group brought forward ideas for gathering and activity spaces, plantings and other amenities. Much of the work to get the park developed has been spurred along by community groups and by members of the Dickerman

Since Green Line light rail opened in June 2014, there has been more interest to develop the park. A mix of city funds has been used for the work thus far, with more than \$300,000

The Long-Range Capital Improvement Budget Committee reviewed the request in June.

Tax levy could rise

St. Paul's proposed 2017 property tax levy could rise to 7 percent because anticipated Local Government Aid (LGA) did not come through. St. Paul City Council members must decide whether to approve the higher-than-expected levy increase before a state deadline of Sept. 30.

The council and Mayor Chris Coleman must make \$3 million in budget cuts or raise the property tax levy. The cuts could mean not hiring additional police officers and police-community liaison staff, laying off firefighters, cutting library hours and closing a city recreation center.

Coleman's 2017 budget proposal included a 4 percent property tax levy hike. But that budget was based on an additional \$3 million in LGA approved by the 2016 Minnesota Legislature. The funds were part of a \$20 million statewide bump in LGA. The House and Senate approved the bill, but Gov. Mark Dayton refused to sign it because of a technical error. On Aug. 19, Dayton announced that he and legislative leaders couldn't agree on what a special session should focus on and that no session

would be held at all.

In a letter to City Council members, Coleman said he wants to work with the council on other solutions to balance the city's budget. But state law requires the City Council to adopt its maximum levy by Sept. 30. After that date, the levy can be decreased but not increased.

In a letter to council members, Coleman said he is not giving up on the idea of a special legislative session. His proposed budget already includes more than \$1 million to cuts in city spending.

"A cuts-only approach to filling this \$3 million gap, should the state not act, risks undermining our commitment to strengthening the middle class through equity, a focus on public safety and our longstanding practice of investments that move our city forward," Coleman said in a letter to the council.

If the \$3 million deficit is to be addressed simply by cutting the budget, that would mean eliminating all of the new positions eyed for 2017. That includes five additional police officers, police-community liaisons, and staff to work on racial equity issues. The five police officers are already in the police academy undergoing training.

It would also affect the city's planned move toward mandatory earned sick and safe time. But cutting every proposed new position would provide only \$885,000 to close the gap.

The city would also be required to cut about \$2.1 million across the board from all departments. That would mean cutting nine additional police officers, seven firefighters, one city inspector spot, 23 to 25 hours per week of library service and one entire recreation center. Cutting the firefighter posts would mean dropping a super medic company, one of the companies intended to improve medical services.

Hamline Elementary School

By JESSICA KOPP

Back to School at Hamline Elementary

- School is back in session in St. Paul Public Schools and good vibes are filling the hallways and classrooms of 1599 Englewood. Students, with smiles and boundless energy, are busy building community and mapping out a fantastic voyage of discovery alongside a talented and spirited staff. And as we say hello to the new school year, we say goodbye to a summer that included two awesome Hamline Elementary family nights at Hancock Recreation Center where familiar faces met new faces and excitement about the upcoming school year
- On the first day of school, Hamline staff and families returned to finer, less unruly gardens, thanks to the summertime efforts of Hamline University's Office of Sustainability. This is the same team who worked with last year's fifth graders to breathe new life into an under-utilized space. They also worked with Hamline University's LEAP into St. Paul project on the first day of school to continue the work of transforming the sunny, south-facing entrance on Englewood into a beautiful and engaging inquiry garden. This garden partnership is the latest and only

one of many nurtured by the Hamline to Hamline Collaboration as these two campuses begin their 25th year of formal collab-

- We're closer to welcoming fall the way we have the last two years with the 3rd Annual Hamline Elementary Fall Festival on Sat., Oct. 1. Working again with the best neighbor ever, Hancock Recreation Center, and for the first time with the Hamline Midway Coalition, our school community is thrilled to welcome neighbors to join us for an afternoon of free, family-friendly neighborhood fun. Check out http://hamlinemidway.org/fallfestival for more details.
- On the first day of school, the building at 1599 Englewood began its fourth year as Hamline Elementary—a change from the

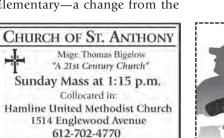
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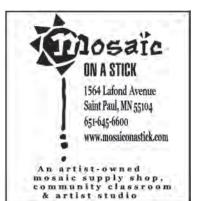
"An Old Catholic Faith Community

inexplicably long-named Hancock-Hamline University Collaborative Magnet. As a new generation of families come to know this space as Hamline Elementary, we invite you to learn more about the people and programming that make this place unlike any other. Good things are happening at Hamline Elementary; you can follow our journey at the Discover Hamline Elementary Facebook page or call 651-293-8715 to arrange a visit; we have a lot of awesome to share.



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News from Como Park High School

Compiled by ERIC ERICKSON, Social Studies Teacher

Upperclassmen comprise 'link crew' welcoming freshmen

- Como Park High School's "Link Crew" is composed of 90 juniors and seniors that volunteer to be positive leaders and mentors for freshmen. The Link Crew welcomed and hosted Como's incoming class of 2020 on Sept. 1 for an orientation session. The Link Crew Leaders prepared for the event with two intensive days of training that focused on community and fellowship, leading up to the implementation of inclusive activities that provided the new students with a sense of belonging. The faculty advisors for Como's Link Crew are Maria Cocchiarella and Alisson Hartzell.
- Como's Academy of Finance (AOF) is pleased to be connected with several companies this year to provide group mentoring to AOF students. Group mentors are committed to working in the classroom once a month, assisting with a variety of student projects. Every AOF Business class has a semester project. Freshmen will conduct a financial literacy fair, sophomores present a product for consumption in a foreign country, juniors execute an accounting simulation, and seniors work on a business communications project.

AOF mentoring partners that will host student presentations of projects at their company or institution include Xcel Energy, the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, and the St. Paul City Government. Additional new partners include The Travelers and Grant Thornton LLP.

• Urban Boatbuilders hosted the launch of their canoes and kayaks at Lake Como on Aug. 18. Como Park student Anthony Williams emceed the event as one of the fifteen summer apprentices in the program and was joined by fellow Como Park students Zaj Lee, Shyanna Carpenter and DeShawn Sparkman. Students shared the impact of their experience designing and constructing the boats, describing personal growth in patience, confidence, and teamwork.

Urban Boatbuilders is a local non-profit organization that empowers youth to develop skills they need to succeed in school, work and life through the building and use

of wooden boats. The launch at Lake Como was a huge success for the students, and was followed by a week-long culminating voyage into the Boundary Waters Canoe Area with their mentors and boats!

- WE Day is an inspirational and star-studded festival scheduled for Sept. 20 at the Xcel Energy Center. 27 Como Park student leaders will be privileged to attend. Como's participants were selected based on service and volunteerism in school and community events, meshing with the WE mission to bring youth together and provide tools to positively impact the world.
- The Como Park volleyball team will begin defense of their St. Paul City title with a conference match against Harding on Sept. 13 at 7pm in the Como Gymnasium. The community is invited to attend and support the Cougars!
- Mayor Chris Coleman will visit the Como Soccer Field on Fri., Sept. 16 to present the "Mayor's Cup" to the winners of the Humboldt vs. Como soccer games.

The girls' game begins at 3:15pm. The boys' game begins at 5pm. At the conclusion of the boys' game, the Mayor will present a "Mayor's Cup" traveling trophy to the winner of each game. The community is invited to support the teams and celebrate the success of soccer in St. Paul with Mayor

The Cougars will also host a Community Day for the boys' and girls' double-header versus Washington on Tues., Sept. 20. The boys play at 3:15pm followed by the girls at 5pm. The teams are hosting the "Soccer Stars" youth players and inviting all youth families and community supporters to cheer on the Cougars! The Como Soccer Field is located east of the school building past the tennis

• Como Park's all school open house and parent night will be held at the school from 5-7pm on Thur., Sept. 27. All families and students from grades 9-12 are invited to visit with teachers and staff members, tour classrooms, and explore programs, clubs, and activities that Como students can access. Light refreshments will be pro-

• Homecoming Spirit Week is scheduled for Oct. 3-7 with dress-up days, the coronation of the royal court, and a pep fest to recognize Cougar athletic teams. Sat., Oct. 8 will be full of activity beginning with the Homecoming Parade at 11am. The route proceeds on Grotto, Wheelock and Victoria concluding back at school with a picnic. The Homecoming Football Game is scheduled for 2pm at Central's Griffin



High school athletic teams began fall practices on Aug. 15. The Como Park Girls' Soccer team opened their season with a convincing 4-0 victory over Mounds Park Academy on Aug. 27.

Stadium and the Homecoming Dance will be Saturday night.

• Save the date! On Thur., Nov. 10 and Fri., Nov. 11, the Como Theatre and Music Department will present the annual fall musical in the Como Auditorium.

The show is entitled "Yearbook Reflections," an upbeat musical about the willpower, compassion, and humor found in every high school.

News from Hamline Midway Library

By CARRIE POMEROY

Visit from the Fix-It Clinic among special activities

The Hamline Midway Library at 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave. is open to you with a wide variety of programs for all ages. Meet your neighbors, check out books, CDs, and DVDs, surf the Internet for free, and enjoy our cozy, historic library branch.

Preschool Storytimes in English are on every Friday mornings at 10:30am. Storytimes feature songs, stories, puppets, fingerplays, and more. They're a great way for parents and caregivers to bond with children while building wonderful skills for school and life. Children of all activity levels are welcome.

Evening/Pajama Storytimes in English start up again on Tuesday evenings in October, with storytimes from 6:30-7:30pm. Pajamas, blankets, and stuffed animals are welcome to join in the storytime fun at these family

The Saints and Sinners Book Club meets on Sat., Sept. 10 at 1pm and Sat., Oct. 1, also at 1pm. The club meets monthly to discuss good mystery novels. Contact G. Balter at 651-2245570 orgerribalter@gmail.com for book list or more information.

Fri., Sept. 16, 3-5pm, the library will host a showing of "The Emperor's New Groove" for

On Sat., Sept. 17, Science Saturday takes over the library auditorium from 1:30-3pm. This monthly program features handson science and art experiences for kids ages 6+ and their families. This month, the focus is Cardboard Construction. Science Saturday meets again on Sat., Oct. 8, 1:30-3pm for Dark and Scary Science.

Also on Sat., Sept. 17, 3pm, the Teen Book Club meets to read and discuss books: graphic novels, Battle of the Books, and Read Brave, and more! For grades

ARTful Expression: A Paper Collage Workshop will be held Wed., Sept. 21, 1-3pm. This hands-on art experience is for adults with or without an art background or skills. Participants will dye tissue paper, do a little drawing, and do lots of cutting and pasting to make an original collage. Each participant will leave with a small artwork suitable for framing. Registration is now open can be done on the library website at www.sppl.org or by calling the library at 651-

ARTful Expressions workshops will continue through October, with a workshop about Map Boxes on Wed., Oct. 5, 1-3pm; Bengala Dyeing on Wed., Oct. 12, 1-3pm; and Saori Weaving on Wed., Oct. 19, 1-3pm.

On Wed., Sept. 21, 6:30-8:30pm, the Women's Human Rights Film Series features the documentary "Profiled." Veteran filmmaker Kathleen Foster weaves together the stories of mothers of Black and Latinx youth murdered by the NYPD, creating a powerful indictment of racial profiling and police brutality in the United States. The film traces the mothers' transition from grieving parents to activists. Co-presented by The Friends of the St. Paul Public Library and The Advocates for Human Rights.

The Ramsey County Fix-It Clinic will make a stop at the library on Sat., Sept. 24, 11am-2pm. Get small household items such as clothing, electronics, and mobile devices fixed for free, build connections with your neighbors, and learn valuable repair skills to help keep repairable objects in use and out of the

Jody's POV Documentary Film Series continues on Sept. 28, 1-3pm. The series features a PBS POV documentary each month, and this month, Jody hosts "Guilty Pleasures," a film by Julie Moggan. This film offers a glimpse into the surprising world of romance novels. A romance novel is sold every few seconds. Yes, seconds. Who writes them? Reads them? Models for the covers? Travel to India, Japan, Great Britain, and here in the U.S. to find out. Presented by the Hamline Midway Elders and the St. Paul Public Library.

On Thur., Oct. 6, 6:15-7:45pm, the library is calling all fans of The Goonies, Goosebumps, and Coraline to join debut author and ghost-story lover, Erin Petti. Patty will present a lively reading and activities based on her new middle-grade novel, "The Peculiar Haunting of Thelma Bee"—where science, magic, girl power, and mystery all intertwine! Addendum Books will be on hand for book pur-

The library will be closed all day on Oct. 10 for a staff training.

EGG|PLANT







Central High School

Continued from page 1

environmental awareness team and the National Honor Society to plant over 500 bulbs on the school grounds.

Next, they surveyed students, faculty, administrators, parents and community members to gather input on desirable exterior improvements, which was put together into a document that guided planning for the next few years.

Things really got moving in the summer of 2012 when students and parent volunteers planted the three large tiers that frame the front exterior stairway with native perennials and grasses thanks to private donations and school support. Committee member Julie Marckel recalled how two environmental classes spread out wood chips in the tiers to mulch the plants. Those classes, along with the National Honor Society and the Roots and Shoots, have continued to care for the grounds. "It's a nice way to get the kids involved," said Marckel.

Cleaning up water runoff

In November 2012, Central received a grant from the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) to analyze storm water run-off at the site, and in September 2013, they got another CRWD grant for the stormwater retrofit project. More money came in later to make changes at the site, which included the removal of the berm areas in front of the school along Marshall Ave. and extensive excavation for the underground storm water treatment system that will also manage water draining from the roof. A large rain garden at the corner of



Members of the Transforming Central Committee and Principal Mary Mackbee survey the work being done to create the outdoor classroom in August 2016. "I'm super excited for the outdoor classroom and learning opportunities that the project is installing," said senior Olive Murdoch Meyer, who is the co-president of Roots and Shoots. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Marshall and Lexington will beautify while collecting and filtering

Dead and diseased trees were removed and new ones planted. Memorial trees and shrubs planted over the years are being grouped in a Memorial Garden area. All of the new plantings will be native and hardy perennials, trees and shrubs, and will include many pollinator-friendly plants.

Impermeable surfaces are replaced with well-planned permeable ones.

"When the project is finished, 1,434,000 gallons of runoff each year will filter through the ground instead of flowing untreated to the Mississippi River, and 1,367 pounds of sediment will no longer erode," pointed out Heyman. "Additionally, 4.23 pounds of phosphorous will no longer enter the Mississippi River watershed."

Environmental science teacher Lisa Houdek and biology teacher Stacey Skinner received an educator's grant from Capitol Region Watershed District to pay for curriculum and measurement tools. The system has been built so that students can access it to track how much water is in the system, the water quality, and more.

Several grants and donations have been raised over the years to make this project happen, with money coming from state organizations, civic and community groups, as well as private individuals.

The 2013 graduating class commissioned local artist Peter Morales to create a bench to be included in the new landscaping. Each graduating class since has donated money for the project, and Roots and Shoots raised money for the new red hanging bike racks that are located in the front alcoves.

Phase 2 will include art pieces that reflect the vibrancy/energy of Central students and the surrounding community, as well as additional lighting, benches and landscaping. "We are considering sculptures and banner-like art commissioned by local St. Paul artists," said O'Reilly. Discussions about the art and fundraising for the \$100,000 shortfall continue.

Outdoor classroom

A highlight for many is the new outdoor classroom, fashioned out of limestone blocks that form a Fibonacci spiral—a mathematical sequence.

"I'm super excited for the outdoor classroom and learning opportunities that the project is installing," said senior Olive Murdoch Meyer, who is the co-president of Roots and Shoots. "The beautification of Central's facade is wonderful, but I think the most important part is giving students a chance to appreciate and utilize the outdoors in a way that wouldn't have been as accessible before."

Murdoch Meyer added, "Central is such a strong, vibrant place that can and will get through anything, but this project will be a special refresher to remind us what we can do together as a community, and will bring extra energy to this upcoming school year, as well as years to come. I think that this transformation is a big milestone for Central."

Hamline Ave. bike lanes approved to Minnehaha

By JANE MCCLURE

Hamline Ave. between University and Minnehaha avenues will be striped for bicycle lanes this fall, the St. Paul City Council decided Aug. 17. A plan to extend the project from Minnehaha to Pierce Butler Rte. was laid over until Sept. 14, to give neighborhood residents and city staff more time to discuss parking issues.

The citywide bicycle plan, which won City Council approval in 2015, calls for Hamline Ave. to

have a bicycle lane from the north city limits at Larpenteur Ave. to Montreal Ave. and Edgcumbe Rd. It would connect to area routes including Marshall, Snelling, St. Clair and Jefferson avenues. Advocates contend that there is a great need for a north-south bike route through St. Paul and that Hamline is a great option. Having the Hamline Midway section striped could be the first step toward a larger project.

Some affected Hamline Mid-

way residents and business owners worry about the loss of on-street parking. Part of the route would be near Hamline University, which already generates spillover parking in the neighborhood.

Council President Russ Stark represents the area where the work will be done this fall. He said that with more support for the University to Minnehaha segment, work there can go ahead this fall.

Continued on page 10

To build a water feature... or not to build... that is the question

By JANE MCCLURE

Traffic congestion, transit use, spillover parking, and noise are familiar sticking points in the debate over Major League Soccer and Midway Center redevelopment talks. A less prominent issue is how storm water runoff will be managed. The storm water management issues weren't finalized when the stadium site plan, Midway Center master plan, and other issues were passed Aug. 17.

While the approved stadium site plan meets basic stormwater management standards, city officials said Aug. 17 that they'd continue to push for more improvements to that plan and to the larger Midway Center redevelopment plan. St. Paul Director of Planning and Economic Development (PED) Jonathan Sage-Martinson and Wes Saunders-Pearce, the city's water resources coordinator, said that conversations between Minnesota United FC, Midway Center owner RK Midway and city and watershed district officials continue to be pro-

"Time lines are very fluid," Saunders-Pearce said. While no one is in a position to make guarantees yet, everyone involved will continue to explore opportunities for conservation and other measures.

City staff has worked with the property owners, watershed district officials and consultants on how to manage water runoff. "Stormwater management is a major consideration," said Saunders-Pearce. The city wants the property owners to promote using stormwater as a resource.

City Council members want to see more attention paid to storm-

water management. While the plan meets basic requirements for stormwater underground storage and managing the flow of water into storm sewers, City Council President Russ Stark said he "strongly encourages" Minnesota United FC and RK Midway to look at a more comprehensive approach.

When it rains or snows now, water runs off of the 34.4–acre redevelopment site and into the city's storm sewers. That carries pollution from the property.

Watershed district and city officials want to see more done to capture water runoff, treat and recycle water, and add some type of water feature like a fountain or reflecting pool to the plans.

Although saying the project team is willing to look at different ways to manage stormwater, Minnesota United FC lead partner Bill McGuire has for several months resisted the notion of a water feature such as a fountain, stream or pool.

McGuire cites the "significant" ongoing capital maintenance costs of a water feature. The use of space also has to be considered. In June he told the Planning Commission that green space (as opposed to a water feature) allows more options for organized and casual recreation use.

The site plan and superblock master plan include two green spaces, two leading from University Ave. to the stadium, a plaza at the northeast corner of Snelling and St. Anthony avenues, and other public gathering areas near the stadium. None of these areas include a water feature

Anna Eleria, a projects and grants manager for the watershed district, said the district wants to see plan conditions on stormwater management made stronger. She said the city is looking at similar comprehensive water man-

agement measures at other large redevelopment sites, including the former Ford Motor Company site in Highland neighborhood, and the West Side Flats. At Ford, a man-made stream to capture and recycle storm water is being discussed as part of the redevelop-

Eleria said a water feature would be a plus in the neighborhood, which is more than mile from the Mississippi River and even farther away from water features such as Como Lake.

"We want to emphasize that we want to see rainwater treated as a resource," Eleria said. The watershed district is willing to help with grant funding.

Eleria cited CHS Field in Lowertown as an example for how a sports facility can incorporate cutting-edge stormwater management practice. CHS Field was planned and built to harvest stormwater and reduce dependence on potable water. CHS Field uses stormwater to keep the grass green, water trees and plantings, and even flush the toilets. A 237,000-galoon cistern holds the water. The roof system there can capture rain from 33,370 square feet or three-quarters of an acre. It saves about 450,000 gallons of water per year. The cost for the system was less than \$500,000, out of a \$63 million project.

But Saunders-Pearce said one challenge in harvesting rainwater off of the soccer stadium roof is that it would have much less roof area than CHS Field.





Year-long events mark Central High School 150th anniversary

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

The Central High School transformation project (see story on page 1) coincides with the school's 150th-anniversary celebration.

The kick-off for the 150th year began with the Rondo parade in July. The grand marshal was Mary Mackbee, who has been the Central High School Principal since 1993. The event coincided with the birthday of alumni Philando Castile, who was killed by a Falcon Heights policeman just ten days before.

The final event will be the Grand Old Day parade on June 4, 2017.

A grand opening/ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sept. 6 marked the start of the new school year and celebrated the new plaza and walkway.

Lieutenant Governor Tina Smith and Mayor Christ Coleman attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony and declared that day "Saint Paul Central High School Day." Also present were notable guest speaker alums, Central's pep band, and the senior class.

Other upcoming events:
• Sept. 30—1,000th football game (vs. North at North) and Alumni

- Reception at O'Gara's from 6-9pm.

 Oct. 7—Homecoming game vs.
 Washburn at Griffin and Alumni
 Halftime show. Pre-game activities
 start at 7pm.
- Music series (winter/spring)— Central alumni performers (dates TBA)
- Central Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony—spring 2017 (date TBA)
- June 4, 2017—Grand Old Day Parade (Central contingent will be marching.)

"Together, we look forward to celebrating Central's 150 anniversary, its legacy, and what's to come," said Maggie O'Reilly, who has two children at Central and serves on the Transforming Central Com-



Sharing the historic nature of the school is one of the ways the Transforming Central project hopes to build connections and pride in the community. A school history book has been written and is available for sale. There are also events planned throughout the next year. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

mittee. "It's a wonderful, uplifting tribute and a positive, exciting time for Central. Personally, I couldn't be more proud to have my kids at Central. It's truly a dynamic, diverse and community-oriented school that is loved by many."

Banners and books

Five new light pole banners have been installed in front of the school along Marshall Ave. celebrating the school's last 150 years with photos. Central parent Katie Parke-Reimer designed the banners.

Sharing the historic nature of the school is one of the ways the Transforming Central project hoped to build connections and pride in the community, but a complete historic narrative was needed.

A History Project subcommittee was formed and includes members include Deb Ahlquist, Beth Black, Amber Buckner, Lisa Heyman, Paul Hillmer, Ann Hobbie, Ann Malm, Dawn Lampros and Ayesha Shar.

With the help of a Legacy Grant from the Minnesota Historical Society, Bluestem Heritage Group was hired to write a 20-40 page narrative of the school.

Finding an abundance of historical documents and sources, the work has grown to much more—a full and rich document with surprises and insight. No other high school in the state of Minnesota has the comprehensive, documented and successful 150-year history of St. Paul Central High School.

The book will be sold throughout the year.

The committee is also making plans and seeking funds for a historical exhibit, installation, or other interpretive piece. Parents, staff, and alumni are invited to get involved in the history project by contacting Deb at transformingcentral@gmail.com.

Notable alum who have graduated from Central including Amelia Earhart, Charles Schulz, Richard Schulze (founder of Best Buy), Stacy Robinson, Dave Winfield, Jawed Karim (co-founder of YouTube), and local politicians Chris Tolbert and Melvin Carter.

"I have too many fond memories to list, but the school was always fun and diverse," remarked 2003 alumni Adrian Perryman. "I enjoyed my time in class and in the various extra-curricular activities that I was able to take part in. I was able to get a great education in class and outside of it."

"Central is a microcosm of America—the world," said St. Paul Council Member and Assistant Hennepin County Attorney Chris Tolbert, who graduated in 2001. "Without opening a book, Central is the best preparation for living and succeeding in a diverse world, because Central is that diverse world."

A short history of Central

Central High School was founded in 1866 in response to student requests. Prior to 1866, there were no educational opportunities in St. Paul beyond elementary school. About a dozen students wished to continue their schooling, so two rooms were set aside for the "High School" on the 3rd floor of the Franklin School, located at Broadway and Tenth streets in downtown St. Paul, and the "St. Paul High School" was formed.

The school hosted a dozen students and one lone teacher.

The first graduating class was in 1870 and consisted of two students: one boy and one girl. The girl's name was Fannie Haynes (the daughter of the teacher), and the boy's name was A.P. Warren. The first two diplomas were hand printed on sheepskin.

Gradually, the classes enrolled in the Franklin building became too large for the school to accommodate them, so in 1872, the high school moved to the Lindeke Building at 7th and Jackson St. where it occupied the entire 2nd floor.

By 1879, the teaching staff had increased to 8 teachers and principal. The hours were from 9 to 12 in the morning and 1 to 4 in the afternoon. A 15-minute recess was offered in the morning or afternoon.

That year the Lindeke building at 7th and Jackson was finally determined to be ill-suited for a high school. The first floor of the building was occupied by a dry goods store and a fresh fish market. In the warm weather, the aroma from the fish market rising to the second floor was near-

ly unbearable. To make matters worse, the building was infested with rats. A sign over one door reminded the pupils this was their "last chance for an education."

In the School Board's annual report of 1879, it declared that although the school was a pleasing view on the outside, the atmosphere inside was "morally, socially and physically unhealthy." The rooms were noisy, ill-ventilated and sunless. This report aroused the city council to take action, and a bond-raising proposition for a new high school was made. This proposition was rejected by the voters, but it was re-made in 1881 and was passed by 3,000 votes. Work on a new high school was begun immediately. The chosen site was at 10th and Minnesota St. In 1883, this 27-room building was completed. The first enrollment of the new school was 233 stu-

Soon, this building was bursting at the seams.

The school district agreed to build a new school and selected the corner of Lexington Pkwy. and Marshall Ave. as the site. The city purchased the land in 1909 and secured renowned architect Clarence H. Johnston, a Minnesota native, and Central High alumni, to design the new building

Construction of the new high school commenced on May 31, 1910, and the cornerstone was laid on Sept. 16 of that year. St. Paul school board members initially proposed naming the new school "Lexington" in recognition of its new location, but one week before the cornerstone was laid, alumni prevailed on the board to retain the name "Central." In recognition of the Lexington location, the school chose as its mascot the "Minutemen" the soldiers who fought at the Battle of Lexington and Concord in the American Revolution.

From 1977-1981, Central underwent a dramatic \$16 million remodeling project. To save money, Ellerbe Architects recommended gutting the Clarence Johnston building and adding on. It was originally planned to have the students leave the building for a year so that the construction could take place without disturbances. However, the vocal members of the community would not permit "the St. Paul School" to be vacant for even one year, so other plans needed to be made. The schedule was changed so that school started at 7am and ended at noon when the workers

By Sept. 1, 1980, the new sections of the school were ready for occupancy, most of the remodeling project was complete, and the castle-like, "school on the hill" was no longer recognizable, looking more like a common parking ramp with no remaining character. The interior of the school was also greatly changed, except that the auditorium offers a glimmer of familiarity with the former school.

The current building at Marshall and Lexington celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2012.

(Information compiled from the school's web site and the new "History of Central High School" book.)



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Hamline Station of

While Hamline Station is current

The Hamline Station housing and retail complex at the corner of Hamline and University avenues is up and running. Funders, supporters, and residents celebrated with an open house in August. All 108 apartments have been filled, and the ground level retail spaces are ready to lease. Hamline Station is a mixed-income housing complex, with rents aimed at 50-60% of the area median income. Fourteen units are set aside for families and individuals earning 30% of the area median income. Section 8 vouchers are accepted. Hamline Station sits on the former site of Midway Chevrolet, a property which had been abandoned for years.



Hamline Station, 1333 University Ave., is a project of Project for Pride in Living (PPL). Speaking from the podium, executive director Paul Williams noted, "With its \$25,000,000 budget and multiple funders, this is one of the most complicated projects PPL has ever done. We are thrilled to be part of the over-all development of 'life beyond the rail.'"



St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman referred to Hamline Station as, "the ultimate in transit-oriented development." The main floor of the West Building, pictured behind Mayor Coleman, has 14,000 square feet of commercial space now ready for build-out.



Amenities for residents include the use of the community room (pictured here), a community plaza between the East and West Buildings, 96 underground and 42 surface parking spaces, a playground for children, and a soon-to-be-completed fitness room. The buildings' state-of-the-art security system provides 24-hour surveillance.



Sign up to www.adopt-a-drain.org GO Adopt a Storm Drain!

- 1. Go online to find your storm drain and sign up to adopt it
- 2. Keep it clear of leaves, dirt and grass
- 3. Put a small sign in your yard and tell your neighbors
- 4. Report how much pollution you keep out of lakes and rivers





A project of the City of Saint Paul, Capitol Region Watershed District and Hamline University

pen house celebrates project completion

Story and photos by MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

ly full, interested persons can call property managers Ifrah or Brian at 651-846-9810 to add their names to the waiting list.



Hamline Station resident Rejeanna Hill, said, "When we moved in, the Green Line was our limo. My husband Matt lost his vision four years ago, and living here has given him back a sense of freedom. The staff is wonderful; we feel respected here, and we feel safe."



PPL's vice president of development and external affairs, Joanne Kosciolek, said, "We received more than 600 inquiries for the available units. That really speaks to the need for affordable housing in this location, where we have great access to jobs all along the Green Line. We've had zero turn over since residents started moving in last December when Phase 1 was completed."



US Bank was the project investment banker. Elness Swenson Graham Architects created the design. Anderson Companies built Hamline Station. PPL will continue to provide on-site property management. As PPL executive director Paul Williams said, "It takes a village to raise a building!" Williams pointed out that Hamline Station is a great place to live—and more. As one example, he thanked the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative for a recent \$190, 000 grant to finance an employment and training module for residents of Hamline Station. This and many other supportive services are being put in place for those who wish to use them.





Featured speakers (left to right), Mayor Chris Coleman, Mary Tingerthal, commissioner of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, Hamline Station resident Rejeanna Hill, and PPL executive director Paul Williams.





Got junk you need to get rid of? How about not-so-junky stuff you sim-

ply don't need anymore? Then take it all to St. Paul's Citywide Drop-off Event at the State Fairgrounds. District 10 is the lead organizer for the annual event, but any St. Paul resident can participate.

The clean-up event runs Sat., Oct. 8, 8am-1pm. It is an easy way to get rid of things you can't put in the trash. You can dispose of some things for free (examples include bikes, cell phones, dishes, fluorescent bulbs, linens, and tools), but typically there's a charge. Cars pay \$10 for a load of general junk or construction debris; vans, pickups, and trailers pay \$15-\$20. For specialized items, there are specific fees. For example, tires are \$3-\$10; electronics are usually \$8 each; appliances are generally \$10 each; and old furniture is between \$5-\$20, depending on what it is.

There also will be an expanded reuse area, so goods in good shape can go to a nonprofit instead of to the landfill. Plus, you can bring confidential papers for free shredding.

Pay attention to District 10's

Como Community Council Corner

By MICHAEL KUCHTA

Fairgrounds Citywide Drop-off Event is Oct. 8

website for full details as the date approaches www.district-10comopark.org.

Want to volunteer? Residents who volunteer to staff the clean-up event get to bring in one load of materials for free. If you want to volunteer, contact District 10 by email at district10@district10comopark.org or by phone at 651-644-3889.

Learn the ins and outs of your credit score

District 10 will host a free financial workshop sharing how to improve your credit score. The workshop is being organized and presented by TopLine Federal Credit Union and LSS Financial Counseling.

The workshop will cover topics such as:

- The rules and myths of credit scoring
- How to spot errors on credit

report

• Exercising rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act

The workshop takes place on Thurs., Sept. 22, from 6-7:30pm, at the Como Park Streetcar Station, on the northeast corner of Lexington and Horton.

You're taking organics recycling seriously



District 10's organics recycling drop-off site in Como Park has been an immediate success. After being open only a month, we've already had to double the size of the drop-off container. And residents depleted our initial supply of starter kits.

But you can still take part. We've now got additional starter kits available at our office (including a plastic kitchen bucket, while supplies last). If you don't need the bucket, we've also got compostable bags, refrigerator magnets, and other supplies to help you succeed in reducing your waste footprint.

You can pick up supplies at the Como Park Streetcar Station any Sunday in September between noon and 4pm.

Learn more about organics recycling: Read the insert in this month's Monitor, or go to Ramsey-Recycles.com (just click on Organic Waste).

You're invited to sit in

The District 10 board and standing committees meet monthly— and community members are always welcome to attend, participate, and speak or raise concerns. The schedule:

- Land Use: Monday before the first Wednesday, 7pm
- Neighborhood Relations and Safety: first Tuesday, 7pm
- Board: third Tuesday, 7pm
 Francisco and Lead Made and Control of the Con
- Environment: Last Wednesday, 7pm

All meetings are at the Como Park Streetcar Station, at the northeast corner of Lexington and Horton.

Get your recycling gear here

The Como Park Streetcar Station is open from noon-4pm every Sunday between now and the end of September. We'll have a District 10 board member on hand to distribute recycling bins, organics composting bags, or just take your comments and suggestions. The Streetcar Station is at the northeast corner of Lexington and Horton

Hamline bike lanes

Continued from page 6

More discussion with community members is needed before the Minnehaha to Pierce Butler Rte. area is striped. One issue to be addressed is parking near the Hamline High Rise, especially staff parking. Another issue is what can be done for homeowners with no alley and no off-street parking.

The re-striping will be done in conjunction with a mill and overlay project from University to Minnehaha said Luke Hanson of the St. Paul Department of Public Works. The city worked with neighbors and Hamline Midway Coalition on the plans, and did a series of parking counts. By Public Works' estimate, there is plenty of available parking on east-side cross streets to accommodate vehicles.

The street width in the area south of Minnehaha is 40 feet, said Hanson. Plans for Hamline between University and Minnehaha call for two five-foot bike lanes, an eight-foot parking lane on one side of the street, an 11-foot travel lane in each direction and parking bans at

all four corners of Charles Ave.

To accommodate the installation of bike lanes, parking would be removed on the east side of Hamline between Sherburne and Minnehaha, except for the northern half of the block between Van Buren and Minnehaha. Parking removal is also proposed for the west side of Hamline between Van Buren and Minnehaha. New time-limited parking, with a one-hour limit, is proposed on the south side of Thomas east of Hamline. That would accommodate businesses.

The street narrows north of Minnehaha, so parking would have to be banned on both sides of Hamline.

Almost two dozen people attended the Aug. 17 public hearing, with equal numbers of project foes and supporters. Some project foes said that the area already has north-south bike lanes on Griggs and Pascal streets and that another north-south route isn't needed. Others suggested that Albert St. be considered for the connection north of Minnehaha.

Hamline Midway resident and longtime bicycle advocate Benita Warns asked the council to consid-

Donate Winter Clothes to Those in Need

er the high-rise residents, who are older and in some cases, disabled. She also asked that other routes be considered. "You spent half a million on Griggs," she said. Warns said more community discussion is needed before the Hamline project goes ahead.

Other project foes said they would lose residential and business parking. Another concern is safety. Ann Finseth, who lives near Hamline and University, said the route isn't safe.

But supporters, including Hamline Midway Coalition, and past and current leaders of the St. Paul Bicycle Coalition, said the bike lanes are needed. Supporters said the route would provide connections to area universities and k-12 schools, as well as a route to work. One speaker said that more than 50 students ride bicycles to Great River School on Pierce Butler Rte.

Highland resident and bicycle advocate Andy Singer said that while there are other shorter northsouth routes, "Hamline is a direct route." He noted that using the other routes would force cyclists to zig-zag through the neighborhoods.

Roseville Farmers' Market Church of Corpus Christi

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StPaulFarmersMarket.com

In Our Community

Monitor

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

Como student named Big Brother of the Year



High School Big BrotherEthimon Lee (right) with his Little Brother Nathan. (Photo provided)

Como High School junior Ethimon Lee was selected as the High School Big Brother of the Year by Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities. Over the past two years, Ethimon has devoted time each week to being an additional, caring person in the life of his Little Brother, Nathan.

Since 2014, Ethimon meets every week, throughout the school year, with his Little Brother Nathan, a 5th grader at Como Park Elementary. Together, they spend time playing games like Uno and working on projects, such as putting together models.

"We feel incredibly fortunate to have volunteers like Lee, who provide the kind of support that has a profound and positive effect on a child's life," says Gloria Lewis, former President, and CEO of Big Brother Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities.

Research shows that a mentor has a positive impact on academic performance, avoidance of risky behavior, better relationships with family, and school attendance.

"Ethimon is a great Big Brother because he's nice. He always plays games with me and helps me with the projects we work on. He's a friendly guy, fun, kind, and caring," says Nathan, Lee's Little Brother.

Festival and Operetta scheduled Sept. 17

Frogtown Farms (946 Minnehaha Ave. W.) will hold their Fall Festival Sat., Sept. 17 from 11am-2pm. The festival offers free food, giveaways, activities, games, and music.

Then, a Picnic Operetta will run from 2-3:15pm. This one-of-a-kind show is directed by Kym Longhi, with a new script by music director Jerrod Wendland. The classic Italian comedic opera meets 80s hair bands and modern-day political drama. Along with music by Mozart and Italian libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte, the cast sinks their teeth into the songs of Bon Jovi, AC/DC, Lionel Richie, and Tears for Fears. Fun for

all ages, this mix of theater, food, and music. There is a \$10 - 20 suggested donation per person and RSVPs strongly recommended (http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2560710).

Wilder Block Party scheduled Sept. 17

The Amherst H. Wilder Foundation will hold their 2016 Block Party on Sat., Sept. 17, 11am-4pm at their campus at 451 Lexington Pkwy. N. Join in the outdoor fun and celebrate community. Everyone is invited and welcome to this family-friendly celebration featuring music, a community mural, kid-friendly activities and more.

Annual Fall Festival scheduled Oct. 1

The third annual Hamline Elementary Fall Festival will be held on Sat., Oct. 1, noon-4:30pm. A partnership between Hamline Elementary, Hamline Midway Coalition, and Hancock Recreation Center, this free, family-friendly event is an opportunity to build community and goodwill in and around the Hamline Midway neighborhood and also raise funds to support arts education at Hamline Elementary School. Funds will be raised through sponsorship, a silent auction, vendor table fees, and individual donations.

So put it on your calendar and be sure to join the fun on the field next to Hamline Elementary (1599 Englewood Ave.) for live entertainment, games and family activities, bounce houses, a silent auction, food for purchase, and more.

Bible Study planned at Jehovah Lutheran

Jehovah Lutheran Church, 1566 Thomas Ave., will hold an 8-week Bible course studying "The Armor of God" by Priscilla Shirer. The study is a strategy for prayer; the strategy is targeted, specific, precise and detailed. Dates for the course are Sept. 14 and 28, Oct. 12 and 26, Nov. 2, 16, and 30, and Dec. 14. For more information call Jeanne Watson at 651-645-2867.

Upcoming events from Elders

Annual Lasagna Dinner & Silent Auction—The entire community is invited to this annual event on Fri., Sept. 30 from 5-7:30pm in the Fireside Room at Hamline Church United Methodist, 1514 Englewood Ave. They will serve meat and vegetarian lasagna (along with dairy free and gluten free pasta options) prepared by

Chef Erik Hendrickson, bid and purchase a variety of donated silent auction items with all proceeds to benefit Hamline Midway Elders. Tickets are \$5 for seniors and children under 10, \$10 for all others in advance, and \$12 at the door.

Exercise Class—This class led by Joni O'Connell has just begun a new eight-week series. Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday, 2-3pm through Oct. 27 at Hamline Church United Methodist (1514 Englewood Ave.). New attendees are welcome for join these free classes anytime. O'Connell utilizes her unique Irish sense of humor to create a welcoming and motivating atmosphere.

Monthly Luncheon—Hamline Midway Elders has been sponsoring "second Tuesday" monthly luncheons for the past 15 years. The meal begins at 11:30am at Hamline Church United Methodist followed by the presentation at 12:15. New attendees are always welcome at these second Tuesday monthly luncheons. The next luncheon is Tues., Sept.13. Natalie McNall, Psychotherapist Supervisor of the 55+ Outpatient Program at the U of M Medical Center, will present "Taking Care of Your Mental Health," about preventing depression/anxiety, plus how to get help if you need it. The Oct. 11 luncheon will feature a speaker from the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging describing "Medicare Open Enrollment." At this meeting flu shots will also be provided (courtesy of Recover Health) and following the luncheon up to 50 interested elders can enjoy a falls colors bus field trip (free but reservations required).

Jody's Documentary Series—Our partnership with the Hamline Midway Library (1558 W. Minnehaha Ave.) continues on Wed., Sept. 28 at 1pm with the POV film "Guilty Pleasures" directed by Julie Moggan about the worldwide popularity of romance novels. Jody Huber will introduce the film and lead a discussion after the showing. Snacks will be provided, and all are welcome to this monthly Last Wednesday series.

For more information on any of the above items, or to volunteer, please contact Tom Fitzpatrick at Hamline Midway Elders at 651-209-6542 or tom@hmelders.org.

Mark your calendar for Marketplace

Hamline Church Holiday Marketplace will be held 9am-3pm, Sat., Nov. 5 at the church, 1514 Englewood Ave. Buy handmade and direct sales items, enjoy a visit with Santa and activities with the Hamline Church Women/United Methodist Women. Tables available. St. Columba Women

will be selling soup and desserts for lunch. For questions or to reserve a table, call 651-646-3473 or email hamlinewomen@gmail. com.

Como resident hosts reading series

Barnes & Noble HarMar (2100 N. Snelling Ave., Roseville) will begin a new reading series, "Bridges," the third Thursday of each month (except Dec.) at 7pm, starting Sept. 15.

The series will be hosted/curated by poet, teacher and Como resident, Stan Kusunoki. "The idea is to bring a mix of cultures, generations, even different genres, and see what kinds of connections thread through the readings of the participants," Kusunoki said.

The impetus for the series came from a "Poetry Month" reading that Kusunoki organized at the store last April. "That reading had the highest attendance we've ever had for poetry at this store," says Janet Waller, Community Business Development Manager, "and it made a lot of sense to tap into that writing community, and make them feel welcome here."

Kusunoki agreed. "During our (April) reading, Kate Kysar, who followed me, changed what she was going to read, based on what I had just read. I am hoping for that kind of vibe among the readers—they are not just reading their own work in isolation, but picking up and continuing a spirit or theme—like jazz, but written/spoken word."

Featured writers for the inaugural reading include Evelina Chao, John Coy, Claudia Hampston Daly, Carolyn Holbrook, David Mura, Lia Rivamonte and Mary Jo Thompson.

Keystone announces upcoming activities

The Keystone Senior Center, located at the Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave., offers a variety of programs for seniors. Here are a few ongoing events along with others scheduled for the coming weeks. (Unless noted otherwise, these programs meet at the Merriam Park Community Center.)

Arthritis classes—Licensed Arthritis Foundation instructors provide low-impact, joint-safe classes which help reduce pain, relieve stiffness, and increase flexibility. Eight—week session on Tuesdays and Thursdays begin Sept. 13, 11am to noon. Cost is \$8 for eight weeks or \$1 per class. Call 651-645-7424 to register or feel free to drop in.

Poetry and Writing: "Finding Home"—a four-session class to explore the theme of "home" through poetry and writing. Learn ways to jump-start creativ-

ity. Four Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 21, 12:30-1:15pm. Call 651-645-7424 to register.

Learn how to eat healthy on a budget – A series of six weekly classes begins on Thur., Oct. 6, from 12-1pm. In this series, you will discover how to stretch your budget to cook healthy, easy-to-make meals. You'll be tasting the food each week! Please call 651-645-7424to register.

AARP Smart Diver courses—Full eight-hour instruction course on Mondays, Sept. 20 and 27, 9:30am to 1:30pm; or four-hour refresher course on Tue., Oct. 11, 9:30am-1:30pm. Call 651-645-7424 for details and to reserve a space in either course.

Foot care—Half-hour foot care appointments are available between 8:30am to 12:30pm, on Mondays, Oct. 3, Nov. 7; or, Dec. 5. Cost is \$20 per session. Call 651-645-7424 for an appointment.

Get your 2016 flu shot—Get your flu shot on Wed., Oct. 5 at the Merriam Park Neighborhood Flu Shot Clinic, at St Mary's Episcopal Church, 1895 Laurel Ave. Everyone is welcome. Bring your Medicare card and your health insurance card. Sponsored by the Merriam Park Living at Home Block Nurse Program and Keystone Community Service Senior Program.

Health insurance/Medicare counseling—Free health insurance counseling from certified counselors available by appointment on Thursdays, Oct. 20, Nov. 17, and Dec. 15. Call 651-645-7424 for an appointment.

Jehovah starts fellowship dinners

Jehovah Lutheran Church is hosting fellowship dinners from 5:30-6:30pm on Wednesdays from Sept. 14 through Nov. 16. The suppers are free, but a donation of \$3 for adults and \$2 for children is welcomed. Leftovers will be donated to Rezek House and/or Safe House in St. Paul, Lutheran Social Services facilities that shelter homeless youth. The church is at 1566 Thomas Ave. The Wednesday suppers are in the downstairs fellowship hall.

Next HMHM event planned Oct. 6

The Hamline Midway Health Movement (HMHM) will hold their next monthly health event on Thur., Oct. 6 at 6pm at the Hamline Church United Methodist (1514 Englewood Ave). The event will feature a healthy meal and "Groovin' to the Oldies" program (no dance partner needed). A free-will donation is suggested, and you can RSVP at hamlinemidwayhealth@gmail.

Continued on page 12

In Our Community

Continued from page 11

Watch the Midway Como Monitor and the HM Coalition website for upcoming events or visit them on our Facebook page at Hamline Midway Health Movement.

La Leche Group scheduled Sept. 13

The next meeting of the Como-Midway La Leche Group will be on Tues., Sept. 13. All expectant and nursing mothers are invited to attend with their babies and toddlers to discuss breastfeeding and mothering Issues. Call Heidi at 651-659-9527 for more information.

Co-ed Drum Circle planned Sept. 23

The Women's Drum Center, 2242 University Ave. W., will present a Co-ed Drum Circle on Fri., Sept. 23, 6:30pm. Percussion, rhythm, and freedom of expression will be explored. The cost is \$10 at the door, and all experience levels are welcome. Drums are provided. Info and registration can be found at www.womensdrumcenter.org.

Rose Ensemble at Merriam Park library

Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave., will sponsor a Jerusalem: Treasures from the Holy Land," Rose Ensemble Lecture and Demonstration, on Tues., Sept. 13, 7-8:30pm. Jerusalem: a name that can evoke 3,000 years of human history. The physical city stands as a beacon of profound spirituality for Jews, Christians, and Muslims, but it is also a celestial place for the children of Abraham, rich with symbolism and metaphors. This program features Sufi mystical songs, Latin and Yemenite chant, Hebrew cantillation, and spiritual music from across the Arab world. Join us for a lecture by Rose Ensemble Artistic Director Jordan Sramek and three guest artists: Yair Dalal (Iraqi-born, Israeli violinist, and oud player), Zafer Tawil (Jerusalem-born, Palestinian multi-instrumentalist), and Dror Sinai (Israeli-born, Middle Eastern percussionist). Selections from the program will also be performed by members of The Rose Ensemble.

Wild Rice Festival scheduled Sept. 17

Harriet Alexander Nature Center (2520 Dale St. N.) will hold their Wild Rice Festival on Sat., Sept. 17, from 10am to 4pm. The festival is a family-friendly celebration of wild rice, the Minnesota harvest, and Native American culture with good food, fun activities, educational presentations and engaging exhibits. It is held, free of admission charge, on the grounds of the nature center.

Foods at the festival will highlight wild rice products and Native American foods. Menu items could include wild rice soup, fry bread, Indian tacos, yogurt/wild rice parfaits, and buffalo "dogs."

A major goal of the festival is to provide education to the

community about local Native American cultures and traditions. Presentations during the day will include Native American drumming, dancing, singing, storytelling, and traditional wild ricing methods.

Gibbs Farm will also offer historical vignettes and a replica tepee with representative artifacts of traditional Dakotah life. The festival features hands-on seasonal harvest activities: resident beekeeper demonstrates the honey extraction process and fills bottles with honey fresh from the hives while volunteers operate an apple cider press where visitors can help squeeze themselves a cup of cider.

After-school program registration open

Register now for Camp Timbuktu, the ARTS-US after-school program. Classes meet Monday through Friday from 3-6pm at Dunning Field Recreation Center, 1221 Marshall Ave. Classes have begun and run through the school year, ending June 9, 2017. ARTS-US serves children K- 6th grade.

Registration fee is a one-time \$15 per child; Enrollment fee is \$60 per month.

To register for ARTS-US after-school classes: E-mail artsusmn@gmail.com; 651-528-6871; or in-person at 1221 Marshall Ave. (Dunning Field Recreation Center, between Concordia University and Central High School).

ARTS-US provides enrolled East Metro area youth—particularly youth who are of African descent - with a supportive and an enriched environment. Children engage in physical and educational activities that encourage self-expression and confidence. Our programs provide children with a place to learn, have fun and stay active after school. They have flexible 3, 4 and 5-day options available.

To learn more about ARTS-US, visit www.arts-us.org.

Join the walkers every week

The Como Health Club Walkers will sponsor group walks every week through Nov. 21 (excluding holidays) at two locations:

—Mondays at 7pm behind the Como Lake Pavilion (meet near the boat docks); and

—Saturdays at 9am at the lobby of HealthPartners' Como Clinic (2500 Como Ave.).

They will walk for 30+ minutes and everyone welcome. Walkers are grouped according to pace, so no one is left out.

St. Paul Ballet announces season

St. Paul Ballet (SPB), 655 Fairview Ave. N., announces a mix of familiar and new works in its 2016-2017 season. Artistic Director Zoé Emilie Henrot revealed that the upcoming season will include a reprise of Peter Davison's "An American in Paris," the annual holiday performance of "Clara's Dream from The Nutcracker," and the premiere of "Billy."

For the first time, St. Paul Ballet will also take its artistry outside the state of Minnesota when it opens it season in Wisconsin.

16th Annual Oktoberfest planned Sept. 16-18

Sept. 16-18, Saint Paul Oktoberfest ushers in its 16th year of celebrating a centuries-old German festival in Rice Park, downtown St. Paul.

"As an Oktoberfest celebration with the name Saint Paul in it, we decided that it needed a new home," Bruce Larson said. "A true Saint Paul festival belongs in the heart of the downtown, and in a European style plaza right in front of a modern castle."

Fifteen years ago, when organizers Larson and Darrel Schenk put together their first event at The Klub Haus on Rice St,, they had clear intentions.

"We wanted to model the

original Oktoberfest from 1810 as much as possible," Darrel Schenk said. "There's already a lot of modern Munich-style celebrations. We didn't want to be just another modern Oktoberfest, but one with true Bavarian heritage."

Today, St. Paul based FILO Productions has taken over the responsibility of event organizing

"Saint Paul Oktoberfest is a truly unique community festival," Linda DeRoode of FILO said. "We are proud to help grow the event and give greater access to an even larger community."

Like the original in Germany, Oktoberfest cele-

brates marriage—specifically King Ludwig I to Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen. And, of course, there will be plenty of beer, brats, music, and events, like the iconic "Bed Races."

"The original celebration Bavaria included a horseracing," Larson said. "We couldn't get horses to race on either Rice St. or Rice Park, so we decided to have a bed race instead."

The 16th annual St. Paul Oktoberfest celebrates German culture on Fri., Sept. 16, 4-10pm, and Sat., Sept. 17 from 10am-10pm, and Sun., Sept. 18, 10am-5pm.

For more information, visit SaintPaulOktoberfest.org.



The 16th Annual Oktoberfest is planned Sept. 16-18 at Rice Park in downtown St. Paul. (Photo submitted)

On tour, SPB will be inviting area schools to participate in performances in the roles of "school children" and "Jerry's friends."

Tickets for season performances are available at spballet.org.

"Rummage" at State Fair Sept. 30-Oct. 2

"Rummage," an experiential event crafted to cater to Minnesotans of all ages and interests, will happen at the West End Market at the State Fairgrounds on Fri.-Sun., Sept. 30-Oct. 2. It will offer favorite Minnesota heritage brands, as well as local and nationally recognized retailers. Additionally, visitors will experience live music, craft beer, fair-inspired food, multiple family-friendly activities, games, and interactive programming.

Passes for the event will be \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. Your wristband will give you festival entry and re-entry for all three event days. Kids 14 and under admitted free.

"This event was curated to align with Minnesota culture, climate, style, and practicalities," says Jeannie Kenevan, Special Projects Manager for Rummage. "Included in the variety of retailers will be outdoor recreational outfitters, upscale clothing boutiques, pet accessories, culinary tools, sports and leisure, and fun stuff for kids."

To find out more visit www.rummagemn.com.

Plan now for annual sauerkraut supper

Mark your calendars now for

the Annual Sauerkraut Supper put on by the Men's Club at St. Stephanus Lutheran Church. The supper, a tradition for over 50 years, will be held on Sat., Oct. 29, 5-7pm at the church, located at 739 Lafond. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 5-12, and free for children under 5. Supper includes pork loin, mashed potatoes, green beans, bakery bread, and dessert served family style.

For further information, call the church at 651-228-1486.



New program seeks to help former caregivers restart their lives

By WARREN WOLFE

A community group working for three years to help make the area a "dementia-friendly" community is starting a new effort, this time to help former caregivers adjust after their care journey has ended

"When I was taking care of my wife, Annie, it was something that I wanted to do and knew I had to do," said George Seiler of White Bear Lake. "But sometimes it gets so intense that you can sort of lose yourself in the process."

"Then the caregiving ends the spouse or parent you've been caring for passes on," he said. "Then what do you do? You need to grieve and try to pick up the pieces and move on. But sometimes that's not so easy. Move on



George Seiler (Photo submitted)

to do what?"

Hearing stories of former caregivers who felt stuck after years of intense and isolating care for a loved one, members of the Roseville Alzheimer's and Dementia Community Action Team (Roseville A/D), began exploring how to help.

The result is the Dementia Caregiver Re-Entry Initiative, which will be unveiled at a kickoff event on Thur., Sept. 29, at Roseville City Hall from 1-3pm. The keynote speaker will be Connie Goldman, herself a former caregiver and former National Public Radio reporter and producer who has written several books about caregiving.

At the Caregiver Re-Entry kickoff event Sept. 29, former caregivers of parents and spouses will talk about their experiences. In addition, a master's research student from the University of St. Thomas will describe her interviews with Twin Cities'

professionals about the need to help people after the caregiving ends.

"We do have programs to help caregivers, but almost nothing to help people adjust after the caregiving ends," said Goldman, formerly from California and now living in Hudson, Wis. "There's a real need, and we're just beginning to realize that."

As part of the initiative, two smaller groups will start meeting in October. They will provide a place where former caregivers can help each other explore how to shift from intense caring for someone else, instead focusing more on their often-neglected needs such as reconnecting with friends and exploring old and new interests.

One group will be for former

caregivers only, while the will be open to current and former caregivers.

"We have some ideas about the topics we might address—changed family dynamics, loneliness, health issues, finances, being good to yourself, volunteerism, lots of things," said Sue Van Zanden. Van Zanden leads a caregiver support group at the Roseville Area Senior Program and will help organize one of the new groups. "But in the end, it's the former caregivers who will determine how this initiative can best help them."

Warren Wolfe is a retired writer for the Star Tribune, where he covered aging issues. He is a member of the Roseville Alzheimer's and Dementia Community Action Team.

Students introduced into the world of entrepreneurs

Imagine yourself making a presentation to a panel of investors, asking for a loan for an innovative new business idea that you came up with in four days with a team of people you had never met before. Sound challenging? That's exactly what a group of 40 St. Paul students was tasked with this summer during their week at BestPrep's Minnesota Business Venture (MBV).

Each business plan proposal summarized the marketing, finance, and operations practices for a fictitious business, crafted in just four days by a "company" of unfamiliar high school students from across Minnesota. And while the business plans and monetary investment were imaginary, the ideas presented would give today's entrepreneurs a run for their money.

MBV is a week-long business and career skills camp held each July in partnership with the Herberger Business School at St. Cloud State University and the Donald McNeely Center for Entrepreneurship at St. John's University. 331 students representing 96 schools spent a week of their summer preparing for life after high school, developing workplace skills, and improving their financial literacy skills.

Students from Central High School and Como Park High School attended camp through sponsorships provided by a variety of local organizations, including more than 100 companies that provided sponsorships for students to attend

Before tackling their business plans, students got to learn from a variety of Minnesota business professionals and entrepreneurs to help them prepare. Throughout the program, more than 190 individuals came to MBV to share their experiences and business insights with the future workforce by volunteering as breakout session presenters, mock interviewers, financial advisors, and more. The speakers covered a wide range of topics such as managing personal finance, experiences in entrepreneurship, business ethics, and building one's personal brand.

Local business professionals, known as Resident Business Leaders, served as mentors to the students throughout the program. These volunteers lived on campus for the week and guided a "company" of students through the creation of a business plan.

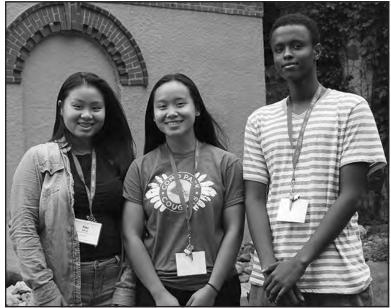
"MBV is a unique opportuni-

ty for high school students to gain skills that will help them now and in their future. Going through a mock interview, learning about finances, working in a diverse team, communicating with adults and peers, and speaking in public are all skills that help prepare students for success in school and future jobs," explained MBV Program Manager Amanda Labo.

In addition to MBV, BestPrep offers five additional programs: Classroom Plus, eMentors, Financial Matters, The Stock Market Game, and the Technology Integration Workshop. For more information about BestPrep or MBV, visit www.bestprep.org.



Siri Schroeder, Central High School (Photo submitted)



Como Park Senior High students Kao Moua, Tu Paw, Zakaria Mohamed (Photo submitted)



Como Park students Tristan Vang, Mario Sanchez Lopez, Keyariaha Hicks, Morgan Lewis (Photo submitted)

Recreation Centers open for fall fun

Registration for Fall Classes/Activities for Langford, Northwest Como and North Dale Recreation Centers is now open. Here is what's beginning soon. Check your local recreation center for the whole fall offerings. To Register for activities you can: call the center, go to the center; or online at stpaul.gov/activityregistration.

Langford Rec Center, 30 Langford Pk., 651-298-5765

- Pilates Beginner, Sept. 8-Nov.10; ages18+ (#5506)
- Pilates Intermediate, Sept. 8-Nov.10; ages 18+ (#5507)
- Urban Tennis, Sept. 13-Oct. 18; ages 7-15 (Register at www. urbantennis.org)
- Horseshoes, Sept. 7-Oct. 19; ages 18+ (#18433)
- Badminton, Sept. 9-Dec. 16; ages 18+; \$4/weekly
- Bowling/Darts, Sept. 2-Dec. 16; ages 50+; free

Northwest Como Rec Center, 1550 Hamline Ave. N., 651-298-5813

- Knitting for Youth or Parent & Child, Sept. 21-Oct 26; ages 7+ (#18399)
- Intro to Yoga & Mindfulness, Sept. 27-Nov.1; ages 6-10 (#18440)
- Tae Kwon Do; ages 6-17 (Master Minefee)
- Teen Dance, Sept. 16; ages 10-13; \$5 (#11077)
- Welcome Bonfire, Sept. 30,; ages 1+; free (#5523)
- Archery, Sept. 2-Nov.3; ages 9-14 (#5521)
- Urban Tennis (Orchard Recreation Center), Sept. 13-Oct. 18; ages 7-15 (Register at www.urbantennis.org)

North Dale Rec Center, 1414 St. Albans St. N., 651-558-2329

- Artist Workshop, Sept. 20-Oct 4; ages 19+ (#18371)
- Cribbage, Sept. 22-Dec 29; ages 19+ (#18366)
- Tae Kwon Do Jr , Sept.-Dec.; ages 4-5
- Tae Kwon Do Youth/Teen , Sept.-Dec.; ages 6-17
- Music Together, Sept. 26-Dec. 5; ages 1w-6 (#18558)
 Challenge Square Dancing, Sept. 12-Dec 19; ages 18+; Fee \$7/weekly
- Tumbling, Sept. 27-Nov.15; ages 3-5 (#17231)
- Mini Shredder Skate Board Camp, Sept. 14-Oct. 5; ages 5-8 (#18376)
- Senior Fitness, Sept. 1-Dec. 29; ages 18+; \$1/session
- Laughter Yoga, Sept.-Dec.; ages 18+
- Earth Moon Yoga Adults, Sept. 3-Dec 24; ages 18+; \$5/class
- Pilates/Mind/Body/Strength, Sept. 7-Dec. 21; ages 18+; \$5/class

For questions or help with registration call the individual Recreation Center.



The Northwest Como 12U Girls Slow Pitch Softball Team were the 2016 Multi-City Champions. (Not shown in order) Coaches: Eric Forsland, Bill Lipkin and Marc Issaacson. Players: Eleanor Isaacson, Emma Isaacson, Mira Seeba, Audrey Westerberg, Jade Murphy, Emma Ingwalson, Tori Thorson, Genevieve Doerr, Evelyn Forsland, Sarah Lipkin, Annelise Purcell, Nevaeh Sellers, Theodora Burr, Jaylin Ketchel.

Friends who are family-the story of a 50 (or 60) year friendship

By MEGHAN TOMPKINS

Lorraine Quinn and Irene McGuire have been friends for over 50 years.

"We met in the 50's," said Lorraine.

"No, it was the 60's," replied Irene.

"We don't know... It has been a long time," they chimed in together, "been there, done

I was met at the elevator door of Falcon Heights Apartments with the sprightly smile and the welcoming voice of Lorraine. As soon as we opened her apartment door, I was welcomed by a wall of pictures that included the happy faces of friends and

"IRENE! Meghan's here," yelled Lorraine.

We sat down at the kitchen table to a large spread of food.

"Who all did you think was coming?" asked Irene of Lorraine.

Their comfort with each other was evident in how they communicated. They're sassy, spunky and willing to share their wisdom with me. This is the story of Lorraine and Irene, the women who wear many hats—daughters, sisters, wives, mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers and best friends.

Lorraine hails from St. Paul, where she got her first job working at the neighborhood theater. She still remembers how much she hated making caramel corn



every Tuesday. Those theater days came back later in life after she married the love of her life, Don who was a projectionist in the

While Lorraine was in the big city, Irene grew up in a farm town in Wisconsin. She was on the first ever school bus her town had. She's thankful she went to the town hall dance her senior year of high school because that is where she met her husband,

Both Irene and Lorraine come from strong family backgrounds. Their love for their husbands and children is evident in the way their eyes light up when they talk about them.

"My kids are my greatest accomplishment," stated Irene, "They're pretty nice."

They love spending time with their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

When they aren't with family, they are with each other.

Their story starts with their husbands. Don Quinn lived in New Richmond, WI where his Dad owned a pool hall. Tom Mc-Guire was a regular at the pool hall and often called Don, "Rack Boy"! They lost touch but reconnected when they were both looking for jobs in St. Paul. They both got the job—Don worked there for the summer, and Tom worked there for his whole life. At this point, Lorraine and Irene have still not met.

A while down the road Irene and Tom were going out to din-

ner with another couple. The other couple asked if they could bring some friends along and of course, Irene and Tom said ves. In walk Lorraine and Don.

"Rack boy!" yelled Tom. Irene and Lorraine have been friends ever since.

Lorraine and Irene do everything together. So much so that people interchange their names regularly. They stay active by playing cards, going out to eat, going to building events, attending the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and regular visits to the Ordway where Lorraine's son works.

When asked what the secret was to a happy and long-lasting friendship, the answer was sim-

"We've never had a fight," stated Lorraine.

"Well, we're easy to get along with," replied Irene.

Just because they haven't had a fight, doesn't mean they haven't had disagreements. A little while back Lorraine decided to sign Irene up for an event in their building, and Irene was not happy about it. When the next event came up, Lorraine didn't sign Irene up and asked why she didn't. Because of this, Irene gets signed up for everything.

Both are involved in the Falcon Heights Nurse Block program. The program helps them keep up with their exercise. They both stress how important it is to

Their energy and charisma even got them a spot as 'Flower Ladies' in their exercise instructors wedding this past year. They received national attention and even had Lorraine's son calling her from Texas saying he saw her on the news.

Lorraine had a more intimate relationship with the nurse block program when her husband was sick. They looked through the house to make Don's life easier and arranged for someone to visit with Don so she could run errands.

"When I needed them, they were wonderful," started Lorraine, "You have no idea."

At the end of our time together I asked if there was any advice they could give for the younger generations. They stressed the importance of keeping friends because families are busy, and they have every right to be. They also say keeping busy is vital—if they don't have anything to do, Lorraine usually manufacturers something for them.

Lastly, I asked if there is anything they know now that they didn't when they were twenty.

When we were twenty, laughed both of them, "We didn't know anything!"

They know how fortunate they are to have each other and never take advantage of their friendship. It is indisputable that Lorraine and Irene are best friends who've become family.

Classifieds

Want ads must be received by the Monitor by Oct. 3 for the Oct. 13 issue. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Monitor's website at www.MonitorSaintPaul.com

Monitor Want Ads are \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to Monitor Classifieds, 125 1st Ave. NW, PO Box 168, Minneapolis, MN 55369. Want ads must be mailed to the Monitor by Oct. 3 for the Oct. 13 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to denis@deruyternelson.com. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Monitor's website at www.MonitorSaintPaul.com

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Be prepared. It works for the Boy Scouts. It also works for life. We are more flexible, more efficient and more resilient when we are prepared for what life sends us.

And climate change is sending us a lot of severe weather. So take advantage of National Preparedness Month to get ready! Have the conversations, put your plans in writing, and gather supplies for your emergency kits!

How are we impacted by severe weather?

The most common impact is the loss of power. No electricity. This can mean no lights, the inability to cook a meal or to charge or use a cell phone, and limitations on our ability to work or entertain ourselves. Our food supplies may be endangered. We may not be able to stay warm or cool. If the power outage is prolonged, there can be safety concerns.

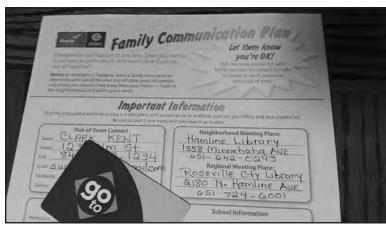
Storms can result in unexpected school and business closures, disrupt transportation routes and leave family members stranded. Severe weather can mean we can't stay in our home, and we may even need to evacuate our community.

The result is often confusion and chaos—unless we have thought about it, talked it over

Ready and Resilient Hamline Midway

By TRUDY DUNHAM

Be prepared to be resilient



Include emergency contact and safe meeting location info in your wallet with your Go Card, so you know where to go and can get there in an emergency.

with our family, and formed a plan.

As you hold that conversation, include these questions: Can everyone text their location and confirm their safety in severe weather or other emergencies? What out-of-town person could act as your backup emergency contact? Can everyone memorize that person's phone number? Where is a safe meeting place in your neighborhood, in case your home is unavailable? A meeting place outside of your neighborhood? Can everyone get there on their own?

If you live alone, or if you may need assistance, identify several people who can help you. Talk with them about your needs and your plan. If you have pets, don't forget to consider their needs.

Plan, then prepare

Once you have your plan, then you need to take the action steps to be prepared to respond quickly without panicking. Some habits that can help you be ready include:

• Keep gas in the car, or have a Bus Pass or Go Card so that you can transport yourself

- Renew prescriptions so you always have at least a week's supply on hand
- Keep your cell phone at least half charged
- Write out instructions on how to turn off utilities (water, gas, electricity), and place them by the various switches, with any tools needed to turn them off.
- Carry Emergency Information in your wallet
- Have your Emergency To-Go Bag packed and easily accessible
- Have your Emergency House Kit stocked and in the safest part of your home (likely the basement or bathroom)

Wallet Emergency Information includes your emergency out-of-town contact (name, phone number) and safe meeting place (name, address, phone number, how to get there) information. It is good to have this written down as many people have difficulty recalling details in a crisis. If you are unable to communicate, emergency personnel may find it

The Emergency To-Go bag holds things you may need if you have to leave your home on short notice and are not sure when you can get back.

- Copies of identity information, insurance and bank documents, and prescriptions for glasses or medications
- Cash (smaller bills)
- Complete change of clothes, suitable to the weather (include shoes)
- Personal hygiene supplies

• Flashlight with batteries

Your Emergency House Kit will have things you need if you have to shelter in your home for several days without utilities. Recommended supplies include:

- 3 gallons of water per person, for drinking and sanitation (3 day supply)
- 3-day supply of non-perishable food per person, that does not require cooking
- Paper plates, cups, plastic utensils, paper towels, multipurpose tool
- First aid kit
- Garbage bags, ties and moist wipes for sanitation
- Flashlights and batteries
- Weather radio (battery powered or hand crank)
- Special needs supplies (e.g., diapers for infants, pet food, etc.)
- Games, books and other activities
- Blankets, sleeping bag, tarp Federal websites offer more complete lists and information to help you prepare:
- https://www.ready.gov/publications
- http://www.cdc.gov/phpr/npm/index.htm
- http://www.nctsn.org/resources/public-awareness/national-preparedness-month%20

When you have your information and kits in place, hold a practice drill. Have a friend text "emergency preparedness drill" to each member of your family. Each member should then text the emergency contact and proceed to the agreed-upon safe meeting site on their own. As you gather, talk about what worked well, or not so well. Then celebrate your preparedness!

The Ready & Resilient Hamline Midway project is an initiative of the Hamline Midway Environmental Group (HMEG) to build climate change resilience in our community.



South Washington County Schools, serving the communities of Cottage Grove, Newport, St. Paul Park, Woodbury, Afton, Denmark and Grey Cloud Townships is now accepting applications for the following positions:

PARAPROFESSIONAL – Work directly with regular or special education OR supervise groups of students; starting base wage \$13.00 per hour

PARAPROFESSIONAL SUBSTITUTE – Work directly with regular or special education, can choose your schedule; starting base wage \$12.65 per hour

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NUTRITION SERVICES – Prepare and serve breakfast and lunches for students; starting base wage \$12.31 per hour

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Hamline Midway Progressive Women tackle neighborhood issues

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

On the third Monday of each month, a dozen or so women gather in Hamline Midway to discuss the issues that impact their neighborhood. Social time begins at 6:30pm, with a presentation or activity from 7-9pm. The Hamline Midway Progressive Women have been meeting regularly for more than four years.

Meetings are held in members' homes on a rotating basis. St. Paul School Board member Mary Vanderwert, the host for September's meeting, said, "All of the women currently involved live in Hamline Midway, but I guess it's not a requirement. We welcome everybody."

The group originally came together in support of Ellen Anderson's last bid for the District 66 Senate seat in 2011. After that campaign ended, they wanted to continue supporting women in roles of local political leadership. The group was instrumental in getting Vanderwert elected to the St. Paul School Board last year, and are currently working to support Jeannie Foster for the St. Paul School Board as well.

Historically, the Hamline Miway neighborhood has had a very high rate of voter turn-out. Group member Beth Commers commented on the myriad ways women attending the August meeting of the Progressive Women were involved in politics and community organizing. "Looking around this room, I'm aware of all the ways women help to make the world



Members of the Hamline Miway Progressive Women gathered for the August monthly meeting. The group is a place to get informed about issues relevant to the neighborhood, and to meet other pro-active women working to build a more positive community. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

go round," she said.

Vanderwert added, "That's right—we get stuff done."

There were two speakers present for the August meeting: Marit Brock of Moms Demand Action for Gun Safety in America, and Beth Commers of Everytown for Gun Safety. Both organizations are working towards the same result, but via different paths. The shared goals are to close loopholes in criminal background checks for gun sales and to elect "gun-sense" leaders to public office.

Brock explained that her group was created by a mother of a first grader following the Sandy Hook Elementary School shootings four years ago. It has since grown into a grass-roots army in all 50 states—a group that works, as she said, "neighbor to neighbor"

Commers explained how Everytown sprang out of a coalition of American mayors concerned about gun violence, and works, as she said, "leader to leader."

"Past presenters have run the gamut," said member Barb Spears. "We've had our state representative Erin Murphy come in for a legislative update. One month a MNDOT staffer took our group out for a walk along Snelling Ave., before the reconstruction. We got to see the street and sidewalks right underneath our feet and to talk about improvements, accessibility, and safety. Recently a member of the Citizen's Advisory Panel for the

proposed soccer stadium led a discussion about that project, with all its ramifications.'

"Not only have I become more aware of issues at the neighborhood and local level," said Spears, "I feel like I've made so many great connections. When I go out walking now, even across Snelling Ave. (which used to feel like such a barrier), I think, that's where Mary lives, and Trudy, and Megan."

To learn about upcoming topics and meeting locations for the Hamline Miway Progressive Women or to join the email list, contact Mary at mary.vanderwert@gmail.com.

Next Deadline: OCTOBER 3
Next Publication: OCTOBER 13

