

Community REPORTER

SERVING WEST END NEIGHBORHOODS, DOWNTOWN ST. PAUL TO FORT SNELLING, SINCE 1970

IN THIS ISSUE

Healthline • Pg 3
Federation Update • Pg 3
Community Nourishment • Pg 4
In the Community • Pg 6
Keystone & Library • Pg 6
Bulletin Board • Pg 10
Arts & Culture • Pg 11

VOL. 51 NO. 8

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2021

CIRCULATION 13,000

DISTRICT PERSPECTIVES Resources, State Funding to Assist Minnesotans in Pandemic Recovery



SENATOR SANDY PAPPAS, DISTRICT 65
columnist

The 2021 legislative session and ensuing special session were particularly challenging, especially as a member of the minority party in the Senate. Just as it changed the way all Minnesotans live their lives, COVID-19 forced us to make significant changes to our standard procedures and norms at the Minnesota Senate. Fortunately, in spite

of strong partisan divisions at the Senate, our state government was able to work together with our partners in the federal government and at the local level to take on the challenges posed by COVID-19 and the economic disruption that came with it.

Thanks to the work of the Biden administration in passing the American Rescue Plan, the state of Minnesota is equipped with the resources it needs to assist working Minnesotans as our state undergoes the economic recovery effort following the successful rollout of coronavirus vaccines. Now more than ever, Minnesotans have resources available to them to help recover from pandemic-related job loss, economic hardship and difficulty paying bills or rent. Right now, Minnesotans who are behind on rent or struggling to pay their utility bills can go to rent-help.mn.org to apply for assistance to catch up on their payments. Income-qualifying households can also go to mn.gov to apply for Minnesota's Energy Assistance Program, which provides direct relief to renters and homeowners to cover heating costs and furnace repairs. For those who need emergency food support, there are also additional Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits available at mn.gov to help families purchase food with a monthly pre-loaded debit card. For working families, the federal Child Tax Credit program will begin to send direct cash payments to parents 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 otherwise unaffordable the last time they checked out MNSure, should take another look at mnsure.org 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 connector to find a vaccination clinic near you.

In addition, the Minnesota legislature and Gov. Walz recently passed a state budget that includes notable provisions that will improve life for working Minnesotans. We maintained the Market Bucks 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 students and schools with 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 do not need to take any action right 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 at or below \$10,000, which includes the vast majority of those who 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 at sen.sandy.pappas@senate.mn or by phone at 651-296-1802. Help is here and we're here to help you access it.



Gena Ekbohm in front of Day by Day Café on West 7th

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 from 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 Foreward, 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.



SUNI LEE
COMES
HOME
Page 11



(above) Mary Hogan-Bard, founder of Claddagh, and daughter Molly Bard, who now manages the West 7th location

"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 countries whose people saw something in this country that gave them hope. The

heart is love; the hands are friendship; the crown is loyalty. Claddagh means all are welcome.

When Claddagh opened, it seemed to take no time at all for it to become the place to go on West Seventh. The environment was beautiful — it felt as if it has always been there. The coffee was more varied and sophisticated than we were used to, and the home-made baked goods were perfect complements to the drinks.

Everyone noticed that all the working team members were happy to be there, and it didn't take long for customers and workers to get to know each other by name and follow each other's lives to some extent. This was not an accident. Mary took the time to impart her vision

NEW BEGINNINGS, PG 7

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS: 1971-2021

The Community Reporter through the '80s

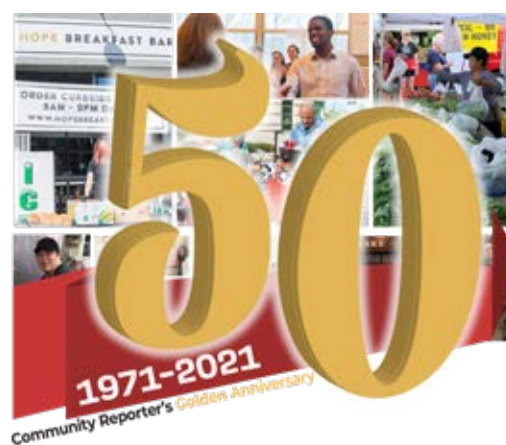
Editor's Note: As part of Community Reporter's ongoing recognition of its 50 years of reporting to and from the residents of the West 7th neighborhood, (also referred to as the West End) writer Margaret Kinney delved into the archival issues from the early 1980s to compile on what was newsworthy then.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

BY MARGARET KINNEY

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 Vadnais, 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.

Vadnais passed away earlier this year. The *Community Reporter* would like to hear, with 40 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, asking price \$69,900.

Sandy Pappas, as the Chair of District 9 Communication Center, sought a DFL endorsement for House District 65B. 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,

went to Washington, D.C., to protest the federal government's financial aid to the Guatemalan fascist president. Sister Alice founded the Guatemalan Human Rights Commission, supporting Guatemalan victims of torture and murder. In 2019, she was honored by the National Women's History Alliance for her lifetime work of fighting for human rights.

Established in 1872, "St. Stan's" Parish, as it is colloquially known, on Superior Street remains active in the community.

West 7th resident and historian Gary Brueggemann facilitated a 10-week workshop on the origins of St. Paul. The course was \$12 for seniors. Today, Brueggemann remains a historian, teaching history at Century and Inver Hills community colleges.

Timothy Rumsey, M.D., announced the opening of his shared private practice office in the West End. In that same issue was his column about the importance of computerizing health care records to advance communications in patient care. Retired now, Doctor Rumsey still contributes to the *Community Reporter*.

West End community activist, youth organizer and *Community Reporter*

THE '80S, PG 2



Community News & Events



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 350 Robert St. N., and inside at NewStudio Gallery, 2303 Wycliff St., St. Paul. The exhibit runs through Oct. 2. See page 10 for more information. Shown above, an exhibit visitor views an archival pigment print of a photograph of the Missouri River captured by artist Ethan 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 jpettis@unitedfamilymedicine.org.

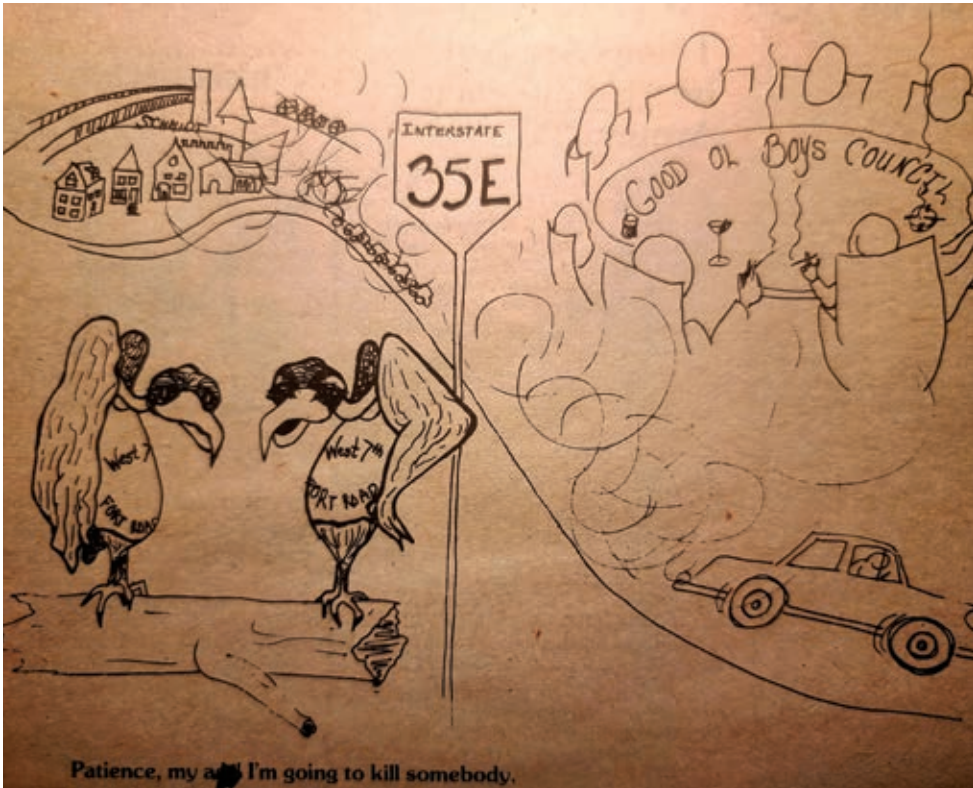
Sandcastle's 40th Anniversary Celebration

Sandcastle Child Care, established in 1981, is inviting the public to join them Sept. 1 in the Sandcastle parking lot to close out the summer. From 5:30-7 p.m. Food will served. Featured: Imagine Music Bubble party (6-6:50 p.m.) A

firetruck and police car for viewing and touching will also be onsite.

Saint Paul Festival and Heritage Foundation Hires New President, CEO

Lisa Jacobson was hired as the new president and CEO of Saint Paul Festival & Heritage Foundation and has already assumed her duties. Jacobson, has experience leading both business and nonprofit endeavors. "I am honored to have the opportunity to lead the Saint Paul Festival & Heritage Foundation," Jacobson said per a release. The nonprofit is responsible for the St. Paul Winter Carnival and Cinco de Mayo West Side Saint Paul. Plans for the 136th Saint Paul Winter Carnival, slated for Jan. 26 through Feb. 8, 2022 are underway.



A political cartoon expresses a common attitude toward the I-35 E project.

THE '80S, PG 1

contributor Connie Perozino wrote about the importance of stiffer penalties for driving under the influence, citing drunken driving as a "clear danger to the general public." Mothers Against Drunk Driving had been established in Texas in 1980, but it wasn't a national household name until 1983.

Perozino passed away in 2003.

April 1983

The Hmong Enterprise Project was formed to assist Hmong fabric artists to coordinate and expand their efforts to turn their needlework and applique art into a community-wide economic

resource.

This genre of art is now an established commodity in our community.

Please write to us

Please send your recollections of the last 50 years, or other editorial contributions, to editor@communityreporter.com. Donate to our fundraising campaign and help this nonprofit newspaper grow for the next 50 years at givemn.org/organization/Community-Reporter, or send a check to the Community Reporter, 265 Oneida Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102.

Margaret Kinney is a West End artist and writer and has served on the board of the

Artifacts Identified at Fort Snelling

Archaeologists under the direction of the Minnesota Historical Society identified at Fort Snelling several artifacts and stone foundations, some of which show American Indian people's presence for thousands of years. Some items include projectile points, a foundation for a Civil War-era officer barracks and other wartime artifacts. Photos of the artifacts can be found at www.mnhs.org/media/news/17058.

The M's Family Day: We Are Water

The public is invited to gather along the Mississippi River bluffs to enjoy hands-on, artist-designed activities that explore our most essential natural resource—water. On Sept. 12, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., visitors can pick up a free art kit featuring a card deck of instructional poems created by the artists featured in the Many Waters exhibition. Art kits are designed for ages 5 and up with some help from an adult. The event will be held rain or shine and will be held at Hidden Falls Regional Park, 1313 Hidden Falls Dr, St Paul.

Twin Cities Jazz Festival Returns

The Twin Cities Jazz Festival is slated to make its return to Lowertown's Mears park from Sept. 17-18. This year's festival will be headlined by award-winning pianist Kenny Barron and his trio, rising star Emmet Cohen and trombonist Delfeayo Marsalis Quintet. More information about the event, including the lineup, can be found at www.twincitiesjazzfestival.com/.

Community Reporter Lauded for Investigative Efforts

Community Reporter Editor David Lamb was awarded third place 2021 Page One Award from the Minnesota chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists for his investigative work covering the United Family Medicine (UFM) residency program for the story entitled "No Confidence: As UFM residents look to move program, patients flee a clinic adrift" which was published in our October 2020 issue.

Community Reporter Added to MN Digital Newspaper Hub

A content 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.

To explore the fascinating news, events and history of the West End during the last half-century, see mnhs.org/newspapers/hub/ community-reporter



A TOUCH OF ANDREA

Hair Cuts • Foils
Perms • Color

1081 W 7th • St. Paul
651-665-0716
Call for Appointment

Serving GREAT FOOD at Reasonable Prices for 25 Years!

GOLDEN CHOW MEIN

Eat-in or Take-out
Mon-Sat 11-8
Closed Sundays



1105 W. 7TH ST
651-228-1276



pleasant dog

Walking and Sitting

Reasonable rates

Call, text or email Nate
612.558.2027
pleasantdog@gmail.com

ADVERTISE TODAY!

JERRY 651-587-8859
info@communityreporter.org



919 RANDOLPH ST. PAUL
651-291-0146
skinnermn.com

STOP IN FOR THE BOMB
ABOMB: \$3.50 Windsor
BOMB: \$4 Schell's Oktoberfest pint

Check Events & Specials

skinnermn.com

Watch the **VIKINGS**
All Season Long!
Food & Drink SPECIALS
During Vikings Games



Heated Patio for Chilly Fall Days



THE ANNUAL COMMUNITY EVENT IS BACK!

SPAGHETTI DINNER



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28

4:30 - 7:30 PM

WEST 7TH COMMUNITY CENTER

Tickets can be bought at the West 7th Community Center beginning September 7
Ticket prices between \$3 - \$8 (children, adult and senior pricing)
Tickets are discounted by \$1 if purchased by October 7

* Precautions for health and safety will be taken, however
COVID-19 and community gathering rules may impact this event.

More information can be found at keystoneservices.org or by calling 651-298-5493



COUNTY PERSPECTIVES American Rescue Plan



REBECCA NOECKER
CITY COUNCIL
MEMBER, WARD 2
columnist

The city of St. Paul has been allotted an extraordinary \$166 million from the American Rescue Plan. This dramatic expansion of federal funding presents us with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and an immense challenge to use these dollars wisely.

Over the next few months, we'll need to decide as a community how to make the best possible use of this funding. We need to prioritize investments that will have lasting impact in areas where we have the greatest need without creating long-term budget commitments that we can't meet once the funding ends.

Here are a few ideas that I think are promising:

1. Invest in infrastructure: It's no secret that our streets, sidewalks and sewers are in serious need of repair. Every one of us can point to a missing tree, a pothole or a crumbling stairway that we simply haven't been able to fill or fix. A significant investment in our streets, sidewalks, broadband network and sewer and water systems will attract new residents and businesses, provide good-paying construction jobs and make our city more equitable, healthy and resilient. Delaying this work only makes it more expensive. Now that we have the funding, we must own up to our responsibility to future generations of St. Paul residents by doing this work now.

2. Expand home ownership: We know we need to dramatically expand our supply of affordable housing. Affordable rental housing is important, but to create generational wealth and reduce racial disparities, we must do more to help people — and especially people of color — buy homes in St. Paul. Only 24% of Black households in Minnesota own their home, compared with 77% of white households and, since 2000, white homeownership has remained stable while Black homeownership has decreased. We can not accept this reality.

3. Promote neighborhood safety and mental health: We need to better serve our neighbors who are experiencing mental health crises and homelessness, and we need ways of promoting public safety that do not involve law enforcement. In partnership with Ramsey County, we can use federal dollars to create a safe space for residents in crisis, expand training for our mental health co-responder team, launch alternatives to police response and create an Office of Neighborhood Safety, as proposed by our Community-First Public Safety Commission.

4. Help people find jobs and child care: We can jumpstart our local economy by creating job training programs and apprenticeships for those who lost work during the pandemic, people returning from incarceration, young people and others. Access to high-quality child care is essential to allow parents to work and to get our youngest residents off to a great start. We should use federal dollars to help families find and afford early childhood education.

5. Modernize city services: It's long past time to bring our city government into the 21st century by allowing online and mobile-friendly payments for all city services and allowing for remote participation in public meetings. As we emerge from the pandemic, we should also redesign our office spaces where necessary to ensure the health of our employees and the public.

I'm eager to hear what you think of these suggestions and what other ideas you have. Please contact me at ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us, call me at 651-266-8620.

Editorials & Opinions

The letters, opinions, and editorials expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect the views of the Board of Directors of this newspaper or any of our advertisers or sponsors.

Your involvement is requested

As a nonprofit organization we are governed by a Board of Directors, and we have openings for community members to join.

We encourage your involvement in the creative side of things. We have correspondents, reporters, reviewers and general writers involved. You can write a letter to the editor on a topic we have written about, or in response to one of our columnists, 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 for stories and topics are always welcome. Discuss the many possibilities with the editor at editor@communityreporter.org.

-- Casey Ek, *Community Reporter*



WEST END HEALTHLINE

Family-centered maternity care: You mean family doctors still deliver babies?

BY DEANNA PLANT, MD

Over my years of practice, I've had many people ask me when they hear that I've attended a birth if I am either an OB-GYN or midwife by training. When I tell them that I am a family doc, they are often surprised that this is part of my practice. This brings me to my topic today: family-centered maternity care. It truly is 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 often ongoing relationship with your care provider (family physician, OB-GYN or midwife) once a woman is pregnant and sometimes before getting pregnant. It is about approaching pregnancy not as disease state, but rather a variation of normal. It focuses on the entire person, caring for the physical components of pregnancy and postpartum time, as well as the emotional, psychosocial and spiritual needs of the patient and her family.

We also view families as a broadly defined and ever-changing group, not always those with a biological relationship. Family to many of us can mean close friends, life partners or adopted or stepchildren to name a few. The goal of family-centered maternity care is to

include those closest to the pregnant woman in planning, education and decision-making during pregnancy and at the time of delivery.

There are some key ideas around this framework of patient care:

Family-centered maternal and newborn care is based on respect for pregnancy as a state of health and for childbirth as a normal physiological process. It is a profound event in the life of a woman and her family. Providers' goals in this type of care are those that support this normal physiological process. The decision for medical intervention should come when necessary and after discussion with the patient and their family unit.

Promoting attachment is central to family-centered care and is done by encouraging early parent-infant interaction, such as skin-to-skin contact at birth and early breastfeeding, if that is the mother's plan for feeding. Supporting early attachment will have immediate and lasting effects on the health of mothers, infants and families.

Family-centered care applies equally in low-risk and in higher-risk environments, including care of sick or preterm newborns and of mothers who require intensive or specialized care. This can be especially important if a newborn is in the baby intensive care unit, which can be a very stressful time for families

and babies.

Family-centered maternal and newborn care is informed by research. Looking at data can help us to best care for women before, during and after pregnancy. While each person has different needs, decisions regarding care should be based on the information we have available.

Providing effective care for families moving into parenthood involves addressing social determinants of health. The most effective interventions occur at the population health level. This is done by responding to such issues as food insecurity, affordable housing and a living wage. This requires the creation of stronger social safety nets for families and healthy public policy and environments supportive of healthy lifestyles.

-Culturally appropriate care is important in a multicultural society. Cultural competence focuses on the skills, knowledge and attitudes of practitioners. Cultural safety goes one step further by promoting partnership in a person's care. The key to practicing cultural safety is self-reflection and building trust and respect.

Let's continue to care for each other as whole beings. Peace.

If you would like to see Dr. Plant or one of her colleagues for medical care, please call 651-241-5200 to schedule an appointment.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Now is the Time to Act on Climate Change

With the latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the world has again received another stark warning. Act now 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 earlier calls for action. Hope is still there to avoid the worst but we have likely missed our chance on the best outcomes as well. With that in mind, along with the sheer scope of global transformation away from fossil fuels, it is easy to become overwhelmed and despondent about our future. While those feelings are understandable, they are not helpful for us now and for our future. So, what's the alternative?

An alternative is to focus on action. Focus on what you can do. Focus on making a difference in your home, your community, your state. In terms of our state, let's examine where we are in this unprecedented effort. While still not enough, we actually see that we have actually been taking some steps in the right direction. For example, Minnesota has adopted the Clean Car standards, the Legislature has recently passed legislation addressing climate change through green job training, enhancing clean transit, reforestation, etc. Xcel Energy also recently scrapped plans for an \$800 million new fossil fuel plan, hopefully resulting in cleaner energy for all.

But there also is a problem. While these

CLIMATE, PG 4

A "Revealing" Year for Our Schools

As an elected Saint Paul School Board member and a parent of four SPSS students, I want to start by acknowledging the enormous amount of work that our students, parents and families put forth on the homefront to support our distance learning model virtually with teachers, staff and administration leaders throughout the district. We asked our students, parents and families to rearrange their work schedule and to reprioritize health above all else. Thank you. Your work will not be lost on me as we move out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

If I could sum up the last school year in one word, then it would be "revealing." The lessons I've learned from COVID-19 are emphasizing a flexible learning model, mastering protocols to mitigate the spread of disease and having patience to allow reliable data to drive decision-making.

In retrospect, COVID-19 only revealed systemic inequities existing in SPSS for decades, such as: Language barriers for English as a second language learners; lack of a reciprocal communication system

SCHOOLS, PG 4

FEDERATION UPDATE

fortroadfederation.



Board Update

At the July 12 meeting, the board heard a request for a fiscal sponsorship agreement with Keg and Case for community activities and approved it pending legal review. The Board accepted the resignation of Board member Emma Pearl, who was an area coordinator for Area 2. The board's next meeting will be Sept. 13.

Resident survey near Area 7

In recent months, the West 7th/Fort Road Federation, your neighborhood district council, has again heard concerns from residents about parking in and near permit parking Area 7. In response - and as follow-up to the 2019 parking study - the federation has created a survey so residents living in and near Area 7 can let us know their thoughts and ideas about parking near their homes.

The federation plans to use your feedback to help us make a recommendation to the City of Saint Paul about possible changes to parking requirements in the neighborhood.

A link to the survey will be sent to those households and businesses in August. If you believe you should have received one and have not, please call 651-298-5599.

UPDATE, PG 4

**Community
REPORTER**

265 Oneida St. St Paul, MN 55102

Copy Deadline: September 20

Ad Deadline: September 22

Note: The editor reserves the right to edit submitted copy. Advertising design service are available or provide high-resolution PDF files.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jonathan Dickman *Board Chair*

Paul Bard *Secretary*

Diane Gerth *Vice Chair*

Jerry Rothsten *Treasurer*

Paul Bard, Margaret Kinney, Jerry Rothstein

Eric Weispfening, Adam Yust *Members*

ADVERTISING

Jerry Rothstein, Ad Manager
info@communityreporter.org

EDITORIAL

Casey Ek, Editor
507-382-1903
editor@communityreporter.org

Jerry Rothstein
Administrative Director
651-587-8859

LAYOUT/GRAPHIC DESIGN

In-Fin Tuan
Graphic Designer

BOOKKEEPING

Ailie Deloia
adeloia.cr@gmail.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elisha May Jacobsen
elishamayart@gmail.com

DISTRIBUTION

Independent Delivery Service

PRINTING

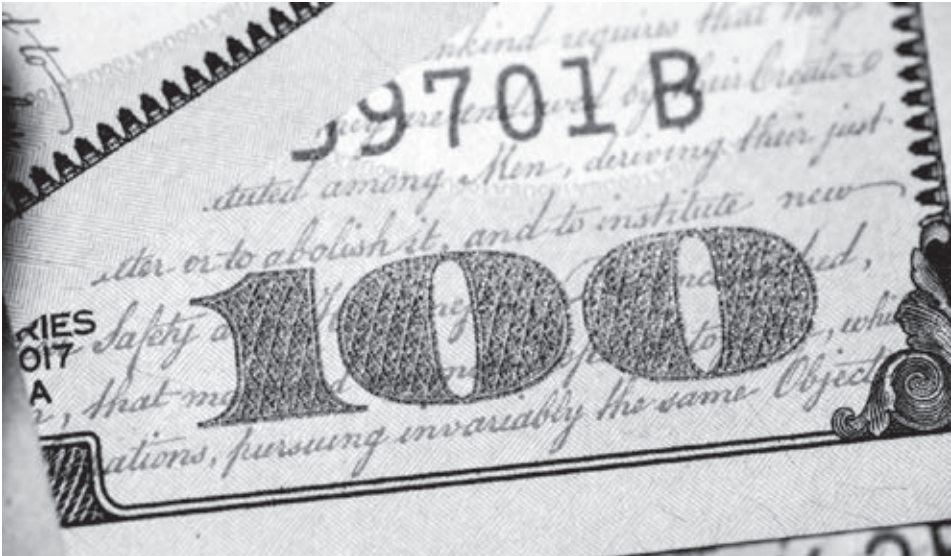
House of Print



In the Community

A \$100 Covid Shot

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.
Sick of hearing about COVID – COVID – COVID? It’s a heck of a lot better than Sick 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 mn.gov/covid19/100. 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.
Time is of the essence. In-person school will be starting within a month. While a children’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 on the legendary Ed Sullivan TV show. At the time, only 0.6% of American teenagers were vaccinated; six months later 80% 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 651-241-5200.

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 a more effective and rapid reciprocal communication system. I want to promote learning programs and curriculum additions such as language immersion and ethnic studies that can be found in our students’ home and school life. 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 as an interim member of the St. Paul School Board after the death of Marny Xiong last June, he ran in the special election and was elected to the school board. Currently, he serves 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 especially a problem when we factor in that with the new oil 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.
The new IPCC 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’s you!) 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 the 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, 9/16, 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.

ADVERTISE TODAY
CALL JERRY AT 651-587-8859
INFO@COMMUNITYREPORTER.ORG

Rent control question St. Paul will vote on this fall

By By Max Nesterak
Minnesota Reformer
minnesotareformer.com
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 5,500 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 their 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



An apartment building in St. Paul in February 2020.
Ordinance limiting rent 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.

RENT, PG 9

St. Paul Automotive
Committed to Excellence
Foreign • Domestic

AAA Approved "Top Shop"

Tune Ups • Brakes
Oil & Lube • Tires
Engine Diagnostics

651-298-0956
910 Randolph Ave • St. Paul

HOURS: MON-FRI 7AM-5PM

ADVERTISE TODAY
AD MANAGER CALL 651-587-8859 EMAIL info@communityreporter.org

Sundays at Landmark



Sept. 12, 1-3 pm:
Mid-Autumn Moon Festival
Celebrate this Southeast Asian tradition with crafts, music, dance, food, storytelling, a lion dance and lantern parade in Rice Park.

Sept. 19, 12-5 pm:
Iranian Culture Festival
Experience Iranian art and culture. Featuring authentic visual arts, music, dance, food and traditions.

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 is supported by:



LANDMARK CENTER
www.landmarkcenter.org | 75 5th Street West | Saint Paul, MN 55102

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 (HRA) since 2010. It is now scheduled for a complete makeover.

Saint Paul historian Jim Sazevich researched the home and found that it was built in 1883 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 1856 to 1892. He was well known and admired for his "good-natured bearing, pleasant smile and soldier-like performance of duty," according to an 1885 story in the *St. Paul Globe*.

In 1897, 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 1982, 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, LLC. 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 2017.



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



A broken clock shows marker marks across its face. The property is known to have served as a shelter to squatters over the years who may be responsible for the markings.



Judith Gavin peers through a window at 47 Douglas St.



TIM JOHNSON
columnist

BUILDING AN ANTIRACIST COMMUNITY Soul of a City

The Children dancing to the sound emanating from the stage likely knew nothing of the brick buildings which housed the sponsors of the music they enjoyed. All the children knew or at the very least cared about was that the grassy space beneath their feet provided a place for them to run, jump, spin and shake with joyful abandon.

The music came courtesy of Keg and Case, the West 7th Street marketplace that once was home to the Schmidt Brewery, whose name still stands proudly over the constellation of buildings comprising the marketplace as well as the Schmidt Artist Lofts. At an earlier time, the buildings were all filled with the sights, sounds, smells and activities of the brewing process. Now the brewing that does take place is done by Clutch Brewing, one of a constellation of micro-breweries populating the landscape in the Twin Cities area.

The sturdy brick buildings that once housed Schmidt Brewery leave the comforting feeling of stability. In

a time so filled with rapid change it is reassuring to have places that stand the test of time and whose very presence communicates dependability. The daily news is often more than a little unsettling. Fires, floods, droughts, bad air, the climate changing consequences all the result of our human footprint are inescapable. While glaciers literally melt, the creation of a racially just world and equitable communities moves at a glacial pace, generating the constant friction necessitated by justice. It is soothing to look up at the night sky and see the Schmidt Brewery name locating us in a place that is familiar.

Yet, this spot that was once home to Schmidt Brewery has itself been the location of considerable transformation. Once the sole land of the Dakota people, it began its brewing enterprise in 1855 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 finally Keg and Case. Along the way Schmidt Brewery, which had the longest run, creatively survived Prohibition by

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 evidenced, 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 is 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.

WEST 7TH
REAL ESTATE EXPERT!

Representing West 7th & Surrounding Communities Since 2001
Buying • Selling • Investing

COLDWELL BANKER

JOHN GLADIS
612-743-3024

Fix your home. We can help.

Affordable, Flexible financing to help you repair or improve your home.
Call 651-348-5080 or visit nwhomepartners.org
NMLSR#363923

WE ARE OPEN!
PLEASE DROP IN
Expert Custom Framing
GRAND HILL GALLERY
333 Grand Ave Suite 101
Junction of Grand, Ramsey & I35E
651-227-4783

IN OUR 27TH YEAR!

FALL IN
FOR DAILY SAVINGS!

TUE 1/2 CHICKEN \$9.99
WED 12PC BUCKET W/FRIES \$21.60
THU 1/2 BBQ CHK DINNER \$10.68
FRI 3PC FISH DINNER \$8.36
EVERYDAY SPECIAL:
BBQ SANDWICH W/FRIES \$9.29

Best Fried Chicken 2011/Best Barbecue 2010
Mpls-St Paul Magazine

Open 11am-9pm • Closed Mondays
979 RANDOLPH
651-222-0969
www.roosterbbq.com

CLADDAGH COFFEE

459 West 7th Street
now open for indoor dining & online ordering!

Monday - Friday 6:30am - 3pm
Saturday - Sunday 8am - 3pm

612 Selby Ave
serving through our walk-up window with patio seating!

Monday - Friday 6:30am - 3pm
Saturday - Sunday 8am - 3pm

www.claddagh-coffee.com
@claddaghcoffeespace @claddaghcoffee

A Return TO NORMALCY IN IMAGES

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 compliment the celebration, including a coloring contest, which will close Oct. 9. For more information visit: stpaul.gov/departments/police/national-night-out.

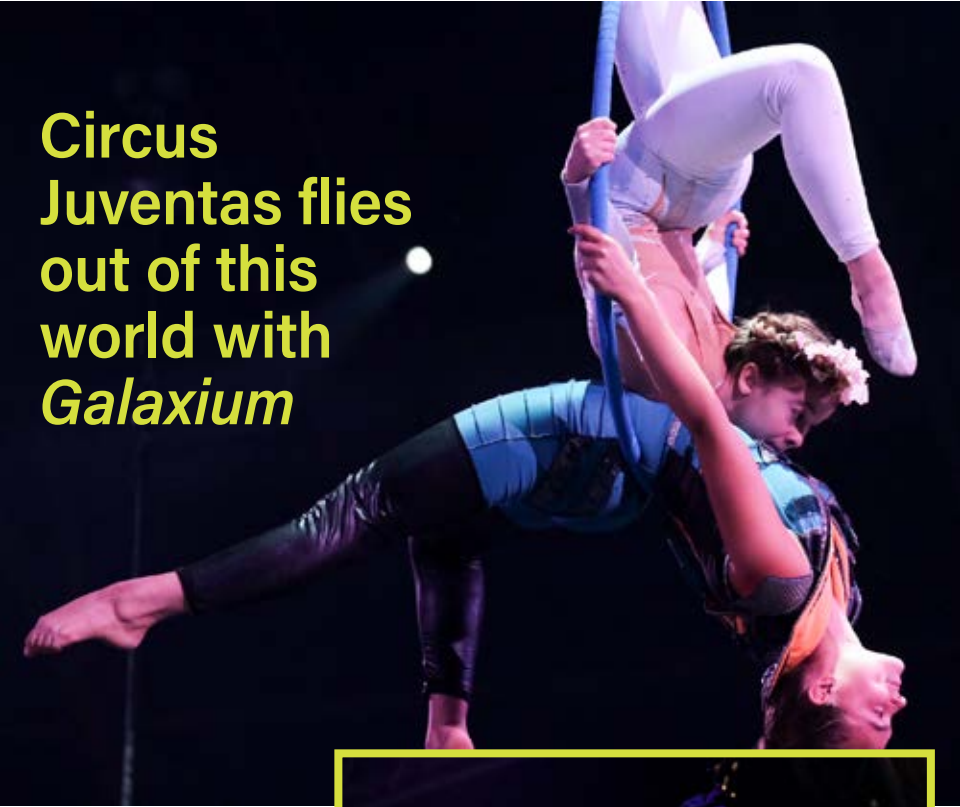
The annual National Night Out celebration brought neighborhoods around the country together to celebrate community. St. Paul was no exception and neighborhoods turned out in droves for the occasion.

(left) A child holds a melting ice cream cone at a celebration on Vance Street. (right) A man plays an accordion for the neighbors gathered in the Webster Street area.



ELISHA JACOBSEN

Circus Juventas flies out of this world with Galaxium



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. (right) : 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.




West Seventh
Business Association

20% Off*
membership fee

Visit w7ba.org
click JOIN tab

**If you introduce a new member!*



West End Adopt-A-Block

W7BA is working with the City’s Department of Public Works to create an ADOPT-A-BLOCK Program for the West End.

For detailed information contact president@w7ba.org

TAKE PART IN OUR EFFORTS

ENHANCE the beauty of the neighborhood

IMPROVE conditions for business

ADVOCATE for issues that require local action and global thinking!

**CONNECT
BUILD
ENRICH
W7BA.ORG**

Things Get Icy at Science Museum

Those trying to beat the August heat were in luck on Aug.14 when the Science Museum of Minnesota, with the help of St. Paul Downtown Alliance, opened its plaza to the public for a free ice cream social event that featured several activities. The first 300 guests were particularly fortunate as they were given free ice cream. Activities included sidewalk chalk drawing, a dinosaur dance squad and others.



A pair of children smile at one of the members of the "dinosaur dance squad" that was entertaining guests at the Science Museum of Minnesota's ice cream social on Aug. 14, 2021.

CASEY EK

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.

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

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

CASEY EK

NEW BEGINNINGS, PG 1

of Claddagh to all her staff — in a way, she wanted them to meet each customer as if that would be the most important contact of the day for them.

Her efforts to offer good paying jobs with flexibility has allowed many students, musicians, artists and writers to stay a part of the Claddagh community while still pursuing their creative lives.

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.

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

NEW BEGINNINGS, PG 8



Pizza chef Ben Bruns, Gena and John Ekbohm excited about its portable wood-fired pizza oven at Day by Day Cafe.



Mary Hogan-Bard and Molly Bard are all smiles on a family trip to Ireland.

CLADDAGH



RUG Cleaning

Free pickup and delivery
Free Sanitizer application
Cleaned with non-toxic products

NatureWise ChemDry

651-341-0933
Text or Call
www.naturewisechemdry.com
West 7th Locally Owned

ADVERTISE TODAY!

JERRY 651-587-8859
info@communityreporter.org

Arts & Culture

‘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 likely to have 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



Eugénie de Rosier inspects a piece shown at the exhibit’s opening ceremony at NewStudio gallery on July 31, 2021.

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.

NEWSTUDIO GALLERY is located at 2303 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.

ADVERTISE TODAY!

JERRY 651-587-8859
info@communityreporter.org

FEATURED ARTISTS

David Andree · Alyssa Baguss · Moira Bateman* · Barbara Bend* · Casey Bennett* · Vernal Bogren Swift* · Kelsey Bosch* · Nick Brown, Ryan Griffis, and Sarah Kanouse with contributions from Rozalinda Borcilă, Dylan A.T. Miner, Heather Parrish, and Corinne Teed · Isabelle Carbonell with contributions from Andres Camacho · Andrea Carlson, Tia-Simone Gardner, John Kim, and Jenny Schmid · Morgan Clifford* · Melissa Cooke Benson · Zamara Cuyun · Emily Donovan* · Gregory Euclide* · Regina Flanagan* · Billy Flynn* · Linda Gammell* · Tia-Simone Gardner* · Ruthann Godollei · Karen Goulet* · Ian Hanseworth* · Annie Hejny* · Joan Bemel Iron Moccasin · Ethan Jones · Jes Lee* · Curt Lund · Presley Martin · Charles Matson Lume · James Meyer* · Ben Moren* · Monica Moses Haller* · Brian Holmes · Sarah Nassif* · Lisa Nebenzahl* · Kimber Olsen · Kristin Maija Peterson* · Sonja Peterson · Niki Pico* · Alison Price · Lindsay Rhyner · Mona Smith · Moheb Soliman · Sandra Spieler · 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.

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 daycare and several other factors borne 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 Ekbohm, whose father Greg Ekbohm owns the establishment he started in 1975, says the pandemic showcased her father’s industriousness.

One example of this was the restaurant’s pivot to pizza. Last year, Greg attempted to order pizza from another establishment one afternoon only to find that the next available delivery would not be until 10 p.m. A lightbulb went off in Greg’s head and not long after, Day by Day acquired its very own pizza oven trailer, which as of this article’s publishing remains parked outside the establishment.

Within the restaurant a room beside the kitchen is taking shape day by day. That room will be a built-in pizza oven workspace. Once the workspace is completed, the next challenge will be hiring someone to cook pizzas, a task which may need to wait given the labor market, Gena said. Already Day by Day staff are working around the clock to serve the flood of new and legacy customers.

“The staff we have, they’ve been willing to stick around,” Gena said. “They’ve been willing to work seven days a week or work overtime. The people that are holding us together are the ones that have been here for so long.”

While pizza is not yet a staple at Day by Day, Greg feels it could be one option on which the restaurant could fall back should the pandemic warrant widespread closures to in-person dining again.

“If [the Delta variant of COVID-19] is as bad as it might be, maybe the pizza thing will be a lifesaver this year,” Greg said.

At 70 years old, Greg, like the rest of Day by Day employees, is working more now than he has in decades, Gena said. Aside from the gas and electrical work, Greg is singlehandedly building the indoor pizza workspace.



St. Vinnie’s new sign was supported by a grant from the West 7th Business Association in 2017.

“He’s an inspiration, for sure,” Gena said. “I want to grow up and be like my dad.”

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.

Customers Prove 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 1987 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.

The parent nonprofit and food pantry, which prior to the pandemic

was accustomed to feeding around 4,000 to 5,000 a week, swelled to feeding about 10,000 of St. Paul’s less fortunate during the peak of the early pandemic, Maruska said.

Maruska recalls that in the summer of 2020 when grocery supply chains surged to meet the demands of the homebound millions, the Society began receiving



Beautiful lamp creations at Modilumi.

semis 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

NEW BEGINNINGS, PG 9

Greetings students, friends, neighbors and supporters of River Garden Yoga Center.

I wanted to take a moment to express our deep gratitude for everyone who has been a part of our yoga/meditation center over the past 20 years.

It has been a profound blessing to be of service to our community, and we hope, in some small way, we have made our beloved West 7th a better place by our presence. **My biggest sadness in closing is missing the daily interactions with our students and teachers, and feeling we were making a positive difference in people’s often stressful lives.** I will always remember the wonderful Journeys High School students coming every week for their yoga class, and all our teachers who freely gave so much of themselves to further our mission. It was a sad day when the decision was made, and I will be forever grateful to every being who has walked through our doors. **Although the physical space is changing, the Spirit of generosity, kindness, and community will live on in some form.**

May our West 7th community continue to be guided by wisdom, love, and care for all beings during these challenging and changing times. May we be guided by our community spirit that tells us that we all do better when we recognize it’s not only a solo journey, but that we are in partnership with all humanity. And may we take a mindful moment to wish our teachers all the best in their next endeavors. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

The good news is our most excellent neighbor Claddagh Coffee and the Hogan-Bard family is taking over the space to expand their business with a boutique wine bar and gathering place. West 7th is growing up.

With gratitude and love,
Jeffrey Austin, Director, River Garden Yoga Center



Community Nourishment

BEA'S BOOKS

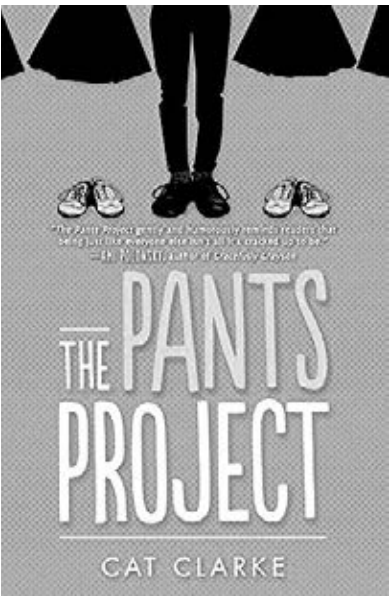
The Pants Project ★★★★★ (5 out of 5 stars)



BEATRICE COSGROVE reviewer

The Pants Project written by Cat Clarke
When Liv Spark finds out that his new school, Bankridge Middle School, has a uniform policy that says girls must wear skirts and boys can wear pants, Liv is infuriated. Although Liv may seem like a girl on the outside on the inside, he is a boy. He hates the itchy tights he has to wear with the skirt and thinks the policy is “Sexist. Dumb. Unfair,” in his own words. So Liv starts the Pants Project, his goal being to convince the principal of Bankridge, Mr.

Lynch, to change the policy so that girls can also wear pants. Liv faces other problems as well, including two mean bullies, a dwindling friendship and family problems on his Mama’s side of the family. But Liv has a new friend at his side, Jacob and the two become strong advocates for the Pants Project. I could not put this book down, written wonderfully from Liv’s perspective, I loved seeing how the plot unfolded. I recommend it for ages 11 and older.



"Although Liv may seem like a girl on the outside on the inside, he is a boy."

RENT, PG 4

Unlike policies in other cities, St. Paul’s proposed ordinance is not tied to inflation. In California, which instituted rent stabilization last year, landlords may increase rent up to 5% plus the local rate of inflation. In Oregon, which approved rent stabilization in 2019, landlords are limited to raising rent no more than 7% per year plus the rate of inflation. “We don’t know where inflation will be in the future, so the choice of 3% is kind of interesting. One might think you’d want to avoid such rigidity,” said Mark Willis, a senior policy fellow at New York University’s Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy. “If inflation never goes above 3%, that’s one thing. But if it does, that could spur lots of owners to appeal which, if not successful, could lead to long-term problems with the ability of owners to properly maintain the stock.” If passed, St. Paul also would not exempt new construction from the law, as most other places have done. This raises the specter of developers pulling out of the city, even as it confronts a severe housing shortage. During Wednesday’s meeting, the council also overwhelm-

ingly approved eliminating parking requirements for new developments in an effort to boost new construction and respond to climate change. The rent control ordinance also does not allow landlords to increase rents to market-rate once a tenant moves out — a so-called vacancy decontrol — which renter advocates say will prevent landlords from pushing out tenants to find higher-paying renters. While other cities have exempted small-time landlords, St. Paul’s ordinance would not distinguish between a person who rents out a single house and a corporate owner with a portfolio of hundreds of units. The ordinance would allow landlords to request an exemption “based on the right to a reasonable rate of return.” For example, if property taxes increase or if significant improvements are required to bring the unit into compliance with city code. The City Council is also allowed to amend the ordinance 12 months after passage. If passed, the ordinance would take effect on May 1, 2022. Voters in Minneapolis, meanwhile, will decide if the City Council should be able to draft a rent control policy, with the details of such an ordinance

to come later. Under state law, cities aren’t allowed to enact rent control unless approved by voters in a general election. Unlike St. Paul, the Minneapolis city charter does not allow voters to enact ordinances through ballot initiatives. Voters in St. Paul approving a 3% annual limit on rent increases on all units could provide momentum for activists in Minneapolis seeking a similar policy. Following news that Minneapolis would consider putting the question before voters, Senate Republicans in the state Legislature pushed a proposal to close what they called a “loophole” in the state law and prohibit any form of rent control. They later dropped the proposal in negotiations over ending the state’s eviction moratorium. A study conducted by the University of Minnesota’s Center for Urban and Regional Affairs and presented to the Minneapolis City Council disputed the concern raised by opponents that rent control would inhibit development or reduce the quality of housing. The study did say apartments may be converted into condominiums, further reducing supply amid a shortage.

NEW BEGINNINGS, PG 8

eager to spend their second stimulus checks. Since then, Maruska remains busy at the helm of the store that has steadily increased its business hours to weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. As numbers surrounding COVID-19 seem to be trending negatively, Maruska feels the store and the Society are prepared to adjust as needed and is confident her customers will be understanding of the changes that may ensue. As for the customers themselves, Maruska says over the years, she has seen a major increase in the number of young customers, particularly those under 20, who often come into the store in groups. “I often joke they like to hunt in packs,” Maruska said.

River Garden Yoga Studios Bids Farewell to Neighborhood

River Garden Yoga Studios closed its doors at the end of last 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 classes from numerous yoga traditions under one banner and made its classes available to people from all backgrounds. The studio sat empty for about a year and a half before closing its doors for good. The building that once housed the studio, located at 455 West 7th St., will soon be home to Emerald, a wine bar and gathering space operated by Molly Bard and Amanda Caruso. Molly manages Claddagh Coffee next door. While Austin says there is no place like River Garden, he is happy to see the space be used by Claddagh, which

has become a neighborhood staple. “They’re a great asset to the neighborhood,” Austin said of the studio’s new inhabitants. In a farewell message to students published on the studio’s website, Austin encouraged visitors to still contact individual teachers who are likely to find new outlets. Their information can be found at <https://www.rivergardenyoga.com/teachers>.

Style Society Opens its Doors

When most people think about the effects the pandemic had on small business, many aren’t likely to conjure images of new opportunities springing from the thought. But for Style Society, the pandemic was the perfect catalyst to launch the brick-and-mortar vintage endeavor. Trio Jessica Goodpaster, Emily Dick and Ashley Rugel had for some time already been in the rental and floral business for weddings. When the pandemic hamstrung large gatherings, the group began offering their unused inventory at pop-up shops, mostly out of financial necessity, according to Goodpaster. The pop-up events were such a success that the group realized they were onto something, took the endeavor a step further and opened what West 7th community members see today. “Basically, COVID happened and gave us the idea for the shop,” Goodpaster said. “It was a blessing in disguise.” Located at 453 West 7th St., Style Society opened in May. Inside shoppers can find items from eras past. Mid-century. Vintage. Boho. These are terms Goodpaster uses to describe the furniture and decorative wares in the store. “It’s not just grandmas couch,” Goodpaster said. The trio sources their merchandise

from flea markets, thrift stores and wherever else good things come. Furniture in the store is all painted onsite and reflects the latest trends in the industry. Where modern, mass-produced furniture may be feeble and ordinary, the furniture the trio sells harkens back to an era when quality was queen. The sustainability aspect is just icing on the cake for Goodpaster. “Vintage dressers are built solidly. They’re still here 50 years later and they’ll last another 50 years if they’re taken care of,” Goodpaster said. Style Society is open Thursdays from 1 to 7 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Modilumi: Always lit

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 Rap, a stone 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 the mid-century modern movement that influenced architecture, furniture and lighting design from the 1930s even to today, continues to produce a variety of lighting incorporating wonderful design elements, colors and shapes. With a selection of table lamps, floor lamps, pendants, ceiling lamps and sconces, and some furniture as well, Modilumi continues to bring light to the neighborhood. Currently, Modilumi is open on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Information and online sales are available at Modilumi.com. Telephone: 651-600-3470.

WHOLE WIDE WORLD WEST 7TH PUBLIC LIBRARY



By Terry Giinther, Library Manager

Explore the World through Cookbooks
There are so many ways to explore and celebrate the diversity of our community and world. Cooking and eating are a very delicious way to do it. West 7th Library has many books about meal preparation and healthy eating. Expand your culinary skills around baking, cooking or grilling by checking out a cookbook at the library. Cookbooks are a wonderful way to explore the foods and traditions of other cultures as well as discover new ways to use and preserve the foods raised locally at farmers markets. The library has books, e-books and magazines that offer something for everyone. Saint Paul Public Library also offers a blog and podcast for foodies on our website. Check out Cooking the Books with Laurie Allman at sppl.org/cooking-the-books where Allman interviews local growers and cookbook authors and explores new culinary connections. The West 7th Public Library, located at 265 Oneida St., has recently expanded hours to five days a week. Hours are Mondays and Thursdays 12:30-8 p.m.; Tuesdays 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Wednesdays and Fridays 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Computers with internet access are available for up to one hour per day. Call 651-298-5516 for more information.

Keystone
COMMUNITY SERVICES
WEST 7TH
COMMUNITY CENTER
265 Oneida, St. Paul
651-298-5493
keystoneservices.org
Check the website for the latest information or call the 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 great tradition back. The Spaghetti Dinner will be Thursday, Oct. 28, 4:30-7:30pm at the West 7th Community Center. Tickets will go on sale Sept.7 and can be purchased at the community center. Costs: \$3-\$8 (children, senior and adult pricing). Get a \$1 discount per ticket if you buy before Oct. 7! Precautions for health and safety will be taken, however, COVID-19 and community gathering rules may impact this event. Visit keystoneservices.org or call 651-298-5493 for more information.

Produce+Drive-Thru Food Distributions
Summer is here, and Keystone’s free food distributions are back! We’ll be distributing fresh fruits and vegetables along with other grocery staples. These will be drive-through events, so all you need to do is drive up, pop 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 10am-12pm September 3. No registration is required, and we hope to see you there! For more food distribution dates and locations, visit www.keystoneservices.org.

Keystone’s Community Centers are Open!
Keystone’s Merriam Park Community Center and West 7th Community Center locations are open for youth and senior activities! We are slowly ramping back up our programming, and we’d love for all of our friends to join us. Visit www.keystoneservices.org or call 651-645-0349 for more info about current programming and to register for activities. To keep up to date on the latest senior programs, sign up for our senior newsletter by filling out the form on our website. We hope to see you soon!

BULLETIN BOARD



Mizna's Arab Film Festival

Still from *About Some Meaningless Events* (dir. Mostafa Derkaoui, 1974) Mizna's Arab Film Festival is set to return Sept. 29 through Oct. 3. The festival will be held in a hybrid format at Trylon Cinema with remote screenings available across the country.

Established in 2003, Mizna's Twin Cities Arab Film Festival features local debuts of independent narrative, documentary, and experimental features and short films from more than 15 Arabic-speaking countries and their diasporas. The festival provides SWANA (Southwest Asian/North African) filmmakers support and exposure, builds the local SWANA community, and enables Minnesota audiences to enjoy the varied ways that SWANA artists represent themselves and their world through film. For more info: www.trylon.org/films/category/arab-film-festival/

Twin Cities Jewish Community "Finding Strength Through Resilience"
The 21st annual Conference on Mental Health is virtual this year on October 17. For detailed information and registration go to jfcsmpls.org.

St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church
Synod small groups will be held on Sunday evenings from 5:30-7:30pm starting September 19. The synod process will help shape the local church both in the Archdiocese and in the West 7th Community. The format includes praying, learning, discussing, and responding. This is an opportunity to provide feedback on set topics. For more information contact the parish office at 651-228-1169 or visit orarchspm.org/synod.

Sundays at Landmark
Sundays at Landmark is a series of cultural and art events that are designed to entertain, enrich and educate an audience. The 2021-22 season of programs will be a mix of mostly in-person events with virtual elements noted in the event descriptions. Most programs begin at 1 p.m. and are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted. For more information, visit www.landmarkcenter.org/sundays-at-landmark/.

A Scholarship for girls
The Ann Bancroft Foundation has announced its 2021 fall grant cycle, which is open Aug. 1 to Oct. 1, 2021. Grants from The Ann Bancroft Foundation are open to all Minnesota girls in grades K-12 and designed to "give girls the strength to achieve their full potential while building confidence and self-esteem along the way," according to the foundation. Interested applicants can apply at: www.annbancroftfoundation.org

Citywide Drop Off
The City of St. Paul is hosting and appliance, electronics and mattress drop off at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds on Saturday, Sept. 18. Fees will apply. Paper shredding and cardboard collection will come at no cost. The

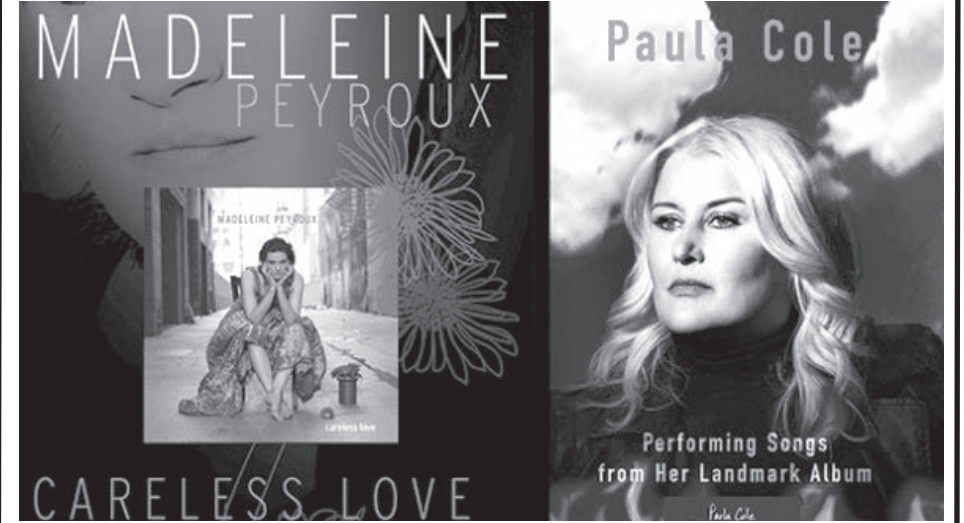
Highland District Council can be contacted at info@highlanddistrict.org or by phone at 651-695-4005 for seniors who need assistance.

2021 Garage Fest
Highland Park's annual garage sale is returning for 2021, and residents can register by Aug. 27 to be included in the garage sale map and promotion. Visit highlanddistrictcouncil.org for more information.

St. Luke's Farmers' Market
Open Saturdays 8am-1pm now through Oct 2; 1807 Field Ave. Fresh produce, soaps, candles, coffee beans, and handcrafted products are available.

Women Who Groove
Women who groove laugh a lot while making wonderful music using African drums. Members learn and perform songs unique to the group as well as songs played by other groups at the WDC. Bettie provides practice videos of song parts so that members can reinforce their learning between weekly sessions. WWG also have opportunities to perform for special events throughout the year. Prerequisite: Previous drumming experience or Hand Drum for Beginners. Tuesdays 6:30-8:15pm. \$15/session. Instructor Bettie Seitzer. Women's Drum Center, 2242 University Ave West, St. Paul. More info: womensdrumcenter.org

Help Choose Minnesota's State Fossil
Minnesota is one of just seven states without a state fossil. This has prompted the Science Museum of Minnesota to spearhead an effort to name a fossil for the Land of 10,000 Lakes. The public can vote online at woobox.com/rhxsfn, and teachers can have their classrooms vote at woobox.com/mok6eg. Minnesota's state fossil must be found naturally, and candidates must be old enough to be found as fossils. The Science Museum has come up with a list of several of their standout choices, including the giant beaver, which inhabited the Twin Cities area and Freeborn County around 2.58 million years ago.



Madeleine Peyroux and Paula Cole
The Dakota presents Peyroux and Cole at Pantages Theatre, Monday, September 27, 7:30pm. \$44-74. Tickets: hennepintheatretrust.org/events/

EMAIL CALENDAR ITEMS TO: info@communityreporter.org
FOR COMPLETE CALENDAR LISTING GO TO: communityreporter.org

CLASSIFIEDS

TOP CASH PAID! Antiques, OLDER furniture, beer items, advertising signs, Red Wing crocks, MUCH MORE MISCELLANEOUS. Wescott's Station, 651-227-2469

SERVICE DIRECTORY



Lamp Repair
489 West Seventh
651-600-3470
modilumi.com



Triple B Collectibles
SPORTS CARDS

THERE'S A NEW KID IN TOWN!
893 Randolph Ave
St. Paul
651-502-5939

Hours:
M-F 10-7
Sat 12-7pm
triplebcollectibles.com



NILLES BUILDERS, INC. #4690

ADDITIONS • ROOFING • REMODELING
CONCRETE • GARAGES • SIDING
651-222-8701
525 Ohio Street St. Paul 55107
WWW.NILLESBUILDERS.COM

ADVERTISE TODAY
CALL JERRY AT 651-587-8859
INFO@COMMUNITYREPORTER.ORG

LEITNER'S
GARDEN CENTER
FRESH FLOWERS



Naturally beautiful flowers & plants
Great Prices
Local Delivery

945 Randolph Ave • St. Paul, MN 55102
651-291-2655

MICHAEL C. BLACK
ATTORNEY AT LAW
651-222-2587
265 W. 7th St. • St. Paul, MN 55102
(2 blocks west of the Xcel Energy Center)



It's the impression we leave behind that matters most. When the Individual is special, the funeral should be too.

KESSLER & MAGUIRE
Funeral and Cremation Services
651-224-2341
email: info@kesslermaguire.com
640 West 7th St. • St. Paul, MN 55102
FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1916

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.



(top) Minnesota's own Sunisa Lee got a hero's welcome Sunday, August 8, 2021 as thousands of fans took to St. Paul's East Side to celebrate her all-around gymnastics victory at the Tokyo Olympics. A welcome parade and following program held at Aldrich Arena celebrated Lee's Hmong-American culture.
(left) Suni Lee's fans cheer and capture images of the first ever Hmong-American Gymnast at her Aug. 8 welcome ceremony.



Sunisa Lee engages with the thousands gathered at Aldrich Arena following her welcome parade honoring her gold-medal performance as the best all-around gymnast in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics..

CASEY EK

NOW OPEN United Family Physicians

Providers of primary and preventive care, pediatrics, prenatal care, obstetrics and mental health

NEW HOME OF THE
United Family Medicine Residency Program

Same people. Same mission.
Same vision. Same heart.

Learn more:
allinahealth.org/ufpclinic
651-241-5200

Allina Health 

©2021 ALLINA HEALTH SYSTEM. TM- A TRADEMARK OF ALLINA HEALTH SYSTEM



Living Fully. Living Well.

At Cerenity Senior Care we provide a full range of services to meet the needs of seniors and their families, whatever those needs may be.

Assisted Living • Skilled Nursing • Memory Care
Transitional Care Unit • Rehabilitation/Therapy Services

For more information or to schedule a tour call: 651-220-1700.
Accepting CADI and elderly waiver.
514 Humboldt Ave. | St. Paul | CerenitySeniorCare.org



Come Home to Mancini's!

www.mancinis.com • 651-224-7345





Mancini's

West 7th Street

Open Daily

Mancini's
al fresco

Minnesota State Fair

Aug. 26 - Sept. 6

LORE, LEGEND & DEFINITELY LAGER



SMITH AVENUE AT THE HIGH BRIDGE



OPEN FOR LUNCHEES, DINNERS, AND TAKEOUT

MORE AT WALDMANNBREWERY.COM

WALDMANN



WEST 7th ST. PAUL



OPEN MON-SAT 9AM-10PM SUN 11AM-6PM

GRAY DUCK VODKA

\$15.97

1 LITER

MUST PRESENT COUPON AT TIME OF PURCHASE. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS. EXPIRES 9-30-21. VALID AT LIQUOR BARREL, WEST 7TH, ST. PAUL ONLY.

GRUET BRUE, ROSÉ

\$11.97

750ML

MUST PRESENT COUPON AT TIME OF PURCHASE. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS. EXPIRES 9-30-21. VALID AT LIQUOR BARREL, WEST 7TH, ST. PAUL ONLY.

WOODFORD RESERVE RYE OR BOURBON

\$24.97

750L

MUST PRESENT COUPON AT TIME OF PURCHASE. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS. EXPIRES 9-30-21. VALID AT LIQUOR BARREL, WEST 7TH, ST. PAUL ONLY.

LIQUOR BARREL WEST 7TH - ST. PAUL 665 7TH STREET WEST ST. PAUL, MN 55102 651-222-6811 LIQUORBARREL.COM

Congratulations Community Reporter!

50 years

of outstanding coverage & community-building

Rebecca Noecker

Saint Paul City Councilmember Ward 2



SOAPY JOE'S CAR WASH

THANK YOU FOR VOTING US MN BEST CAR WASH!

MONTHLY UNLIMITED MEMBERSHIPS

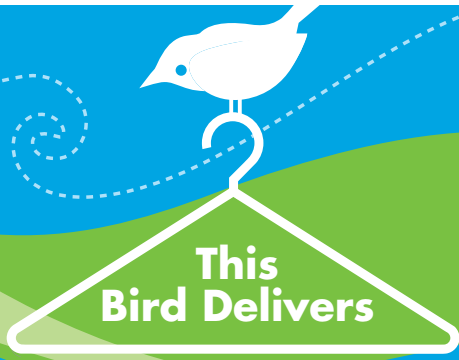
GIFT CARDS

EXPRESS WASHES

INTERIOR SERVICES BY APPOINTMENT

1340 WEST 7TH ST • SAINT PAUL • 55102

WWW.SOAPYJOESMN.COM



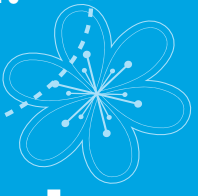
This Bird Delivers

Free home and office delivery.

Have your dry cleaning brought right to your door. Sign up for service at skylarkcleaning.com/save-earth.

Plus **25% OFF** your first order.

USE PROMO CODE **GREEN25**



skylark

DRY CLEANING

1530 7th Street West, St. Paul, MN 55102 612.379.2532

skylarkcleaning.com/save-earth