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# monitor

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



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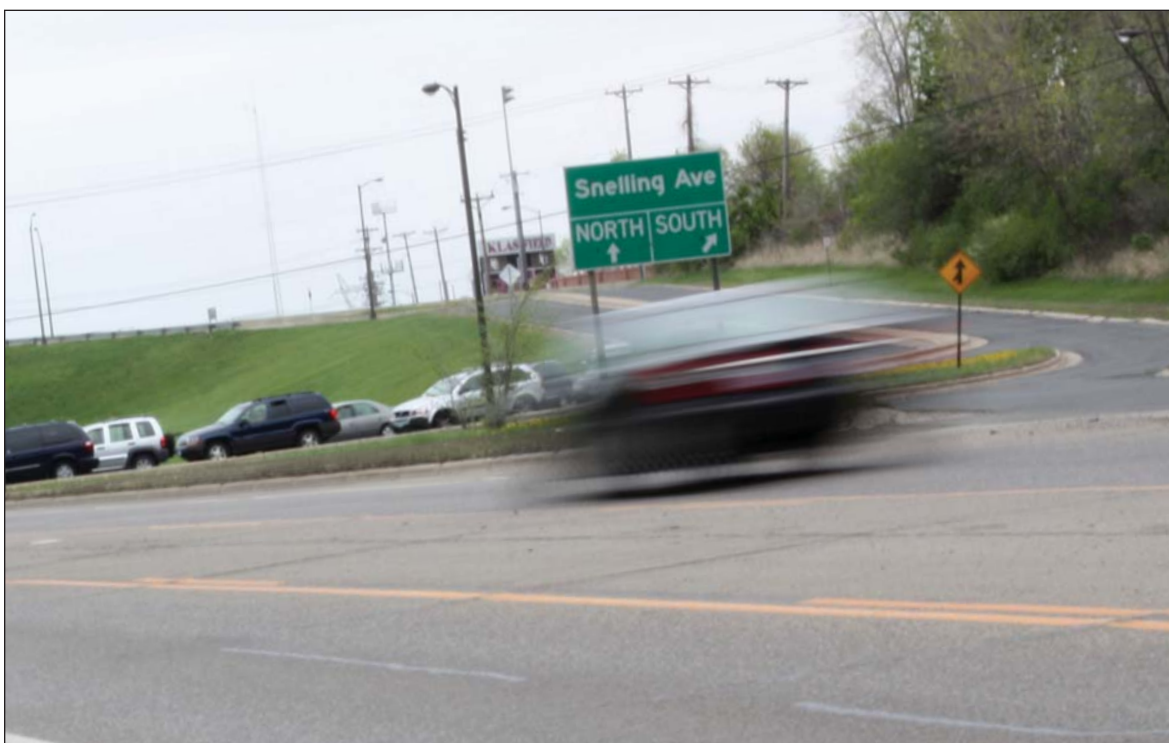
By JANE MCCLURE

Controversy over extension of Pierce Butler Route is likely to last longer. The St. Paul City Council voted May 6 to postpone a decision on the east extension of the street until July at the earliest.

Whether Pierce Butler should be extended and how that should be done is an issue that has been debated throughout area neighborhoods for decades. One plus would be that of getting heavy truck traffic off of east-west neighborhood streets. When Central Corridor light rail is built and operating, there are fears that will divert more truck traffic to the streets north and south of University Avenue.

At the east end, Frogtown and North End residents have long wanted to see a two-mile connection to Interstate 35E. The east end currently ends on Minnehaha Avenue just east of Dale Street. The extension would have four lanes as well as bicycle lanes and a pedestrian trail.

At the west end, which is currently at Prior Avenue, there is debate about where and how that extension should be placed. A link to Highway 280 and Minneapolis' planned Granary Road has been discussed, along with



The St. Paul City Council voted May 6 to postpone a decision on the east extension of Pierce Butler Route until July at the earliest. (Photo by Liberty Willms)

using of Kasota, Energy Park Drive or Wabash as connections. That issue, while ongoing with some community groups, has been placed on hold by St. Paul Public Works. The city plans to

do a study of northwest quadrant traffic issues, but that study is tied to a city-Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) study of the University-Snelling area. The University-

Snelling study, in turn, is on hold while MnDOT is busy with projects related to the federal economic stimulus package.

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## New beat cops bring officers to Snelling Ave. patrol area

By JAN WILLMS

The nostalgic memory of the "cop on the beat" has become reality in the Hamline-Midway area.

Some local squad officers proposed the idea and how it could help in dealing with crime in the neighborhood. For the past two months, they have been covering the area from Lexington to Fairview and from Minnehaha to the highway.

"It's officially called the Midway Beat," Wes Slagle said. He and David Strecker are the officers covering the beat from 7 a.m. to 5



Business owner Diane Brennan of Fusion Salon, 712 North Snelling, talks to newly installed Snelling Avenue beat cops Wes Slagle and David Strecker. (Photo by Liberty Willms)

p.m. Monday through Friday. Chris Larson and Lim Storey cover the 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. rotating shift. "The folks in the community

are our eyes and ears," Slagle said. "For us they are a very good resource. They know what cars belong in the area, and which ones

don't, for example. When you gain the confidence of the community, it really helps."

Covering the same beat and getting to know the neighborhood is the whole point of the program.

According to Strecker, beat cops were a presence in the neighborhood in the past.

"We want to be dedicated to a specific area where you can be in touch," Slagle said.

"The strategy we're using is different," he added. "We are trying to identify what crimes might be rising in this area and target them."

He said they use a statistics map that is computerized that shows trends of crimes, such as burglaries. It shows whether crime is spread out or in pockets.

"We can check what times of day there are higher incidents of crime," Slagle said. "Using that information we can build our patrol."

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# monitor

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## Monitor in a Minute

### Port Authority, Rock-Tenn Panel honored by city

The St. Paul Port Authority and the Rock-Tenn Community Advisory Panel, and the efforts to find an energy solution for the Rock-Tenn paper recycling plant, were honored April 22 as part of the third annual Sustainable St. Paul Awards. Mayor Chris Coleman and City Council members presented the awards to celebrate Earth Day and to honor individuals, groups and businesses that are working to show a commitment to environmental protection and stewardship.

The Port Authority and panel were honored with an environmental education and awareness award. After Rock-Tenn lost its longtime source of steam power, the Port Authority worked with Rock-Tenn, District Energy, Xcel Energy, area district councils, labor and community groups to study energy alternatives for the Midway's paper recycling plant. The advisory panel held many meetings and studied several energy options before finding potential solutions to power the plant and keep it open. During the study process Rock-Tenn implemented many energy and cost-savings measures. The option of using anaerobic digestion to produce energy was chosen by the advisory panel and is currently being pursued.

Another area organization was honored for its new headquarters. At the April 22 ceremony elected officials praised those involved in the decision-making process, especially Nina Axelson, who coordinated the panel and community involvement process.

Amherst H. Wilder Foundation was honored for commercial green building design, for its new building near Lexington Parkway

and University Avenue. The building was designed to be energy-efficient and have a return on investment. Duke Construction and architects Perkins and Will were also honored for their involvement in the project.

St. Paul Smart Trips, which includes the former Midway Transportation management Organization, was honored for providing transportation options. Recently the organization offered a program that encouraged Summit-University neighborhood residents to reduce the amount of motor vehicle trips they made.

Other honors were given for youth leadership, cleanup and beautification, residential green building design, retail green building design, green products and waste reduction and recycling. A total of 11 awards were given

### Neighborhood STAR Board makes recommendations

Area projects met a mixed fate last month when the Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) Board made its recommendations. The recommendations are currently being reviewed by Mayor Chris Coleman. The St. Paul City Council is expected to vote on the recommendations this month.

Eleven projects are recommended for funding. The board recommended \$245,000 in funds, or \$187,000 in grants and \$58,000 in loans. The mayor and City Council can change the requests before they are approved. Small grants and loans can be for up to \$25,000. All have to be matched on a one-to-one basis with funding, materials or labor.

The top-ranked project city-wide is an upgrade to the kitchen of the Montessori Training Center of Minnesota, which is located on Ames Avenue in Hazel Park neighborhood. The Neighborhood STAR Board recommended a \$25,000

grant for the project.

The Klub Haus, a privately owned Rice Street social hall, is recommended for a \$25,000 grant to replace its roof and repair or replace the sewer line from the building to the street. This project ranked third overall. Ranking fourth is District 6 Planning Council's request for a \$25,000 to promote crime prevention through environmental design. If approved this would fund the second phase of a matching grant program for businesses and public buildings to make safety-related improvements.

Ranking fifth is Sparc's request for a \$25,000 grant to replace lead windows in 29 homes owned by persons meeting income guidelines.

Ranking sixth is another North End project, sponsored by Rebuilding Together Twin Cities. The group, which is based in the Midway, would use a \$25,000 grant to pay for improvements to 10 North End homes and to make improvements to North End Elementary School.

The African American Heritage Corridor Information Center, which is proposed by the Culture Brokers Foundation, is recommended for a \$15,000 grant to establish an information and business center on Selby Avenue. The project ranked ninth overall.

Minnesota Transportation Museum, 193 Pennsylvania Av., is recommended for \$45,000 for improvements tied to a recent energy audit of the museum. A \$5,000 grant is sought for programmable thermostats, a gas furnace and ceiling fans.

One area project didn't rank highly enough to be fund. That was a request from Ola and Associates for a \$12,500 grant and a \$12,500 loan to make building exterior improvements at 345 University Av.

### Lounge 150 denied retail food licenses

A University Avenue store that has

been selling tobacco products and allowing smoking on the premises is not eligible to hold food sales licenses, the St. Paul City Council decided April 8.

The council voted to deny requests for retail food – grocery store and retail food – restricted food service licenses to Lounge 150, 2418 University Av.

A city inspector visited the store in February after the application for food licenses was received. A sign was posted on the door stating: "You must purchase one shisha to enter store, two people per shisha max. Seats limited to shisha smokers only." A shisha is a water pipe, also known as a hookah.

A police officer visited the business later in February and observed 22 people inside, most of whom were smoking from hookah pipes. This is a violation of the Minnesota's Clean Indoor Air Act. Nor is smoking allowed at any location with a liquor, food or restaurant license. The sign on the door led city licensing staff to conclude that Lounge 150 is a tobacco products store and not eligible for a food license. The licenses sought would have allowed grocery sales and the sale or service of food on the premises.

Lounge 150 did not contest the penalty or ask for a public hearing before a legislative hearing officer.

### CommonBond moves to convert nursing home

CommonBond Communities has cleared its first hurdle in converting a former nursing home into a single-room occupancy for people transiting out of homelessness. The St. Paul Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) voted 6-1 May 4 to approve a parking variance needed for the project. The project requires 72 off-street parking spaces; a variance of 10 spaces is needed.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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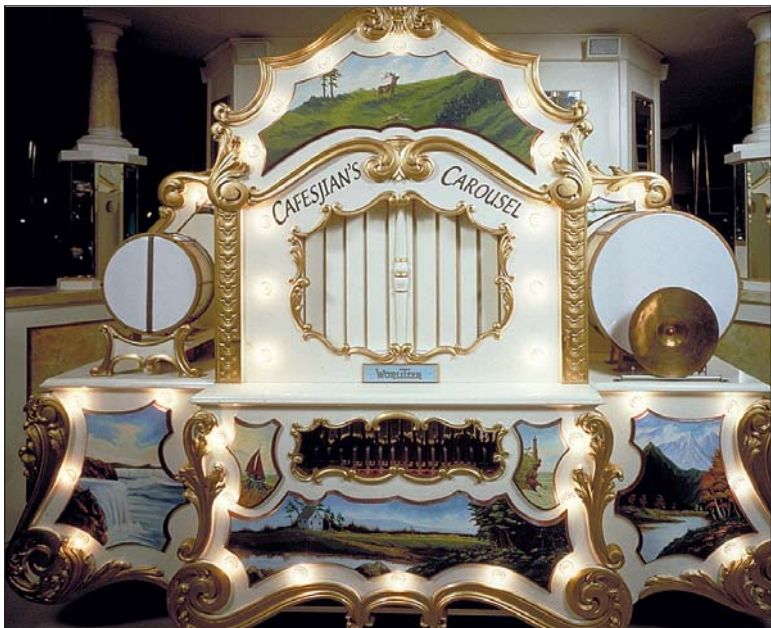
# Cafesjian's Carousel ready for business in Como Park

Marking its 95th anniversary, and its 9th year at Como Park, the horses and chariots started spinning again for the season on May 1st at 11 a.m. In 2000, the Cafesjian's Carousel opened on the grounds of the Como Park Zoo & Conservatory in its permanent \$1.1 million copper-roofed pavilion. Occupying this beautiful pavilion are 68 hand carved horses, each featuring fancy trappings such as saddle blankets, flowers and western motifs. 18 scenic paintings encompass the upper part of the carousel and a fully restored Wurlitzer 153 band organ kicks out the wonderful old time tunes. Six display cases also provide changing informational displays about the history and restoration of the carousel

and band organ. When the carousel is in operation, eight 14-by-14-foot garage-style doors can be opened in various configurations to suit the weather. Just outside the doors are patios with benches for visitors. Even when the doors are closed, their generous windows allow visitors to see the carousel, which has undergone a complete restoration. In 1914, an enterprising man named Austin McFadden paid the Philadelphia Toboggan Company \$8,500 to build a carousel, bring it to Saint Paul, and assemble it on the grounds of the Minnesota State Fair. In 1988, the Carousel was saved from auction and housed at Town Square Park in Downtown Saint Paul until

the spring of 2000, when Cafesjian's Carousel made Como Park its permanent home. The 2009 Hours of Operation are Tuesday-Friday 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tickets are \$1.50. Riders under one and over 90 ride for free. More information: <http://www.ourfaircarousel.org>

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## In a minute

Continued from page 2.

CommonBond wishes to convert the former Lexington Nursing Home into a 48-unit single-unit building. The previous nursing home use required 70 spaces; the new use requires 72. The lot has only 27 spaces. But the previous nursing home use and parking shortfall is considered to be "grandfathered in" so a smaller variance is required.

The nursing home has been closed for three years. Rachel Robinson is overseeing the project for CommonBond. She said most of the residents of the building won't have motor vehicles of their own. The site is near bus service and the planned Central Corridor light rail line. Robinson said that will serve residents who don't own vehicles.

CommonBond manages a similar facility in Minneapolis where few of the residents own vehicles.

One neighbor, Joe Shasky, spoke against the variance. He and a handful of home owners on Central Avenue are concerned that the plan to convert the former nursing home and build a new CommonBond headquarters on Lexington will add to existing parking spillover problems for his small neighborhood. Neighbors already deal with parking overflow problems from the Open Cities Clinic and Central Medical Building, as well as from a nearby fitness club and other businesses. When the nursing home had many visitors, parking on Central meant nursing home guest were cutting through the yards of Central Avenue residents to the north.

The Union Park District Council has spent several months working with CommonBond, neighborhood residents and other community groups on what is called a community benefits agreement between the Central Avenue neighbors and CommonBond. But that agreement has not met with final approval yet.

The parking variance is final unless there is an appeal to the St. Paul City Council in 10 days. It does not have any bearing on the amount of parking CommonBond must provide for its new headquarters building, which will be built nearby. That request does require a change in zoning for the site, which will go to the St. Paul Planning Commission and City Council in the future.

- Compiled by Jane McClure

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# City moves ahead with bond sale for capital development

By JANE MCCLURE

St. Paul will be able to proceed with at least some of its planned capital improvement projects this year, as other funding cuts make it possible to sell \$40 million in bonds. Those bonds will pay for projects including street paving in the Knapp-Raymond area and the completion of the new fire station and fire administration building at West Seventh and Randolph. The bond sale, which was postponed in February, will take place May 27.

But the city still faces further spending cuts in 2009, 2010 and beyond as it still faces uncertainty in the amount of Local Government Aid (LGA) funding that will be received in the future from the state. Nor is it known yet what will happen to the Hamline-Midway Branch Library, which has been threatened with closure and with recreation centers slated for closure, cuts in service or transfer to private use. Those recreation centers include Front, Sylvan, Griggs and South St. Anthony.

More may be known by May 19 after the 2009 Minnesota Legislature adjourns, said City Financial Services Director Margaret Kelly. "What happens with LGA will have a significant impact on our general fund," she said. If state lawmakers go into special session, the wait for information will be longer.

City Council members reviewed the latest budget information April 22 with city financial office staff and representatives of Mayor Chris Coleman's administration. Council members, as well as Ramsey County Board and St. Paul School Board members, also discussed budget issues as part of the Joint Property Tax Advisory Committee April 27.

At this point city officials are carefully monitoring what is happening at the state capitol, Kelly said. Three different proposals, all with different impacts on the city, have emerged thus far. Gov. Tim Pawlenty's proposed budget would cut LGA by \$7.7 million in 2009 and \$16 million in 2010. The House proposal would mean

a \$3 million cut in 2009 and \$5.7 million in 2010, while the Senate proposes no reduction in 2009 and a \$1.1 million reduction in 2010.

But city officials are planning while they await information from the state. They are continuing to analyze and plan budget cuts in anticipation of a loss of state aid, as well as working to replenish funding reserves so that bonds can be sold. The city routinely sells bonds to cover capital project and ongoing maintenance costs.

The May 27 bond sale is for projects that have been approved over the past two years. The sale does not affect projects pending in the 2010-2011 Long-Range Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) process. Those projects will be approved by the mayor and City Council by year's end.

All city departments submitted plans earlier this year showing what services they would cut to achieve different levels of savings. These proposals include closing or reducing services at eight recreation centers, closing the Hamline-Midway Branch Library, reducing the number of police officers and firefighters, and cutting numerous city services. District councils are looking at as much as a 14 percent cut in citizen participation funding. At this point DSI is the only budget that was amended but others are likely to follow after more is known about future LGA payments.

Deputy Mayor Ann Mulholland explained April 22 that the city has taken a number of cost-cutting steps so that the bonds can be sold. Before the bond sale can take place, the city must replenish financial reserves that were drawn on in late 2008. That's when state officials had to unallot \$5.7 million in LGA for the city, to help plug state budget holes. Because that money had already been spent for city operations, St. Paul officials had to dip into reserves to cover the shortfall. That action took almost 20 percent of the cash reserves.

Replenishing the reserves is important because how much

the city has in its budget reserves affects the bond rating and what the cost of financing the bond sale will be. The city needs to show that it has saved about \$32 million in its reserves to make the bond sale more attractive to buyers.

The city is taking a number of steps to replenish its reserves and hold the bond sale. These include one-time spending reductions and managing vacant positions. City officials were also able to put \$5 million toward the projects that will be paid for through the bond sale, reducing the amount that has to be bonded for. Money left over from past capital projects, lower interest rates and other changes were used to come up with \$5 million.

But much of the work to replenish reserves comes from steps being taken now, a fact City Council members do have concerns about. The city has had a freeze on hiring since the beginning of the year for all departments and a freeze on mayoral and mayoral appointee salaries. Another \$547,000 in savings came from early retirements.

The hiring freeze is worrisome for some council members. "Management by vacancy isn't a strategic way to operate," said Ward Five Council Member Lee Helgen. He is worried that the city is keeping important positions open.

Ward Three Council Member Pat Harris said he is especially worried that 35 police officer positions are vacant and unfilled. At a time when residents are asking for more police protection, "I have concerns about that."

Mulholland said the city could use federal economic stimulus, or American Recovery Act (ARRA) funds of about \$1.3 million to hire six police officers for three years. But the red flag city budget officials raise with ARRA funds is that they are for a finite period. Either police would have to be paid for city funds, such as property taxes or LGA, after the three-year period ends or the police positions would have to be terminated.

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## St. Paul residents Paula and Aaron Maccabee qualify for Taekwondo National Championships

St. Paul World Taekwondo Academy black belt students, Aaron Maccabee and his mother, Paula Maccabee, qualified recently for the National Taekwondo Championships, which will be held in Austin, Texas from June 30 to July 5, 2009.

In the Austin, Texas, qualifying tournament with competition from across the U.S., Aaron Maccabee qualified for the 2009 Junior Olympics, receiving a gold medal for forms in the second degree black belt division for ages 14-17 and a bronze medal in sparring in the black belt bantam weight competition for ages 14-17. His mother, Paula Maccabee, qualified for the U.S. Taek-

wondo National Championship, receiving a gold medal in the black belt Second Masters forms division for ages 51 to 99.

The Maccabees, who competed along with several of their teammates, both train under Jesse Amacher, the head instructor at St. Paul's World Taekwondo Academy. Says Aaron Maccabee, "Our training prepares me to do my best in competition. Every challenge is a new learning experience, both mentally and physically." The Maccabees have been training at World Taekwondo Academy since Aaron was 5 years old.

World Taekwondo Academy was founded 35 years ago by

Byung Yul Lee, who is the highest-ranking grandmaster in taekwondo in the United States, having earned the rank of ninth-degree black belt. Both head instructor, Jesse Amacher and Paula Maccabee currently train under Grandmaster Lee. World Taekwondo Academy in St. Paul has over 80 students of all ages training in taekwondo.

Taekwondo is one of only two martial arts included in Olympic competition. This Korean martial art displays patterns of attack and defense through forms and disciplined fighting, relying primarily on kicking techniques, through sparring competition.



# University UNITED maneuvers to regroup after losing Ford grant

By JANE MCCLURE

In a tough economy for many nonprofits, University UNITED is reinventing itself. The coalition of district councils and businesses along University Avenue has redone its 2009 work plan and budget, and is seeking input from its members on pending changes. The organization is also moving its offices.

UNITED will continue its work in community planning and in helping businesses along University Avenue, said Executive Director Brian McMahon. Staff hours will have to be cut and the office will move in the weeks ahead.

"It's challenging but it's manageable" is his description of the organization's situation.

While the difficulties in obtaining nonprofit operating grants aren't unique to UNITED, the pinch has had an impact on the organization. Earlier this year the organization had to return a three-year \$375,000 Ford Foundation grant after matching funds couldn't be found. The grant was to be used for light rail-related planning efforts along University Avenue and would have involved a number of other organizations.

"It's always been a challenge to raise money," McMahon said. "But clearly we're in an environment and circumstances that are very different than what we have seen before." The group has one funding commitment and is confident another grant will come through.

Losing the Ford funds was unfortunate, McMahon said, given that it came on the heels of two of the organization's recent successes – that of setting up the U-Plan community planning and resource center, which has won national recognition, and the founding of University Avenue Business Association (UABA).

UNITED's board made a very deliberate decision to continue UABA, which has organized businesses around light rail issues. "We need UABA on this corridor at this time and we need to keep it going," he said.

UNITED also needs to continue to be involved in planning related to Central Corridor, McMahon said. For example, U-Plan was able to take technical drawings of light rail plans and make them more understandable to a larger audience.

The priorities UNITED has set in its work plan include continuing U-Plan and UABA, promoting transit-oriented development, transportation studies and planning, review of University Avenue development projects, local history work, an energy conservation and work on Dickerman Park. Members are being asked to weigh in on the work plan.

As a step toward trimming its budget, the organization is moving in June from University and Prior to 712 University Av. UNITED, U-Plan, UABA and the Asian Economic Development Association will be among the groups sharing space in what is envi-

sioned as one-stop shop for businesses and community members. Although the space will be smaller than what UNITED and its programs have now, McMahon indicated that one benefit will be that groups can do programming together.

UNITED is best known for its recent work in guiding transit-oriented development along University, especially in the promotion of more housing and mixed-used development. The group has conducted a number of retail, bioscience, transportation and housing studies. It has challenged developments that aren't transit-oriented. High-profile issues the organization has been involved in include planning for Midway SuperTarget and development at Lexington and University. Several years ago UNITED opposed plans to put a Home Depot there, questioning whether that was the best use for the property.

McMahon said one aspect of UNITED that has remained constant is that it has always operated as a coalition of organizations and that it has worked collabora-

tively with a number of organizations over the years. The focus on creation of jobs, new housing and expansion of the tax base has also been constant.

UNITED began in 1977 as an effort by Midway Civic and Commerce (now Midway Chamber of

Commerce) to improve relations with University Avenue's surrounding residential neighborhoods. The councils were invited to send representatives to the MCC Economic Development Committee meetings. UNITED grew out of these meetings and

was founded in 1981. The organization's first major foray into planning was in 1987, with the commissioning of a comprehensive planning study for the University Avenue Corridor. The report, which described the potential for new commercial

profit that was set up to funnel loans to small businesses. In the early 1990s the organization took on the International Marketplace Project, funded in the early 1990s with \$1.5 million in federal Urban Revitalization Action Program (URAP) dollars provided from the city. This program included financing for the development of International Plaza (an Asian/International mini-mall), streetscape improvements including 17 new ornamental street lanterns, and façade improvements for 17 businesses in the two block stretch between Western and Mackubin avenues.

Over the years the organization has been involved in revitalization projects all along University, as well as business retention and development studies, job fairs, anti-prostitution efforts, community policing programs, crime prevention through environmental design and creation of a number of initiatives and programs including Midway Transportation Management Organization, District Councils Collaborative and various design initiatives.

**"It's always been a challenge to raise money. But clearly we're in an environment and circumstances that are very different than what we have seen before."**

**- University UNITED Executive Director Brian McMahon**

Commerce) to improve relations with University Avenue's surrounding residential neighborhoods. The councils were invited to send representatives to the MCC Economic Development Committee meetings. UNITED grew out of these meetings and

and housing development along the corridor, was largely adopted into city plans.

UNITED also has done much with community development. In 1991 the organization merged with the University Midway Local Development Company, a non-

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By DEBORAH BROTZ

About 100 neighborhood residents came to the April 20 District 10 Community Council Land Use Committee meeting and voiced their concern over a proposed development on the southeast corner of Lexington and Larpenteur by Paster Enterprises.

"We attended to present a conceptual development plan we have for the corner of Lexington and Larpenteur," said Howard Paster, president of Paster Enterprises. "This was a follow-up to an initial meeting we had a month or so prior with several of the immediate neighbors affected by our plan."

Paster seems open and willing to work with the neighborhood over their concerns with the proposed development.

"We are trying to address the concerns of the neighbors and neighborhood, and this is the first meeting in what we hope will be a dialog on how both we and the neighborhood can be happy with a plan that addresses everyone's concerns."

Neighbor's input from the April 20 meeting will help Paster refine his proposal.

"We took pretty extensive notes and we are reviewing the neighbor's concerns to see what modifications we can make to our plans," he said.

The Land Use Committee will continue to discuss Paster's proposal, and an Ad Hoc group has been created to address the Node Study.

"We will plan to continue the dialog with both groups and the neighbors," he said.

Paster Enterprises longtime



## Como residents voice concerns about proposed development at Lexington and Larpenteur

On April 7, the 2008 Lexington-Larpenteur Node Study, commissioned by the City of St. Paul and the Mississippi Riverfront Corporation, was presented and discussed at a meeting sponsored by District 10. (Photo by Liberty Willms)

presence in the neighborhood has affected what they've proposed to put on the site. Established more than 60 years ago as a residential builder, St. Paul-based Paster Enterprises has made its mark in the Twin Cities area as a developer and manager of neighborhood shopping centers. Its focus on discount, consignment and other moderately priced merchants appears to be paying off at a time when consumers are watching their pocketbooks.

"We look at every project we do as a project we will own for-

ever," said Paster. "With the philosophy of being a long-term owner, you make certain decisions that make your projects the highest quality possible. We will be employing this same philosophy with this project."

Paster doesn't want to think about what would happen if he and neighbors can't agree on a plan.

"From our perspective, the worst case scenario is that the Flowerama building stays as is with Flowerama and the adjacent Ted's Bar stays as is," he said. "We still believe we are proposing a

quality development that can help the corner look and be more attractive and address the neighbors' needs and concerns."

On April 7, the 2008 Lexington-Larpenteur Node Study, commissioned by the City of St. Paul and the Mississippi Riverfront Corporation, was presented and discussed at a meeting sponsored by District 10. The Node Study is a small area plan, made up of several conceptual drawings for the businesses and a few residential homes at and around the two block intersection of Lexington, Larpenteur, and California. This

Study predates the current proposal from Paster Enterprises.

Encouraged to come up with recommendations for these properties, neighborhood residents have decided on the following recommendations. 1. A stable residential neighborhood: Residential areas should remain zoned residential. 2. Traffic in the Lexington-Larpenteur area: Neighbors oppose any new commercial development that would increase automobile traffic. 3. Re-develop the existing commercial property into green space/small businesses. 4. Defining the residential neighborhood: As commercial properties are redeveloped, covenants protecting the residential properties should be required. A primary concern is a height limitation on commercial buildings.

California Avenue resident Libby Rupp is concerned that whatever is developed in the area is safe for pedestrians and doesn't create more traffic for the neighborhood.

"Traffic in our area is very, very bad," she said. "Children are already at risk. It's already a dangerous situation."

If the area is redeveloped, Rupp hopes they can find the best solution for both the developer and the neighborhood.

"I just hope everybody works together and can come up with a solution that works for everyone," she said. "I'm not opposed to redevelopment, I just want to make sure if it's done it meets the neighborhood's needs."

Iowa Avenue resident Ann Pappas, who owns a small business called Go Green Cleaning, feels her main concern with the proposed development is what it's going to look like and what it's going to bring to the neighborhood.

"I don't want Walgreens to go on the corner there," she said. "I'm worried about traffic there and they're going to have a drive-thru open until 10. They've talked about a 24-hour drive-thru. I'm not comfortable with that."

Traffic is a main concern for Pappas.

"I have a 9-year-old son who rides his bike," she said. "Sometimes the cars come down Chatsworth going fast. Lexington is so congested. How much worse will it be? That's my main concern."

What concerns California Avenue resident Leah Mesic is losing residential houses.

"I don't want to see anything encroaching down Lexington Avenue," she said. "When you see residential properties torn down, it always raises a red flag. I'm really worried about maintaining the beauty and integrity of California Avenue."

Mesic, along with some other residents, have formed an Ad Hoc committee to make the Node Study usable.

"This could be something for Mr. Paster to work with," she said. "It would be a really solid piece of information. These are things that really should be made part of any development."

Being involved in the redevelopment on this site is important to Mesic because of the way she feels about living in Como Park.

"We want to maintain the integrity of the neighborhood

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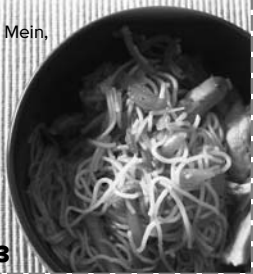
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# Beat cops

Continued from page 1

Strecker said they have been doing a lot already trying to lessen drinking in public and loud music in cars driving by.

"People have been accosting strangers and asking for money," he said.

"One of the bigger complaints we get from store owners is about people loitering about in the fronts of their stores, driving business away," said Slagle.

Strecker said that there has been a clear decrease in smoking at bus stops.

"We worked in tandem with the Metro Transit police," Slagle said. "That has been very effective."

"We do see things happen," Strecker said. "If we need to, we will talk to the supervisor of the narcotics unit to address a narcotics issue."

"If we're aware of something," Slagle added, "we can plug into it. We can get ahold of the gang unit if we have a gang issue. If we can get information to the folks who specialize, we can make sure the information is funneled in the right direction."



Business owner Everett Janssen of Shirtz Unlimited, 733 North Snelling, exchanges ideas with newly installed beat cops Wes Slagle and David Strecker. The two officers cover the beat from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday while Chris Larson and Lim Storey cover the 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. rotating shift. (Photo by Liberty Willms)

"There are certain things you can't do in a uniform or squad car, so we pass the information on," Strecker said.

There have been graffiti prob-

lems in the area, but there has been one arrest made recently. There is a special graffiti report number to call, 651-266-5512. At a recent meeting of the Snelling Avenue Business Initiative (SABI), the beat cops recommended that business owners send e-mails describing the time and day when taggers are in the area, so that they can attempt to catch them in the act on a future day.

Strecker and Slagle agreed that covering the beat allows them the opportunity to get to know the neighborhood, including merchants and residents. They can

take the time to finish a conversation without rushing off to another incident.

"It's allowing us the time to go out and work the beat, building rapport in the neighborhood," Slagle said. "It's nice to be able to focus on the task at hand."

"We do not have to cut the session off, and it's bringing us in closer touch with the residents," Strecker said.

"Of course, if someone needed help, obviously we would help them," Slagle said.

Strecker said that even in the short time they have been on the

beat, they have heard from business owners that the loitering in front of stores has decreased, and fewer people are being approached and asked for money.

"We can be proactive instead of just reactive," Slagle said.

Strecker said he and Slagle, who formerly drove squads in the Frogtown area, have worked as partners for some time.

"We came on together and attended the academy together," he said.

Strecker is from St. Paul, and Slagle grew up in northern Minnesota. Both are also members of the SWAT team.

Business owner Everett Janssen of Shirtz Unlimited said he is glad to see a consistent presence from dedicated patrolmen in the area.

"They get to know who we are, and can focus on preventing things before they happen," he said.

Although Janssen has not had graffiti on his building, he said he is in a perfect place to look out and see it on nearby buildings, and he is hopeful the tagging will decrease.

Allison Sharkey, program manager for Sparc, is also happy to see the Midway Beat program begin.

"I think it's very important that there are beat officers, specifically getting to know the Hamline-Midway area," she said. "They can get to know what's happening."

The officers can be reached at [sppd-midwaybeat@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:sppd-midwaybeat@ci.stpaul.mn.us), or individuals can call the non-emergency number, 651-291-1111.

**"One of the bigger complaints we get from store owners is about people loitering about in the fronts of their stores, driving business away."**

**- Snelling Ave. beat cop Wes Slagle**

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				SF	SF	SF
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
SF		LIN	LIN	LIN	SF	SF
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
SF		WT	WT	WT	SC	SC
31						
SC						

JUNE						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	LIN	LIN	LIN	LIN	SC	SC
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
SC	SHV	SHV	SHV		WT	WT
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
WT	SC	SC	SC	WT	WT	WT
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
WT		SF	SF	SF	WT	WT
28	29	30				
WT	LIN	LIN				

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# IN OUR COMMUNITY

## In Our Community

### History Day held May 30

Hamline Midway Neighborhood History Day will be held Saturday, May 30, 1:30 to 4 p.m. at Hamline Midway Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Avenue.

Come celebrate the rich history of this neighborhood with the Hamline Midway History Corps. Learn about the 101st anniversary of the Hamline Library and Newell Park. Look through vintage scrapbooks of "Hamline People." Peruse our collection of neighborhood artifacts. Pose questions, offer your stories and photos, and share your knowledge of this neighborhood's history. Family friendly event with kids' activities. For more information about the Hamline Midway History Corps check out our website [www.HamlineMidwayHistory.org](http://www.HamlineMidwayHistory.org)

### Hiring Home Care topic of luncheon June 9

"How & When to Hire Home Health Care" will be the topic at a luncheon for seniors on June 9 beginning at 11:30 a.m. at 1415 Englewood Avenue (lower level, Hamline Methodist Church). Carol Houghtby from BrightStar will address the basics as someone who has experienced this topic first hand. Call the office of Hamline Midway Elders 651-209-6542 to make reservations or request free transportation. A free will donation is asked for the meal. If you are a senior, caregiver or neighbor and would like information about our services or volunteer opportunities, visit [www.blocknurse.org](http://www.blocknurse.org)

### Snelling Avenue Planter Planting May 16

Snelling Avenue Planter Planting Day, Saturday, May 16th, 9:30 a.m. until we're done, start at Hamline Park Building, Snelling and Lafond. Neighbors are needed to come by to help plant! Arrive at 9:30 a.m. at the Hamline Midway Coalition building at Lafond and Snelling for pick-up of some flowers and instructions on where to go. Bring trowels, a wheelbarrow (or wagon) and watering can (or bucket) if you have them. Plants are donated by Hamline University. If you live near a planter on Snelling - please bring a bit of water to a planter for a week or two until the city begins watering. For more information, contact Steph at [skhank@gmail.com](mailto:skhank@gmail.com).

### Blessings of the Animals

Knox Presbyterian Church invites neighbors and friends to bring their pets to an outdoor (weather permitting) service of blessing

and thanksgiving for the love and companionship of our animals on Saturday, June 6, 4:00 p.m., 1536 Minnehaha Ave W. Join us at 3:30 p.m. for musical entertainment before the service and stay after for free root beer floats.

### Community Building meeting monthly

Come join us at our monthly Community Building meeting! We meet informally every third Wednesday of the month and have a topic and guest speaker. Come discuss ideas, and projects that are important to you—we welcome all participation! The meeting is held the third Wednesday of every month, 6:30 p.m., at Rice Street Recreation Center, 1021 Marion St.

### Zion plans rummage sale June 6

Zion Lutheran Church, 1697 Lafond Ave., will be holding a rummage sale on June 6, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Anyone wishing to drop off used items please bring them on Thursday the 4th or Friday the 5th between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. You can also find us online at [www.zlcmidway.org](http://www.zlcmidway.org)

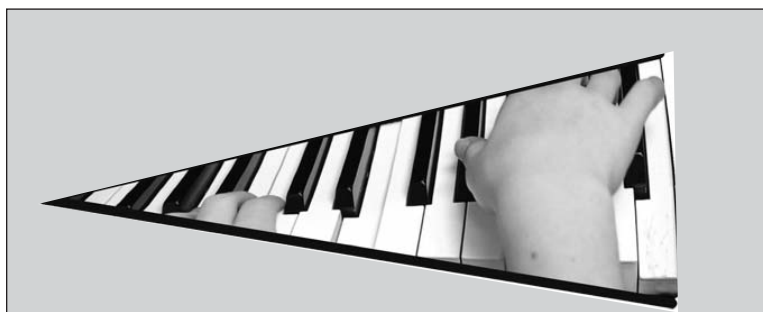
### Hamline Midway Festival, HMC meeting

Hamline Midway Coalition invites you to the Hamline Midway Spring Festival & HMC Annual Meeting 12 noon - 8 p.m., Sunday, May 31, Newell Park, (Fairview Ave. & Pierce Butler Route)

Live Music & Theater! Folk and bluegrass groups from Hamline Midway and the greater Twin Cities acoustic music community will perform all day, starting with the Midway bluegrass band LOUDRAY. Other performers include: Nikki and the Ruemates, The Roe Family Singers, The Sans Souci Quartet, Sneaky Pete Bauer, The Floorbirds, Eliza Blue, Brianna Lane, and Darkwood Flower. Dreamland Arts and The PuppetTellers will hold performances during the day as well.

Local Groups! Local groups and organizations have been invited to provide information about their activities at the event, including: Hamline Midway Environment Group, Hamline Midway History Corps, Sparc, Pals of Hamline Park, Paint the Pavement, Mighty Midway 4-H Group, Mighty Midway Greening & Growing, Hamline Midway Elders, and more!

Silent Action! Come bid on wonderful items donated by local residents and businesses. [Note: The silent auction is an



### Crescendo Concert Hamline May 29

Crescendo Concert: a benefit to support the Saint Paul Conservatory of Music and its mission to bring high quality music education to everyone.

The performance will be Friday, May 29 7 p.m. in Sundin Music Hall, Hamline University. Tickets are \$25 adult, \$10 for student.

Featured artists are SPCM staff and students including Kim Craig, Orieta Dado, Sahar Hassan, Phoebe Dalton, and Julie Elhard. Performances will include works by Bartok, Mozart, Schubert and the rarely performed Bachianas No. 5 for soprano and 8 cellos by Villa Lobos.

Come support your local community music school and enjoy an evening of beautiful music.

excellent opportunity to promote a local business. If you would like to donate an item for the silent auction, please contact Michael Jon Olson at 651-646-1986 as soon as possible.

HMC Board Elections! Elections will be held for 4 seats, one in each of three neighborhood subdistricts and one at-large seat. Anyone age 16 and older who resides within, owns property within, or owns a business that is headquartered and principally operates within the boundaries of Hamline Midway, is eligible to vote. To obtain a ballot, voting members must sign in at the Annual Meeting. Ballots must be returned by 6 p.m. If you would like to run for the HMC Board of Directors, please request an application by calling HMC at 651-646-1986. Applications must be completed and returned to HMC no later than 5 p.m., Thursday, May 28.

This is a FREE, family-friendly, rain or shine event. Covered seating provided at outdoor stages. Food available for purchase.

### Events at the Hamline Midway Library

Free yoga returns to the library in May! Join instructor Christopher Gordon for an hour of free yoga at noon on Tuesdays, May 19 to June 2. Award-winning author Norah Labiner reads from her new novel, German for Travelers: A Novel in 95 Lessons, a story about a girl whose dreams reveal the future, a family beset by ghosts, and the place that haunts them all on Thursday, May 21st at 7 p.m.

The Hamline Midway History Corps invites you to share memories and stories of the neighborhood at the Hamline Midway Neighborhood History Day on Saturday, May 30th in

the afternoon. Objects from the neighborhood archives housed at the Hamline Midway library will be on display.

The Saints & Sinners Mystery Book Club will meet at the library on Saturday, June 6th from 1-3 p.m. The Great Books Book Club will meet on Tuesday, June 9th from 7:15-8:45 p.m.

Regular storytimes are offered every week. Storytimes are a wonderful way for children to experience the joys of reading. Bedtime storytime is every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in May and every Tuesday at 6 p.m. in June. Toddler and Preschool storytime is every Friday at 10:30 a.m.

Hamline Midway Library is located at 1558 W Minnehaha Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55104 and can be contacted at 651-642-0293. Library events are free and open to the public.

### Hamline Midway Yard Sale June 26

Host a sale in conjunction with other neighbors! Friday, June 26 (9 a.m.-6 p.m.), and Saturday, June 27 (9 a.m.-3 p.m.) Host the sale at your house, place your own ad in the Monitor, the Pioneer Press or on Craigslist, put up your own signs at high traffic intersections, and watch for crowds to appear as multiple neighbors have yard sales at the same time. Organize your block for the benefit of strength in numbers! Great for sellers and for shoppers!

### Como Park Tree Trek on June 13 at Pavilion

Como Park Tree Trek: The Environment committee of District 10 is holding its annual Tree Identification Trek through Como Park on June 13

(Saturday) from 10 a.m. to noon. Meet at the Como Park Pavilion near the wooden black bear on the west side. The tree trek is open to the public and is free. Please call Chet Mirocha at 651-646 4226 at if you have questions.

### Pancake Brunch at Knox Church

A Pancake Brunch will be held on Sunday, June 7th 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Knox Presbyterian Church, 1536 Minnehaha Ave W., Corner of Minnehaha Ave & Asbury St. Freewill offering will be taken.

### The Sunday Forum planned May 17

The next Sunday Forum will be Sunday, May 17, 11 a.m., in the Lounge, Hamline United Methodist Church, in the Educational Wing, Englewood and Simpson.

The topic for analysis and discussion will be "Who's Afraid of Revelation? Can the church find hope in apocalyptic?"

Presenter and leader for the discussion is Dr. Tim Polk, Department of Religion at Hamline University. Dr. Polk will help us scrutinize the harsh language, stinging indictments and horrific consequences chronicled in the Book of Revelation.

The Sunday Forum is a gathering of citizens and friends of the Midway neighborhood on the third Sunday of each month, for the purpose of exploring and discussing ideas and issues that impact on the social, spiritual and intellectual fabric of our community.

Other topics and issues, suggested by our neighbors for future meetings in June, July and beyond, include, "The Hamline-Midway Library—What are the next steps?", "Arts in the Midway—What is happening and what are the possibilities?", "Tough times—How do we do with less but get more out of Life?", "External and Internal Conflict Resolution—How can we handle the situations?". We look to the community for other topics.

The Sunday Forum welcomes all residents and friends of the Midway community who are interested in stimulating discussions about issues that impact directly on the social, spiritual and intellectual life of our neighborhood. Plan to participate! All Forums will be at the Hamline United Methodist Church in the Educational Wing Lounge (lower level (northwest corner). Coffee, tea and a cookie or two are available prior to the Forum.



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# Pierce Butler route

Continued from page 1

Much of the focus now is on Pierce Butler's east end. The city has \$5 million in hand to acquire property for the project, according to Erik Ludens of St. Paul Public Works. The CIB Committee is considering an additional request for \$3.1 million in 2010 and \$2.5 million in 2011. Two properties have already been acquired for the project.

But changes to the east end plans have sparked strong opposition from Frogtown property owners and residents. For years community members discussed extending Pierce Butler along the BNSF Railroad tracks. That was discussed during the 1990s as part of Great Northern Corridor redevelopment studies and in more recent planning.

But changes call for putting the road through businesses between Western Avenue and a point west of Dale Street. Public Works would like to start construction of the stretch in 2011. When the street would be extended further to the east is still a question mark.

Frogtown residents and businesses owners, and Ward One Council Member Melvin Carter III support the extension. Getting there is another matter. The issue before the City Council now is whether to let Public Works pro-



The CIB Committee is considering an additional request for \$3.1 million for the extension of Pierce Butler Route in 2010 and \$2.5 million in 2011. Two properties have already been acquired for the project. (Photo by Liberty Willms)

ceed with the \$5 million expenditure to buy properties at the east end, including a large market owned by Daisy Huang and a former auto salvage site being redeveloped by Gennadiy Yermolenko. Yermolenko bought a deteriorated site at 388 Como recently and began razing old buildings, to create a new auto repair and salvage business.

Huang's businesses include Super Foods and Golden Globe mall, the latter of which houses 55 small businesses. Neither property owners wants to sell. Yermolenko's attorney, Leland Frankman, said he will take legal action of the city tries to condemn his client's property. Huang is also working with an attorney.

Frankman called the project "ill-conceived." He said the city is trying to stockpile property while it looks for more funding. His client's site wouldn't be part of the construction started in 2011 and there is no date for the extension east of Western.

Last month the St. Paul Planning Commission voted 9-6 to allow that to continue and expand

as a nonconforming use. That decision is being challenged by Public Works, which wants the property for the roadway extension.

A majority of commissioners agreed that because the city council has not approved the final order on the Pierce Butler project, Yermolenko's request should be granted. Assistant City Attorney Peter Warner said that as a basic

principle zoning law, if an applicant meets all of the criteria in the zoning code, the commission needs to approve the request. But some commissioners objected, saying that if the property is improved, it will cost more for the city to acquire in the future.

Thomas-Dale Planning Council Executive Director Tait Danielson-Castillo said neighborhood residents saw the Pierce Butler extension as a benefit to their community and a way to get truck traffic off of their streets. But taking away property tax-paying businesses and jobs for the community isn't the way to go. He said the extension could affect other businesses which create jobs for area residents, including the Veolia garbage transfer station and recycling center and other businesses and industries.

Nor were community members consulted about the change in rerouting Pierce Butler, he added. "It's been very frustrating to go through this entire process and then have a change like this."

Danielson-Castillo said community members don't blame Public Works as there was a staff change midway through the east end planning. But the community has asked for and will hold a series of meetings between now and the first week of July, when the issue returns to the City Council.

**"It's been very frustrating to go through this entire process and then have a change like this."**

**- Thomas-Dale Planning Council Executive Director  
Tait Danielson-Castillo**

## Development

Continued from page 6

and property," she said. "We want something that fits with the neighborhood and really represents Como Park."

Mesic feels there's a lot of opportunity to discuss what will go in there.

"We would ideally like small businesses and green space there," she said. "Mr. Paster is willing to listen. There's a lot of opportunity for us to get ideas out. I'm not really sure what's going to happen."

Paster hopes his redevelopment will enhance the Lexington-Larpentour corner.

"We feel the City of St. Paul and the entrance to Como Park deserve better than what exists presently," he said. "We believe we can deliver a high quality development that fits the neighborhood and will stand the test of time and look great in 20 to 30 years."



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# Plans for new Como Park pool go to City

By JANE MCCLURE

Plans for the new Como Park swimming pool go to city officials this month, as a community task force wraps up its work. Key decisions about the pool's design and costs will be made in the months ahead, with a final decision on funding by the end of 2009.

Demolition of the old pool began last month. The pool, which dated from the 1960s, had to be closed because of its deteriorating condition. Swimmers will have to go to other area pools and lakes this summer.

The task force's report was to be completed May 4 but consultants and city staff asked that be pushed to May 18. In the meantime, the pool plans have been going through the city's Long-Range Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) process this spring. (See related story.)

The CIB Committee is ranking the projects at meetings in May and will host a public hearing to take comments on projects at 6 p.m. Monday, May 26 at City Hall.

Much concern centered on the new pool's design is tied to worries about increased traffic and parking demand at Como Park and how that affects surrounding neighborhoods. Several neighbors have called for a more comprehensive look at all of the existing and planned features at Como Park and adjacent McMurray Fields, to determine what the cumulative impacts of all of the features would be.

There has also been debate about what it will cost to use a new pool, how the city will budget for the pool operations and what features will and will not be able

to pay for themselves.

Pool design and features have been hammered out during task force meetings and a series of design charettes. Therese Kelly, a Parks and Recreation Commission member who has co-chaired the task force, said the charettes were "really successful" and were a community effort in trying to determine which pool features would be best.

Parks and Recreation staff and consultants from US Aquatics worked with charette attendees to provide information about various pool features and what those would mean for the pool and park itself.

Planning for the pool has made a splash as neighbors and pool users have debated what features should be included in a new pool. A proposal for a natural pool, using state-of-the-art natural filtration technology from Europe, was sunk by Parks and Recreation administration earlier this year. That disappointed many neighbors and members of the Como Park Alliance, who had worked to bring the idea forward. But uncertainties about costs and how such a pool would mean health standards worked against the proposal.

The pool proposal's \$5.2 million costs drew comment from CIB Community Facilities Task Force members during its review this spring. While saying they understood the need to replace the pool, some task force members had concerns about what they saw as high costs for one project and how that in turn could knock out a number of smaller projects such as playground and tot lot replace-

ments. At one point during task force deliberations, there was a failed attempt to move Central District Police headquarters above Como Pool, with some members arguing that without crime prevention, it makes no sense to build new parks and recreation facilities.

The task force approved a preliminary schematic design in late March, with the understanding

that the budget and final design would be refined. The pool plans before the CIB Committee and other city officials include a pool with lanes for lap swimming, a "lazy river" feature, water slides, a children's pool with zero-depth entry, diving facilities, an island and new locker and concession facilities. The concessions and restrooms, as well as parking lot, could be shared with other nearby

Como Park attractions including the ball fields and outdoor classroom.

The original pool took up 19,100 square feet of space. Ideas the task force has been discussing what the various features will ultimately impact the total square footage. Another factor is the potential redesign of Jessamine Avenue to better serve the pool and other nearby park features.

## Senior Resource Fair held in St. Paul May 21

By KERRY ANTRIM  
DISTRICT 6 COUNCIL

Imagine you have lived in a larger two story home with a basement. It takes quite a while to clean and maintain both the interior and exterior of this beautiful home you have lived in for over 30 years-maybe close to 50. You have raised your children there, but they have now moved into homes of their own. After careful consideration, you as an empty nester decide to downsize.

Or, you have maintained your home for years and have no intention of leaving, but need assistance in repairs. You may have a need for someone to mow your grass, help you with cleaning or raking leaves. Or maybe you need your home painted.

Or maybe you want to stay in your home for as long as possible, are active and able to keep up with your house, but after your spouse passed away you find you would like more opportunities for social interaction.

As part of its commitment to seniors District 6 is sponsoring a

Senior Resource Fair on May 21, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Bernard's Parish Center, 147 West Geranium. Invited guests include but are not limited to; Store to Door, United Hospital, Saint Paul Police Department, Sparc, your neighborhood community development corporation, Senior Core Service, St. Paul Parks & Recreation 50+ programs and the Block Nurse program. Your City Councilmembers Lee Helgen and Melvin Carter III as well as your County Commissioner has been invited. We hope you will take time to stop by, take advantage of the resources and let us know what else is needed. Call us at 651-488-4485.

If you are an older adult facing health issues the North End/South Como Block Nurse program and other agencies and projects will be able to help. They will assist you in staying at home safely and maximize your health and quality of life. Store to Door will ensure that you have the groceries you need. The Carrier Alert program project will check on

you to make sure nothing unforeseen has happened.

The District 6 neighborhood has enjoyed many changes over the years. Unfortunately there have been crime issues and crimes against our older adults have risen. Crime prevention tips, resources and ensuring that seniors are comfortable getting out of their homes is a priority for the District 6 Planning Council.

The Saint Paul Parks and Recreation 50+ program has unlimited opportunities to meet other seniors and partake in trips and activities.

These and other Senior Resources will be at the Senior Resource Fair or you may contact District 6 Planning Council; the citizen participatory organization that serves the North End/South Como neighborhoods if you have questions about services offered. District 6 is committed to helping seniors stay in their homes, if that is their choice. District 6 is not a social service agency, but rather the connector for our residents and services they require.



Rick Beeson

## Park Bank's Beeson elected to U of M's Board of Regents

Rick Beeson, President and CEO of Park Bank in St. Paul, was elected to the University of Minnesota's Board of Regents on Monday, March 9.

Rick graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1976 with a political science major. He was elected to fill the Fourth Congressional District seat. The election was approved by a state legislative joint House and Senate session.

The Legislature elects one regent from each of Minnesota's eight congressional districts, and four from the state at large. Regents serve without pay for six-year terms.

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# Art on a Line: Watermedia painting exhibition, demonstrations and sale

Nine Monitor-area artists will participate in the Northstar Watercolor Society 7th annual Art on a Line watermedia exhibition and sale. The sale takes place in the Fine Arts Building at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds on May 14-16, and features free daily painting demonstrations, 80 local & regional artists, original paintings in a variety of styles, sizes and prices. The event is open and free to the public with free parking and handicapped accessability.

Monitor-area artists participating in the exhibition and sale include Margareta Beyer, Gitte Mohr, Marjorie Moody, Wayne Sisel, Ann Sisel, Dick Graves,

Marilyn Jacobson, Marian Wolters and Carol Spohn.

The opening reception on Thursday May 14, from 5-9 p.m. will include a painting demonstration by Calvin deRuyter, one of the publishers of the Monitor. He will paint a demonstration on the topic "Painting Skies with Life!" at 7 p.m. using the watercolor medium.

Actual hours of the event are: Thursday, May 14, from noon-9 p.m. with opening 5-9, and demonstration at 7 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, May 14-15, from 10 am -9 p.m. with demonstrations scattered throughout both days.

The event is sponsored by the Northstar Watercolor Society

(NWS) the oldest watercolor society in Minnesota with over 300 member artists from across the metro area, greater Minnesota and northwestern Wisconsin. The Society is well known for its lively and informative monthly meetings and semi-annual workshops which feature nationally and internationally known watermedia artists. Northstar members have been recognized and featured nationally in various artists' publications and their work has been exhibited in national juried shows. In addition to Art on a Line, which attracts over a thousand visitors each year, Northstar sponsors a members' show each fall, that is juried



Nine Monitor-area artists will participate in the Northstar Watercolor Society 7th annual Art on a Line watermedia exhibition and sale.

for awards. NWS welcomes anyone interested in water media painters (watercolor, acrylics,

mixed water based media). [www.northstarwatercolorssociety.com](http://www.northstarwatercolorssociety.com)

## Midway Chamber announces formation of University Avenue Clean Team

Midway Training Services, in partnership with the Midway Chamber of Commerce, recently launched the University Avenue Clean Team, a sustainable solution to keeping our wonderful community litter free. An enthusiastic team selected by MTS will pick up litter along University Avenue through October 2009 and will resume in the spring of 2010 continuing on an annual basis. University Avenue has been divided into 5 districts for this project. The initial goal is have each district picked up two times per month. Long term we

hope to be able to fund more frequent cleaning or perhaps to go beyond University Avenue.

Please join founding Clean Team Sponsors: Aspen Waste and TDS Metrocom with a pledge of \$200 to fund this 2009 season. All funds will be dedicated to pay for contracted services with MTS. Should we exceed our target amount we will expand the program for more frequent cleaning of problem areas.

For more information about the Clean Team and a possible sponsorship, call the Chamber office at 651-646-2636.



A non-profit established in 1965, Midway Training Services, Inc. (MTS) motivates, trains and supports persons with disabilities in their quest to become active, contributing and productive members of their communities. Midway Training Services, in partnership with the Midway Chamber of Commerce, recently launched the University Avenue Clean Team.



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

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# Classifieds

Monitor Want Ads are now \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to Monitor Classifieds, Iris Park Place, 1885 University Avenue, Ste. #110, St. Paul, MN 55104. Classifieds must be prepaid via cash, check, or credit card. Classified ads can be e-mailed to [denisw@aplacetoremember.com](mailto:denisw@aplacetoremember.com). Want ads must be in the Monitor before June 1 for the June 11 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](http://www.MonitorSaintPaul.com)

## BATHROOMS

Bathroom/kitchens!! Basement finishing. Bad water pressure? Sinks, toilets and tub/surrounds, etc. Ceramic tile. Basement bathrooms installed. Call 612-275-9815. 5-09

Need a handyman?? Any job, big or small plumbing? Electrical? Remodeling? Decks? Etc. Call "Dynamo" Dave 612-701-2272. Competitive prices! 5-09

## BUSINESS SERVICES

Window washing service in Midway area. Ground and outside. Biz to biz. Rates by Tony 651-644-3177. Call W-Th-F. 5-09

## BUY AND SELL

"\*\*Wanted\*\* HiFi Consoles, Old Stereo Gear, Big Spkrs, Ham Radios, homemade audio gear, ETC. Need Not Work Andy 651-329-0515. 7-09

Vintage 1900-1949 lights, house hardware, doors, tubs, radiators, etc. Also furniture hardware. 651-644-9270. 20% off with ad. 6-09

## ELECTRICAL

Need a handyman?? Any job, big or small plumbing? Electrical? Remodeling? Decks? Etc. Call "Dynamo" Dave 612-701-2272. Competitive prices! 5-09

## FLOORS

Quality wood floor sanding and installation. 25 years experience. Low rates, references. 612-437-2282. 5-09

## GARAGE SALE

1481 Sherburne, May 29 and 30, 8 to 5, multi-household, antiques, plus-size clothes.

## HANDYMAN

Need a handyman?? One call does it all. Any job, big or small. plumbing? Electrical? Remodeling? Keeping your major investment in top condition doesn't have to be expensive. Don't tell my wife, but keeping your house in tip-top con-

dition is more important than my own own! Call "Dynamo" Dave 612-701-2272. 5-09

## HAULING

Cleanups—all types and haul-aways. No restrictions or limits. 15 years experience. All Handyman Services, Richard—651-274-0263, 651-373-6652. B-08

## HOME SERVICES

Budget Blinds - Your local window treatment professionals. Save 30% off your entire order of blinds, shades, shutters and more...Free In-home consultations. Free professional installation. Call today 651-765-4545. 5-09

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

## ROOFING SPECIALIST

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL  
Tear-Off • Re-Roof • Repairs  
✓ Shingle ✓ Flat Roofs  
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## Classifieds

Continued from page 15

### LAWN SERVICES

Lawn mowing from \$18/cut. Satisfaction guaranteed. Call for free quote. 651-343-3944. 5-09

Lawn mowing. Residential and commercial. Free estimates. 763-783-1014. 5-09

Sorensen Lawn Care. Full service mowing, fertilization and aeration. Call Jeff for estimate at 651-695-1230. 6-09

### LEGAL

Quality affordable legal representation. Payment plans available. 651-270-1806. 7-09

### LEGAL NOTICE

The Capitol Region Watershed District will hold a public meeting to present and obtain comments on the 2008 stormwater management activities conducted as part of the District's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP). The meeting will be held at 6 pm on Wednesday, June 3, 2009 at CRWD's office located at 1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4, Saint Paul. The District is also soliciting public input on the report in writing. The public comment period extends from May 7, 2009 to June 5, 2009. A copy of the draft 2008 SWPPP annual report is available for review at CRWD's office or it can be downloaded from CRWD's website, [www.capitolregionwd.org](http://www.capitolregionwd.org). For questions, contact Anna Eleria at 651-644-8888 or [anna@capitolregionwd.org](mailto:anna@capitolregionwd.org) 5-09

## MUSIC LESSONS

Staying home more? Make music! Piano lessons--flexible fee. Ann 651-647-1940.

### PAINTING

Interior or Exterior w/powerwashing. 25 years experience. Butch BOS 651-308-3410. 8-09  
Painting/Repair—Interior/Exterior. Best workmanship, price guaranteed. Insured. 651-699-2832. B-08

Painting - wallpaper removal. Average 3 room paint job - \$250. Average house \$650. Average garage \$250. Painter Jim 651-698-0840. B-08

Interior/exterior painting, enameling, plaster patching, free estimates. Bob. 651-633-5565. 12-09

### PET CARE

Wagner's Pet Sitting - Worry Pet Free: Vacation - Daily working, Walking, Pet Taxi, Poopscooping T.L.C., [www.wagnerspetsitting.com](http://www.wagnerspetsitting.com), 651-771-0421. 6-09

### PSYCHIC READINGS

Experienced Psychic/Tarot Readings. Individuals and events. Local resident. Appointments 651-587-0046(Kathy). 11-09

### PIANO TUNING

Quality piano tuning and repair. Reasonable rates. Call Robert Clough @ 612-722-7586 or e-mail: [robtclough@aol.com](mailto:robtclough@aol.com). 11-09

Registered piano technician with the Piano Technician's Guild. Call Charles Fruhstuck at 651-489-3181 or e-mail at [CharlesFruhstuck@mac.com](mailto:CharlesFruhstuck@mac.com). BB-09

## RECREATION

River Rides from Downtown Minneapolis—\$2.00 OFF-mention Monitor—sightseeing, dinner cruises, parties. 952-474-8058. [TwinCitiesCruises.com](http://TwinCitiesCruises.com). 6-09

### SERVICES

RAM Handyman Services LCC. Good service, reasonable rates, "no job too small." Rich - 651-485-9680 - or [www.ramhandyman.com](http://www.ramhandyman.com). 6-09

Chimney Repairs - Phil Larson Construction. Family business since 1957. 612-414-4612. B-08

General Labor around your home. Two college-bound young, strong men will do lawn-mowing, raking, roto-tilling, digging, planting, lifting, moving, cleaning garage, trash removal, power-washing, etc. No job too small. \$10 per hour per man. References available. 651-488-3362. 5-09

Interior or Exterior w/powerwash. 25 years experience. Butch BOS. 651-308-3410. 8-09

Need a handyman?? Any job, big or small plumbing? Electrical? Remodeling? Decks? Etc. Call Dave 612-701-2272. Competitive prices! 5-09

Professional Exterior and Interior Painting, wall repair and plastering; ceiling texturing, wallpaper-hanging, moderate prices; free estimates, licensed, bonded, insured; Merriam Park Painting, 651-224-3660, 651-552-2090. B-08

Need help with your garden this spring? Home Sown Gardens does clean-up, pruning, planting, planning, curb appeal and more - including decorative seasonal pots and floral designs. [heather@organizedtothecore.com](mailto:heather@organizedtothecore.com) 651-434-7349. 4-09

## Dance ensemble presents program at Hamline

Hamline University Dance Ensemble presents CONFLUENCE, an immersing evening of dance. CONFLUENCE will premier a piece, put together by Kaori Kenmotsu and filmmaker Jana Larson, which delves into the beautiful and the destructive nature of our complex relationship to water. Tickets: \$2-\$7. May 14, 15 and 16 at 7:30 p.m.

For advanced reservations or more information please contact the Hamline University Theatre Box Office at 651-523-2905 or [tickets@hamline.edu](mailto:tickets@hamline.edu).



### TUTORING

Tutoring elementary age, reading K-6 and math K-2, reasonable rates. Call noon to 9 p.m., 651-644-5941. 5-09

### VACUUM CLEANER

Vacuum Cleaners: Sales, service and supplies. Experts since 1952. 666 University @ Dale. 651-222-6316. [www.a-1vacuum.com](http://www.a-1vacuum.com) 1-09

### WANTED TO BUY

Paying the most cash for your furniture, dishes, glassware, knick-knacks, costume jewelry, antiques, pictures, lamps, household items etc. I make housecalls. Call Mary Anne 612-729-3110. 6-09

I buy scrap metals, gold, silver, copper, brass, aluminum, etc. Also, non working vehicles, old books and other stuff. Cash paid. Call George. 651-340-2874. 5-09

### YARD SALE

Yard Sale May 16 9 a.m.-3 p.m. 1863 Iglehart Ave Multi Family. 5-09

**Classifieds**  
**\$1 per word**



## COMMENCEMENT 2009

Commencement ceremonies will be held on  
Saturday, May 23, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

We ask for your patience as we welcome the friends and families of our graduates to the neighborhood.

For more information please visit  
[www.hamline.edu/commencement](http://www.hamline.edu/commencement).



## Upcoming Summer Events

### Piper Golf Classic

**date:** Tuesday, June 24

**time:** 1 p.m.

**location:** Oak Glen Country Club, Stillwater

**contact:** Dana Johnson, 651-523-2754 or [djohnson@hamline.edu](mailto:djohnson@hamline.edu)

### Minnesota Private College Week

Open house program for prospective undergraduate students and their parents, featuring information sessions, faculty speakers, student panels, and campus tours

**date:** Monday-Friday, June 23-27

**contact:** 651-523-2207

### Hamline at the Minnesota State Fair

Come and visit the Hamline Booth at the fair!

**dates:** August 21-September 1

**location:** Education Building

**cost:** Price of State Fair admission ticket

**contact:** Tracy Sparby, 651-523-2216 or [tsparby@hamline.edu](mailto:tsparby@hamline.edu)