Pandemic Recovery

DISTRICT PERSPECTIVES

That's better than ever. If you need help applying for skills necessary to pull through and build a state coronavirus pandemic, our state is equipped with those who enrolled in unemployment. Unemployment benefits during 2020 will not need to sign up for the Department of Revenue's email alerts should consider visiting ment in 2020 and may be due refunds. Taxpayers changes will affect many taxpayers, but especially they need to boost educational opportunities that provide students and schools with the resources we also boosted funding for schools and buses to meet the needs of our students. Finally, if you have not yet tax credits, or who felt their plan options were whose incomes were previously too high to receive period and expansion for summer 2021. Minnesotans at mn.gov to help families purchase food with a Nutrition Assistance Program benefits available for food support, there are also additional Supplemental Assistance Program, which provides direct relief to families experiencing food insecurity. The federal Child Tax Credit program will pay direct cash payments to help pay for the costs associated with raising children. Additionally, MNsure has opened a special enrollment period and expansion for summer 2021. Minnesotans whose incomes were previously too high to receive tax credits, or who felt their plan options were unaffordable the last time they checked out MNsure, should take another look at mnsure.gov to see if they qualify for tax credits to lower the cost of their health insurance. Finally, if you have not yet received a vaccine and you wish to be vaccinated, you can use Minnesota's online vaccine appointment dot com to find a vaccination clinic near you.

The 2021 legislative session ended on May 13 with Governor Walz recently passed a state budget that includes notable provisions that will improve life for working Minnesotans. We maintained the Market Basket program, which empowers SNAP-eligible Minnesotans with additional financial assistance to purchase nutritious foods at farmers markets across the state. We also boosted funding for schools and buses to provide E-learning kits and school supplies to the resources they need to boost educational opportunities that were unavailable during pandemic remote learning. Finally, Minnesota passed notable tax reforms to conform with recent federal tax changes. The changes will affect many taxpayers, but especially the more than 500,000 who received unemployment in 2020 and may be due refunds. Taxpayers don't have to do anything to get their action now, but they should consider visiting revenue.state.mn.us to sign up for the Department of Revenue's email alerts on the issue. In Minnesota, those who received unemployment benefits during 2020 will not need to pay income taxes on any unemployment benefits of $10,000, which includes the vast majority of Minnesotans who were enrolled in unemployment.

As we embark on our collective effort to rebuild Minnesota’s economy out of the ashes of the coronavirus pandemic, our state is equipped with the resources, the public sector leadership and the skills necessary to pull through and build a state that’s better than ever. If you need help applying for any pandemic-related assistance programs, please email us at foodservice@reporter.com or by phone at 651-296-1802. Help is here and we’re here to help you access it.

New Beginnings
West 7th's 400 block evolves amid changing world

BY CASEY EK AND JERRY ROTHSTEIN

The 400 block of West 7th Street is home to a diverse set of businesses that have grown, adapted and unfortunately shuttered under the weight of the COVID-19 pandemic. Amid those changes have arisen new opportunities for proprietors and customers alike. Collected below is the latest news from the business in the stretch of West 7th.

Not included in this article are interviews from Sophie Joe’s Emporium, a now closed antique store and former community staple, and Forward, a photo and video production company that seeks to feature its clients through visual storytelling. A story in a future issue will spotlight these two businesses.

Meet me at Claddagh?

Mary Hogan-Bard is one of the rare people who has been able to bring her vision to fruition almost exactly as she imagined it, not only in its physical structure, but also in the social, interpersonal sanctuary that came with it. Claddagh Coffee is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year. Mary began planning it in the years of serious economic distress after the deep 2008 recession, yet the energy and hope she brought to the project motivated others to join in and Claddagh did become a community effort.

She chose the name as a way of honoring immigrants from all the people who saw something in this country that gave them hope.

Celebrate 50 Years: 1971-2021

The Community Reporter through the ‘80s

Editor’s Note: As part of Community Reporter’s ongoing recognition of its 50 years of reporting to and from the residents of the West 7th neighborhood, also referred to as the West End, editor Margaret Kinney delved into the archival issues from the early 1980s to compile on what was newsworthy then. Here is a brief list of what captured her attention, from the early ’80s and what should follow.

1981

The Saint Paul City Planning Commission completed its review of the Interstate 35.E Parkway freeway, recommending approval of the project to the Saint Paul City Council. Despite all the controversial public hearings, a lawsuit and public outcry against it, the construction of the freeway was set to begin in 1982. Kathy Vadasz, a founder and regular contributor to the Community Reporter, wrote that the construction and resulting traffic through the West 7th neighborhood would destroy all of the hard work that its residents had done since the early ’70s to improve the quality of life in the neighborhood.

Vadasz passed away earlier this year.

The Community Reporter would like to hear from you. With 49 years of hindsight, from West End residents on whether you think the construction of the freeway was detrimental and/or beneficial to our community. See end of article for how to respond.

1982

A four-bedroom home on Randolph Ave was listed for sale at $250,000. Small price. Shyaway.com, as the Chair of District 9 Communications, sought a DFL endorsement for House District 6B. She got the endorsement, won the 1984 election, was elected to the senate in 1990 and still serves our district today.

Sister Alice Zachman, a missionary nun associated with St. Stanislaus Parish, wrote that the building now serves as a home to a diverse set of businesses that have grown, adapted and unfortunately shuttered under the weight of the COVID-19 pandemic. Amid those changes have arisen new opportunities for proprietors and customers alike.

In the community...
Many Waters exhibition at Minnesota Museum of American Art

MMAA returned to in-person showing with Many Waters, a multisensory exhibit that features 55 regional artists who feature water as a source of inspiration. “The exhibition is informed by the M’s proximity to the complex and storied Mississippi River—the second-largest river in North America, which goes by many names.” Showing outdoors at 365 Robert St. N., and inside at NewStudio Gallery, 2303 West 2nd St., St. Paul. The exhibit runs through Oct. 2. See page 10 for more information. Showcased above, an exhibit visitor views an archival pigment print of a photograph of the Missouri River captured by artist Ethane Jones.

UFM School Backpack Drive

United Family Medicine (UFM) has partnered with Saint Paul Public Schools to provide backpacks and school supplies to three local schools. They need your help with filling the backpacks with supplies. For more information on how to get involved with this project, please contact Jaimee Pettis, Community Engagement Coordinator, at 651-758-9485, or email Jaimee at pettis@unitedfamilymedicine.org. For more information about the importance of stiffer penalties on drunk drivers, please contact Jaimee Pettis.

Community-Reporter Added to MN Digital Newspaper Hub

A current update to the Minnesota Digital Newspaper Hub recently added 8,783 new issues and 83,970 new pages and included a selection of Community-Reporter issues from many years. These are now no longer restricted to in-library use and are publicly available online. The nonprofit newspaper and website, celebrating its 50th anniversary, is now seeking funds to allow its complete archives to be digitized and made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public. Please write to us for editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.org. Donations can be made fully and easily available to the public.
Family-centered maternity care: You mean family doctors still deliver babies?

As a nonprofit organization we are governed by a Board of Directors, and we have openings for community members to join. We welcome new members and the opportunity to involve more people in these activities.

We have correspondents, reporters, reviewers and general writers involved. You can write a letter to the editor on a topic we have written on in response of one of our columns, or a longer "Neighbors Speak Out" piece.

You can also contribute story ideas: We aim to cover a wide range of interesting areas in the neighborhood. Your ideas and contributions are always welcome. Please contact the editor at editor@communityreporter.org.

-- Casey Elk, Community Reporter

WEST END HEALTHLINE

BY DEANNA PLANT, MD

Over my years of practice, I’ve had many people ask me the same question: ‘what are the closest things to a birthing pool if I am either an OB-GYN or midwife by training. When I tell them that I am a family doctor, they are often surprised that this is part of my practice. This brings me to my topic today: family-centered maternity care. It is truly one of the most joyful parts of my practice.

First, what is it? I think of family-centered maternity care as care that comes from a new or ongoing relationship with your care provider (family physician, OB-GYN or midwife). It begins before you are even pregnant and sometimes even before getting pregnant. It is about approaching care with curiosity not a preset state, but rather a variation of normal. It focuses on the entire person, caring for the physical, psychological and spiritual. Gynecological care. It truly is one of the most joyful parts of my practice.

We also view families as a broad defined and ever-changing group, not always those with a biological relationship. Family to many of us can mean close friends, life partners or a family. A family doc, they are often surprised that this is part of my practice.

We view families as a broad defined and ever-changing group, not always those with a biological relationship. Family to many of us can mean close friends, life partners or a family.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

With the latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the world has again received another stark warning. Action must be taken to reduce emissions or plan for an uninhabitable planet and suffering for our children and grandchildren. From the report we also see how unfortunate it is that as a planet we have not appropriately responded to the calls for action. Hope is still there to avoid the worst but we have to work hard to achieve the best outcomes as well. With that in mind, along with the shear scope of global transform- mation needed, it is easy to become overwhelmed and despondent about the challenges we face. While those feelings are understandable, they are not helpful for us now and for our future.

So, what’s the alternative?

A “Revealing” Year for Our Schools

As an elected Saint Paul School Board member and a parent of four SPPS students, I want to start by acknowledging the enormous challenges and stress our students, parents and families have faced during the pandemic. My husband and I recently adopted a learning model virtually with teachers, staff and administration leaders throughout the district. We have also adopted a system that is designed to give our students, parents and families to rearrange their work schedules to accommodate children in daycare programs and ensure a healthy and safe learning environment for all.

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AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2021 COMMUNITY REPORTER 3
Rent control question St. Paul will vote on this fall

By By Tim Rumsey, MD

COVID-19 is not yet done messing with us. The new Delta variant is more infectious, can be more severe, and has proven to be harmful to children under the age of 12 and adults with chronic health conditions.

An overwhelming majority of U.S. COVID-19 deaths in the intensive care unit are now unvaccinated persons. Lack of hearing about COVID—COVID? COVID? It’s a heck of a lot better than Srick from COVID? Dr. Anthony Fauci, chief medical advisor to the president, sees “more pain and suffering” because of a pandemic of the unvaccinated. Yes, that Dr. Fauci. I believe Fauci.

COVID-19 shots are still about 90% effective at preventing severe disease. “Get the shot!” and “Get $100!”

Minnesotans, 12 and over who get this first COVID-19 vaccination will be rewarded with Visa cards valued at $100. In June it was $25 Visa cards or incentives like State Fair tickets.

Participating residents must make an appointment and claim their reward at the time of registration. The card was available to the first 24,330 Minnesotans who qualified between July 30 and August 15. Vaccinated people protect those unable to vaccinate.

This is the first time, in the United States, a public school will be starting within a month. While a child’s COVID-19 shot is in development, it is not available to children under 12. To protect these kids, we need to get vaccinated!

Please get the shot! If not for yourself, for your loved ones, for your neighbors, for your community, for children.

George Washington mandated his troops to be inoculated against Smallpox during the American Revolution. They got shots! On October 28, 1956, Elvis Presley rolled up his sleeve for a polio shot during the American Revolution. They got shots! On October 28, 1956, Elvis Presley rolled up his sleeve for a polio shot on the legendary Ed Sullivan TV show. At the time, only 66% of American teenagers were vaccinated; six months later 89% were vaccinated.

Get your COVID shot! It will protect kids and vulnerable adults. And it’s a lot more valuable than a hundred dollars.

“Disclaimer: The CDC, MDH and local municipality recommendations are evolving. Information may be updated since this article was sent to press. Be sure to check for the most recent advisories published by each of these entities, especially if you are traveling soon.”

Dr. Tim Rumsey is physician emeritus at Allina United Family Physicians. He can be reached at 651-292-3100.

Rent control question St. Paul will vote on this fall

The St. Paul City Council unanimously approved the rent control ballot language that will be put to voters this November. If passed, the measure would institute one of the country’s most rigorous rent stabilization policies and the state’s first.

The ballot language — drafted by city staff to reflect a citizen-led petition — would limit landlords from increasing rent more than 3% per year on all units throughout the city.

The city council approved the language without discussion on Wednesday. Due to the successful signature drive, the council must essentially rubber stamp the proposal. The Housing Equity Now St. Paul coalition presented about 3,000 valid signatures supporting the ballot initiative to election officials in June, more than required to put an ordinance change on the ballot.

“Now that St. Paul has one of the strongest tenant protections in the state, we need rent stabilization to make sure our neighbors aren’t pushed out of our communities,” said Danielle Swift, an organizer with the Frogtown Neighborhood Association. During a news conference announcing the campaign in March.

The rent stabilization question as it will appear on the ballot:

Should the City adopt the proposed Ordinance limiting rental increases? The Ordinance limits residential rent increases to no more than 3% in a 12-month period, regardless of whether there is a change of occupancy. The Ordinance also directs the City to create a process for landlords to request an exception to the 3% limit based on the right to a reasonable return on investment. A “yes” vote is a vote in favor of limiting rent increases. A “no” vote is a vote against limiting rent increases.

SCHOOLS, PG 3

To report on progress of learning models between student, parent, family, teacher and administrative leaders, and a lack of predictable student outcomes based on race.

Going into the fall, I intend to learn from COVID-19 and focus on identifying actionable data to drive decision-making. I want to promote more effective and rapid reciprocal communication system.

I want to work more closely with parents and curriculum additions such as language immersion and ethnic studies that can be found in our student homes, schools and communities. I want to listen to and learn from families, students and educators throughout the city. You are welcome to write to me at jim.vue@spps.org.

Jim Vue is a longtime Hmong parent of four children in SPPS. After being appointed to fill a school board vacancy in 2017, Vue ran in the special election and was elected to the board. Currently, he sits as vice chair on the school board and is running for re-election this November.

CLIMATE, PG 3

are good steps they are not enough. They especially are not enough when we factor in that we continue to build NEW fossil fuel infrastructure. The most obvious current example of that is the Line 3 Tar Sands pipeline owned by the Canadian company Enbridge. This is specifically a problem when we factor in that with the new of Line 3 will carry, we will be releasing more greenhouse emissions into the atmosphere than what the entire state of Minnesota does currently. In other words, we have taken two steps forward followed by four steps back.

THAT IS why this report makes one thing clear. We do not have time to be taking steps back on climate. We need to be moving forward on reducing emissions and do so at a much faster rate than currently. This type of transformative change can only happen when the people demand it to happen. We need leaders from the Governor on down to your local school board to hear from the people that NOW is the time to act because nothing is more important than our children’s future. I hope you will join this effort.

Tom Lucy is a member of the St. Paul Federation of Educators and a social worker at St. Paul Public Schools.

UPDATE, PG 3

Upcoming Meetings, via Zoom

Info: fortroadfederation.org/calendar

• Transportation & Land Use Committee, Wed. 9/1, 6:30 pm
• Community Engagement Committee Thu, 9/2, 6:30 pm
• Board Meeting Mon, 9/13, 7 pm

Stay in touch

“Like” us on Facebook. Subscribe to its e-newsletter fortroadfederation.org.

Contact

Emily Northey, executive director, 651-298-5599; emily@fortroadfederation.org; 882 West 7th St, Suite 6, Rathskeller Building.

Sundays at Landmark

Sundays at Landmark is supported by:

Ecolab

Wolin Wurth

All dates are subject to change. Please check website for current COVID-19 protocols and schedule updates. Full details at landmarkcenter.org or call 651-292-3063.

Sundays at Landmark

9月12日，1:30 PM

伊朗文化节

庆祝这个东南亚传统节日期间与音乐、舞蹈、饮食和手工艺品有关的活动。在稻田村公园的文艺活动中，伊朗文化节将邀请传统手工艺者与美食家。活动将在稻田村公园的文艺活动中，伊朗文化节将邀请传统手工艺者与美食家。活动将在
Community Nourishment

West End Home Rescued from Wrecking Ball by Little Bohemia Association, Historic St. Paul

by Paul Bard

Another 19th century home in the West End has been saved from likely demolition, thanks to efforts of the Little Bohemia Association and Historic St. Paul.

The Galvin–Shearen House, a one-story cottage-style home at 47 Douglas St., has been vacant for several years and owned by St. Paul’s Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRRA) since 2000. It is now scheduled for a complete makeover.

Saint Paul historian Jim Sazevich researched the home and found that it was built in 1889 by Irish immigrants Henry and Mary Galvin. Sazevich also discovered that it was originally located on an adjacent lot at 269 Harrison Ave. Henry Galvin was one of the first policemen in the city, serving from 1886 to 1892. He was well known and admired for his “good-natured bearing, pleasant smile and soldier-like performance of duty,” according to an 1889, story in the St. Paul Globe.

In 1893, the home was sold to David T. and Mary Shearen, who moved it to its present location on Douglas St. in 1912 to make room for their new, larger home, which still stands at 269 Harrison Ave. David and Mary’s son, David J. Shearen, lived at 47 Douglas until 1928, thus keeping the home in the Shearen family for 85 years.

After years of neglect, the house was sold to Historic St. Paul in June of this year and will undergo a thorough rehab, following plans drawn up by St. Paul architect Sylvia Frank, of Carlsen & Frank Architects. Historic St. Paul’s Executive Director Carol Carey credits neighbors from the Little Bohemia Association for their dedication and for the “huge, positive impact” they have had in rehabilitating vacant properties in their neighborhood. Construction on 47 Douglas St. is expected to start this Fall, and finish by Spring, 2022.

Paul Bard is a lifelong St. Paulite. He has served on the board of the Community Reporter since 2005.

Members of the public take tours of a derelict abandoned home at 47 Douglas St. July 27. The nonprofit Historic Saint Paul plans to renovate the home to make it livable once again as part of a yearslong effort to reinvigorate the city’s neighborhoods.

Historic St. Paul Vice President Rita Goodrich, right, gives a tour of the 47 Douglas St. property. Tim Johnson is a retired pastor of the United Community Reporter.

BUILDING AN ANTRACIST COMMUNITY

Soul of a City

The Children dancing to the sound emanating from the stage likely knew nothing of the history that comprised the marketplace as well as the Schmidt Artist Lofts. At Schmit Brewery, which had the longest location of considerable transformation. Once the sole land of the Dakota people, it began its brewing enterprise in 1856 under the auspices of Cave Brewery, becoming in succession St. Paul Brewing, Schmidt Brewing, the Minnesota Brewing Company (a can of Landmark beer still sits proudly in our fridge), Gopher State (ethanol) and our fridge), Gopher State (ethanol) and making non-alcoholic beverages. As it turns out, change and transformation is the one constant we have in life. This, no doubt, is why we sometimes speak of a city as if it were a human being, referring to the soul of a city, the spirit of a city. This language exists because we recognize a city is much more than a massive gathering of individuals and clusters of buildings. The soul of a city is evident, created and shaped in all those common spaces where people come together and share in life: parks, sidewalks, bike paths, plazas, community centers and marketplaces. It is because the city has a soul, a spirit that it can embrace the change of new populations and new cultures that ultimately help it thrive. It is because the city has a spirit that conflicts over transportation, policing, education and a host of issues have the potential for creative resolution rather than be the source of unending strife. On a green space, home of the former Schmidt Brewery, children danced to the music. Community was being created. Its creation was and is the soul of the city. Tim Johnson is a retired pastor of the United Church of Christ.
While the COVID-19 pandemic appears to be prying at the hinges of our normalcy again at the time of this issue’s publishing, this summer went off largely without a hitch in Minnesota. Large gatherings like those we once took for granted emerged once again, and the state bustled with activity, laughter and more noise than many of us had heard for over a year. We decided to capture those phenomena and deliver them to you in the form of a not-so-common photo spread that details several events in the St. Paul area.

**National Night Out Brings Sidewalks to Life**

St. Paul neighborhoods bustled with activity on August 3 as they gathered for the annual National Night Out celebration. Cookouts, live music and youth activities were a common sight as neighbors caught up with one another. The City of St. Paul launched a series of competitions to complement the celebration, including a coloring contest, which will close Oct. 9. For more information visit: stpaul.gov/departments/police/national-night-out.

The annual National Night Out celebration brought neighborhoods around the country together to celebrate community. St. Paul was no exception and neighborhoods turned out in droves for the occasion.

A pair of performers with the Circus Juventas youth circus school perform and aerial maneuver during a dress rehearsal performance of their summer show Galaxium, July 28, 2021. The performance ran through August 15. Shown blurred, a Circus Juventas performer.

Youth ensemble, Circus Juventas, flew to the edge of the universe in search of a living stone in the heart of a shadow planet in their summer performance Galaxium. High-flying and proficiently synchronized, the ensemble wowed audiences at their show space at 1270 Montreal Ave., in St. Paul from July 30 through Aug. 15. Youth up to the age of 21 took to an assortment of suspended apparatuses to showcase their performative preparation nearly two years in the making. For more information about the ensemble, including registering youth for classes, visit: circusjuventas.org.
Pizza chef Ben Bruns, Gena and John Ekbom excited about its portable wood-fired pizza oven at Day by Day Cafe.

Mary’s daughter Molly Bard is now managing Claddagh, and in similarly difficult times to the origins of the coffee shop, is working to create a new, hopeful enterprise in the space next door that housed the River Garden Yoga Center. Emerald, a wine bar and community gathering spot, will open this fall. Molly and her business partner, Amanda Caruso, are excited about the project and the growing community interest that has arisen as word has gotten out.

To celebrate Claddagh’s 10th anniversary, Mary and Molly are planning a party, now scheduled for Oct. 30, and featuring An Luan, the Irish traditional music ensemble from The Center for Irish Music. Keep an eye on claddaghcoffeecafe.com for the details.

Irish Fair Makes a Splash on Harriet Island

Harriet Island from Aug. 13-15 was home to a cacophony of signs of Celtic culture as the Minnesota Irish Fair made its return. This year’s celebration, its 41st iteration, showcased performances on several stages, including a series of “Wee” stages for smaller ensembles and solo acts. Headliners included the Ashley Davis Band, the Belfast Cowboys and Eileen Ivers and Gaelic Storm. Visit irishfair.com for more information.

CASEY EK (far left) A pair of dancers enjoyed the traditional Irish music being piped from the main stage at the Irish Fair of Minnesota.

CASEY EK (left) An Irish fairgoer gazes into a mirror as she gets her traditional Irish curls worked on at the Irish Fair of Minnesota.

Taking things Day by Day

Day by Day Café, located at 477 West 7th St., like most restaurants in the area has a problem many business owners might welcome: The restaurant is busier
'Many Waters' Attempts to Capture the Essence of Our Most Important

Thanks to the NewStudio Gallery in St. Paul, the Minnesota Museum of American Art made a return to in-person showing with their latest Exhibit Many Waters. Based at the Gallery and at the M’s Robert Street location and surrounding skyway and running through Oct. 2, the museum’s latest exhibit is beloved by something for everyone.

Many Waters, inspired in part by the Mississippi River and the endeavors of Minnesota’s American Indian peoples, the exhibit provides a space for its 50 jury-selected artists to express themselves while exploring their relationship to water.

“The work in Many Waters fosters conversation, awareness, a sense of care, as well as new ways of thinking about water and water stories through many different lenses, including ecological, social, political, historical, spiritual, and creative,” The M writes of the exhibit.

Showcased work is made from a spectrum of materials, many of which were found. These denote a concern for the environment and the impact humans have on bodies of water.

The exhibit comes as The M is in a nationwide search for a new executive director. The museum hopes to fill the position by early November and will begin reviewing applications on Sept. 7.

**NEW BEGINNINGS, PG 7**

that it has ever been, so busy, in fact, that there are not enough staff members to accommodate rapid service.

Restaurants around St. Paul, and indeed the country, are experiencing staff shortages as would-be employees grapple with safety concerns, securing day care and several other factors born from the COVID-19 pandemic. This challenge and many others have forced Day by Day to get creative with the business.

Day by Day General Manager Gena Ekbom, whose father Greg Ekbom owns the establishment he started in 1971, says the pandemic showcased her father’s industriousness.

One example of this was the restaurant’s pivot to pizza. Last year, Greg signed on to order pizza from another establishment one afternoon only to find that the next available delivery would not be until 10 p.m. A light bulb went off in Greg’s head and not long after, Day by Day acquired its own pizza oven.

The good news is our most excellent semi’s filled with food. When vaccines began to instill confidence in the public around March and April of this year, Maruska began seeing faces she had not seen for a year or more return to the shop, many semi-retirees.

**NEW BEGINNINGS, PG 8**

Customer Proves to be Thrift Store’s Lifeblood

Julene Maruska has been involved with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul’s thrift store, located at 461 West 7th St., since 1972 when she first entered its ranks as a part-time bookkeeper there. Maruska has seen countless changes to the space over the years, but nothing could have prepared her for the challenges the pandemic brought.

Customer loyalty seemed to be at an all-time high when COVID-19 restrictions began limiting foot traffic in the thrift store whose managers aim to bring quality goods at fair prices to its customers. Those customers would often tell Maruska that they would leave their homes solely to visit the grocery store, then the thrift store. Customers would stop in to buy everything from clothing and shoes to picture frames and furniture. “I’m honestly extremely surprised at how busy we were,” Maruska said.

Eugene de Roosie inspect a piece shown at the exhibit's opening ceremony at NewStudio gallery on July 31, 2021.

Gena’s two teenage twin children are about the age she was when she began washing dishes at the restaurant as punishment for acting up. She says their plan is to one day take over for her. They might need to divide their time, however, because they have been known to fight over tips, Gena said.

**NEW BEGINNINGS, PG 9**

**ARTISTS WHOSE WORK WILL BE ON VIEW AT NEWSTUDIO GALLERY ARE INDICATED ABOVE WITH AN ASTERISK.**

St. Vincent’s new sign was supported by a grant from the West 7th Business Association in 2021.

**FEATURED ARTISTS**

David Andrews · Alyssa Baggs · Moira Bateman · Barbara Bendt · Casey Bennett · Vernal Bogren Swift · Kelsey Bosch · Nick Brown · Ryan Griffis, and Sarah Kanouse with contributions from Rozalinda Boričić, Dylanna DeBoer · Ethan Jones · Simone Gardner · John Kim · and Jenny Schmid · Morgan Clifford · Melissa Cooke Benson · Samantha Cuyan · Emily Donovan* · Gregory Euclide · Regina Flanagan · Billy Flynn* · Linda Gardner* · Tia Simone Gardner · Ruthann Godolli · Karen Goulet* · Ian Hanseworth* · Annie Hejny* · Joan Remmel · Iron Moccasin · Ethan Jones · Jes Lee* · Curt Lund · Presley Martin · Charles Matson Lume · James Meyer* · Ben Moore* · Monica Moses Hall · Brian Holmes · Sarah Nasser* · Lisa Nebenzahl* · Kimber Olsen · Kristin Mata Peterson* · Sonja Peterson · Nik Pico* · Alison Price · Lindsay Rhyner · Mona Smith · Moebe Sollman · Sandra Spieker · Holly Newton Swift · Keith Taylor* · Moira Villiard · Megan Vossler* · Josh Winkler

Artists whose work will be on view at NewStudio Gallery are indicated above with an asterisk.

NewStudio Gallery is located at 2905 Wycliff St. St Paul. Free parking is available on street and in two adjacent surface lots. A bike rack is also available outside the building.
New Beginnings, PG 8
eager to spend their second stimulus check. In a farewell message to students today, continues to produce a variety of high-quality items. The store's new look is designed to showcase its commitment to sustainability and social responsibility.

River Garden Yoga Studios Bids Farewell to Neighborhood
River Garden Yoga Studios closed its doors at the end of May as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to Jeffrey Austin, the studio's former director.

The nonprofit studio was once home to more than 200 students who practiced yoga traditions under one banner and made its classes available to people from all backgrounds. It has since been forced to close its doors for about a year and a half before closing its doors for good.

When the pandemic caused the studio to close its doors, the owners decided to launch a brick-and-mortar venture to complement the studio's new offerings.

Style Society Opens Its Doors
When most people think about the pandemic, they think about a new era of remote work or reduced social interactions. However, the pandemic has also brought about a new era of social distancing and innovations in technology.

Designers and architects have been adapting to the new normal, and the furniture industry has been no exception. Many designers have turned to technology as a tool to help them create new products and designs.

Style Society opened its doors in 2020, offering a unique selection of furniture and home decor.

Modilumi: Always In Style
In May 2019, Lex Winger opened Modilumi at 489 West 7th St., after more than a year of extensive renovations to the historic “triangle and stone” building at Goodrich and West Seventh, once the location of the infamous Raquel’s Rop, a store for women in the neighborhood’s side.

We called it “a jewel box of light” when it opened, and Lex’s creative style, which derives from a love of mid-century modern furniture, is still on display.

Modilumi has continued to bring light to the neighborhood.

Currently, Modilumi is open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and from 12 to 2 p.m. on Sundays.

The West 7th Community Center

Spaghetti Dinner
It’s been almost two years since we all gathered for a plate of spaghetti, and Keystone is so excited to be able to bring this back. The spaghetti dinner will be Friday, Oct. 28, 4:30-7:30 p.m. at the West 7th Community Center. The dinner will be served at 4:30 p.m. and you can get your tickets in advance or purchase them at the door. The cost is $15 per person. A $15 dinner will be held at the community center. Cost: $13 (children under 12) and $15 (adults and seniors). 20% discount per family ticket if you are looking at the library. Cooking and eating are a very delicious way to do it. West 7th Library has many books on the topic.

There are so many ways to explore and celebrate the diversity of our community and way we have been spending time with those who want to do so. West 7th Library has many books about western art, history, and culture. Expand your culinary skills around baking, cooking or grilling by checking out a cookbook at the nearby Marketplace. Explore the foods and traditions of other cultures and discover new cuisines.

The West 7th Public Library
Located at 265 Oneida St., has recently expanded its hours to five days a week. Hours are Monday and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The library is open for one hour per day. Call 651-298-5550 for more information.

Produce+Drive-Thru Food Distributions
Summer is here, and Keystone's free food distributions are back! There will be 100 cases of fresh fruits and vegetables along with other pantry staples to be distributed. The drive-through events, so all you need to do is drive up, hop out your trunk, and leave with your free food! These events will be at the West 7th Community Center at 265 Oneida St., St. Paul, MN from 10 am to 1 pm. No registration is required, and we hope to see you at the next food distribution dates and locations, visit www.keystoneservices.org.

Keystone’s Community Centers are Open!
Keystone’s Merrimack Community Center was open for youth and senior activities! We are really looking ramping up our programming, and we are excited to offer our current schedule. Please visit www.keystoneservices.org or call 651-645-3494 for more information! Our community centers are open for young people and seniors for activities. Please visit our schedule to see what is available on our website. We hope to see you soon!
Suni Lee Welcomed with Open Arms Following Gold-Medal Effort in Tokyo

Anyone near White Bear Avenue in St. Paul’s East Side could feel a weighty buzz in the air as a recent Olympic all-around gymnastics gold medalist Sunisa Lee made her way down the street atop a firetruck amid a parade held in her honor Aug. 8. People of all ages were giddy with anticipation. Those who crafted signs addressed to the champion competed for parade route real estate in hopes that Lee might read their messages. The thousands gathered then followed Lee to a stage set up at Aldrich Arena, where several performers and speakers showcased their talents. Lee’s Hmong-American roots were a made a focal point of the athlete’s triumphs in Tokyo as the crowd cheered for each successive act. Following remarks from her family, Lee then gave a brief and heartfelt address to the crowd.

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