



George
Floyd's
48th
birthday
event
➤➤10-11

FOLK TALES IN PRINT



(Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

Thay Sai Htoo is one of five local writers who contributed to a book recently published by the Saint Paul Public Library called "Children's Stories." The book adds to the body of literature available in the S'gaw Karen language. ➤➤ More on page 3.

LEAP, Galtier and Jackson may close

Envision SPPS will be implemented in fall 2022

By JANE McCLURE

The St. Paul School Board is preparing to vote Nov. 16, 2021, on a plan that would close schools including Galtier and Jackson elementaries and the LEAP Academy High School, and make program changes at others. Supporters of LEAP fear their voices aren't being heard.



Rose Santos,
LEAP High
School principal

As of *Monitor* deadline the school board was hosting listening sessions and meetings to review the proposal. Whether the actions will be amended remains to be seen, as the administration has emphasized the need to have the entire package go forward.

The closings and changes are proposed as part of the larger Envision SPPS plan, which if approved by the school board would be implemented starting in fall 2022. Eleven work groups of more than 100 people, including school staff, parents, community partners and other organizations, studied options for the past year. But the work groups have come under fire for not being inclusive.

Here's the changes for other area schools:

- Galtier and Hamline would merge, with the Galtier building possibly used for a preschool program.

- Jackson would close. Students in the Hmong Dual Language program would transfer to Phalen Lake Elementary. Students in the community program would attend Maxfield.

LEAP, GALTIER AND JACKSON ➤➤ 17

Accused of 'parental alienation,' mother separated from daughters for five years

THEY TOOK HER CHILDREN AWAY

By TESSA M. CHRISTENSEN

When Starr Jones* tells her story, people can't believe this is happening in Minnesota.

They can't believe that the dad was investigated by child protection when their first daughter was an infant for harming her, but ended up with sole legal and physical custody. They can't believe the girls were taken away when Starr has never laid a hand on either girl, been in alcohol or drug treatment, or served time in jail.

They can't believe that the courts haven't factored in the

wishes of the girls, who are now teenagers. Their desire to live with their mom has been ignored despite multiple suicidal attempts by both girls, eating disorders, running away from their dad, and confinement to long-term mental treatment facilities alongside depression, anxiety and other signs of abuse and trauma.

They can't believe that dad would rather send the girls away than let them live with their mom, nor that a family court judge has done the same.

They can't believe a primary caregiver lost physical and

legal custody of her daughters and could only see them during supervised visits.

They can't believe that dad blames mom for what is happening, and has returned to court multiple times to punish her by restricting contact with her children.

They can't believe what is happening in family courtrooms, and want to believe that she must have done something wrong to deserve this.

Starr remembers being shocked, too. But now she's too traumatized to even cry when she tells the story of



This ongoing series seeks to put a face on domestic abuse and intimate partner violence. Past articles on our website.

what happened to her family and how her ex-boyfriend's accusations of "parental alienation" led to this.

Instead, like many survivors, her voice is flat when she talks about the abuse during her relationship, and the post-separation abuse since.

THEY TOOK HER CHILDREN ➤➤ 6

There's a brand new play space at Hamline Park



Community members gather on Oct. 14 to celebrate the new play space at Hamline Park. (Photo submitted)

Located in the Hamline-Midway area at 1564 Lafond Ave., this play space has been completely replaced, including new safety surfacing and new drains underneath to keep the playground dry. The new play areas include five new swings (one of which is wheelchair accessible), five new slides, multiple climbers to access the play equipment deck, and a new, climbable frog for users ages 2-5. The playground includes accessible elements that provide play options for people of all abilities.

NEW PLAY SPACE ➤➤ 12

Religious leaders concerned about proposed zoning limits

Church leaders view regulations as 'exceedingly broad,' and worry it will hurt food shelves, shelters and more

By JANE McCLURE

St. Paul religious leaders and their allies aren't making a joyful noise over proposed zoning regulations on accessory uses at their facilities. But with a court-ordered deadline for the city to have new reg-

ulations in place in February 2022, reaching a timely agreement on proposed changes may be easier said than done.

The St. Paul Planning Commission Oct. 29 heard from numerous faith leaders representing individual institu-

tions as well as coalitions. One of those testifying was Pastor Joshua Miller of Jehovah Lutheran Church, 1566 Thomas Ave. Speaking on behalf of his church and the St. Paul Circuit of Lutheran Churches in the Missouri Synod, Miller called the proposed regulations "exceedingly broad" and "overkill."

Miller and other faith leaders said the regulations as proposed would infringe

on the work they do serving communities, through services including food shelves, community centers and other programs and projects. How the city would regulate accessory uses is in conflict with the free exercise of faith, he said.

"I urge the commission to scrap this proposal, and go back to the drawing board," Miller said.

RELIGIOUS LEADERS ➤➤ 3



Plastic free shampoo and conditioner manufactured in Midway by HiBAR

PAGE 8



Tips for helpers talking to kids about domestic violence from professor

PAGE 9



B Line's high speed bus moves ahead along Marshall, Selby

PAGE 15

CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE for between the issues coverage. www.facebook.com/monitorsaintpaul

SAINT PAUL COLLEGE
A Community & Technical College

**Fit in.
Stand out.**



Saint Paul College is an inclusive campus for all learners.

We welcome you to be your most authentic self while finding those who share your passions, goals, and background. You'll feel connected to and supported by a community of instructors, staff, and students all helping to achieve your best. Go full or part-time. Day, evening and weekend course options are available. Create a schedule that works best for you! Spring Semester starts January 10.

**Thursday, November 18
5 - 6:30pm**

Document available in alternative formats by contacting
651.350.3008 or AccessResources@saintpaul.edu.
Saint Paul College is an Equal Opportunity employer.

Virtual Parent Info Night

If you have a student considering college, this is an excellent opportunity to learn about the many outstanding student benefits at Saint Paul College.

Register to attend! saintpaul.edu/parents



Free Built-in Credit Score Access

At Hiway Credit Union® we care about your ongoing financial success. This is why we provide access to digital tools, resources and applications online at any time, including our newest Online Banking feature: Credit Score. Visit us online or call — we're available 24/7.

Hiway
CREDIT UNION®

hiway.org
651.291.1515 • 800.899.5626

ST. PAUL MINNEAPOLIS ROSEVILLE NEW LOCATION!



Coming April 2022 Midway Chamber DIRECTORY

This Directory is the only one of its kind that lists Midway Chamber businesses by category. Connect with your community members who want to support local businesses and non-profits.



Monitor
Midway • Como • Frogtown

Tesha@MonitorSaintPaul.com | 612-345-9998
Denis@MonitorSaintPaul.com | 651-917-4183

Lloyd's
pharmacy
est. 1949
& Compounding Center

YOUR HEALTH IS OUR PRIORITY!

**720 Snelling Av. N.
St. Paul, MN 55104**

LIVE, LOVE, LLOYD'S

Still servicing all your pharmacy needs:

- Prescription compounding
- Blister pack
- Delivery & mail out
- Vaccinations

Independently owned and operated in the Hamline Midway neighborhood since 1918.

Hours

Monday-Friday

8am - 8pm

Saturday

8:30am - 6pm

Sunday

9am - 1pm

Web

www.lloydsrx.com

Phone

651-645-8636



SPPL PUBLISHES THIRD CHILDREN'S BOOK IN S'GAW KAREN LANGUAGE

'Children's Stories' tells fables elders share

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Growing up with a father who was a storyteller, Thay Sai Htoo fondly remembers the stories of his childhood.

Htoo was born in the Karen State in Myanmar, the Southeast Asian country formerly known as Burma, and is a member of the local Karen community. Myanmar has seven major ethnic groups, one of which is the Karen.

The Karen people have been persecuted by the Burmese government for decades. According to the Karen Organization of Minnesota, there are approximately 17,000 Karen refugees living in the state. Saint Paul has the largest and fastest-growing Karen population in the U.S.

Thay Sai Htoo and his family fled their home in Myanmar when he was a teenager. When the political violence and unrest there became unbearable, they sought shelter in a refugee camp along the Myanmar-Thai border to await an uncertain future. Although Htoo carried very little, he did bring his father's stories with him. He has been a resident of Saint Paul for 10 years now – with those stories still intact.

Innovative project

Recognizing the need for Karen children to have access to books in their native language, the Saint Paul Public Library (SPPL) launched an innovative project six years ago.

In 2015, two Karen children's books were published, called "Elephant Huggy" and "The Hen and the Badger." A community gathering at Arlington Hills Community Center on Oct. 9, 2021, launched a third.

Present for the book launch and celebration were Saint Paul Mayor Melvin Carter III, SPPL Director Catherine Penkert, Senator Fong Hawj, Councilmember and Library Board Chair Jane Prince, and Chris Xiong from

council member Nelsie Yang's office.

"Children's Stories" was created in partnership with five local writers from the Karen community, including Thay Sai Htoo. For his contribution, he retold a story from his childhood called, "Rabbit the Peacemaker." The other contributors are Eh Htee, Doh Saul Lu, Lay Lay, and Ta Mla with original color illustrations by Duachaka Her. The book adds to the body of literature available in the S'gaw Karen language.

The writers and library staff worked with community members in Saint Paul to identify which stories would be included. Some of the stories are based on folk tales and fables that Karen parents and elders commonly share with their children.

SPPL building bridges

Jenny Ayechit is a Karen Community Specialist at SPPL. She works directly with the Karen community, as part of the library's Community Services program. She said, "I'm very excited to have a third book in the S'Gaw Karen language for children. There aren't a lot of books for parents in the Karen community who don't read English, so having more books in our language is something that I'm proud of. Now parents can read a book to their children, and children can hold a book written in their own language."

Ayechit was also born in Myanmar. She said, "I feel that my job is to be a bridge between the Karen people and the broader community. About 250 people attended the book launch. To hear Karen spoken at the event, to have a book in our language – we feel that the city of Saint Paul has validated us."

SPPL published 5,000 copies of "Children's Stories." Copies will be added to the SPPL's collection and distributed to local schools and Karen organizations.



SPPL Karen Community Specialist Jenny Ayechit, said, "Now Karen parents can read a collection of stories to their children, and children can see a book written in their own language." (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

A limited number of copies for community members are available at library locations throughout Saint Paul.

The library is committed to developing materials that support Karen children's early literacy and school success, and to serve the city's growing Karen population.

Consider the lives of children

Jenny Ayechit described her own childhood by saying, "I don't know exactly where I was born. We lived in several places along the Thai-Burmese border. Both of my parents were teachers in the jungle, and traveled from village to village. We lived in a war zone. Things got very difficult for our family, and harder still after my dad stepped on a landmine and became disabled. We lived in a refugee camp on the Thai border for two years, and then in Bangkok. I was seven

years old when my parents applied for asylum status. We waited for five years in Bangkok before coming to Saint Paul in 2005. My whole family came: two brothers, two sisters, my Mom, Dad, and me."

Language is crucial

Rebecca Ryan is the SPPL Public Services Manager. She said, "For those who are wondering, it is unusual for a library to serve as a publisher of books. We did this because we have such a strong relationship with the Karen community. We've offered story hours for young children in different languages for years. Prior to the pandemic, our Arlington Hills, Rondo and Rice Street branches all had programming in Karen, which were received very enthusiastically."

"In these challenging times, our Karen Community Specialists have done a fantastic job of

"To hear Karen spoken at the event, to have a book in our language - we feel that the city of Saint Paul has validated us."

~Jenny Ayechit

"We couldn't have ventured into book publishing, or continued our deep community engagement work during a pandemic, without the support of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library and its funders."

~ Rebecca Ryan

pivoting to virtual programming. They got the Karen story times and conversation circles (where adults can practice their English) up and running very quickly.

"We couldn't have ventured into book publishing, or continued our deep community engagement work during a pandemic, without the support of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library and its funders."

The project was made possible with support from Sandra Schloff; The Clara and Frieda Claussen & Eleanor Hermann Endowment Fund; Bruce Vento & Paul Wellstone Fund; Hubbs Endowment; Libraries Without Borders' Wash & Learn Initiative; Minnesota Art and Cultural Heritage Funds; and The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library.

There are 13 library locations across Saint Paul, and a Bookmobile. Materials can be searched and reserved online at www.sppl.org.

Religious leaders concerned about proposed limits

>> From 1

Almost 50 people involved in the city's faith and faith-based education communities attended the virtual hearing. Those submitting testimony including former Planning Commission Chairman Brian Alton, who represents the Interfaith Action coalition, and former Department of Planning and Economic Development Director Bruce Corrie, who is on faculty at Concordia University. Corrie was one of the Concordia faculty and administrators who signed a letter opposing the regulations.

Alton and others said they're willing to meet with city staff and work out a new proposal. Bill Dermody, principal planner for the city, emphasized the tight timeline the study is under in



Joshua Miller

order to meet the Feb. 1, 2022 deadline. The recommendations will require planning commission and city council action to become officials.

Others said major zoning changes could force a sharp response. "This is just ripe for litigation from beginning to end," said Joseph Kueppers, chancellor for civil affairs with the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. There are 27 Catholic parishes in St. Paul.

"This needs to be rewritten and revised. Start with a clean sheet of paper," said Kueppers.

Listening House triggers change

The proposed changes are triggered by the long fight over Listening House, which relocated from downtown to a Dayton's Bluff church several years ago. The daytime drop-in facility for the homeless opened with city staff approval, but no neighborhood process. Neighbors protested and the matter went to the planning commission and city

council.

A debate over city-imposed operating conditions for Listening House that were seen as onerous landed in court. Listening House remains open. The city needs to spell out regulations for accessory uses at faith-based institutions, as part of a 2019 U.S. District Court-ordered settlement with host church First Lutheran. The city had imposed more than a dozen operating conditions on Listening House, prompting the lawsuit by the church.

Under the court order, the city has until Feb. 1, 2022 to complete a zoning study and set up a better process for land use applications from religious organizations.

An earlier land use case, from 2004 centers on St. Mary's Episcopal Church Merriam Park, used the city's longstanding home occupation regulations to spell out which uses could move into churches, including day care centers, yoga studios and music instruction. Dermody said using home occupation regulations for

religious institutions isn't a good fit.

New construction limit dropped

The most controversial aspects of the proposal, which would have limited new construction of religious accessory uses, was dropped on recommendation by the city attorney's office. Representatives of several places of worship said this would put a halt to plans to build new community facilities, for everything from funeral receptions to gymnasiums for youth sports.

That section also could have run afoul of the federal Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act, known as RLUIPA. RLUIPA prohibits local governments from land use regulations that impose a substantial burden on religious exercise.

Limit of 1,000 square feet for social, community uses

But other regulations remain. One would limit social and community services uses, to 1,000 square feet if a church is in a residential neighborhood. Overnight shelters would be limited to 10 adults and the children

in their care. But Alton noted that Project Home, which for years has housed homeless families in places of worship as overnight shelter, often has more people to serve than that.

Others called the proposed changes confusing, especially those centered on social and community services. Another point is that while longstanding places of worship would have uses grandfathered in, new places such as Muslim groups would have to apply for conditional use permits. Faith-based institutions run by BIPOC groups might face similar restrictions.

Imam Asad Zaman, executive director of the Muslim American Society of Minnesota, said his community often deals with neighbors who can block new uses. Muslims have faced such discrimination in other places. There is concern that the St. Paul proposal could have the same effect, and block services that community needs.

Read the study and original recommendations at <https://www.stpaul.gov/sites/default/files/2021-08/Religious%20Accessory%20Uses%20ZS%20>

Join the conversation, and let us know your diverse and varied thoughts on the issues that affect your neighborhood. Send letters and guest commentaries to news@MonitorSaintPaul.com.

Another day, another historic resource facing the wrecking ball in St. Paul

by BARBARA BEZAT, ROY NEAL, KRISTINE VESLEY, & BONNIE YOUNGQUIST

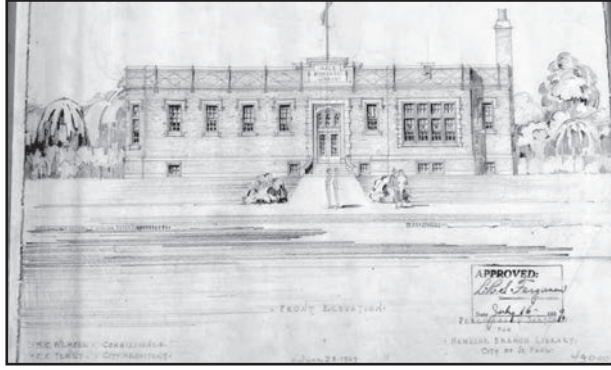
Three Saint Paul library branches, Hamline Midway, Hayden Heights, and Riverview, none of which have been renovated in more than 30 years, sought library improvement funds for needed upgrades. Of the three libraries, the Hamline Midway Library is the only library considered for demolition. Mayor Carter presented his 2022 proposal that supports an \$8.1 million investment for the library that will fund one of two options, "renovation and expansion" of the existing library or the "development of a new one."

The use of property tax revenue predicated on demolition is contrary to preservation goals expressed in Saint Paul's 2040 Comprehensive Plan, which says that "Saint Paul strives to be a leader in the use of best practices towards an equitable and sustainable approach to the conservation, preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction of PUBLIC-

LY-OWNED (emphasis mine) historic and cultural resources." Saint Paul's own Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) has recommended that the building be preserved.

The HPC was created in 1976 to protect historic resources after St. Paul's citizens and leaders witnessed the devastating impact of the I-94 construction on the Rondo neighborhood, the demolition of the famed Ryan Hotel and the near-loss of the beautiful Federal Courts Building – now the Landmark Center in downtown Saint Paul.

Demolition of the Hamline Midway Library building should never have been an option for library improvement funds, let alone the preferred and heavily promoted option of the SPPL Director and her allies, as was revealed in Jonathan Oppenheimer's carefully researched Op-Ed "SPPL lead-



ers mislead on Hamline Midway library" that printed in the October *Monitor*.

Through his records review, Oppenheimer learned that library leadership has been working to create the appearance of following the comprehensive plan, while aiming all along to tear down the historic building. No doubt they will point out needed – but until now, ignored – maintenance and ADA compliance as a sure sign that the building is crumbling. However, there is no evidence that historic architects and structural engineers

were consulted who would have deemed the library not saveable.

Demolition of a historic building should always be the last resort, and then only after all options have thoroughly been explored. Demolition should never be the first choice. Alternative suggestions from the community were quickly dismissed, rather than being explored. These included a co-location concept or relocating to a larger site. A city planner from St. Paul's Planning and Economic Department recommended an alternative site, an option that would preserve the building, in an internal email dated March 31, 2021.

"...there are a lot of vacant/underutilized residential properties on Snelling, especially between Thomas and Minnehaha. If a way could be found to both reuse the existing library building and rehab

or construct new on one of those properties to create a multi-building campus, I think it would provide much greater community benefit than demoing and building a new building on the current site."

High quality libraries in historic buildings exist across the nation and in St. Paul. The George Latimer Central Library, built in 1917, has gone through two major renovations and remains one of St. Paul's most historic structures. In 1999, the historic St. Anthony Park Library added a beautiful, well-integrated rotunda to gain a dedicated space for their children's collection. That library continues to be the gem of the neighborhood.

Historic preservation is more than saving historic buildings. It is also about saving the building's own history for future generations to view, contemplate and enjoy. A renovated historic Hamline Midway Library will be transformative and enjoyed by future generations, both as a library and for its history.

We commend city council on new tobacco restrictions

BY JEANNE WEIGUM

Association for Nonsmokers - MN President & Union Park resident

It is time to revoke the license to kill. HUH?? That is the direction the Saint Paul City Council is going with their comprehensive new tobacco ordinance. The reasons for taking such an aggressive stance on tobacco are clear (tobacco kills its users), yet federal and state governments have been slow to act. The reasons not to act are equally clear. Powerful interests are making huge profits and they like business as usual. Council Member Jane Prince had a good answer to that one:

"A business model that's based on selling controlled substances is subjecting itself to all manner of regulation. And at the point that the state of Minnesota settled with the tobacco companies over their disgraceful, illegal, and terrible conspiratorial practices of hurting the public, it should have been clear that it's a risky business."

Saint Paul recently approved

several major changes. The ordinance puts a cap on the number of available tobacco licenses, fewer than the number of tobacco licenses currently in use. No stores will lose their license but if they go out of business that location will not be able to get a new license until the total number of licenses drops below the cap. The number of stores that sell tobacco has been declining in Saint Paul, and that decline is expected to continue.

Liquor stores were allowed to sell menthol tobacco, but they will no longer be able to sell any flavored tobacco. Only tobacco products shops, where at least 90% of their sales are tobacco, are allowed to sell flavored tobacco including menthol.

The minimum price for packs of cigarettes or standard size cans of smokeless tobacco will be \$10. That is close to the current average price in Saint Paul. Saint Paul already has a minimum price of \$2.60 for cigars.

Coupons or price promotions

may no longer be used to reduce the price of any tobacco products including vape products.

Penalties for violating these provisions or the age-of-sale law are increased.

The most significant change to the ordinance is pioneering and the first of its kind in the country: setting a true minimum price and prohibiting discounts on vape products. Minnesota state law already sets a minimum price on cigarettes but that applies only to the base price. Tobacco companies and retailers are free to offer discounts off that price. That is where coupons and two-for-one specials come in. Except for cigars in Saint Paul, there is no price regulation on other tobacco products. As vape companies have rolled out new products they routinely offer starter kits or deep discounts to get people to give it a try. Today R.J. Reyonlds, maker of Camel, American Spirit, and Newport, is pushing its e-cigarette, Vuse, for \$.99. Vuse contains about the same amount of nicotine

as a pack of Camel, but at 1/10th the price. Such a deal. Coupon discounts, point-of-sale specials and incentives like the \$.99 Vuse will be a thing of the past come mid-December when the Saint Paul ordinance goes into effect.

Price is the single most effective way to prevent youth from starting to smoke and to encourage current smokers to quit. Price is more effective than age-of-sale, education, or cessation programs. This is likely the reason the tobacco companies spent \$7.7 billion in 2016 to buy down the price of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco with discounts and coupons. That means nationally they spend \$900,000 every hour to keep the smokers coming.

Coupons are little gifts from the tobacco company to their customers. These gifts come in the mail, on phone apps and in-store discounts. Customers who receive a gift of any size are less likely to try to quit smoking and are more likely to have positive feelings toward the industry. After all, the tobacco company cares enough about them to give them gifts.

Discounts are marvelously effective marketing tools. ANSR conducted key informant interviews and everyone we talked with had purchased items they really didn't need, and probably didn't want, because the price was too good to pass up. Me? Two green plastic tape measures for less than the price of one. Since I didn't need even one more tape measure it is anyone's guess why I fell for that one. It is a bit of harmless marketing when it is a plastic tape measure. When it is a deadly product and that discount is undermining someone's resolve to quit, it is anything but harmless.

Providence, RI and New York City have price restrictions but neither include vape or smokeless products in their ordinance, so Saint Paul is more comprehensive.

Since price is the most important tool in the prevention and cessation tool kit, Saint Paul's mayor and city council are to be commended for having the courage to use that tool. We hope other cities will follow their lead.

The Association for Nonsmokers - MN is located at 2395 University Ave. West in St. Paul.

A MAYOR MUST...

Eyes darting from news story to blog post to social media message, but nothing looks any different. The same text flashes before your eyes. The St. Paul Mayoral election race has a pre-determined winner. People are already upset, others satisfied. The turnout of this election holds in its hands a very pinnacle moment in St. Paul's history. No matter what happens, you think, I hope Minnesotans never forget what is ahead and what we're coming from.

Stop
Think
Feel

By ABHA KARNICK



The past few years have been everything but calm. The Mayor who walks into this next term walks with a community who continues

to heal, grow, and change. The aftermath of a city on fire, the deaths of innocent lives, these are, consequentially, things that a Mayor holds in their hands.

They must be held carefully, tenderly.

What was a long-awaited presidential election burns in the minds of so many across the nation and world. The effects on Minnesotans is just as strong as anywhere else.

A Mayor must think wisely in the political climate that exists.

The trauma and pain of a community grieving the loss of life and

racism that continues to herd us all like cattle is ever-present.

A Mayor must not forget the murders, the turmoil, and the unrest, as it has become a vein in the bloodstream of St. Paul.

To look ahead is a prominently hopeful stance. St. Paul holds an eagerness, like a child the night before the holidays, to build and adjust and serve. Communities want change, people want justice, and governments want order. The city begs for revolutionary and foundational disruptions – disruptions to clear away racism and homopho-

bia, lies and violence, pain and homelessness.

A Mayor must be looking forward, with a thoughtful and empathetic lens on their city.

A Mayor must embody what St. Paul needs next. A Mayor must represent this city for who she is, the communities she has, and the people she looks out for.

Abha Karnick is a south Minneapolis resident with East Indian roots who graduated from Hamline University in 2019. Her passion lies in storytelling and finding moments to capture.

Monitor

5139 34th Ave. S. #17097
Minneapolis, MN 55417

612-345-9998

MonitorSaintPaul.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/monitorsaintpaul/>
Instagram: [midwaycomomonitor](https://www.instagram.com/midwaycomomonitor)

News for you!

The *Midway Como Frogtown Monitor* is a monthly community publication in the Midway, Como, Hamline and Frogtown neighborhoods of St. Paul, owned and operated by TMC Publications, CO. Visit our website for our calendar and publication dates.

Story ideas always welcome.

Keep in touch with the *Monitor*. Letters to the editor under 200 words and news releases for publication can be sent via e-mail to news@monitorsaintpaul.com. Unsigned letters will not run.

Owner & Editor:

Tesha M. Christensen, 612-345-9998
Tesha@MonitorSaintPaul.com

Advertising & Marketing:

Denis Woulfe, 651-917-4183
Denis@MonitorSaintPaul.com

Design & Layout:

Tesha M. Christensen

Printing by: ECM/Adams Publishing Group

This issue of the *Monitor* is printed on recycled paper using soy-based ink. Approximately 95-97% of material that enters the print facility is recycled.

TMC
PUBLICATIONS CO

READ
then
RECYCLE

Delivery provided by: Fresh Heir and IDS

If you have a problem with delivery, call 612-345-9998 or email the editor. Mail subscriptions are available at \$40 a year.

Contributing Writers & Photographers:

Jane McClure, Jan Willms, Jill Boogren, Margie O'Loughlin, Matthew Davis, Stephanie Fox, Terry Faust, Chad Kulas, Amy Pass and Abha Karnick

The *Monitor* is for profit and for a purpose – and we don't sacrifice one for the other. We consider ourselves a zebra company, one that is both black and white, both/and. As a media company, we work to highlight issues, solve real, meaningful problems, and repair existing

social systems. We are working with our readers and advertisers to create a more just and responsible society that hears, helps and heals the customers and communities we serve.

All rights reserved. The contents of the *Monitor* cannot be reproduced without express written permission of the publisher. Copyright © 2021.

Members of Minnesota Newspaper Association, America's Newspapers, and Midway Chamber Area of Commerce.



AYA: AN ANTHOLOGY OF RACIAL JUSTICE, HEALING AND THE BLACK EXPERIENCE

Writing is a powerful tool for planting seeds of social change. Throughout history, writers have shined a light on injustice and unleashed their moral imagination in creating a brighter future. According to acclaimed writer and poet, James Baldwin: "you write in order to change the world." Planting People Growing Justice Leadership Institute is committed to inspiring and equipping the next generation of writers and change agents.

We are proud to announce our latest children's book writing competition entitled: Writing for Social Change. It will be held in conjunction with a four-part workshop series. The goal is to foster reflective representation in children's literature. It promotes literacy and encourages youth of color to dream big and picture themselves as anything they want to be. This is critically important when you are more likely to see a black dog or black bear on the cover of a children's book than a Black boy or Black girl. A mere 10 percent of children's books feature a Black character.

Our goal with the writing contest is to train BIPOC adult literary artists to use the arts as a strategic tool for community building and social change advocacy. The contest will be for a 300-word children's picture book for reading ages 4 to 8. Manuscript submissions can be fiction or non-fiction. The contest is open to Minnesota residents of African American heritage that are 18 years of age and over. Submissions must be received by Monday, Nov. 15, 2021. The winner will receive a cash prize of \$1,000, 10 copies of their published book, and will be honored during the annual PPGJLI community celebration. The winning manuscript will be selected by a community panel of judges.

We are extremely fortunate to have Deborah Ahenkorah Osei-Agyekum as our guest presenter at the writer's workshop. Born in Accra, Ghana, she is a global advocate for literacy and has worked for the last decade to find solutions for eliminating childhood literacy challenges. She co-founded the children's literacy NGO, Golden

Baobab, and works to inspire African writers and illustrators to create children's content and publish their work. Other guest presenters are award-winning author Bukola Oriola and senior literary manager Sera Rivers.

The workshop series will provide BIPOC artists with the tools to imagine and create culturally diverse children's books. The series provides writers with an opportunity to learn about the design and writing process for crafting children's books from experienced literary artists.

The theme for the competition is Juneteenth. This theme is related to liberation and freedom.

History of Juneteenth

Juneteenth is also called our nation's "Second Independence." In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation declaring freedom for all enslaved people in the rebellion states (Confederacy) on January 1, 1863. The South sought to preserve slavery and keep Black people in a permanent class of sec-

Planting seeds

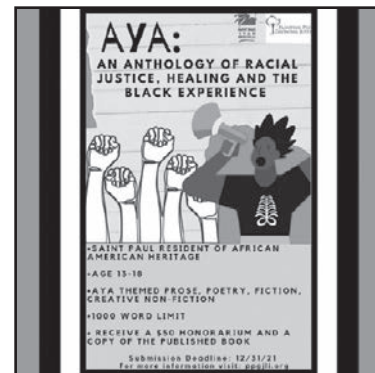
By DR. ARTIKA TYNER,
dr.artikatyner@gmail.com



ond-class citizenship. The proclamation served as a turning point for the Black community in the southern states that had seceded from the Union. They would stand and courageously fight for their own freedom in the Civil War.

However, freedom did not become a reality for the Black community of Galveston Bay, Texas until June 19, 1865. Union troops arrived and announced to the more than 250,000 enslaved Black people that they were free. This day was called "Juneteenth." It is still celebrated today as a reminder of the importance of freedom and justice.

The Writing for Social Change competition is an excellent opportunity for anyone to aid in social change by promoting literacy and sharing about the history of Juneteenth. Minnesota residents have the unique chance to provide children with inspiration, role models, and the impetus for change.



Remember, the wise words of the legendary writer Toni Morrison: "books are a form of political action. Books are knowledge. Books are reflection. Books change your mind."

Challenge yourself and change the world today by submitting your book in the Writing for Social Change competition.

Enter today: <https://www.ppgjli.org/writing-for-social-change>

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Through her organization, Planting People Growing Justice Leadership Institute, Dr. Artika Tyner seeks to plant seeds of social change through education, training, and community outreach.

The Season of Giving

As the holidays are coming, many naturally think about how to give back. We think about ways to do this financially with end-of-year giving and we think about volunteering our time. Families, offices, schools, and extracurricular groups take time to do either or both financial or time giving, which can be highlights of the year, lasting memories, and traditions.

Everyone has their own style on how to give. Some like spreading it out among many

groups, while others feel their gift means more if it is a larger amount to a limited number of nonprofits. Some people have charities that are close to their heart because of a personal circumstance or because they know someone working at the organization. There's no wrong approach to giving, and we certainly have no shortage of worthy causes in and around the Midway.

The Midway and our surrounding neighborhoods are home to many nonprofits – including many with a statewide or regional reach. Some reasons for the abundance are the proximity to the State Capitol and to be in the middle of the Twin Cities. The Midway Chamber of

Building a stronger Midway

By CHAD KULAS,
Midway Chamber
of Commerce Executive Director
chad@midwaychamber.com



Commerce has also benefitted from their locations as many are members and active in our programming.

Every December, the Midway Chamber teams up with Hamline University to create a Celebration of Nonprofits event. The event is a half day with a morning panel, a nonprofit expo, and a lunch featuring a

keynote speaker. This year, the event will occur at Hamline on Dec. 15 and feature the Wilder Foundation's Armando Camacho as the keynote. In the morning, we will talk about the importance of data and how nonprofits can use it to their advantage. The event is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about nonprofits in our community and to learn how to run a nonprofit more effectively. Attendees also make a donation, which goes to one lucky nonprofit at the end of the luncheon.

The past two years have been hard on many nonprofits as so many donors have had to tighten up their finances and contributions. The pandemic has also caused many nonprof-

its an added burden in trying to provide services. Like other organizations, this has meant a rethinking among many on how to best run daily operations and also long-term planning. But one thing that has always remained is the importance of reaching out to donors and volunteers. In the fourth quarter, it is estimated that 20-25% of nonprofit fundraising is conducted with many individual organizations seeing much higher numbers.

As 2021 ends, I hope you can take time to think about how you would like to help your favorite charities and you can help us all show how much the Midway neighborhood cares.

County budget includes investments in what residents tell me is important

It is my profound honor to serve on the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners representing District 3, which includes much of the Midway and Como. This has been a challenging few years for local governments across the country and especially in Minnesota, as we struggle through simultaneous emergencies of global pandemic, institutional racism, and civil unrest. Our proposed 2022 budget for Ramsey County takes on these issues head-on, and I couldn't be prouder of the work that we are doing.

Headlining this year's budget is a conservative 1.5% increase to the property tax levy, coming on the heels of our 0% levy increase last year. As personnel costs and materials continue to rise above inflation, we have had to make tough choices about our programs and projects to ensure that we can deliver the services that our residents and businesses depend on. This budget includes investments in areas that I have heard from District 3 residents are top priorities, and which I hope we can make further investments in for years to come.

First, the budget includes a historic investment into hous-

ing and economic development through Ramsey County's first-ever HRA levy, which will generate \$11 million annually to fund new and preserved deeply affordable housing for our most vulnerable residents. While Saint Paul residents have funded the city's HRA levy for decades, this levy allows us to spread the cost onto suburban Ramsey County communities, which have historically not levied their residents to fund affordable housing. We are also seeding this program with \$27 million of federal American Rescue Plan funding over the next two years, which will generate big investments in our neighborhoods and communities.

Second, we are beginning to think more deeply about climate and environmental mitigation and Ramsey County's role in decarbonizing our economy. While we have made big strides in reducing the footprint of our own buildings and programs, we know that there is far more that needs to be done to meet our climate goals. This has been identified as a top priority for the next few years and I am excited to work with the community to identify strategies moving forward.

Third, racial and health equity has been a top priority at Ram-

Guest column

By TRISTA MATASCILLLO
trista.matascilllo@co.ramsey.mn.us



sey County for years, and we are beginning to see the results of those efforts in our community. County Attorney John Choi's recent announcement that his office will decline to prosecute pretextual traffic stops is just one result of our Transforming Systems Together initiative, which brings together a group of community leaders and experts to identify where Ramsey County's criminal justice system has caused harm to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color and to undo those systems while maintaining community safety.

Since our youth prison Boys Totem Town shut down and offenders were redirected to programs in community, both overall youth crime rates and rates of recidivism have declined significant-

ly. We will be watching those numbers closely over the next few years to identify lessons learned.

Fourth, this budget continues investments into a balanced public safety system that includes both traditional licensed peace officers and innovative new programs. Although the tight budgets of the last few years have required most of our departments to make painful cuts, we made the decision to hold the Sheriff's Office harmless and maintain their pre-pandemic staffing and programs. We have also targeted funds into initiatives like mental health co-responders who work with our suburban police departments to deescalate situations and get community members the help they need, and the Healing Streets Initiative, which takes a Public Health approach to ending the cycles of violence that continue to traumatize our community.

Finally, we continue to invest in multimodal transportation improvements to make it easy and safe for people to walk, bike, roll, and take transit around Ramsey County in addition to maintaining accessibility for people driving. The METRO Gold Line, which will provide all-day frequent service between downtown Saint Paul and

Woodbury along Interstate 94, remains on track for construction to begin in 2022.

The METRO Purple Line, formerly known as the Rush Line, will take riders from downtown all the way up to downtown White Bear Lake, and should open in 2026. The Riverview Corridor, still in development, will connect downtown to the Airport and Mall of America via West 7th St. In addition to these, I helped secure two new Arterial BRT projects like the A Line for District 3: the Rice-Robert line, which will run from Little Canada down to West St. Paul as the METRO G Line, and the Como-Maryland line, running from downtown Minneapolis to the Sun Ray Transit Center via Como, Maryland, and White Bear Aves.

Serving my community as your commissioner has been the honor of my life, and I cannot wait to see what we accomplish together over the next few years. If you have any questions or need assistance with county services or programs, please reach out to my office via email (Trista.MatasCastillo@co.ramsey.mn.us) or phone (651-266-8360).



This ongoing series seeks to put a face on domestic abuse and intimate partner violence. Past articles on our website.

CHILDREN BEING HARMED

Over 58,500 children are court-ordered into the care of abusers and domestic violence perpetrators each year, according to The Leadership Council on Child Abuse and Interpersonal Violence.

809 children are have been murdered by a divorcing or separating parent, according to the Center for Judicial Excellence. This includes:

- eight-year-old Autumn Hallow, who was killed by father and step-mother following a custody battle in Sherburne County in August 2020.
- Nelson and William Schladetzky, who were shot multiple times by father David, who also killed his ex-wife on a snowy morning in South Minneapolis on Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019. The divorce was finalized in June 2019.

Multiple studies have found that adults who have attempted suicide report child abuse, with one finding it affects approximately four in five adults with suicide attempts. There are no statistics yet compiled on how many children in the care of abusers commit suicide.

WHAT IS POST SEPARATION ABUSE?

For many, it is worse than the abuse (domestic violence) suffered during the relationship or marriage. Domestic violence is about power and control. That deep-seated need for power and control does not mysteriously vanish when the relationship ends. During the relationship, the victim often feels better equipped to protect the children. After the relationship ends, and the domestic violence victim is actually penalized for attempting to protect their young and often, accused of "alienation." While domestic violence often takes place behind closed doors, post separation abuse takes place in a new venue: the family court system. More at www.onemoms-battle.com/post-separation-abuse. See graphic on page 7.

ACES SHOW IMPACT

Post-separation abuse does not just affect the victim, it has both immediate and long-lasting effects on children resulting in high adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). ACE's, a term used to describe any traumatic event during childhood such as divorce, violence, emotional abuse, neglect, substance abuse or even an environment that undermines a child's sense of bonding or stability.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Kaiser Permanente ACE Study, "The economic and social costs to families, communities, and society total hundreds of billions of dollars each year. As one example, the estimated annual U.S. population economic burden of child maltreatment alone, a major contributor of ACEs, was \$428 million."



THEY TOOK HER CHILDREN AWAY

Accused of 'parental alienation,' mother separated from daughters for 5 years

>> From 1

CPS holds mom responsible for violent dad

Twenty-three-year-old Starr* (whose name along with everyone else's in this article, as well as other details, have been changed for their protection) was pregnant with their second child and had left their six-month-old daughter Mia with her boyfriend, Todd, while she worked.

She got a phone call from Todd that chilled her to the bone.

"He said if I don't come home immediately, he was going to kill her," Starr recalled.

The baby looked ok when she arrived, and she told Todd that she was going to stay somewhere else that night. Once safely out of the apartment, she headed to the emergency room. CPS and the police were called, and Todd admitted to shaking the baby that day. He also said that three months earlier he had held a pillow over her face when he couldn't control her crying.

Starr made the decision to leave.

But instead of life getting better in 2005, things got worse for Starr, her six-month-old daughter and her unborn baby.

"I was held accountable by Hennepin County for leaving my child with someone unsafe," explained Starr. "I had to quit my job because there were so many hoops to jump through."

They took the nursing infant away and placed her in foster care.

And they warned her that her parental rights might be terminated. If they were terminated, not only would she lose Mia, but she would lose her unborn child and any future children.

"What they did was far more damaging to my daughter and I than anything he had done," said Starr. "The county takes very flippantly the relationships and bonds between family members. They really don't take into account the damage that does."

Not once did a social worker suggest that she could get a restraining order against Todd, whose physical violence over the years had included blocking doorways, locking her out of the house in the dead of winter, yelling in her face, and strangling her. They ordered him to attend an anger management class, and Starr made sure he got there because she couldn't get Mia back until CPS decided Todd was safe – even though they were no longer living together. They required her to admit she had done something wrong by leaving her child with dad – even though she didn't know he would harm the baby until the day she left.

She finally got Mia back and refused to take Todd back, despite his pleading that they be a family again and that he had changed. Eighteen months after their second daughter, Caroline, was born, he had his third child, a son, with his new wife. Todd faded away for about six years, and only came by to see the girls when Starr reached out.

'If you take my money, I'll take your kids'

Then, because she was on medical assistance, the county went after Todd for \$50,000 in unpaid child support.

She begged them not to.

"If you take my money, I'm

taking your kids," she remembers him telling her.

His wife called her and "demanded to know why I felt entitled to take his money," said Starr.

"I couldn't prove any violence was happening now."

So family court awarded Todd every other weekend, and the girls started spending overnights with the father they hardly knew in a different house with new rules and two adults who didn't like their primary caregiver and let the girls know.

"I could do all my laundry and go to a movie in a single day," Starr recalled. "After putting myself through graduate school as a single mom, it was kinda a relief knowing I had another parent willing to do some of the parenting."

But then, the girls developed bedwetting issues. Caroline started losing weight because she was so anxious about spending the night away from home at her dad's house. She dropped from size six to two within three months.

When Starr brought things up to Todd, he insisted that Caroline was ok, and that she ate with him despite her obvious weight loss so the problem had to be with Starr. He refused to talk about ways to help Caroline eat at his house and manage her anxiety, and he told Starr to stop trying to control how he parented.

"That's when I started saying, 'What do I do?'" remarked Starr.

Her earlier experience with child protection had shown her that she would be held responsible for what happened at dad's house unless she prevented it, so she filed an order for protection (OFP) on behalf of her and the girls. "My goal was not to remove dad from their lives but to figure this out," explained Starr. She agreed to drop the OFP with the provision that they meet and address things.

Instead, he showed up expecting 50/50 parenting time and didn't engage in conversation to address their daughter's needs.

And then he took her to court.

In the meantime, Starr was focused on getting her daughter to eat enough to hit a healthy weight. The school wasn't set up to accommodate a child who needed to eat so many extra calories. In December, Starr pulled Caroline from public school to do a hybrid of some classes at school and the rest homeschool through the holidays to focus on eating. Todd refused to agree to the plan, but didn't offer a better one.

Despite her best efforts, Caroline ended up hospitalized because her heart was being affected by the extreme weight loss, anxiety and psychological abuse the eight-year-old had a hard time articulating.

And Todd filed an emergency order to get custody so he could make legal decisions by himself. In his filing, Todd accused Starr of interfering with the relationship with dad, and used Caroline's words about why she was anxious

as evidence that mom was turning his daughter against him. He said it was a case of Munchhausen by proxy, and that Starr was acting as if their daughter was ill when she wasn't really sick. He wanted her back in public school immediately, despite her having just begun a two-week hospital stay.

Incredibly to Starr, their family court judge ignored the doctor's diagnosis and awarded Todd temporary sole custody, with a review by a Guardian Ad Litem.

The day they gave him primary care of the girls is a day burned into Starr's memory.

'They make you feel like the crazy one'

"Todd is very good at trying to paint me as an immature and incompetent person," said Starr. "People don't question what he says. So many of the things Todd has accused me of he has done some version of himself. I assume that is how he comes up with them."

Todd said Starr didn't include him in medical decisions about Caroline, even though he was at the hospital during her stay and was part of meetings with hospital staff who ensured he was included.

He said Starr didn't make them do their homework and pointed to one weekend when they were behind (neglecting to mention they were catching up from the week they had spent with him).

He said that Starr's anxiety was rubbing off on the girls, and that they were enmeshed. He accused Starr of being a gatekeeper and blocking his access to their daughters. He told medical professionals that they couldn't share information with her, misusing his legal custody authority.

It's hard to keep track of all the contradictory statements made that Starr heard from Todd, his attorney, the judge and the court-appointed Guardian Ad Litem (GAL), and it was tough to figure out how to address all the lies Todd told.

But one thing is clear to Starr. "The GAL was famous Minnesota con-man Denny Hecker's ex-girlfriend, and she loved Todd. Where does the court find someone like this?"

She questions whether the GAL had training in domestic violence so she could adequately identify common factors in abusive situations. She's not alone. These and other problems are highlighted in a 2018 Office of the State Auditor report on the Minnesota GAL program.

The techniques Todd used, that of denying, attacking and reversing who is victim and offender, is a common method known as DARVO, studied by various researchers in cases of domestic and sexual violence, but it isn't required in training to become a GAL. In fact, someone may become a GAL in Minnesota with only 40 hours of training, and is not required to have any training in child psychology, domestic vio-

lence, Cluster B personality disorders, or high conflict personalities. Likewise, judges, attorneys and custody evaluators receive very little training in domestic violence although researchers estimate that the majority of divorce cases that go before judges and aren't settled out of court involve domestic violence, according to the Leadership Council on Abuse and Interpersonal Violence.

"They make you feel like the crazy one because of the crazy things they're doing," observed Starr.

Caroline finally started gaining weight after her hospital stay and the doctor's recommendation that she needed 3,500 calories a day. Despite the fact that she was with mom for all but a few days of her recovery, Todd used it as evidence they were doing better with him, and legal and physical custody and majority of parenting time should stay with him.

It became permanent after the GAL's recommendation in favor of Todd. Judges are known to rarely go against the recommendation of a GAL or custody evaluator. A study by Georgetown University led by Joan Meiers found that when a mom raises concerns about physical or sexual abuse, and a dad counters with allegations of alienation, the courts side with him and mothers lose custody 43% of the time.

The theory of alienation is widely used in family court, but has been repeatedly debunked by scientists and psychologists, particularly those familiar with the dynamics of intimate partner violence and coercive control who see continued abuse versus "parental alienation" or "enmeshment."

"I was raising them without him and they were leading charmed healthy lives from orchestra to sports, to performing in school theatre, to family vacations and summer camps. Suddenly years later he gets to show up, make false claims and put me on supervised visits," said Starr. "You can't make this up. It's unbelievable."

Mission to erase mom

But the switch in houses didn't fix the girls' relationship with their dad, and the girls began exhibiting more signs of anxiety and depression as their lives continued to dramatically change. It is hard for Starr to recall all the incidents of the last few years, and how many times they've been in court.

Todd began his time as primary parent by moving the girls to the opposite side of the Twin Cities from where they grew up and changing school districts. He removed them from their long-time activities, dropped their music lessons, and enrolled them in martial arts (which he is a fan of).

"He seemed to be on a mission to erase everything about me and my parenting choices," said Starr.

Also known as "counter parenting," these tactics are outlined in the Post-Separation Abuse Wheel developed by Tina Swithin of One Mom's Battle. They are common ways people continue to abuse their former partners after separation as their access is limited to the children.

Todd's next wife, who was a competitive woman with no kids of her own, began introducing the girls as her children. She said she was their mom while at school functions and medical appoint-

THEY TOOK HER CHILDREN >> 7

THEY TOOK HER CHILDREN AWAY
 >> From 6

ments. She supported his “fight” for parental rights and managed the daily care of the girls despite knowing their mom was capable and willing.

Caught in a trap

At 12, Caroline’s anxiety-induced weight loss shifted to anorexia, and she was placed in the residential treatment program. When she got out, her dad continued to make comments about her weight and that she “was going to get fat if she ate that.”

Mia tried to commit suicide at school. The school released her with the explicit understanding that Todd would bring her directly to the emergency room. Instead, he took her out to dinner before making his way to the hospital. The University of Minnesota psychiatrist Mia saw wrote a letter to CPS stating that she needed to be removed from her father’s care immediately because she identified him as the source of her distress, and he believed her when she said she was being abused by her dad.

Starr filed an ex parte motion based on the doctor’s findings. But once again, she discovered she was caught in a trap. “Everything you say and do and the kids say or do is more evidence of parental alienation, and not dad’s bad behavior,” she pointed out.

Another time both girls showed up for a visit and admitted that, without knowing what the other was doing, they had both overdosed on pills the night before at their dad’s. They needed immediate medical attention. Later, Starr learned Caroline’s psychiatrist had called Todd the day before after an appointment with Caroline, and told him he needed to bring both girls to the ER immediately. She relayed that Caroline had a plan and intended to hurt herself. In her notes, she wrote that Todd agreed to bring them in. Instead, the next day he told Starr they were sick and it might be food poisoning.

There were many follow-up suicidal attempts by Caroline, who said if returning to her dad’s house was the only option, suicide was the only way out.

“That period of time was really scary,” said Starr.

Todd convinced the court that her daughters were compelled to hurt themselves to be loved by mom. “Why would my kids have to hurt themselves in order to prove their love to me?” Starr asked. She was astonished by the allegation, but has discovered that judges and referees in family court have broad discretion in their cases, which are shielded from public eye. Without pointing to evidence, they can rule that a witness is credible or not, and make their decision based on that. Sometimes contrary evidence has been presented disproving the allegations, but this effort by moms is seen as overly aggressive and the evidence gets ignored.

“Their exercise of discretion is so biased,” she observed after more than a decade in the family court system, “and they don’t have to weigh all the evidence like you do in criminal court. There is no sunlight on these cases.”

She believes that a court bias against women is apparent, even in the language used. Todd “informs the court” while Starr “al-

leges and claims.”

Few judges are held accountable in the state for misconduct. The Minnesota Board on Judicial Standards is staffed by fellow judges and attorneys, and has issued only four reprimands in the last five years. There are 289 judges in the state and many referees. The Board received 158 complaints in 2020 and issued only one public reprimand. In 2019, the board received 181 complaints and did not issue a single public reprimand.

Starr has by turns hired an attorney and represented herself, and has spent \$300,000 on a legal battle she calls “frivolous.” It could have been resolved by Todd taking steps towards getting to know his children better, such as attending soccer games and recitals, and growing from there.

“When you deal with domestic violence and get away, you think that part is going to end,” observed Starr. “But then they weaponize the court system to continue that abuse. And when it is psychological abuse and coercive control, the court is the perfect weapon for them.”

Supervised like a rapist

Starr remembers one day when she got a phone call from Mia. “She told me she was more scared than she had ever been in her life,” recalled Starr, who felt helpless and shocked. “She begged me to come and get her. I told her I cannot come and get you. I have no legal right.”

So, Mia called the police. When they arrived, Todd and his mother-in-law told officers that Mia was just being a difficult teenager.

And then they used it in court to say that Starr was even trying to alienate the girls from their grandmother and was responsible for the police visit. “I was not involved in this,” pointed out Starr. “I had no idea where she was.” But it didn’t seem to matter. Again, if she did something, it was inappropriate. If dad did it, it was somehow her fault, too. “Court is his arena,” observed Starr.

“The court kept getting the message that I was relentlessly doing behaviors that were unacceptable because Todd was relentlessly manufacturing accusations,” Starr pointed out. And there was no proof. But the court got fed up with it, and issued a sua sponte order that no one had asked for.

The judge ordered supervised visits for her at the highest level available in Minnesota.

She was only allowed to see her daughters at a supervision site typically reserved for those who rape their children but get to see them after they’ve

served their prison time.

She got to see her kids for one hour a week. They were so booked up, she couldn’t see them at all for four months.

And she had to pay for all of the supervision costs.

“I don’t want anyone to try to imagine how this feels because no parent should have to imagine it,” said Starr.

Starr finds it confusing that the court still thinks she is the problem parent. Todd has a poor co-parenting relationship with the mother of his third child. Meanwhile, Starr co-parents easily with the father of her third daughter although they are no longer a couple, and they haven’t involved the court at all but collaborate on what’s best for their children.

She had a psychological evaluation done, which showed little more than a hesitation to trust people. It ruled out Munchausen by proxy. She was ordered to complete DBT therapy anyway, and she graduated out of it in half the typical timeframe. Meanwhile, Todd’s results showed he’s likely to blame Starr for his parenting challenges, and lacks attunement to meet the needs of the girls. He hasn’t completed any therapy to address those issues.

“If a dad rapes a daughter during his parenting time with her, and she tells her mom what happened, what is mom supposed to do? If she does nothing she is neglecting her responsibilities as a parent, but if efforts to protect the child are made, the child is taken from her and given to the dad. When a divorced mom comes forward, she is accused of telling the daughter to say that to alienate her from dad,” said Starr. “I’d like the court to tell us how to manage this.”

Countdown to 18

Eventually, dad placed both teens in separate, long-term locked psych facilities although that level of care wasn’t recommended by their psychiatrists. Todd refused to sign releases for Starr’s involvement even though she was legally allowed to be included.



This ongoing series seeks to put a face on domestic abuse and intimate partner violence. Past articles on our website.

WHAT IS DARVO?

Deny, Attack, and Reverse Victim and Offender

It is a reaction perpetrators of wrong doing may display in response to being held accountable for their behavior.

The perpetrator or offender may Deny the behavior, Attack the individual doing the confronting, and Reverse the roles of Victim and Offender such that the perpetrator assumes the victim role and turns the true victim – or the whistleblower – into an alleged offender. This occurs, for instance, when an actually guilty perpetrator assumes the role of “falsely accused” and attacks the accuser’s credibility and blames the accuser of being the perpetrator of a false accusation.

“I have observed that actual abusers threaten, bully and make a nightmare for anyone who asks them to change their behavior. This attack, intended to chill and terrify, typically includes threats of law suits, overt and covert attacks on the whistle-blower’s credibility, and so-on. The attack will often take the form of focusing on ridiculing the person who attempts to make the offender accountable,” said researcher Dr. Jennifer Freyd of the University of Oregon.



1 IN 15 CHILDREN

ARE EXPOSED TO INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE EACH YEAR
 (90% OF THESE ARE EYEWITNESSES)

USING THE COURTS TO ABUSE

What is ‘vexatious litigation?’ It is legal action brought solely to harass or subdue an adversary. It may take the form of a primary frivolous lawsuit or may be the repetitive, burdensome, and unwarranted filing of meritless motions.

“Vexatious litigation can be very distressing for the other party. Respondents observed a plethora of negative effects including serious psychological stress, increased legal costs, feelings of depression and oppression, hopelessness and despair, triggering of mental health episodes, and a loss of faith in the justice system,” wrote Emaa Fitch and Patricia Eastale in “Vexatious litigation in family law and coercive control: Ways to improve legal remedies and better protect the victims.”

HIBAR CO-FOUNDERS DRAWN TOGETHER BY SENSE OF PURPOSE

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

By now, everyone has seen images of plastic-strewn beaches around the world. Half a billion shampoo and conditioner bottles get tossed out every year in this country alone. Nora Schaper and her three co-founders at HiBAR, manufacturers of a new line of plastic-free shampoo and conditioner products, have been taking action to reduce single-use plastics with their innovative new product line.

Nora said, "HiBAR is inspiring people to remove single-use plastic from their everyday lives. We do that by redesigning commonly used products (like shampoo and conditioner) from the ground up to be beautiful, functional, and 100% plastic-free."

HiBAR launched in late 2018, and is already on the shelves in more than 10,000 stores across the country. Nora said, "The world needs one or two brands that can popularize the idea and practice of being plastic-free, and we intend to be one of them."

Four heads are better than one

Nora, a communications consultant, and her husband, Jay Schaper, were owners of a body care product business that manufactured bath bombs and soaps. As the years went by, they became increasingly concerned about single-use plastics pollution.

Their children attended the City of Lakes Waldorf School in Minneapolis. When Nora saw fellow parent Ward Johnson in the school parking lot one day, she chased him down. She knew he had recently sold his business, a natural pet food company, and that he had a good business head on his shoulders.

The three of them started brainstorming about business ideas, and soon bumped into another Waldorf parent, Dion Hughes, at a social gathering. Nora said, "Dion had just come back from a vacation, a trip to Mexico, where he'd seen plastic strewn beaches first-hand. He was very motivated to start working for environmental change. Dion is a creative brand builder, an inventive thinker, and a brilliant marketer. Before we knew it, we had our leadership team."

Plastic-free shampoo and conditioner manufactured in Midway



The HiBAR team at their workplace in the St. Paul Midway neighborhood. HiBAR launched in late 2018, and is already on the shelves in more than 10,000 stores across the country. Founder Nora Schaper said, "The world needs one or two brands that can popularize the idea and practice of being plastic-free, and we intend to be one of them." (Top photos submitted, bottom photo at right by Margie O'Loughlin)

From humble beginnings

Jay is the HiBAR product formulator. According to Nora, "Jay isn't a trained chemist, so he doesn't worry about breaking the rules. He is also a potter, and has years of experience formulating and mixing his own glazes."

She said, "We started out making product in our basement. We sent out the early orders from our living room. Making shampoo and making conditioner are two very different processes. Shampoo is made in a huge mixer; it's kind of like mixing cookie dough. After three years of formulation, we launched HiBAR. Our products are salon quality, with all-natural ingredients and beautiful, plastic-free packaging."

"We've grown very quickly; we have 35 employees now. We thought we would hire someone to manufacture our products, but our formula is so different from the industry standard that we ended up making our own stuff."

"We didn't want our products to look like bars of soap, because they aren't. We wanted them to be visually striking. On the North Shore of Lake Superior, we found river rocks and realized that they held the answer. Inspired by their shape, our bars

"Conversations about plastic pollution continue to increase - people want to make change, especially young people."

~ Nora Schaper

are a joy to hold, save space in the shower, and shed moisture quickly."

HiBAR products are distinctly different from other salon quality hair care products because they contain no sulfates, fragrances, silicones, or parabens - and there has been no animal testing.

Core business tenet is care

One of the core tenets at HiBAR is care for the planet - and for fellow humans. Nora said, "We've removed over 2,600,000 plastic bottles from the environment. Every HiBAR purchase is equivalent to one 16-ounce bottle of water-based shampoo or conditioner. We extrapolate our sales figures into the number of empty plastic bottles that aren't cluttering up the environment."

She continued, "Women are the main purchasers of HiBAR products and of home goods in general. We knew that in order

for women to give up their plastic-bottled shampoo and conditioner, HiBAR needed to perform as well or better than what they were switching from. All along the way we asked women to test our products, we consulted with women, and right now the whole sales team is women."

All product packaging is compostable, recyclable or both. When it comes time for shipping, the commitment to being plastic-free continues. There is no bubble wrap, and no plastic tape.

Nora said, "Our goal since the beginning has been to get to what we call the 'light green shoppers.' Conversations about plastic pollution continue to increase - people want to make change, especially young people."

Looking ahead

HiBAR products are readily available in the Twin Cities; look for them at local food co-ops including Seward, Kowalski's, Whole Foods, Mastel's, Fresh



Mission-driven

"HiBAR's mission is to inspire the removal of single use plastic from everyday life by redesigning personal care products. Being a start-up, not a corporate entity, means we have less structure, fewer resources, no road map, endless unfinished tasks, and a huge feeling of responsibility for our employees and our customers. It also means we have the ability to effect more change."

~ Nora Schaper, HiBAR co-founder



Thyme, REI, and more.

The cost is \$12-\$13 depending on the product. A shampoo sampler set (\$9.95) includes three of their most popular shampoos in miniature, trial size. Nora explained, "A traditional shampoo and conditioner contains 80-90% water, whereas our products contain none. Because they are concentrated, our products last longer."

In 2022, HiBAR will be launching two new products: gentle, amino acid-based face cleansers, and a line of deodorant - all plastic-free. Visit the website at <https://hellohibar.com> to learn more. Access the HiBAR Journal while you're there, for other stories related to improving environmental stewardship and responsible consumerism.

612.729.7608 • www.buck-bros.com



**We design & build
in your neighborhood**

*Kitchens, Baths, Additions
Restorations*

MN license #4593



DID YOU KNOW?

60% of readers say they frequently purchase products and services from ads that they see in the Monitor.

**FALL INTO SAVINGS
WITH THE POWER OF THE SUN!**

GET A FREE SOLAR QUOTE!

**\$500
OFF**

WHEN YOU MENTION
THIS AD DURING YOUR
PROPERTY EVALUATION

PROMO CODE: COMOFALL

EXPIRES 11/30/2021



AllEnergySolar.com/Monitor
651-372-2264



Professor gives tips to helpers on how to help families affected Kids getting harmed by domestic violence

By JAN WILLMS

Like many issues, domestic abuse situations have only been heightened by COVID-19.

Jerrold Brown, a professor at Concordia University and program director for the Master of Arts degree in human services with an emphasis in forensic behavioral health, can offer insight on these situations. Brown has also been a part of developing a new graduate certification program currently being taught online at Concordia, "Trauma, Resilience and Self-Care Strategy."

Part of the eight-week course concentrates on research looking at trauma kids are exposed to early in life. "The more trauma, the more likely a child will have physical and mental health problems, issues at work, broken bones or diseases throughout life," Brown said. He noted that a 1998 study examines household dysfunction, parent abuse of each other, child abuse, incarceration, racism, witnessing violence at school and its effects.

"The more trauma, the more problems growing up," Brown said. "Most of us have had varying levels of trauma, but this study looks at younger kids. The younger the child, the greater the impact."

"The research looks at in utero, as well," Brown continued. "Was Mom in a domestic violence situation while she was pregnant? This can also affect the

child. Drug or alcohol use and a lack of adequate health care can also affect the mother and developing baby."

Brown stated that domestic violence and spousal abuse were around long before COVID-19, but the pandemic has "put gas on the fire." He said COVID-19 has amplified stress and substance abuse, and people are not sleeping well. "It's a recipe for disaster," he said. He noted that factors have changed.

"Prior to COVID-19, people were not at home as much," Brown said. "Now there is a lack of access (to outlets and resources), especially for people in rural areas. There are health care disparities, and many people are on the edge of financial disaster. Where is their next paycheck coming from? Are their work hours being cut? They may be dealing with infidelity."

He said the rates of domestic violence are going up, considering all these factors that are being aggravated by COVID-19.

Arguments without good coping skills

Brown explained that every issue of domestic violence is different. Any type of disagreement can lead to problems when parents don't have good coping skills.

"Should we wear masks? One parent wants the child vaccinated, and the other parent may

not. One parent thinks the other is not doing anything to help," Brown said. "Teaching coping skills and problem solving skills is important. COVID-19 is chipping away at our resilience, and if we don't have resilience it is difficult to bounce back from stress."

Brown emphasized the importance of finding outlets. "Talk to other people, go for a walk, unplug from the screen at bedtime, monitor your news information and social media," he recommended. "Try to be around positive people, exercise, create boundaries. It is okay to ask for help from your primary care doctor or a counselor." He added that if one parent wants therapy and the other doesn't, that is a whole other can of worms.

"Some like to brush these problems under the rug, but they can build up over time and come out sideways," Brown said.

"I talk to parents who are assuming if their kids are in school, they will be back home in a week or so. We need to develop cognitive flexibility, and go with the flow. Being adaptable can be very helpful," Brown also said that sleep, nutrition and exercise, in that order, are important.

He said another problem is the digital divide, and some in rural areas may not have the access they need. People also may have lost health insurance. Brown suggested reaching out to a local church or help group.



"It's okay for professionals to say they are not doing okay and get therapy or join a support group," says Jerrod Brown, a professor at Concordia University. The university has started a program for an online graduate certificate in trauma, resilience and self-care strategies. (Photo submitted)

Helpers need to seek out training on domestic violence

He said it is essential for those in the helping professions to recognize that domestic violence is a public health issue, amplified by COVID-19, and to seek out training, education and research on the issue. "We will work with some clients at some point with a history or current situation of domestic violence. It affects not just the survivor, but others."

Brown noted that if a child grows up in a home with domestic violence, others may not see that anything is going on. "But the emotional scars can carry on throughout that child's entire life," he stated. "Prevention is the key. Providing support early on to stop the circle of violence is

really helpful."

He reiterated that the more exposure to domestic violence a child has early in life, the more likely he or she will grow up with some challenges.

"For some, the violence may be a lifelong process. For others, a one-time thing," Brown said. "It can happen to all kinds of people, no matter the gender or background, whether rural or city."

Editor's note: This is the second in a three-part series with professor Jerrod Brown on the psychological impacts and trauma associated with COVID-19 that is affecting members of the helping profession. Coming up are tips for those dealing with domestic violence and special needs. Find part one on our web site.

LOVE LETTERS FOR THE MIDWAY

Hamline Midway Coalition

By SARAH
O'BRIEN

director@hamlinemidway.org



In the autumn season nearing winter, I don't often think about planting or new beauty popping up in yards. Yet, here at the Hamline Midway Coalition (HMC), trees are being rooted in yards and a poem has been planted throughout the Midway. I hope you have had a chance to read all 100 lines of artist and poet Hawona Sullivan Janzen's Love Letters for the Midway. If not, take a stroll through our neighborhood and read the crowd-sourced poem dreamed and created by Hawona for our community. In addition to the lawn signs, the project also built and distributed six new Little Free Libraries; these libraries will host loving keepsakes, each crafted by one of several local artists. This project was made possible through partnership with Hawona Sullivan Janzen, the Hamline Midway Coalition, seven local artists, and the Minnesota State Arts Board.

HMC's Environment Committee is also showing love for our neighborhood. Our dedicat-



Hamline University English Department Chair Mike Reynold (left) and poet Hawona Sullivan Janzen hold a Love Letter for the Midway. (Photo submitted)

ed volunteer committee, along with Frogtown Green, Forestry Corps, and a handful of Midway volunteers, together planted 24 free trees for Midway residents. This is a great step in tree equity and support of the Midway urban forest canopy. This Free Tree Planting initiative is made possible thanks to Mississippi Park Connection, Saint Paul Forestry Department, U.S. Forest Service, AmeriCorps, and Tree Trust.

These projects are just a couple of examples of the power of people coming together to create a lasting legacy. At HMC we work with the community to take a seed of an idea, plant it, and help it grow into an action and make

a positive impact in the place that we live, work, and play.

Now more than ever we need more voices engaged in our work so that we have the full power of our community working to serve the needs of the Midway. HMC plays an important and special role in representing the Midway in the city of Saint Paul. We don't just respond to the city's needs or react to problems – we work hard to collaborate with community members, organizations, and businesses to help them achieve their goals. HMC empowers neighbors. We problem solve and work together through challenges. And we need your voice in these conversations.



Volunteers plant trees. Left to right: Shari Pleiss, Julia Reed, AmeriCorps Forestry intern Mason Donat, and Environment Committee volunteer Stephanie Hankerson. (Photo submitted)

We invite any and all who share a love and passion for the Midway to connect with the Hamline Midway Coalition. If there is something you see missing in our neighborhood or something you think could be done better, now is the time to take action and get involved. Apply to be a board member; the application is now open and can be found at www.hamlinemidway.org. Join one of our flourishing committees (Development, Environment, Transportation), or get involved with our Neighborhood Plan (we need help with outreach to underserved community members and reviewers

with a keen eye to help review the plan.)

Or, if you want to take one small step in getting involved in your community, I encourage you to join us for HMC's Annual Meeting which will be held Thursday, Nov. 18 from 6-8 p.m. in person at Hamline University, in the Klas Center's Kay Fredericks Room (delicious food from local restaurants will be served!) and virtually (Zoom link is found on our website calendar www.hamlinemidway.org).

Help build a better future for the Midway by working together today.

Date marks one-year anniversary of nonprofit memorial

By JILL BOOGREN

On what would have been George Floyd's 48th birthday, the George Floyd Global Memorial (GFGM), with community members and supporters, hosted "And Still We Rise," a celebration of Floyd's life with music, free food and fellowship in George Floyd Square.

Pan Dimensions delivered sounds of the Caribbean on steel drums as people arrived in the early evening. Under the People's Way visitors lined up at multiple stations for free meals of curried goat, jerk chicken, beans and rice, pasta, veggies and more provided by The Igloo Café, House of Gristle and Sisters Camelot.

On Chicago Ave., a long line of tables draped in black cloths and adorned with small lanterns hosted a range of community groups including: 612 M*A*S*H (Minneapolis All Shall Heal), which is opening its free health clinic in the Square soon; Midwest Art Conservation Center, who has supported GFGM conservation efforts over the past year and a half; and Minnesota Teen Activists, who have organized many marches and rallies – including a state-wide student walkout – to advocate for students facing racial disparities.

Elmond Dominick Saul, a "proud Creole" from New Orleans who lives in South Minneapolis, knew George Floyd and wanted to visit that day.

"He was a gentle giant," he said.

The Lions of Judah Drum Drillteam marched north on Chicago Ave., drawing people toward the event stage where family members and friends shared words of encouragement and expressed gratitude. Paris Stevens,

George Floyd Global Memorial celebrates Floyd's 48th birthday



Under the direction of Courtland Pickens, Youth Choral Ensemble KNOWN Mpls brings high energy and positivity to the stage at George Floyd Square on Oct. 14, 2021. Established in 2019, KNOWN is an audition-based community choir for singers ages 12-25. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

George "Perry" Floyd's cousin and co-chair of GFGM, introduced her – and Perry's – aunt, Mahalia Jones, who was visiting from North Carolina.

"Every time I come here it's always amazing, because the people here are so good. Loving. I feel the love... the community, they welcome me," said Jones. "Every time I come it's a joy. And to step out here and see what everyone has done to protect this place and make it sacred and keepin' it real and steadfast and keeping the movement going... I'm tellin' you. I'm just glad to be here for this celebration of love."

The crowd shouted "Happy Birthday" as balloons were released skyward. Brass Solidar-

ity, an ensemble of horns who play Monday afternoons at the Peoples' Way, then blasted out a "Happy Birthday" tune followed by "This Little Light of Mine." Twin Cities Rapper Metasota and Youth Choral Ensemble KNOWN Mpls rounded out the music for the evening.

"Rest in peace, George Floyd," Metasota told the crowd, "I don't care what you believe personally. I don't care how you grew up. No one deserves to die like that."

After the concert, metal luminaries made at free workshops at Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center were suspended in front of the portrait of George Floyd, where people placed candles at

the end of the evening.

One year

The day before the event, GFGM Executive Director and Lead Caretaker Jeanelle Austin reflected on how far GFGM has come since the organization was formed one year ago on this day.

"Oh my gosh, we made it to one year," she said, recalling this time last October when Angela Harrelson, George Floyd's aunt and co-chair of GFGM, said they were going to launch the memorial on Perry's birthday. With some trepidation, they pulled together a press conference while, unbeknownst to Austin, the community was planning an event to honor Mr. Floyd. It turned into a

1 million donor campaign

People of all ages and economic means are encouraged to give a minimum of \$1 to become a founding contributor of the George Floyd Global Memorial. Donations to the 501c3 non profit are tax deductible. More at www.georgefloydglobalmemorial.org.

Over 2500 offerings of street art, drawings by children, protest signs, rocks, letters, paintings, flowers, and meaningful gifts transformed the intersection of 38th St. and Chicago Ave. into a sacred site. "People all over the world built the memorial, and we welcome everyone to support our preservation of history and storytelling in this unprecedented way," according to the website. "Our work thus far has been funded by individual donors and the blood, sweat, and good heart of Community members at 38th and Chicago."

big event and they made the announcement.

At that time, Derek Chauvin's trial was still forthcoming, they were still figuring out where to hold the offerings, and whether to do an exhibit. Since then, Pillsbury House Theatre has provided space for conservation and storage of the offerings to the memorial and now, through a new partnership, will be providing office space to GFGM.

From March through August, the Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center hosted the pop-up GFGM exhibition "Still Here... Unstolen. Unbroken" in its storefront gallery. And GFGM hosted the one-year anniversary of George Floyd's death – significant, Austin

GEORGE FLOYD >>11

\$ + = \$ + = % + = \$ + = % + = \$ + = \$

DO THE MATH!

It costs **50¢/piece** to mail a promotional flyer to local residents letting them know about your business, organization or upcoming event. *That does not include design, production, and printing charges.*

For only **6¢/piece** you can have a **4-color** flyer
PRINTED AND DELIVERED
with the **Monitor!**



Contact Denis Woulfe for details
Denis@MonitorSaintPaul.com
(651) 917-4183



HAMLIN HEADLINES

sharing campus events with the neighboring community

Give yourself the gift of education.

Online and in-person courses are available
right in your neighborhood!

hamline.edu • facebook.com/hamline
twitter.com/HamlineU • HUNAC@hamline.edu

HAMLIN UNIVERSITY



"Rest in peace, George Floyd," Twin Cities rapper Metasota tells the crowd, "I don't care what you believe personally. I don't care how you grew up. No one deserves to die like that." (Photo by Jill Boogren)

>> From 10

explained, in the way it brought together his family, community members and families from all over the Twin Cities whose family members are victims of police violence.

"What makes George Floyd Square George Floyd Square is that we acknowledge the deaths of so many people, here in Minnesota and across the country. Because George Floyd is one of many... who have been lynched by law enforcement, it's important to us to always say their names and not just say the name of George Floyd," said Austin. "I think the way the family has moved and approached the building of the George Floyd Global Memorial to really be able to hold so many narratives and so many stories... it sets the framework and it sets the platform for being a kind of institution that will tell the stories of so many people for generations to come."

One constant for the memorial is it has always had a solid minimum 30-person volunteer base, which continues today.

"I don't think the George Floyd Global Memorial could have survived this past year with-



Brass Solidarity blasts out a "Happy Birthday" song followed by "This Little Light of Mine" during the celebration of George Floyd's 48th birthday at George Floyd Square on Oct. 14, 2021. The event was organized by the George Floyd Global Memorial (GFGM), with community members and supporters, and included music, free food and fellowship in George Floyd Square. >> More photos online at www.MonitorSaintPaul.com (Photo by Jill Boogren)



"Every time I come here it's always amazing, because the people here are so good. Loving," George Perry Floyd's Aunt Mahalia Jones tells the crowd. "I feel the love." (Photo by Jill Boogren)

*"That work doesn't stop,
'cause the stories keep
coming, the expressions of
pain and hope keep coming."*

~ Jeanelle Austin

out the people of this place. Of our neighborhood," said Austin. She would like to engage more BIPOC, especially Black, volunteers to be able to tell "our own story in this movement for Black liberation."

Looking ahead, the Global Memorial wants to acquire land and build a permanent institution from scratch, one that is big enough to hold the story.

To do this, they need to raise funds to hire an executive team to support the vision. In the short term, GFGM is hiring an executive administration assistant, as well as a youth technolo-



The Lions of Judah Drum Drill Team march their rhythms up Chicago Ave. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

gy intern.

GFGM is continuing its one million donor campaign, wherein people of all ages and economic means can give a minimum of a dollar and be a founding contributor of the memorial.

"We really want the institu-

tion to be built of and for and by the people, the same way the memorial has been built of, for and by the people," said Austin.

And their conservation work at Pillsbury House and in the Square will continue, as well.

"That work doesn't stop,

'cause the stories keep coming, the expressions of pain and hope keep coming," said Austin. "We continue to be committed to preserving and conserving these stories of racial injustice and fighting for racial justice."

THANK YOU

SAINT PAUL CITY COUNCIL!

Keeping commercial tobacco prices high prevents people from starting and helps people quit. Tobacco companies can no longer use coupons and price promotions to target our communities with cheap tobacco.

Thanks to the Saint Paul City Council for standing up to tobacco companies and protecting our community and young people from the harms of tobacco.



SHOP LOCAL



EAT LOCAL



READ LOCAL

Monitor
Midway • Como • Frogdown

WE'RE GROWING

TMC Publications is starting a third newspaper in Southwest Minneapolis in December 2021.

Like the

SOUTHWEST CONNECTOR

on Facebook and Instagram.

Be one of the first advertisers and get discounts!

612-345-9998

There's a brand new play space at Hamline Park

>> From 1

The largest play structure allows a wheelchair user to access the entire deck from the ground level, providing access to five slides. These upgraded features allow for maximum accessibility and use of the space.

"Our parks and recreation centers offer safe, healthy, and enriching spaces for our entire community," said Mayor Melvin Carter. "The new additions to Hamline Park expand opportunities for children and families in our city to play, learn, grow, and thrive."

This project was funded by Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), a federal program that is specifically for improvements in low income areas and meant to support meaningful community projects. The majority of the \$373,000 budget went towards the play equipment, installation, and safety surfacing, with the rest providing new pavement and other infrastructure upgrades to ensure continued accessibility.

Fundraising efforts are underway to install additional tables, benches, a new park sign, and new public art – an undertaking made possible through partnerships with Hamline Midway Coalition and Friends of Hamline Park.

"I am grateful for the partnerships between Saint Paul



Community leaders including Director of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Mike Hahn, Mayor Melvin Carter, and Ward 4 Council Member Mitra Jalali check out the new playground equipment with local children on Oct. 14, 2021 during an official ribbon-cutting ceremony. (Photos submitted)



"The Hamline Midway Coalition is excited to see the community vision for Hamline Park come to realization."

~ Sarah O'Brien

Parks and Recreation, the Hamline-Midway Coalition, the Friends of Hamline Park and countless neighbors of all ages who have contributed to the vision of the public park we celebrate today," said Councilmember Mitra Jalali, who represents the area. "It's my honor to support critical investments like these as a council member, and to help keep the Midway as a special place full of memories to come for kids and families across generations."

These community groups were instrumental to collecting community feedback. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, community engagement efforts had to be done remotely. The Hamline Midway Coalition and Friends of Hamline Park took ownership of the process to promote virtual meetings and gather feedback via surveys. Additionally, the community members themselves made efforts to submit feedback via these virtual methods including voting on many of the main playground features such as the frog climber and other main climber features leading up to the main play deck.

"The Hamline Midway Coalition is excited to see the community vision for Hamline Park come to realization," said Hamline Midway Coalition Director Sarah O'Brien. "Many amenities that our community asked for are present in the play structures and landscape. We are thrilled knowing the new improvements to Hamline Park will be enjoyed by community members from across the Midway, and beyond - a central location for all to enjoy. Thank you to the many partners and people that made this vision come to life."

The new playground is one of many amenities at Hamline Park. Other amenities include a recently renovated futsal court, a basketball court, bike racks, open green space, and the former Hamline Recreation Center building, which is eligible to be registered on the National Register of Historic Places.

About Saint Paul Parks

Saint Paul Parks and Recreation is a nationally accredited and gold medal award-winning organization that manages 179 parks and open spaces, AZA-accredited Como Park Zoo and Conservatory, 26 city-operated recreation centers, more than 100 miles of trails, an indoor and two outdoor aquatic facilities, a public beach, a variety of premium sports facilities, municipal golf courses, and Great River Passage – which is the new identity for all proposed public development along Saint Paul's more than 17 miles of Mississippi riverfront. For more information about Saint Paul Parks and Recreation, visit www.stpaul.gov/parks.

Join Us!



We are a fun group of people serious about making the Hamline Midway neighborhood a great place to live, work, and play. We need YOU to join us!

Are you interested in learning how the City makes decisions around land use, environment, and transportation and how you can help shape those decisions? Eager to start a project, business or other endeavor in the Hamline Midway Neighborhood? Connect with us!

Attend HMC's Annual Meeting

In person or online!

Thursday, November 18th 6-8 pm

Hamline University, Klas Center

Become a Board Member

Application's accepted now through November 22

Apply here: <https://forms.gle/Kmg9gokJuyP1CVTYK7>

For more information contact Sarah O'Brien at 651-494-7682 or visit www.hamlinemidway.org



Ready

to buy fresh taum liab



Ready

to try quitting
smoking or vaping

**quit
partner**™

Free help to
quit your way



Free emails &
text messages



Free patches,
gum or lozenges*



Free coaching
over the phone

If you're ready to start parts of your routine again, it might be the right time to quit other parts of it, like smoking or vaping. At Quit Partner, whenever you're ready, we're here with free help to quit your way, including patches or gum, coaching and more.

1-800-QUIT-NOW (784-8669)
QuitPartnerMN.com

St. Paul City School building at 215 University Ave.

After years of being in three separate buildings, St. Paul City School District is constructing a new facility. The school celebrated with an official groundbreaking at University Ave. and Marion St. on Nov. 4, 2021.

"We will be able to better serve our students and community with upgraded classrooms, a full gymnasium, and space for the family team as well as the community," said St. Paul City

School Executive Director Meg Cavalier. "Being in one building will also allow us to streamline resources and more efficiently serve students in PreK-12th grade."

The new 70,560-square-foot building will include 28 state-of-the-art classrooms, a full gymnasium, green space/playground, cafeteria and community space, and a full service community clinic (open to the public). There

will be 47 onsite parking spaces and an outdoor play area. The \$16.3 million facility is being constructed on a 1.79-acre lot formerly owned by the League of Minnesota Cities.

The free public charter school was founded in 1998 and currently operates its primary school at 260 Edmund Ave., its middle school at 634 Virginia St., and its River's Edge Academy High School at 188 West



St. Paul City School officially breaks ground with Mayor Melvin Carter and Ms. Ritter's 5th grade class on its new building at 215 University Ave. (Photo submitted)

TURN UP THE VOLUME



MONDAY, NOV 15TH 5:30
DEGIDIO'S BAR & RESTAURANT
425 W 7TH STREET ST. PAUL

A FUNDRAISER DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

Benefiting WFNU
Frogtown Community Radio 94.1 FM

This has been a big year for us at WFNU. To celebrate our achievements and prepare for more greatness to come, we are hosting our first ever fundraiser dinner. The Turn Up The Volume gala is a chance to build community, meet program hosts, enjoy a delicious dinner from DeGidios Restaurant and shop our many silent auction items. We would love if your organization would consider becoming one of our sponsors for the gala.

Tickets are valued at \$25 each.

Sponsors at all levels include:

- your org/business listed in WFNU event brochures
- 3 month WFNU website presence
- WFNU social media post advertising your org/business
- link to your business in our monthly email newsletter
- business listed as sponsor in press releases for event
- your business can share swag and information at the gala

If you have any questions about your sponsorship benefits or the event, email Philip Gracia at philip@frogtowntunedin.org.



LEVELS OF SPONSORSHIP:

- Bronze \$100. 1 ticket
- Silver \$250 2 tickets
- Gold \$400 3 tickets, 1 WFNU t-shirt
- Platinum \$500 4 tickets, 1 WFNU hooded sweatshirt

Sponsorships are a tax-deductible donation.

Thank you for supporting community radio!

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS



One stop for all of your homeownership needs.

BUY

- Prepare to buy a home
- Improve your credit
- Learn-to-buy workshops
- Down payment programs

FIX

- Affordable home improvement lending with flexible terms
- MHFA Fix Up loans

KEEP

- Free and confidential foreclosure intervention counseling
- Refinance counseling

Get started at nwhomepartners.org

NeighborWorks Home Partners
533 Dale Street N, Saint Paul MN 55103
651-292-8710 nwhomepartners.org

NMLS# 363923



Frog Food by Z Akhmetova



Broken Window?

We fix them fast!
Windows
Screens
Insulated glass
and great
repair advice!



Kendall's

Ace Hardware & Paint

978 Dale St. N., 651-489-3210
840 Payne Ave., 651-776-6996
kendallshardware.com • kendalls@acehardware.com
The friendliest stores in town. Free popcorn!

B Line plan moves ahead

By JANE McCLURE

B Line bus rapid transit service is to start in 2024, providing a faster connection between St. Paul's Union Depot and Uptown Minneapolis.

The \$65 million project's final corridor and station plans won a unanimous Oct. 13, 2021 vote of support from Metropolitan Council. The B Line route will follow Minneapolis' Lake Street and Selby and Marshall avenues in St. Paul. It will largely replace Route 21, Metro Transit's second-highest ridership bus route.

The B Line will provide connections to Green and Blue Line light rail, and five other current and future bus rapid transit routes.

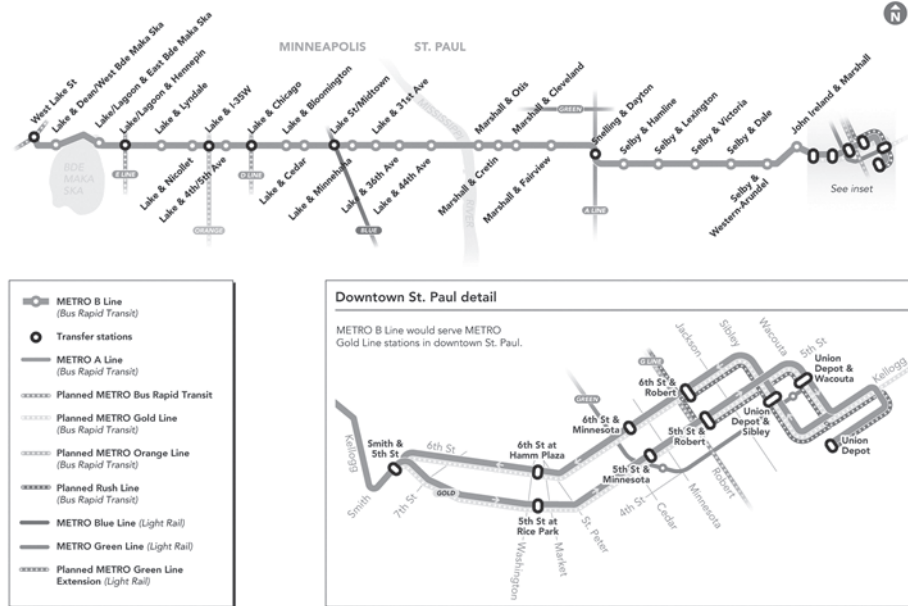
Engineering can get underway and continue until late 2022. Construction starts in 2023 and ends in 2024.

Bus rapid transit has fewer

stops than regular route bus service. The B Line will have a total of 33 stops. Buses will run every 10 minutes. Stations or platforms have amenities including real-time schedule information, lighting, heat and emergency contact capability.

Metro Transit will replace some regular route bus service along Route 21 in Minneapolis, but with less frequency at buses every 30 minutes. A new Route 60 is planned to operate along Selby and provide access to Midway shopping destinations once the B Line starts operations.

Not everyone is on board the B Line, including a group of residents in Lexington-Hamline neighborhood. They question using Selby and not Marshall Avenue and Lexington Parkway, mounting an unsuccessful petition drive for a route change. One family has already put its



house up for sale, not wanting to live next to a transit station.

The Lexington-Hamline group contends there was a lack of involvement for their neighborhood and its neighborhood association, Lexington-Hamline

Community Council. Their objections include having large, lit bus platforms close to homes, Selby's narrow winter driving conditions when snow isn't cleared to the curb, and more traffic. They also question how

buses will make the turns at busy Selby and Snelling avenues. Buses will use the A Line bus rapid transit stations at Snelling and Dayton avenues. Metro Transit staff said those issues have been studied, and that test bus runs show the buses can make the corner.

Council Member Kris Fredson, whose district includes area neighborhoods, praised the B Line project. "The B Line will be the next game-changer for

transit in Saint Paul, providing faster and more reliable service from the Union Depot in downtown Saint Paul to Uptown Minneapolis, along Selby, Marshall and Lake Street."

SHOW UP, MAKE A DIFFERENCE

"Resist the temptation to think what afflicts you is peculiar to you. Have faith that what is in your consciousness can be communicated to the consciousness of all. And is, in many cases, already there."

~ from "The Temple of My Familiar" by author Alice Walker

"The truth is, you are either here to enlighten or to discourage."

~ Prince

Hello Monitor readers,

We are making it through another incredible and unpredictable year of COVID-19, climate change, and uncovering on-going racial, gender, personal-self-identification, and health-care and housing injustices, and another critical national and local elections. Wow, when will we get a break to breathe and just be grateful for doing the best we can with what we know or think we know?

I'm happy that we are learning to let go of past historical guilts, shame and blame that keeps us trapped in distractions of fears and the current dysfunctional values of isolation and corporate entitlement welfare and greed. I am glad that I live in a city that is willing to take a chance in giving leadership another chance to fulfill the awesome task of balancing the best quality of life for our residents. As a Black man who grew up in the Twin Cities with colorful kids, including White

kids, it is refreshing to have two mayors who can think and act critically about critical matters instead of being color, climate, and public safety blind. Is it possible to give city leadership 8-10 months without complaining or doubting their efforts to sort out, repair, and make progress on healthy solutions from past bad and not good policy choices?

I'm also happy that I have an ample number of organizations and friends that I can ask to share their work, desires, and progress with the Monitor readership. This month, I've recruited the St. Paul Public Library. The library, in particular, the Rondo Community Library (formerly the Lexington Library) has always been a safe and welcoming space for me and my community since my elementary school days. And, yes, it was because of one person, Mrs. Green. She made the library an environment for fun and learning. As a kid, school field trips to the Lexington Library were absolutely fun and adventurous; and when they put in the capacity to show movies like at the movie theaters, it was outstanding! Today, the Rondo Community Library is like my second home; the staff are welcoming and have so much patience with folks who may not yet appreciate the wonder and value of a city library. Although, library staff are not classified as First Responders, St. Paul Public Library staff are indeed Essential

Peace bubbles

By MELVIN GILES
peacebubbles@q.com



Super Workers. During this season of gratefulness, I encourage you to visit your neighborhood library.

The following is a message from the St. Paul Public Library, particularly for the greater Midway area residents.

"The start of the school year always brings a fresh energy to libraries. Across Saint Paul, libraries are bustling with people connecting to wifi and working from study rooms, students dropping by for help with homework, teens hanging out and exploring new tech, community groups holding meetings, readers checking out books and hearing authors speak about their work, and families playing and learning together."

As we continue to come back into safe connection with each other, please stop by your library and see what is there for you, your friends and neighbors, and your family. Starting Nov. 13, we are open more Saturday mornings, Sundays, and Mondays."

Drop by one of our Homework Centers for a space to study or connect with a volunteer tutor, open Mondays – Wednesdays from 4-7 p.m. at Rice Street and Mondays – Thursdays from 4-7 p.m. at Rondo.

Teens can check out Createch, a tech and maker space, Tuesdays – Fridays from 5:30-7:45 p.m. at Rice Street and Wednesdays from 3:30-5 p.m. at Rondo. Talk to a social worker Mondays and Wednesdays from 2-6 p.m. at Rondo. Discover the joy of reading and singing with young children at Storytime at Rice Street on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m., Rondo on Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., and Hamline Midway on Fridays at 10:30 a.m. and Saturdays at 3 p.m.

At Saint Paul Public Library, we take seriously that our city's public libraries belong to the people of Saint Paul. Through conversations with community, we set a goal of investing in library spaces that are safe, inviting, affirming, and comfortable for people of all cultures, abilities, and communities. It is this goal that's at the center of the vision for transforming the Hamline Midway Library. It is this goal that is driving a larger vision for all of our libraries in Saint Paul to work for all people as dynamic, inclusive neighborhood resilience centers.

We have an exciting opportunity to imagine and design new possibilities for the Hamline Midway Library, and we need you! Sign up to receive information about future community engagement and design sessions at sppl.org/facilities-direction. Join us in making this big vision true for libraries across Saint Paul, including Hamline Midway. Discover more at www.sppl.org or 651-266-7000. Remember, your library is just that – your library. We hope to see you soon!"

Be enlightened, visit your community library and if you are in the Hamline/Midway commu-

nity, please continue to engage with your library in the visioning and designing process of a new 21st century library for your community. Redevelopment is always a work in progress depending on who shows up. Hamline/Midway residents who have been showing and standing up are making and will continue to make a difference! The library, like other city systems are learning to truly listen and act as community members request and demand, which is our collective right!

Happy Thanksgiving and please be grateful and respectful to the stewards of Mother Earth and send a holiday note to our governor and Lt. governor to halt and stop operations of Pipeline 3. We have wiser and better productive ways of providing energy and employment for Minnesotans other than using outdated, destructive, and depleting methods for business practices and utilizing natural resources. The trees and plants, sun, wind, and rain and snow love to cheerfully nurture us freely for recreation, business, and for healing our minds, bodies, emotions, and souls.

Keep the positive vibrations flowing and stay optimistic!!!!

May Peace Be In the Rondo, Frogtown, Hamline/Midway, Como, & Surrounding Communities...

May Peace Be In Our Homes & Communities...

May Peace Prevail On Earth (MPPOE)!!!!

BE SMART! DO YOUR PART! Get Your Vaccination Shots!!!

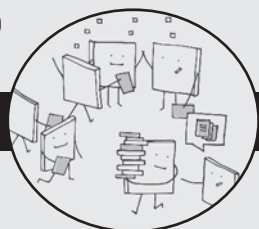
SCHOOL GUIDE

Reach parents looking for information to make decisions about schooling.

Coming in January

BE REPRESENTED IN THE SECTION
BY CONTACTING

Denis@MonitorSaintPaul.com | 651-917-4183
Tasha@MonitorSaintPaul.com | 612-345-9998



Serving Pre-K-12th graders in St. Paul Metro



St. Paul City School District

Looking for a small, supportive school community?

We're enrolling! Call 651-225-9177

or visit www.stpaulcityschool.org to learn more and schedule a tour.

St. Paul City Primary School
260 Edmund Ave., St. Paul

St. Paul City Middle School
643 Virginia St., St. Paul

River's Edge Academy High School
188 West Plato Blvd., St. Paul

- Free public charter school
- Small class sizes (25 or fewer)
- Full day preschool and kindergarten
- Emphasis on community
- Environmental Ed / Experiential Learning
- Free school busing in St. Paul for Pre-K-12th grade / Free Metro Transit passes for 9th-12th grade
- Free breakfast & lunch available
- Special education services
- English language learning services
- School culture that emphasizes relationships, community building, leadership and character growth.

MIDWAY YMCA CHRISTMAS TREES

Celebrate the Holidays with a fresh cut, live tree from the only YMCA tree lot in St. Paul.

Your support goes on to fund Y programs throughout the year.

Visit us at 530 Wheeler St,
across from the Midway YMCA.

Starting Nov. 26 with special hours from 10-7.
Regular Hours: Open 4-7 Thur & Fri., 10-7 Sat. & Sun.

*Bottoms cut off and assistance loading your tree
All volunteer labor - volunteers welcome*

For more information contact Dave Dominick at 651-646-4557.

Most credit cards accepted, along with cash and checks.

Shop Small Buy Local

Coming December

Stand out this holiday season and remind
folks to shop local first.



BE REPRESENTED IN THE SECTION BY CONTACTING
Denis@MonitorSaintPaul.com | 651-917-4183
Tessa@MonitorSaintPaul.com | 612-345-9998



LYNGBLOMSTEN

Healthcare, Housing
& Services for Older
Adults since 1906

We Have Openings!
The Heritage at Lyngblomsten

Assisted living apartments in St. Paul for adults 55+

1440 Midway Parkway | St. Paul, MN 55108
(651) 632-5428 | www.lyngblomsten.org/heritage



Flu and COVID-19 viruses are spreading this fall and winter.

Protect yourself and others from the flu.

Now is the time to get your flu vaccine!

m DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH

www.mdhflu.com

Students intern with League of Women Voters

Como
Park
Senior
High
School



By ERIC
ERICKSON
Social studies teacher

Three Como AP Government seniors are serving as interns this fall with the League of Women Voters St. Paul (LWVSP). PaNra Lee, Chikamso Chijioke and Lucy Hebble have developed a voter advocacy project with a goal of increasing political awareness and participation among youth.

"I think it helped me gain more political efficacy," Lee said. "Developing our ideas to share voting information and how to participate is important, and it let us see how we can make a difference."

The LWVSP is non-partisan, neither supporting nor opposing candidates or parties, but always working on vital public issues.

Student election judges

Over 20 Como students served as Ramsey County election judges in the Nov. 2 election. The non-partisan service to the community is an excellent opportunity to promote the democratic process and help ensure fair administration of elections. Students received training from Ramsey County officials in October and were assigned to local precincts to serve alongside a team of veteran judges on election day.

"It's valuable to see how voting in our democracy really works," said Como senior John Oo. "I wanted to challenge myself with a new experience and welcome people into the political process."



The Como cross country boys won the Section 4AA Championship on Oct. 27, 2021. (Photo by Eric Erickson)

Accelerated Programs Night

Como's Accelerated Programs Night is Tuesday, Nov. 16 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The event is an opportunity for prospective students and families to learn about the many options for accelerated coursework at Como including Advanced Placement (AP) and College in the Schools (CIS) courses, plus Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO).

Middle school students and families will be able to hear from a panel of current AP/CIS/PSEO students and teachers. The event will take place in the school library and light refreshments will be provided. No reservation is required, but any questions can be directed to Como AP Government teacher Eric Erickson (erickson@spss.org).

Cross country team advances to State Meet

For the first time since 1981, the Como boys cross country team qualified for the State Meet. The Cougars won the Section 4AA Meet on Oct. 27 in impressive fashion, beating second-place Mahtomedi by 16

points and nine other teams by even larger margins.

Como junior Charlie Power-Theisen ran the 5K course at Highland Park in a blistering time of 15:59 to also earn the individual title. The top five finishers for each school make up the team score. In a field of 75 runners, Como juniors Mason Aarness and Liam Schwie were 7th and 8th place respectively, while seniors Soren Sackreiter and Owen Finlay finished 11th and 16th - all in the 17-minute range.

The team effort is a byproduct of committed training that the boys have put in for years, including disciplined summer workouts.

"It's nice to see all the work pay off," Finlay said. "We thought we had a chance to make state, and to get there feels good."

The team finished 14th in the State Meet. It was a challenging day for the Cougars and no personal bests were set, but it was a wonderful season concluding at the place and event where they strived to be.

Monitor in a MINUTE

By JANE McCLURE

Parks funding wins OK

Grants and donations for improvements to area parks and trails won St. Paul City Council in October.

The council received \$22,693 from the Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation District through Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for the Como Transportation Improvements-Como Pavilion and Golf Course parking lot construction project. The funds are for part of a pavilion and golf course parking lot and trails resurfacing project, to implement improved storm water management practices. The project has a total cost of \$1.5 million, which the bulk of the funding from Metropolitan Council.

The Wabash Avenue Trail Spur project got a boost with \$150,000 from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Local Trail Connection grant, and an additional \$80,000 from the old 8-80 program in Public Works

dollars. The 8-80 program was a federal effort under then-President Barack Obama to fund infrastructure.

Wabash is an industrial area street, extending from Cleveland Avenue past Pelham Boulevard and to the Minneapolis city limits. The city's current bike plan calls for a bike lane separated from motor vehicle traffic. It would connect to current and future routes including Pelham.

A third boost is for Hamline Park, which was recently renovated and improved. The city council formally accept a gift including picnic grills and tables valued at \$7,000 from Friends of Hamline Park Playground and Hamline Midway Coalition.

New emissions permit eyed

A comment period for a new air emissions permit for Co-Operative Plating is expected to start in November. Representatives of the metal electroplating firm at 1605 Iglehart Ave. and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) met Oct. 20 with Union Park District Council (UPDC) Parks and Environment Committee, several neighbors and company representatives.

Co-Operative Plating has been in Merriam Park for many

years. It runs 18 separate metal plating coating lines. In the 1980s the company ran afoul of environmental regulations and was penalized. The company has since made many changes, including entering a voluntary compliance program with the MPCA, adding a scrubbing system to control emissions and dropping the use of TCE or trichlorethylene as a degreaser. That chemical has been linked to some forms of cancer.

A new air emissions permit has been in process since 2017.

More ash trees to be removed

St. Paul's ongoing battle against the emerald ash borer got a key boost October 20 as the City Council approved an \$18 million boost to the city's forest budget. The money is from a St. Paul Port Authority bond issue. The Port earlier this year agreed to step in and work with the city to speed up the long task of cutting down diseased trees, removing stumps and replacing new trees. The bond proceeds will also allow for forestry workers to catch up on a massive backlog of stumping, tree replanting and tree trimming needs unrelated to the spread of emerald ash borer. The funds allow for the planting of an additional 2,000 trees per year.

TIMELINE

1880 - Jackson School opened at MacKubin and Ellen streets in Frog-town. (Ellen is now Sherburne Avenue.) Jackson was named for Andrew Jackson, the seventh president of the United States.

1885 - The school at "Hamline suburb" was named Simpson School by the city's Board of Education. The community had yet to be annexed into the city.

1886 - Simpson was renamed Hancock School in honor of the late Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock.

1910 - Galtier School opened at 1328 Charles Ave. The school served elementary and middle school students. Galtier was named for a pioneer priest, Father Lucien Galtier.

1924 - A districtwide construction project brought a new Jackson school. The school would grow over the years with a new library addition as recently as 2000.

Four new junior high schools were announced, including Woodrow Wilson Junior High School, 631 N. Albert St.

1925 - Wilson opens its doors.

1937 - Wilson becomes a senior high by adding grade 10, with grades added every half-term. Wilson was a full high school by 1940 and reached its peak of 1,100 students in 1942.

1964 - Wilson again becomes a junior high school, and would continue until 1980.

1972 - A \$25 million bond issue to replace and renovate schools was passed. Change was also pushed by the need for racial desegregation. Aging schools in Hamline-Midway and Frogtown presented challenges, including Hancock and Galtier. Galtier's building was deemed a fire hazard. Drew School was condemned and many students were sent to Jackson. McKinley School on Carroll Avenue had already burned down. Recommendation changed over several months. At one point Galtier, Hancock and Drew were to be torn down, with Galtier's attendance area split between the new Hancock and an enlarged Maxfield. In another plan the Drew, Maxfield and Galtier attendance areas were to be split with K-3 at Maxfield and 4-6 at Galtier. Hancock and Galtier were replaced and new schools opened a couple of years later.

Area schools that could be affected by Envision SPPS have community roots that run deep, some dating back for more than a century. Here's a look at area schools that hang in the balance:

1984 - Galtier becomes a science, mathematics and technology magnet school.

1981 - Wilson houses the Benjamin E. Mays Fundamentals School, for students in grades K-8. Mays stays in the Wilson building until 1991, when it moves to Rondo Education Center.

1990 - As part of a districtwide capital improvement effort, \$1 million was spent to purchase land adjacent to Jackson Elementary to expand field and play space.

1992 - Wilson becomes home for the Expo for Excellence Middle School, which stays there until 2003.

LEAP, Galtier and Jackson may close

» From 1

3,000 students displaced

Envision SPPS would displace about 3,000 students or 9%. It's not known how many teachers and administrators would lose their jobs.

Teens, young adults affected by LEAP changes

While the elementary schools eyed for change have had parents and families turning out in force, LEAP brings adult and teen voices to the table. The school serves students ages 15-20 who are new to the United States and who are learning English while earning a high school diploma. It is considered an alternative high school, and provides an educational opportunity for students whose needs often do not match the offerings provided in traditional high schools.

While district officials contend the students can be served at other schools, LEAP supporters are skeptical. They are asking the school board to consider alternatives, such as relocating the program. They also object to what they see as a very tight timeline for change.

District officials have said they'd work with students and families to find new programs for LEAP students. The transition would start in fall 2022.

Matt Olson, who teaches music at LEAP, described students who felt lost at other high schools before attending LEAP. He recently asked school board members to imagine the loneliness and isolation students feel at other schools.

"He literally wandered through high school," Olson said

of one student's experience before transferring to LEAP.

Faculty members said the students wouldn't have the same level of support at other schools. The LEAP staff is trauma-informed, to be able to deal with the unique issues each student has as a refugee.

Graduates have also spoken out, with one telling the School Board that "LEAP was the place that made me feel at home again."

Anne Lowe has taught for 16 years at LEAP. She said the school creates an atmosphere of belonging and support that its students use to succeed as adults, to become contributing community members and leaders.

'This is going to be hard'

Declining birth rates and increased competition from charter schools, and school choice are cited as reasons to move from smaller schools to larger schools with more resources. Only about 63 percent of all St. Paul school-age children attend public schools. Others are home-schooled, open-enroll elsewhere or attend private or charter schools.

St. Paul Superintendent Joe Gothard has emphasized at board meetings that the change is not so much about cost savings as it is about keeping schools viable. Nor is it about the pandemic and education changes tied to that. "While it will create some efficiencies, at its core it's about making all of our schools sustainable. I know no matter what we say or how it sounds the reasons are, this is going to be hard."

But LEAP supporters say



PERSPECTIVE

In the fall of 2021, neighboring Minneapolis Public Schools implemented its Comprehensive District Design, a sweeping program that displaced 14% of the district's 35,000 students. The plan redrew attendance boundary lines, moved magnet schools into the center of the district, and shifted bus routes. Supporters said it would address long-standing achievement gaps based on race and income. The change was moved through during COVID-19 when residents were unable to attend board meetings in person. The plan cost about \$11.5 million its first year.

Public school enrollments have been declining across the state with an estimated 2% decline due to COVID-19 for the 2020-21 school year. When the CDD plan was developed, 63 percent of Minneapolis students were choosing to attend schools outside the Minneapolis Public School system.

change will also be very hard for newcomer students. Teacher Sandy Lucas asked what message closing LEAP sends to the greater community. "What does this say about how we treat our most vulnerable?"

2003 - LEAP (Limited English Achievement Program) Academy moved from its located on Sibley Street to Wilson, sharing space with Wilson and then Expo for a time. LEAP took over the entire building in 2004 after the Expo middle school closed.

2010 - Jackson Elementary was included in the city's Promise Neighborhood, a city-county-Wilder Foundation initiative to promote a "cradle to career" learning experience

to shepherd students from poverty to prosperity and reduce racial and cultural achievement gaps. But subsequent funding efforts fell short, after the first federal grant.

2012 - Galtier was converted from a K-5 science magnet school to a neighborhood school, as part of the "strong schools, strong commu-

nities" campaign. The campaign targeted racially isolated, underperforming schools. Resources from Target Corporation were used to renovate the school and its academic offerings.

2015 - Galtier and Hamline were eyed for change, as Jie Ming Chinese Immersion outgrew space at Hamline.

2016 - A \$14.5 million plan to renovate and expand St. Anthony Park Elementary neighbors put more pressure on Galtier as some Hamline-Midway families chose the outside-of-neighborhood option. Closure of Galtier at the end of the 2016-2017 school year was announced, but in a surprise move the school board voted 4-3 to keep Galtier open and not force a merger with Hamline.

2021 - Envision SPPS proposed. It affects 10 school programs, including Bruce Vento Elementary, Cherokee Heights Montessori, Galtier Community School, Hamline Elementary School, J.J. Hill Montessori, L'Etoile du Nord French Immersion, Parkway Montessori Middle School, Phalen Lake Elementary School and Riverview West Side School of Excellence. Five sites would be closed, including Highwood Hills Elementary, John A. Johnson Elementary, Wellstone Elementary, Jackson Elementary School and LEAP High School.

Development ROUNDUP

By JANE McCLURE

Keystone project moves ahead

Keystone Community Services' planned new and expand food shelf facilities took a step ahead Oct. 20 as the St. Paul City Council approved an allocation of \$902,255 in federal Community Development Block Grant COVID 19-related (CDBG-CV) dollars.

The funds will go toward the conversion of a longtime transmission shop and furniture store at the southwest corner of University Ave. and Beacon St. Keystone will consolidate its existing food operations in the new space.

The funding is from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The federal government has allo-

cated CDBG dollars for decades, but the pandemic has resulted in additional CDBG funding specific to needs related to the public health crisis. This money comes from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act or CARES Act.

Because the food shelf has provided a much higher volume of food since the start of the pandemic, city staff and Mayor Melvin Carter's administration deemed Keystone eligible for the funding. The funding has to be used for needs related to the ongoing pandemic.

The matter was laid over once by the council as members sought more information. While council members agree that the new food shelf is a worthy endeavor, they want more information. They also questioned why the funds aren't being awarded through a competitive process and why an expenditure of almost \$1 million appeared on the consent agenda. That council agenda is where several items

are passed with one vote.

City staff acknowledged that more could have been done to share information about the funding process, with the entire city council.

The nonprofit is consolidating food shelves and adding space by converting two longtime commercial buildings into a bigger food storage, handling and distribution center. Keystone will close smaller food shelves and consolidate into one.

Keystone serves people throughout the city but also refers them to local shelves if they live in neighborhoods outside of the western part of St. Paul.

Keystone has held 21 drive up food distribution events, and has seen great increases in the number of people served in 2020 and 2021.

One of the current site occupants, Hotel Furniture Liquidators, is moving Dec. 1 to Concord Street in South St. Paul from 1800 University Ave. The other, Bond-

ed Transmission Specialists, has moved to Maplewood from 1790 University Ave.

Area projects compete

Area projects are in the running for redevelopment-related funding. The St. Paul City Council Oct. 20 approved applications for area two projects. For state and regional applications, the city acts as a funding conduit.

One request is for a planned new St. Paul City School location in Frogtown, at 215 University Ave. The site at the northeast corner of University and Marion Street was a vehicle sales lot years ago but has been vacant. City officials are seeking a Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) grant for contamination clean-up. The school currently occupies former Frogtown Catholic school buildings at St. Adalbert and St. Vincent de Paul.

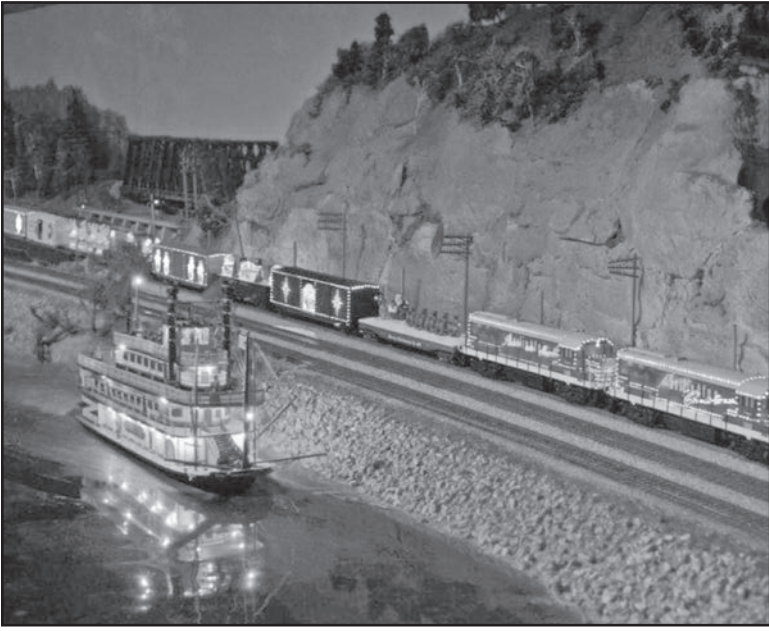
The second application is to Metropolitan Council for Tax Base

Revitalization Account (TBRA) dollars fund for three projects including Kimball Court, a low-income housing facility at 543 and 555 N. Snelling Ave. That project received needed planning commission approval several months ago.

Vacant building gets reprieve

Owners of a building at 1630 University Ave. have been given a 90-day reprieve from added city fees. But city officials are urging Ridgcrest St. Paul LLC to find a new occupant or owner for the former dental office by Dec. 11. The St. Paul City Council approved the extension Oct. 27.

At a legislative hearing earlier this fall Trent Mayberry of Ridgcrest St. Paul LLC said that the building was purchased, along with the former Pawn America to the west, for redevelopment, in 2019. The former pawn shop was razed and replaced with a Bank of America; the owners are trying to lease out or sell 1630 University.



Night Trains return to Twin City Model Railroad Museum

Night Trains™ season is back. This special holiday tradition returns to the Twin City Model Railroad Museum (668 Transfer Road, Suite 8) runs every Saturday evening from 3-7 p.m. through the last Saturday in February (except Christmas Day).

Night Trains season brings a winter wonderland to the miniature train layouts in a magical way: the lights are turned down, the buildings and streetlights glow warmly – setting the scene for lighted models of vintage passenger trains. The make-believe towns are buried in blizzards, and throughout the museum the layouts are adorned with miniature Christmas lights and deco-

rations.

Night Trains takes place at the museum's location at 668 Transfer Road, Suite 8 in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Admission to this special show is \$15 per person and FREE for children age four and under.

Admission is limited each night, so advanced ticket sales are strongly recommended. Tickets are available in two hour blocks (3-5 p.m. and 5-7p.m.). Get your tickets at <https://tcmrm.eventbrite.com>. Walk-up ticket sales will only be accepted if the museum is under capacity for the time block. Masks are strongly recommended for everyone over two years of age; please stay home if ill and prac-

tice good social distancing while at the museum.

The non-profit Twin City Model Railroad Museum first started in 1934. From these humble beginnings, and through several location and name changes, the Twin City Model Railroad Museum has grown to a world-class museum whose mission is to provide family entertainment for the young and old alike, while preserving a bygone era of Minnesota railroad history.

For information about Night Trains or the Twin City Model Railroad Museum, contact Brandon Jutz at pr@tcmrm.org. Watch the Facebook page and <http://tcmrm.org> for special events.

Briefs

HiWay celebrates 90 years

Hiway Credit Union began in 1931 when a group of employees from the Minnesota Highway Department (now MnDOT) first conducted business out of a simple metal cash box. Two years after the stock market crash of 1929, at the height of the Great Depression, Hiway was formed, driven by the mission of people helping people. As part of Hiway's 90th anniversary celebration, the Hiway Credit Union Foundation will be donating four gifts of \$9,000 to four separate area charities.

The first gift will go to CU4Kids, benefiting Children's Miracle Network (CMN) to support our local hospital, Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare. The St. Paul-based credit union's associates will vote on the non-profits which will receive the remaining three donations.

In addition, Hiway is including members in the celebration in a number of ways, including 90 cash giveaways of \$90, granted to members chosen at random.

Non-profits honored

The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits (MCN) has selected three Minnesota nonprofits that have made outstanding contributions as recipients of 2021 Minnesota Nonprofit Mission Awards. Organizations honored this year are The Family Partnership, League of Women Voters Minnesota, and YWCA St. Paul.

Anti-Racism Initiative Award:

With a mission to eliminate racism and empower women, YWCA St. Paul has been a champion for racial and gender equity in the community since 1907. Following the murder of George Floyd in May 2020, YWCA St. Paul expanded its work to provide educational programs on the history, legacy, and ongoing impact of racism and inspire action to eliminate racism. The organization's "Racial Equity and Social Justice Challenge" campaign, "Tackling Racism" virtual town hall, and Equity and Justice Community Conversation events represent some of the work has united community members, built understanding, and called out the systems, laws, and policies that have helped perpetuate inequitable outcomes for communities of color.

Lexington Pkwy. reconstruction

The first phase of the project detached Lexington Parkway from the intersection at West 7th Street and Montreal Avenue in summer 2020. As part of the next phase of the project, Ramsey County will extend Lexington Parkway to connect to Shepard Road in Saint Paul. A final design has been selected for the project that includes a mini-roundabout at the Elway Street and Montreal Avenue intersection. This project will be the first ever roundabout to be constructed in the city of Saint Paul. Submit feedback and learn more at ramseycounty.us/LexingtonExtension.



Como Zoo welcomes Kulu

Como Zoo welcomes its newest resident, Kulu, a 725 pound male polar bear. Kulu comes to Como from the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium where he gained a large following since his birth on Thanksgiving Day on Nov. 28, 2019. Visitors to Como now can see Kulu in the deep-water exhibit of the Polar Bear Odyssey habitat. While Kulu will be able to see, smell, and verbally interact with Como's current resident polar bears Nan and Neil, they will be physically separated until Kulu completes a mandatory quarantine period.

Hamm's redevelopment

The city of Saint Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) today released a request for proposals for the redevelopment of the former Hamm's Brewery Complex on Saint Paul's East Side. The 4.8-acre property is located just one mile from downtown Saint Paul near amenities such as the Payne Avenue business corridor, Bruce Vento Regional Trail, and Swede Hollow Park, and includes eight buildings totaling more than 165,000 square feet. More at stpaul.gov/hamms. Proposals due Dec. 17.

Plan It

Keystone Kraffers

Sew, bead, sketch, quilt, paint (nontoxic) knit, crochet, coloring or so any portable project with the Keystone Kraffers. It is a great time to share projects, get advice for new ones, get motivation, and socialize. "Be prepared, we laugh a lot," say organizers. The group meets Tuesdays from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. and is located at 2000 Saint Anthony in St. Paul. For further information, contact Karlene at 651-645-7424.

D.10 open house Nov. 13

Community members are invited to come to the Como Streetcar Station on Saturday, Nov. 13 between 10 and 11:30 a.m. to meet some board members, give feedback about the bylaw changes, or ask any other questions you may have about the work and being a board member. The Streetcar Station is located in Como Park at 1224 Lexington Pkwy. Please note that the building is city owned and masks are required indoors per the mayor's emergency executive order 21-33.

Rice Street open house Nov. 16

Join the Rice Street Visioning Study project team for a virtual open house on Tuesday, Nov. 16 from 6-8 p.m. to present and discuss the recommended design for Rice Street. There will also be time to share feedback and ask questions. Submit requests for interpreters or accommoda-

tions by Nov. 9 to Project Manager Nick Fischer or call 651-266-7119. More at ramseycounty.us/RiceStreetStudy.

Hamline Church Holiday Market is Nov. 20

Hamline Church United Methodist hosts its annual Holiday Market 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20 at the church at 1514 Englewood Ave. Stop and shop for handmade gift items of all kinds, as well as your favorite products. Santa will visit with children outside of the church 10:30 a.m.-noon. The event is organized by the Hamline Church Women/United Methodist Women. Masks are required. The annual book sale and makers' market will be offered, but soup and baked goods will be to go. Some spaces are available for vendors. Contact hamlinewomen@gmail.com

Limited access at fairgrounds

With preparations for the GLOW Holiday Festival in full swing, regular access to the fairgrounds is more limited. The fairgrounds north of Dan Patch Avenue are closed to the public through Jan. 2. The area south of Dan Patch Avenue will be accessible to the public via Gate #5 (Snelling Avenue & Midway Parkway) from 6 a.m. to sunset. During the run of GLOW, Nov. 18 through Jan. 2, the area south of Dan Patch Avenue will be open 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Volunteers 55+ Needed

Earn a tax-free stipend, mileage reimbursement, training, recognition and pride know you are making a difference in your community by helping seniors stay independent and active. Opportunities also exist working with children in schools as a Foster Grandparent. To learn more, contact Jacqueline James at 651.310.9455, Jacqueline.James@lssmn.org.



SUMMER CAMP GUIDE

The Twin Cities is full of fun for kids.
Find it here in our popular guide.



Coming February. Deadline Jan. 31.

AD TIPS: What sets your camp apart?
Feature that in a photo.

CONTACT DENIS TODAY!

Denis@MonitorSaintPaul.com | 651-917-4183



CRANKSGIVING 2021

A pedal-powered
food drive
**Saturday,
Nov. 20,
noon to 4 PM**

Haul your donations of
food and sundries by
bicycle to

Zion Lutheran Church
1697 Lafond Ave., St. Paul



Call 651-641-1037 for information.

Sponsored by Mr. Michael Recycles Bicycles
www.mmrbsstore.com

your Lutheran Church on the

Walking Together in Faith

- Divine Service: 9:30am
- Growing in Faith
(birth to 13 yrs.): 10:45am
- Living by Faith
(14yrs. to 100+): 11:00am



C
o
r
n
e
r

Jehovah LUTHERAN at Thomas and Snelling

Pastor Joshua Miller

www.jehovahlutheran.org • 651-644-1421

Jobs

OFFICE SPACE

Quiet, professional office space with free attached parking. Single offices up to 10,000 sq. ft. Building information available at hamlinepp.com. Contact Eric with The Terrace Group at 651-621-2550.

Get their attention.

Add a little bit of

COLOR

Monitor Want Ads are \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to Monitor Classifieds, 5139 34th Ave. S. #17097, Minneapolis, MN 55417; e-mail denis@MonitorSaintPaul.com; or call 651-917-4183.

Home

ATTORNEY

Creative Solutions with a Personal Touch. Legal Services in the areas of: Small Business, Wills and Trusts, Probate, Real Estate, and Family. Kirsten Libby, 855 Rice Street, Suite 100, St. Paul, MN, 651-487-1208. www.libby-lawoffice.com. B-20

AUTO STORAGE

Secured auto and boat storage near Snelling and University. Short term or long term. Heated and unheated available. 570 Asbury Street. 651-641-0166. hamlineparkstorage.com.

CRISIS HOTLINE

Call the Minnesota Day One Crisis Hotline at 1-866-223-1111 if you or someone you know is seeking shelter due to a dangerous relationship or needs to create a safety plan. B-20

Merriam Park Painting

- Exterior & Interior Painting - Enameling
- Ceiling Texturing
- Wallpapering
- Free Estimates

Call Ed 651-224-3660

PAINTING

Painting, wallpaper patch. Interior, exterior. Small jobs wanted. Jim. 612-202-5514.

ROOFING

30 years experience hail and wind damage specialist. Replace or repair. Free estimate. Licensed/insured. 612-724-3934

SNOW REMOVAL

Snow removal - sidewalks, driveways, roof tops. Gutter cleaning. 651-699-2832.

Get busy.
GET A CLASSIFIED.

MIDWAY
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

CONNECT
NETWORK
BUILD
SUPPORT

CALL
651.646.2636
EMAIL
info@midwaychamber.com

CELEBRATION
OF NONPROFITS

Wednesday, Dec 15
9 am – 1 pm
at Hamline U

REGISTER
ONLINE

WE'RE SHOCKED,
SIMPLY SHOCKED!

(On why you're not using
newspapers to reach people 65+)

Reach the generation
with disposal income
to spend and the
time to shop in the
media they trust—
newspapers!
You can boost
your trust, too.

Newspaper

COVID-19
Vaccine Clinic

Now Open to
Name County Residents
• Ages 65 & Over
• Phase-1 Workers

Appointment Required
Call or go online for details
and booking.

County
Health System

1000 Lexington Street • Somerville Heights
100 • www.namewebills.com

Monitor
Midway • Como • Rogtown

CONTACT US TODAY!

Tesha@MonitorSaintPaul.com | 612-345-9998
Denis@MonitorSaintPaul.com | 651-917-4183



BUY LOCAL

Support your neighbors, live a more sustainable life,
and build community. Tell them you saw it here.

LULA

LULA VINTAGE CLOTHING

651.644.4110 1587 • Selby
Avenue, St. Paul • MN 55104
www.lulavintagegear.com

mosaic
ON A STICK

1564 Lafond Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55104
651-645-6600

www.mosaiconastick.com

An artist-owned
mosaic supply shop,
community classroom
& artist studio

Aurora Daybreak

Locally Handmade Gifts

Adorable and Artsy Crafts

[etsy.com/shop/
AuroraDaybreak](https://etsy.com/shop/AuroraDaybreak)



Graphic Art Merch
[redbubble.com/people/
AuroraDaybreak](https://redbubble.com/people/AuroraDaybreak)

**QUESTIONS
ABOUT ART?**

call
651 796 1421
for more questions



CONTACT US TODAY TO BE PART OF THIS SECTION!

Denis@MonitorSaintPaul | 651-917-4183

A-1 VACUUM

- Sales, Service & Supplies
- Free Estimates
- Bags, Belts & Filters
- Trade-Ins Welcomed
- Dyson, Miele & Riccar etc.

2575 Fairview Ave. N. | Roseville, MN
651-222-6316

9-5 Mon & Fri | 9-6 Tues-Wed-Thurs | 10-2 Sat

www.A-1Vacuum.com

PROFESSIONAL WOOD FLOORS



Refinishing & Installation

651-246-1552



CommonBond
COMMUNITIES

Skyline Tower 651-999-7500
1247 St. Anthony Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104

NOTICE: OPENING THE STUDIO
& 2 BEDROOM WAIT LIST

Project based Section 8, rent based on income for qualified applicants.

Applications may be downloaded from www.skylinetower.commonbond.org starting at 9AM November 30, 2021 until 4PM December 3, 2021.

Completed applications must be received by mail on or
before **December 16th, 2021**. All qualified
Applicants will be placed on the Waiting List
in order that they are received.



CommonBond Communities
Equal Housing Opportunity

AGING WELL



Advertise in
this quarterly feature.
Next deadline
Nov. 29.

Denis@MonitorSaintPaul.com | 651-917-4183
Tesha@MonitorSaintPaul.com | 612-345-9998

Get the word out. GET A CLASSIFIED.



Want ads must be received by the Monitor by Monday, Nov. 29 for the Dec. 9 issue. Call 651-917-4183 or email Denis@MonitorSaintPaul.com for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Monitor's website at www.MonitorSaintPaul.com

**Duc**

I chose fried rice because you can use all kinds of ingredients in it. And also fried rice is a good way to use up extra rice. You can even fry it in cooking oil that you have used for something else!

To make it, just spread leftover cooked rice out on a tray to cool it. Heat up some oil and stir the rice in. Then add scrambled eggs or bits of meat and vegetables. That's it!



SAVE THE FOOD!

Meals from around the globe help 'save the food'

Duc and Amina are English language students at the Hubbs Center, an adult education center on University Avenue in St Paul. Both participated in an ESL class on food waste prevention recently.

Duc's home town—Bien Hoa city, in northern Vietnam—and Hyderabad, India, where Amina is from, are more than 3,500 apart. But Duc and Amina share cooking traditions that pay careful attention to food and food waste. Both students shared their favorite food waste-prevention tactics. For Duc, it was frying up leftover rice; Amina loves to cook and freeze batches of chicken korma.

Duc observes that food waste is more common in America. "We can buy anything here, like salmon, which is very expensive in my country. That's a good thing," he says. "But the not-so-good thing is that we don't spend as much time cooking. We instead eat a lot of fast food, which is more wasteful."

**Amina**

I chose chicken korma. I often cook for my family, which is my husband and daughter and mother. This is a traditional dish from my home of Hyderabad, India. It's very delicious, but it's not a holiday meal, it's just for every day.

I chose it because you can make a lot and keep it in the refrigerator for a week, or you can freeze it in containers and heat them up in the microwave.

Learn more about food waste, win \$50!

1. Visit savethefood.com.
2. Read about preventing food waste.
3. Scan this QR Code with your phone.
4. Answer two short, easy questions about food waste.

deadline for entry
November 30

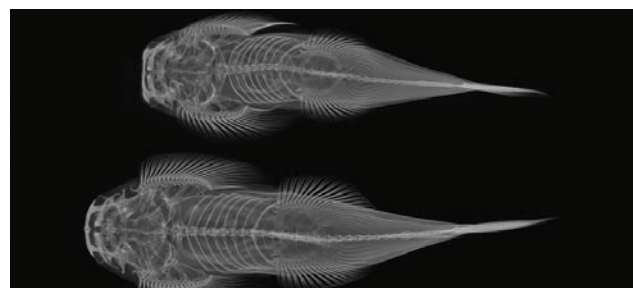


SCAN ME

Enter
to Win
\$50



Discovery awaits at the Bell



X-Ray Vision: Fish Inside Out

October 15-January 2

Discover what lies below the surface in *X-Ray Vision: Fish Inside Out*. As a Smithsonian Affiliate, the new exhibit will feature striking black-and-white radiographs or x-rays of fish, eels and more from the Smithsonian collection. Learn how the study of fish skeletons, teeth, and spines can help scientists examine evolutionary development.



Journey Through the Universe

From November 24-28 (closed Thanksgiving day)

Travel inside the brain or to the furthest reaches of the universe! This week, catch a new show every hour at the Whitney and Elizabeth MacMillan Planetarium. With several new planetarium shows and the return of Bell Museum classics, there is something to enjoy for the entire family!



Spotlight Science: Fantastic Fishes

Visit the Bell on November 6

Join us for this in-person event on November 6 for an up close look at the Bell Museum's fish collection and explore the diversity and lives of fish.



bell museum
bellmuseum.umn.edu