COUNCIL PERSPECTIVES
A time for action on gun violence

Fellow Saint Pauters, the tragedy that happened at a bar in St. Paul a few weeks ago was extremely frightening, heart-breaking and unacceptable. All law-abiding people should feel and be safe from violence in our city. It is a brazen violence like this that, in both feel and fact, challenges that value, and St. Paul cannot and will not tolerate that.

My heart breaks for the grieving family of the young woman whose life was senselessly stolen, as well as for the other innocent victims who were physically harmed and are emotionally traumatized by the actions of the criminals with guns who perpetrated these brazen acts of murderous violence.

I believe Saint Paul needs a well-trained police force to ensure the wellbeing and safety of all St. Paul residents.

While due process is necessary and will be provided, we must also ensure that the perpetrators of these crimes are held accountable in our justice system so that we bring justice to the victims and their families. We must find a way to keep other innocent people in our community.

Additionally, I am grateful for the police officers, medics and ER teams at multiple hospitals that provided aid and care to the victims. I believe Saint Paul needs a well-trained police force to ensure the wellbeing and safety of all St. Paul residents. I recognize that Chief Axtell and the mayor have differences in their proposed budgets for the Saint Paul Police Department, and believe that we can come to a solution, free of unnecessary negative discourse, to properly fund the police department. I am supportive of the Saint Paul Police Department’s request for additional resources for two police academies a year so that our staffing stays stable.

Additionally, the police department is currently beginning an academy with 65 recruits who will be ready to be officers by early 2022. After four months of academy and four months of field training, these officers will replace the officers who have retired, transferred or left the city for other reasons. Although we don’t know all the officers who will separate from the city in the next few months, the police department estimates that this academy will bring the department near the 600 sworn strength that Chief Axtell has requested.

I also believe that we all need to do more to prevent gun violence. In addition to local policing efforts, we need our state and federal governments to act now and pass stronger laws that are proven to reduce violence and fund gun violence prevention programs. We encourage you to patronize West 7th businesses and support our neighbors through this difficult time.

Chris Tolbert is the Saint Paul Councilmember for Ward 3 representing the Highland Park and Macalester Groveland neighborhoods. He can be reached by email at ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us.

Mass Shooting Underscores Public Safety Concerns on West 7th

BY CASEY EK

The mass shooting at West Seventh Truck Park that took the life of 27-year-old Marquisha Wiley and injured 15 others in the early hours of Sunday, October 10, shocked the West 7th community.

Terry Lorenzo Brown, 32, of St. Paul, has been charged with one count of second-degree murder and 11 counts of attempted second-degree murder. Deondre Trevor Phillips, 34, of Las Vegas, has been charged with 22 counts of attempted second-degree murder. Both men have a history of violent crime and were not supposed to be in possession of firearms, police said.

At an impromptu Fort Road Federation meeting called in response to the shooting, West 7th neighbors voiced their dissatisfaction for what they described as elected officials’ lack of action on public safety concerns in the area, which have been mounting since early 2020.

In early September, the St. Paul Downtown Alliance reported a five-year low in crime. Their analysis showed that crime in the area at the end of August was 26% lower than last year and 10% lower than the five-year average. But for the St. Paul Police Department and some West End residents, these numbers don’t paint a complete picture.

St. Paul Police Senior Commander Jeremy Ellison who oversees the West 7th area attended the public safety meeting. He said that while many crime statistics seem promising for the neighborhood, celebration may not yet be in order.

“There’s a difference between data and the perception of safety,” Ellison said to the virtual attendees at the Fort Road Federation meeting.

Editor’s Note: The Community Reporter is looking back on its first 50 years, finding some connections to the past and present, with thoughts towards the future. Here is a sampling of what writer Margaret Kinney found.

BY MARGARET KINNEY

February 2000

Local historian Gary Brueggemann reported on the history of breweries in the West End in the article, “This Neighborhood Could Be Called Brewetown.” In the mid-1860s, Melcher Funk started Funk’s Brewery and its adjoining saloon at what is now Palace Avenue in between Duke and Colborne streets, producing 2,600 barrels of beer a year at that time, and is said to have once chucked beer at his saloon, and reportedly the neighborhood residents kept Funk’s in business.

Brueggemann wrote, “The success of Funk’s Brewery is somewhat remarkable given that it operated in the shadow of the landmark Schmidt Brewery, which was producing 50,000 barrels a year by 1890.” Funk’s closed in 1899, and what eventually became known as Schmidt Brewery were through many incarnations. The latest incarnation is represented by the Schmidt Artists Lofts, offering over 200 live-work spaces for artists.

The 1893 Schmidt building continues its brewery traditions with Clutch Brewery, in the Kaye and Case Market since 2018. West End beer producers Rad Weather Brewing Company and Waldmann Brewery also continue to help make St. Paul a “brewetown.”

January 2001

Community Reporter’s from page story by
As a nonprofit organization we are governed by a Board of Direc- tors, and we have openings for community members to join. We encourage you to talk to the event’s first responders are often affected. Additionally, so are neighbors, business owners and even those who just read or hear about the event without experiencing it directly. In conclusion, we unfortunately see the effect of gun violence on a regular basis. It shows up not only as physical wounds and sometimes life-long pain in the victims themselves, but also in the countless patients that we see with anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder. It shows up as uncounted diseases and hypertension when our patients don’t feel safe enough to exercise outdoors in their neighborhoods. It shows up as decreased quality of life and lost work productivity. The consequences of gun violence ripple throughout our entire community, affecting all of us. The problem of gun violence is so complex and multifaceted that it can seem impossibly mountable and therefore inevitable. However, we all deserve to feel safe in our communities and therefore we absolutely must work toward decreasing gun violence. Here are just a few:

- We can support and volunteer with organizations that are working day to day to decrease gun violence in our community, such as Moms Demand Action, Peace Over Violence, Minnesota Community Gun Violence.

- We can contact our elected officials at all levels, from city council and mayor to our state and federal legislators, to tell them what we care about. For example, you can call the Community Gun Violence.

- We can talk with young people in our lives about the importance of settling conflicts with words and not with violence.

- We can encourage your involvement in the creative side of things. We encourage your involvement in the creative side of things.

- We can support and volunteer with organizations that are working day to day to decrease gun violence in our community, such as Moms Demand Action, Peace Over Violence, Minnesota Community Gun Violence.

- We can talk with young people in our lives about the importance of settling conflicts with words and not with violence.

- We can encourage your involvement in the creative side of things.
Katherine Lampert Gets Community Sendoff

The Max Day 2021, our newspaper is seeking donations that will allow us to continue building and celebrating our storied community for generations to come. Visit givemn.org/Community-Reporter to make your donation today.

The M Launches Two Exhibits

Standing in the Hearts of our Ancestors invites our neighbors to invest in community journalism through a monetary investment. As part of Give to the Sustain Community Journalism measure, we are expected to vote Oct. 27.

A Touch of Andrea

Help Community Reporter grow for the next 50 years!

Please raise your voice with us. Our communities’ health and safety depend on it.

Allina opens new radiation oncology center

Allina Health announced on Oct. 12 that patients will now have access to their latest radiation oncology center located within Allina Health’s United Hospital Campus. “Our mission is to ensure our patients feel supported through every step of their experience,” said Mike Korsnick, Vice President, Allina Health Cancer Institute. “We believe that every patient deserves the best in cancer care technology and treatment methods in a coordinated, compassionate setting that is solely focused on their specific needs.” The clinic began welcoming patients on Oct. 11.

Serving GREAT FOOD at Reasonable Prices for 25 Years!

GOLDEN CHOW MEIN
Extral-extraleateout
Mon-Sat ‘Til 14
Closed Sundays

GRAND HILL GALLERY
53 Grand Ave Suite 101
Function of Grand, Ramsey & ISGE
227-478-0723

GRAND HILL GALLERY
53 Grand Ave Suite 101
Function of Grand, Ramsey & ISGE
227-478-0723

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859

Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
Flee The Flock - 651-587-8859
BY PAUL BARD

A group of 25 neighborhood volunteers took advantage of unseasonably warm fall weather back in Sept. 30 to continue work on phase 3 of a long-term landscaping effort called the Little Bohemia Trail Enhancement Project.

On that warm Saturday, volunteers dug, planted, mulched and watered more than 400 plants, including trees, shrubs and perennial flowers on either side of the Little Bohemia Trail, a bike path that runs along the east side of Interstate 35W between Grand and St. Clair avenues. The project, which has been ongoing since 2015, is the result of a partnership between the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), the City of St. Paul and the Little Bohemia Neighborhood Association.

The Little Bohemia Trail runs on MnDOT land, and the enhancement project operates through an arrangement called a “maintenance partnership.” Little Bohemia’s Jenny Gehlhar, who holds a Minnesota Master Naturalist certification from the Minnesota DNR, led the project. Gehlhar explained to the Community Reporter that MnDOT pays for plants while the neighbors provide labor, with the agreement that the neighbors will do the planting and maintain the trail long term.

“This is not a grant,” she emphasized, as she outlined the partnership’s shared responsibilities. “The Little Bohemia Association does not get money—only plants.”

The Little Bohemia group started the project with the help of MnDOT’s Tony Wotzka, who drew up the original landscape design. For Phase 1, in 2015, MnDOT crews removed dead and dying trees as well as ash trees threatened by the emerald ash borer. Crews also repaired sound walls and made other improvements to the site in preparation for landscaping. Neighborhood volunteers then took on the job of planting. In that first year, they put in nearly 1000 trees, shrubs and perennials along the bike path and in Pleasant Place, a small neighborhood park at the corner of Harrison Avenue and Garfield Street. Weeding, watering and other care and maintenance were carried out all summer long. After Phase 1 wrapped up, The City of St. Paul awarded a grant for paving and lighting the trail. Lighting was installed in 2016 and 2017.

Jenny said that the leadership at MnDOT is “totally on board” with the neighborhood’s efforts. While this summer’s drought has not been kind to gardens anywhere in Minnesota, the timing of this fall’s event coincided with the return of at least moderate rainfall in days following the planting. Additionally, neighbors have been watering the new trees, shrubs and flowers wherever possible.

Neighbors who want to learn more about the Trail Enhancement Project are invited to visit the Little Bohemia website: www.littlebohemiastpaul.org/little-bohemia-trail.

Paul Bard is a lifelong St. Paulite. He has served on the board of the Community Reporter since 2015.

Sarah Gleason, a Little Bohemia resident since 2000, helped supervise the September planting event.

Work with Shaws, who drew up the original landscape design, for Phase 1, in 2015, MnDOT crews removed dead and dying trees as well as ash trees threatened by the emerald ash borer. Crews also repaired sound walls and made other improvements to the site in preparation for landscaping. Neighborhood volunteers then took on the job of planting. In that first year, they put in nearly 1000 trees, shrubs and perennials along the bike path and in Pleasant Place, a small neighborhood park at the corner of Harrison Avenue and Garfield Street. Weeding, watering and other care and maintenance were carried out all summer long. After Phase 1 wrapped up, The City of St. Paul awarded a grant for paving and lighting the trail. Lighting was installed in 2016 and 2017. Jenny said that the leadership at MnDOT is “totally on board” with the neighborhood’s efforts. While this summer’s drought has not been kind to gardens anywhere in Minnesota, the timing of this fall’s event coincided with the return of at least moderate rainfall in days following the planting. Additionally, neighbors have been watering the new trees, shrubs and flowers wherever possible.

Neighbors who want to learn more about the Trail Enhancement Project are invited to visit the Little Bohemia website: www.littlebohemiastpaul.org/little-bohemia-trail.

Paul Bard is a lifelong St. Paulite. He has served on the board of the Community Reporter since 2015.

Sarah Gleason, a Little Bohemia resident since 2000, helped supervise the September planting event.

Work with Shaws, who drew up the original landscape design, for Phase 1, in 2015, MnDOT crews removed dead and dying trees as well as ash trees threatened by the emerald ash borer. Crews also repaired sound walls and made other improvements to the site in preparation for landscaping. Neighborhood volunteers then took on the job of planting. In that first year, they put in nearly 1000 trees, shrubs and perennials along the bike path and in Pleasant Place, a small neighborhood park at the corner of Harrison Avenue and Garfield Street. Weeding, watering and other care and maintenance were carried out all summer long. After Phase 1 wrapped up, The City of St. Paul awarded a grant for paving and lighting the trail. Lighting was installed in 2016 and 2017. Jenny said that the leadership at MnDOT is “totally on board” with the neighborhood’s efforts. While this summer’s drought has not been kind to gardens anywhere in Minnesota, the timing of this fall’s event coincided with the return of at least moderate rainfall in days following the planting. Additionally, neighbors have been watering the new trees, shrubs and flowers wherever possible.

Neighbors who want to learn more about the Trail Enhancement Project are invited to visit the Little Bohemia website: www.littlebohemiastpaul.org/little-bohemia-trail.

Paul Bard is a lifelong St. Paulite. He has served on the board of the Community Reporter since 2015.

Sarah Gleason, a Little Bohemia resident since 2000, helped supervise the September planting event.

Work with Shaws, who drew up the original landscape design, for Phase 1, in 2015, MnDOT crews removed dead and dying trees as well as ash trees threatened by the emerald ash borer. Crews also repaired sound walls and made other improvements to the site in preparation for landscaping. Neighborhood volunteers then took on the job of planting. In that first year, they put in nearly 1000 trees, shrubs and perennials along the bike path and in Pleasant Place, a small neighborhood park at the corner of Harrison Avenue and Garfield Street. Weeding, watering and other care and maintenance were carried out all summer long. After Phase 1 wrapped up, The City of St. Paul awarded a grant for paving and lighting the trail. Lighting was installed in 2016 and 2017. Jenny said that the leadership at MnDOT is “totally on board” with the neighborhood’s efforts. While this summer’s drought has not been kind to gardens anywhere in Minnesota, the timing of this fall’s event coincided with the return of at least moderate rainfall in days following the planting. Additionally, neighbors have been watering the new trees, shrubs and flowers wherever possible.

Neighbors who want to learn more about the Trail Enhancement Project are invited to visit the Little Bohemia website: www.littlebohemiastpaul.org/little-bohemia-trail.

Paul Bard is a lifelong St. Paulite. He has served on the board of the Community Reporter since 2015.

Sarah Gleason, a Little Bohemia resident since 2000, helped supervise the September planting event.

Work with Shaws, who drew up the original landscape design, for Phase 1, in 2015, MnDOT crews removed dead and dying trees as well as ash trees threatened by the emerald ash borer. Crews also repaired sound walls and made other improvements to the site in preparation for landscaping. Neighborhood volunteers then took on the job of planting. In that first year, they put in nearly 1000 trees, shrubs and perennials along the bike path and in Pleasant Place, a small neighborhood park at the corner of Harrison Avenue and Garfield Street. Weeding, watering and other care and maintenance were carried out all summer long. After Phase 1 wrapped up, The City of St. Paul awarded a grant for paving and lighting the trail. Lighting was installed in 2016 and 2017. Jenny said that the leadership at MnDOT is “totally on board” with the neighborhood’s efforts. While this summer’s drought has not been kind to gardens anywhere in Minnesota, the timing of this fall’s event coincided with the return of at least moderate rainfall in days following the planting. Additionally, neighbors have been watering the new trees, shrubs and flowers wherever possible.

Neighbors who want to learn more about the Trail Enhancement Project are invited to visit the Little Bohemia website: www.littlebohemiastpaul.org/little-bohemia-trail.

Paul Bard is a lifelong St. Paulite. He has served on the board of the Community Reporter since 2015.
Indigenous Peoples Day Commemorates Wakan Tipi Center

BY CASEY EK

St. Paul’s Indigenous leaders celebrated Indigenous Peoples Day, Oct. 11, by dedicating the land at the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary that will be an interpretive center that commemorates the Wakan Tipi Cave, a sacred Dakota site where tribal leaders brokered deals with other tribes.

The interpretive center, which will occupy about three acres, is set to break ground this fall and is slated to open in 2023.

The Oct. 11 celebration was marked with dances from Kalpulli Yaocenoxtli, a local ensemble, and other Indigenous dancers from multiple tribes as well as drumming and singing.

The crowd of around 200 heard from local leaders, including Prairie Island Indian Community President Shelley Buck, who underscored the importance of remembering Minnesota’s history and its treatment of Indigenous peoples.

Angel Ochoa was among the dozens of Indigenous dancers in full regalia at the Oct. 11 celebration of Indigenous Peoples Day at the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary.

Schmidt Artists Invigorate St. Paul

From Oct. 15-17, over 60 artists brought the halls of the Schmidt Artist Lofts to life with works from all genres. Headlined by Petra Johanna Lommen, MaryBeth Garrigan, Rick Pittle and Lark Gilmer, the art Crawl had a little something for everyone. If you missed the art crawl, don’t sweat.

If you’re wondering what to do for the upcoming holidays, concerned about shipping delays and supply chains, mark your calendars for the reboot of the Schmidt Holiday Market, which runs Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 26-28, at The Schmidt Brewhouse.

Over 30 artists, artisans and Schmidtizens will be selling inspired hand-crafted gifts for everyone on your list, the good (the not so good) and the extraordinary.

Good cheer and a healthy dose of holiday spirit will rule the weekend. Schmidt artists will help make this holiday season the best yet.

The full list of artists can be found online: schmidtartists.com. The Schmidt Artist Loft Brewhouse is located at 900 W. 7th Street, St. Paul.

Schmidt Holiday Market
Friday, Nov. 26: 10am–6pm
Saturday, Nov. 27: 10am–6pm (Buy Local Saturday)
Sunday, Nov. 28: 11am–3pm

How to attend
Please follow CDC guidelines, respect vendors and Schmidt residents, by wearing a mask. Free tickets for timed entry can be reserved and will be available at the door to ensure a safe environment for everyone. Parking is available on bordering city streets and the Rathskeller parking lot located directly behind the beer bottle billboard on West 7th. For more information on the Schmidt Holiday Market, please visit: www.schmidtartists.com
Some good news, please!

BY TIM RUMSEY, MD

Halloween evening 2004, Carl Benson had a practice teacher come to see him, at St. Clair high school. Each visitor received a can of Shasta soda pop and two candy bars, regular size until the treats ran out at about 8:30 p.m. Then, Carl opened the refrigerator to give away treats to the kids in line. Lastly, he got a yellow, three-quarter-filled bottle of French’s mustard.

Carl, “Mr. Positive” to many, is a West End youth worker, who, despite the latter being our state’s capital? Why is Minneapolis a larger city than St. Paul despite the latter being our state’s capital? But, it also provides just enough of the underpinnings of a city that has grown increasingly diverse over the years.

What’s more, his house is decorated for the max for all holidays. Halloween and Christmas are his favorites, of course, but he doesn’t ignore Thanksgiving, the Fourth of July, or even Saint Paul’s Day. President’s Day, Flag Day and MLK Day.

Carl’s famous. He’s been on TV, radio, in print, and there’s been a video documentary of his life. Carl and I recently caught up during an afternoon at Shamrocks.

Carl is still working full time as a caseworker for Bridge School, where he was once a student. But at 59, Carl is brighter future.

“Help us get this zoning ordinance through,” Neoeker said. “It’s going to be safe.”

Beating Covid-19

A recent zoning proposal that would allow no more than eight dogs on small lots in the West End, Neoeker said, would further alleviate tensions in the West End.

“In a couple of years, there is going to be 74,000 other people. There is going to be a need for the Freedom House,” Ortega said.

“Make a Difference”

Our food shelves are busier than ever, and Keystone Community Services needs awarded $1.5 million in stimulus funds of the community. Seeking after-volunteers (4-6 pm Monday-Thurs) for great participants, pack groceries and sort donations. Fill out a volunteer application at www.keystoneservices.org/volunteer

Career Exploration Opportunities for Teens

Teens ages 14-18 are invited to apply for Keystone Community Services Career Path Program in St. Paul and a part of a cohort to help develop workplace skills such as troubleshooting, problem solving, team to use tech equipment and more. The cohort will culminate with a paid internship at a local business in the show. The program is 100% free, and students will meet after-school at Keystone’s Teen Tech Center. Application and more information at www.keystoneservices.org/teen

Walk to End Hunger

Walk to End Hunger will be happening the entire month of November. Starting Nov. 1, head to the Mall of America at Macy’s Court to walk for a cause and show your support. Note: this event will be rain or shine! No event on Thanksgiving Day. Sign up at bit.ly/keystoneservices Walk to End Hunger.

Food Distributions

Nov. 12, 5-12 pm: Fare for All signature low-cost grocery packages. Masks required. Nov. 20, 2-4 pm: Freeproduce community food distribution at Roseville Public Works. Visit www.keystoneservices.org for more details.
and ironic that the white men most resistant to practice and policies preventing gun violence are, to seriously addressing gun violence, are, according to Metzel, the ones who suffer the most from gun violence. He notes, “A white person in the United States is five times as likely to die by suicide using a gun as to be shot with a gun.” The American narrative, including the Westerns with which many of us grew up, teaches us that white men are the defenders of the social order and that guns are central to that order. Yet the tragedy is that the inherent racism of guns in the defense of whiteness ends up causing the deaths of white men at an alarming and disproportionate rate. As Metzel notes, “white men themselves become the biggest threat to themselves.”

The anxiety now felt on West 7th Street among store owners, patrons and residents did not occur in a vacuum. It is a part of a long national history involving race and gun violence. Sadly, that violence manifested itself at the Seventh Street Truck Stop. To be sure, addressing gun violence can be a complex undertaking, but on another level, it can be as basic as “dump it out.”

Tom Johnson is a retired pastor of the United Church of Christ.
It’s Gift Card Season!

Show your gratitude with steak, seafood, classic cocktails and old-fashioned hospitality!

651-224-7345
mancinis.com

JOB OPENINGS - PRODUCTION

- Press operators
- Bag machine operators
- Press room & bindery assistants
- Joggers and helpers

We are accepting applications for production workers. Experience in a press room or manufacturing environment is helpful but not necessary.

Competitive salary. Full benefits. Multiple full-time shifts available.

We run three 12-hour shifts, 4 crews. Perfect for commuters. Salary range dependent upon experience. Amidon Graphics is a secure, family-run printing company where employees feel welcome and growth is encouraged. The coffee is always on and the popcorn is fresh.

Come in and fill out an application!
651-690-2401
www.amidongraphics.com
1966 Benson Ave, St. Paul

Innovative Approaches to Your Web Printing Needs

- Scent Enhanced Print
- Specialty Direct Mail
- Laser Die-Cutting
- Photo Envelopes
- Placemats
- Insert Cards
- Mailing
- Order Form Envelopes
- Numbering
- Bags

We have streamlined the process and can get you the money you need faster.

We know your business keeps you busy and your time is valuable. We also know that when you apply for a business loan, you want a quick decision.

Contact a Banker 651.227.7071 or Apply Online Today!
www.bankcherokee.com/cherokee-express

BankLocal. BankBetter.

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

s k y l a r k
D R Y C L E A N I N G
1530 7th Street West, St. Paul, MN 55102  612.379.2532
skylarkcleaning.com/save-earth

This Bird Delivers

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

s k y l a r k
D R Y C L E A N I N G
1530 7th Street West, St. Paul, MN 55102  612.379.2532
skylarkcleaning.com/save-earth