

By JILL BOOGREN

The Green Line is fast approaching. Here's what you need to know to hop aboard.

Where can I go?

The Green Line will go from Union Depot in Downtown St. Paul to Target Field in Minneapolis. The Blue Line goes from Target Field to the Airport and Mall of America. You can switch to the Blue Line anywhere from the Downtown East (former



Your Guide to Riding the Rail

Metrodome) Station to Target

Field. In all, the Green Line has 18 stations, plus the five it shares



A man uses the ticket machine at the Downtown East Station in Minneapolis. This station is the first opportunity to change to the Blue Line (to travel to the airport and Mall of America). The Green and Blue Lines share stations from here to Target Field. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

with the Blue Line.

A map of the route can be found at www.metrotransit.org/ greenline. Route maps are also posted inside every rail vehicle.

How long does it take?

Travel between the two downtowns will take 48 minutes. From the Snelling Ave. station it will be 28 minutes to Union Depot and 20 minutes to Target Field. Stations are 2-3 minutes apart.

How much does it cost?

Single trips are \$2.25 at rush hour (Mon.-Fri. 6-9am and 3-6:30pm, except holidays), \$1.75 other times of day. Tickets are valid for 2.5 hours.

Reduced Rates of \$0.75 are available for non-rush hour travel for youth (age 6-12), seniors (age 65+), and Medicare card holders. Persons with disabilities always pay \$0.75. Children age 5 and under are free with paying customer.

Adults can buy an Event 6-Hour Pass for \$4 on weekdays, \$3.50 on weekends (\$3 weekdays, \$1.50 weekends for youth, seniors, Medicare card holders and Mobility customers). You can also get a Day Pass for \$6, good for 24 hours.

How do I pay?

There are no fare boxes on trains; you must pay before getting on. Police officers will randomly ask to see proof of fare payment on trains and stations.

Pay at the station by feeding dollar bills (\$1, \$5, \$10, and \$20), coins, or a credit card into the ticket machine. Select ticket/pass. Insert payment. You can buy for more than one person if it's the same ticket type by selecting "Purchase additional tickets." Pick up ticket(s) and any change from the tray at the bottom of the machine. Keep your ticket with you as proof of payment.



Go-To Card (Photo by Jill Boogren)

For added convenience (and savings), get a Go-To Card. This lets you store an amount (or a pass) on the card, so instead of hunting for change on the platform you just press your card

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Three area residents to make special inaugural trip on Green Line

By JAN WILLMS

three women, all currently resi-ride it." dents at Arbor Pointe, 635 Maryland Ave. W.

Zella Lissimore, 92; Florene Mueller, 93 and Irene Muehlegger, 94, are all familiar with using street cars, trolleys, buses and trains earlier in their lives to get to work as well as to travel. But they didn't think they would be around to experience the new Green Line light rail.

However, on June 14 the three will be guests of County Commissioner Janice Rettman and will ride the inaugural train from Victoria Station to the Depot along with 20 other dignitaries. Once at the depot, they will be treated to lunch at Christos.

"Going on the light rail is Public transportation has still like a dream," Mueller said. been a major part of the lives of "I wanted to live long enough to

She was born in Barron, WI, and moved to the Twin Cities at 16, where she first worked in the kitchen at Miller Hospital. She met Harold at a dance club, "even though neither of us danced," she noted. They married, and when her son was six she began doing domestic work, always using the street car and bus for her transportation needs.

Muehlegger came from Rosetown, now known as Roseville. She worked at the St. Paul Athletic Club when it was for men only. She worked days and went to school at night, eventually working for the Minnesota Department of Revenue as a supervisor.

She also rode street cars and buses to get back and forth to work.

'My husband, Frank, hated fly and so we took trains to Arizona and Florida and New Orleans," Muehlegger recalled. "I loved trains."

Lissimore is a native of Valdosta, GA, where she worked in the fields until she was 18, picking cotton and peanuts and okra. She eventually came by train with her two daughters to join her husband, Fred, in St. Paul in 1953. She worked as a domestic throughout St. Paul, first riding streetcars and then buses before she eventually purchased a car. She continued working until she

Rettman, who is a regular

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Zella Lissimore, 92; Florene Mueller, 93 and Irene Muehlegger, 94 will be guests of County Commissioner Janice Rettman and will ride the inaugural train from Victoria Station to the Depot along with 20 other dignitaries. (Photo by Jan Willms)

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Green Line stations

612-373-3333

Get ready to ride!

Longtime area businesses not so sure

By JAN WILLMS

Four years of construction. Loss of parking spaces. Customers struggling to get through. Finally, the end is in sight with the Green Line up and running the 11-mile stretch between St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Eighteen stations along the way, with a planned time of 48 minutes from downtown St. Paul to downtown Minneapolis, at a cost of \$957 million.

Was it worth it?

Light rail supporters will definitely say yes, cheering the fact that the Twin Cities is at last joining the ranks of other cities that can boast of speedy public transportation.

But ask some of the older business owners and managers along University Avenue, and the glad tidings are not yet forthcom-

Courtney Henry said he and his father own three McDonalds along the avenue and have been in business since 1989.

"The last three years of con-

struction have been the worst years we have ever had," Henry said. "At the peak of construction, our customer numbers were down 40 per cent."

Henry said businesses like McDonalds rely on convenience, and the light rail has completely changed the ingress and egress points along University Avenue.

"Drivers don't know where to make turns and will pass right by," he noted.

"I think it's too early to tell what the results will be, and whether new people will come in," Henry said. "I hope so."

He said he is excited about new development, both retail and residential. "I hope businesses see some benefit after all the construction." he added.

He said McDonalds did not qualify for any loans that were available to businesses, and the stores did not do any extra specials during the process.

We made some improvements that we would have normally made," he explained. "We

ESTABLISHED – 1965

Longtime light rail foe Tom Stransky, of Midway used and Rare Books, said he does not see any benefits from LRT that would be any different from bus traffic. (Photo by Jan Willms)

are looking at advertising at some of the stations."

The biggest change from light rail construction for Subway at 2121 University was that the store lost its on-street parking.

'We purchased a parcel to build a new parking lot," said Subway owner Jackie Lunde. "We paid for the parking lot, but LRT helped pay for improvements."

She said losing parking and losing sales during construction were equally devastating. "Now they're redoing Vandalia and Cretin, and we're dealing with that construction," she said. She described the past few years as being some of the most challenging, trying to stay positive and looking toward the future.

'Let's move on and make this avenue as great as it can be," Lunde said. "We're about to spend some money to refresh and restart, too. Hopefully, the money we invest in our business will give us a return."

She said Subway is exploring the possibility of using parking permits for its new lot for Park and Ride for light rail. "I'm excited to see if there's a need for it or an interest in it," Lunde said. The lot is one block east of the Subway restaurant.

A longtime foe of light rail, Tom Stransky of Midway Used and Rare Books at the corner of Snelling and University seems to have accepted, with wry humor, that the LRT is here to stay.

"This used to be the busiest corner in St. Paul," he said. "You see today, no one else is in the store besides you."

They really did a number on us, took away 800 parking spots on the avenue," he continued. He said both lack of parking and the difficulty in getting to

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"The last three years of construction have been the worst years we have ever had," Courtney Henry of McDonalds said. "At the peak of construction, our customer numbers were down 40 per cent." (Photo by Jan Willms)

destinations

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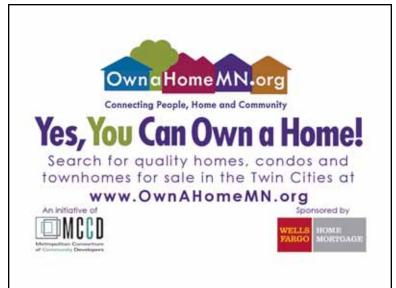
Green Line

Learn more at metrotransit.org/Green-Line-buses.

metrotransit.org



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Rose Ramey celebrated for her 50 years of service to Goodwill

When she started with the organization, there were only about 100 employees, three stores and two trucks. Today there are 36 stores and nearly 2,000 employees.

After 50 years of service to Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota, Midway resident Rose Ramey has much to reflect upon when it comes to her career.

In 1963, Ramey began work-

she started to realize she could truly touch and change people's lives

For 40 years, Rose experienced the entire range of good and bad – highs and lows – through her students: success, confidence, racism, child abuse, suicide, a murder trial, crooked bosses, addiction, marriages, affairs, long-term employment, and returning Vietnam vets suf-

Except for a knee that chronically bothers her, Rose isn't showing any signs of slowing down or retiring.

ing at Goodwill's downtown office on Sibley St. where she "graded" clothes. Rose was stationed at the head of the conveyor belt where clothes dropped to be sorted. After grading, clothes were sent to the presses. (Yes, they used to press clothing before selling them!)

After three short months, Rose started working in the cafeteria. She provided meals for employees while training students how to work in the kitchen. Curriculum included cooking, bussing tables and cleaning.

When Goodwill-Easter Seals moved to its Como Ave. location, Rose had a much larger kitchen with new equipment. As supervisor and manager of the cafeteria, fering from what we now know is PTSD. More than just a teacher, she provided her students (what we now refer to as participants) direction, truth, validation, education and love.

When Goodwill-Easter Seals moved to its current Fairview location in 2002, there was no kitchen or cafeteria facility. Rose was asked to take over the main phone and front desk duties.

"I asked Michael (Wirth-Davis), 'Now what am I going to do? I can't run a switchboard.' And he said, 'Yes you can, just keep your mouth clean."

That's how it came to be that Rose created her new niche at the front desk; greeting everyone who walks into the building with



Rose Ramey recently celebrated 50 years of service to Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota. Ramey is committed to working at Goodwill-Easter Seals, "... a while longer. I'm a people person. I have to be around people."

love or tough love, whichever they need most. She often scolds people for their language or appearance.

Five years ago, the City of St. Paul declared May 8, Rose Ramey Day. The Mayor recognized Rose for providing, "Love and counsel-

ing to anyone in need and opening her home and heart to many over the years ... she was a mother to many who have felt hopeless and saved countless lives by offering unselfishly her compassion, kindness and love to all in need." Except for a knee that chronically bothers her, Rose isn't showing any signs of slowing down or retiring. Ramey is committed to working at Goodwill-Easter Seals, "... a while longer. I'm a people person. I have to be around people."

Letters to the Editor

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor,

I just finished reading the May edition of Midway Como Monitor, another interesting and great piece of community reporting.

I'm writing though about an article written by Jane McClure - Noise Variance on page 15. Jane ends her story by quoting Councilmember Brendmoen.

In the second to the last paragraph Brendmoen says, "What adds to the confusion at Como is that some events are scheduled by Parks and Recreation and others are scheduled by Black Bear Crossing, which leases restaurant space in the Como Park Pavilion."

Last paragraph - "We had a race during the parks cleanup (April 12) and it was a mess," Brendmoen said. "People were trying to pick up trash and they were getting run over."

This is not accurate. If the Councilmember really understood how the City operates, particularly Parks and Recreation, she would realize Black Bear Crossings (not Black Bear Crossing) has no control of walks or runs around the lake, or the park. She implies that Black Bear Crossings was responsible for the run which "messed" up the clean-up on April 12. Black Bear Crossings had no part of that run! In the past Black Bear Crossings has donated food to all who participated in the clean-up in Como.

For the record, Parks and Recreation issues all permits for any kind of outdoor group activity around Lake Como and in the park, and a good Councilmember would know that!

Black Bear Crossings provides a venue for events held on the promenade (open area on the building) or in the Pavilion (except for "Music In The Park," which the City Parks and Recreation oversees). Additionally Black Bear Crossings leases the whole building and is responsible for providing paddle boat rentals in the summer.

Best Wishes,

David Glass / Zhawanuinini

Editor's Note: The Midway Como Monitor takes responsibility for not catching the mistake that the name should have been Crossings rather than "Crossing," an error that should have been caught in editing. However, the reporter's minutes from the meeting indicates that it was the Park and Recreation's description, and answer to questions at that meeting, that led to the confusion that Councilmember Brendmoen—and we might add the reporter-might have had as to where the responsibility for scheduling conflicts actually lay.

Night Market debuts June 14

After the opening festivities of the Green Line light rail, take advantage of the free transit and head on down to The Little Mekong District's first Night Market. On Sat., June 14 from 5-10pm, the parking lot of Mai Village Restaurant (394 University Ave. W.) will host 50 vendors selling produce, food, arts and crafts. There will also be a stage and dance floor.

Stage Schedule is: 6pm, Hong De Kung Fu (Dragon Dancers); 6:30pm, Lao Drummers (Drums and Horn); 7pm, Tou Saiko Lee and GDawg (Folk & Hip Hop); 7:30pm, Center for Hmong Arts and Talent Youth Leadership Group (Theater/Music Performance); 8pm, Floortribe (Breaking Dance); 8:30pm, Still Hot "Tseem Kub" (Jam Session); and 9:30pm, Film Screening.

More info can be found at www.LittleMekong.com.

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1850 University Avenue West • Saint Paul Midway

By JILL BOOGREN

Transit for Livable Communities (TLC) has long been awaiting a train connecting our two downtowns. Now, from their office on University Ave. at the Raymond Ave. Station, they'll have a front row seat for its arrival. Like a much-anticipated package, the train is finally coming.

"The Green Line means a great deal to our members, some of whom were involved in the discussions for 20 years about building light rail in the Central Corridor," said TLC Executive Director Barb Thoman.

TLC promotes a transportation system that encourages walking, biking, and taking the bus or train, so people have convenient access - beyond driving a car — to where they live, work, and play. A spring 2013 U.S.PIRG report shows Americans driving fewer total miles today, reversing a steady post-WW II upward trend. According to TLC Spokesperson Hilary Reeves there are rising numbers of one-car and no-car families, and 40% of Minnesotans don't drive. For low-income families, transportation can be their highest cost, so having options is a necessity.

The Green Line, TLC anticipates, will provide affordable ac-



Organizations along University Ave. Embrace Train's Arrival



The Daily Diner, 615 University Ave. W., is located right on the corner next to the Green Line Dale Street Station. "Union Gospel Mission wanted to have a presence to help bring light to the area, to help employ people in the community," said Nick Gisi. He said being on the Green Line was an added perk. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

cess to more jobs, including those at the end of the Blue Line at the airport and Mall of America. The train brings other advantages, too. Light rail spawns new development (Matt Haugen of Habitat for Humanity told the Monitor last fall they intentionally built on light rail "so families can get to us"). And the Vikings cited light rail connectivity among our region's strengths in its bid to host the 2018 Super Bowl here.

Moving to University Ave. (TLC moved in April 2013) was not preordained. The lease at their previous space was up, and TLC knew they wanted to be in a place easily reached by their members that was good for biking and walking and connected to transit. Being close to the Capitol, where they focus a lot of their work, was key, too. The Green Line is where all the pieces came together, said Reeves.

"We love having an office right on the Green Line in such a central location within the region," said Thoman.

TLC isn't the only organization to see a benefit in a prime spot on the line. While University and Dale wasn't their first choice, Union Gospel Mission sees light rail as a positive for their Daily Diner.

Opened in April 2013, the Daily Diner Frogtown, was built to train people in the food service industry as a means for helping them transition out of homelessness and into a life of self-sufficiency. Students follow an intense, 12-week, hands-on program that teaches real-world food service skills in every aspect of the restaurant business - management, customer relations, and food service. Graduates are wellequipped to work in the hospitality industry.

The Diner is not just a place to get a burger, but a place that, to paraphrase their slogan, changes lives, with a side of fries.

According to Nick Gisi, director of men's programming at Union Gospel Mission, they wanted to locate in an area that was in transition. They looked at a space on Payne Ave. before ultimately landing at University and

"Union Gospel Mission wanted to have a presence to help bring light to the area, to help employ people in the community," said Gisi. Being on the Green Line was an added perk.

"We're hoping this will be a great opportunity to build business for the Daily Diner and to communicate what the Daily Diner is all about to the public coming through," said Gisi. "That it's not just a restaurant, but a program to help people change their lives to become selfsufficient.'

Being on a very visible corner, next to what is bound to be a very busy train station, may bring added revenue to the diner. Gisi also expects people, some of whom live at the mission, to use light rail to get to and from work. He also hopes being in a more visible area will show more people what the Diner offers and perhaps draw more trainees into the program.

'We are just really looking forward to serving the community more," said Gisi.

Episcopal Homes had its eye on a parcel of land long before the light rail became reality. They already had an entire block except the corner where Porky's Drive-In used to be. For a long time, they were telling Porky's "Hey, if you guys ever want to hang it up, please talk to us first."

The Green Line coming and Porky's leaving was, in the words

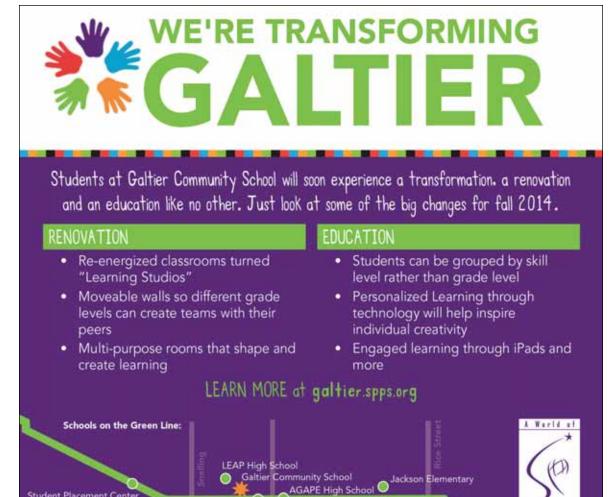
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Transit for Livable Communities has long been awaiting a train connecting the two downtowns. Now, from their office on University Ave. at the Raymond Ave. Station, they'll have a front row seat for its arrival. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

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Central High Schoo



Benjamin E. Mays

Creative Arts High School

Saint Paul

Visit the Monitor Event Calendar online at: www.monitorsaintpaul.com/events/







Student Placement Cent

Four Seasons Flementary

Dale St. proposal hits community opposition

By JANE MCCLURE

A proposal to restripe Dale Street from four lanes to three later this summer is hitting a roadblock of community opposition. Ramsey County Public Works officials met with almost 100 people who filled a meeting room May 28 at North Dale Recreation Center. Many were in opposition to the project, weighing in at times in a raucous fashion.

County officials would like to convert the current four-lane street to three lanes, with one through lane in each direction and a center turn lane. Road shoulders would also be striped. Dale's curb line would not be moved and no street trees would be lost.

The project would extend from Larpenteur Ave. to Simon Ave. Simon is a diagonal street just north of Como Ave. and the Como-Dale-Front intersection.

The county has about \$49,000 in grant funds to do the restriping, as part of a mill and overlay project slated for later this summer. A decision on the restriping is needed by the end of June, which several neighborhood residents said does not allow enough time for an informed decision.

The mill and overlay project would proceed regardless of what is decided about the lane configuration. County officials made it clear that if there isn't support the three-lane configuration plans could be shelved. "Turning back money is not the worst thing in the world," said Ramsey County

Public Works Director Jim Tolaas.

District 6 (North End) Community Council's Land Use Committee will review the project and make a recommendation at 6:30pm Tues., June 24 at North Emanuel Lutheran Church, 301 Hatch Ave.

Erin Laberee is project manager. "The main focus of this project is safety," she said. Laberee outlined the benefits of street restriping, including a reduction of rear-end, head-on and right-angle crashes; creation of striped road shoulders to create space for bicyclists and pedestrians; and reduced vehicular speeds.

According to Laberee, another plus would be making it easier to cross Dale on foot. "Dale is very difficult for pedestrians to get across," she said.

Streets with two lanes of traffic in either direction can be dangerous because pedestrians are not as easily seen. In late May two Macalester College students were hit and injured when they tried to cross Snelling Ave. south of Grand. Motorists in one lane stopped for them but the motorists in the second lane did not.

Dale Street carries 12,000 to 10,000 vehicles per day. The section that would be restriped is largely residential. It does include Elmhurst Cemetery, North Dale Recreation Center, two churches, a school and several small businesses. The Dale-Maryland area, which is one of the busiest intersections in the project area, may need to stay at four lanes or have a northbound



Driving down Dale Street gives you an idea of what might happen if the proposed restripe project is approved by Ramsey County officials. The current four lanes would be reduced down to one lane in each direction, with a turn lane in the center. Parking would be prohibited. The county maintains that the project would reduce speeds, reduce accidents and be safer for pedestrians as well as create space for bicyclists. Many neighbors were worried that the project would further slow traffic and cause motorists to cut through residential neighborhoods.

right turn lane.

St. Paul and Ramsey County have restriped other streets successfully, said Paul St. Martin of St. Paul Public Works. He said restriping does reduce speeds and crashes. But many Dale Street residents said that restriping and other traffic calming projects, including on Rice St. and Lexington Pkwy., have only served to push more through traffic to Dale St. Several neighbors said the street has become a major north-south route for commercial vehicles, including semis and garbage trucks.

Many people present May 28 said they agree with the need to make Dale St. safer, and they would like improvements for

pedestrians. Some said they'd like to see bike lanes for the street explored.

But they question if restriping the street is the way to proceed. Many neighborhood residents and business objected to the loss of on-street parking, which currently is time-restricted. Others said the restriping would cause further slow traffic and cause motorists to cut through the surrounding neighborhoods. One worry is that funeral traffic, which already can back up vehicles, would cause even more slowdowns if there is just one lane in either direction.

"If anything is done on Dale St. it needs to be done through a community process," said Ramsey County Commissioner Janice Rettman. "We need to include everybody." She questioned whether "we got a little bit ahead of ourselves" in seeking the grant funding before holding the community meeting.

District 10's Land Use Committee voted on Mon., June 2, to recommend that the Council send a letter opposing the proposed Dale Street lane conversion project. Their recommendation—which must be approved by the full Council before it can be passed on to the county—will be discussed and acted upon at the Council's June 17 meeting.

In opposing the project, the Land Use Committee cited that the current proposal had not been developed with the specific challenges of Dale St. in mind (hills, driveways, parking, possible cut-through traffic, funerals, trucks, etc). They also felt that the current plan does not pay sufficient attention to the needs of bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit users. They also noted that the public input process was cursory and did not include many stakeholders due to very poor notification on the part of Ramsey County, including omitting to notify either of the two neighborhood newspapers that serve the District 10 area.

In the letter, the committee requested that the county commit to engaging in a meaningful dialog about Dale St. in the near future to ensure that a comprehensive, specific, and well vetted proposal for the street can be developed.

Front line

Continued from page 4

of Paul Hagen, communications director for Episcopal Homes, "a massive dose of synchronicity." "[The space is] literally right there on the tracks, right there on the platform for the Fairview Ave. Station," he said. This attracted the City of St. Paul and Metropolitan Council, who were interested in "transit-oriented development" – maximizing opportunities to

The Terrace, Phase 1 of Midway Village, is being constructed at the corner of University and E. Lynnhurst Ave., and will open in the fall. Paul Hagen, communications director for Episcopal Homes, who is building the project, said that the Green Line coming and Porky's leaving was, "a massive dose of synchronicity." (Photo by Denis Woulfe)

locate homes and jobs along key transit corridors. Funding support was available, which allowed them to "go big."

Midway Village will have 168 total apartments. 58 are in The Terrace at Iris Park, catered living for seniors who live independently. Midway Pointe, federally-subsidized low-income housing for independent seniors, will have 50 apartments. And The Gardens will provide 60 residents long-term nursing care following a new model with private rooms, shared dining, and intimate common areas.

The first to open, The Terrace,

is on track to opening in November and is already full with a waiting list.

The idea of living close to the Green Line has brought more people for tours, said Hagen. "What it comes down to is more choices for residents who are mobile, including those with walkers. It's freedom, because a lot of folks don't drive anymore."

Hagen suggested residents can take a train to the airport, visit their kids in, say, Frankfurt, and never worry about parking a car. Here in town, they don't need to depend on a family member to take them somewhere. And it's

going to be a lot faster, easier and convenient for families to visit and staff to get to work.

"You've got a lot of independent and assisted living folks who are really mobile," he said. "Even if they don't take the train, they know they could."

EDITOR'S NOTE: TLC as referred to in this article, should not be confused with "TLC Home Care," another important organization which recently located at 1919 University Ave., in part also because of the accessibility of the Green Line.





Summer is always a busy time in the Como Park neighborhood. School is out, the number of visitors to Como Regional Park increases dramatically, and there is a wide range of fun, family-oriented activities to participate in. The District 10 Como Community Council is excited to offer several events this summer, with two important ones coming up in the next month.

Garden Tour – June 21

Our neighborhood's annual Garden Tour will take place this year on Sat., June 21. Long regarded as St. Paul's "garden neighborhood," the Como Park Neighborhood Garden Tour will allow attendees the opportunity to peak into a dozen private gardens, most of which have never been opened to the public before.



Como Community Council Corner

BY JON KNOX, BOARD CHAIR DISTRICT 10 COMO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Garden Tour and Como Neighborhood Days offer summer fun!

From impressive landscape design to some forward-looking green features, this year's gardens are sure to offer something for everyone. Admission to the tour is free; donations are accepted. You can pick up a tour map on the day of the tour at our offices at the Historic Streetcar Station, 1224 Lexington Pkwy. N., between 9:30am-1pm. Tour gardens are open between 10am-2pm.

Como Neighborhood Days – July 11-13

Our annual summer neighborhood festival is taking on a new name this year, as Como Fest becomes "Como Neighborhood Days." Offering a variety of activities across several venues, some of the highlights of this year's Como Neighborhood Days include two outdoor patio parties, live music of all sorts, a variety of art-related exhibitions and sales, an evening of family activities, and our peren-

nial favorite – an outdoor movie.
Como Neighborhood Days
kicks off on Fri., July 11 with
Firkin Friday at the Como Park
Grill (1341 Pascal St. N.) from
noon–10pm. Friday evening,
from 6-9pm, North Dale Recreation Center (1550 Hamline Ave.
N.) will be hosting a family
movie night, complete with baseball games, climbing tower, tae
kwon do demonstration, and our
outdoor movie, "Mulan," starting

at 9pm.
The fun continues on Sat., Ju-

ly 12 with Lyngblomsten's Mid-Summer Festival, an annual gathering for all ages featuring food, games, live musical performances, and hands-on creative activities from 11am-6pm on the Lyngblomsten campus (1415 Almond Ave. W.). Como Park Grill will be hosting an evening patio party from 4-10pm, featuring food and drink specials and live music.

We wrap up Como Neighborhood Days on Sun., July 13 at Black Bear Crossings Café and Banquet Center on Como Lake with live music from 10am-noon, a community art fair between noon-4:30pm, and the traditional afternoon pops concert at 3pm.

Full details on Como Neighborhood Days can be found on our website, www.district10comopark.org.

We hope to see you at these fun summer events!

Annual Jazz Fest expands to Green Line stages



The Twin Cities Jazz Festival, June 26-28, is expanding this year to local "Green Line Jazz Stages!" Performances are free and open to the public, including free bus and train rides on Friday and Saturday. To get your free ride, go to www.hotsummerjazz.com, click on "location" and choose "free rides from Metro Transit."

Area stages include:

Fairview Ave. Station: Episcopal Homes/Iris Park, 1850 University Ave. W.

- —Thur., June 26, 4pm, TC7
- -Fri, June 27, 4pm, Southside Aces
- -Sat., June 28, 4pm, Irv Williams

Lexington Parkway Station: Arnellia's, 1183 University Ave. W.

- —Thur., June 26, 6pm, Maurice Jacox
- —Fri., June 27, 5pm, SolFlower Collective
- —Sat., June 28, 6pm, Kathleen Johnson

Victoria St. Station: Ngon Bistro, 799 University Ave. W.

- —Sat., June 28, 12pm, Tom West Quartet
- —Sat., June 28, 2:30pm, Lila Ammons
- —Sat., June 28, 5pm, Debbie Duncan

Dale St. Station: Big Daddy's, 625 University Ave. W.

- —Thur., June 26, 1:30pm, The Butanes
- —Fri., June 27, 4pm, Big George Jackson
- -Sat., June 28, 4pm, Moses Oakland

Dale St. Station: Daily Diner, 615 University Ave. W.

- -Thur., June 26, 11:30am, Kevin Washington Quartet
- —Thur., June 26, 2pm, Ginger Commodore
- —Fri., June 27, 11:30am, Jazz Interpreters
- —Fri., June 27, 2pm, Jennifer Grimm
- —Sat., June 28, 11:30am, Joyce Lyons
- —Sat., June 28, 2pm, Dean Sorenson

Dale St. Station: Rondo Library,

461 Dale S,

—Sat., June 28, 2:30pm, Javi Santiago (Clinic to follow)

Off of the Green Line but still in the area, there will be a stage at **Black Bear Crossings** on Sat., June 28, 7-9pm with the Larry McDonough Quartet

THE GREEN LINE

Please join us for an exclusive "FAITH MATTERS" presentation at

Bethlehem Lutheran Church in-the-Midway Tuesday, June 24th at 6:00 p.m.

Our funeral is more than a day in our life, it is...

"Our lifetime in one day."

Make it easier on those we love by attending this <u>informative program</u> designed to assist us in **learning about ways to help our families be prepared.**

Pastor Joy Johnson: Advance Planning: Ways to make our services truly Welcome and introduction Why we're presenting this meaningful by personalizing them to reflect our lives and values **Program Highlights Our Lady of Peace Estate Planning: Hospice:** What tools are best for me and my family for our planning? What is Hospice? And how do we plan for rising When do we need it? Nursing Home costs?

Coffee, Cookies, & Door Prizes
All attendees receive a Free take-home information folder
The Program will conclude with a Question & Answer Session

To assist with preparation of refreshments and information packets, please reserve your spot for this informative program by email to www.blcmidway.org; or call the Church office, 651-646-6549.Thank you!

Inaugural trip

Continued from page 1

visitor at Arbor Pointe, heard that these three women had been regular users of public transportation all their lives and had it on their bucket lists to try and ride the new light rail.

"Public transportation was their way of helping raise their families, putting food on the table and gaining education to advance in the world

and make a difference in their communities," Rettman said.

Although
there is no cost
for tickets on
opening day,
Rettman was happy these women
will be able to enjoy the ride from Victoria Station in the inaugural trip. "What a magnificent thing," she said.

As the women sat talking at Arbor Pointe, they reflected on their lives.

"We had a good life in the country, with enough kids in the family to keep each other company," Mueller said. She said, however, there were no buses or transportation that was accessible in rural areas.

"I'm glad I grew up the way I did," Muehlegger said. "I came from a poor family, but the older I get, the more I appreciate what I have."

For Rettman, these women are all role models the rest of us can emulate.

"Public transportation was their way to the American dream," she said.

For Mueller,
(who should have had a career as a comedian), light rail may be something she will use more of in the future.

"I will have to be using something, because I probably need to stop driving pretty quickly," she noted. "I learned to drive at 40, and I'm still learning."

Was it worth it?

Continued from page 2

the store he and his wife have owned since 1982 have caused problems.

Stransky said he recently drove down University Avenue on a Friday night.

"The streets are empty, because people can't find a place to park," he said.

The bookstore does have a small parking lot for customers that belongs to a nearby bar.

Stransky said he does not see any benefits from LRT that would be any different from bus traffic, and he doubts the Green Line will bring him any new customers.

He said the store's anniver-

sary sale coincides with the opening day of light rail. "I thought of canceling it, but we're going ahead with it," he said. "I guess we'll just have to see what happens."

Latuff Brothers Auto Body is a full-service collision facility that provides detail, mechanical and auto body care. Pete Latuff, who owns the company with his brother Mike, said the construction of the LRT has definitely been a frustration factor.

The business, at 880 University Ave. W., has been there since 1933. It lost all of its on-street parking.

"Not only did we lose business due to construction, but they damaged our building," Latuff said. "The city didn't step up and do anything, and we had to pay for the repair ourselves."

Latuff said the shop had to move its employees' parking to the company's inside lot. "Lucki-

ly we have a big lot," he added."Most businesses on the avenue suffered more than we did because they didn't have a big lot for parking."

"We are a destination business," Latuff continued. "On the average, people have an accident about every 10 years and require our services."

He said that he does not see how the light rail would bring more customers to a business like his.

"The only way it could affect us is if someone drops off their car and then gets on the train to ride home. It is yet to be determined if that will happen."

He said he could see the light rail bringing an uptick to the restaurants along the avenue, but he's not sure grocery shoppers will use the train.

"There's been some talk about going back to parking on the street, but that won't work well, and I would highly discourage it," he said. "Traffic would go down to one lane, and you have to have two lanes open at a minimum. And what are they going to do with the snow? They can lose half a lane of traffic, and it will slow to a crawl."

Cub Foods at 1440 University Ave. W. has remodeled within the last year and a half, but that was planned regardless of the construction, according to store spokesman Doug Lo.

"Since the start of construction, we did lose a lot of sales," he said. "We're not close to being back to where we were."

Lo said that getting to the store has been the most difficult part.

"What's most frustrating is that through the years of construcSubway owner Jackie Lunde, 2121 University, said that losing parking and losing sales during construction were equally devastating. She described the past few years as being some of the most challenging, trying to stay positive and looking toward the future. But, they purchased land and built a parking lot. "Hopefully, the money we invest in our business will give us a return," she said. (Photo by Jan Willms)

tion, customers find another way to get to a competitor. They shop there, and once the construction is over, they don't come back," he said.

Lo said he thinks the LRT will bring more people in once it's done, and he is waiting for new businesses to start or some of the old ones to return. "There are still a lot of vacant areas because of the impact of the construction," he added.

Lo said Cub plans to get involved with Hamline Station. "We want to make sure we can post sales out there," he said.

"I wish I could say the LRT will help us out, but the location of where the stops are won't help. They are closer to Super Target or Rainbow, and people will go to the nearest location from the stops, especially in the winter."

Midway Liquor, 1955 University Ave., is one long-time business that has not been affected that much by construction, according to Maureen Butler. She said the store was started by her dad, Jim Gorman, 45 years ago, and he is still the current owner.

However, the business moved about a half block off the avenue two and a half years ago. "We haven't really noticed any problems since we moved," Butler stated. "We have our own parking lot."

She said the location was changed because the building the business was in previously was sold, and later torn down for the new Habitat for Humanity head-

"Overall, hopefully the new light rail will be good for St. Paul." she said.



Pete Latuff, who owns Latuff Brothers with his brother Mike, said the construction of the LRT has definitely been a frustration factor. "Not only did we lose business due to construction, but they damaged our building. The city didn't step up and do anything, and we had to pay for the repair ourselves." (Photo by Jan Willms)







All aboard for Midway Village - three new residences arriving November 2014 with the Green Line at the door!

Imagine living with the Fairview Avenue Green Line Station (and the whole world) at your door! The Terrace at Iris Park will be the first senior residence in town to offer Catered Living, a concierge approach to meeting your needs as they change. Episcopal Church Home - The Gardens will be Minnesota's first Long-Term and Memory Care residence to embrace the trailblazing Green House Model of Care. Midway Pointe will raise the bar on affordable Independent Living. Welcome Home!

Call **Deb Veit** for the whole story. **651-632-8800**.

Or visit **EpiscopalHomes.org**





ST. PAUL MIDWAY YMCA

After years of discussion and scrutiny of other locations, the St. Paul Midway YMCA has decided to demolish its 61-year-old building and build a new structure at and near its current site.

Fundraising is getting underway for the \$16.4 million project, with the goal of tearing down the current building in late 2015. The new building would be twice as large and would occupy the current YMCA site as well as the parking space for neighboring Western Communications. The YMCA recently bought that land for \$1.9 million. Plans call for the YMCA to lease back the printing plant to Western.

A firm project timeline will be announced soon.

The need to replace the aging facility has been discussed for many years. A number of sites were scrutinized along and near



By JANE MCCLURE

St. Paul Midway YMCA decides to rebuild on current site

University Ave. One idea was to partner with Goodwill/Easter Seals and build on what is now a parking lot west of Fairview Ave. City officials had also suggested various sites, but YMCA leadership decided the facility should stay in the same area.

MIDWAY CENTER

Long-term plans to redevelop Midway Center and vacant land to its south are moving ahead. District council members from Hamline-Midway and Union Park reviewed the latest ideas for



With multiple agencies involved, in addition to the owner and the city, a longer-term plan to develop the Midway Center site seems to be moving along, but at a snail's pace.

the site in May. It's anticipated that the district councils will weigh in in June on site plans to convert the former Midway/American Bank building into a Walgreens pharmacy with drive-through service. This would replace the Walgreens currently in Midway Center.

The relocation of Walgreens is part of a longer-term plan to redevelop Midway Center and develop the former bus barn site and vacant property to its south. The City of St. Paul, Metropolitan Council/Metro Transit, St. Paul Riverfront Corporation and Midway Center owner RK Midway have been meeting to talk about long-term shopping center redevelopment. Plans call for extending the area's street grid through the property and use a Snelling Area Station Plan to guide mixed-use, dense development on the 35-acre property.

Decisions need to be made soon as a city purchase option for vacant land at Pascal; and St. Anthony avenues expires later this summer. Midway Center's ownership is looking at long-term uses and changes for its center.

One concern being raised is the need to have a larger community meeting to view the plans. As of *Monitor* deadline no meetings had been scheduled. Another issue

is that Minnesota is electing a new governor this fall. A change in that office would mean a new Metropolitan Council. While the current council is taking its time finding the right use for the olds bus barn site, a new council might simply want to sell to the highest bidder.

PRIOR CROSSING

The Prior Crossing housing project for homeless youth is moving ahead. The St. Paul City Council, acting as the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA), voted unanimously May 14 to approve up to \$250,000 in HOME funds and \$500,000 in Affordable Housing Trust funds to Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative for the project.

Prior Crossing will be located at 1949 University Ave., and is proposed as a 44-unit supportive housing development for homeless youth ages 18-25.

Developer Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative is a nonprofit housing entity comprised of 50 local congregations who are committed to ending homelessness in the Twin Cities. The developer's focus is on providing housing units with supportive services for homeless people. The collaborative has developed approximately 480 affordable, supportive housing units in the Twin Cities.

The financial assistance from the city is contingent on all other financing being in place by the end of the year. Private and public funding is sought for the project.



The St. Paul Midway YMCA has been in their building at 1761 University Ave. W. for 61 years. After a search for another location to build a new structure, they decided to stay in their current location, demolish the old building, and build new. Cost of the project is an estimated \$16.4 million.

Major bus changes coming with METRO Green Line opening on Sat., June 14

Bus service enhancements that strengthen connections to the Green Line will go into effect when the new light-rail line opens on Sat., June 14.

Major changes involve 17 routes that connect with Green Line stations or provide nearby service, including a new route on Lexington Pkwy. According to the MTC, customers will benefit from more frequent connecting bus trips, expanded hours, seven-day-

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"A 21st Century Church"

a-week service and faster, more direct routes to Green Line stations and major destinations in the Central Corridor. More than a third of customers who will ride Green Line trains are expected to transfer to, or from, buses.

Schedules for the METRO Green Line and all connecting bus service is now posted at www.metrotransit.org. Printed schedules are being distributed on buses and at hundreds of other locations. Additional information is available at www.metrotransit.org/green-line-buses in multiple languages.

"These improvements to bus service throughout this premier travel corridor are as important to the development of the Twin Cities' transit network as the addition of light rail," said Metro Transit General Manager Brian Lamb. "June 14 represents a major step forward as we build out

an integrated transit system for the 21st century."

Notable service changes in our area that will go into effect June 14 include:

A new route, Route 83, will provide service on Lexington Pkwy. between Roseville and West 7th St. in St. Paul. Buses will run every 30 minutes seven days a week and provide service to Roseville Super Target, Como Park, Concordia University, Central High School, Grand Avenue and Summit Brewery.

Service on Route 67 will improve to every 20-30 minutes seven days a week. The route provides service on Minnehaha and Franklin avenues and will connect with Green Line stations at Rice St., Fairview Ave. and Raymond Ave., as well as the Franklin Ave. Station on the METRO Blue Line.

Route 65 will offer many more trips each day along Dale St. and County Rd. B between Rosedale Transit Center and a new southern extension to Grand Ave. The route makes connections with Green Line light-rail trains at Dale St. Station.

Route 50, a limited-stop service on University Ave., will be discontinued.

Route 16, the main route along University, will have its timing reduced to every 20 minutes, and its route will be altered to no longer go to the Capital, instead traveling down Marion St. to go into downtown, travel down Marion St. and then past St. Paul College before heading into downtown St. Paul

The enhanced connecting bus service is funded by offsetting reductions in service on routes 50, 16 and 94 that will be replaced by the Green Line.

Customers are invited to find out how easy it is to connect with the Green Line by riding free on all buses and trains on June 14-15. Green Line service begins at 10am on June 14. Extra Green Line bus service will be provided on these days begin-

Trip planning assistance is available at www.metrotransit.org or by calling a transit expert at



Metro Automotive

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(6 blocks north of University)

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 - So much fun-plan to stay all day!



www.lyngblomsten.org/festival



There will be major changes in 17 bus routes that connect to Green Line stations, or provide nearby service, including a new route on Lexington Pkwy.

The Hamline Midway neighborhood as a whole is experiencing exciting growth and renewed vibrancy. For much of the area, the future is looking bright. Light Rail is helping fuel new investment and development, and neighbors and businesses are more excited than ever about the opportunities blossoming in the community. One especially exciting opportunity to invest in the future of our community is just getting started.

The Hamline Midway Coalition (HMC) is facilitating the formation of a Community Investment Cooperative to promote local investment along Snelling Ave. N. and other commercial areas in the Hamline Midway neighborhood, and we need your help.

In contrast to the rejuvenation sweeping the Midway area as a whole, perhaps the most integral commercial and travel corridor in the area, north Snelling Ave., remains underdeveloped even though it is brimming with potential. With several commercial vacancies, tired facades and aging street infrastructure, north Snelling is primed for revitalization and investment. Who better to facilitate and make those investments than those who live here, travel the route everyday and already frequent the many valued businesses that operate

If you have experience or expertise in cooperatives, business

News from District 11

By KYLE MIANULLI, HMC COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Snelling Ave. revitalization to be focus of new organization

development, financial management, or real estate, Hamline Midway Coalition wants you for a newly forming Hamline Midway Community Investment Cooperative Working Group!

The working group will work with HMC staff to research cooperative structures, draft a mission statement and bylaws for the new organization and do the other legwork needed to create a successful Community Investment

If you are interested in participating in the working group, please contact Michael Jon Olson, HMC Executive Director, at michaeljon@hamlinemidway.org or 651-494-7682.

What is a Community Investment Cooperative? It's a member-owned organization that pools capital and other resources to invest collectively in the economic development of a particular community. There are several Community Investment Cooperatives in operation in Canada and the United States including the Northeast Investment Cooperative in Minneapolis, which has been able to purchase and revitalize property that now houses valued community businesses including the state's first brewing cooperative and a specialty bakery.

A Hamline Midway Commu-

nity Investment Cooperative could achieve a great deal in revitalizing areas of the neighborhood in need of a bit of direct attention like north Snelling. Joining this effort is a great opportunity to take a personal stake in



The Hamline Midway Coalition (HMC) is facilitating the formation of a Community Investment Cooperative to promote local investment along Snelling Ave. N. and other commercial areas in the Hamline Midway neighborhood. (Photo by Kyle Mianulli)

your neighborhood and have a meaningful impact on your com-

Why a cooperative? A cooperative provides residents a way to work together to make longterm, strategic investments in their neighborhood. Cooperatives operate democratically - on a one-member, one-vote basis so all member-investors have equal voting power. Because a cooperative is a for-profit business it can also provide members with a modest return on their investment. Co-ops also typically focus on improving social and economic capital—something integrally important to the success of any community that is not often considered by mainstream commercial investors and developers.

Have you traveled down Snelling in Hamline Midway and dreamed of what it could become with just a little attention and a bit of elbow grease? Do you already value some the businesses there and want to see them continue to succeed? If you're passionate about this neighborhood and want to help shape its future, this is your chance. Efforts to get the Hamline Midway Community Investment Cooperative up and moving are just ramping up.

Contact HMC Executive Director Michael Jon Olson at michaeljon@hamlinemidway.org or 651-494-7682 to get involved

Knight Foundation announces Green Line Challenge

\$1.5 million for projects to benefit St. Paul's Central Corridor neighborhoods

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation are promoting their Knight Green Line Challenge, seeking projects to make St. Paul neighborhoods along the new Green Line more vibrant places to live, work, play and visit. The challenge is part of a three-year, \$1.5 million commitment from Knight Foundation to further advance community development in St. Paul's Central Corridor.

The challenge will launch in conjunction with the opening of the Green Line in June 2014, with applications being accepted from June 24 to July 24. The Saint Paul Foundation will administer the challenge.

Any individual, business or nonprofit can apply. The only requirement is that the project must take place in and benefit at least one of six St. Paul neighborhoods along the Green Line: Downtown St. Paul, Frogtown/Thomas-Dale, Hamline Midway, St. Anthony Park, Summit-University or Union Park.

"The new Green Line brings with it the potential to better connect people, places and ideas," said Carol Coletta, Knight Foundation Vice President of Commu-

nity and National Initiatives. "We want to build on that energy and the work already underway in the Central Corridor by supporting projects rooted in the community, primed to contribute to its suc-

"We are looking for a broad set of ideas," said Polly Talen, Knight Foundation program director for St. Paul. "Proposed projects may spur economic activity in one of the commercial districts or bring people together in unique spaces; others may make the area more walkable or bikeable, attract new interest to a neighborhood or spark innovation along the Green Line in unexpected ways.

Knight is working with community outreach partners to encourage a diversity of challenge applicants.

'From the beginning, the Knight Foundation, through its leadership on the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative, has helped us listen to the community's voice and respond to the community's vision for our collective future," said St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman. "The Knight Green Line Challenge is community engagement at its best."

Stop by For hand dipped cones and shakes. **GINKGO** coffeehouse 721 N. Snelling Ave. 651-645-2647 parking behind building www.ginkgocoffee.com

The Knight Green Line Challenge is Knight Foundation's newest effort to invest in the success of St. Paul. Knight has provided \$64 million in support to the St. Paul community since 1977. The Green Line Challenge

builds on Knight's leadership in co-founding the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative, an initiative that brings together diverse groups across sectors to build opportunity and benefit communities along the new light rail line.

The Knight Green Line Challenge will accept applications from June 24 to July 24, 2014.

For more information and instructions on how to apply, visit www.knightgreenlinechal-

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Green Line Opening Sch

HAMLINE AVENUE STATIC

The Great 'Midway' Get Together

The Light Rail Trains will start rolling June 14, which can only mean one thing: it's time to celebrate! Join us for the "Great 'Midway' Get Together" at Hamline Station, which is located on University Ave. at Hamline Ave. The daylong (9am-4pm) celebration will be packed with all sorts of fair-themed fun for all ages. Admission is FREE and open to the public. The activities will all happen on

FIRST HORN will be blown by 5 year old, Nolan Luther, from the Make A Wish Foundation

the southeast corner of the intersection, in the park-

ing area behind the building housing Noodles and

GRANDSTAND with live performances all day, including:

9-9:30am - Solidifying the Flawless Drumline 9:30-10am - Hamline Pep Band 10:15-10:45am - Choo Choo Bob

Company. Here's a taste* of the fun that awaits:

10:45-11:30am - LexHam Community Band

11:30am-12:15pm - Choo Choo Bob 12:15-1pm - Victoria and the Acts of Persuasion 1-4pm - TURF CLUB TIME

1-2pm - Pill Hill

2-3pm - The Dirt Road Ramblers

3-4pm - The Crossing Guards

KIDWAY will feature activities such as:

Como Park Zoo & Conservatory who will provide face painting, coloring, and live animals!

Saint Paul Public Library

XCEL, Trailer with photo booths and information Choo Choo Bobs, Band + Train Tables

Minnesota Children's Museum, photo backdrop and special appearance and photo opportunity with Sir Topham Hat from Thomas and Friends, Courtesy of the MN Children's Museum

Hamline University, activity station including Airhocky and computers

Mosaic On A Stick, crafts activity Twin City Model Railroad Museum FOOD FARE showcasing area cuisine such as:

Arnellia's, food Cub FOODs, water Fasika Ethiopian Restaurant, food Flamingo, food GINKGO Coffee, coffee, giveaways

Groundswell, food Leeann Chin, chocolate dipped fortune cookies

McDonald's, food Noodles & Company, food Pizza Luce, food Snelling Cafe, food Star Market, food

Cub Scouts Den, selling water/soda

MIDWAY MARKETPLACE will feature a bit of something for everyone in this fair-themed marketplace of products:

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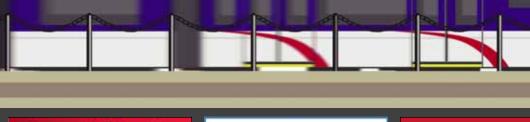
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Fairview Station: 1885 University Avenue

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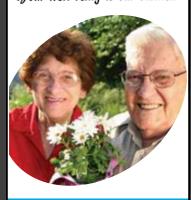


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edule of Events June 14

ON OPENING DAY EVENTS

Christine Huff - Healing Arts 101 Dari Rulai Lotus In the Woods Shrine **David Weiss**

Englewood Art & Collectibles Fusion Salon, Inc Giffy dog

Greg's PC Repair & Premium Inks Hamline Midway Craft Club HarlequinWeave

Melissa Green and Sterret Morrison

Nancy's Tupperware Paper Calliope

Red Bird Art Studio Sara Endalew (Artist) sejong academy

Sub-Saharan African Youth and Family Services in MN (SAYFSM)

The Shambles Paperie Travis Sanders Glass Urban Boatbuilders, Inc. Vegetah Books

Awash Market — Abdul Kadar Awash Market — Fatina Sati



BUSINESS EXPO including giveaways & information from area businesses and organizations:

African Economic Development Solutions

Family Tree Clinic Gordon Parks High School Hamline Midway Coalition Midway Pro Bowl Midway YMCA

Open Cities Health Center Rachel Kane Studios Renewal by Andersen

Running Tiger Academy and iLoveKickboxing.com Second De'but2/Goodwill Easter Seals

The Center for Irish Music Union Park District Council **Sprint Wireless**

St. Paul Schools America's Best Vision

St. Paul Walks



And, not to be forgotten will be the MASCOTS roaming the grounds throughout the day, including:

St. Paul Saint Muddonna State Fair's mascots - Fairborne and Fairchild Hamline University Mascot

Concordia University Mascot Scoopie from Culvers Sir Topham Hat McGruff the Crime Dog

And **PEDICABS**... Transportation - Service to between Snelling AND Lexington with some flexibility to stretch a block or two. They limit service in south to Frontage road AND north to Thomas. Drivers will be flexible with those who want a ride home in the neighborhood but setting parameters is best way to operate. There will be a cab or two stationed at kids area in Target Lot and they will determine a 'kids route' in the lot."

*Participants and schedules subject to change!

RAYMOND AVENUE STATION OPENING DAY EVEN

This is a Green Line Launch Celebration you just can't miss. Volunteers and organizers have been working tirelessly to make the Raymond Station Celebration for the Green Line Launch something special—something that sets the Creative Enterprise Zone apart. Stages will be set up in the parking lot at University and LaSalle St., right across from the Raymond Ave. Station.

TWO STAGES:

9am: Musicians Nick Jordon and Mike Keyes

9:30am: Ceremony marking the launch of the Green Line

9:30am: Friendly Streets/Chicks on

10am: Musicians Broken Spoke

10am: Center for Mind Body Arts Martial Arts Demonstration 10am: Joy of the People

Soccer teaches how to

juggle soccer balls 11am: Musicians from Chanson Voice Studios featuring multiple performers

11:30am: Roller Revolution demonstration

11:30am: Embodied Health Yoga Flash Mob

12:30pm: Inukshuk Pass

1:30pm: Mantra Percussion perform-2pm: Eddie Estrin

2:30pm: John Rodine Band 3pm: Open Eye Figure Theater 3:15pm: Musicians The High Crimes



ALL DAY ACTIVITIES:

SparkIt Trailer and arts activities Nordeast Makers Mobil Mural making with Eric Pearson Videos about and from the Creative

Enterprise Zone Transit for Livable Communities Health Partners Lucy Booth St. Paul Public Schools activities for kids St. Paul Fire Department Engine

Hour Car Jewelry Making **Human Sculpture Urban Boatbuilders Surly Brewing**

Textile Center weaving demonstrations

Transition Town ASAP Community Weavers

Collective Spaces and Tulip Design Puppet Making Workhorse Coffee activities for kids

First & First Water Station Rock Star Supply Company roving Mad Libs

Derby4All demonstrations Red Nose on the Green Line Clowns

FOOD VENDORS will include:

Foxy Falafel **Potters Pasties** Home Street Home Hampden Park Coop **Urban Growler** Health Partners will also have a bike with treats.

There will be a large mural painting by renowned local artist Erik Pearson, an enthralling pop-up cultural park with lots of Sparkit Pop-Up park. A plethora of nonprofits in the Zone will also be greeningup the site with uniquely decorated flower pots and plantings.

OFFSITE ACTIVITIES:

Dubliner Pub (2162 University Ave. W.) is roasting and toasting the opening of the light rail with a pig roast and outdoor music from 1pm to midnight:

1pm - Summit Stunt Pi;

4pm - Steve Kaul and Mykkel; 7pm - Adam Stemple &

John Sjogren; 10pm - Tiller Black

MidModMen (2401 University Ave. W.) will have special merchandise in the store that appeals to a wide audience, alongside our classic modern mix of

> home furnishings. New artwork and animations by artist-in-residence Lisa Rydin Erickson. Recent works by furniture-maker Nathan Hamlin.

Succotash (781 Raymond Ave.) will feature special pricing on their Mid Century Modern decor and fashions. They will also have multiple prize drawings and be sharing nostalgic candy treats. Join in the fun by wearing your retro finery \triangleright to hail the return of train

travel. They will be posting photos on social media throughout the day of those capturing the spirit of the inaugural ride.

Artist Arsenal MN presents its first ever pop-up gallery at the former location of the Spiro's Mediterranean Market at 2264 University Ave. W.

"Restaurant Specials and the Smoothie rabbits included!" Bike will be making an appearance.

Subway Restaurant (2121 University Ave. W.): FREE 6-inch Sub with the purchase of another 6-inch and any beverage to those at the Launch. Offer Good Thru June 30, 2014!

TU Dance (2121 University Ave. W.) will have dance classes for children, teens and adults. Classes might include: Ballet Barre, Modern and Afro-Modern or West-African.

Urban Growler Brewing Company (2325 Endicott St.) will have an open house and chance to win private tour and beer tastings.

Rammingspeed (2496 University Ave.) will have a special exhibit of the work of photographers John Johnston, Chris Smiar, and Tom Wik.

Burning Brothers Brewery (1750 W. Thomas Ave.) - Exploring and expanding the world of glutenfree craft brewing. Don't Fear The



Textile Center of Minnesota (3000 University Ave., Minneapolis):

1. ACTIVITY ONE: "World Wide Knit in Public Day." Bring your knitting to Textile Center and knit the day away for all those in the passing trains to see—if you don't know how, all ages can learn to finger knit or arm knit from a teaching artist in our lobby.

2. ACTIVITY TWO: "Spin Your Way Across the Street." Follow the trail of hand-spinners as they demonstrate an amazing art form, connecting Textile Center with the new Community Garden and our neighfun public art and activities, as well as the Foxy Falafel (791 Raymond Ave.): bors across University Ave. Live angora

> *Participants and schedules subject to change!

THE METRO TRANSIT CODE OF CONDUCT

Transit customers have responsibilities. This code of conduct applies to all customers. Some parts of the code are just common sense; others are dictated by state law

Pay the right fare. Failure to pay for your ride

Do not distract the driver or bother others. Interfering with the safe operation of a transit vehicle will get you arrested.

No Smoking! There is no smoking on buses or

trains, in bus shelters or on rail station platforms

Make the ride comfortable for everyone. Designated seats at the front of every bus and clearly marked seats on every train are reserved for seniors and customers with disabilities. Please surrender your seat to these customers when

Use headphones and respect others' privacy

Use your inside voice. If you talk on your phone,

be mindful of your language, keep your voice low, and your call brief

Keep it clean. Respect those who will ride after you. Keep your feet off the seats and take litter

No shirt, no shoes, no service

Use only G-rated words. Use of profanity or derogatory language can get you removed from the bus and your riding privileges canceled for No eating, alcohol or drinks in uncovered **containers.** Make sure your beverage is in a container with a sealed lid – and take the container with you when you leave.

Say no to sprawl. Your bag belongs on your lap, not taking up the seat next to you. If you're standing, move to the back of the bus or to the center of the train.

Keep Fluffy in a carrier. Pets must be kept in animal carriers. Service animals are exempt

Green Line: 101

Continued from page 1

against the Go-To Card machine. You can add more value at your convenience, or even sign up to have value refilled automatically. Purchasing stored value greater than \$5 gets you a 10% bonus.

Multi-Day (31-day and 7-day) and 10-ride passes are also available. Be sure to check at your workplace, college, or high school to see if they have passes for employees (Metropass), students (U-Pass, College Pass or Student Pass) and it is, along with the destination.

Go-To Cards and other passes can be purchased online at www.metrotransit.org/passes-goto-cards or at service centers (see sidebar). Call 612-373-3333 (to refill Go-To Cards only).

How do I ride?

Go to the side of the platform that is signposted with the direction you wish to go. The front of each train, above the operator's cab, will be marked with a blue or green "block" to show which line

People at the Downtown East Station in Minneapolis prepare to board a train. Stations are signposted by the direction the train is going, in this case to St. Paul (if Green Line) or the Mall of America (if Blue Line). (Photo by Jill Boogren)

When can I ride?

Green Line trains will run 24 hours a day at 10-minute intervals for much of each day. In early morning and late evening intervals gradually increase until it goes to hourly in the middle of the night.

At Snelling Ave. these 10min. intervals are between about 5-6am and 9-10pm, depending on which direction you're going. At other times trains come every 15-20 minute intervals then hourly between midnight and 4am (again, depending on direction). There's a gap in service on the Blue Line in the middle of the night, too, so be sure to check the schedule.

The schedule shifts on the weekends, with extended hours on Friday and Saturday nights. Timetables are found at each station. Look at the direction you wish to go (i.e. to Union Depot, Target Field, or Mall of America) and whether it's a weekday, Saturday or Sunday. Then find your departure time.

Schedules for the Green Line and all connecting buses are now posted online at www.metrotransit.org/green-line-buses. Printed schedules can be found on buses, at libraries, and at other public locations.

What if I use a wheelchair?

All rail cars are accessible by wheelchair, with level boarding so wheels roll directly onto the train. There are labels indicating priority seating near vehicle

Can I bring a bike, or luggage?

There are four bike racks per car. Bikes are parked vertically, by pushing the back wheel forward and lifting the front wheel up into a holding arm. Luggage is car-



Inside the train: Priority seating for persons with disabilities is situated next to the door. Bikes can be brought on board and parked vertically, held upright by a hook. Route maps are posted above each door. (photo by Jill Boogren)

There's no wireless connection available on the train for your wireless devices.

Is there parking?

There is some paid ramp parking and street parking along the line, but no new park and rides.

"We anticipate that a large share of riders will connect by bus or walk up," said Metro Transit Spokesperson John Siqveland.

Can I transfer to a bus?

Yes! Metro Transit expects that a third of Green Line riders will transfer to, or from, buses. Any ticket or Go-To Card is good for a bus. You can also hop on the train if you have a valid bus ticket. Ask the bus operator for a transfer, good for 90 minutes.

Look for major changes in bus service to go into effect once the trains start running. Changes involve 17 routes (see story on page 8), including the addition of a new bus line (Route 83) that will run along Lexington Pkwy. between the Roseville SuperTarget and Summit Brewery on W. 7th St.

Route 50 will be replaced by

the Green Line, and buses 8 and 144 will be eliminated, but other routes will have expanded hours and direct routes to Green Line stations.

Trip planning assistance is available at www.metrotransit.org or by calling 612-373-3333. According to Siqveland, staff will be out at heavily-trafficked transit locations throughout June passing out schedules and materials.

Safety: LOOK BOTH WAYS!

Listen up! These trains are quiet. Unlike freight trains, you might not hear a light-rail train approaching, and it could come from either direction. Pay attention to all traffic signals and warning signs, and look both ways before crossing the tracks by car, bicycle, wheelchair, or on foot.

A key difference between the Green Line and the Blue Line is that along University there aren't any signal arms like the gates at intersections along Hiawatha Ave. This means it's especially important for motorists and pedestrians to watch and listen for all signals.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19



Next Deadline: June 30

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Monday 8:30am - 7:00pm Tuesday 8:30 am - 7:00pm Wednesday 8:30 am - 7:00pm Thursday 830am - 7:00pm Friday 8:30am - 7:00pm Saturday 8:30am - 6:00pm Sunday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Rail Line proponents cite \$2.5 billion in development

By JANE MCCLURE

With the opening of Metro Transit's 11-mile Green Line light rail on June 14, Metropolitan Council officials and community leaders are hailing the \$2.5 billion in development already completed or in the works along the rail line. Using the \$45 million, 168-unit new development at Episcopal Homes as a backdrop, Metropolitan Council Chair Susan Haigh highlighted the amount of development. It is higher than the \$1.7 billion previously estimated. The dollar amount reflects 78 projects that are either completed, in construction or are on the planning stage. Haigh called the \$2.6 billion figure conservative as it doesn't reflect 43 additional projects that are on the drawing

The new Episcopal Homes building will open in November.

It will offer different levels of living options and is almost fully leased, said Episcopal Homes President and CEO Marvin Plakut.

The majority of people who want to live here, want to live her because the light rail is here," Plakut said. There is a station at Fairview and University, within steps of the senior living complex.

Of the projects counted, 37 percent are on the Blue or Hiawatha light rail line where it merges with the Green Line in downtown Minneapolis. But Haigh also said that overall, there has been much more development along the Green Line than there has been along the Blue

The 121 total projects are within one-half mile on either side of the Green Line. The press conference also highlighted 36

other projects, most in the form of student housing, more than one-half mile away. Developments include mixed use, housing, commercial and industrial projects, said Haigh. Some are locally planned and financed, while others are national chains. While she did concede that not all of the projects can be fully credited to light rail, Haigh said many projects did locate in the area because of the light rail

Development along the Green Line has not been without controversy. The St. Paul chapter of the NAACP has questioned the amount of affordable housing along the line. It's estimated that the development includes more than 12,000 housing units. Of those numbers only about seven percent are considered affordable

Summit-University and

Frogtown groups have raised concerns that light rail will lead to redevelopment and gentrification in those areas. But Haigh said that isn't happening due to a concerted effort to retain affordable housing. The Big Picture Project, which was led by the cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis and the nonprofit Local Initiatives Support Corporation, was created two years ago to help preserve affordable housing. A recently released progress report shows that thus far development along the rail line isn't pushing out lower-income households. One concern is how rents are rising throughout the region. The trends will continue to be tracked.

Of area new construction projects, Episcopal Homes' expansion is one of the largest in terms of size and costs. One of the largest planned projects is part of the neighborhood west of highway 280. A new apartment/retail building at 2700 University Ave. will represent a \$51 million investment. The recently opened Penfield apartments and Lunds grocery store downtown represents a \$62 million invest-

Rehabilitation of historic structures has also taken places along the line. One large project is Ironton's renovation of former Raymond and University retail/warehouse space into the C & E Lofts.

Counted among the 43 pending projects are the new Goodwill/Easter Seals store and offices at 1221 University Ave., redevelopment of the Health-East/Midway Clinic at 1390 University Ave. and the pending redevelopment of the Rice Street Sears site into a mixed-use development.

Better weather is here; doorbells are ringing

BBB advice on handling door-to-door solicitors

Editor's Note: we have been hearing through the grapevine and social media about various door-to-door solicitors knocking in Midway and Como, so we thought this article from the Better Business Bureau was super timely!

With temperatures finally rebounding, solicitors offering asphalt services and magazine subscriptions – among other products and services - will be making the rounds and may well make their way to your front doorstep. Better Business Bureau of Minnesota and North Dakota ® (BBB) reminds people to stay alert and keep in mind that these sellers are venturing onto your home turf: if you don't like how a given sales pitch is going, take one step back – and close the door.

Though many door-to-door salespeople operate honestly and represent reputable businesses, there are others who are looking only to make a sale and move on as quickly as possible, regardless of whether or not what they're telling people is accurate or not. BBB recommends the following on how to handle door-to-door solicitors:

Ask for identification. A reputable seller will provide you with all the information you request, including ID and a business card.

Verify the individual and the company. If you are interested in a product or service outlined by a door-to-door solicitor, get everything in writing including price, contract duration and all other terms and conditions. Tell the salesperson you will check it out and get back to him or her. Then research the company yourself and contact them directly to verify the salesperson is an employee. Also, be sure to visit the company's BBB Business Review at www.bbb.org.

Inquire about licensing. Have they secured a solicitor's license from the city they're doing business in?

Read the contract closely. Make sure you understand all the terms and conditions before signing your name.

Don't be pressured. Watch



out for high-pressure sales tactics and be aware that anything you sign could construe a contract.

Do the Math. Paying \$30 to \$40 per month for magazine subscriptions may not sound like much, but if the contract runs for two years – or longer – charges can add up quickly. Make sure you have an understanding of what the average subscription costs for any magazine that interests you. Most magazines have detachable postcards inside with the lowest rates available.

Know your rights. The Federal Trade Commission's Three-Day Cooling-Off Rule gives the customer three days to cancel purchases over \$25 that are made in their home or at a location that is not the seller's permanent place of business. Along with a receipt, salespeople should also include a completed cancellation form that customers can send to the company to cancel the agreement. By law, the company must give customers a refund within 10 days of receiving the cancellation notice.

Listen carefully. Some unscrupulous door-to-door sellers will do everything they can to close the deal immediately, and even make special offers to entice you. Listen to their tone. Are they speaking more loudly as they get deeper into their sales pitch? Are they ignoring you despite your saying that you're not interested? If so, find a way to end the conversation quickly.

Stand strong. Do not invite unsolicited salespeople into your home. If you do allow a salesperson inside and decide during the presentation that you are not interested in making a purchase, simply ask them to leave. If the salesperson refuses to leave, tell him or her you will call the police – and follow through if they don't leave immediately.

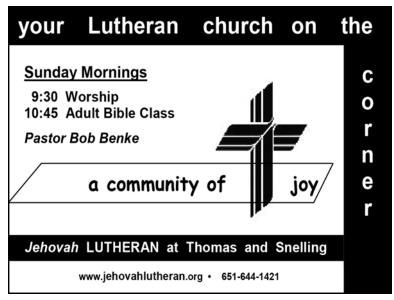
Steer clear of asphalt firms that say they have leftover asphalt from another job. A classic tactic of less-than-reputable asphalt firms is to tell consumers they have extra asphalt leftover for another job and will perform the work for a minimal cost. Professional asphalt contractors know, with great accuracy, how much paving material is needed to complete a project. They rarely have leftover material. It's also a good idea to get multiple estimates before choosing any contractor.

Victims of door-to-door solicitors can file a complaint with their Better Business Bureau at www.bbb.org, as well as with their local law enforcement, and state Attorney General's offices.

The mission of the Better Business Bureau is to be the leader in building marketplace trust by promoting, through self-regulation, the highest standards of business ethics and conduct, and to instill confidence in responsible businesses through programs of education and action that inform, assist and protect the general public. We are open 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday. Contact the BBB at bbb.org or 651-699-1111, toll-free at 1-800-646-6222.









As the Green Line opens, area opinions vary

Some excited for new transportation option, while others worry it won't be used

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

As the Green Line opens, local opinions about the new light rail line vary widely.

Hamline Midway Coalition District 11 Communications Coordinator Kyle Mianulli is looking forward to riding the Green Line to and from the Midway every day, both for work and pleasure.

"There is so much vibrancy already here, and it will be interesting to see how this new mode of access will further energize the area," Mianulli said.

Hamline Midway Coalition Transportation Committee member Stephen Mitrioni is excited to finally see "how this thing is going to work in real life.

Mitrioni added, "I am also looking forward to it being a huge success and putting all the naysayers to shame.

"I don't know if it will be good or bad for the city," stated Ryan Wilson, who has owned the UPS Store at University and Hamline for 15 years. "I try to be optimistic, but at the end of the day, this really took a toll on us."

However, when he looks ahead, Wilson hopes the Green Line is successful. "We want to see this thing succeed now that

GREATER TRANSPORTATION DIVERSITY

"University Ave. has the potential to be a truly great avenue, and the Green Line is a centerpiece for that transformation," remarked Hamline-Midway resident Lars D. Christianson, who is a sociology professor at Augsburg University.

You Are Invited:

OPEN HOUSE



Located by the Hamline station, The UPS Store lost 2,227 customers between 2010 and 2011, according to owner Ryan Wilson. Wilson questions whether new development along University is being spurred by the lightrail, and suggests that it was already on its way. "We've got one government subsidized stadium, and a government subsidized train going to another government subsidized stadium. That sums up light rail," said Wilson. "That's your development. It's all subsidized." (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

According to Mitrioni, the Green Line is one piece of the puzzle. "The best systems are designed with an 'all of the above' approach," he observed. "People will have multiple options to walk, bike, bus, train and yes, even drive your car if you desire."

He believes that the opening

www.catholic-cemeteries.org

Resurrection \$\Psi\$ St. Anthony's

of the Green Line will be positive for the neighborhood. "The first two years were disruptive, but did not make things too difficult. The neighborhood has done just fine," Mitrioni said.

CONCERNS

Chocolat Celeste owner Mary Leonard is concerned that there won't be enough passengers on the train because of the length of time it will take to travel between the two cities. Wilson also questions whether someone will sit on a train for up to 60 minutes when he/she could hop in their car and make the trip in 15 to 20 minutes.

The lack of gates at each intersection is also concerning to Leonard. Wilson questions how snow removal will go.

"There is going to be some adjustment to the flow of traffic with the system," remarked Mitrioni.

IMPACT ON BUSINESSES

The three years of construction have been tough on the businesses along University Ave.

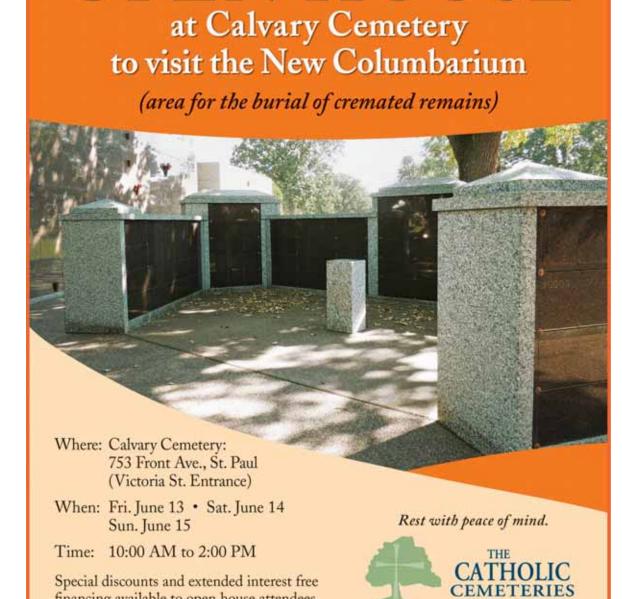
"Small businesses have closed and failed because of the lack of customers and access," said Leonard. Traffic along University decreased from 40,000 cars a day to 10,000.

Mitrioni pointed out that despite the worst economic downturn since the recession, businesses have moved into the neighborhood. "My end of town seems to be being dominated by non-profits," he said. "Habitat for Humanity, Goodwill and various human service organizations seem to be drawn to my end of University. Density is definitely increasing, as it should."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

"Since the construction of I-94, the need for University Ave. to be a thoroughfare for cars traveling between the two downtowns is far less. The trend, I think, is definitely towards more compact, pedestrian-friendly infrastructure that creates vibrant, livable communities centered around public transit."

Kyle Mianulli





Hamline-Midway resident Lars Christianson remarked, "The Green Line introduces an affordable transportation option for all citizens and visitors to the Twin Cities." Trains are easier to board than buses, especially for those with bikes or wheelchairs. Because there isn't an exchange of money with a driver, service is faster. And this is a mode of transportation that emits less CO2 per user than cars or buses. "Trains on dedicated rail, like the Green Line, are able to be more consistent and predictable, in terms of service, than buses. I look forward to that consistency and predictability," he said. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Special discounts and extended interest free

financing available to open house attendees.

For More Info Call 651-488-8866

Calvary # Gethsemane # St. Mary's #



Prostrate Knotweed is frequently found growing next to walks and drives or other high traffic areas. (Photo by Melinda Myers, LLC.)

Eco-friendly weed control for lawns

by MELINDA MYERS

Don't let lawn weeds get the best of you. These opportunistic plants find a weak spot in the lawn, infiltrate and begin the take over your grass. Take back the lawn with proper care. Your lawn will not only be greener and healthier, but good for the environment.

The grass and thatch layer act as a natural filter, helping to keep pollutants out of our groundwater and dust out of our atmosphere. They also reduce erosion, decrease noise and help keep our homes and landscapes cooler in summer. And a healthy lawn is the best defense against weeds.

Start by identifying the unwanted lawn invaders. Use them as a guide to improve your lawn's health and beauty. Weeds appear and spread when the growing conditions are better for them than the grass. Correct the problem to reduce the weeds and improve the health of your lawn. Killing the weeds without fixing the underlying cause is only a temporary solution. Unless the cause is eliminated the weed problem will return.

High populations and a variety of weeds mean you need to adjust your overall lawn care practices. Mow high and often, removing no more than 1/3 the total height of the grass at one time. Leave the clippings on the lawn in order to return water, nutrients and organic matter to the soil. This along with proper fertilization using an organic nitrogen slow release fertilizer with non leaching phosphorous, like Milorganite, can greatly reduce weeds.

Here are a few of the more common weeds, the cause and possible solutions for managing them out of the lawn.

Knotweed and plantains often found growing next to walks and drives or other high traffic areas can also be found in lawns growing on heavy poorly prepared soils. These weeds thrive in compacted soil where lawn grasses fail. Reduce soil compaction and improve your lawn's health with core aeration. Aerate lawns when actively growing in spring or fall. Or replace grass in high traffic areas with perme-

able pavers or stepping stones to eliminate the cause.

Nutsedge is a common weed in wet or poorly drained soils. Improve the drainage to manage this weed. It may mean core aerating the lawn and topdressing with compost, re-grading or the installation of a rain garden to capture, filter and drain excess water back into the ground.

Clover means it's time to get the soil tested and adjust fertilization. It thrives when the lawn is starving. Clover was once included in lawn mixes because of its ability to capture nitrogen from the atmosphere and add it to the soil. If this weeds is present, boost the lawn's diet starting this spring with a low nitrogen slow release fertilizer. It feeds slowly throughout the season, promoting slow steady growth that is more drought tolerant, disease resistant and better able to outcompete the

Creeping Charlie, also known as ground ivy, violets, and plantains usually get their foothold in the shade and then infiltrate the rest of the lawn. Take back those shady spots by growing a more shade tolerant grass like the cool season grass fescue or warm season St. Augustine grass. Mow high and fertilize less, only 1 to 2 pounds of nitrogen per growing season, than the sunny areas of your lawn. Or replace the lawn with shade tolerant groundcovers. Adjust your overall care to reclaim and maintain the rest of the

Crabgrass and Goosegrass are common weeds that follow a hot dry summer. Mow high to shade the soil and prevent many of these annual grass weeds from sprouting. Corn gluten meal is an organic pre-emergent weed killer that can help reduce these and other weeds from sprouting. Apply in spring and fall applications to reduce weeds by as much as 80% in three years.

And, when mowing this year, consider an electric or push mower to manage your lawn in an even more eco-friendly manner.

Gardening expert, TV/radio host, author and columnist Melinda Myers has more than 30

years of horticulture experience and has written over 20 gardening books, including "Can't Miss Small Space Gardening" and the "Midwest Gardener's Handbook." She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment segments. Myers is also a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Myers' web site, www.melindamyers.com, offers gardening videos and tips.

Music in the Park announces full summer schedule at Como

Saint Paul Parks and Recreation offers a wide variety of musical experiences for all tastes and pleasures. Jazz, folk, blues, concert bands, world, electronic, and pop are just a few genres included feature at Music in the Parks 2014. All performances are free except for the Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening theater style musicals at Como Lakeside Pavilion in July and August.

The following performances are scheduled at Como Lakeside Pavilion:

Sun., June 15, 3pm - The Capri Big Band (Big Band)

Sun., June 15, 7pm - St. Louis Park Community Band (Concert Band)

Mon., June 16, 7pm - Northern Winds Concert Band (Concert Band) Tue., June 17, 7pm - St. Anthony Park Community Band (Concert Band)

Wed., June 18, 7pm - Classic Big Band (Big Band)

Thur., June 19, 7pm - Robbinsdale City Band (Marches / Showtunes / Popular)

Sun., June 22, 3pm - The Paula Lammers Jazz Combo (Vocal Jazz)

Sun., June 23, 7pm - St. Anthony Civic Orchestra (Orchestra Pops)

Mon., June 24, 7pm - Brio Brass (Big Band Swing)

Tue., June 25, 7pm - Amy & Adams (Eclectic Folk Rock)

Wed., June 26, 7pm - Lee Engele and Friends (Jazz with an Attitude)

Thur., June 27, 7pm - Detroit Don King Band (Blues / Jazz / R&B)
Sun., June 29, 3pm - Como Pops Presents: Minneapolis Trombone Choir
(Trombone Choir)

Sun., June 29, 7:30pm - Minnesota Sinfonia (Family Orchestra Concert)

Mon., June 30, 7pm - The Maple Grove Jazz Band (Jazz)

Tue., July 1, 7pm - The Bavarian Musikmeisters (Germanic Festival)

Wed., July 2, 7pm - Capital City Wind Ensemble (Concert Band)

Thur., July 3, 7pm - The Legendary Percolators Live Band (60's-70's Rock)

Fri., July 4, 3pm - Como Pops Ensemble (Concert Band)

Fri., July 4, 7pm - George Scott Trio (Smooth Jazz Fun)

Sun., July 6, 3pm - Andrew Walesch Big Band (Big Band) Sun., July 6, 7pm - Beaseley's Big Band (Big Band)

Mon., July 7, 7pm - Brooklyn Community Band (Concert Band)

Tue., July 8, 7pm - North Star Barbershop Chorus (4 Part A Capella)

Wed., July 9, 7pm - Minneapolis Southside Singers (Variety)

Thur., July 10, 7pm - Rosetown Theater - Hello Dolly (Theater) Fri., July 11, 7pm - Rosetown Theater - Hello Dolly (Theater)

Sat., July 12, 7pm - Rosetown Theater - Hello Dolly (Theater)

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butterfly."

-Unknown

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DOWNTOWN SAINT PAUL MARKET





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In Our Community

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

Church hosts Saints game tickets June 22

Jehovah Lutheran Church has a special rate for the St. Paul Saints baseball game at Midway Stadium Sun., June 22 — \$15 for admission, hot dog and soda. Information is available at www.saintsgroups.com (code word "Jehova") or call 651-

Bethlehem Lutheran sponsors seminar

Bethlehem Lutheran Church In-The-Midway will be hosting a free information presentation on Tues., June 24 at 6pm on "Our lifetime in one day." All community neighbors are invited to the church at 436 Roy St. N. Pastor Joy Johnson will introduce the presenters: Stephen L. Nelson, a local Estate Planning attorney; Deb Lane, RN, a hospice nurse from Our Lady of Peace Hospice; and Barbara Hannah, an Advance Funeral Planner representing Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell Funeral Homes. Make it easier on those we love by attending this program designed to assist us in learning about ways to help our families be prepared. Each attendee will receive a free take-home information folder. Please reserve your spot for this evening by e-mail to blcmidway@msn.com or call the Church office at 651-646-6549 or call Barbara Hannah at 612-965-

Seniors schedule summer picnic

Keystone Senior Program will sponsor their summer picnic and outdoor bingo on Wed., June 25 from 11:30am - 1pm at the

Park Merriam Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. Come with a friend or by yourself for a summer picnic which will include a delicious box lunch, a few jokes and a bit of Outdoor Bingo. The cost is \$6. Call Keystone Senior Program at 651-645-7424 to sign up.

La Leche Group meets July 8

"The Art of Breastfeeding and Overcoming Difficulties" is the topic of the meeting of the Como-Midway La Leche Group on Tues., July 8. All expectant and nursing mothers are invited to attend with their babies and toddlers. Call Heidi at 651-659-9527 for more information.

NAMI offers peer support group

A NAMI Connection peer support group for adults recovering from mental illness meets in St. Paul. The free group is sponsored by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Minnesota. Trained facilitators who are also in recovery lead NAMI Connection groups. The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, at 6:30pm, at Goodwill Easter Seals, 553 Fairview Ave. N., Room 119. For more information, contact Noah at 612-388-9631 or call NAMI at 651-645-2948.

Elders plan picnic at Hamline Hi Rise

The regular monthly luncheon for Hamline Midway Elders is moving from its usual location for a special Picnic at Hamline Hi Rise on Tues., July 8. Hamline Hi Rise is located at 777 Hamline Ave. N. All neighborhood seniors are invited to attend. The luncheon begins at 11:30am. Free blood pressure checks are provided, and free transportation can be provided to seniors in the Hamline Midway neighborhood. For more information, please contact Hamline Midway Elders at info@hmelders.org or 651-209-6542.

Rare Book Fair planned at fairgrounds

The Twin Cities Antiquarian and Rare Book Fair will be held June 27 (3-8pm) and June 28 (10am-4pm), in the Progress Center at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. Over fifty exhibitors from across the country will be offering antiquarian, fine, and rare books in nearly every field, including first editions, fine bindings, vintage books and advertising, ephemera, maps, and more. The book fair is hosting a lineup of speakers and events including Ken Sanders of Antiques Roadshow and Andy Sturdevant and others reading from rare children's books from the collection of the Minnesota Historical Society. Admission: \$7 Fri. (includes Sat. admission); \$5 Sat.; kids 12 and under free; students with ID free on Saturday.

Volunteers needed for seniors program

Volunteers are needed for Hamline Midway Elders, who operates with a small annual budget (around \$80,000 in 2014) and employs just two part-time staff. The key to the program's success is the wonderful support from a number of volunteers who help the program in a variety of ways. As the numbers and needs of neighborhood seniors increases, they could use more volunteers - especially volunteer drivers willing to transport seniors to/from medical appointments and shopping trips. Please contact them at info@hmelders.org or 651-209-6542 to learn more about volunteer opportunities

Community wellness event planned June 25

You're invited to the Hamline Midway Health Movement's first community wellness event for Hamline Midway residents fifty years and older. The event will feature a free healthy meal, guest speaker, healthy recipe and door prizes. All Hamline Midway residents fifty years old and older are welcome to attend (children too). The event will take place on Wed., June 25 from 6:30-8pm at Hamline United Methodist Church (1415 Englewood Ave.). The Vital Aging Network, with

support from Health Partners and a Bush Foundation Community Innovations grant, has launched a community-based program called Wellness 50+. The program's overall goal is to engage community members to increase wellness in older adults in several communities across Minnesota. The Hamline Midway neighborhood is privileged to be chosen as a participant in this program and has named their project the Hamline Midway Health Movement. Together with their community partners and neighbors, they hope to improve the health of Hamline Midway adults over the age of fifty and have the Hamline Midway community be known as a "wellness district.'

Please RSVP your attendance by sending an email of confirmation to hamlinemidwayhealth @gmail.com. Questions can be directed to Mary at 651-343-5382. Come learn how to age with gusto and vitality!

GFCDC to merge into NeighborWorks

Community Neighborhood Housing Services, a communitybased nonprofit homeownership center, and Greater Frogtown Community Development Corporation (GFCDC), announced on June 7 that they will be combining their operations.

The merger will result in increased services offered at the GFCDC offices at 533 N. Dale. Homeownership education, foreclosure prevention, and additional home improvement lending resources will be added while all existing services will be preserved. The process of combining the two organizations will begin this summer and be complete by October 1, 2014.

The new organization will be known as NeighborWorks Home Partners. NeighborWorks is one of the country's preeminent leaders in affordable housing and community development, delivering many of its services through of a network of 235 independent, community-based nonprofit organizations serving communities nationwide.

Element Boxing given entrepreneur award

Midway business Element Boxing and Fitness, 655 Fairview Ave. N., was recently given a 2014 Neighborhood Development Center 2014 Neighborhood Entrepreneur of the Year Award. The mission of the two owners, childhood friends Dalton Outlaw and Cerresso Fort, is to identify at-risk kids at an early ageincluding by reaching out to St. Paul Police Department and the County Juvenile Detention Center-to give them an opportunity and venue where

they can learn respect, self-esteem and discipline.

Hamline installs dean for law school

Jean F. Holloway was installed last month as the 11th dean of Hamline University School of Law. Holloway is the first woman to be named dean of a Minnesota law school.

Holloway has nearly 30 years of legal expertise, including extensive leadership of complex organizations such as Medtronic and CR Bard, experience in corporate and private practice, strategic plan development and execution, and fiscal management expertise.

As dean, Holloway is responsible for and oversees the strategic direction of the School of Law's academic programs, new student recruitment, fiscal management and fundraising. As a university officer, she works in collaboration with other university administrators on governance, strategic planning, fund development and institutional assessments.

Bethel Lutheran to hold sale June 19-21

Bethel Lutheran, 670 W. Wheelock Pkwy., will host its annual huge rummage sale June 19-21. There will be a large range of items including books, furniture, tools, house ware items, dishes, glassware, stemware, crystal, collectibles of all kinds, arts and crafts, jewelry, office supplies, working electronics, sporting goods, and gently used toys and clothing for the whole family. There will be a presale event on Thur., June 19, 6-8pm, with a cost of \$3. Hours on Fri., June 20 are 9am-6pm and on Sat., June 21, 9am-3pm.

Open movie night on June 24

The community is invited to a Movie and Discussion Night on Tue., June 24, 6-8pm, featuring "Rain in a Dry Land" at the Minnesota Literacy Council, 700 Raymond Ave., Suite 180.

"Rain in a Dry Land chronicles two years in the lives of two extended Somali Bantu families as they leave behind a two-hundred year legacy of oppression in Africa to face new challenges in a strange new land."

After the film, please stay to share your impressions of the film in small group discussion

This is a free event and light refreshments will be provided. Please register in advance so we'll know to expect you by going to www.mnliteracy.org.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

Midway resident recognized as 2013

public library Volunteer of the Year



Jane Cagle-Kemp

The Saint Paul Public Library has recognized midway resident Jane Cagle-Kemp as the 2013 Volunteer of the Year for her dedicated work since 2008 with the English Conversation Circles held at Arlington Hills Library on Saint Paul's East

Cagle-Kemp previously worked for the Minnesota Literacy Council and brought her desire to help English language learners to the library. English Conversation Circles are an opportunity for English learners to practice with native English

speakers. This is a free, drop-in program initiated by the Saint Paul Public Library to improve the English literacy of our immigrant library customers in an informal, conversational environment.

Cagle-Kemp has assisted with this program on a weekly basis for several years and is responsible for much of its success. She goes the extra mile for program participants, getting to know them and their families and even providing rides to the library for participants who lack transportation.

In Our Community

Continued from page 16

Local student wins award in national exam

Sophie Warton, a student at Central High School was recognized with a ribbon in the 2014 National Spanish Exam State competition. Students from schools throughout the state were honored for their excellent performance on the 2014 National Spanish Examinations at a ceremony on May 10 at the Wellstone Center. Based on their scores in vocabulary, grammar, reading, and listening, students invited, along with their family and teachers, to a luncheon. For their efforts, these high achieving students received medals, ribbons, pins and Certificates of Recognition from the Governor's office.

WW II secrets topic of meeting

Speaker Elsye Nelson, a cryptographer decoding Japanese war messages at the Pentagon during WWII, will spend some time sharing her stories and experiences of that time in history at the July meeting of the Keystone Seniors. Nelson can now talk about her experiences because after 25 years it is legal to publish, write or talk about them. This presentation will be held Wed., July 9, 11am-noon, at the

Murray high school



JK Movement participants from Murray Junior High School successfully completed the first ever service learning project fully manned by JKM scholars. Theresa Living Center and Caroline Family Services in St. Paul benefitted from the students' efforts. The school's JKM participants designed, organized and executed a clothing drive resulting in over 300 pieces of clothing in all sizes for infants, children and women. JKM founder and executive director, Johnny Allen Jr., delivered the donated clothing to the organizations. Congratulations to Murray's JKM participants on a job well done! If you would like to learn more about The JK Movement, check them out at www.thejkmovement.com.

Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. Donations are requested.

HM Health Movement holds first event

Hamline Midway Health Movement's first Community Wellness event for Hamline Midway residents fifty years and older will feature a free meal, guest speaker, healthy recipes, and door prizes. All Hamline Midway residents, fifty years and older, are welcome to attend on June 25, 6:30-8:30pm at Hamline United Methodist Church, 1514 Englewood Ave. Come learn how to age with gusto and vitality.

Library offers summer programs

The Hamline Midway Library at 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave. is offering plenty of ways this summer to take a break from the heat, have fun, and engage in a wide range of arts and educational activities.

Thur., June 12, 10:30-11:30am, the 2014 Summer Reading Program opens with Bill the Juggler with a high-energy program for all ages. Summer Reading Program fun continues with the Brodini Comedy Magic Show on Thur., June 19, 10:30-11:30am and Snapdragon Seeds Music on Thur., June 26, 10:30-11:30am. Treasure Beyond Measure, a comedy show featuring silly pirate Capt'n Curley, will play on Thur., July 10, 10:30-11:30am.

Toddler and Pre-School Storytime happens 10:30-11am, Fridays on June 13, June 20, June

27, and July 11.

Mon., June 16, 1-3pm, the library presents The Quilters of Gee's Bend: Artstart with artist Robin Getsug. Participants can explore the brilliant, bold, dynamic quilts created by a group of women in the isolated African-American town of Gee's Bend, Alabama, then create their own mini-quilts with paper, fabric, and paint. For ages 8 to 14, space in the workshop is limited. You can register on the library website at www.sppl.org or call the library at 651-642-0293.

The library will feature family-friendly movie matinees with snacks on Thursday afternoons at 2pm on June 19, June 26, July 10, and July 17.

Sat., June 21, 1:30-3pm, readers ages 6 to 12 can read to Marsha and Toby, a human-dog team trained to encourage young readers. Pre-registration is required; please call the library at 651-642-0293 to register.

Sat., June 28, kids who love books can unite for the Kids Book Club at 1:30pm and the Teen Book Club (ages 12 to 18) at 2:30pm, featuring book discussion, treats, and fun activities.

All St. Paul libraries will be closed on Fri., July 4 for the Independence Day holiday.

The Saints and Sinner Mystery Book Club meets Sat., July 5 from 1-3pm. Join other mystery fans to discuss good mysteries every month; the title for July is "A Deadly Cliche" by Ellery Adams.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19



Lex-Ham series continues June 13

The next event in the Lex-Ham Theater's Classic Comedies play reading series will be "Our Town" by Thornton Wilder, on Fri., June 13 at 1184 Portland Ave.

This American classic is a perfect read for a June evening. Come back to Grover's Corners and follow the everyday lives of the people there: George Gibbs and Emily Webb who fall in love and marry, Frank Gibbs - the town doctor, Howie Newsome the milkman, Simon Stimson the choir director and church organist, the other residents, and the Stage Manager who helps the audience throughout the play.

The event starts at 6:30pm with a potluck supper with the reading starting at approximately 7pm. Newcomers are always welcome. No reservations are required. The only things that are required is bringing something delicious to share, a copy of the script if possible, and a love of well-written plays.

See http://www.lexhamarts.org /theater/ClassicComedies/Comedie s.html for all the details.

Volunteers needed for childcare

Volunteers are needed to assist agency staff in providing supervision and care for the children with the Mothers First program while mom is attending counseling sessions. Mothers First provides prevention and intervention services for pregnant women who are abusing chemicals. The goal is to produce healthy infants through drug-free births and healthy families by reducing the chemical usage of pregnant women through intensive "inhome" involvement. The project has been in existence since 1990 and has had a success rate of 85-87 percent as measured by the total number of births and babies born drug-free. Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age. Ramsey Contact County Community Human Services -Volunteer Services at 651-266-4090 for additional information or e-mail to HumanServices Volunteer@co.ramsey.mn.us.

New Outdoor Fitness in the Parks **Program Launched** in Saint Paul

Free outdoor fitness classes are now being offered in several parks throughout Saint Paul, including Como Regional Park. For the rest of the summer, residents will be able to participate in a variety of fitness classes as part of the new 'Fitness in the Parks' program just launched by the St. Paul Parks and Recreation Department. Classes offered will include yoga, martial arts, and dance with additional fitness classes potentially being added depending on demand and availability of instructors.

We want our residents to be healthy and happy, and what better way to do that than having free fitness activities in some of our most popular parks," said Parks and Recreation Director Mike Hahm. "Our indoor fitness programs have been a huge success over the years, and we've been looking at ways to bring more fitness activities outdoors, so we are very excited to finally make 'Fitness in the Parks' a reality.'

The classes will be taught by local Saint Paul businesses who have partnered with the City of Saint Paul to generously donate their time. Businesses that have already signed on to teach classes include; I Love Kick Boxing, Dancers Studio, Sara Wait Yoga, Legacy American Martial Arts, Jenna Theis Yoga, Awaken for Wellness, Sarah Zen Yoga, Tula Yoga and Wellness and Yoga for Every Body.

Pre-registration is not required, and classes are open to all ages and fitness levels. Class schedules can be found here: http://tinyurl.com/fitnessintheparks. Park locations other than Como include; Cherokee Regional Park, Harriet Island Regional Park, Mears Park, Phalen Regional Park, Upper Landing Park, Raspberry Island and Indian Mounds Regional Park.

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Classifieds

Want ads must be in the Monitor before June 30 for the July 10 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 now \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to Monitor Classifieds, Iris Park Place, 1885 University Avenue, Ste. #110, St. Paul, MN 55104. Classifieds must be prepaid via cash, check, or credit card. Classified ads can be emailed to denis@deruvternelson.com. Want ads must be in the Monitor before June 30 for the July 10 issue. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Monitor's website at www.MonitorSaintPaul.com

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Green Line: 101

Continued from page 12

When a train is approaching, you'll see a light rail train icon that flashes, and you'll hear bells. Look

both ways, every time, at every crossing. Pedestrians: cross only at designated crosswalks. At Snelling Ave., for example, this means east of the station, mid-block. Motorists: stop for pedestrians at crosswalks. It's safe, and it's the law.

Security

According to Siqueland, 22 newly-hired full-time officers, in uniform and plain clothes, will be dedicated to patrolling the Green Line 24/7. These are in

addition to those who already patrol buses.

At platform areas, there are multiple pan-tilt cameras, monitored remotely by supervisors, plus call boxes on stations for people to call if there's any trouble. On board trains there are camera monitors, as well as call boxes where people can directly communicate with the rail operator.



Signs on the train designate stations that are available on the system, for both the Blue Line (which offers service to 19 stations between downtown Minneapolis and Mall of America) and the Green Line (service to 22 stations, 5 of which are shared with the Blue Line). The Red Line is a 16-mile rapid transit bus line between the suburbs of Lakeville and Bloomington, Minnesota. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

In Our Community

Continued from page 17

Summer Festival opens at Concordia

For its seventh annual Summer Festival, Skylark Opera presents "From Berlin to Broadway with Kurt Weill" and Leonard Bernstein's effervescent operetta "Candide." The productions will be staged June 13-22 at the E.M. Pearson Theatre at Concordia University, 312 N. Hamline Ave.

"From Berlin to Broadway with Kurt Weill" opens the 2014 Festival on Fri., June 13 at 7:30pm. This revue, with musical direction by Sonja Thompson, artfully mixes cabaret and commentary to tell Weill's story from his rise to fame in Germany to his success on Broadway. "Mack the Knife" and "September Song" headline the fantastic selection of more than 30 timeless tunes. Other performances of "From Berlin..." will take place Sun., June 15 at 3pm, and at 7:30pm on Thur., June 19 and Sat., June 21.

Skylark favorite Bob Neu re-

turns to direct "Candide," Leonard Bernstein's outrageous musical satire with something for everyone - comedy, action and romance. Considered Bernstein's richest musical theater work, "Candide," features some of the most memorable music ever written for Broadway including "Glitter and Be Gay" and "Make Our Garden Grow." "Candide" takes the stage at 7:30pm on Sat., June 14, on Wed., June 18, and on Fri., June 20. There will be a matinee performance on Sun., June 22 at 3pm.

Tickets are available at www.ticketworks.com or by phone at 612-343-3390. A festival package for both productions is \$78 for adults and \$40 for students, and single tickets are \$45 for adults and \$22 for students with discounts available for seniors, children, and groups, and a limited number of front-row seats for \$29. There is a free preview talk 45 minutes before each performance.

Groovin' In The Garden features free music and fun

While the grownups get their groove on with some of the Twin Cities' best bands, the kids will be entertained by a climbing

wall, jump castle, and lawn games. Pack the dancing shoes, spread out a blanket and join your neighbors for these FREE outdoor concerts and activities on the Como Park Visitor Center lawn every Wed., June 18 – Aug. 6 from 6pm–8pm. Food, ice cream treats, soda, beer, and wine will be available to purchase. In case of rain the concerts are moved inside the Visitor Center.

In the next month the lineup includes:

Wed., June 18 - Crankshaft and the Gear Grinders - A sound heavily rooted in rock 'n' roll, blues, country, swing, and surf that "could not have been imagined prior to the early punk scene," as described by Dig In Magazine.

Wed., June 25 – Jack Brass Band - The Jack Brass Band embraces the traditions of New Orleans jazz, at the same time adding old time blues, rock, hiphop, pop, funk and reggae.

Wed., July 2 – Trailer Trash - The Band from Honky-Tonk Heaven! They swing, rock and groove in a wide variety of styles from the American hit parade.

Wed., July 9 – Black Diet - Recent winners of Vita.mn's Are You Local? Showcase and named one of First Avenue's Best New Bands of 2013, Black Diet is a garage/indie/soul band with a sartorial flair.



Hop On!

Opening Weekend is June 14-15. ALL Metro Transit rides, including for trains and buses, are free throughout the weekend.





Neighborhood opinions

Continued from page 14

The old Snelling Bus Barn site at the corner of University and Snelling will soon be redeveloped, and the Project for Pride in Living mixed-use affordable housing development will break ground this month.

However, Wilson questions whether this development is being spurred by the light rail, and suggests that it was already on its way.

Wilson recalled that initially, the construction was to be done in three one-year sections, with no one area torn up for more than one year. But some businesses, like his, were in the middle of a construction zone for two years. He lost 2,227 customers between 2010 and 2011.

He equates the process to taking your third grader out of school for three years and then putting him back into third grade.

Based on the initial projects from the Met Council, Wilson didn't think it was going to be as bad as it was, and he feels like he was mislead by people who didn't have a financial stake in the neighborhood. "There's no accountability," remarked Wilson. "I'd like to see someone take responsibility."

He added, "It had a real financial impact on myself and my family. We paid a real price for this."

Chocolat Celeste lost \$500,000 in sales, and Leonard watched her business be cut in half. Because of the construction, she proactively moved her business from University and Highway 280 to 652 Transfer Rd. and reconstructed her kitchen in October 2010.

Neither Leonard nor Wilson think that the \$20,000 forgivable loans offered to businesses along University were sufficient.

Wilson proposes that a fund be set up to help businesses, and wants to see more marketing done to promote businesses on University.

IS THERE ENOUGH PARKING?

In response to a current study proposal to convert one lane of traffic into bike lanes and parking, Wilson questions it is being done to force cars off the road in an effort to make the Green Line more profitable.

Leonard suggests that parking ramps be built to address the need for more parking.

But Mitrioni believes that "businesses and homeowners should stop expecting the city to provide parking free of charge and the city should stop acting like every project should be driven by parking needs." He added, "The city should just make a declaration: parking your car is your own problem, not ours."

"The best remedy, in my opinion, is for people to stop relying so heavily on personal vehicles to get around town," said Mianulli.

BENEFITS

Leonard believes the Green Line



Local residents Eddie Estrin (left), who will be performing during the Green Line Opening Day festivities, and Augsburg University professor Lars Christianson check out the Raymond St. Station. The Green Line is a crucial second major light rail line, according to Christianson. He pointed out that it also connects with Nice Ride, with various streets and avenues that have good pedestrian and bicycling facilities, and, of course, many bus lines. "A diversity of transportation options is far more beneficial — socially and economically — to a lack of options or a monolithic system," Christianson observed. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

will bring in tourism money, and was a selling point for the SuperBowl in 2018. "Trains on dedicated rail, like the Green Line, are able to be more consistent and pre-

dictable, in terms of service, than buses. I look forward to that consistency and predictability," said Christianson. Trains are easier to board than buses, especially for those with bikes or wheelchairs. Because there isn't an exchange of money with a driver, service is faster. And this is a mode of transportation that emits less CO2 per user than cars or buses.

Mianulli predicts that the Green Line will spur an exciting new chapter of prosperity and success, changing the perception of the Midway as merely a thoroughfare between two downtowns to a rich and vibrant destination of its own. "There is a strong sense of environmental responsibility amongst many of the neighbors that live here," he noted, "and having this slick new form of transportation available will, I think, allow people to make

more environmentally conscious choices when it comes to getting around town."





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