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Groovin' In The Garden in full musical swing in Como Park

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Midway Como





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Neighbors band together to save historic St. Andrew's Church

Group seeks historic status for church turned school, gathers petition signatures, places lawn signs, and more

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

A neighborhood group has formed to save the historic St. Andrew's Church building.

The future of the former church building built in 1927 is in jeopardy as the Twin Cities German Immersion School (TCGIS) has proposed razing it to construct a larger, 3-story facility in its place.

For years, Warrendale/Como neighbors have sought to resolve concerns about parking, traffic and pedestrian safety near the school through dialogue facilitated by the Land Use Committee of the District 10 Community Council.

"Unfortunately, the proposed expansion plan offers little or no solution to these issues, only particulars that would exacerbate these problems—and elimination of a significant historic structure that has served as a meaningful anchor and visible symbol of stability for nearly a century," said Save Historic St. Andrew's (SHSA) founder Teri Alberico, who has lived in the neighborhood since 1986.

600 sign petition

SHSA is a neighborhood coalition focused on the preservation of the historic and residential character of the Warrendale/Como neighborhood.

"SHSA is working to find solutions that will meet the needs of the school without negatively impacting the surrounding community," explained Alberico.

The group has about 25 members and recently circulated a petition asking that the TCGIS school board hold off on making changes until 2020. (See related story on page 1.)

In all, 600 people signed the petition. SHSA has also distributed hundreds of flyers and placed more than 65 signs on lawns throughout the adjoining neighborhood.

"SHSA believes that language immersion programs are important to child development and genuinely support the programs and the families that make up TCGIS," she added. "However, the proposed expansion has not included sufficient community engagement, adequately addressed impacts on the residential character of the Warrendale/Como neighborhood, or considered the cultural importance of the historic St. Andrew's building and its significance to our surrounding community."

A historic site?

Save Historic St. Andrew's is pur-



Save Historic St. Andrew's (SHSA) group members include (left to right) Anna Mosser, Bonnie Youngquist, Ron Greene, Steve Greenwood, and Teri Alberico. They are concerned about tearing down a beautiful historic building and replacing it with another structure the school might grow out of, as well as traffic, parking and noise issues. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

suing a historic designation for the church building, which can be done with or without the cooperation of a landowner.

In a 1983 formal assessment, the Historic Resources Survey, this Romanesque church building was declared "worthy of consideration for the National Register of Historic Places," and listed as a "Site of Major Significance."

The building is described in

Larry Millett's American Institute of Architecture Guide to the Twin Cities as, "one of St. Paul's best Period revival churches."

The design of the St. Andrew's building is believed to have been done by a small pool of excellent 1920s architects, according to committee members Anna Mosser and Steve Greenwood who have been delving into historic documents.

A history of the St. Andrew's

parish lists Charles Hausler as the church's architect, and an entry in a ledger dated 1927 shows payment of \$1,000 to C.A. Hausler. However, city documents do not include a specific architectural attribution. Millett's AIA Guide to the Twin Cities attributes the design to either Frederick Slifer and Frank Abrahamson or John W. Wheeler.

Charles Hausler was St. Paul's first city architect (1914-22) and apprenticed under Clarence Johnston, Harry Wild Jones, and Louis Sullivan. He designed many libraries, churches, commercial buildings, and homes. Six of Hausler's buildings are now on the National Register of Historic Places. A significant part of Hausler's practice involved churches where he used to experiment with Gothic, Romanesque, and Byzantine Revival styles. One of these, St. Mary's Catholic Church in Hague, ND, built in 1930, is listed on the National Register as part of a historic district.

To get St. Andrew's listed on the National Register of Historic Sites, several studies are needed. The initial one will cost about \$1,500, and the more in-depth study an estimated \$8-10,000. SHSA is fundraising through Go Fund Me to pay for these studies.

If listed on the National Register, the structure could not be torn down, and improvements and changes would need to be approved ahead of time. Grants would be available for preservation work.

"St. Andrew's is a unique structure that is not like anything else," stated Greenwood, who has lived in the neighborhood since 1983. "I support keeping the building because it's so beautiful and elegant."

He added, "Never, in the 42 years that I have lived in St. Paul, [have I] ever witnessed such a divisive project."

School shares block with 11 homes

Committee members range from lifelong St. Andrew's church members to atheists who never attended church there.

Continued on page 2

TCGIS denies request by 600 neighbors to delay building project

But, board postponed final vote for demolition to pursue 'real estate opportunity'

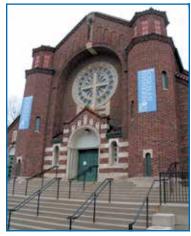
By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

The Twin Cities German Immersion School (TCGIS) has denied the request of 600 neighbors to wait for an expansion until June 2020. Instead, the board is moving forward with its plans to demolish the former St. Andrew's Church building and construct a new building on the site.

Board members considered the petition from neighbors and the group Save Historic St. Andrew's (SHSA) during its May 23 meeting, but the majority voted to deny the delay.

However, during a call for a vote to approve the proposed building and demolition plan, TCGIS Facilities Committee Chair Nic Ludwig requested that additional time be granted him to pursue a "real estate opportunity" related to the proposed expansion of the school.

"The board voted to postpone taking official action, which SHSA sees as a positive step toward saving an iconic, historic structure of significant importance to many in St. Paul," stated SHSA founder Teri Alberico.



The Twin Cities German Immersion School Board is deciding the fate of the St. Andrew's Church building. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Plan to raze Aula, replace with a larger structure

The school facilities committee is made up of volunteers with experience in architecture, structural engineering, and city planning. Members also include school staff and teachers.

After a year of study, the facilities committee presented the op-

tion of tearing down the existing church building, called the Aula, and building a new facility for use starting with the 2019-2020 school year.

A listening session for neighbors was held on Apr. 9 and neighbors were told that the school did not have anything set in stone and that this was the first of many listening sessions.

Residents had expressed concern that this timeline didn't give them much time to investigate options, such as raising money to save the former church building.

Among the options studied by the facilities committee were leasing space, splitting campuses, reducing class sizes, and purchasing property

However, a study of various alternatives concluded that replacing the 1927 Aula with a new, three-level structure is more cost effective than retrofitting the existing Byzantine-Romanesque structure. The project is estimated to cost \$5.7 million. The existing structure needs an estimated \$1.2 million in repairs and upgrades, including a new roof, boiler, windows, doors, insulation, and tuck-pointing.

According to a memo distributed at the board meeting, the facilities and finance committees do not support preserving the Aula because "it is inadequate for the school's educational needs."

Specifically, the Aula cannot house a gym large enough for two sections to operate at one time. Nor is there room for six additional classrooms, additional office space, special education spaces, and a cafeteria.

"Delaying the building project by a year will not change the fact that the Aula cannot provide the educational or professional space that the school's students and teachers need, in order to provide the best learning environment possible," stated the memo.

The facilities and finance committees believe that the cons to delaying the project include: higher interest rates, higher construction costs, and paying for the cost of the Aula's operations and repairs for another year.

Plus, there's the programming impact for teachers and kids who use the gym, cafeteria

Continued on page 2

Neighbors band together

Continued from page 1

Kevin Dahm is a former District 10 board member who still serves on the land use committee. He got involved in the issue after hearing from neighbors concerned about how noise from the playground affected a house 10 feet away. Neighbors have also talked about how difficult it is to park on the street as the school does not have adequate parking for staff and parents, and how dangerous pick-up and drop-off time is on the streets around the school when about 350 cars are coming and

Eighty percent of the kids are driven here and 20% bus," observed local resident Ron Greene, who is concerned about traffic safety.

While schools today typically take up an entire city block, the TCGIS shares the block with 11 houses, according to 25-year neighborhood resident Bonnie Youngquist.

When it was a church school, the student population ranged from 100-300. When the tuition-free, K-8 German Immersion School moved into the neighborhood in 2013, it had 370 students. This year, that number has reached 548, and it is projected to top out

Alberico pointed out that while school officials have said no attrition has taken place, that isn't entirely accurate. Students have left. But rather than keep the space empty, staff have pulled in a new student to fill the space even in the older grades.

Dahm is concerned about the school's lot size and the number of students on it. "That amount of space seems small to me for that many students," said Dahm.

SHSA has suggested that TCGIS consider partnering with the nearby Central Lutheran School (775 Lexington Pkwy. N.), which faces closure due to a low student enrollment. The school has a gymnasium, which is one of

SHSA has the following concerns:

- The 2013 HRA plan states that \$2 million in bonding was to be used for rehabilitation of the church building. Five years later the school is pursuing a plan to demolish the building.
- The environmental impact of demolition of the church structure has not been evaluated.
- The expansion plan is at odds with the District 10 Community Plan and the City of Saint Paul 2040 Comprehensive Plan that emphasizes 'prioritizing the preservation of the residential and historic character of our neighborhood.
- Only 3% of students live in the St. Paul 55103 zip code and 62% of students do not live in St. Paul. Of the 548 students currently enrolled, only 109 come to school by bus. Most of the remaining students travel by car, causing traffic issues throughout the neighborhood.
- Although TCGIS has proposed staff parking at the Como Pool parking lot, this proposal does not meet city code, and no plan for addressing parking issues has been offered by TCGIS.

the main reasons TCGIS is considering a new building.

'We're trying to work with the school on solutions," stated Youngquist.

Enough space?

Given the popularity of the German Immersion School and how it's currently turning away students, Dahm isn't sure that the school's current plan will work for the long-term and he thinks the school will once again find itself outgrowing its buildings.

"They could easily grow out of that space and we'll lose a historic building in the process," he point-

Alberico is concerned that the school seems willing to spend \$5.7 million on a new facility instead of \$1.2 million on maintaining the old building-but it has not addressed the maintenance costs needed later on at that new building.

The cost to demolish the church building, issue debt, and create a contingency fund is estimated by the school to be \$2.2 million.

In order to move forward with the tear-down and construction project, TCGIS will need to seek a variance request from the St. Paul City Council. The District 10 Community Council will state its opinion on the request before it goes before the city's zoning board.

"One way to stop this from happening is to deny the various

requirements," observed Dahm.

Should residents get a say?

Some people have asked SHSA members why they think they have a say in this school project.

"It's a public school funded by our taxpayer dollars, and I feel that as a resident I have a say," responded Mosser.

GoFundMe

The group has set up a GoFund-Me page at www.gofundme.com/ savehistoricstandrews. By Monitor press time they had raised \$3,775 of their \$10,000 goal.

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TCGIS denies request for delay Continued from page 1

and specialty classes, and as well continued uncertainty for families and staff about the future plans of the school.

The committee is also concerned that the historic designation process may play out in a way that is harmful to the school, according to a facilities committee report from its May 8 meeting.

600 petitioners

Save Historic St. Andrew's collected 600 signatures from neighbors and others concerned about the proposed expansion at the TCGIS.

The petition points out that an increase in the number of students at TCGIS would magnify the existing issues at the school site including inadequate off-street parking for staff and visitors.

Calling the former church a meaningful anchor and visible symbol of stability to its surrounding neighbors for over a century, the petition notes that this structure has historic significance worthy of historical preservation status.

As "TCGIS seeks to be a responsible neighborhood partner, committed to the welfare of its neighborhood community," and

"a delay in the current planning schedule will provide for important input from the surrounding community," petitioners requested that the proposed plan for the St. Andrew's Church Structure be delayed until June 2020.

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Twenty-five projects could split \$2,713,295 if the 2018 Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) recommendations are approved by Mayor Melvin Carter and the St. Paul City Council. Projects recommended in late May by the Neighborhood STAR Board lean heavily toward small business efforts, reflecting a direction urged last year by the St. Paul City Council. Projects near the Allianz Field Major League Soccer stadium also fared well.

The council is expected to approve the funding allocations this summer.

Fifteen projects didn't make the cut, and one project was withdrawn out of the 41 submissions.

The recommendations and applications reflect changes approved in time for the 2018 cycle. Those changes allow small for-profit businesses to apply for 100 percent grant funding. Priority is provided to proposals that would fill vacant commercial storefront space. The city has also eliminated the need for matching dollars on the first \$50,000 of a loan request. Larger for-profit entities are still eligible to apply for a loan or loan/grant combination. Grant requests still require a \$1 to \$1 match.

Requests this year topped the \$5.4 million mark. Matches proposed totaled more than \$28.4 million. Not every request recommended for ap-

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Development Roundup

By JANE MCCLURE

Neighborhood STAR recommendations

proval is for its full ask.

The highest-ranked project citywide is in the Little Africa area of North Snelling Ave. Sabrina's Café and Deli, 518 N. Snelling Ave., is recommended for a \$10,000 grant with \$10,000 match for interior and exterior improvements. That is one of four projects near the Allianz Field Major League Soccer stadium that is recommended for grants and/or

SC Upholstery, 641 N. Snelling Ave., ranked third with its request for \$34,000 grant, \$36,000 loan and \$434,000 match for building

Snelling Coffee, 638 N. Snelling Ave., ranked 12th with its request for a \$7,000 grant, \$16,000 loan and \$7,000 match for building and parking lot improvements.

Black Hart Properties, which recently purchased the Town House bar and restaurant at 1415 University Ave., ranked 23rd with its request for a \$50,000 grant and \$531,770 match for interior and exteri-

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or improvements. Plans call for the business to become a soccer-themed establishment.

Other Monitor-area projects are also recommended. Modernization of a building at 860 Vandalia St. for the Jobs Foundation Tech Dump electronic recycling program, ranked seventh. A \$130,000 grant and \$170,000 loan are recommended, with a \$3.42 million

Can Can Wonderland's re-

quest for lighting and sound improvements ranked tenth. The entertainment venue's request is for a \$44,976 loan.

Other area projects missed

Hamline Midway Coalition's request for a grant to help develop two handball courts at Clayland Park wasn't recommended. The park is at 901 N. Fairview Ave.

St. Paul Fellowship, 868 Sherburne Ave., had its request

for church building improvement funds turned down. A co-working space proposed by guild842 was also tuned down.

Two of three groups wanting citywide program funds to encourage ethnic business development are still in the hunt. The African Development Center request for a \$100,000 grant and a \$300,000 loan, with a \$400,000 match, for a small business revolving loan fund, ranked 11th.

Asian Economic Development Association's bid for was cut in half, to a \$125,000 grant with \$125,000 match for small business improvement loans. A match of \$250,000 is proposed. The request ranked

African Economic Development Solutions' request was turned down.

Letters to the Editor

Brendmoen responds as residents react to new trash policy and pricing

Editor's Note: City Council Member Amy Brendmoen sent the following to constituents at the beginning of the month.

Dear Neighbors,

This month, Saint Paul rolled out its new coordinated trash-hauling system. June 1 was the deadline for selecting your bin size and service level. While intense public engagement took place in creating this program over the past two years, many people are digesting and reacting to the plan for the first time as registration info hit their mailboxes. The city and our office have been fielding many emails and calls on the subject, so I thought I'd take a moment to comment more broadly to Ward 5 constituents.

The new citywide garbage service program was crafted in response to decades of frustration about the individually contracted trash collection system in the city. Privately contracted service is virtually unheard of in a city our size. Saint Paul had seventeen different licensed haulers with huge trucks crisscrossing streets and alleys. There had been no transparency in pricing and service levels, and quality varied widely. And while trash service has always been required for all households, some have opted instead to share service with a neighbor, drive their trash to a collection site, and even dump or burn trash illegally.

A survey of Saint Paul residents highlighted the desire to; reduce truck traffic (wear/tear/ noise/pollution), preserve small family-owned businesses, secure uniform, fair and transparent

bulky items. State law requires that, as municipalities seek to coordinate garbage collection services, haulers be allowed to negotiate as a collaborative with the city. Since residents expressed a desire to support small haulers, the city engaged in full-faith in the negotiations. Indeed, if the lowest price point was our primary objective, Saint Paul could have decided to go to an RFP. The result would likely have been lower prices from one or two national hauling companies. This was the conundrum.

After months of negotiations, a deal with the haulers was struck by then-Mayor Coleman and the council voted to move forward with implementation last fall. My City Council colleagues and I expressed concerns at the time about the rates, especially for low volume users and families in poverty. We ultimately voted to move ahead because it was the haulers' bottom line and the need for a modern, organized system was clear.

As the registration phase rolled out this month, the imperfections of the contract got close scrutiny by community members. People who have been proactive in dealing with garbage service (changing haulers, asking for deals) are complaining that their rates are up. People who have been more passive about their trash contracts are telling me they are glad their rates are going down.

I share the frustration of many of you about the lack of a low-volume incentive or lack of the option to share service with a neighbor. At a minimum, I believe we need to carve out a way for small multi-family rentals (duplexes-fourplexes) to share

pricing and offer free pick-up of bins between units. I also want to be sure that for people who can't afford quarterly bills, no additional costs are incurred for rolling it on to property taxes. I am currently working with city staff to explore our options for making some improvements for the details of the program as we roll it out, and I will continue to do so in the coming months.

That said, the City has entered a contract with the haulers collaborative to begin the new coordinated garbage collection service. Once the bins are in place, staff will need to head back to the table to evaluate the implementation and tweak the plan to accommodate unforeseen issues and pinch points. As noted, there are areas for improvement, and I promise that I will continue to work on that. Until then, I encourage you to keep reducing waste, keep sharing your ideas with Ward 5 and enjoy our beautiful summer in Saint Paul.

Sincerely, Amy Brendmoen Councilmember Ward 5

Shirley Erstad does democracy

To the Editor,

The Ward 4 campaign supporting Shirley Erstad as our candidate for City Council has begun. Before the Aug. 14 election, you will have several opportunities to visit with Shirley. In addition, campaign volunteers will be meeting with families in Ward 4 neighborhoods. Conversations with neighbors can cover Shirley's 25-year experience as a mom, homeowner, and leader in St. Paul, her values, and positions on current issues. We also need to hear what YOU think about St. Paul and Ward 4 issues and oportunities. We will take notes See you soon!

Jim Hulbert Ward 4

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By JANE MCCLURE

Monitor In A Minute

Sidewalk to be built

A new sidewalk will be built on the west side of Wheeler St. between Thomas and University avenues, as a result of St. Paul City Council action May 16.

The project, which has a cost of \$100,000, would provide a needed connection between neighborhood residents and destinations including the Midway YMCA and its daycare, Fairview Green Line light rail station, Dickerman Park and other destinations.

"The need for the sidewalk is pretty clear," said Reuben Collins. He leads bicycle facilities planning for St. Paul Public Works. "You don't need to stand out there for very long before you see a lot of people walking in the street.'

The area doesn't have a complete sidewalk grid, Collins added. Three property owners, who own four parcels, would be assessed for the costs. The Midway YMCA and Griggs Midway Building are two affected owners.

One property owner, representing HCI Acquisitions, spoke against the sidewalk citing the costs and poor condition of Wheeler. His company sees no need for the sidewalk and wouldn't benefit from it.

Two Hamline Midway residents spoke for the project, saying that the lack of sidewalk means families must walk in the street. The route is extensively used to access the Y and its many programs.

Hamline-Midway resident John Bailey attended the hearing to speak for the project, calling the lack of a sidewalk "an accident waiting to happen."

Ward Four Council Member Samantha Henningson said the project should go ahead, noting that it has been discussed for a long time and would rectify a safety hazard. Delaying the project until

it was scheduled by the city would mean completion "when my son is 16." He is a preschooler.

Accessory dwelling units advance to City Council

A proposal to allow accessory dwelling units citywide won approval June 1 from the St. Paul Planning Commission and is headed to the City Council for final action. The council will hold a public hearing before voting this summer.

The proposal would allow homeowners whose single-family residential properties are large enough to add an extra dwelling unit, in the form of a small house in a backyard, dwelling unit over a garage, or renovation or expansion of an existing single-family home. St. Paul has allowed the units in neighborhoods within one-half mile of Green Line light rail, and in places where historic carriage house units existed in the past. Only one unit has been built, on Sherburne Ave., since the Green Line regulations were passed.

Residents of several neighborhoods, including Hamline-Midway and the Union Park districts, had requested that the city consider expanding where the dwelling units can go. The units are touted as allowing families to stay together while maintaining some level of privacy, and for providing affordable housing. The units are not the same as so-called tiny houses or small portable houses, which the city is considering separately.

City Council members asked for the study last fall in response to constituent and district council requests. Since then city staff has met with staff or committees from 15 district councils where interest has been expressed in accessory dwelling units. While support was generally heard, concerns were raised

about the potentially high costs of adding units, increased parking demand, and whether or not the units could be turned into short-term rentals such as AirBnBs.

Some district councils recommended the proposal go citywide. Other councils haven't taken a position. A few other councils have had longstanding concerns about adding the dwelling units but haven't weighed in this time around.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on accessory dwelling units in April and is recommending to the City council that the units be allowed citywide in single-family residential zoning districts. Specific space requirements would have to be met for the total property and the added dwelling unit.

Como trail project moves ahead

Work on a section of the Como trail can move ahead. The St. Paul City Council May 23 approved allocating additional Municipal State Aid funds from the state to Como and to two other projects. The local project will receive \$431,881

The project is the off-street bicycle trail along the north side of Como Ave. between Raymond and Hamline. MSA funding will allow for the design process to start this year. The need for the trail has been discussed for several years, and it is in the cycle's 2015 Bicycle Plan.

The project is one of three funded through an additional \$1.2 million in MSA funding. The city sometimes receives more of the funding than anticipated so that projects can be added

Capital budget process

A redesigned process for review and approval of St. Paul's capital project process goes out to the city's 17 district councils and the greater community for input starting in June. The redesign, reviewed May 14 by the St. Paul Long-Range Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) Committee, will transform what has been criticized as a time-intensive, cumbersome and sometimes political process. But does it contain enough funding for neighborhoods across the city to justify spending time submitting projects? And will city staff have the time and resources to engage in additional community engagement?

The redesign, which has been in the works for several months, is meant to address goals of fiscal responsibility, strategic investments, and racial equity, said City Budget Analyst Abdiwahab Ali. It was reviewed this spring with the mayor's administration and City Council and is underwent review in May with city department heads.

Committee members May 14 generally expressed support for the proposed changes. CIB Committee Chairperson Amy Huerta and several other committee members said the process needs much more outreach to include groups that haven't participated in the past.

"Having the community come to us in the basement of City Hall may have worked 40 years ago, but it isn't the model that works now,"

Another change is in name. What St. Paulites have known for many years as CIB will become CIP—for Capital Improvement Plan. That reflects a longer-term focus on assets, maintenance, and needs, said Ali.

The changes would affect how the city as whole scrutinizes and spends money on its brick and mortar needs. One ongoing effort is to complete a five-year comprehensive capital plan for all city departments. This would focus on recently completed reports on city

assets and their condition, racial equity, neighborhoods where there are concentrations of poverty, and community use and need issues.

City departments are to have their five-year capital plans done by this fall. Then everything would be wrapped into a citywide plan in early 2019. The comprehensive plan would be led by a working group of city staff and two CIB committee members. The plan would be reviewed, and project recommendations made by the committee for 2020.

The 2020 recommendations would be for city departments only. If the process is adopted, City departments will submit projects for review and approval only during the first year of the funding cycle.

Community-led submissions would come in for review and approval the second year, starting in 2021. Ali said that should level the playing field between big projects, such as a new fire station or recreation center, and a tot lot or smallscale neighborhood project.

Proposed is a \$500,000 allocation in capital improvement bond proceeds. It's not been determined yet how much in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding could be allocated. That funding would be earmarked for projects in low-income neighborhoods,

But some district councils and community groups have already questioned the \$500,000 amount that is to be shared citywide for community-led projects, saying that isn't enough funding for more than a few projects.





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Hamline Elementary School

By JESSICA KOPP

Hamline Elementary's next chapter

After five years of sharing a space with Hamline Elementary, Jie Ming Mandarin Immersion Academy will begin the 2018-19 school year in a new space. Hamline Elementary and Jie Ming Principal Bobbie Johnson will move with the program she created to the former Homecroft Elementary building. 1845 Sheridan Ave. We wish her and the whole Jie Ming community all the best in their new home!

With Johnson's departure, Hamline Elementary welcomes new leadership to the buildingwell, kind of new leadership. After three years as Hamline's Assistant Principal, Kristin Reilly will become Hamline's new principal and Jamal Abdur-Salaam will join our community from John A. Johnson Elementary as Assistant Principal. We're fortunate to have these talented and experienced leaders guiding Hamline's next chapter.

And speaking of that...

In many ways Hamline Elementary will feel like a new place in the Fall. Some classrooms will move to other parts of the building and two of our community partners, The Hamline to Hamline Collaboration and Reading Partners, will have larger, dedicated spaces to continue and expand their outstanding programming. The Family Resource Room will move closer to the main entrance and into a room

twice its current size, and other open classrooms may house a maker-space and sensory room.

Early Childhood and Family Education (ECFE) will return to the Midway at Hamline Elementary with full programming beginning in Fall 2018. Watch their website (www.spps.org/ecfe) for updates and check your mailbox for the ECFE course catalog coming soon—registration begins in July.

Our other partnership work continues as we connect with local non-profits, small businesses, and community members to bring family and youth-supporting programs into the school.

Hamline Elementary and





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rent partnership (The Hamline to Hamline Collaboration) to build dynamic and innovative learning opportunities for students and increase support and development for staff. The energy behind this work is beautiful and inspiring. There will be more to come about this new development.

You can keep up with Hamline Elementary this summer at Discover Hamline Elementary on Facebook, on Twitter @HamlineElem. or on our website at www.spps.org/ hamline.

For information about enrolling at Hamline Elementary, contact the SPPS Placement Center at 651-632-3760.

The annual Como Neighborhood Garage Sale is this weekend, June 15-17. For a map of where you'll find the yard and garage sales and a list of what they're selling, see District 10's website: www.district10comopark.org.

Join the next wave of rain gardens

Capitol Region Watershed District leads a hands-on workshop and scouting expedition to identify locations for the next wave of boulevard rain gardens in District 10. These types of gardens are one of the most cost-effective ways to collect and filter polluted street runoff before it reaches Como Lake. The best part: the selected locations may get rain gardens installed at no cost. The free workshop is Sat., June 23, from 9am-noon, at the Como Park Streetcar Station, 1224 Lexington Pkwy. N.

Parking hassles?

District 10 is looking at how to deal with the pressures that major events put on parking on our streets. On Mon., June 25, we'll have two similar meetings to explore challenges in different parts of the neighborhood.

The first meeting focus-

The Hamline Midway Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave., is your neighborhood spot to connect with your community, enjoy great programs, access the Internet, and stock up on books, CDs, and DVDs, all free with your library card.

For families and kids

Preschool Storytimes in English happens Fridays, 10:30-11am, with upcoming events on June 15, 22, and 29, and July 6 and 13. Storytimes feature stories, songs, puppets, and more. They're a great way for caregivers to bond with children and build social skills, listening comprehension, and letter and number recognition while creating a solid foundation for lifelong learning. Children of all activity levels are welcome.

The Library is also offering Tuesday Evening Storytimes from 6-6:30pm on July 3 and 10.

Como Community Council Corner

By MICHAEL KUCHTA, Executive Director

Como Garage Sale scheduled for June 16

es on streets between Hamline on the west, Larpenteur on the north, Victoria on the east, and Arlington on the south. Specifically, we're looking for resident feedback on two ideas:

- Whether it makes sense to expand the number of streets on which parking is restricted to one side during the State Fair.
- Whether it makes sense to expand the parking overlay district during the State Fair, so more residents can park cars on their front lawns.

This first meeting is Mon., June 25, from 6-7pm in the Fireside Room at Como Park Lutheran Church, 1376 Hoyt.

The second meeting focuses on streets south of the lake and east of Lexington. This meeting has three main topics on the agenda:

• Whether to expand the number of streets on which parking is restricted to one side during

the State Fair.

- A request by some residents to allow lawn parking during the annual Hmong Freedom Festival.
- Unveil the plan for new lane configurations on Lexington Pkwy., primarily for northbound traffic from Orchard to the Horton/Como intersection.

This second meeting is Mon., June 25, beginning at 7:30pm in the back room at Gabe's by the Park, 991 Lexington Pkwy.

Make your ComoFest Plans now

District 10's Ice Cream Social launches ComoFest 2018, which again offers affordable neighborhood fun the last three weekends of July.

The Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Fri., July 13, 5:30-8pm at the Como Park Streetcar Station. It's a chance to kick

back in the park with friends and family, enjoy the Baron of Bubble, enjoy music from the She Shells, learn about and talk with neighborhood organizations, enjoy Shakespeare in the Park (with "Romeo and Juliet" by the Classical Actors Ensemble) and, of course, enjoy ice cream. And, of course, it's free.

The rest of the ComoFest

- Fri., July 13: North Dale Movie Night, 9pm, featuring "Coco," 1414 St. Albans
- Fri., July 20: Lyngblomsten Mid-Summer Festival, 2-8pm, 1415 Almond Ave.
- Sat., July 21: ComoFest 5k Walk/Run for Everyone (benefiting Como Park Falcon Heights Living at Home Block Nurse Program), 8-10am, Como Lakeside Pavilion, 1360 Lexington Pkwy. N.
- Sun., July 22: ComoFest Art Fair, 10am-2pm, Como Lake-

side Pavilion

- Fri., July 27: Northwest Como Movie Night and Campout, beginning at 6pm, featuring "Beauty and the Beast" (2017 version), 1550 Hamline
- Sat., July 28: TopLine Federal Credit Union Community Appreciation Picnic, 11am-1pm, 976 Lexington Pkwy.
- Sat., July 28: Gabe's Mini Mania, 1-5pm, 991 Lexington

Get full details at www.comofest.org

Upcoming District 10 meetings

- Como Community Council Monthly Meeting: Tues., June 19
- Environment Committee: Wed., June 27
- Neighborhood Relations and Safety Committee: Tues., July 10
- Land Use Committee: Wed.,

All meetings begin at 7pm, typically at the Como Park Streetcar Station, which is at the northeast corner of Lexington and Horton. Community members are always welcome to attend and participate. Whenever possible, agendas are posted in advance in the "Board News" section of District 10's website.

News from Hamline Midway Library

By CARRIE POMEROY

Summer fun swings into high gear at the Hamline Midway Library

On Sat., June 16, 1:30-3pm, the library presents the popular Science Saturdays program, where school-aged participants and their families can enjoy fun, hands-on science, and art activities. No pre-registration is necessary—just come by when you can. The Science Saturdays theme for June will be Optical Illusions (rescheduled from April, due to weather).

The Summer Spark program presents America's Fun Science on Thur., June 21, 10:30-11:30am. Join in the fun as Dr. Tyronne E. Carter demonstrates some cool visual

science experiments!

The Summer Spark fun continues as Dodge Nature Center presents "Raptors," on Sat., June 30, 1:30-2:30pm. Meet a raptor up close, and learn about these amazing birds of prey. These programs are part of the summer reading program at the library, which lets children and teens earn a free book by tracking their reading hours and suggested fun, hands-on activities.

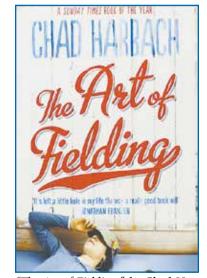
On Sat., June 23, schoolaged children can attend "Celebrate Urban Birds: Make and Take Birdfeeders" between 1:30-2:30pm. Elpis Enterprises is providing bird feeder materials for participants to build and take home. This is a Nature Smart Program.

The Show and Tell Book Club for grades 1-3 meets on Sat., July 14, from 1:30-2:15pm.

Opportunities for Adults

On Wed., June 27, 1-3pm, Jody's Documentary Film Series will feature a free documentary film from PBS's acclaimed POV series. This month, the film being screened is "Homegoings" by filmmaker Christine Turner. Witness up-close what brings comfort to the rituals and customs of African-American funerals, through funeral director Isaiah Owens. Enjoy the free film and snacks and stav for the post-film discussion facilitated by Jody. This program is a collaboration of the award-winning POV documentary series and Hamline Midway Elders Association.

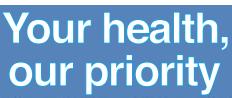
The Novels at Night Book Club meets on Thur., June 28, 6:30-7:30pm. This book club,



"The Art of Fielding," by Chad Harbach is the June 28 Novels at Night Book Club Selection. (Web photo)

aimed at adult fiction enthusiasts, will discuss "The Art of Fielding" by Chad Harbach.

On Sat., July 7, 1-2pm, the Saints and Sinners Book Club meets to discuss good mysteries. Contact volunteer G. Balter for book lists and more information at gerribalter@gmail. com or 651-224-5570.



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Developer named for 25 acres around Allianz Field stadium

By JANE MCCLURE

Changes great and small are coming to the Midway Center superblock, where the Allianz Field Major League Soccer stadium is going up. Those changes include the announcement of Mortenson as lead developer of the Midway Center property.

Also, city officials are taking steps to make traffic signal and signages changes in and near the property. It's part of a flurry of activity before the stadium opens for Minnesota United FC games next

RD Management LLC, as representative of RK Midway LLC, announced the selection of Mortenson to lead the redevelopment of its property for office, retail, entertainment, hospitality, and residential use. That includes the remaining sections of Midway Center and its parking lots.

A master plan for site redevelopment won St. Paul City Council approval two years ago. The site is about 25 acres in size.

The \$250 million stadium itself is more than 50 percent complete and is scheduled to open in

the spring of 2019. Allianz Field has been hailed by team officials and city leaders as a catalyst for redevel-

Over the years numerous redevelopment plans were floated for the shopping center, the former Metro Transit bus garage site, and parking lot at Pascal St. and St. Anthony Ave. The possible plans included hotels, movie theaters, a National Guard Armory, and headquarters for the healthcare company Allina. But none moved forward. The center has sat unchanged since it was built in the 1950s and given a facelift in the 1980s.

In a press release, Richard Birdoff, the principal at RD Management and owner of the property for over 25 years, said he has long wanted to redevelop the site and the construction of the iconic, architecturally-significant Allianz Field provided a reason to move forward.

'Great future developments will be linked to transportation-supported locations that foster accessibility, higher densities, and interesting amenities for businesses, residents, and visitors," Birdoff said.

"The Midway is centrally located in a dynamic and growing community that offers a great foundation for future enhancements. We are pleased to be part of this exciting redevelopment effort in such a great community and are particularly excited that Mortenson is leading the

"Urban redevelopment opportunities of this scale are rare. Rarer is the case that a redevelopment is kick-started by a \$250 million professional sports stadium. In these exceptional situations, our development experience at the intersection of sports and entertainment tells us that powerful new opportunities are in store for the Snelling Midway area," said Jeremy Jacobs, director of real estate development at Mortenson.

Mortenson continued, "We look forward to partnering with an incredible team, the City of St. Paul, RD Management, and the local community, to continue to transform this important piece of the St. Paul fabric."

S9 Architecture, a national architecture firm based in New York City that has designed large-scale mixed-use projects across North America, is the lead architect for the partnership.

It could take several years beyond the stadium's construction for the changes to be made and could include the addition of park space, streets, and interim parking. The proposed move of the Big Top Liquors to the former Midway Perkins site as an interim step is before the St. Paul City Council this month, with a decision as soon as June 13.

Development has always been discussed in the context of moving west to east on the site. Businesses in what is left of Midway Center have leases in place.

Changes to infrastructure around the Allianz Field soccer stadium got a green light May 23 from the St. Paul City Council. The council allocated an additional \$355,000 in Municipal-State Aid funds toward the project, which is also drawing on \$750,000 in tax increment financing and \$612,000 in Minnesota Department of Transportation trunk highway funding.

A big change, which was debated in area neighborhoods for several months, is to remove the traffic signal at Snelling Ave. and Spruce Tree Dr. A signal would be put at Snelling and Shields, which will be extended east through the superblock bounded by St. Anthony, Snelling and University avenues, and Pascal St. Median changes would be made on Snelling, as well as traffic signal changes at St. Anthony and Pascal.

The city's Long-Range Capital Improvement Budget committee recommended approval of the changes in May.

A third change coming is city ordinance changes to allow sports sponsorship signs at Allianz and at the Treasure Island Minnesota Wild practice facility downtown. For Allianz, zoning code changes are sought to allow sponsorship signs at the main spectator gate entrances and on wayfinding kiosks. The zoning code changes would allow the sponsorship signs.

The St. Paul Planning Commission June 1 recommended approval of the changes, which now go to the St. Paul City council for a final public hearing and approval. No date has been set.

Hamline Undergraduate Student Congress talks accessibility

By TRISTAN D. HAYES

The Hamline Undergraduate Student Congress (HUSC) was hard at work this year. The organization, which is made up of student representatives who are passionate about making Hamline University better for all students, decided to focus on increasing accessibility on

Broadly, HUSC defined accessibility as the ability of a space to meet an individual's physical, mental, and emotional needs. Using this definition, several areas were identified for improvement on Hamline's campus, with the top priorities being a lack of wheelchair accessible restrooms and the lack of a ramp for West Hall (a building housing classrooms and offices). These two projects were chosen as top priorities because they directly impacted students' access to safe, comfortable learning environments.

To address these areas of improvement, the Board of Elected Representatives, a committee of HUSC, voted to allocate \$40,000 to improving accessibility on campus. This money could be used on any project that the Board of Elected Representatives agreed would make a positive impact on campus accessibility.

Through a partnership with the Hamline University Facilities Department, it was decided line.edu website, providing adthat a ramp for West Hall would ditional food options in the caflikely cost more than \$40,000. eteria to provide for students' Accessible restrooms, however,

were well within the budget, and HUSC resolved to allocate the \$40,000 budget to install power-operated doors on restrooms across campus. Additionally, HUSC is continuing to advocate for the West Hall ramp and is in the process of working with the University to fund the

Along with the restroom renovations, HUSC is working to raise awareness of accessibility issues on campus through its "Let's Talk Accessibility" cam-

One way this campaign has raised awareness is through posters which urge students to think about how the space around them impacts accessibility. Along with the posters, HUSC hosted an "Accessibility Fair" in late April-which invited members of the Hamline University community to talk with HUSC representatives about the work HUSC has been doing, as well as things students can do to improve accessibility on the Hamline Campus. Attendees were encouraged to sign a banner, pledging to think about accessibility as they go through their daily lives.

Going forward, HUSC plans to continue advocating for accessibility. Some ideas for future accessibility projects include making different language options available on the Hamdietary needs, and focusing on during the winter.

Of course, it will likely take

thorough snow and ice removal years to implement all of the tion being created through this changes HUSC would like to see, but with a strong founda-

year's work, the future looks





Community Engagement Committee

The Community Engagement Committee is ready for a busy summer. We have been meeting with people throughout the district and are looking forward to meeting and connecting with YOU.

- 6/20 Ginkgo Coffeehouse -8-9:30am - Meet and Greet
- 6/22 Hamline Park 6:30-8:30pm Meet and Greet
- 6/30 TBD Check out our website or Facebook for more information.

We're planning more traveling meet-ups throughout the summer. Have an idea of where we should show up next?

We are also looking to set up larger forum meetings in the coming months. Got an idea for a topic?

Are you interested in setting

Hamline Midway Coalition

By MELISSA CORTES, Community Organizer

Committees continue important neighborhood work

up a block club in your area of our district?

Send your ideas, questions or interest to communityengagement@hamlinemidway.org.

Looking forward to meeting you IN community.

Environment Committee

The Environment Committee is working to help Hamline Midway households interested in learning how to reduce their waste. Currently, all household garbage is being incinerated; please check www.hamlinemidway.org/environment for other disposal options or contact environment@hamlinemidway.org.

The Hamline Midway Council will begin distributing compost bags and compost kitchen caddies on Mon., July 2. You may pick them up at our office on the ground level of the Hamline Midway Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave. For any questions please con-

tact melissa@hamlinemidway.org or swing by the office.

A fun fact the Environment Committee would like to share with you is that a group of wild rabbits is often called a fluffle. Stay vigilant in your yards this

Public Art mini-grants

The Midway Public Art Working Group (MPAWG) is allocating \$1,000 for mini-grants of up to \$250 to fund commu-

nity-led public art projects in the Hamline Midway neighborhood. All projects must be completed by the end of 2018. Anyone is eligible to apply. Deadline is June 25.

To apply, please provide a detailed description of the project, along with plans to execute the project, and how the money will be spent, and email it to jonathan@midwaymurals.com. Applications can be sent in written, audio, or video formats, and in any language.

For more detailed information, please see the Hamline Midway Coalition website, www. hamlinemidway.org.

All committee meetings are open to the public. Please visit our website www.hamlinemidway.org for the most updated information on meeting times, days, and events.



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Como Harbor has broken ground on new seal habitat

A ground breaking ceremony for Como Park Zoo & Conservatory's (1225 Estabrook Dr.) new seal and sea lion habitat, Como Harbor, was held June 7.

The 2017 Minnesota Legislature awarded a \$15 million bonding appropriation for the asset preservation of the Seal and Sea Lion Habitat. Como Friends, the non-profit partner of Como Park Zoo and Conservatory, will raise the remaining \$5 million needed for the new Como Harbor habitat.

The new exhibit will provide year-round indoor and outdoor use that will meet or exceed all regulatory and animal care requirements. The seals and sea lions exhibit at Como Zoo has



Land cleared for Como Harbor at Como Park. (Photo provided)

been a fixture for over 60 years. The "Sparky Show" which began in 1956, has become one of Como's most popular attractions, sharing fun, educational messages with thousands of visi-

tors each day. Every year nearly 500,000 students from across the region visit to learn about nature, conservation, and animal care straight from Como's beloved ambassador, Sparky.

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• Nearly 300 Advanced Placement (AP) students at Como Park High School completed their rigorous coursework by taking national AP Exams in May. In total, over 600 tests were taken in 20 different AP courses ranging from U.S. History to Calculus, English Literature to Biology and several other academic disciplines.

Student exams are a comprehensive assessment of college-level curriculum including multiple-choice and written formats, which are evaluated by college professors and highly-trained AP teachers from across the nation. Colleges and universities grant credit based on student scores that meet the school's standards, which has meant hundreds of college credits for Como students on an annual basis. Como's College Board certified AP teachers are confident this year will produce similar results and were impressed by the work ethic of their students.

- 16 Academy of Finance (AOF) students at Como were participants in another college credit program in partnership with St. Paul College. By taking business courses within the AOF at a collegiate level, students can earn credits from St. Paul College that are transferable to any university or college they attend. The students in the cohort each earned 16 college credits and have been accepted into institutions of higher education for next fall.
- VocalEssence, a 50-year-old professional choral organization based in the Twin Cities, invited Como Park High School choirs to participate for the third time in ¡Cantare! program as part of their education service. Bernardo Feldman is a Mexican composer who directed the Como singers.

Feldman currently lives in Los Angeles but came to Como in September to get to know the Chamber Singers and Concert Choir. He returned home to write music specifically for those Como singers. In March, he flew back to St. Paul and started to help the musicians, including the Como Orchestra, learn the new piece.

Choir Director Carole Whitney and Orchestra Director Dr. Philip Fried continued to guide their musicians with the challenging material through April and May while continuing other pieces and concert events. The ¡Cantare! concert came together splendidly on the evening of May 22 after Feldman spent the prior week preparing the performers for the show at the Ordway Theater in downtown. Students, families, teachers and the honored guest were all pleased with the spectacular performance in St. Paul's premier concert hall.

• Honors Night for Como students and families was held at the school on the evening of May 29. Students were recognized for outstanding academic performances, service awards, and athletic recognition.

Additionally, college scholarships earned by members of the senior class were announced, and several scholarships that were unexpected by the recipients and their families were made public. Those included the Wallin Scholarships, Como Park Schultz Scholarships, the Hiway Federal Credit Union Scholarship, and the Fred Kaiser Awards for outstanding student athletes which included scholarships for the first time courtesy of the Rice St. Athletic Club.

• The creative literature and arts of Como students were published in the Cougar Journal. A variety of News from Como Park High School

Compiled by ERIC ERICKSON, Social Studies Teacher

Plenty to celebrate at the closing of the school year

skilled and budding writers that are part of the Cougar Journal Club voluntarily contributed their stories, poems, artwork and creative expression in the journal that was released in May at an after-school event. The Journal allows students to have a place where they can be heard without judgment as well as an audience who will benefit from seeing their work.

• For the second consecutive season, the Como badminton team took third place (out of 25 teams) in the state tournament, which was held at Burnsville High School May 14-15. After finishing fourth in the St. Paul City Conference, the Cougars peaked and earned the third place team trophy at state with improved skills and gritty effort.

In the individual competition on May 16-17, Cougars' senior captain Tu Lor Eh Paw earned third in the state. In doubles, two Como teams advanced through the brackets and ended up playing each other for third place in the state. In the end, sophomore Shar Too and senior Maria Aye Meh took third when they defeated senior teammates Yia Yang and Zoua Xiong who finished fourth. The experience of playing each other was nothing new since they play each other in practices throughout the season. But to meet deep in the state tournament was a special accomplishment for the players and

- Como senior Florance Uwajeneza qualified for the state track and field meet by finishing 2nd in the 3200 meters in a section meet on June 1. In that meet at Stillwater, Uwajeneza ran a personal best of 11:35 and edged out her competition in a photo finish to earn the final qualifying position from Section 4AA. State was held at Hamline University on June 8 after the *Monitor* went to press.
- Ultimate Frisbee at Como was quite successful this spring at Como

with both boys' and girls' teams making deep runs in their divisions at state on June 2 and 3. The Aurora Ultimate girls from Como played in the D2 tournament and advanced to the semi-finals (out of 16 teams) before falling in two extremely competitive one-point games to finish fourth.

The boys' Como Area Ultimate team (CAU) had strong senior leadership and good depth which they rode to success in the state D2 tournament as well. (There are four divisions for boys with 16

teams in each one.) After advancing to the semi-finals and defeating Cretin, they took on Robbinsdale Cooper in the championship game. The boys of Como came out ahead, clinching an 8-7 victory to claim the D2 state championship trophy. The spirit of the team was outstanding and the accomplishment was appreciated and enjoyed by all the players, families and supporters.

• The 2018 Como Park High School Prom was held May 19 at the J.J. Hill Library in downtown St. Paul. The unique location provided a memorable setting for the Como juniors, seniors, guests and staff that enjoyed dressing up and celebrating with a festive dance.

The annual senior barbeque was held on June 1 at school, the last day of classes for the 2018 graduates. The barbeque is hosted by the Como Booster Club and assisted by Como staff and community sponsors. The Graduation ceremony was on June 6 at Roy Wilkins Auditorium downtown in the RiverCentre

Graduation concluded with the annual all-night party at school, which was transformed by the volunteers of the Como Booster Club. A wide range of activities and free food in a safe, fun environment with friends was a wonderful way to celebrate the end of a journey and make a final Como Park High School memory.





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In Our Community

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Musicians sought for Aug. 5 concert event

Jehovah Lutheran Church invites community musicians to take part in a performance of selections from J.S. Bach's cantatas during worship on Sun., Aug. 5.

Participating singers and instrumentalists are asked to attend at least six of eight scheduled rehearsals at the church, 1566 Thomas Ave. Leading the performance is church member Ben Wegner.

Rehearsals are at 6:30-8:30pm June 20 and 27; 2-4pm July 6; 6:30-8:30pm July 11; 2-4pm July 14; 6:30-8:30pm July 19, 25 and 30; and dress rehearsal 6:30-8:30pm

The music this year will explore the birth, death, and resurrection of Christ. It is the sixth annual Baroque Sunday worship the church has hosted.

More information is available benjaminwwegner@gmail.

Father's Drum Jam planned June 17

There will be a co-ed Father's Day Drum Jam on Sun., June 17, 1:30-2:30pm, at the Women's Drum Center, 2242 University Ave. W. You and your dad will have raucous fun! \$10, and drums provided. Info and registration at www. womensdrumcenter.org.

German Immersion sends 4 to Nationals

In late April, nearly 1,300 middle and high school students from across Minnesota gathered at the University of Minnesota for the 2018 State History Day competition. The following students received top honors at the competition, and first and second place winners will move on to the National History Day competition in Washington, D.C., June 10-14.

Four Twin Cities German Immersion School (1031 Como Ave.) students will go on to Nationals:

- Grace Philippon, received a First Place for "The Wilderness Act of 1964," in the category Junior Paper.
- Simona Simha, Umay Pankratz, and Lizzy Kile received a Second Place for "The Compromise of 1790," in the category Junior Group Website.

Billboards go up in enterprise zone

A series of billboards celebrating the Creative Enterprise Zone's (CEZ's) "Make it Here" sloganalong with a "you are here" map icon, website address, and new CEZ logo—is being strategically placed along University Ave. and throughout the CEZ in early June.

The CEZ is located mid-city between Saint Paul and Minneap-

Hampden Park hires a new GM

The Hampden Park Cooperative (HPC), 928 Raymond Ave., Board of Directors has announced the hiring of a new General Manager, Chuck Parsons. Parsons comes to HPC with over 30 years of leadership and management experience as a Chef, Director of Operations, and a General Manager.

This hire concluded a fourmonth comprehensive search process that included multiple rounds of interviews with highly qualified candidates from across the country.

Parsons has worked in the Chuck Parsons (Photo provided) contract food service sector at Boeing Aerospace, The LA Times, IBM



at Research Triangle Park, as well as university dining services around the country. Additionally, Chuck has successfully managed accounts to improve profitability, customer service, and safety. He will be bringing that same focus to HPC paired with new concept development and employee and community engagement.

Parsons took the helm of HPC on May 7.

For more information about Hampden Park Cooperative, visit their website at www.hampdenparkcoop.com.

olis. It is a recognized center of creativity and enterprise, and a place where people make a living by their creative capacities. Its physical boundaries radiate from the intersection of Raymond and University avenues: south to Interstate 94, east to Prior Ave., north to the railroad tracks by Energy Park Dr., and west to Minneapolis.

The billboard series helps to promote the importance of creative economic development in the area. The new CEZ logo was created by John Seymour Anderson of the CEZ-located design firm Triangle Park Creative.

The billboards celebrate entrepreneurs, small businesses, supportive allies—all the makers within the CEZ borders. They also encourage others to look to the CEZ as the place to be/rent/own/ lease if they are makers.

Billboard locations include University at Cleveland Ave./Transfer Rd., 2600 University Ave., University Ave. near Vandalia, and on Vandalia south of University. Some locations are entry points to the CEZ, while others mark the heart

The CEZ focuses on community-driven development that:

- attracts and retains creative jobs and businesses;
- promotes affordable spaces for entrepreneurs, artists, makers and doers; and
- provides support systems that build an interconnected creative district and community.

Area residents earn \$3000 scholarship

In May, several teachers living in the Midway area received a \$3,000 scholarship from the St. Paul Retired Teachers for their graduate school education.

Brooke Deacon, a Special Education teacher at Randolph Heights Elementary, is working on

a Master's in Education in Differentiated Instruction.

Margaret Carlson, a Spanish teacher at Benjamin E. Mays, is earning a Master's in Education and Curriculum and Instruction at Concordia University in St. Paul.

Goldjua Grace Yang, a secondgrade teacher at Benjamin E. Mays, is studying Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Minnesota.

Musical to be staged at Pavilion

It's dollars to doughnuts that the most fun you'll have all summer will be at the Rosetown Playhouse production of the hit musical "State Fair," running in July at Lake Como Pavilion, 1360 Lexington Pkwy. N.

The Rosetown cast brings all the energy of an action-packed midway to the stage for this show featuring blue ribbon-winning song, dance, comedy, and romance. The show features music by Richard Rogers and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, including "It Might As Well Be Spring," which won the Academy Award for Best Song.

Margot Olsen is back to direct this summer's high-energy Rosetown Playhouse show, which includes actors representing three generations of one local family, and two actors who are married in real-life—Tim and Linnea Marrin—playing the stage couple of Abel and Melissa "Ma" Frake. Zach Busch is music director, Ariella Brown is the choreographer, and Jessica Gunzburger is the stage manager.

Rosetown Playhouse presents "State Fair" July 6-8 and 12-15. Showtime is 7pm except for the 2pm Sunday matinees July 8 and

Tickets are \$15 for adults; \$12 for seniors (65+) and students ages 6-12; and \$10 for children 5 and under. Call the box office for discount rates for groups of four or

To purchase tickets online go to www.RosetownPlayhouse.org; by phone call 651-792-7414, ext. 2 and leave a voicemail for a call back; or purchase tickets at the door 45 minutes before show time.

To learn more, visit www. RosetownPlayhouse.org or visit the Rosetown Playhouse Facebook

NAMI holds partner support group

NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) sponsors a support group specifically for partners or spouses of someone who lives with a mental illness. The Partners and Spouses Support Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm, at Falcon Heights United Church of Christ, 1795 Holton St. (Holton and Garden). For more information, call Melissa at 651-354-0825 or Sara at 763-350-6502.

Art group offers mini-grants for art

The Midway Public Art Working Group (MPAWG) is allocating \$1,000 for mini-grants of up to \$250 to fund community-led public art projects in the Hamline-Midway neighborhood. Projects can be permanent, temporary, or ephemeral.

MPAWG is interested in supporting work that engages thematically with the Hamline-Midway neighborhood, its residents, and its past, present, or future.

MPAWG may be able to provide logistical support, such as information about completing a Paint the Pavement project or locating an artist to do a garage door mural, depending on the request. Consider public art to be art in its broadest sense, encompassing any medium, that is available for consumption in public spaces.

Anybody is eligible to apply, and all projects must be completed by the end of 2018.

To apply, please provide a detailed description of the project, along with plans to execute the project, and how the money will be spent, and email it to jonathan@ midwaymurals.com. Applications can be sent in written, audio, or video formats, and in any language. The application deadline is June 25, 2018.

La Leche League meets July 10

The next meeting of the La Leche League of St. Paul Como-Midway will be held on Tues., July 10, from 7-8:45pm. The discussion will focus on breastfeeding-related issues. Please contact Heidi at 651-659-9527 for more details.

Midway Y celebrates youth handball

This year the Midway Y Youth Handball Club has trained some very good players, with many of the youth playing in the Minnesota State Handball Tournament this spring. Some of the kids have grandparents that are recognized for their skill playing handball. Tim Labey had two very young and good players, and Steve Kufus brought five of his grandchildren to the game.

This year the club tried something different in our training of young handball players. They kept the beginning players at the Midway Y and moved the older, more experienced players to the University of Minnesota (thanks to Vihn Chung), They had about 40 young players this year at both

Coaches Phill Gebben-Green and Mitchell Lallier were impressed with ability and skill of the older players who played in several divisions at the State Tournament. Most youth played against college students and adults. Isaac Alberg finished 1st in the state for 19 and under, Joseph Lallier played both in the B and C Adult division, Isaac GebbenGreen and Antonio Florez played in the C division, and Micah GebbenGreen played in the Novice division.

The older players will be playing in the World Handball Tournament being held in Minnesota this year, for the first time being hosted at the U of M and Life Time Fitness, August 9-19. The Midway Y Youth Handball Club will start up again in September, open to all youth ages 6-16.

HM Survey results to be made public

The City of Saint Paul and Summit Envirosolutions will present the results and recommendations of the Hamline-Midway Reconnaissance Survey at the Hamline University Neighborhood Advisory Committee (HUNAC) meeting on Mon., June 18. The meeting is planned for 7-8:30pm in Room 106 of Hamline University's East Hall, 1536 Hewitt

Please note that this meeting will not pertain to proposed changes in the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 73).

The intention of a reconnaissance level survey, sometimes called a "windshield survey," is to collect data to provide a general understanding of the built environment in an area and to answer any questions posed in the survey scope of work or research design. The survey is intended to characterize the properties in historic context and makes recommendations for additional intensive survey work. The Hamline-Midway Reconnaissance survey began in

Continued on page 10

In Our Community

Continued from page 9

October 2017.

Funding for the survey included:

- 62.5% of the cost of the Survey was financed with Federal money;
- 37.5 % of the funding for the survey was provided through a \$15,000 cash-match from Saint Paul's Department of Planning and Economic Development;
- A \$25,000 Certified Local Government Grant was awarded to the City of Saint Paul's Department of Planning and Economic Development.

Emotions Anonymous meets Wednesdays

Do you often feel nervous, anxious, lonely, or fearful? Do you suffer from mood swings? Are you suffering from depression, panic attacks or crying spells? You can find help in a 12-Step Group called Emotions Anonymous (EA)

The meetings are open to anyone who is seeking to achieve and maintain emotional balance. EA is not a religious group, and they welcome people of any religious affiliation or no religious affiliation. There is no cost to attend meetings. Only first names are used, and everything said at a meeting is confidential.

EA meets each Wednesday, 7pm, at the Hamline United Methodist Church, 1514 Englewood Ave. Use the rear entrance and ring the bell to gain admittance. The meeting is upstairs in Room 7.

Events at Merriam Park Library

The Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave, is planning several events in the coming weeks.

Family Storytimes are planned on Fridays, 10:30-11am. Spend time sharing stories, songs, and rhymes with your child while building a foundation for reading success. Preschoolers, toddlers, and babies are

You Can Build It!, for youth 7-11, is planned for Fridays, 3-4:30pm. Drop-in and build with a kit, shadow puppets, Legos, PVC pipes or a surprise.

Go Outdoors with Books is scheduled for Sat., June 23, 1-2:30pm. Indoor book club followed by an outdoor spy adventure for ages 7-11. The book is "Secret Agent Jack Stalwart: The Puzzle of the Missing Panda (China)" by Elizabeth Singer Hunt. An endangered Giant Panda has been kidnapped from the Wolong Nature Reserve in China. Can Secret Agent Stalwart find the panda and rescue it before the evil Scorpion Gang sells it for profit? Time is running out. Pick up a free copy of the book when you sign up.

The Brodini Comedy Magic Show will be visiting Merriam Park Library on Sat., June 30, 3-4pm. Join them for this kid-friendly, comedy magic show with plenty of audience participation!

Open Lab for Writers meets every Thursday, 10:30am-noon. There is no instructor. This is an opportunity to meet, discuss, or work on whatever you're writing. All styles welcome!

Tech Help Clinics are scheduled for Thursdays, 11:30-12:30pm, Fridays, noon-2pm, and Saturdays, 11:30am-12:30pm. The clinics are for all tablets smartphones. Bring

Nguyen Moore files for Commissioner

Jennifer Nguyen Moore has filed as a candidate for Ramsey County Commissioner in District 3.

"Throughout this campaign, we have met so many residents who are hungry for change," stated Moore. "Residents who are looking for an #AudaciousLeader who is bold. I am that bold leader, with an intersection of multiple lived-experiences and perspectives as a county service recipient, a mother, millennial and a Jennifer Nguyen Moore in front of the I'm honored to be the leadership District 3 has been waiting for."



daughter of Vietnamese refugees. Frogtown mural. (Photo provided)

"There is so much to do to achieve equity," continued Moore. "Equity to me means that we remove all barriers that were created by historical institutionalized oppression through policy and culture to ensure all residents in Ramsey County have access to all programs and services. I am the candidate best equipped to reach a just Ramsey County. My priorities will be to create a zero-waste county and healthy communities that put reuse, composting, and recycling above burning garbage, fighting for \$15 an hour to break the cycle of change, humanize the process of receiving county services and diminish racial disparities throughout our county, in our law enforcement, courts, jails, and probation services.

Ramsey County District 3 includes Falcon Heights and parts of St. Paul's Como, Frogtown, Hamline-Midway, North End and Payne-Phalen neighborhoods.

your questions and, problems, and concerns. If we can't answer the question, we'll find resources or organizations that can! No registration required.

Merriam Park Book Club meets Mon., June 25, 6:30-7:30pm. The book this month is "In the Lake of the Woods" by Tim O'Brien.

Fundraising ongoing for Celtic mural

The music, dance, education, and community that comes together regularly under the roof of Celtic Junction Arts Center in the form of concerts, classes, events, and community will become a breathtaking mural on the building's south wall. Artists Marty Ochs and Carrie Finnegan will be designing and producing a large-scale, 70'x20' mural of the thriving Celtic Arts Scene in the Twin Cities.

You can support their fundraising efforts by donating to help them reach their \$4,000 goal. (As of press time \$1765 had been pledged.) To give, go to www.givemn.org and type "Celtic CJAC Mural" in the Find A Cause box in the upper right.

News from Hamline Midway Elders

Ice Cream Social, Tues., June 26, 6:30pm, Hamline Church United Methodist, 1514 Englewood Ave.-The entire community is invited to this annual free event. There will be musical entertainment, children's activities, door prizes, and, of course, plenty of ice cream and toppings. There will also be an ice cream making demonstration and sampling featuring an old-fash ioned cranking ice cream maker. There will also be options for special dietary needs.

Knitting Group, Mondays, 1-3pm, Hamline Church United Methodist—The knitters have decided to keep meeting during the summer. Hamline Midway Elders provides the yarn and needles along with some light snacks. The group members work on projects, such as making shawls to be donated to a local hospice or blankets for a child care center. New participants are always welcome.

Walking Group, Tuesdays at 10am, meet in parking lot of Hamline Church United Methodist—

Each weekly walk will lead to a specific destination in the neighborhood, so walkers can get some exercise, make some social connections, and learn something new about the neighborhood. One "destination" walk example is on June 26 with a tour of the Midway Murals with founder Jonathan Oppenheimer.

Jody's Documentary Film Series, Wed., June 27, 1pm, Hamline Midway Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave.—This POV film titled "Homegoings" lets you witness up-close what brings comfort to the rituals and customs of African-American funerals. No registration is necessary for this last Wednesday of the month film series—just come to enjoy the documentary, some snacks, and a lively discussion led by Jody Huber after

For more information, please contact Tom Fitzpatrick at Hamline Midway Elders at 651-209-6542 or tom@hmelders.org.

Local Rotary piles up District 5960 awards

District 5960 awarded the St. Paul Sunrise Rotary Club the 2017-2018 Small Club of the Year Award at the District's annual Conference of Clubs gathering in late April.

Sunrise Rotary Club's members meet at 7:30 Thursdays at Episcopal Homes Community Room, 490 Lynnhurst Ave. Meetings include breakfast, program and comradery. Members provide both hands-on skills and financial support for sustainable projects to improve the community.

The District's inaugural awards program was dominated in the Small Club category by the St. Paul Sunrise Club, which won a total of seven

Additional awards won by the Sunrise Club included:

- 1st Place International Service, Small Clubs
- 1st Place Club Service, Small Clubs
- 1st Place Vocational Service, Small Clubs
- District Governor Citation
- Runner Up Youth Service, Small Clubs
- Runner Up Public Image, Small Clubs

Register at your local Recreation Center for fun-filled summer activities

NOTE: Fall Sports Registration is also open NOW (soccer, flag football, tackle football).

North Dale Recreation Center: www.stpaul.gov/northdaleRec or call 651-558-2329

- Sweetheart Girls Group, ages 6-12, Tues./Thur., June 19-Aug. 23, 1-3pm,
- Tap Dancing, ages 3-18, June 25-29, times vary, \$45
- Beginning Acrylic Painting, ages 7-11, June 20, 3-5pm, \$30
- Beginning Acrylic Painting, ages 12-17, June 20, 5:30-7:30pm, \$30
- Kids in the Kitchen Camp, ages 7-12, June 25-29, 2-4pm, \$110 • Volleyball Camp, ages 12-15, June 25-27, 10am-3pm, \$90
- Things That Go Zoom, Stem Camp, ages 8-14, July 9-12, 1-4pm, \$115
- The Great Outdoors: Jr. Stem Camp, ages 4-8, July 9-12, 10am-noon, \$110 • Flag Football Clinic, ages 7-12, Tues./Thur., beginning July 10, 7:15-8:30pm, \$30
- Baby Ballet, ages 3-4, July 16-20, 1-1:30pm, \$30
- Ballet 1, ages 7-13, July 16-20, 2-3pm, \$60
- Teen Ballet 1, ages 13-18, July 16-20, 12-1pm, \$60
- Meal Planning and Prep for the Grill for Adults, July 17, 6-8:30pm, \$100
- Weed Management for Adults, July 18, 6-7:30pm, Free
- Fort Building Camp, ages 6-12, July 16-20, 1-4pm, \$74
- Mommy and Me: Tutu Cute Art, ages 3-5, Wed., July 18, 6-7pm, \$15
- Jewelry Basics, ages 7-17, Wed., July 18, \$30
- Curious George Preschool Drawing Camp, ages 3.5-5, July 23-27, 9:30-10:30am, \$50
- Fashion Runway Art Workshop, ages 10-14, July 23-27, 1-3pm, \$90
- Monsters, Creatures & Creeps Art Camp, ages 6-12, July 23-27, \$70
- Ramsey County Fix-it Clinic, July 28, 10am-1pm, Free
- Busiest Bees Camp, ages 3-5, July 30-Aug. 3, 10am-noon, \$60
- Healthy Eating, Healthy World Camp, ages 6-12, July 30-Aug. 3, 1-4pm,
- Skateboarding Camp, ages 6-14, July 30-Aug. 2, \$55
- Adult Pickle Ball, Sat, June 2-Aug. 25, 9:30-11:30am, Free
- ***Safe Summer Nights, June 14, 5-7pm
- ***Outdoor Movie Night showing "Coco" at dusk (approximately 9pm),
- July 13
 ***Join the North Dale Booster Club by contacting Brian Tobritzhofer at

Northwest Como Recreation Center: www.stpaul.gov/northwestcomoRec or call 651-298-5813

- Young Men's 5, 5 Basketball, ages 15-20, Wed, June 20-Aug. 8,
- Beginning Spanish Camp, ages 7-12, July 9-13, 10am-noon, \$80
- Soccer Camp, ages 5-12, July 9-12, 9am-noon, \$80 • Babysitting Training, ages 11-17, July 13, 8:30am-3:30pm, \$60
- Creative Writing Camp, ages 7-12, July 16-20, 10am-noon, \$50
- Java Minecraft Modding Camp, ages 10-15, July 16-20, 1-3pm, \$110
- Multi-player Minecraft Camp, ages 6-10, July 16-20, 10am-noon, \$110 • Outdoor Games-Science-Swim Camp, ages 7-12, July 16-20, 8am-
- Rachel's Dance Workshops, ages 3-17, July 23-27, \$40
- Artist Workshop Camp, ages 8-19, July 23-27, 9am-noon, \$90
- Flag Football Camp, ages 6-12, July 30-Aug. 2, 9am-noon, \$89
- Artist Workshop Camp, ages 5-10, July 30-Aug. 2, 9-11am, \$80

Northwest Como

• Art/Wine/Pizza for Adults, Aug. 6, 6:45-9pm, \$50 ***5th Annual Campout and Movie Night, July 27 activities begin 6:30pm, movie showing "Beauty and the Beast" 2017 will begin at 9pm. * * * Join the Northwest Como Booster Club by contacting Thao Vue at

Langford Recreation Center: www.stpaul.gov/LangfordRec or call 651-298-5765

- City Moves Yard Games, ages 13-24, Mon, June 18-July 23, 5:30-7:30pm,
- Intro To Stem with Lego Camp, ages 5-7, June 25-29, 1-4pm, \$115
- Challenge Stem with Lego Camp, ages 8-12, June 25-29, 9am-noon, \$115
- Rhythm & Drum Fun Camp, ages 7-13, July 2-3, 9am-noon, \$20 • Hoops In The Park, ages 5-11, Mondays, July 9-30
- Healthy Eating, Healthy World Camp, ages 6-12, July 9-13, 9am-noon,
- Hip Hop Dance, ages 6-12, Wed, July 11-Aug. 1, 6:15-7pm, \$40
- Creative Movement, ages 3-5, Wed, July 11-Aug. 1, 5:30-6:15pm, \$40
- Jazz/Ballet, ages 6-12, Wed, July 11-Aug. 1, 7-7:45pm, \$40
- Volleyball Camp, ages 9-14, July 16-19, 1:30-4:30pm, \$89 • Fort Building Camp, ages 6-12, July 16-20, 9am-noon, \$74
- Survivor Island STEM Camp, ages 8-14, July 23-26, 9am-noon, \$115
- Construction Zone STEM Camp, ages 4-8, July 23-26, 1-3pm, \$110 • Outdoor Adventures/Science/Swim Camp, ages 7-12, July 23-27, 8am-
- 5pm, \$174 winkle Art, ages 3-5, July 26, 6-7, \$15
- Mini Sports Camp, ages 4-6, July 30-Aug. 2, 10am-noon, \$25
- Pickle Ball Camp, ages 6-14, July 30-Aug. 2, 1:30-4:30pm, \$80 • Beginning Acrylic Paining, ages 7-11, July 31, 10am-noon, \$30
- Zumba for Adults, Fridays, June 22-Aug. 17, 10:30-11:30am, \$54
- ***Movie In The Park, Aug. 10 showing "The Secret Life of Pets" activities begin at 6:30pm, movie starts approximately 8:30pm.
- ***Join the Langford Park Booster Club by contacting Courtney Moriarty at Langford Park

Murray Middle wows in state history awards

Seventeen students at Murray Middle School, 2200 Buford Ave., gathered nine awards at the Minnesota State History Day competition at the University

of Minnesota, for their exhibits, documentaries, papers, websites, and performances. A Murray Hill teacher was also honored for her work with history students. The following received awards:

• Lydia Westerlund, Soren Sackreiter, Kai Sackreiter, Henry

Continued on page 11

Public reacting to organized trash collection now that it is certain

By JANE MCCLURE

The costs of organized trash collection, which starts Oct. 1 in St. Paul, continue to meet pushback from some homeowners, as well as owners of small multi-family properties. Those who espouse recycling and composting more, and throwing away less, are making their feelings known in a variety of ways—including a civil law-

Highland resident and former city financial analyst Peter Butler filed the lawsuit in Ramsey County District Court May 21. He contends that the proposed organized collection system and its fee schedule violate Minnesota's Waste Management Act.

City officials aren't comment-

ing on the They have 20 days in which to A Cleaner Saint Paul

reply in court. That must happen by June 11 (as the Monitor went to press). But with a signed contract with a garbage hauling consortium in place, it's not clear how much, if anything,

can be changed by the lawsuit or

by other citizen action. Proponents of organized collection say it will create consistency in trash disposal prices, reduce neighborhood traffic and wear and tear on streets and alleys, and force those who haven't had trash service in the past to pay for dis-

Minnesota is a co-curricular historical research program that builds college readiness and communication skills for middle and high school students. 27,000 students from over 250 schools participate in Minnesota each year. The program in Minnesota is a partnership of the Minnesota Historical Society and the University of Minnesota, College of Liberal Arts.

posal. They cite illegal dumping of trash as a constant problem.

But opponents argue that having the city choose a neighborhood hauler, or haulers, takes away their freedom of choice and ability to negotiate for service.

"Zero waste" advocates point out that the city contract with residential haulers doesn't provide incentives to reduce waste through recycling, composting, and changes in consumption. The five-year contract eliminates the possibility of single-family homeowners and residents of small rental buildings from sharing a

It's not clear how many residential properties don't have garbage service now. While there are those who refuse to pay for service, others share carts or take their trash to garbage transfer sta-

Butler shares trash service with neighbors and doesn't contract for his pickup service because he doesn't need it. "I just don't generate that much waste," he said. "Now even with every-other-week service I'll pay for service I'll barely use."

The waste management act, which was originally adopted by state lawmakers in 1980, outlines 27 cents per gallon. waste management practices to protect the state's land, air, water and public health. The act requires municipal solid waste collection systems to charge for disposal based on volume or weight of waste collected. Butler said the city's planned charges provide no incentive for people like himself who generate very little solid waste. Those who generate the most waste get the best discounts under the fees planned.

Waste reduction, recycling, and reuse are among the state act's top goals. Landfilling or 'land disposal" of waste is considered to be the least-preferred option, which Butler points out in court documents.

The city is offering four monthly levels of service. Homeowners and landlords of small rental properties had until June 1 to choose their level of service. There is no option of sharing a cart as most rental properties, and some single-family homeowners have been doing.

The smallest and least frequent service, a 35-gallon cart collected every other week cost \$20.28 per month. That breaks down to \$9.36 per collection or

The largest cart with weekly service is a 95-gallon cart, collected weekly, at \$34.15. That cart user will pay \$7.88 per collection or eight centers per gallon.

Butler said that the state law requires a base rate, which would result in a higher rate for those who generate more trash. Instead, he points out in the lawsuit that St. Paul's pricing system decreases the cost per gallon of waste collection as the volume increases.

Others continue to object to the contract. A small group of residents met with Mayor Melvin Carter May 31. Frogtown resident Kristin Becker collected copies of residents' cart selection postcards, where they had indicated the size cart they were ordering and the size of cart or service they actually need.

Like Butler, Becker said her household strives to generate as little waste as possible. She'll be paying much more for trash service as will many of her neighbors.

Becker said she practices zero waste and needs minimal trash service. "We needed to bring a loud voice to the mayor's office about this change," she said.

Brandt, Ellery Tennison, Julia

Pletch, Clare Marchant, Annika Culver, Alice Wagner-Hemstad, Greta Seppanen, Siri Pattison, Hemeti Apet, Mairin Blank, Anna Lovat, Emily Brenner, Maria Brenner, and teacher Carrie Newmanv. National History Day in

In Our Community

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Classifieds

Want ads must be received by the Monitor by July 2 for the July 12 issue, Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Monitor's website at www.MonitorSaintPaul.com

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be mailed to the *Monitor* by July 2 for the July 12 issue. Ad copy can be e-mailed to denis@deruyternelson.com. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Monitor's website at www.MonitorSaintPaul.com

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Groovin' In The Garden in full swing in Como Park

Voted by City Pages as the "Best Place to See a Concert with Kids," Como Park Zoo and Conservatory's free concert series, "Groovin' In The Garden," has returned featuring some of the Twin Cities' finest musicians and activities for the whole family, rain or shine!*

While the grownups get their groove on with some of the Twin Cities best bands, the kids will be entertained by a climbing wall, bouncy house, and lawn games. Pack a picnic and dancing shoes, spread out a blanket and join us for these free outdoor concerts and activities in front of the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory every Wednesday, June 6 through Aug. 1 (sorry, no concert July 4) from 6–8pm. Hotdogs, ice cream treats, beer, wine, and soda will be available to purchase.

If it rains, they move inside the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory and have Music Under Glass!

Currently planned concerts include:

• June 20, Crankshaft & the Gear Grinders. A sound heavily rooted in rock 'n' roll, blues, country, swing, and surf. Rock solid original lyrics, a dedicated fan base, and his 21st-century twist on the American roots is pushing him to the top of the crowded Minneapolis music scene in a hurry. It's becoming clear to many that Crankshaft is "one of the best and most interesting roots, rock and blues acts playing around town these days." - Cities 97

killer combo comprised of Twin

Cities music scene veterans who

blend rock, country, and pop



Crankshaft & the Gear Grinders will be performing at Groovin' In The Garden on June 20. The free concert is family-friendly. (Photo provided)

into a cohesive and timeless groove. American Rock and Roll. • July 11, Soul Beautiful. R&B collective performing positive, upbeat soul with funky jams.

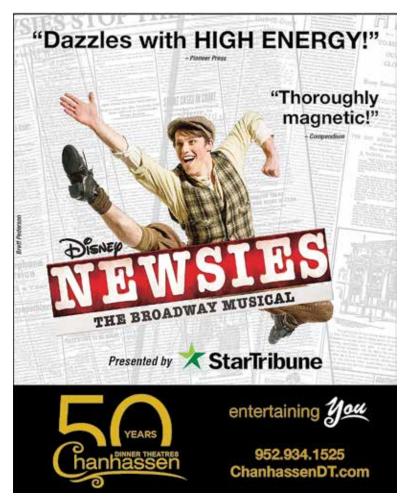
• July 18, Paddy Wagon. Paddy Wagon is a crew of local guys with 18 years of experience in the Twin Cities music scene playing music with a twang. A delightful cacophony of guitars, drums, harmonica, and horn will fill the air with a good time groove and a few laughs.

• July 25, Flamin' Oh's. Led by frontman Robert Wilkinson, Flamin' Oh's burst onto the Minneapolis music scene in 1980 and thrilled music—and early MTV video—fans with Billboard charting hits, including "I Remember Romance." Not content to rest on their early success, Flamin' Oh's continue to record and deliver high energy live performances to great acclaim. The *Star Tribune* praises their work as "Hard-edged Stones-like rock'n'roll. East Coast street anthems coupled with Midwestern optimism and enthusiasm."

• Aug. 1. Alex Rossi Trio, Hailing

• Aug. 1, Alex Rossi Trio. Hailing from Minneapolis, Alex Rossi is a vocalist, guitarist, and songwriter who has been performing professionally for over 15 years. With strong roots in blues, soul, and funk, Rossi has created his own unique and recognizable sound from his diverse musical background. His performances bring crowds to the dance floor.







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