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Monitor



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Turf Club rides again

By JILL BOOGREN

The Turf Club, St. Paul's legendary music venue, got back in the saddle again when it reopened Aug. 28 to a sold out show with Erik Koskinen, Frankie Lee, and Dead Man Winter on the bill.

The crowd was upbeat, some people happy with their place at the bar, but most roaming to check out the new digs. A few ducked into the photo booth. One t-shirt summed it up: "Turf Club. Established 1945. Reborn 2014."

Koskinen — in a polka-dotted shirt, cowboy hat and scarf — and bandmates kicked off the night with a friendly vibe and a country groove, keeping the club true to its roots.

"Hi everybody...welcome to the Turf Club," he called to loud applause.

The club had been closed for renovation by First Avenue, who took ownership of the establish-

ment last fall. When they took the reins, First Avenue promised to invest significantly in improvements to the venue while keeping the charm of the club. No doubt the keenest regulars will notice the changes, but how about everybody else?

"I'm interested to see if the casual customer can actually pinpoint some of the stuff we've done," said General Manager Nate Kranz before the opening. "Which was sort of our goal."

Renovations involved a lot of not-so-sexy behind-the-scenes stuff: renovating up to code; installing new plumbing, a new sprinkler system, and new lighting; and upgrading equipment — what Kranz called a whole lot of "audio-nerdery" — to improve sound throughout the venue.

Drop ceilings were removed, raising the ceiling two feet and making the space feel a lot roomier. The art deco pieces still run



This horse mural behind the stage at the Turf Club was rediscovered after being hidden behind a curtain for decades. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

along each side.

Really noticeable is the mural on the back stage wall of race horses that had been hidden for decades behind a curtain.

"That was pretty cool," said Kranz. They discovered it the day they got the keys and began inspecting the site for needed cleaning and repairs. "Behind that old curtain was a horse mural of horses racing right at you. Right away

we realized that's super cool and that curtain wasn't going back up."

Bathrooms have also been spruced up—they're a little bit bigger and are now handicap accessible. And, you can't miss the Turf Club mosaics. The Clown Lounge is still downstairs, complete with vintage jukebox, new furniture, and Clown Lounge-inspired art.

There's also a new kitchen, which replaced an old one that had fallen out of use. Plans were to begin food service the week after opening with a menu of southern American comfort food — red beans 'n' rice, grits, crawfish mac 'n' cheese, and tacos — as well as burgers, cheese curds, and other popular fare from First

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David Glass (left), co-owner of Black Bear Crossings with his wife Pamela Glass, is pictured with a customer during happier times for the eatery. They will receive a settlement of \$800,000 to end the threat of further legal action against the City of St. Paul.

Black Bear Crossings settles with city

Legal settlement is 3rd largest in the history of the City of St. Paul

By JANE MCCLURE

A legal dispute with Black Bear Crossings has resulted in the City of St. Paul's third-largest legal settlement in history. The St. Paul City Council voted 5-1 Aug. 27 to approve the \$800,000 settlement. Ward Six Council Member Dan Bostrom voted against the settlement and called on Parks and Recreation Director Mike Hahm to resign.

Last year Hahm announced the city would end Black Bear Crossings lease for space in the Como Park Pavilion. That sparked a legal fight between the city and restaurant owner-operators David and Pamela Glass. The Glasses recently won a lawsuit against the city for breach of contract. The approved settlement avoids a related legal action in which the couple was to seek damages. It also limits what can be said publicly about the dispute.

Bostrom also expressed un-

happiness that Ward Five Council Member Amy Brendmoen was absent for the council vote. She was away on city business, on a trip to Copenhagen. Brendmoen had approached David Glass in spring 2013 and suggested that Black Bear partner with the Sea Salt eatery, which operates at Minnehaha Falls in Minneapolis.

She also raised questions about whether Black Bear was meeting its public purpose in operating at Como. The restaurant owners contend that they had operated at Como for 13 years, and had earned kudos from the city in the past.

Brendmoen and Hahm are in a relationship, which Bostrom also raised. He said Brendmoen should be present to vote on the settlement, saying she and Hahm got the city involved in the Black Bear litigation.

Bostrom called the entire situation "totally unacceptable.

"We're the ones sitting around this table who had absolutely nothing to do with this \$800,000 settlement," he said. "And the folks that got us into that aren't even here."

Other council members expressed unhappiness about the settlement, but voted for it rather than face additional litigation on the basis of defamation. Ward Three Council Member Chris Tolbert said he finds the settlement frustrating, and suggested that city staff get more education on working with contracts. He noted that the judge, in its ruling in favor of Black Bear Crossings, criticized the city's handling of the matter.

In a statement on her Facebook page, Brendmoen said, "Dear Constituents, The terms of this settlement include an agreement limiting what can be said

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Publishers:

Calvin deRuyter, Tim Nelson

Managing Editor:

Calvin deRuyter

Advertising:

Denis Woulfe (651-917-4183)

Production/Illustrations:

Bob Wasiluk

Contributing Writers:

Deborah Brotz, Jane McClure,
Jan Willms, Tesha M. Christensen,
Jon Knox, Kyle Mianulli, Jill Boogren

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Turf Club

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Avenue's adjacent eatery, The Depot Tavern in Minneapolis. Kranz hopes to build up a really good brunch service for the neighborhood.

In all, they've nearly quadrupled the number of people on staff, a hiring process Kranz said was as "easy as it gets."

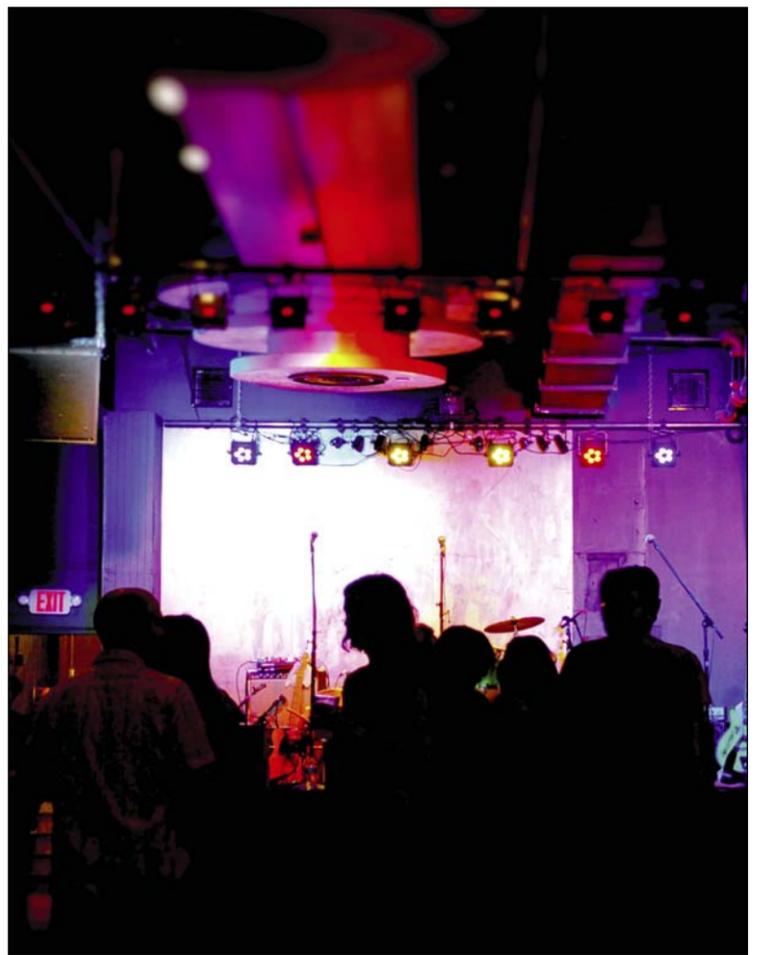
"[We had] a lot of really good people that seemed excited about

the Turf Club opening," he said. "I'm excited for the concert, but almost more excited to get fully open for the neighborhood."

The Turf Club (1601 University Ave.) will be open 11am-2am, Mon.-Fri. and 10am-2am Sat.-Sun. The Clown Lounge will be open at 5pm daily. The Club is located at the Snelling Ave. station along the Green Line. Off-street parking is also available on the north side of the building off Sherburne Ave. You can find more information and schedule at <http://turfclub.net>.



Erik Koskinen performs for a sold out show at the Turf Club's reopening. (Photo by Jill Boogren)



The crowd starts gathering at the Turf Club for reopening night. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

Library offers cornucopia of fall activities

Among the events is the 3rd annual Library Love 3K Fun Run/Stroll/Walk

Early fall at the Hamline Midway Library offers a cornucopia of activities for learning and connecting with your community.

Adults can learn basic computing skills at a free Beginning Computer class offered at the library on three Thursdays, Sept. 11, 18, and 25, 1-3pm. Beginning Email is offered on Mondays, 1-3pm, with classes offered on Sept. 16 and 23. Registration is required for both classes so visit the library, call 651-642-0293, or go to the library's website at www.sppl.org to sign up.

Toddlers and their caregivers can enjoy free interactive story-times on Fridays from 10:30-11am, Sept. 12, 19, and 26 and Oct. 3.

For kids ages 6 and up, the popular Saturday Club re-launches on Sat., Sept. 13, 1:30-3pm with Spinning Things. Kids can experiment with gyroscopes and tops and make a spinning toy to take home. The activity is free and sponsored by the Hamline Midway Library Association.

Wed., Sept. 17 and 24 from 1:30-3pm, the library welcomes back Dr. Stephanie Digby for her Botany for Non-Botanists program. Participants in the two sessions will learn about identifying wildflowers using a plant identification key. The workshops are free.

Sat., Sept. 27 is the Hamline Midway Library Association's 3rd annual Library Love 3K Fun

Run/Stroll/Walk. Join your friends and neighbors to enjoy a car-free Minnehaha Ave. between Snelling and Lexington. All ages welcome. Proceeds benefit HMLA's programs and advocacy at the library. Registration is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children, and pre-registrants get a T-shirt with Jun-Li Wang's beautiful Library Love logo, with some T-shirts available on a first-come, first-served basis to people who register the day of the race. Pre-register at <http://librarylove3k.wordpress.com>.

Wed., Oct. 1, 1-3pm, the library hosts Wind Songs: Sharing the Sounds of Native American

Style Flute with Cynthia Unowsky and Deborah Magnuson playing traditional, contemporary, and original songs on hand-crafted wooden flutes. They'll also provide historic and cultural context for the music they play.

The first Saturdays of each month are book club day at the library. Sat., Oct. 4, the Saints and Sinners Mystery Book Club meets from 1-3pm to discuss good mysteries. The title for October is "The Killing Game" by Iris Johansen. Contact Geraldine Balter at 651-224-5570 or email gerrib13@q.com for further information.

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Are you ready for a neighborhood election? An excellent crop of passionate, community-minded neighbors have thrown their hats in the ring to represent the neighborhood as part of the Hamline Midway Coalition Board of Directors. Now it's up to you to decide who will help navigate the course of neighborhood work in these coming formative years.

With the Green Line running and new investments in infrastructure, development, commercial and retail percolating throughout the area, these next few years will be critical in setting the course for the future of the neighborhood. HMC Board members play an important role in representing the community in matters of public policy and city planning around transportation, development and sustainability.

There are three seats up for election, one from each subdistrict—subdistrict A spans Transfer Rd. to Snelling Ave., subdistrict B includes the area between Snelling and Hamline Ave. and subdistrict C covers Hamline to Lexington Ave. Please join us at one of the following special election events. You can cast your ballot, meet our current and potential future Board Members and learn more about HMC's work.

The HMC Board of Directors election will be held September 16–27. Ballots can be completed at any of the following times and locations:

- HMC Board Meet and Greet: 7:30–8:30pm, Tue., Sept. 16 at the Hamline Midway Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave.
- HMC Information Table at Groundswell: 4–8pm, Thur., Sept. 18 at Groundswell, 1340 Thomas Ave.
- HMC Information Table at Ginkgo: 4–8pm, Wed., Sept. 24 at Ginkgo Coffeehouse, 721 N. Snelling.
- Hamline Midway Library 3K Fun Run: 8–11am, Sat., Sept. 27 at the Hamline Midway Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave.

Interested in running yourself for the board? There's still time to declare your candidacy. Anyone age 16 or older that resides within, owns property within, or owns a business that is headquartered and principally operates within Hamline Midway is eligible to run AND vote in the board election! If you're interested in working with an informed and engaged group of neighbors to focus on local issues, consider running for the board. We work with the understanding that big change begins at the local level, and only by working together, can we ensure an equitable and prosperous future for our community.

Anyone interested in running must return a completed application to the Executive Director no later than 5pm, Mon., Sept. 15. To request an application – or for more information about serving on the HMC Board of Directors, please contact Michael Jon Olson at 651-494-7682 or email michaeljon@hamlinemidway.org.

Volunteers Needed for Community Cleanup

Sat., Sept. 20 - 8am-Noon
MN State Fairgrounds, Camel Lot
Drop-off entrance off Larpenteur Ave.
Volunteer entrance off Hoyt Ave.

The annual Citywide Neighborhood Cleanup is a one-day, one stop drop for all those tough to

News from District 11

By KYLE MIANULLI, HMC COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Hamline Midway Coalition Board Elections



This year's cleanup day is planned for Sat., Sept. 20. The day is a one-stop drop for so many of those items that need special handling to dispose of. (Photo courtesy of HMC)

toss items like electronics, major appliances and construction materials. Every year an enormous outpouring of volunteer support makes this event possible, and this year is no different. We need your help to make it a success.

Volunteers enjoy free admission and drop off, as well as complimentary food and the satisfaction of keeping our neighborhood clean and responsible with our waste. We are currently looking for volunteers to fill both shifts from 8–10:30am and 10am–12:30pm. Responsibilities can range from directing traffic, helping load and unload, and general support. If you're interested in helping, there's a way to contribute no matter your age or

ability. (Please no small children.) To sign up to volunteer, email Lauren Fulner, HMC transportation and sustainability coordinator at Lauren@hamlinemidway.org, or call at 651-214-6788. For more information on the event and reusable/disposable items, please visit www.hamlinemidway.org.

New HMC Website!

We are thrilled to have launched a brand new website at www.hamlinemidway.org. Along with even more useful info, news and events in a super slick new design, we have added an interactive local business directory and several other exciting improvements. Please stop by and take a look.

If you are a local business, take a quick minute to enter your information in the directory. It is our hope that it becomes a valuable, mutually supported resource to current and new residents alike. We love supporting local businesses whenever possible, and know you do to. Help make it easier for others to shop local by entering your business into the directory.

Additionally, if you are a member of a community group or organization and would like to be listed under the "Community Groups" section, please email kyle@hamlinemidway.org to be added to the list.

Provide Feedback on Parking Possibilities for University Ave.

Parking Possibilities is a community conversation that broadens the discussion from traffic congestion to a discussion about balancing the quality of living, working and traveling on Univer-

sity Ave. (along the Green Line) to ensure a successful commercial corridor surrounded by strong neighborhoods.

University Ave. currently has two driving lanes in each direction, for a total of four driving lanes. Over the next few months, Parking Possibilities will ask residents and businesses in each segment of the corridor whether one lane in each direction should be used for parking instead.

Your input is valuable in determining the best possible solution as the Central Corridor continues to grow and evolve. You can learn more about the options being considered and a parking possibilities survey will become available sometime in the middle of September at www.parking-possibilitiesmsp.com.

Last Chance to Give Feedback on Fairview Ave. at Block Party

October 25
Fairview Underpass of I-94
Time: TBA

This special Friendly Streets after-hours event is the last of the season, and your feedback on the reconstruction of Fairview Ave. is needed. Attendance at the first two block parties at Fairview & Thomas in the Feline Rescue parking lot in July, and at Fairview and Selby in August, was great and the amount and quality of feedback was invaluable. Please join your neighbors in reimagining what Fairview Ave. might become at this last event of the season.

The Making Fairview Friendly Project is a collaboration between Hamline Midway and Union Park neighbors to imagine a friendlier Fairview for everyone, whether you're traveling on two feet, four paws, or two or more

wheels. Fairview is a North-South street in St. Paul that is a major connection for many people and is suggested as a bike route by the City of St. Paul despite very unfavorable current conditions for cycling and being listed by Mayor Coleman as one of the worst 20 streets in Saint Paul.

In addition to opportunities to give feedback at these events, the Friendly Streets crew is working on creating an online version of the Fairview Friendly Streets survey and bringing the community engagement process to residents, staff and visitors of Episcopal Homes at their Fairview & University location.

Third Annual Library Love 3K!

Sat., Sept. 27
Hamline Midway Library
1558 W. Minnehaha Ave.

Save the date to show our valued public library some love on Sat., Sept. 27. It's time for the third annual Library Love 3K at the Hamline Midway Library, presented by BNSF Railway and the Hamline Midway Library Association. Check-in and same day registration opens 8am that day, and the starting whistle blows at 9am sharp. Pre-registrants get a T-shirt with Jun-Li Wang's beautiful Library Love logo; some T-shirts may be available to same-day registrants on a first-come, first-served basis.

Registration for adults (18+) is \$25. Ages 17 and under registration is only \$10. You can get more information and register through a link at the Fun Run's blog at librarylove3k.wordpress.com.

All proceeds benefit the Hamline Midway Library Association's work at the Hamline Midway branch. HMLA supports the library through advocacy, fundraising, and programming. HMLA's 2014 programs include the May 2014 monarch butterfly programs at the library, an additional month of kids' programs at the library in August 2014, a LEGO class this fall, and a family-friendly silent movie matinee planned for October 2014.

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Meeting set with HU on housing tear-downs

Hamline-Midway residents will meet with Hamline University (HU) officials to discuss the long-range plans for the university's campus at 6:30-8:30pm on Wed., Sept. 17 at Hamline Church United Methodist, 1514 Englewood Ave. Enter through the alley door. The meeting is in the church's Fireside Room. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The meeting is expected to include information about campus long-range expansion plans as well as time for neighbors to share their concerns and ideas for the future.

Neighborhood residents asked for the meeting after raising concerns about the demolition of several houses on and near the university campus, including the demolition of the White House. The White House was the long-time on-campus home of the university president.

Residents have asked for the meeting to learn more about the development plan and to see what, if any, changes can be made. Residents are calling for a moratorium of at least one year on any more housing demolition. Campus plans show more than 20 dwellings that could still be torn down.

The group, on their Facebook page, expressed concern that the Hamline-Midway Coalition Development Committee had not gone far enough in their request to HU to "seriously consider" a moratorium on further demoli-

Monitor In A Minute

tion. They were hoping more for a demand that the 1 year moratorium be implemented, "That's not the action we expected from our neighborhood district council."

The group has used the committee vote as a call to action and as a "time to organize... let's show Hamline that this isn't just a handful," but a larger community concern.

The Coalition, in its letter to HU, had asked them to consider the one year moratorium and expressed their belief that it would "provide a good timeframe for the unfolding of a full conversation with the community."

The group has a Facebook page, Historic Hamline Village, that contains more information about the meeting, the historic homes that are slated for demolition and contact information for those involved.

Little Grocery must pay fines of \$900

A University Ave. convenience store must pay a fine for violating city tobacco regulations. The St. Paul City council voted Aug. 6 to fine Little Grocery, 1724 University Ave.

The store has had two recent violations. In February the Minnesota Department of Revenue



Little Grocery Store at 1724 University Ave. was fined \$900 by the city for violating two tobacco regulations.

sized tobacco products as contraband, during an inspection. It was found that taxes hadn't been paid on the items found. In July a store clerk failed a tobacco sales compliance check and sold tobacco products to a 16-year-old girl.

The store owners didn't deny the violations but asked for a hearing before the City Council to explain what happened and to ask for a lesser penalty. In the first case, products were being removed from the shelves because it had been found that the products

were contraband. The underage sales incident was explained as a mistake of an inexperienced clerk.

The council heard the testimony but imposed the full penalties, citing the seriousness of both incidents. The contraband sales brought a fine of \$700. The underage sales penalty brought a \$200 fine.

Bicycle project funding shift

Bicycle improvements under construction on Griggs St. and Jefferson Ave. will be built with funds shifted from two other projects, one of them being the Pierce Butler Route-Lexington Pkwy. bicycle connection. Instead that project, and the Palace

Recreation project, will have to compete again in the upcoming 2016-2017 Long-Range Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) process in 2015.

The two bicycle boulevard projects are \$900,000 over an initial budget of \$1.52 million. Both projects draw from city and federal funds administered by the non-profit group Transit for Livable Communities.

Balancing the bike projects' budget forced the city's Department of Public Works to propose taking \$91,000 from the Palace Recreation Center expansion and renovation project and taking the entire \$200,000 earmarked for the bicycle ramp connection from the Lexington Bridge to Pierce Butler.

That didn't sit well with the CIB Committee, which recommended in July that the fund transfer not be made. It also upset proponents of the recreation center and bike connection projects. After hearing from project proponents, council members on Aug. 6, laid the matter over with the intent of adopting the funding shift. But the council also wanted to earmark future CIB funding for Palace and Pierce Butler-Lexington, so that community volunteers didn't have to go through the entire CIB review process again.

The proposal to earmark the funds also met opposition from the CIB Committee, which discussed the issue Aug. 11. Committee members said that while there's an understanding that projects that extend over several years will be built, there are concerns about giving projects preference before the process starts again. Several committee members said it would set a bad precedent.

- Compiled by Jane McClure



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WEST MIDWAY INDUSTRIAL

A plan to shape future land use decisions and strategic, economic development-related investments in the West Midway area, goes to the St. Paul City Council for a public hearing. The council will hold a public hearing on the draft West Midway Industrial Area Plan at 5:30pm Wed., Sept. 17 at City Hall.

The plan won recommendations of approval earlier this year from the Planning Commission and the Heritage Preservation Commission.

The plan had extensive input from groups including the Midway Area Chamber of Commerce and district councils from Union Park, St. Anthony Park and Hamline-Midway.

The draft plan is available from City Planner Hilary Holmes, 651-266-6612, hilary.holmes@ci.stpaul.mn.us and can be viewed at <http://www.stpaul.gov/WestMidway>.

The plan has been in the works for some time. It includes recommendations to redevelop underused industrially zoned sites, make improvements to the area's transportation network and add green space. It also contains a separate strategy to promote the creation of family-supporting jobs.

Written comments may be addressed to: Office of the City Council, 310 City Hall, 15 Kellogg Blvd. West, Saint Paul, MN 55102 or email Hilary Holmes at hilary.holmes@ci.stpaul.mn.us.

PRIOR CROSSING

Prior Crossing, a proposed housing and supportive services facility for homeless youth, got additional assistance Aug. 13. The St. Paul City Council, acting as the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA), voted unanimously to allocate up to \$350,000 in HOME Fund loan financing for the project at 1949 University Ave.

Department of Planning and Economic Development Director Jonathon Sage-Martinson said the financial assistance will be contingent on the project secur-

Development Roundup

By JANE MCCLURE

ing all other necessary financial assistance by Dec. 31, 2014, to fully fund its capital costs.

The 44-unit building will house homeless young people, ages 18-25. It is being developed by Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative, a nonprofit housing development entity comprised of 50 local congregations who are committed to ending homelessness in the Twin Cities. Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative, formerly the Plymouth Church Neighborhood Foundation, has developed about 480 affordable, supportive housing units in the Twin Cities. The St. Paul facility will have supportive services to help young people find work, attend school and develop life skills. State, county and private funds would pay for operations.

Structures have been demolished on the site but the project has hit roadblocks in trying to obtain Minnesota Housing Finance Agency low-income housing tax credits. The project has obtained Metropolitan Council, city and private sector funding.

The total project development cost is \$9,093,731.

Sage-Martinson said that if the project proponents obtain all needed funding by year's end, Beacon will have to come back to the HRA for a final loan agreement.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

St. Paul's developable lots often are eyed for use as community garden space, even on an interim basis. Obtaining community garden space may become easier, with St. Paul City Council adoption Aug. 13 of plans to create community garden agreements. The council delegated authority to create such agreements to the city's Department of Public Works.

The council also adopted a 15-page garden agreement between city officials and district councils. It spells out the terms and conditions for gardens, which can be created for five-year periods. Gardens would have to have insurance and the city would make no commitments as

to soil conditions.

City land has been used for community gardens for many years, including park land, public works land and land owned by the Housing and Redevelopment Authority. The city already has several successful community gardens administered by district councils and nonprofit groups. The council resolution formalizes existing practices.

The council resolution on community garden agreements notes that gardens "can bring

neighbors together and promote community through friendship and common work." It also cites the benefits of community gardening as a means of providing fresh produce for residents.

The community gardens will be allowed on land that doesn't currently have a specific use. Having the community garden agreements in place means that gardeners, under the purview of their neighborhood district councils, will have responsibility to maintain the plots. That means city workers and maintenance resources can be directed elsewhere.

Agreements will require city Office of Financial Services and City Attorney's Office review before they are approved.



The St. Paul City Council, acting as the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA), voted unanimously last month to allocate up to \$350,000 in HOME Fund financing for the Prior Crossing Project at 1949 University Ave.



Obtaining community garden space, like this one on W. Pierce Butler Route, may become easier after the City Council adopted plans to create community garden agreements through the Department of Public Works.



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Como Community Council Corner

JON KNOX, BOARD CHAIR OF THE DISTRICT 10 COMO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Popular Sunday Series returns this fall

One of my favorite programs from the District 10 Como Community Council is the annual Sunday Series of speakers. For the past several years, we've hosted a variety of speakers on different topics, ranging from gardening to solar energy. Traditionally, the Sunday Series has taken place in the winter months and has provided a much-needed reason to get out of the house and avoid cabin fever!

I'm excited to announce that we're adding two fall Sunday Series speaker events this year. Both events will take place at the Historic Streetcar Station in Como Park (1224 Lexington Pkwy. N.). Events are free and open to the public; donations are appreciated.

This fall's first event will take place on Sun., Sept. 28 at 1pm. The St Paul Police Historical Society will be presenting a fun, in-

teractive history of the St Paul Police Department entitled "Keeping the Peace: A History of the St Paul Police Department." Presenters will wear period costumes from the past. And, as a sneak preview...it turns out that the Historic Streetcar Station, the venue for this event, used to be a police station!

Our second event will be on Sun., Oct. 26, also at 1pm. In keeping with the history theme of this series, we'll have a chance to learn more about the always-unique St. Paul Saints baseball team, who is moving from their home at Midway Stadium to the new downtown ball park. Entitled "Home Runs and Pigs at Midway Stadium: The Legacy of the St Paul Saints," this presentation will feature true stories, tall tales, and a lot of fun.

This fall's Sunday Series is

being organized by the volunteer members of District 10's Neighborhood Relations and Safety Committee. The winter series is organized by our Environment Committee. Public events are only a part of these committees' important work. You can learn more about their work and how to get involved by visiting our website at www.district10comopark.org.

Finally, just a reminder to save the date for District 10's annual Halloween Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction Fundraiser. It will be held this year on Sat., Oct. 25. Watch for further details in next month's *Monitor*. If you're interested in donating items to the silent auction, please drop us an email at district10@district10comopark.org or call our office at 651-644-3889.

Improv After Hours

Hamline Midway Library
1558 W Minnehaha Ave, Saint Paul

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Friday, October 10, 7 p.m.
Friday, October 17, 7 p.m.
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Monitor

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TCGIS report card top in state

Twin Cities German Immersion School (TCGIS), 1031 Como Ave., has been recognized as one of the best schools in the state of Minnesota in regard to recently released state test scores. Receiving scores of 94% in math and 89% in reading, TCGIS compares to a St. Paul Schools average of 40% and 38% and for the state as a whole 61% and 59%. They also scored 93% in science proficiency.

The standards also report that 57.5% of students actually exceeded the standards in math, while 42.2% of students exceeded standards in reading, and 31% in science.

In the report, the elementary school has 376 students with an 8.5% minority population.

Resident seeks info on 1060 Seminary Ave.

The owner of 1060 Seminary Ave. (formerly Ireland St.) is seeking any information or photos on the historic property that he has owned since 2002. Owner Brian Schomburg has researched the history of the home by going to various sources, including the Ramsey County Historical Society, but has never found a picture of the historical structure itself. The house was built in 1900 and for most of its history it was a store, Karth's Grocery, and possibly other names. Schomburg has hung signs around the area requesting information about the history of his house; any stories, photos, etc., but has never gotten a reply. An internet search turned up only two aerial photos, one from 1923 and one from 1940. If anyone has knowledge of the structure, or has historical photos of it, please contact him through his email at brianschomburg@hotmail.com.

Hamline Church fall sale planned Oct. 4-5

Hamline Church Women/UMW need crafters and vendors for the fall sale, 9am-3pm on Sat., Oct. 4 and 11am-3pm on Sun., Oct. 5 at the church at 1514 Englewood Ave. Get a jump on holiday shopping, buy pie and coffee, and see the historic church. Tables are available. Call 651-646-3473, or email jane@accesspress.org for more information.

Chess lessons set every week

Beginning Chess Lessons will be given on six consecutive Thursdays beginning Sept. 25 from 1:30-3pm at the Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. (one block off of Cleveland Ave.). Instructor Barry

Conway will share his love for the game with his students. Call Keystone Community Services Program at 651-645-7424 to register for this class.

Creative arts Class at Leonardo's

Hamline Midway Elders is starting a new class at Leonardo's Basement (1188 Hubbard) for 3 consecutive Mondays beginning Sept. 15 from 10am to noon. Seniors can use a variety of tools and materials to make a toy, a trinket or a piece of art. An instructor will assist as much or as little as each senior desires. Registration for this free class is required as space is limited. Contact Hamline Midway Elders at 651-209-6542 or info@hmelders.org.

Lex-Ham Band seeks members

With the September 'back-to-school' spirit in the air, it's time to dust off that horn and join the band. The Lex-Ham Community Band performs twelve months a

year and welcomes new members all the time. The band is working on music for its fall and winter concerts, so this is a great time to sit in on a rehearsal, meet Austin Ertelt, the band's director, and see how much fun it is. Anyone who can play at a high school level (or used to and just needs to get back in shape a bit) is welcome to join.

Check out www.LexHamArts.org/band to find out more about the band and our rehearsal schedule.

Great programs planned for elders

Hamline Midway Elders is planning a number of programs and classes in the near future. Among them:

Joint Friendly Exercise Class - This popular exercise class led by Joni O'Connell returns for an 8 week series on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons beginning Sept. 16 from 2-3pm. The class is held at 1514 Englewood Ave. (Hamline United Methodist Church). Seniors who have not participated in previous exercise classes are en-

couraged to try this free class.

Wednesdays at 1pm - We're excited to be partnering with the Hamline Midway Library for this free fall series that will be held at the library and feature guest speakers on a wide variety of topics. Programs will be held on 10 consecutive Wednesdays from 1-3pm. Stephanie Digby kicks off the series on Sept. 17 with "Botany for the Non Botanist" - and folks of all ages are invited to attend any/all programs. Refreshments will be provided.

Chronic Disease Self-Management - HME's Monica Gallagher & Kathy Carlson will facilitate this free class to be held on 4 consecutive Tuesday evenings in October beginning Oct. 7 from 6-8pm at 1514 Englewood Ave. (Hamline United Methodist Church). In this class, participants will learn how to better manage their health and support one another's health/wellness goals. Topics include communicating health issues effectively, developing/maintaining an exercise program, eating healthier, handling stress better and managing medications appropriately.

Medicare Coverage? - Do you have the best Medicare plan for your budget & needs? The period to make changes, or new enrollment, is coming up from Oct. 15 thru Dec. 7. Medicare A, B, C, and D are not simple. We can help find the information you need including the list of nearby programs where you can meet with staff/volunteers to assist you.

For more information, on any of the above items, please contact Hamline Midway Elders at 651-209-6542 or info@hmelders.org.

Annual lasagna dinner scheduled

All Hamline Midway residents are invited to this annual lasagna and silent auction on Fri., Sept. 26 from 5-7:30pm in the Fireside Room at Hamline United Methodist Church, 1514 Englewood Ave. Feast on meat and vegetarian lasagna prepared by Chef Erik Hendrickson and bid and purchase a variety of donated silent auction items - with all proceeds benefitting Hamline Midway Elders. Tickets are \$5 for seniors and children under 10, \$10 for all others in advance, and \$12 at the door.

Flu shots given Oct. 1 at St. Mary's

Mark your calendar for your yearly flu shot. They will be given on Wed., Oct. 1 from 10am-noon at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1895 Laurel Ave. at Howell Ave. This health service is coordinated and provided by Keystone Senior Program and the Merriam Park Living at Home Block Nurse Program. Please bring your Medicare card and your health insurance card or the cost is \$30.

Also come share a cup of coffee, a snack and visit with a neighbor.

Weekly suppers resume Sept. 10

Jehovah Lutheran will resume its weekly church suppers from 5:30-6:30pm on Wed., Sept. 10, in the church basement. The Wednesday suppers are free and open to all. Suggested donation is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children. The church is at 1566 Thomas Ave. at Snelling.

Keystone schedules fall programs

The following Health and Exercise Classes will be happening this fall by the Keystone Community Programs:

- Arthritis Exercise Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon-1pm from September through October. The cost is \$8 for the 8 weeks or \$1 per time;
- Matter of Balance classes will be held for 8 weeks on Thursdays from 1-3pm beginning Oct. 9;
- Strengthening and flexibility exercise are Mon.-Wed.-Fri. from 10-11am;
- Gym walking is available from 11am-noon Mon., Wed., Thur. and Fri.;
- Zumba Gold classes will be held on Fridays for 8 weeks beginning Sept. 26 from 1-2pm. On Friday, Sept. 19 there will be a demonstration of Zumba Gold at 11:30am;
- Stick Walkers meet Thursdays at 10am for their hike;
- Pickleball is played on Tuesday and Thursday mornings beginning at 9am; and
- Other exercises include light weights and Line Dancing. Please call with any questions and to register for any program at 651-645-7424.

Other upcoming events and classes include:

- Second Annual Fall Talent Show on Mon., Oct. 6;
- Speaker on "Secrets of WWII" on Wed., Sept. 24;
- Speaker Robert Cuerden will present "Armchair Travel to China" on Oct. 20
- Beginning Chess Lessons on 6 Thursdays beginning Sept. 25;
- Splatter Art Classes on Tuesdays, Oct. 14 and 21;
- Cross Stitch Class on Tues., Nov. 4;
- AARP Smart Driver Classes on Sept. 15, Oct. 14 and Nov. 12;
- Brush up Bridge on Thursday mornings from 10-noon and Advanced Bridge at 12:30pm.

Call with any questions, to register for any program, or for a copy of Keystone Senior Hi-Lites at 651-645-7424. Keystone Senior Program is located at the Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. at the corner of Wilder and St. Anthony, one block off of Cleveland Ave.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Ribbon cut for Hamline Station



Politicians and civic leaders broke ground in August on the \$28 million Hamline Station. The 1.6 acre parcel will be the home to 108 housing units and 13,700 sq ft of retail space.

On Aug. 25, St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman, Project for Pride in Living (PPL) Executive Director Paul Williams, St. Paul City Councilmember Russ Stark, and local civic leaders broke ground on Hamline Station, a mixed-use development located on a 1.6 acre parcel at Hamline and University along the Green Line. The new development will have 108 units of affordable rental housing including 14 units of permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless or disabled persons and will assist eight households that have experienced long-term homelessness. The \$28 million project also feature 13,700 square feet of ground-level retail space.

"Hamline Station is a powerful opportunity to provide low-income families and individuals high quality housing with a significant transit solution," said Williams. "The collective impact of this will be immense in helping people achieve greater housing and economic stability. PPL is excited to bring this project to life on the Green Line."

The development will include two four-story buildings with 57 units in one building and 51 in the other. It will also include an underground parking lot for residents and back surface parking lot for retail as well as a shared public plaza.

"Hamline Station will also be a fabulous new addition to the Hamline-Midway neighborhood, turning an old vacant car lot into an attractive amenity with shops and an outdoor plaza," said Stark.



Jeff Adelman, also known as the Herb Man, sums up his farming life by saying, "It goes like this. I work hard for seven months, get paid for three, and make it stretch for twelve. But I love it." (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)



Rise and Shine

By MARGIE O'LOUGHLIN

Brandon Jordan, whose family runs Jordan's Ranch in Woodbury, has been up since 2:15am loading their delivery truck and helping set up the produce stall his grandparents started three generations ago. The St. Paul Farmers' Market opens at 6am on Saturdays (8am on Sundays) May thru November. Shoppers may think this is early but for the 150 vendors who are ready to do business, a lot has already been done by the time the market opens.

Market manager Jack Gerten has been coming to work on Saturdays at 3:30am for 18 years. One of the St. Paul Farmers' Market's two full-time employees, he oversees all 19 market locations in the City of St. Paul and knows each of the vendors who operates a stall. "There are many things that make our downtown location special," says Gerten. "Every-

thing sold here has been grown or made less than 60 miles away. That's local." He continues, "Lots of folks think we sell only vegetables. We do have wonderful vegetables but also a full variety of meats, cheeses, salsa, maple syrup, handmade quilts, flowers, egg rolls and too many other things to describe."

STORIES OLD AND NEW

The St. Paul Farmers' Market has been at its current location, at the intersection of 5th St. and Wall St., since 1982. But, the market has had a continuous presence in downtown St. Paul since 1853, operating out of several different locations. If you do the math, that's 161 years. Back

then you would have arrived at the market on dirt streets by horse or your own two feet. You would have heard steamboats blowing their whistles on the Mississippi River.

Times have changed! Consider taking the light rail (Union Depot Station is less than 2 blocks from the market), the bus, riding your bike through the relatively quiet streets of Lowertown or, if you drive, look for parking on the south side of the market where it's less crowded.

Half the fun of going to a farmers' market is seeing where things come from; the other half is meeting the growers and hearing their stories.

Jeff Adelman, also known as the Herb Man, sums up his farming life by saying, "It goes like this. I work hard for seven months, get

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

MTC is offering **FREE METRO TRANSIT PASSES ONLINE** to and from the downtown St. Paul Farmers' Market on Sun., Sept. 21, from 5am-2pm. It is a great way to check out the market and relax without having to worry about parking or traffic! Hop on the bus or the light rail and head on over. Go to <http://www.stpaulfarmersmarket.com> and click on the prominently displayed box... answer two questions, and the pass is yours.

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By JAN WILLMS

One of the biggest challenges for businesses in Como Park is that there is no downtown area and no business district.

This has made it difficult for area merchants to connect and try to speak with one voice or exchange ideas, according to Ted Blank, District 10 Como Community Council's administrator and coordinator.

But with the advent of Como Business Network, businesses both large and small are finding an opportunity to connect.

"We started meeting last year on a quarterly basis," Blank explained. "We meet for breakfast at different venues, and it's kind of like a mini-neighborhood Chamber of Commerce."

The number of people attending varies from 15 to 30, and represents both large neighborhood businesses as well as home-based businesses. "We have a lot of realtors, too," Blank added.

He said any business, either located in Como Park, or serving the Como Park neighborhood, is welcome.

Meetings so far have been held at Black Bear Crossings, Lyngblomsten Care Center and the Como Park Grill.

"The quarterly breakfast on Fridays seems to work well," Blank said. "It's hard for the smaller business owners to get away and meet more often."

He said the group has talked



The Como Business Network started in 2013 and meets quarterly to connect business owners/operators with each other for information and support.

about a variety of initiatives so far, such as a neighborhood guide and business directory and business participation in community events.

"We have discussed the aging population boom and what impact it will have on businesses," he noted. "And we have also talked about what can make Como an attractive place for businesses."

He said District 10 has provid-

ed volunteer staff and support for the organization.

"This has been a new experience for District 10," Blank said. "Business owners sometimes have different perspectives on things, and District Councils were designed to represent both neighborhoods and businesses, so we are keeping with our mission."

Shannon Parker, the manag-

er of Corporate Engagement for Lyngblomsten, is serving as the president of Como Business Network.

"It's interesting how things come about through conversations in the community," she said. "I was meeting with Ted and our director about the Lyngblomsten mid-summer festival, and we started talking about the Como Business Network. That conversation led to other opportunities, and Lyngblomsten agreed to be part of this organization with me as volunteer chair."

She said that since the care center is a major employer in the area, the staff felt a responsibility to bring neighborhood businesses together for conversation and support.

"The purpose of the Como Business Network is to provide an opportunity for business people to network and build relationships and get to know who their business neighbors are. A lot of strength comes from that," Parker said.

"A lot of times we go to work and sit within our four walls," she continued. "This lets us open doors and ask how are we similar? How are we different? How do we align on things? It is a way to build support in the Como neighborhood."

She said the meetings offer a chance for merchants to share ideas in a comfortable format.

"At our July meeting, we had a discussion on what businesses are looking for. It was so interesting," Parker said. "We have mutual concerns, but these conversations don't happen on their own."

"For me, it has been a really nice chance to meet with others in the community where our paths have not crossed," Parker added. "We can find different ways to support one another in the Como neighborhood."

This support is also important to Steve Finnegan, owner of Como Park Grill, who hosted the July Como Business Network.

"I am hoping this will bring more information to the residents of Como Park," he said, "and communicate how many businesses there are in the neighborhood."

He said he finds it helpful to talk with other business owners, learn about challenges they may have and how they have overcome them.

"We all deal with the City of Saint Paul, which needs to be more business friendly," he said.

He sees the organization as an outlet in which businesses in the area can be more vocal and strengthen their voices when working with issues addressed by the City Council.

"Como is a great neighborhood," he affirmed. "We have a lot to offer: the zoo, the parks and the fairgrounds."

He hopes to see more businesses drawn to the area.

The next meeting of the Como Business Network will be Friday, Oct. 24 at the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center, 1480 N. Snelling Ave.

"We have mutual concerns, but these conversations don't happen on their own."

**Shannon Parker,
President Como Business Network**

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Farmer's Market

Continued from page 7

paid for three, and make it stretch for twelve. But I love it." Adelman has both familiar and not so familiar-looking vegetables at his stand. When asked about the West Indian gherkins, purple Calabash tomatoes and plump white eggplants, he begins a well-informed discussion on the value of heirloom seeds. "These three varieties," he explains, "are identical to those grown by Thomas Jefferson before he was president of the United States."

Mary Falk, a licensed cheese maker since 1996, is wearing a bright pink t-shirt that says "Got mold." She unwraps her four varieties of soft goat cheese careful-



Tom Klein plays just outside the Farmers' Market at 4th St. and Broadway, "to practice in public," he says. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

ly. They are cabbage-sized, coated with different herbs and inspired by the flavors of Wiscon-

sin's north woods. Mary and her husband Dave co-own Lovetree Farmstead Cheese in Trade Lake (near Grantsburg), where they keep six milk cows, a dozen goats and about 100 sheep. They farm organically on 130 acres, and have set their remaining 70 acres aside as a wildlife preserve. They age their cheeses slowly and lovingly there, in a cave overlooking a pond. While all this sounds idyllic, it's clear Mary is a no-nonsense, hard-working farmer with a rock-solid vision of farming and living sustainably. And she makes terrific cheeses...

When asked if he has a favorite apple, Greg Novak of Novak Orchards in Woodbury says, "Every apple at the peak of its season is my favorite." He had five varieties of summer apples on sale in late August: Zestar, Redfree, Paula Red, Green Pie and, of course, State Fair. The larger selection of fall apples will start coming in early September. Novak uses sustainable farming methods, including Integrated Pest Management (where good bugs eat bad bugs), to grow apples on the farm his parents started in 1951. Novak began coming to the St. Paul Farmers' Market to sell apples as a boy; now he works side by side with his wife. He loved apples then, and he loves them still.

There is so much to look at and to taste at the St. Paul Farmers' Market: savory herbs, buttery cheeses and crisp apples. There is also music to enjoy if you head over to the corner of 4th St. and Broadway, where piper Tom Klein comes each weekend, he says, "To practice in public." He plays Celtic music on his Irish bagpipes, with a French tune thrown in now and then, maybe even a little Gershwin. Klein always brings his dog Opal with him, a friendly beagle-dachshund with an ear for good music.

Jerry Xiong, vegetable farmer, shows off a sampling of his wares on a recent outing to the Farmers' Market. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)



Mary Falk is a licensed cheese maker and co-owner of Lovetree Farmstead Cheese. She sells organic cheese at the Market. (Photo by Margie O'Loughlin)

MARKET TIPS

When planning your visit to the St. Paul Farmers' Market, there are a few things to remember.

Dogs are not allowed to enter the market. Like Opal, they can only be on the perimeter, so it's best to leave them at home.

Factor in a little extra time for parking; check the website for the "loading zone" if you think you'll have a lot to carry. Bring a nice big bag to carry your purchases home in.

WIC and EBT cards are welcome. Some vendors may not accept credit cards, so don't forget your cash.

Although the regular market will close in late November, the winter market will continue from December thru April for those of you who just prefer to shop outdoors.

Library

Continued from page 2

The Kids Book Club meets on Sat., Oct. 4 from 1:30-2:30pm to discuss nominees for the Maud Hart Lovelace Book Awards. The group is for book lovers ages 8-12. The Teen Book Club meets the same day from 2:30-3:30pm. This group, for ages 12-18, will discuss the book "Reality Boy" by A. S. King.

Also on Sat., Oct. 4 is Paw Pals from 1:30-3pm. Dog-human team Toby and Marsha are trained to encourage young readers ages 6-12. Pre-registration is required, so call the library.

On Wed., Oct. 8, 1-3pm, crime prevention specialist Pam McCreary and Commander Ken Sass will discuss crime prevention strategies and answer audience questions.

Fri., Oct. 10, 7-9pm, the library will stay open late for a special after-hours program for adults, "Improv After Dark," featuring an improv performance by the Playground Players and special guests. There will also be improv nights on Oct. 17 and 24.

SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

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Urban Growler Brewing Company celebrates grand opening

By JILL BOOGREN

Urban Growler Brewing Company was the toast of the town Aug. 27 as hundreds gathered for the grand opening of St. Anthony Park's hoppin' new brewery. Seats at the picnic tables in the beer garden filled in quickly as owners Deb Loch and Jill Pavlak took to the microphone alongside Mayor Chris Coleman and 4th Ward Councilmember Russ Stark to welcome guests.

"I never thought it would be this big and this much fun. I can't even believe it," said Loch, the head brewer.

"We're very, very happy to be here today. We've envisioned this day for six years, so Cheers!" said Pavlak, clinking Loch's glass.

Stark said the place was "amazing" and called it a great new asset for St. Anthony Park and a great thing for St. Paul. Coleman said Loch and Pavlak having the foresight to build their brewery in the "center of



Urban Growler Brewing Company on the inside. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

the beer district in the Twin Cities" was fortuitous. He said starting a business is tough, and going from concept to pint is a long journey. Then he offered a toast.

"To a journey well worth taking and to many, many journeys ahead, and many good friendships to be built," he said to raised pint glasses. "Congratulations, and much success."



A flight of beer. Six beers were on tap for the Grand Opening Aug. 27. (Photo by Jill Boogren)



Urban Growler owners Jill Pavlak, left, and Deb Loch hoist the giant scissors used to cut the ribbon at their Grand Opening in August. This is one of the latest additions to the "Creative Enterprise Zone" in St. Paul. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

They had been serving beer for a month already, but when they sliced the ribbon with a giant pair of red scissors it was official: their brewery was open for business.

The mood was merry at this little community get together south of the tracks. Neighbors and friends chatted and listened to music by Moonlight Duo and other musicians. People sampled flights of beer and snacked on Chef Paul Suhreptz's signature pork carnitas (with pork marinated in Urban Growler's Smoked Chipotle Porter) and other tasty treats.

Parents brought their kids, the littlest ones nestled in slings and perched on laps. People cheered on Charlie Boone, of the Mac-Groveland neighborhood, as he carefully pulled one piece of the 2x4 wooden blocks at a time and moved it to the top of the stack in a giant game of Jenga.

Jay Schrader of St. Anthony Park welcomed having another place in the neighborhood.

"I think it's great as a community gathering spot," he said. He thought all the beers he tried were interesting and different enough to want to try more. "The journey's part of the fun... figuring out what you like best."

It would appear that plenty of others were enjoying the same journey, as two of the beers —

the Graffiti IPA, a rye beer, and the Amber Skyline — tapped out in the first couple of hours. Other beers on tap were: CowBell Cream Ale; De-Lovely Porter; City Day Ale (styled after a Kentucky common beer); and a Plow to Pint™ Rhubarb Wit.

Their Plow to Pint™ series brings the ingredients and stories of small farmers and community gardens into Urban Growler's beer; 120 pounds of rhubarb came from the Xiong family, whom Loch and Pavlak met at the Lowertown Farmers' Market.

Bringing people together was central to their mission in founding a brewery six years ago. They wanted to move beyond what Pavlak called a very divisive presidential campaign and a very divisive marriage amendment for gays and lesbians. They wanted to stop the negativity.

"No matter what, we want a place where people can come together and celebrate our differences and learn that we're all in this together.... We all want the same thing: Love from friends, love from family, and a place where you can just be yourself," said Pavlak. "We want everyone to be comfortable here. The whole point is to bring people together with beer."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

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Photographer/storyteller searches for meaning of peace

The Wesley Center is excited to announce that photographer and storyteller John Noltner's "A Peace of My Mind" exhibit will be on display in the Anderson Center Forum at Hamline University through Sept. 29. This event is free and open to the public!

A "Meet & Greet with the Artist" will be held on Tues., Sept. 16, 4:15-6pm at the Forum. Artist Noltner will talk about the people he interviewed for the exhibit and provide a tour.

In celebration of the "International Day of Peace," meet the artist Noltner during a dessert reception in Anderson Center Forum Sun., Sept. 21, at 5pm. At 7pm, Noltner will deliver a special presentation entitled "Peaces



Artist John Noltner, creator of "A Peace of My Mind."

of Eight: Uncovering the Treasure of Peace through Stories that Surround Us."

"What does peace mean to you?" is the central question photographer and storyteller Noltner has been asking people for his social commentary project, "A Peace of My Mind." The multimedia art project is meant to foster public dialogue about issues related to conflict resolution, civic responsibility, and peace building. With engaging portraits and compelling personal stories, nearly 100 diverse subjects describe what peace means to them, how they work toward it in their lives, and some of the obstacles they encounter along the way.

"A Peace of My Mind" is sponsored by the Wesley Center for Spirituality, Service, and Social Justice at Hamline University.



"What does peace mean to you?" is the central question photographer and storyteller John Noltner has been asking people for his social commentary project, "A Peace of My Mind" on display at Hamline University through Sept. 29.

In Our Community

Continued from page 6

La Leche Group meets Oct. 14

"The Baby Arrives: The Family and the Breastfed Baby" is the topic of the meeting of the Como-Midway La Leche Group on Tue., Oct. 14. All expectant and nursing mothers are invited to attend with their babies and toddlers. Call Heidi at 651-659-9527 for more information.

Wellness event slated Oct. 8

Everyone is invited to the Hamline Midway Health Movement's second community wellness event for Hamline Midway resi-

dents fifty years and older. The event will feature a free healthy meal and talk on "Making the most of life in the Second Half: Lifestyles that make a difference" by Dr. Thomas E. Kottke, Medical Director for Population Health at HealthPartners. The presentation is geared for the fifty years and older population but all Hamline Midway residents are welcome to attend (children too). The event will take place on Wed., Oct. 8 from 6:30-8pm at Hamline United Methodist Church (1415 Englewood Ave.).

The Vital Aging Network with support from HealthPartners and a Bush Foundation Community Innovations grant has launched a community-based program called Wellness 50+. The program's overall goal is to engage community members to increase wellness in older adults. The Hamline Midway group trying to accomplish this goal is called Hamline Midway Health Movement (HMHM). Together with our community partners, we

hope to improve the health of Hamline Midway residents and offer free "Healthy Monday" activities and talks centered around health. Enjoy a free healthy meal and learn how you can stay vibrant and live a life filled with gusto. RSVP by sending an email to: hamlinemidwayhealth@gmail.com. Questions can be directed to Mary at 651-343-5382.

FUNraiser planned for girls fastpitch

There will be fun for the whole family during an afternoon of fun to benefit North Area Girls Fastpitch Softball. There will be tacos, music, softball games, bocce ball, a homerun derby and more. The FUNraiser takes place from 3-8 3pm, Sat., Sept. 13, at B-Dale Club, 2100 Dale St. N., Roseville. North Area Fastpitch is a competitive softball program that has been serving girls 8-18 years old from Como, Midway, North End, and Roseville for more than 20 years.

Special class on falls starts Oct. 9

"Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls" is an evidence based program designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase the activity levels of older adults. This program was designed to benefit older adults who are concerned about falls, have had a fall in the past, restrict activities because of concerns about falling, are interested in improving flexibility, balance and strength and are 60 years or older, ambulatory and able to problem-solve. There are eight two-hour sessions on Thursdays, Oct. 9 through Dec. 4 from 1-3pm, at the Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. The class is taught by two trained coaches from the Keystone Senior Staff. The cost is \$20 for curriculum book, instructions and snacks. Call Keystone Community Services at 651-645-7424 for more information or to register.

Classes for seniors at Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. Zumba Gold is a dance exercise program that is low impact, easy on the joints and perfect for beginners. On Fri., Sept. 19 the instructor will do a demonstration session (11:30am-12:30pm) followed by an eight week series. The first two weeks will be free and the remaining six sessions will be \$3 per time. Come and try it out! Classes will be on Fridays from 1-2pm.

Anxiety support group meets

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Minnesota sponsors free support groups for persons with anxiety disorders. The groups help individuals develop better coping skills and find strength through sharing their experiences. An Open Door Anxiety and Panic support group meets in St. Paul from 6:30-8pm, on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month (Sept. 23 and Oct. 14), at Goodwill-Easter Seals, 553 Fairview Ave. N., in Room 123. For information call NAMI at 651-645-2948.

Get in the groove with Zumba Gold

Keystone Community Services will present a series of Zumba Gold

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Como Pavilion Update



There will be some major changes at the Como Lakeside Pavilion in 2015, and the public was invited to weigh in on options. (Photo by Jordan Bartlett)

By JORDAN BARTLETT

On Thur., Aug. 14, more than 30 people came to the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory's visitor's center for a community meeting hosted by the design firm BWBR to discuss future improvements for the Como Lakeside Pavilion. Spurred by the fact that the current service provider, Black Bear Crossings, will be leaving the Pavilion at the end of 2014, the city wants to ensure that they obtain the communities thoughts and ideas for how the Pavilion can be improved; those ideas will be included in future requests for service providers at the Pavilion.

The seemingly vested residents, although broken up into three separate groups of around 10 people, all shared the same thoughts and aspirations for the future of the Pavilion: better access to the promenade overlooking the lake, larger variety of food options (ethnic, food trucks, etc.), wine, and improving the bathrooms, among others.

To learn more about the Como Lakeside Pavilion as it relates to the city's search for a new service provider, visit www.stpaul.gov/como-lakesidepavilion.

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In Our Community

Continued from page 11

Free after school program available

Saint Paul Parks and Recreation is offering Rec Check, a free after school program for youth in grades 1-5. Youth check in with a staff person upon arriving at the center and check out when leaving. Parents can choose to be notified if their child does not check in. The program is held Monday-Friday, 3-6 pm, during the school year, on days the Saint Paul Public Schools are in session.

A variety of activities are scheduled such as homework help, reading, arts and crafts and special events. To promote health and fitness, youth participate daily in physical activities such as gym games, outdoor play and fitness fun. A daily snack is provided.

Rec Check is located at the following nearby recreation centers: Hancock, Jimmy Lee, Langford, North Dale, and West Minnehaha.

Registration forms are available at the recreation centers listed. Space is limited. For more information, visit <http://www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?NID=1289>.

Free English class now available

The International Institute of Minnesota (1694 Como Ave.) is now accepting students their "English for Work" classes. Classes are held Monday through Thursday, 9am-1pm, with open enrollment throughout the year.

City wide cleanup planned Sept. 20



City of St. Paul city-wide cleanup is scheduled for Sat., Sept. 20, 8am-1pm at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds (enter from Larpen- teur Ave. just west of Snelling Ave.). Item accepted include furniture, construction materials, mattresses, appliances, electronics, and scrap metal among others. Fees are:

- General Load Fee: \$10-\$30, depending on size of vehicle;
 - Electronics: \$5 per item (including TVs, DVDs, VCRs, stereos, computer equipment);
 - Tires: \$3 for car tires, \$5 for truck tires and \$10 for tractor tires;
 - Mattresses and Box Springs (all sizes): \$15 each;
 - Upholstered Furniture: \$5 per chair, \$7 per love seat, \$10 per couch, \$20 per hide-a-bed; and
 - Appliances: \$20 per air conditioner; \$10 for dehumidifiers, microwaves, refrigerators, stoves, washer/dryers, water heaters, etc.)
- Reusable items such as small furniture, household goods and toys will be set aside for charities to collect. Reuse area is open to clean up visitors.
- Items not accepted include curbside recycling materials, vehicle batteries, paint, pesticides, oil, hazardous waste, and yard waste.

Classes are free!

The classes are intended to teach literacy, beginning and intermediate levels of English to adult refugees, immigrants and asylees. Students learn English grammar, speaking, reading, writing and listening skills in addition to work and practical life skills. Classes use community resources to build academic skills and include basic computer, numeracy and work readiness train-

ing and classes meet all MFIP requirements although students do not need to be receiving MFIP to attend class.

To enroll, new students must take a placement test, which is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-3pm. No appointments are necessary for the placement test.

If you have questions, you can call the International Institute at 651-647-0191, ext. 300.

Adoption Family Reunion scheduled

An Adoption Family Reunion will be held Sun., Sept. 21, 11am-4pm at Luther Seminary Field, Como Ave. and Eustis St. The festive celebration, sponsored by Lutheran Social Service (LSS) of Minnesota and Children's Home Society of Minnesota, will feature commemorative events, entertainment, food vendors and games for kids. It's free and open to the public!

Since 1889, these two organizations have touched the lives of 46,000 children who have united with adoptive families! Child well-being continues to be central to the work of LSS and Children's Home Society. Their philosophy is that every child deserves to grow and thrive in a loving family. In Minnesota, generations of families have been touched by adoption!

Whether you are part of the adoption experience or just want to celebrate with them, LSS and Children's Home invite you to help them officially mark our combined 275 years of service in adoption. The celebration will feature food truck vendors, musical performances, cultural dance, a balloon artist, an adoption information fair, a mad science slime booth, family photo book and games, arts and crafts.

Pre-registration is not required but would be appreciated by going to <http://www.chsfs.org/adoption275>.

In recognition, Governor Dayton has proclaimed Sept. 15-21 "Celebrate Minnesota Adoption Week."

NW Como continues registration for fall

Registration for fall classes has

been going on for Northwest Como Recreation Center, 1550 Hamline Ave. N. Classes offered in Sept./Oct./Nov. include: Funtastic Fridays, ages 7-12; Minecraft Digital Animation, ages 7-12; Archery, ages 10-15; Tae Kwon Do, ages 6 & up; Artist Workshop, ages 7-13; Babysitting Training, ages 11 & up; Halloween Craft Party, ages 2-4; Glow In The Dark Halloween Art, ages 5-1; Ballet & Creative Movement, ages 3-5; Parent & Child Yoga, ages 3-5; Jazz/Ballet/Hip-Hop, ages 6-10; Yoga, ages 6-11; Super Hero Teen Dance, ages 11-14, on Sept 14; and Senior Gamers, over 55 years of age.

Basketball Registration goes through Sept. 30, for ages 3-14, at Northwest. Registration is taken on a first come first serve basis. To register go to www.stpaul.gov/parks or call 651-298-5813 with a credit card, or come into Northwest Como.

"Girl Rising" to screen Sept. 22

The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library and The Advocates for Human Rights kick off the eleventh season of the Women's Human Rights Film Series with the documentary film, "Girl Rising." Mon., Sept. 22, 6:30pm at the Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave. Admission is free.

"Girl Rising" showcases the strength of the human spirit and the power of education to change the world. A discussion follows the film, moderated by Jennifer Prestholdt, Deputy Director and Director of International Justice at The Advocates for Human Rights.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

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10:45 a.m. Celebration Worship



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St. Paul Open Streets returns to University Avenue

Second year event showcases businesses, arts in a car free environment

On Sept. 21, University Ave. will be open – open to people biking, walking, skating, shopping, eating and having fun at this year's St. Paul Open Streets. University Ave. will be closed to traffic from Lexington Pkwy. to Marion St., 12-4pm.

Open Streets events bring together families, neighbors and friends to mingle, recreate, dine, play and shop in their community in a safe, car-free environment. Participants can explore the street that is open only to foot, bicycle and skate traffic at their own pace. In addition to bicycling, walking and skating, there are programmed recreational activities for all ages along the street.

Among this year's activities: The Shirt off your back 5K, benefitting Goodwill / Easter Seals, kicking off the festivities at 8am;

The Little Mekong Day Market, featuring arts, performances, interactive activities and food from Western to Galtier;

The Sustainable Transportation Expo, from Victoria to St. Albans, showcasing transportation options like biking, car sharing and transit resources in St. Paul;

Windom Dances Water Festival, celebrating our connection to water as it flows down University Ave. and into the Mississippi

through dance and interactive exhibits;

Interactive arts activates spread throughout the event, including human foosball, street animation and more; and

Green Line businesses and organizations showcasing the unique flavor of University Ave.

Last year saw over 6,000 people taking in University Ave. from a new point of view. They are hoping this year's event will see over 10,000 attendees.

And, although they close the street to regular traffic (bus traffic will move to Edmond), the light rail will still be moving, and the following north/south cross streets will remain open to traffic: Lexington Pkwy., Victoria St., Dale St., Western Ave., and Marion St.

Learn more by going to:

www.stpaulopenstreets.org; www.facebook.com/StPaulOpenStreets; www.twitter.com/STP:LOpenStreets; and #STPLOpenStreets.

St. Paul Open Streets is being produced in partnership with St. Paul Smart Trips, the Asian Economic Development Association, the Summit-University Planning Council, the Midway Chamber of Commerce, the Aurora St. Anthony Neighborhood Development Corporation, Cycles for Change, the Hamline-Midway Coalition, the Frogtown Neighborhood Association, the Union Park District Council and the Lexington-Hamline Community Council, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative, Bush Foundation and the City of St. Paul Cultural Star Program.



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Three Central students participate in 34th annual MBV

An innovative business plan to develop a voice activated pillow that connects to your smart phone was praised by a panel of industry investors and was crafted in just one week by a group of high school students. Dozens of business plans such as this were created at BestPrep's 34th annual Minnesota Business Venture (MBV).

While the business plans and monetary investment were imaginary, the ideas presented would give today's entrepreneurs a run for their money. Walmart-St. Paul and Anchor Bank Snelling sponsored Central High School students Augusta Allen, Ammie Vang, and Samantha Yang to attend this unique opportunity. Additional sponsorship for the nine Central High School and Washington Technology Magnet students came from Securian Foundation, 3M Foundation, Ecolab Foundation, CHS Foundation and Margaret Rivers Fund.



Walmart-St. Paul and Anchor Bank Snelling sponsored students (l to r) Augusta Allen, Ammie Vang and Liam Plambec to BestPrep's 34th annual Minnesota Business Venture (MBV).

"Walmart is delighted to partner with BestPrep to provide the Minnesota Business Venture

experience for our local students," said Mary Goulette, Walmart-St. Paul Midway Store Man-

ager. "Preparing for life after high school is critical for future success and Walmart is privileged to play a part in this unique educational experience."

MBV is a week-long business and career skills camp held in July in partnership with the Herberger Business School at St. Cloud State University and the Donald McNeely Center for Entrepreneurship at St. John's University. Over 300 students representing 107 schools spent a week of their summer preparing for life after high school, learning how to start their own business, and improving their financial literacy skills.

More than 170 Minnesota entrepreneurs and business professionals shared their experiences and business insights with the future workforce. Students heard from a variety of speakers representing companies such as 3M, Allstate, General Mills, Cargill and the Minnesota Tim-

berwolves. The speakers covered a wide range of topics such as managing personal finance, entrepreneurship, business ethics, and developing one's personal brand.

Local business professionals, known as Resident Business Leaders, served as mentors to the students throughout the program. These volunteers, from companies such as Allianz Life, Ecolab, Securian, Thrivent Financial, Travelers and Xcel Energy, lived on campus for the week and guided a group, or "company," of students through the creation of a business plan and proposal.

In addition to MBV, BestPrep offers the Technology Integration Workshop for teachers and four innovative programs - Classroom Plus, eMentors, Financial Matters, and The Stock Market Game™ - which help prepare students to be college ready and career bound.

In Our Community

Continued from page 12

Tech Dump slated Sept. 27

Get rid of all your unused electronics in an earth-friendly way! There will be a "Tech Dump" on Sat., Sept. 27, 9am-1pm at the Cub Food Pavilion, 201 Larpenteur Ave. (Larpenteur and Fernwood), Roseville.

Peace Lutheran Church in Lauderdale will partner with Tech Dump, an electronics recycling nonprofit, to collect unwanted electronics (gently used, obsolete, or damaged). The event is a fundraiser to raise money for the church's roof project. Bring computers, cell phones, electrical cords, internal/external drives, other misc. electronic accessories, RV's, and monitors (\$15-\$45 fee for CRT TVs and non-flat monitors). Tech Dump, a licensed electronics recycler, will destroy all information and data at their facility.

For more details and a list of accepted items visit: TechDump.org/PeaceLauderdale.

Head to the library for Improv

Saint Paul Public Library-Hamline Midway, 1558 W Minnehaha Ave., will host Improv After Hours on three consecutive Friday evenings in October. The Playground Players, with special guest improvisers from around the Twin Cities, will perform from 7-9pm on Oct. 10, 17 and 24. All events are free and open to the public. No registration required; first-come, first-served. For more information, please call 651-642-0293 or visit www.sppl.org/events-and-classes.

Local student wins Ervin scholarship

Finnegan Roy-Nyline, son of local residents Erica and Craig Roy-Nyline, was recently named an

Ervin Scholar at Washington University in St. Louis. Roy-Nyline, a 2014 graduate of Twin Cities Academy High School, entered Washington University as a freshman when the fall semester began last month.

During high school, Roy-Nyline was a member of the speech team and the Walker Art Center Teen Arts Council. He also participated in Creative CityMaking, an internship through Intermedia Arts and the city of Minneapolis that connects city planners and artists with the goal of developing a city that is a living work of art, while also representing under-represented communities in determining the city's future.

The Ervin Scholars Program awards scholarships to incoming first-year students who demonstrate exceptional intellectual and leadership achievements, and who have shown a commitment to community service and bringing diverse people together. The Ervin scholarship is renewable for all four years of undergraduate study.

Toastmasters host 5-week class

Learn how to become an effective leader by developing your communication and presentation skills in a series of classes presented by the Metropolitan Toastmasters. This is a beginners program for 5 Thursdays in October, beginning Oct. 2, 6-8pm. Class will be held at the Goodwill Office Building, 553 Fairview Ave. The class will also be good for persons working on their English speaking skills. Call Frank Mayers, 651-488-6139 for more information.

Bach Society plays at HU on Sept. 20

The Bach Society of Minnesota's first concert of the season promises to be a rocking (bachin'?) good time. "Party Music" lights up the stage on Sat., Sept. 20 at 7:30pm in Sundin Music Hall, 1536 Hewitt Ave. on the Hamline University Campus. Come

on over to party with the Bach Society Orchestra and Chorus as we make merry with the some of the best celebratory music of Bach, Handel and Telemann. Kick back with excerpts from Handel's Water Music, one of his Coronation Anthems, a trio sonata from Telemann's Tafelmusik, Bach's Lobet den Herrn and his double harpsichord concerto in C major.

Tickets, available online and at the door are \$22 for adults, \$17 for seniors (65+) and \$5 for students. For more information go to www.bachsocietymn.org or call 651.428.5170.

Yoga Center notes 20th anniversary

The St. Paul Yoga Center (www.stpaulyogacenter.com) marks its 20th anniversary with a special celebration on Sat. Sept. 27, 1-6pm. The event includes a class sampler of yoga styles, along with free refreshments mini-massages, and acupuncture and craniosacral treatments. The grand finale begins at 4:30pm with Kirtan, a meditative musical form that involves call-and-response between performers and audience. The Kirtan will be led by

Minneapolis-based chant artists Sitara and Kalyani with Pavan Kumar. You can find out more details about the celebration and the Center, located at 1162 Selby Ave., by going to www.stpaulyogacenter.com.

E.Y.E. Program seeks volunteers

Help make a difference in the eyes of a child by providing vision screening to elementary school children in Minneapolis and St. Paul Public Schools. The Phillips Eye Institute's Early Youth Eyecare (E.Y.E.) Community Initiative strives to remove vision problems as a major roadblock to learning by providing regular vision screenings and subsequent treatment services for uninsured/underinsured children.

As a volunteer Vision Screener, you help ensure that all students, regardless of background, have one of the most basic tools to learn - healthy vision. It is a fun, rewarding and high-impact program where you can enjoy meeting other volunteers and gain news skills, experiences, and knowledge identifying vision issues. At the same time you can positively impact the lives and

health of children in your community

No experience is needed and all training is provided. To learn more, please call 612-775-8964 or email eye@allina.com.

19th annual bike tour set Sept. 20

Sierra Club's 19th annual Bike Tour will be in Minneapolis on Sat., Sept. 20, 9am-2pm. Starting and ending at the Greenway Building in Minneapolis (2801 21st Ave. S.), it's a 20-25 mile ride across the city that will highlight the new Green Line LRT, Dinkytown Greenway, and Bluff Street Trail, a potential North Greenway, and more. It's a leisurely tour (not a race) that includes plenty of rest stops, interesting speakers, and a delicious lunch. Open to anyone who wants to explore the city from two wheels and those who are interested in bike-walk-transit developments. More info and to register go online to www.northstar.sierraclub.org/tour or contact joshua.houdek@sierraclub.org, 612-659-9124.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

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www.StPaulFarmersMarket.com

In Our Community

Continued from page 13

Wild Rice Fest scheduled Sept. 13

Roseville Harriet Alexander Nature Center (HANC) will have their annual Wild Rice Festival on Sat., Sept. 13. It's a community celebration of wild rice, Native American culture and Minnesota's fall season.

There is a full day of free family fun. Learn about foods harvested in the fall, natural history and traditional cultures of Minnesota, and listen to Native American music. Activities include the fundraising breakfast - wild rice pancakes, wild rice sausages, fresh blueberries, pure maple syrup - from 8-11am.

From 9am-4pm there will be performances by the Native American Little Thunderbirds Drum and Dance Troupe, traditional wild ricing demonstrations and honey extractions, as well as apple cider making. Brent Michael Davids, Turtle Clan Mohican, will perform on a handmade quartz flute Lakes Indian, while Fish and Wildlife representatives will demonstrate how traditional wild ricing sticks are carved. The St. Paul Mounted Police will also be present with their Appaloosa and American paint horses, as well as food served by Pow Wow Grounds Café and Foodtrucks Cajun 2 Geaux and Gastrotruck.

HANC is located at 2520 North Dale St., north of Highway 36, in Roseville. It includes 52 acres of marsh, prairie and forest habitats. More information is available at www.wildricefestival.org or call 651-765-HANC (4262).

Coffee hour on funeral questions

Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Purcell Funeral Home & Cremation Services will be hosting a coffee hour on Sat., Oct. 18, from 9-10am, at the funeral chapel, 536 N. Snelling Ave. Come for coffee and a roll, and then stay for answers to your questions about: cremation; funeral services; what you can and cannot do; what information do your loved ones need to know; and what do you get at the Snelling Chapel? Everyone is welcome.

Next Drum Circle planned Sept. 26

A Co-ed Drum Circle will be held on Fri., Sept. 26, 6:30pm. Percussion, rhythm and freedom of expression will be explored. All

levels of experience are welcomed and encouraged. Women's Drum Center, 2242 University Ave. W. Cost is \$10 at the door. Drums provided. Info and registration at www.womensdrumcenter.org.

Oktoberfest set for Sept. 20

The 14th Annual Saint Paul

Oktoberfest will be held on Sat., Sept. 20, from noon-10pm. This event celebrates the Germanic heritage and everyone is welcome. The events are again located at The Klub Haus, 1079 Rice St., in the North End. There will be a \$5 admission for all attendees 21 and older; younger participants may attend for free. For more information, please visit www.saintpauloktoberfest.org.

For up-to-date event listings, go to the Monitor online calendar at www.MonitorSaintPaul.com/events

Classifieds

Monitor

Want ads must be in the Monitor before September 29 for the October 9 issue. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Monitor's website at www.MonitorSaintPaul.com

Monitor Want Ads are now \$1 per word with a \$10 minimum. Send your remittance along with your ad to Monitor Classifieds, Iris Park Place, 1885 University Ave. Ste. #110, St. Paul, MN 55104. Classifieds must be prepaid via cash, check, or credit card. Classified ads can be e-mailed to denis@deruyternelson.com. Want ads must be in the Monitor before September 29 for the October 9 issue. Call 651-645-7045 for more information. Your classified ad will also be automatically placed on the Monitor's website at www.MonitorSaintPaul.com

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Hamline Park Plaza being reinvented again

The office building and parking ramp at 570 Asbury St. has seen many changes in just 30 years.

By **TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN**

Do you remember the Samaritan Hospital at 1515 Charles Place? Or — going further back — the Northern Pacific Hospital?

The land the hospital and office building sat on has seen many changes over the years, and today it is being reinvented once again.

BUILT TO CARE FOR RAILROAD EMPLOYEES

The hospital was built as the Northern Pacific Hospital in 1919 at an estimated cost of \$315,000. It was one of seven hospitals that the Northern Pacific Beneficial Association created for the purpose of caring for railroad employees.

In 1968, part of the building was removed, and a new front entrance and addition on the west side were added.

Three years later, the building became Samaritan Hospital.

An office building, originally known as Physicians Plaza, was constructed in 1984 along with the parking ramp—one of only a few in the area. It served as a medical office building for Samaritan Hospital.

The hospital was purchased by Health East, and was closed, in 1987 when Midway Hospital was opened, pointed out Allison Klis of Simplified Management, who has managed the office building for the past 15 years. The hospital was demolished and new townhomes were constructed in cooperation with Common Bond.

Physicians Plaza (now known as Hamline Park Plaza) at 570 Asbury St. was purchased in 1990 by Justin Properties, Inc., a real estate developer. The office building was updated and renovated to accommodate a general office use, rather than medical use. Hamline University School of Business' administrative offices were in the building until early this year.

During a recent foreclosure process, the property was placed under the care of Colliers International, a company that served as receiver prior to the new ownership.

Today, the office building and private park (which was once a sculpture park) is owned by a group of local individual investors, led by Todd Geller with Victory Capital. Several of the core investors were classmates in the University of Wisconsin real estate



Hamline Park Plaza was recently acquired by a group of local investors, several of which were classmates in the University of Wisconsin real estate program. While Hamline University no longer occupies any space at the building, there are 17 others who range from therapists and chiropractors to non-profits.

program, including Todd Geller and Eric Dueholm.

GREEN IMPROVEMENTS

According to Geller, there is a lot to be excited about Hamline Park Plaza.

"The property is in great condition, and we have purchased it at a price point that will allow us to make some of the upgrades our current tenants have told us are important," Geller stated.

These include an updated lobby, improved security and exterior lighting, as well as a larger conference facility available for use by the tenants.

Making green improvements is a priority for the owners. The most significant green improvement being done now is the lighting retrofit. "The new LED lighting will provide a much higher lighting level and will be substantially more energy efficient than the current lights," noted Dueholm, Colliers Corporate Services Vice President who is LEED accredited and the leasing agent for the office building. He believes that the property would be an excellent candidate for LEED certification, and it is something they plan to investigate in the future.

LINK TO MEDICAL FIELD REMAINS

There are currently 17 office tenants in the 37,642-square-foot, 3-level office building, and many

are linked to the medical field once again. "We have a number of therapists and chiropractors, as well as several non-profit groups," said Dueholm. "It is a particularly good building for medical uses that do well in convenient, non-hospital campus locations (therapists, chiropractors, dentists, pain management,

physical therapy, etc.)"

He added, "We have a vacant space at the entrance of the building that would be a great fit for a clinic group." The building has about 10,000 square feet that is currently unoccupied.

There is a large parking ramp on site that offers more than enough parking for the office us-

es there. Parking is so ample, in fact, that several floors have been devoted to secure storage since 1994. Options include year-round or seasonal, heated and unheated, and underground or open air (more at www.hamlineparkstorage.com).

"It serves as a convenient location for local residents to store cars, especially during the winter when parking is tight," said Klis. "We have customers that store collector cars. Some have been there since 1994."

"Our biggest challenge is getting companies and individuals to know that we are located in the neighborhood," said Geller. Because they are one block east of Snelling, he thinks that many people don't know the property exists.

"We are excited to be taking on ownership of this property at a time when the mass transit situation in the neighborhood is blossoming," stated Geller. "Not only are we 3 short blocks from the Snelling station of the Green Line, but we are only 1 block from Snelling, which will soon be the first Rapid Bus Transit corridor in the metro area."



Owners are currently making improvements to the building that their tenants have asked for, including updating the lobby, improving security and exterior lighting, and enlarging a conference facility available for use by the tenants. The most significant green improvement being done is the lighting retrofit that will provide a much higher lighting level and be substantially more energy efficient than the current lights, according to Eric Dueholm of Colliers International who is the leasing agent for the office building.

You Are Invited:

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Urban Growler

Continued from page 10

If Loch and Pavlak are building community, they're also fostering community within their physical building, a gorgeous brick structure which Pavlak said used to be a stable where they kept City of St. Paul police horses in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Now it houses True Stone Coffee Roasters, who provide Urban Growler's coffee, and De-nen Pottery, who crafted their mugs.

Inside the brewery, the old brick walls, sleek bar, and shiny fermenters blend past with present in a simple elegance. Artist A.K. Dayton's photos of Pillsbury's Best Flour, Fitger's, and other buildings, pay tribute to Minnesota's milling and brewing industries.

Because they don't serve anyone else's alcohol or beer, Urban Growler can package and distribute theirs, in addition to running a taproom and serving food. For



The beer garden at Urban Growler Brewing Company. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

now beer is only available in their taproom and in Growlers, but it will soon be on tap in select bars and restaurants, and bottling will follow.

Loch, who brings with her extensive home-brewing experience and a fair number of awards, brews in 10-barrel batches, with an occasional specialty

beer in a five-gallon cask.

Next up is a Plow to Pint™ Blueberry Wheat that uses 150 pounds of blueberries harvested from Blue Acres Farm near Clearwater, MN. And Urban Growler is pairing up with General Mills to create a Monster beer based on their cereal ingredients.

"HA! Count Chocula Stout,"

joked Schrader. Or maybe it'll be a Boo Berry. Stay tuned!

Urban Growler's Taproom Hours are Tues.-Thurs. 4-9pm; Fri. 3-10pm; Sat. 12noon-10pm; Sun. 12noon-8pm. They're locat-

ed at 2325 Endicott St., five blocks north of University Ave. from the Raymond Ave. LRT station. Parking is also available. For more information look online at www.urbangrowlerbrewing.com.



The court found that the city caused "irreparable harm" to Black Bear's business, and that finding was a prime consideration in the settlement agreement. (Photo by Tesha M. Christensen)

Settlement

Continued from page 1

to the media about the basis for the settlement decision. Unfortunately, voting to settle with Black Bear Crossings was determined by the city attorney's office to be in the best interest of the City of St. Paul, which is why the majority my colleagues took that very difficult vote—a vote I would have taken as well, if I were not traveling on city business." She went on to note the request for proposals for a new operator and praised the potential for the pavilion to serve the community.

City officials have pointed out that Black Bear made about \$250,000 last year. That's less than Minneapolis parks operators make. They also criticized the business for not providing complete records. But the Black Bear operators countered by saying that city officials failed to say what type of improvements were needed. They also alleged breach of a 2009 lease. And, the court agreed with Black Bear.

Black Bear Crossings opted to not renew the lease and is closing at the end of December. The city recently released requests for proposal for a new operator.

Meet Michelle Nwabudike Certified Nurse Practitioner

Hometown: Decorah, IA

Specialty: Obstetrics/gynecology

Best part of my work: Building and maintaining lasting relationships and seeing the satisfaction my patients experience when making healthier, informed choices.

Why I became a provider: I've been fortunate to have exceptional mentors who go the extra mile and they have made a tremendous impact on the way I practice.

What I tell my friends and family: Life is about choices – make the best choices for your health. Exercise is the most potent and underused antidepressant – best of all, it's free!

How I spend my free time: Hiking with my golden retriever, spending time with family and friends, traveling, photography, pottery, scuba diving, skiing, fishing, gardening and cooking healthy with garden vegetables.

What patients say about me:

Patients often say that I work hard to individualize their care to reach goals of optimal health to fit their needs.



Appointments:

Allina Health Bandana Square 651-241-9700

Learn more: allinahealth.org/bandanasquare

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