



Your Neighborhood Newspaper for Over Twenty-Five Years

Local sculptor brings works to Como Park, Hamline Park...



# Minnesota Rocks! stone carving sculptor makes Midway his home

#### News.....2



Fate of building hangs in balance

# News......6



Met Council picks LRT for University



Central High

#### By DEBORAH BROTZ

Although Midway resident Peter Morales has academic degrees in biology and in Hispanic Literature and Linguistics, he decided to take his career in a different direction. In 1991, he apprenticed with Twin Cities' stone sculptor Stanton Sears and Philip Rickey in creating stone boats for Nicollet Mall in Minneapolis. Changing the course of his life, he became a stone sculptor at age 31.

Recently participating in Minnesota Rocks!, the Saint Paul International Stone Carving Symposium hosted by Public Art Saint Paul, Morales created two works to be installed in St. Paul. He was one of 14 sculptors chosen from around the world to participate in the event.

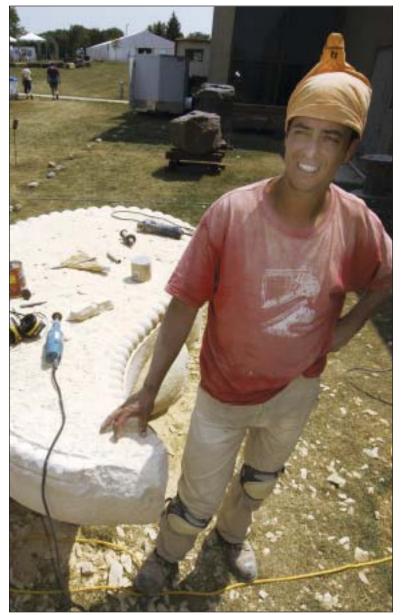
"I was very excited and elated," he said. "It was a great opportunity that happens once in a lifetime. You don't have too many of these happening in St. Paul. It was quite an honor."

Morales, who came to the United States from Guatemala as a teen-ager, became a stone sculptor by assisting Sears.

"I started working for an artist who was working on a pretty large stone sculpture," he said. "He was looking for assistance. I started out working in wood. I showed him the work that I had done. He liked what I was doing so he took me on as his assistant."

Becoming a stone sculptor made sense to Morales.

"I've been teaching Spanish because I've learned a lot of languages," he said. "I figured stone carving was the next thing. I have an undergrad degree in biology from Ripon College and a master's degree in Hispanic Literature and Linguistics from the U of M. It just seemed more interesting. I can't really sit still reading books and writing. It seemed like a more active life.' One of Morales' stone sculp-tures, "Cajibracan," a mythical monster from the olden days, will be placed at the Midway Coalition site, at Snelling and Thomas, at the triangle in Hamline Park. 'It's an earth shaker," said Morales. "It looks like a beast that emerged from the primordial ooze. It's not too scary. Kids won't be too frightened. I liked the stone. That's what I saw emerging from the stone."



Midway resident Peter Morales recently participated in Minnesota Rocks!, the Saint Paul International Stone Carving Symposium, hosted by Public Art

"There was not enough time to work with granite so I chose limestone. It's a little bit faster. I thought about making a bench. This particular piece of limestone was the right dimensions for that."

Pre-Columbian sculpture has influenced Morales' work.

"I grew up with a lot of monumental sculpture from pre-Columbian times," he said. "These are models that I follow even though my work doesn't necessarily look like that."

Inspired by pre-Columbian forms and motifs, Morales' works in stone are also inspired by animals, pictographs, and zoomorphic figures that defy exact identification.

"I just do what seems appropriate at the time," he said. "I look at the stone and see where it's going to go."

Being a stone sculptor is important to Morales.

"I don't really want to do anything else," he said. "It's fun. I like it. Stone is interesting. Once I make something, it's going to be that way for awhile. It has lasting value. It's not an easy object to dispose of."

Christine Podas-Larson, president of Public Art Saint Paul, thinks it's important for St. Paul to have public art.

"It's making the city a more interesting place to be," she said. "It's beautiful and imaginative. To see original works by artists changes the way people experience the city. It makes the city so much more compelling, interesting, and imaginative. It makes the experience of being in the city so much better."

#### opens new cafe





#### Como kids in Circus Juventas

Saint Paul. Morales created two works to be installed in St. Paul. He was one of 14 sculptors chosen from around the world to participate in the event. (Photo by Terry Faust)

The Midway Coalition sculpture will be made of stromalite.

"It's a very hard stone to carve," said Morales. "It polishes very nicely. Part of the face of the beast will be polished to show off its features in stone."

Morales chose stromalite, donated by Cliffs Natural Stone, located in the Iron Range, because he thought it had an interesting shape, and he liked the colors of the stone.

"Not too many people have carved this kind of stone before," he said. "I may be the first.

I have not heard of other

people carving this kind of stone."

Another sculpture, with a working title of "Fancy Bench," will be located in Como Park, at Lexington and Jessamine, near the entrance to the tunnel under the train tracks.

"It will serve as a bench," said Morales. "People can sit on it. It has four legs. The top is not animal-like at all."

Morales chose limestone, donated by Vetter Stone near Mankato, for this sculpture.

"After working on the first piece for three weeks, I only had three weeks left," he said. Morales is attracted to zoomorphic figures because of what he sees in them.

"There's movement and gestures in zoomorphic figures," he said. "I don't want to do human figures. I think animal figures are more interesting."

The hope is that people will enjoy Morales' stone sculptures.

"There's a little bit of mystery to both of them," said Morales. "The one is not easily identifiable. You can not tell what it is. I hope to slow down traffic on Snelling. I hope people will slow down to see what it is. I think kids will like getting their picture taken on it."

# Midway Como Stopp

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

**Publishers:** Calvin deRuyter, Tim Nelson

Managing Editor: Denis Woulfe

Advertising: Denis Woulfe

Photographer: Terry Faust

Production/Illustrations: Bob Wasiluk

#### Contributing Writers:

Iric Nathanson, Deborah Brotz, Jane McClure, Nancy Giguere, Jessica Flannigan, Tom Conlon, Jan Willms, Sherri Moore, Nate Hamilton, Deb Robinson, Benita Warns, The Cheapskate, The Food Snob, and The Bachelor



# Now, communicate with the Midway Como Monitor electronically!

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

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

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

All rights reserved. The contents of the Monitor cannot be reproduced without express written permission of the publisher. Copyright ©2006.



Building project on Crosby block drags on...

# Fate of 1956 Feronia building still hangs in the balance

#### By JANE MCCLURE

Ways to save one of Iris Park neighborhood's oldest buildings were still being discussed as the July *Midway Como Monitor* went to press. The fate of 1956 Feronia Av. was the focus of ongoing negotiations between Ward 4 Council Member Jay Benanav and representatives of St. Paul Trades and Labor, and the building owners. Meetings were to continue July 7. The two sides hoped to set a schedule for completion of the building renovation project, which has dragged on for many months.

Benanav said he also hopes to host a neighborhood meeting this month to give area residents an update on the building. "There's a lot of interest in saving this building, or at the very least, seeing that it gets done," he said.

But one concern Benanav has is that work on the building exterior has slowed down this summer. He'd like to see more of a focus on getting the exterior work completed. The building owner and lead contractor, for their part, contend that they have been working on the building but that much work had to be done inside to stabilize the structure.

The building is under a city "remove or repair" order, which was to take effect June 12. That order has been stayed in the hopes of reaching an agreement and get-



The fate of 1956 Feronia Av. was the focus of ongoing negotiations between Ward 4 Council Member Jay Benanav and representatives of St. Paul Trades and Labor, and the building owners. The two sides hoped to set a schedule for completion of the building renovation project, which has dragged on for many months. (Photos by Tom Conlon)

ting the building's rehabilitation completed.

"We're still talking about timelines and when the work needs to be done," said Benanav. He still hopes the historic building, known as the Crosby Block, can be saved. But he is adamant that the building rehabilitation, which has dragged on for three years, needs to be finished soon.

Attorney Rebekah Brown submitted the agreement recently on behalf of the property owners Naomi Isaacson and Laureen Ballinger. Brown said she believes the agreement is a reasonable compromise and should be accepted.

Work on the structure has continued over the past several weeks, even though a performance bond was recently revoked. Assistant City Attorney Judith Hanson said that even though the bond was revoked, the work can continue because the project still has valid building permits.

The building contractor has

circulated a petition throughout area neighborhoods, asking for support to save the structure. Several hundred signatures have been gathered.

1965 Feronia is one of the few surviving buildings from a Merriam Park-Iris Park neighborhood business district that was largely wiped out by the construction of Interstate 94. The St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) has recommended that the building be given local historic status. But after years as a problem apartment building, the structure has sat empty and gone through ownership changes as funding and new uses were sought. The building is three stories tall and has been eyed for various commercial, residential and mixed uses over the years.







If you don't need a "senior community" right now, you'd fit





"If you want to hear from a resident who shopped around quite a bit, let's talk

The Midway Como Monitor is typically published the second Thursday-Friday of each month . If you're not receiving a timely delivery call 651-645-7045

#### right in. None of our residents do either.

Our residents are here because *they* wanted to choose their next home instead of having it chosen for them. They also like the idea of living on a *continuing care campus* that offers all the care and services that they may ever need. The great neighbors are just the icing on the cake. If you're 62+, one of our one or two-bedroom designs could be *perfect*! All the security and amenities that you expect, of course, plus available heated parking. Visit us at **www.ehomesmn.org**. Or call **651-288-3931** for a tour.

1840 University Ave W • Saint Paul MN 55104 Part of the Episcopal Homes family

#### after your tour.

#### Gale Frost

Gale Frost looked at a dozen other places before choosing us. That's why he has offered to talk with you before you make *your* choice. We offer comfy, secure apartments with a menu of assisted living services for age 55+. One or two-bedroom and studio designs, most with views of Iris Park or our own private campus. Some are available through County programs. Visit us at <u>www.ehomesmn.org</u> or call 651-646-1026. We'll be happy to arrange a tour (and a talk with Gale).

1850 University Ave W • Saint Paul MN 55104 Part of the Episcopal Homes family

Page 2



# Fireworks tent plan at Whitaker Buick fizzles

A proposed fireworks tent at the former Whitaker Buick auto dealership property fizzled out before the July 4 holiday and wasn't erected this year. The proposal was to go to the St. Paul Planning Commission Zoning Committee June 22 for a required conditional use permit, but it was withdrawn by the applicant and Whitaker representatives.

Whitaker moved its motor vehicle dealership to Forest Lake earlier this year and the property is for sale.

Efforts by Hamline-Midway Coalition and neighborhood residents snuffed out the proposed fireworks tent. Opponents raised objections to its proximity to Sherburne Avenue homes, potential risk of fire and explosions, possible violations of fireworks safety regulations due to its placement on the property and concerns that University Avenue is eyed as a fireworks tent site year after year. The Whitaker request is the only conditional use permit request the city received and sent to the Planning Commission in 2006.

In recent years objections

have been raised about fireworks tents at Midway Marketplace. Those tents were opposed by Snelling-Hamline Community Council, which is the district council on that side of the street. A tent had been placed on the former J-Mart property one year, but objections by current store occupant Wal-Mart squelched the fireworks tent after that.

One issue area residents and district councils are likely to focus on in the months ahead is how St. Paul regulates fireworks tents and whether those regulations should be changed. The need for more regulations came up five years ago when Minnesota expanded its definition of what is and is not a legal form of fireworks in the state.

Businesses need a permit to sell fireworks in St. Paul. Putting up a sales tent requires an additional conditional use permit, regulating fireworks in the same way that outdoor Christmas tree sales or temporary garden stores are regulated. Neighborhood activists contend those regulations don't provide enough safety precautions to prevent an explosion or fire. They question whether such permit conditions as removal and storage of fireworks every night would be enforced and whether it is enough of a precaution to keep the community safe.

# Ramsey Board to receive pay raise

Ramsey County Board members will receive a 2.8 percent pay raise in 2007. The commissioners voted 6-1 June 6 to raise their pay, with Commissioner Janice Rettman casting the lone vote against. Rettman said that in tight budget times, it's inappropriate for the County Board to be raising its pay.

No one attended a public hearing on the pay hike, held in May.

Commissioners must adopt a salary ordinance by July 1. The ordinance doesn't take effect until January 1 of the following year.

Currently county commissioners make \$62,206, with the board chairperson receiving \$64,297. Pay increases are based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The index increased by 2.8 percent in 2005, the figure used to base the increase on. The county sets its own salary increases and employee pay increases at 50 to 100 percent of the CPI. The raise is typically less than county employees receive.

The increase brings commissioner salaries to \$63,948 for the board members and \$66,097 for the chairperson.

The pay increase will stand unless a citizen files a valid refer-

endum petition within 30 days after the ordinance is published.

Ramsey County commissioners are considered part-time but in recent years most haven't held outside employment and work full-time at their elected posts. Regionally, pay for commissioners varies from less than \$60,000 to more than \$80,000.

Ramsey County commissioners are also reimbursed for expenses for attending conferences and seminars that are related to their duties as commissioners. A few years ago the commissioners voted to decline more per diem payments for attending outside boards, commissions and committees. Payments received for these outside duties goes into the county's general fund. The only per diems commissioners do collect are from duties with the Association of Minnesota Counties.

# Subway plan is dropped in Park

St. Anthony Park residents won't be able to eat fresh after all. A proposal to put a Subway restaurant in the BP service station at Como and Raymond avenues was dropped after owner Ned Wesenberg couldn't reach an agreement with Subway to locate a small sandwich shop in part of the building. Instead Wesenberg will proceed with plans to take out the service station's repair and car wash bays and instead expand a convenience store there.

Some neighbors had opposed the addition of the Subway restaurant, raising concerns about everything from fast food and childhood obesity to parking congestion and pedestrian safety in that part of the neighborhood. Neighbors have asked for a traffic study for the area, saying it is increasingly dangerous for pedestrians and for motorists.

The St. Anthony Park (District 12) Community Council had recommended Planning Commission and City Council approval of Wesenberg's project.

The dropping of Subway from the project in turn meant a zoning change needed for the restaurant, from business to traditional neighborhoods zoning, was withdrawn before a St. Paul City Council public hearing June 21. Wesenberg had already received a conditional use permit and other approvals needed for the conversion of the business from the St. Paul Planning Commission. Those decisions were not appealed to the City Council and will stand.

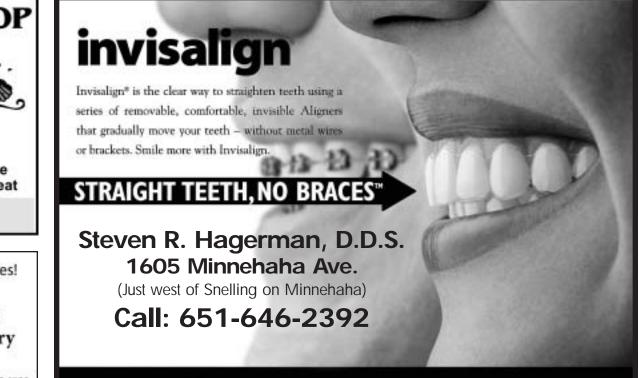
The service and wash bays can be removed and the convenience store added without the zoning change. Traditional neighborhoods or TN zoning does allow for mixed-use businesses, including small fast food restaurants.

Wesenberg, who also owns Park Service in St. Anthony Park, bought the BP station earlier this year. He'll retain the fuel pumps and eventually hopes to offer 24hour pump access there.

- Compiled by Jane McClure









Call today to see how the new Invisalign Express<sup>™</sup> can save you treatment time and money.



Previous columns have dealt with step-fathers, step-mothers, and the occasional step-in-law. I believe I've ignored an important part of the family; the stepsiblings. It's easy for adults to fall and love and marry. It's more difficult for children to become siblings. For our children, it was more difficult because they were each used to being an only child.

When we married, my biggest very concern was about the kids and how they would deal with being siblings. Mr. M. took a typically male position; thinking the children would have trouble in the beginning, but eventually get along. As usual, he didn't give it a second thought. I knew it would be hard for them to suddenly have another child in the picture. I hoped they'd become like regular brother and sister, but didn't really know what to do about it.

Mr. M. and I wanted to introduce the kids in small doses, but it wasn't possible since he and Krista were in Los Angeles and Sean and I were in Minnesota. They were introduced in one large dose; thrown together for two weeks, over Christmas vacation, just seven months before we planned to marry. Sean was 9, smart and knew just what was going on while Krista was a clueless 5, with concerns more about dolls and books, and not much thought about the boy who was visiting.

We planned a ski trip to Mammoth Mountain ski resort for five days, then the rest of the time would be spent at their home in one of the thousand suburbs of Los Angeles. The hope was that they'd be able to tolerate each other, and maybe even have fun. We were such idiots. Little did we know know what horrendous disasters lurked in our future.

The vacation got off to a rocky start. Sean and I found ourselves at LAX on Christmas night, standing their like fools, with no one there to meet us. "Let's get back on the plane, he's not coming." Sean said with the certainty of an experienced man.

A few minutes later, Mr. M. came rushing to the gate, carrying a laughing Krista, who was wearing the cutest little pink sweater. He'd been told the plane was late, when,



### Life with step siblings

actually, it was early. When he put Krista down, she immediately wrapped her arms around Sean and said, "I like little boys." Sean responded by crying out, "Get her off of me!"

That was only the beginning. The ski trip was one disaster after another. We drove six hours to the ski area with two kids who wouldn't let up. Krista threatened to throw up and Sean tried our patience with his bad behavior. He'd brought a huge teddy bear of Krista's and the three of them were smashed in the back seat of Mr. M.'s old, red Fiat. There was hardly room for the two of them, never mind the giant Teddy bear!

When we got to the resort, we were told that our condo had been flooded. Quickly, they arranged for us to stay in another condo, down the road, and just across the parking lot from Mr. M.'s ex-wife and her friends. I often wondered how that had happened!

We managed to salvage the vacation, and have a good time. Krista was thrilled to ski between Mr. M.'s legs, and Sean took to the sport like a miniature Jean Claude Killy. They even had fun in the condo at night, playing games!

When we returned to Mr. M's house, both Sean and I were aghast at how he and Krista lived. They lived in the ugliest house on the block! And the inside was worse than the outside! Sean and I slept in Mr. M's room. It was almost like camping out. On second thought, camping out was more comfortable! Sean woke me up early the next morning to ask me if he should wear his shoes to the bathroom because the carpet was so ugly. I answered "Yes, you'd better, I don't know what those stains are from."

Sean was used to sleeping in a home without stained, petrified, gray carpeting. I actually felt sick at the thought

of converting Mr. M's dilapidated ranch house into a home for our expanding family. My son seemed to read my mind and immediately suggested we return home and forget the whole thing.

Instead, we returned to Minnesota, I sold the house and quit my job, and Sean and I moved to our new life in California. Mr.

M. and I were married in the back yard under a huge tree, with our kids acting as ring-bearer and flower girl.

The renovation on the house began the day after we returned from our honeymoon. Somehow, that longterm project brought the kids together. Mr. M. worked hard to provide for us, and I worked hard bringing the home up to code.

Both kids soon became good at demolition. They ripped down wallpaper and pulled yellowed paneling off the walls. They ripped up carpet and loved every minute of it. In between projects, we took in the sights of Southern California. We visited art museums, went to movies and theme parks, and got into the busy school schedule. Krista was with us every other week, which made it possible for the kids to spend a lot of time together. The more time they spent together, the closer they became.

They fought like brother and sister, each accusing the parents of favoring the other. Krista's major argument was that Sean had a phone in his room and she didn't. That Christmas, she got her own phone. Sean's complaints were too numerous to name. The funniest one was his complaint that his friends had maids and gardeners and we didn't. He felt he was suffering needlessly when he had to mow the lawn and pick up his room.

All kidding aside, it took many years and hard work to blend our little family. Next month I'll share some of our ideas, and even tell you about our mistakes. Maybe we can save some newly blended family the trouble we had.

(Sherri Moore is a free lance writer and former resident of the Como area. Sherri welcomes your comments and can be reached at sherrimoore92@msn.com.)

Living only a short distance from The Lake Como Lakeside Pavilion, I have no excuse not to enjoy the free music and entertainment that is offered here nearly every summer night. To my discredit, I have only been over to enjoy the entertainment a handful of times in the three plus years we have been St. Paul residents.

But my wife, along with my son, Jonah, recently cajoled me off of the couch from where I was watching a perfectly relaxing summer baseball game, and we made a day of it over at the lake.

It's best to start such an outing with a nice stroll around the lake path, which we did. We all get a kick out of the baby ducks and the other wildlife. Next, we headed over to the pavilion to rent a paddleboat. Now, there's something about being out on the water with other paddleboaters which compels me to wave and holler hello at everyone like a nincompoop. Which I am. While we were out, we heard the musicians from the Como "Pops" Ensemble warming up.



which includes some nicely landscaped paths and the bridge across the fall. It really is a sight. On the day we were there, there were some kids cooling off in one of the pools. (Is that allowed?)

But there's only one way to follow up a paddleboat ride, and that is with some ice cream cones served up at the Black Bear Crossings Café. We also bought some sodas and water to cool off with while we enjoyed the concert.

The "Music in the Parks" series begins in May and runs

Sinfonia and the Minnesota State Band. There are also vocal performances by groups like the North Star Chorus, and the Just for Fun Singers.

I have a friend who is doing some work on the Rosetown Playhouse's production of Finian's Rainbow on July 14th and 15th. He has made me promise to come check it out. There are other plays

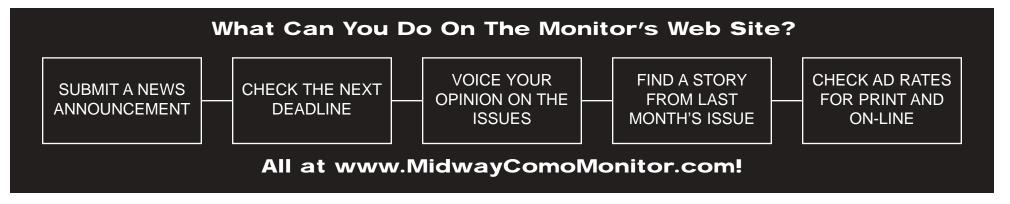
and movies offered in the series as well. You can check out a complete summer long schedule

at the Saint Paul parks website, or pick up a brochure at the pavilion. On the evening we were there, The Pops Ensemble did

a smashing job, delivering some hits from "The Phantom of the Opera" and "The Sound of Music." I am a sucker for show tunes, no doubt. A fine soprano with a big voice even came onstage to perform "God Bless America" and "Climb Every Mountain." She really filled that pavilion with sound. It was all a real celebration—of music, of the park, of life—you know what I mean. We left the park tired, but happy, chatting about the baby ducks and the people we saw fishing on the docks. It was a perfect day.

Upon our return to shore, we checked out the recently completed reconstruction of the waterfall at the pavilion, through September 10th. As I mentioned, there are concerts and shows nearly every night of the week and most shows begin at 7 p.m. On weekends, there are often afternoon concerts, which is what we caught.

The acts include many talented community bands and ensembles, and other professional acts like the Minnesota



Page 4

2006 is a year of milestones for the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation. We are celebrating our centennial-100 years of providing health and human services to the residents of Saint Paul and the East Metro. In addition, on June 12, Wilder broke ground on the construction of a new Wilder Center at the intersection of Lexington and University Avenues.

The 99,000 square foot building will situate Wilder at a major gateway to four important and vital Saint Paul communities: Lexington-Hamline, Frogtown, Summit-University and Aurora-St. Anthony, formerly known as Rondo. The design and location of Wilder Center will deliver easier access to those Wilder serves, allow us to strengthen and enhance services and provide more adaptable space to allow for continued growth, collaboration and service well into our second century.

As one of the largest human service organizations in Saint Paul, Wilder operates more than 70 programs and services that help children succeed in school, troubled youth and families create healthy futures, individuals and families maintain long-term affordable housing, and older adults remain independent. In addition, our leadership programs work to support emerging and experienced community leaders, while Wilder **Research evaluates effectiveness** and identifies best practices for human service organizations.

Virtually all of our current programs and services are provided



By CRAIG BINGER, Vice President, Administration, Amherst H. Wilder Foundation

### Wilder breaks ground on second century



St. Paul Saints owner Mike Veeck hands over a ceremonial home plate to Wilder President Tom Kingston to mark that this site was the home of the St. Paul Saints for many years as Lexington Park.

and designed in collaboration with other East Metro area organizations, such as Achievement Plus with Saint Paul Public Schools and an initiative with the University of Minnesota School of Architecture and the local Frogtown Community Development Corporation to develop new technologies for lowcost housing production.

#### Why now?

Our current 55,000-square-foot

administrative facility does not allow the flexibility to create or adapt programs to meet evolving community needs. In order to accommodate growth, Wilder has leased program sites across Saint Paul. As a result, programs, staff, and resources are dispersed, resulting in hardship on many clients who have to travel to more than one location, loss of opportunity for collaboration between Wilder programs, and a substantial increase in administrative costs.

The new Wilder Center, nearly double the size of our current administrative headquarters, will be a vibrant, welcoming campus that dramatically improves access for clients, reduces administrative costs, and strengthens the connections between essential human services, research and policy work-all while creating new opportunities for community engagement. The project will cost \$35.6 million, \$10.4 million of that will be raised through private donations and the rest will be financed through long-term bonds.

It is our hope that the Wilder Center will maximize our ability to deliver quality programs and services to our clients while strengthening our visibility in the community. Wilder has a long history of building ties with the surrounding community; its first administration building, where the Ordway Center is now located, served as a community cornerstone, providing space to multiple social service organizations free of charge. Since moving from that location, Wilder has been headquartered in the

Frogtown neighborhood, and has developed many significant neighborhood and community ties.

#### Why University and Lexington?

In keeping with the spirit of building community, the new Wilder Center will help revitalize a highly visible, distressed commercial corner. In addition to housing our programs and services, Wilder Center will feature a 12,000-square-foot state-of-theart convening space that will provide an inviting venue for trainings, conferences, leadership development activities, workshops, press conferences, and other forms of engagement. Wilder is also evaluating how this convening space may be used by other nonprofit organizations with missions that align with Wilder's.

The community has been very involved in the planning process for this project, and we are grateful for the input and insight of local neighborhood groups, city representatives, nonprofit organizations and individuals who have helped shape this project. As Wilder celebrates 100 years of service, we look forward with great optimism to beginning our next century with this very important project for the entire East Metro community.

For more information about the new Wilder Center, please see www.wilder.org



www.thelittlewineshoppe.com

# Met Council chooses light rail for University Avenue

By JANE MCCLURE Light rail, not buses, will be the mode of transit along University Avenue's Central Corridor. On a 15-2 vote June 28 the Metropolitan Council chose light rail for Central Corridor, ending weeks of debate over that phase of the project. The vote caps a review period for the project's draft environmental impact statement (EIS), which outlined impacts of the transit line that will connect the downtowns of Minneapolis and St. Paul via University Avenue.

But as Central Corridor awaits Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) approval to move into preliminary engineering, another battle looms. Several Metropolitan Council members, including Chair Peter Bell, made it clear that the project's budget is too high and has repeatedly said that the project needs to go on a "diet."

The cost figure recently ballooned from \$840 to \$930 million. And that increase is without the additional station sites sought by area. The two council members who voted against rail, Chris Georgacas and Annette Meeks, expressed concerns about project costs and questioned whether the project was too expensive.

Bell conceded that if a state constitutional amendment meant to provide more funding for transit doesn't pass this fall, the project could "go back to the drawing board." The amendment would dedicate a share of the motor vehicle sales tax to transit.

The council was hurrying to meet a July 1 deadline for the federal "New Starts" program, which funds new transit projects nationwide. If the FTA signs off on the project, a two-year \$40 million preliminary engineering study can begin. Much of those costs

will be fronted by Hennepin and Ramsev counties.

The Central Corridor Coordinating Committee unanimously recommended June 6 that light rail be built for the transit line that will extend for much of University Avenue's length. The committee's recommendation concurs with recommendations made by the cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, and Ramsey and Hennepin counties.

Covering

The federal agency makes the call on whether to al-

the

low

project

or busway has been discussed along Central Corridor for more than two decades. Light rail appears to be the

option that best meets goals for the Central Corridor and its surrounding neighborhoods, said Dennis Probst, chairperson of the Central Corridor Coordinating Committee. Building a dedicated busway would mean building a transit improvement

But if Central Corridor gets federal approval this summer to move to preliminary engineering, much more needs to be done to reach out to communities around University Avenue. Members of the coordinating committee and the Ramsey County Board, meeting as the Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority, are concerned that many small business owners and residents of neighborhoods around Central Corridor feel they were left out of the planning and decision-making process. "Public involvement the Central Contral is something that needs to start early," said Probst. Although Probst believes the efforts to reach out to communities along University Avenue "unwas precedented," he said other approaches may be n e e d e d during prelimi-

nary engineering. "There's tremenа dous amount of emotion

about disruption of the neighborhoods," said Ramsey County Commissioner Jan Parker. She believes the concerns about a lack of communication are legitimate and urged that there be open discussions and ongoing efforts to build trust with the communities.

Reaching out to the affected communities will be a "huge challenge," said Ramsey County Commissioner Toni Carter. "We need to make sure this transit project is the best for those who need it most.'

Carter pointed out that many of the concerns and questions raised by community members, on topics ranging from construction disruption to station sites, will be answered during preliminary engineering.

'We must give residents and businesses ample opportunity to speak and be heard," said Ramsey County Commission Janice Rettman. She submitted more than 30 pages of issues that need to be addressed during preliminary engineering. The cities and counties also submitted lists of issues, as did business groups and the District Councils Collaborative, a group representing St. Paul district councils and Minneapolis neighborhood associations along Central Corridor. Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin, a leader in efforts to develop the Hiawatha light rail project, said that projects on the scale of Hiawatha and Central corridors become problem-solving exercises. "These are big projects, with all kinds of spin-off effects," he said. Yet McLaughlin urged everyone to think about the opportunities light rail will provide and not just the challenges. "This is a historic day," he said. "We're creating a rail system in this region, one line at a time." More than 50 people crowded a Frogtown neighborhood

meeting room to hear the coordinating committee's decision. Nieeta Presley, director of the Aurora St. Anthony Neighborhood Development Corporation, is among those taking a wait and see attitude. The Aurora-St. Anthony group is involved in coalitions pushing environmental justice and equity issues. Presley herself grew up in the Rondo neighborhood and had family members and friends who lost their homes when Interstate 94 was built.

"I think what they call community outreach and what we call community outreach are two very different things," Presley said. Carter and Rettman actually door-knocked the neighborhoods around University Avenue to hear concerns. Presley questions whether Metropolitan Council would make that kind of effort.

Presley and other neighborhood activists weren't reassured by Bell's comments prior to the June 6 coordinating committee vote. Although Bell said that a project of the magnitude of central Corridor needs to be legitimized by public input, we also noted that "input has a peculiar way of increasing costs."

The coordinating committee vote for light rail as Central Corridor's locally preferred alternative was unanimous, with one abstention from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn-DOT) representative. MnDOT officials indicated they hadn't had time to review the pies of public comments on the project. A 45day comment period on Central Corridor ended June 5.

By the time the public comment period ended June 5, 888 people, businesses and organizations had weighed in. At four public hearings 180 people made comments. Others submitted written comments, which totaled more than 1,000 pages. Of those commenting, 671 favored light rail, with 87 against. Others stated no opinions raised questions and concerns about the project. The four public hearings on the project's draft environmental impact statement (EIS) attracted about 570 people.

The decision to choose light rail was hardly a surprise. In June 2002 the central Corridor Coordinating Committee gave light rail a preliminary nod. The committee had expected to have the draft EIS back for public comment almost two years ago, but glitches with traffic modeling and additional information sought by federal officials held up release of the document, said Ramsey Country Regional rail Authority Executive Director Kathy Despiegelaere.

liminary engineering Under a bestcase scenario, light rail could be up and running along Central Corridor by 2012-13.

t o

move

to pre-

The 11-mile project would be the Twin Cities' second light rail line, linking to the Hiawatha Line in downtown Minneapolis. A rail

would become obsolete within several years time. "Going forward, it would have a limited life in this corridor and would have to be replaced.'

that





**Independent Living Senior Apartment Homes** 2555 & 2545 Hamline Avenue North Roseville, MN • 651-639-1000 In The Heart of Roseville www.rosepointeseniorliving.com

Moderate cost apartment homes for ages 55 +

Voted

BEST

RETIREMENT

COMMUNITY

Again

Call for a tour today!

Of the issues raised at the EIS hearing and in written comments, the main concerns were impacts on businesses. This reflects positive as well as negative impacts. The second-most common concern centered on the impacts to existing bus service along and near University Avenue. The location of future transit stations, parking impacts, alternative alignments other than University Avenue, the need to encourage transit-oriented development, property tax impacts., project costs, neighborhood preservation and the need for community involvement were also among the top issues raised. The comments totaled more than 1,000 pages.

# Central High opens first healthy alternatives lunch cafe

#### By TOM CONLON

With the St. Paul School Board's passage May 16 of a new Health and Wellness policy and general concern about childhood obesity and healthy diets, Central High School opened a healthy fast food alternative lunch café on May 1.

St. Paul Public Schools' Nutrition Services Program led the charge for healthy food options and selected Central as a pilot site for a new Café theme that would offer new food options for students and staff.

"We were honored to be selected for this pilot test, perhaps because we are one of the largest food service programs and diverse schools in the school district," said Wanda Christensen, Central's Nutrition Services Supervisor. "We surveyed the student body to find out what kind of foods they liked and what their favorite fast food restaurants were and why. Subway, Chipotle and Panera Bread came out as the top 3, so from that we designed healthy foods similar to their offerings.

In early April, Central

broadcast journalism teacher Brian Reinhardt selected 25 to 30 students to participate in a taste test, from which final menu items were selected. Two classrooms also were given five possible Café names and voted for the winning choice, 'Good to Go', Christensen said.

The Central's students choices will be replicated at all city high schools in September, when each cafeteria will add a 'Good to Go' café with the same food items: fresh-wrapped sandwiches (hummus veggie; turkey, ham & cheese; and chipotle turkey cheddar), fresh fruit and vegetable sides, two salads (Caesar and southwestern style with chili lime dressing and black beans); 100% juice smoothies (lime, cherry, kiwi-strawberry and assorted flavors) and fruit juices (apple, orange, grape and tropical fruit punch).

Gone after this school year are ice cream, ramen noodles, Fritos and other high fat/low nutrition food snacks. In are frozen yogurts, small portion baked chips, smaller fruit-based treats and related healthy snacks. "By



Lauren Zimkiewicz (left, foreground) and a fellow student await one of Central High School's Good to Go Cafe healthy meals served by the school's principal Mary Mackbee and nutrition services supervisor Wanda Christensen (L to R). (Photo by Tom Conlon)

fall, we will not serve anything in the Café over 7 grams of fat," Christensen said. For those going through

For those going through junk or comfort food withdrawals, the traditional Main Event (comfort food meals), Grill (burgers, hotdogs and chicken patties) and Specialty Bar (tacos, pasta, sandwiches. pizza and chef salads) options will still be available at all schools, though they too will aim to improve nutritional value and reduce fat, she said, noting that rotisserie chicken replaced the more fatty baked chicken as one example. Menus rotate on a five-week schedule.

"Our goal is to educate students and staff about the benefits of nutritious and healthy eating, and offer opportunities at our high schools for them to partake in such foods," said Jean Ronnei, St. Paul Public Schools' Nutrition Services Director. "We've already made vast improvements in these meals at all of our schools, though elementary and junior high schools have their own distinct single menu items. In the past couple of years, we added ethnic foods that reflect the diversity of our students and their food traditions, including Somali, Hmong and Hispanic specialties based on recipes provided by parents. We're continually looking for ways to make meals more healthy, enjoyable and reflective of student's wishes."

Within 3 weeks of Good to Go's opening, Christensen said the number of daily meals served jumped 10%, up to about 1,050 meals daily. Over 200 kids are choosing the Good to Go option each day, as well as most of the 15-20 staff members who eat school lunches each day. "I've had at least 3 parents call me and said their kids never ate a school lunch before, but wanted to know how to sign up for the new lunches," she said.

"Almost instantly, we noticed a 50% drop in French fries sales and our lines move quicker with 4 food options," Christensen said. "We also piloted a cash-free system which helps speed service and gives students more time to eat (students have 30 minutes for lunch in one of three shifts). All students now buy meal credits in the morning or purchase them on-line, then punch in their codes after picking up their food." All high school food services will be cash free by fall as well.

Free and reduced lunch students can now use their benefits in any of the four lines, where before the snack bar took only cash. A complete lunch costs students \$1.75 (reduced student rate is 40 cents); staff \$3.25. Most Good to Go a la Carte main items are available at \$1.50.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 9** 



A view of Central High School's new Good to Go Cafe, which opened May 1st serving healthy lunch alternatives to traditional school lunches. (Photo by Tom Conlon)



For more news, community resources, and ad rates, be sure to check us out online at:





# www.MidwayComoMonitor.com





**Great Income & Rental Potential!** 1678 Hewitt Avenue, St. Paul • \$249,609

4 Bed, 2 Bath, Prof-Landscaped Backyard. New Tilt in, easy clean dbl.hung, dbl paned windows in 2003. Jacuzzi Tub, and 2nd supplmntl heat upper lvl. All Original HDWDs, New tile / granite in Kitchen. New front and rear roofs and copper piping. My gardens will inspire, relax, and rejuvenate you! Call Troy Ziesmer, Realtor, CBBurnet, (612) 396-8769 www.1678Hewitt.com



Great Income & Rental Potential! 3 Blocks from Hamline University!! 1305 Hewitt Avenue, St. Paul \$169,609 2BD, 2 BA Main & 1 BD, 1BA Upper. New Carpet, Updated Electrical, Fresh Paint and More!! Call Troy Ziesmer, Realtor, CBBurnet, (612) 396-8769 www.1305Hewitt.com

Summer is in full swing. The second and third generations of monarch caterpillars (Danaus plexippus) are munching through our backyard stand of swamp milkweed (Asclepias incarnata). And the wasps are busy hunting for those succulent caterpillars to feed to their colony's young. Monarch caterpillars become poisonous to predators by eating milkweed. However, it takes some time and many meals of milkweed to concentrate enough toxins to deter predators, so the caterpillars are vulnerable when they are small.

Conversely, the predatory wasps could be snared by the innocent looking milkweed flowers. A milkweed's complex flower structure is designed to hook pollen sacs onto an insect's leg when the insect accidentally inserts its leg into a slit in the flower. Usually the insect can free itself and simply transports the pollen sacs to the next milkweed flower. But if the insect is small or gets more than two of its legs stuck at the same time, it may not be able to free itself . . . ever. Each day I find at least one ant, fly, or bee dangling lifelessly from one of the milkweed flowers.

So far this summer I've raised 17 monarch caterpillars indoors in our little screened enclosure. When they were ravenous wee beasties, I could hear their combined chewing (and frass dropping) from the other side of the room. By most peoples' standards, monarchs are not pretty in their larval stage. Even so, each lowly larva emerged as a beautiful butterfly, and each one was released in the garden while I hummed "Born Free."

It's easy to feel empathy for



### The good, the bad, and the ugly



invertebrates that metamorphose into elegantly winged beauties, but what of all the other creepy crawlers of the earth? Our attitudes can turn deadly towards creatures that poses a high "ick factor." We tend to reach for the Raid first and ask questions later: "The only good bug is a dead bug" attitude. I have my own bug biases, but my least favorite bug is not a true bug or even an insect.

My nemesis is the common basement variety centipede (Scutigera coleoptrata). All those long undulating legs give me the willies. For three days in a row, I found a frightened centipede waiting for me in the kitchen sink. Each new catch of the day looked bigger and more menacing than yesterday's.

A centipede does not go through a complete metamorphosis (like a monarch caterpillar which changes into something that looks completely different: a butterfly). A centipede starts its life with 14 legs and gains a few more legs every time it molts into a larger body until it has a maximum of 30 legs. This gradual growth without a dramatic change is called simple metamorphosis.

No beautiful transformation awaits the homely centipede. The visitor in my sink had wandered up from the dark recesses of the basement. Caught in the light of day, it franticly ran for cover. Would the "ick factor" trump my live-and-let-live philosophy? Attitudes are hard to change once they have firmly taken root.

Recently, I joined a third grade class on a nature walk. The

teacher was at the head of the pack and I was tagging along in the back. Everything seems fun and exciting for the kids. And there were plenty of things to get excited about as dragonflies darted around the heads of the children. Then one little boy got bit on the hand by a deerfly that he never saw, and his high-spirited attitude changed to one of high anxiety.

Many kids these days don't play outdoors in natural settings very often so they don't get a chance to learn friend from foe. Even adults don't always know the good guys from the bad. If you were bitten by an unseen deerfly and only saw the swooping dragonfly, you might jump to the false conclusion that the dragonfly was the problem. But things aren't always what they seem; the dragonflies were providing us with a valuable service by pursuing and eating the pesky deerflies.

Reluctantly, I caught the centipede in a yogurt container. After it stopped flailing around I watched it meticulously groom all 30 of its legs. Well, at least the centipede has good personal hygiene, and it is a hunter of other creepy crawlers so I guess it isn't all that bad - just ugly.

Endnotes: \*The District 10 Environment Committee is writing an woodland restoration and outdoor classroom proposal for the 16-acre Como Park woodland along Horton Avenue. If anyone would like to comment on, serve on an advisory committee for, or work on the restoration phase of this project, please contact: deb@comopark.org \*To contact this writer: dmrobinson@bitstream.net

# Kelly kids from Como navigate streets, circus classes for Circus Juventas

#### By DEBORAH BROTZ

With the second phase of Midway Parkway/Arlington street work in full swing, siblings Dylan Kelly, 18, and Faith Kelly, 14, find navigating the streets to get to their circus school classes several times a week is quite a trick. But, it's definitely worth the hassle. The brother and sister will be performing in "Pazzanni," a love story set in 16th century Venice during the revelry and masquerades of the famed Italian Carnevale, presented by Circus Juventas, the country's only yearround, all-youth performing arts circus school. Midway resident, Frida Eiane, 11, is also in the show. Circus Juventas' summer shows are elaborate spectacles in the tradition of Cirque du Soleil that feature the school's advanced students. "Pazzanni" runs from July 27-Aug. 13 at Circus Juventas' award-winning Big Top, at 1270 Montreal Ave., in St. Paul.

Well known fiddler/mandolinist Peter Ostroushko will provide musical accompaniment for "Pazzanni," and Minnesota Youth Symphony musicians will stroll through an Italian market outside the Big Top.

Kelly, who just graduated from Highland Senior High, has been taking classes at circus school for three and a half years.

"There are different levels of classes," he said. "If you make it to advanced classes, you can be in the big August production. My



Dylan Kelly's acts are Teeterboard and Juggling. He is also a character in Pazzanni—El Capitano. He has been at Circus Juventas since January 2003. Pictured above, Dylan is the middle juggler. (Photo by Corey Gordon)

acts will be in the show this year."

The two acts Kelly will be doing in the show are teeterboard (like a teeter-totter to get a person into the air to land on another person's shoulders) and juggling, both in which he is part of a team. As far as the show's storyline, Kelly is the character El Capitano, a Commedia dell'arte character. "I'm a general captain who puts on a very big show, but I'm actually a coward," he said. 'It's a funny character. I have three soldiers with me who do Keystone Cops slapstick."

sell out a show, we perform in front of 1,000 people. It's a real rush."

Being part of the August



1575 W. Minnehaha Ave (Corner of Snelling and Minnehaha) St. Paul, MN 55104 DorisMenne@allstate.com

### Auto • Home • Life FINANCIAL PRODUCTS

If you think you're paying too much for your insurance, call me for a *FREE* no obligation evaluation.

651-917-2445 • Fax: 651-917-2441 MN Ins. Lic. #2010513



Faith Kelly's acts are Contortion and Acro-Hand Balance. She is also a character in Pazzanni—Zola, a street person. She has been at Circus Juventas since Fall of 2002. (Photo by Corey Gordon)

Performing in the past three August shows; "Taroq," "Swash," and "Byrnwych," Kelly looks forward to being in his fourth.

"I just love it," he said. "If we

show is a very big commitment.

"When it all comes together, it feels like a real accomplishment," said Kelly. "You always strive to top what you did last year."

Being a part of Circus Juventas is a family thing for the Kellys. Kelly's mother, Debra, is involved in designing and putting together sets for "Pazzanni." Faith is in the contortionist act, hand-balancing act, and is the character Zola, a lovely, but lonely street urchin adrift in the bustle of Italy's most famous festival, who is befriended by a maskmaker. As she dons his

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 9** 

Page 8

# Lunch cafe

#### **Continued from page 7**

Central Principal Mary Mackbee made sure Good to Go was well publicized. "On May 1st, we invited students and staff to come for a 10 o'clock ribbon cutting and unveiling of the new café which was covered, while the Central band played," she said. "We gave away free samples. We told kids what it offered and why. I've heard nothing but positive comments about it from kids and parents alike." Her personal favorites? "Southwestern salad and the smoked turkey wrap – I hope I'm setting a good example for the kids and the staff," she added.

Good to Go Café offers a menu board in colors and design

similar to Chipotle restaurants and is surrounded by tall round eating tables. Before the Café opened, the open space often found kids eating their lunches 'picnic style'-on the floor.

Students munching down sandwiches paused to praise the changes. "It's a great improvement – it's real food," said freshman Lauren Zimkiewicz. "I actually eat all of it each day." She may already be spoiled, adding she wants yet more variety. "Soups would be fantastic. I hope they add those later."

Fellow freshman Daryll Berg is impressed with the packaging. "It's the first time we ever got fresh-wrapped sandwiches at school," she said. "It's just like a real restaurant. The Caesar salad is my favorite. But what we don't have are real bar stools that the restaurants have at the tall tables. I hate eating standing up."

Junior Ayesha Talib likes the wider variety of choices. "I like to try the different items each day, and we have better options than ever before," she said. "But I must confess I will miss ice cream. I wish they could offer a healthy version of a chocolate push pop. But I guess it wouldn't be a healthy café, then."

#### Circus Juventas terpieces, deliver Venetian mask dei Mascareri, Lo of the Rialto Bri owned by mast

Continued from page 8

most stunning creation in this new twist on the Cinderella story, she is transformed and finds she can mingle with the rich and aristocratic, flirting and dancing with those who previously ignored her.

The masks used in "Pazzanni" are authentic Venetian masterpieces, delivered directly from Venetian mask shop La Bottega dei Mascareri, Located at the foot of the Rialto Bridge, the shop is owned by master maskmakers Massimo and Sergio Boldrin.

Kelly started taking classes in the winter session, after his sister, who had started in the fall session three years ago. His mother started doing sets that summer after they joined.

"I took an interest in it," he said. "I wouldn't have thought of it if Faith hadn't joined."

Being part of "Pazzanni" is

important to Kelly.

"It's something I really enjoy doing," he said. "I have lots of friends in Circus Juventas. this fall and double major in political science and Spanish, Kelly hopes to continue with Circus Juventas.

For tickets, call Circus Juventas: 651-699-8229

I've become really close to the coaches and volunteers. It's something special." stick t

Planning to attend U of M

"I'm dropping some of the other classes," he said. "I'll just stick to teeterboard and juggling. You can be in it until you're 21. If I'll still be in town, why not be in the show. I'd still love to perform."

Kelly hopes the show has great attendance.

"Last year, we sold out the last six shows," he said. "It would be really great to sell out all the shows this year. Every year we try to better what we did before. This year we want to make 'Pazzanni' a better show than 'Byrnwych.' It gets harder and harder every year. I think we'll be able to do it. I think 'Pazzanni' will be our best show to date."

# Find the right academic fit for your child

Come see our unique tuition-free public middle and high school (grades 7-12), where students identify and pursue their intellectual passions and develop their individual learning styles.

Open House

July 19, 7 p.m. Aug. 3, 7 p.m.

> Passion For Learning www.avalonschool.org 1745 University Avenue, St. Paul 651-649-5495

Sponsored by Hamline University Accredited by North Central Association



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

SUNDAYS AT CENTRAL July 16, 23, 30 9:15 a.m. Sunday School Classes for all ages

10:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Wednesday Activities SUMMER KICK-OFF

# Selling or Buying...Count on Carol! Bringing you Experience & Results!



• **1685 Englewood Avenue** Amazing home with 4 finished levels! Vaulted game room w/pool table, loft & media room! 5BR/3BA Huge yard! **\$489,000** 

Edina Realty



• **1729 Hewitt Avenue** Beautiful Dutch Colonial Moved from Hamline U in 1995! All new mechanicals & natural woodwork! 4BR/2BA **\$399,000** 





New location. Same great care.

HealthPartners Center for International Health has moved just down the road to the HealthPartners Midway Clinic.



6:00-8:30 p.m. Youth (Junior High and Senior High) 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study/Prayertime

Children's Activities (3 years-5th grade)

3-5 year olds need a chaperone July 19, 10:00-4:00 p.m. Playground and Nature day Ham Lake Day Camp, July 24-28 (Monday-Friday) 8:00-4:00 p.m. For detailed information call the Church Office 651-646-2751

#### **Daily Child Care**

6:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

Care for children ages 6 weeks through Pre-Kindergarten

Summer Care for Kindergarten through age 12

Call: 651-646-2846

Get the same great care and more convenient access to:

Pediatrics

Laboratory

- Radiology/Imaging
- Pharmacy
- Bus Line Metro Transit routes 16 and 50S
- Free Parking
- On-site interpreters

For more information, call 651-999-4740



Just a few minutes west of Regions Hospital. Go west on University Ave. and turn left at Dunlap St. The clinic is on the right with free parking in back.

# HealthPartners

Center for International Health 451 N. Dunlap St. • St. Paul



# Irish Fair and More at Hamline Midway Library

The Summer Reading Program events at Hamline Midway Branch of the St. Paul Public Library continue with music and dance by Wendy's Wiggle, Jiggle and Jam on Thursday, July 20, and Irish music and dance by performers from the Irish Fair of Minnesota on Thursday, August 3. Both performances are at 10:30 a.m. Also included are origami classes taught by Carol Martinson, supervisor of the branch. The classes are Origami, for ages 7 and up, on Tuesday, July 25, at 7 p.m., and Simple Origami, for ages 5 and up, on Thursday, August 17, at 10:30 a.m. Both origami classes require advance registration by phoning the branch, at 651-642-0293

The Summer Reading Program is intended to encourage children and teens to continue reading during the summer. Materials, including lists for recording reading done, can be picked up from and returned to, any Saint Paul Public Library or the Bookmobile. Awards will be given for reading done.

Summer storytime for toddlers and preschoolers will be offered on Wednesdays, July 19 and 26, at 10:30 a.m. Parents and babies are welcome. Summer Bedtime storytime for preschool and early elementaryaged children will be offered on Tuesdays, August 8 and 15, at 7 p.m. All children are encouraged to wear their pajamas and bring a favorite bear or blanket to Bedtime storytime. Both storytimes will include storytelling, fingerplays, and much more.

New this summer, Play and Learn storytimes will be offered on Thursdays, July 27, August 10 and August 24, from 10:30 a.m. until 12 noon. Play and Learn storytimes are designed for children aged zero through preschool and their family, friend or neighbor childcare providers, but are open to everyone. Theresa Fountain, of Resources for Child Caring, in Saint Paul, will provide the storytimes. They will consist of play time, some story reading, and more play time, all on a theme. Providers will also be able to find out about training, grant opportunities and other resources available to them.

The library is located at 1558 W. Minnehaha Avenue. For more information, please contact the Hamline Midway Branch Library at 651-642-0293, or access the Library's Website at www.sppl.org.

# Hamline Midway Elders celebrate 5th year

Hamline Midway Elders will celebrate its fifth year anniversary on Tuesday, July 25 at 6:30 with an Ice Cream Social on the lawn of Hamline Methodist Church at the corner of Asbury and Englewood. The event is open to persons age 62 or older and anyone else interested in learning more about this small non profit organization with a purpose to provide supportive services to seniors. Please call Beth at 651-209-6542 to RSVP or call Monica if you are interested in learning more about a variety of flexible volunteer opportunities.

# Free carnival Sunday, July 16 at Jehovah

The Como-Midway community is invited to a carnival on Sunday, July 16, from 6-8 p.m. at the parking lot of Jehovah Lutheran Church, corner of Snelling and Thomas.

Games, snacks, prizes, the inflatable moonwalk are all free and all ages are invited. The carnival kicks off the annual summer Vacation Bible School which runs from July 17-20, evenings from 6-8 p.m. beginning each night with a free-will offering supper in the church. More information at 644-1421.

# Saints, American Red Cross host blood drive

Blood donor turnout traditionally declines during the summer months, in-part because donors are vacationing, and high schools and colleges that can supply up to 15 percent of the inventory are not in session. In response to summer's fluctuations, the Saint Paul Saints and the American Red Cross will cohost a community blood drive at Midway Stadium on Saturday, July 22, 2006, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. to boost the local, regional and national blood supply.

All blood donors will receive two complimentary tickets to an upcoming Saint's game and a Red Cross band aid dispenser. In addition, the Red Cross "Donor of the Game" will throw out the first pitch when the Saint's take on the St. Joseph Blacksnakes at 7 p.m. that night.

# Avalon School holds open houses July 13, August 3

Avalon School, a tuition-free public St. Paul school, invites interested youth and parents to open houses on July 13 and August 3, at 7 p.m. The school is located at 1745 University Ave, five blocks west of Snelling Avenue.

An independent middle and high school offering an academically challenging, project-based curriculum, Avalon is now accepting applications for fall enrollment for grades 7-12.

Avalon is sponsored by Hamline University and is accredited by the North Central Association. In only its fifth year of operation, Avalon won the Minnesota Decathlon state championship in the small school division.

# Self Defense for Women Workshop July 15

Running Tiger Shaolin Kenpo is hosting a Self Defense workshop for Women on Saturday, July 15, from 12 p.m.-4 p.m. Claim your inherent power and improve your focus, awareness and relaxation.

Delivered with sensitivity and respect, this intensive session will introduce women to the best self-defense techniques from Shaolin Kenpo and other self-defense methods and teach practice strategies for ongoing development. Presented by Black Belts Robyn Lingen, and David Meyer at the Running Tiger Studio, 783 Raymond Avenue, St. Paul. The cost is \$49. For more information please contact David Meyer, 651-247-6602; email runningtiger@comcast.net.

but rarely performed musical, The Fantasticks, at St. Paul Arlington High School, 1495 Rice Street, July 7 to 22. The play is directed by Christopher Teipner with music direction by B. Joseph Burch.

The show's cast includes Sam Ahern, Brent Berheim, George M. Calger, Shana Eisenberg, Bruce Heskett, Laurent Kuehnl, Nathan Metcalf, and Jack Rose.

The Fantasticks Performance Dates and Times:

7:30 p.m., Friday, July 14; 7:30 p.m., Saturday, July 15; 2:00 p.m., Sunday, July 16 (pay what you can performance); 7:30 p.m., Thursday, July 20; 7:30 p.m., Friday, July 21; 7:30 p.m., Saturday, July 22.

Tickets: \$18 for adults, \$12 for children, students or seniors 65 and older. Pay What You Can Performance: July 16.

Seating is limited. Reservations are encouraged. A form for reservations and directions to Arlington are available at www.LexHamArts.org/theater/200607/Show0607.htm.

# Multicare Associates recognized for diabetes

Multicare Associates is one of nine clinics in Minnesota and Western Wisconsin being recognized for meeting diabetes treatment goals established by Bridges to Excellence, an employer-led program that awards doctors for optimal care of diseases such as diabetes and heart disease.

The Minnesota Bridges to Excellence effort involves employers including: the State of Minnesota, the Carlson Companies, General Electric, Honeywell, 3M, Medtronic, and Wells Fargo.

Multicare Associates is a physician-owned and operated clinic offering medical services in the northern suburbs of the Twin Cities since 1965. Located in Fridley, Blaine, and Roseville Multicare's mission since inception is to serve the health care needs of our communities.

### Hancock Rec holds soccer,



Anchor Bank's Snelling crew breaks ground on our new location. And, as



Left to right: Anchor Bank Manager Jim Affolter, Council Member Debbie Montgomery, Saint Paul Mayor Chris Coleman, Anchor Bancorp CEO Carl Jones and Anchor Bank Saint Paul President Jeff Hawkins

ANCHOR

you'll see from our building going up on the corner of Snelling and Interstate 94, we're here to stay.

BANK.

BANKING & WEALTH MANAGEMENT SERVICES

www.anchorlink.com

153 Snelling Ave. N. • St. Paul • 651-747-2900 (Loan and Deposit Production Office)



The Lex-Ham Community Theater will present the well-loved, football registration

Hancock Recreation Center, 1610 Hubbard Ave., will hold registration for soccer and flag football for boys and girls ages 3-14 years is July 10-21 at the rec. center. Please see insert in this issue for more information. Hancock Seniors (ages 55+) meet every Thursday from 1-4 p.m. at the rec center. Activities include card (500 and cribbage) and fun dice games. Stop by our air-conditioned building on Thursdays for lots of fun! For more information call 651-298-4393.

July 2006 • Midway/Como Monitor • www.MidwayComoMonitor.com

Page 10



Monitor Want Ads are now 80 cents per word. Send your remittance along with your ad to Monitor Classifieds, Iris Park Place, 1885 University Avenue, Ste. #110, St. Paul, MN 55104. \$8.00 minimum on all classifieds. Classifieds must be prepaid via cash, check, or credit card. Classifieds are accepted over the phone with credit card payment only (\$16 minimum order). Want ads must be in the Monitor before July 31 for the August 10 issue. Call 651-645-7045 for more information.

# ADDITIONS

Kustom additions, kitchens, bathrooms, hardwood floor sanding, patio decks, garages, vinyl siding. We build handicapped accessible homes, kitchens, ramps, patios, bathrooms. Expert workmanship. Marty. 612-724-8819. 7-06

# **BUY AND SELI**

Vintage lights, house hardware. Doors, tubs, radiators, etc. Also furniture hardware 651-644-9270. 11-06

## EMPLOYMENT

Children's Music Director - 10 hours per week; Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. Primary responsibility for 3 children's choirs. Contact Como Park Lutheran Church at 651-646-7127 for a job description and application or visit www.comoparklutheran.org. 6-06 Nursery Director/Caregiver - 3.5 hours per week; Sunday mornings. Candidates must be at least 21 years of age, CPR certified. Contact Como Park Lutheran Church at 651-646-7127 for a job description and application or visit www.comoparklutheran.org Looking for delivery carriers to deliver the Monitor approximately 3 to 4 hours per month. Pay by route. Great for supplemental income! Call 651-458-8053, ask for Lloyd. 12-03

# HAULING

Hauling/Rubbish. Small trees cut down or trimmed. Licensed and insured. 612-869-8697. 6-06

### **MOVING/HAULING**

Moving/Hauling/Small demo/ Clean-up. Prompt, dependable, fair cost. Roger 612-616-1987. 12-

### **MUSIC INSTRUCTION**

Fun, affordable & professional Private Lessons: Violin, Piano, Guitar, Banjo, Cello, Viola, Bass, Voice, Mandolin, Fiddle, & Harp. We make music fun! www.SimplyStringsStudio.com 651-457-1724. 3 Metro Locations. 5-06

NANNY

Prestige Concrete & Driveway Company. Garage Slabs, steps, floors, sidewalks, patios, custom work-Jim, 651-290-2689. 4-07

Gutter cleaning and screening and gutter cover installation. 952-201-2103. 7-06

Landscape, Garden, Starters: we deliver composted manure, and all landscape products, rock, soil and sand. We accept brush, yard waste, Kern Landscape Resources, 915 No. Albert, 651-646-1553. 3-07

Tree Trimming/Removal. Free estimates. Reasonable prices. Call Jonathan 651-497-6893. 6-06 Chimney Repair - tuckpointing, rebuilding, damper repairs & replacements, brick, foundation & masonry, raincaps, roof repair. Leske Company-for 90 years-651-488-9668. 3-07

RAM Handyman Services, LLC, reasonable rates, no job too small. www.ramhandyman.com Rich 651-485-9680. 2-07

Professional Exterior and Interior Painting, wall repair and plastering; ceiling texturing, wallpaperhanging, moderate prices; free estimates, licensed, bonded, insured; Merriam Park Painting, 651-224-3660, 651-552-2090. 1-03

# **TUTORS NEEDED**

Tutor a child - Change a future: Wanted: caring older adults (50+ yrs) to tutor K-3 students in SP schools 3-15 hrs/wk Sept - June. Training provided. Small stipend available for those who qualify. Call 612-617-7807. 8-06



Wanted: Previously viewed VCR video tape donations for PHA Sr. Hi-rise. Tax credit available. 651-647-0471. 6-06

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 12** 



Adam at arnelson@csbsju.edu or call 651-283-9636. 8-06 PLUMBING Change pipe to copper. Replace toilets, sinks, tubs/shower, water

645-8331. 7-06

heater, etc. Ceramic tile. Ad a new basement bath. Terry. 612-306-7878. 7-06 **REAL ESTATE** 

Lake Lots For Sale - Rare opportunity. 2+ acre lake lots near Siren, Wisconsin. Only 90 minutes from St. Paul. Call Betty Knutson at ReMAX Northwoods Realty, toll-free 877-648-0648.

PAINTING

Painting - specializing in wallpaper removal. Average house \$600, average 3 rooms \$200, average garage \$200. Jim 651-698-0840. 10-06

Interior/exterior painting, enameling, spray textured ceilings, plaster patching, free estimates. Bob. 651-633-5565. 10-06

Tuning Piano Registered Piano Tuner & Technician. CharlesFruhstuck@mac.com. 6-06 INSTRUCTION Quality piano tuning and repair,

Learn Spanish in relaxed, friendly environment. All levels, private/semi-private lessons. On Snelling Ave. btn. Blair and Fry. www.spanishclassmn.com; 651-644-4556. e-06



Lawn mowing. Free estimates. 651-770-0802. 6-06

Kern Lawn Service - total maintenance, lawn, trees and shrubs, 20 years experience, John (cell) 612-328-6893. 3-07

Complete lawn service. 11 years of experience in your area. Jeff. 651-695-1230. 6-06



6681. Ask about our special dimensional photo framing. We frame your memories. Since 1992. 7-06



Zappa Construction and Handyman Services. Additions, remodel, mechanical, drain cleaning. Free estimates. Quality work at an affordable price. Stu - 651-271-**6925**. 8-06



#### An open and peaceful setting receiving the highest level of upkeep and care through sound management.

Roselawn Cemetery stands today beaming strength of its foundar's convictions Classifieds

Continued from page 11 WANTED TO BUY

Top cash paid. Older furniture, crocks, glassware, beer items, much miscellaneous. 651-227-2469 (anything). 12-06

Paying the most cash for your furniture, dishes, glassware, knicknacks, costume jewelry,

antiques, pictures, lamps, household items etc. I make housecalls. Call Mary 612-729-3110. 9-06



Writing a paper for admission to Harvard? A resume for your company's web site? A journalist with 25 years experience is available for assisting folks who need help in writing. Reasonable rates. Call 651-486-9760. 12-02





delivering babies and advanced training in all OB/GYN needs, Dr. Khayat welcomes the opportunity to meet you and to provide skilled and compassionate care in Blaine and Fridley. Call anytime.

he was Chief Resident. With a love for



FRIDLEY MEDICAL CENTER 763-785-4500 BLAINE MEDICAL CENTER 763-785-4200 ROSEDALE MEDICAL CENTER 763-785-4300



www.multicare-assoc.com

Page 12