

Community REPORTER

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



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CIRCULATION 13,000

DISTRICT PERSPECTIVE

A United Defense Against ICE



MARIA ISA PEREZ-VEGA
MINNESOTA HOUSE
REP, DISTRICT 65B
columnist

Operation Metro Surge and the recent deployment of 2,000 additional federal agents to the Twin Cities area have triggered an organized response from community leaders and Minnesotans across our state. Since their arrival, ICE and federal agents have been engaging in

dangerous lawlessness that has resulted in Renee Nicole Good being killed by ICE agent Johnathan Ross. I am outraged by the FBI's lack of cooperation with local law enforcement to ensure a fair and thorough investigation. Our communities demand justice and I will continue to fight alongside community leaders and elected officials across our state to demand transparency and accountability. No one is above the rule of law, no matter what the Trump administration contends.

The militarization and volatility used by ICE and federal agents show a historical pattern of displacement and marginalization that has long impacted Minnesota's immigrant neighborhoods, from the 1956 destruction of the Swede Hollow colony to the clearing of the West Side Flats.

Federal immigration tactics have elicited racial profiling of American citizens. Whether it is neighbors driving their cars to work or ICE entering places of business, these actions are blatantly racist and do nothing to improve public safety. They are a waste of taxpayer money and strip valued members of our community of their dignity.

MAGA and Republicans are now demonizing community organizations that lead trainings to inform Minnesotans of their rights against ICE. These trainings prepare everyday neighbors to be constitutional observers and better equip and inform all Minnesotans of their rights to defend and protect their neighbors. Led by immigrants, a unified front of community organizations is mounting a defense against ICE and federal operations, working tirelessly to protect the constitutional rights of all residents.

COPAL has been instrumental in this defense, managing a Rapid Response Line and a network of over 2,500 trained volunteers who document enforcement activity in real-time. The Monarca Rapid Response Line has been playing a crucial role in providing informative Upstander Legal Observer trainings and vital 'Know Your Rights' resources. Similarly, the Immigrant Defense Network (IDN) unites more than 90 organizations across the state to coordinate legal clinics and advocate for municipal resolutions that limit local police cooperation with federal agents. These efforts are mirrored by MN8, which provides specialized support for Southeast Asian communities facing unique detention challenges, and the ACLU of Minnesota, which has recently filed lawsuits to stop the unconstitutional detention of citizen observers.

In our local district, I am proud of the collaborative work being led by the West Side Boosters, the West Side Community Organization (WSCO), and Neighborhood House. By working in lockstep with families, schools, teachers and elders, these organizations are ensuring that our youth remain at the center of our advocacy. This partnership emphasizes a vital truth: our collective well-being and the joy of our children are non-negotiable,

DEFENSE, PG 2

Community Groups Mobilize to Support Immigrant Families in St. Paul

BY DAMIAN GOEBEL

As federal immigration enforcement activity increases across Minnesota, community organizations and small businesses along West 7th and throughout St. Paul are mobilizing to meet immediate needs for food, legal assistance and emotional support.



Neighborhood House, a St. Paul nonprofit that has served immigrants and refugees for more than a century, has expanded its Community Crisis Response to support families facing heightened fear and disruption. The organization is coordinating emergency food delivery, distributing basic needs items such as hygiene products and diapers and partnering with El Burrito Mercado to provide culturally relevant groceries in ways designed to protect dignity and privacy.

Neighborhood House officials say volunteer capacity for food delivery is currently full, though residents can join a waitlist or support the effort through financial or in-kind donations. Local businesses along West 7th Street have become informal hubs for supply drives, helping funnel donations to Neighborhood House, local schools and families directly.

Several neighborhood businesses have launched fundraising efforts tied to daily operations. Waldmann Brewing has committed proceeds from ticketed educational events and a portion of beer sales to immigrant support organizations, including Neighborhood House and the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota. Wandering Leaf Brewing Company has also pledged donations from taproom sales and has coordinated large-scale supply drives benefiting both Neighborhood House and St. Paul Public Schools.



Tens of thousands of people attended the Ice Out of Minnesota rally, protesting the increased presence of Federal immigration agents in the Twin Cities and the killing of Renee Good, on January 23 in downtown Minneapolis.

Retail and service businesses are contributing in other ways. Tease Salon, Nine Lives Thrift, Mustache Cat and Hail Mary Piercing Studio have established donation pantries inside their shops, collecting food, pet supplies and art materials for children. Nine Lives Thrift has also emphasized its role as a safe third space for community members who may feel unsafe accessing traditional food shelves.

Community leaders say these efforts reflect a broader pattern of mutual aid across West 7th, with businesses, residents and volunteers stepping in to address gaps created by fear of travel, work interruptions and school disruptions.

Legal support organizations across St. Paul continue to offer free or low-cost immigration

SUPPORT, PG 3



The donation pantry at Nine Lives Thrift, one of several businesses along West 7th offering community support.

Local Author Tells the Unknown Story of the Founding of St. Paul

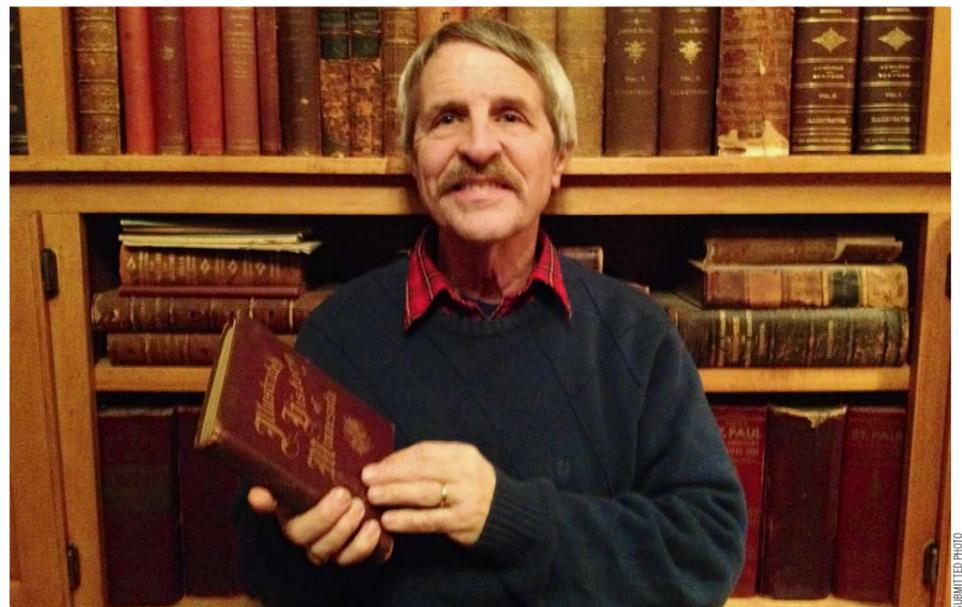
BY DAMIAN GOEBEL

For many Minnesotans, St. Paul's early history is reduced to a handful of familiar names and half-remembered legends. In "Saints and Sinners: The Pioneers of Saint Paul," longtime historian and educator Gary Brueggemann sets out to expand — and complicate — that picture, offering an exhaustive, deeply researched account of how a remote riverfront wilderness became Minnesota's capital city.

Published after more than a decade of writing and drawing on a 50-year career studying Minnesota and St. Paul history, the book focuses on the city's formative years in the late 1830s and early 1840s. Brueggemann traces St. Paul's origins from the era when Mdewakanton Dakota people lived along the Mississippi River, through the arrival of fur traders, immigrants and settlers who built the first chapel, businesses and homes that anchored the emerging community.

"The founding of St. Paul isn't a simple, tidy story," Brueggemann said. "It's complicated, but that's what makes it interesting. Very few people really understand how St. Paul fits into the larger American story."

Unlike the founders of many U.S. cities, Brueggemann noted, St. Paul's pioneers were largely immigrants — many of them French Catholics — who were poor, spoke little or no English and often lacked formal education. While a few became modestly successful, most lived hard lives marked by struggle and uncertainty. The book documents not only well-known figures, but also dozens of lesser-known families, including women and



Long-time West End resident and St. Paul historian Gary Brueggemann

children who are often missing from traditional historical accounts.

The title reflects Brueggemann's determination to portray the pioneers honestly. "There were scoundrels, criminals and colorful characters," he said, "but there were also deeply religious, community-minded people who worked together to build something lasting."

His earlier work on St. Paul's first murder helped cement the city's reputation for vice, but "Saints and Sinners" seeks to balance that narrative by

highlighting the many ordinary settlers whose contributions have been forgotten.

One of the book's more provocative themes addresses how the land that became St. Paul was acquired. Brueggemann devotes an entire chapter to examining treaties and relationships between Native people and early settlers, arguing that St. Paul's history differs significantly from more commonly cited examples elsewhere in the country. While

AUTHOR, PG 7



COMMUNITY VOICES

BUILDING COMMUNITY

What is Truth?

TIM JOHNSON
columnist

Where was my notebook? My first reaction was confusion. It was that feeling one gets when you are certain where you left the car parked, but it is not there, or are positive you hung up the keys, but they are nowhere to be found. It is disorienting. You look, look away, look back again, half expecting the missing item will have appeared and somehow you missed it on first glance.

I was in first grade. It was the first week of class. My parents had provided me with the notebook we were asked to bring with us. The teacher instructed us to write our names on the upper right hand corner. At the end of the

day we left our notebooks on the top of our desk. The next morning I returned to discover my desktop empty. In my confusion, I looked around and noticed the girl sitting next to me had erased something on her notebook and written her name over it. I looked closer. I could clearly see my name still visible under her name. I, of course, told the teacher. The girl insisted it was hers, but fortunately the teacher was astute enough to see the truth of the situation and the notebook was returned to me.

For the most part, first grade thieves are not very good. Plus those erasures rarely do an effective job. But, what I most remember about that day was not the stolen tablet, but the awareness that anyone would do these type of things, cheat, steal or otherwise be dishonest and then insist that I could not believe what I clearly saw with my own eyes. It was shocking. It is still shocking.

It seems we are now regularly told we are unable to believe the truth we see with our own eyes. January 6th is probably exhibit A, where

virtually everyone witnessed people storming the capitol in what rightfully could be called an actual insurrection, attempting to overthrow a national vote. Police officers were killed and injured. Legislators threatened along with other elected leaders, like Vice President Mike Pence. Yet, there are those who have sought to erase that picture and replace it with a drawing of friendly visitors who simply want a tour of the nation's capital.

What is truth? This is the cynical question the Roman ruler Pontius Pilate asks of Jesus prior to his execution as recorded in the Christian Gospel of John. Then, as now, it is intended to make us feel truth is unknowable, completely subjective and anyone who has the capacity or authority can define truth in whatever way they wish.

What is truth? Can we believe our eyes when we see images of a mom being shot by ICE agents in Minneapolis? Can we believe our eyes when we see doors smashed without court ordered warrants, dragging residents

out into the cold with little if any protection? Can we believe what we see when community observers have chemicals sprayed in their eyes for no other reason than the act of observing? Can we believe our eyes when car windows are smashed because the driver's observations are unwelcome? Imagine being an observer driving around your neighborhood; a young woman comes on the group chat with terror in her voice, "help me, help me. I don't know what to do. They have me boxed in and I can't move". You listen to her panic and terror as she is told to get out of the car and her window is smashed. Can we believe what we hear and see? What about the alternate version being told? The agents are simply doing their job. What is truth?

Admittedly, it is disorienting and confusing to be told you are unable to believe what you see with your own eyes. But, what was true in first grade remains true today, if we look closely, past the erasure and what is placed over it, one can still find the truth peeking through.

NOTEBOOK RECOLLECTIONS

50 Years in West 7th, Part Three

TIM RUMSEY
columnist

There is a certain amount of conceit necessary to record one's life story! Let alone in three parts!! (you need room for all the!!!!)

I once asked Carl "Mr. Positive" Bentson (1962 to 2024), with his fascinating life and stories, if he had ever thought of writing an autobiography?

"I never owned an auto," Carl answered.

There wasn't an ounce of conceit even near Mr. Positive.

Community Reporter readers have been clamoring for some good dinosaur hunting tales (well, maybe one or two readers anyway) so, before we get back to the Free Clinic/Helping Hand stories, I have a pretty good true dinosaur hunting tale.

For 30 years, I kept an actual perfectly petrified three-foot-long T.Rex toe bone under my clinic office desk. My younger brother Mark (1950 to 1984) and I discovered it in the northeast Montana Badlands, after years of fossil hunting in our Highland Park Neighbourhood, eventually working up to the South Dakota Badlands.

It was "bone-a fide" by Dr. Bruce

Eriksson, head paleontologist of the Minnesota Science Museum.

Flashback

In the late 1970s, Mark and I graduated from the amazing, somewhat easily discovered, fossil seashells and coral, lobster shell-like cephalopods and bug-like Trilobites we found in a recently bulldozed gray clay, new home construction site two blocks north of our Highland Park home (1357 S. Prior). And then extinct, dog-sized horses and huge rhinoceros in the South Dakota badlands just shy of Mount Rushmore.

The T.Rex bone was found on a trip to dinosaur country in the badlands of north eastern Montana in 1983. A year before we lost Mark in a horrible car wreck in Colorado.

Mark found a dino bone sticking only inches out of the side of a huge, clay butte. We dug out "a grotto" around the bone. We could see one side of a three foot extremity. Then we covered it with newspaper followed by plaster to allow us to extract it from the cliff.

We were pretty sure we had hit pay dirt.

But then we had to wait until returning to Minnesota to finally prepare and preserve it in our basement dinosaur lab. After our final clean up, we brought it to Dr. Bruce for the ID.

It was T.Rex!! A Middle toe. Dr. Erickson said it was good enough to put in a glass case on a

museum wall as he handed it back.

For the next 40 years, I kept the T-Rex bone under my clinic office desk. There were bragging rights for sure. But its primary use was to show it to 7-to-12 year-old kiddos before they got their vaccine shots. We didn't need a rigorous scientific study, but it sure seemed a distraction from a needle in the arm or behind.

All right then, let's move millions of years forward from the Montana Badlands back to W. 7th St.

Last month's "Reporter" established the early history of the Helping Hand HealthCenter. It had started next to Mancini's in 1972, then moved across 7th to the Little Bohemian Café and Bakery in 1974 where I put out my shingle. We were there until 1978. Then the "Hand" moved back across 7th to the western end of Mancini's.

Some cool stuff happened in there. Major expansion of staff and services, including dental and psychology. More and more patients. A Seriously successful businessman told me in a clinic exam room one day in 1981 that he had just had a 20 minute conversation in our waiting room with a guy who slept overnight in a tent.

Support and creativity was added by existing and new board members and community leaders. Jim Schiable, Sandy, Pappas and Neal Gosman, Dave Thune. John Yust. Father John Clay and Sister Alice of Saint Stan's. Pastor Walt Wietzke of St Mark's and super-media specialist and board member Andrea Marboe.

Clinic manager April Moore, lab director Sylvia Peruse and nurse Sharon Beatty were



Perfectly petrified three-foot-long T.Rex toe bone

also on board.

New doctors and providers; Jim Barker, Dick Gordon, nurse practitioner Donna Gustafson, psychologist Dr. Norm Silverberg. Dentist Dr. Peter Frank.

The clinic was even featured by Dan Rather's CBS "60 Minutes" for Helping Hand's holistic, neighborhood-based care and the new concept of "medical self-care" promoted by Drs Keith Seihnert and Tom Ferguson.

We moved back across 7th to the western end of Mancini's in 1984. We were literally a clinic in a nightclub. Good daytime clinic parking was a guarantee.

We only have 42 more years to cover.

COMMUNITY VOICES

The Virus Within Us

By Jonathan Dickman, MD, PhD

Here we go again. Some people in the community hunkering down in their homes waiting for it to be safe to go outside. Schools providing virtual options for those who do not feel safe to receive education in person. This feels eerily familiar to 2020 and the COVID-19 pandemic, only this time the virus is not spread through coughing or breathing, but rather through social media and talking heads on the television. In 2026, Minnesota is ground zero for what I call the "othering virus."

What is this virus? This infection spreads by enhancing a person's primal instinct to preserve themselves and others like them and single out those who are different. Life is often difficult and blaming "other" people for hardships can feel right. This may remind you of middle school where the bad gossip about someone spreads faster and farther than good gossip. We have an inherent desire to be better than "others" and it is easier to accomplish this by putting people down than working hard to rise up. Our community finds

ourselves back in a middle school gossip session when communicating on platforms such as Instagram, X and Facebook where posts are unregulated and negative information, whether true or not, spreads like wildfire. Thus, we are primed to be in conflict with each other and our President simply sets things in motion.

We have seen the catastrophic effects of this virus before as it has been with us from the beginning of time. The Holocaust in Germany being perhaps the most memorable and terrible. We try to remember these parts of our history in order to not repeat previous mistakes and yet somehow we find ourselves on the verge of being at war with ourselves. How can we stop ourselves now that violence is starting in our community?

Our brains are hardwired to preserve ourselves and others like us. This will never go away, but recognizing that it is there and that you will be attracted to negative information about others is a good first step. As humans evolved, we developed the front part of our brain to help us understand others. This part of our brain develops last as we grow up and shuts off in times of fear and anxiety. Singling people out and putting them down can happen in these moments and fragments the neighborhood.

start their day—are suddenly missing from the neighborhood. When federal attacks disrupt our schools and streets, they don't just target individuals; they steal the sense of security that every student needs to thrive.

By creating a multiracial and multigenerational response, these organizations are ensuring that information and legal defense are accessible to every resident. This collective effort seeks to build a Saint Paul and a Minnesota that honor the immigrant labor that built the state and the cultural richness that continues to sustain it. By fighting for a community that gives everyone a fair chance, these advocates are working to ensure that no one has to live in the shadows of fear.

Taking a moment to put this fear and anxiety aside and working together to support each other creates a vibrant community. Now is the time to access the front part of our brains and have compassion for "others." This can be done by taking a breath and supporting those who are being targeted with whatever they need such as food or shelter.

I wish there was a vaccine or medication I could offer everyone to cure the "othering virus", but unfortunately this virus will be with us forever and we simply need to learn how to acknowledge it and keep it from taking over our neighborhood. Our problem is not immigrants, people of color, LGBTQ+ individuals or anyone else, but rather we need to look inside ourselves and lift our community up as a whole. Now is the time to speak up without being violent towards those causing this situation, even though it can be tempting. Violence tends to simply cause more violence. Similar to Martin Luther King Jr. and Mahatma Gandhi, expressing views and concerns in a peaceful manner is critical to making progress. Together we can get through this situation and take back control from the "othering virus" and make the West End feel safe again.

The current movement is not just about protection; it is about ensuring that Minnesota remains a place where diversity is recognized as a source of strength rather than a target for exclusion. We need to stay united. As we support the local organizations on the frontlines, we must also continue to support local BIPOC and immigrant-owned businesses and artists/musicians.

I am deeply honored to stand in solidarity with the community leaders, advocacy organizations, and resilient Minnesotans who refuse to compromise on the human rights and dignity of our neighbors. Immigrants make Minnesota what it is today—vibrant, essential, and strong—and we are not going anywhere.

DEFENSE, PG 1

especially during these challenging times. At a recent community event, the sentiment shared by West Side Boosters President Robert Cruz resonated deeply, serving as a powerful reminder that when we stand together we create a sanctuary of support for the next generation and creating joy is an act of resistance.

Our children deserve to learn and grow in safety, not in a world where they must witness their friends being torn from their families. No child should have to watch their teachers take on extra hours to serve on "ICE watch" rotations instead of planning lessons or wonder why their bus drivers—the familiar faces that

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COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS



St. Paul Mayor Kaohly Her

Kaohly Her sworn in as St. Paul's new mayor

Kaohly Her was officially sworn in as St. Paul's mayor January 2, marking a new chapter in city leadership and becoming the first Hmong American to hold the office.

Her's swearing-in follows a historic election and comes at a time of significant challenges and opportunities for the city, including downtown revitalization, public safety, housing affordability and infrastructure investment. In remarks

following the ceremony, Her emphasized collaboration, equity and rebuilding trust between city government and residents.

City leaders, community members and state officials attended the event, celebrating Her's rise as a milestone for representation and civic engagement in St. Paul. Her previously served as a State Representative, where she focused on economic development, housing and neighborhood investment.

As mayor, Her said she plans to prioritize inclusive growth and community-driven solutions, stressing that progress must benefit residents in every ward. She also highlighted the importance of listening to historically underrepresented communities.

Her begins her term with a pledge to work closely with the City Council, local partners and residents to address pressing issues while shaping a long-term vision for the city's future.

FOR MORE COMMUNITY NEWS, VISIT

[COMMUNITYREPORTER.ORG/CATEGORY/NEIGHBORHOOD-NEWS](https://www.communityreporter.org/category/neighborhood-news)

WEST 7TH STREET ROAD PROJECT MOVES TOWARD LONG-TERM IMPROVEMENTS

MnDOT, Ramsey County, the City of St. Paul and Metro Transit have announced a shared commitment to advance long-term repairs and safety improvements along Hwy. 5/West Seventh.

The project includes pavement repairs, sidewalk and curb improvements, accessibility upgrades, stormwater drainage work, lighting enhancements and transit improvements. The goal is a durable, safer street for pedestrians, cyclists, transit riders and motorists.

Funding remains the next major hurdle, with partners seeking legislative support. Council President Rebecca Noecker said the plan reflects months of community input and collaboration. Traffic impacts will be announced as construction planning progresses.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OPENS FOR RETHINKING I-94 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The official public comment period is now open through March 9 for the Rethinking I-94 project, a long-term effort examining the future of Interstate 94 between Minneapolis and St. Paul.

The public can review the documents and submit comments online through the project website, by mail, or at upcoming public meetings. Printed documents are available at MnDOT's Central Office and Metro District offices, St. Paul and Minneapolis City Halls, and libraries in Franklin, Merriam Park and downtown Minneapolis. Written comments may be mailed to Mark Lindeberg, c/o MnDOT, 1500 Cty Rd B2 W., Roseville.

Two public meetings are scheduled. A virtual meeting Feb. 4 from 12-1:30 p.m., with advance registration required.

Rethinking I-94 focuses on a 7.5-mile corridor between Hwy. 55/Hiawatha Ave and Marion St, aiming to address transportation needs while ensuring community voices shape future decisions. Questions and feedback may be directed to rethinkingI94project.dot@state.mn.us.

UNION GOSPEL MISSION TO PROVIDE WARMING SPACE

Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities (UGMTC) has partnered with Ramsey County to operate an official overnight warming space during periods of extreme cold, offering life-saving shelter for people experiencing homelessness.

The warming center will operate at UGMTC's Men's

Campus, 435 University Ave. E., in St. Paul. The space will be open from 8:30 p.m. to 6:30 a.m., with staffing provided by Ramsey County subcontractors. Guests must exit by 6:30 a.m., at which time breakfast is available at Bethel Hotel from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.

Other Winter Warming Spaces coordinated by Ramsey County include The Holy Christian Church International, which serves men and women in separate spaces, and Central Presbyterian Church, which serves youth ages 18-24 and families. Transportation to UGMTC is available from the Listening House of St. Paul.

Winter Warming Spaces provide seating, blankets, warm beverages, light snacks and, when available, winter supplies. County officials note the need for shelter residents seeking assistance year-round can contact Ramsey County Housing Services at 651-266-1035.

CITY OF ST. PAUL OPENS STAR GRANTS, SEEKS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROPOSALS

The City of St. Paul has announced two major opportunities for community investment in 2026, with Neighborhood STAR and Cultural STAR grant applications opening Feb. 2 and a separate call for capital improvement proposals focused on public safety.

The STAR programs fund projects that beautify neighborhoods and promote arts and culture. Neighborhood STAR supports capital projects in St. Paul neighborhoods, while Cultural STAR funds arts organizations and events. Online applications are due March 13 at 4 p.m., with applicant workshops and guidelines available on the city's website.

The city is accepting proposals for its 2026 Capital Improvement Budget through Feb. 20. These proposals must involve city-owned infrastructure, last at least 10 years, and advance principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

Eligible projects may include improvements to lighting, public spaces, or other infrastructure that enhances safety. Proposals involving staffing changes, private property, or routine maintenance are not eligible.

HIGHLAND PARK COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Jie Ming Mandarin Immersion Academy

Each month, we are featuring a Highland Park business or organization. Community Spotlight honorees may have deep roots in Highland Park or might be new to the neighborhood. Visit [highlanddistrictcouncil.org/community-spotlight](https://www.highlanddistrictcouncil.org/community-spotlight) to see more spotlights and to have your business or organization featured.

Jie Ming Mandarin Immersion Academy is a K-5 elementary school with over 400 students that is part of the St. Paul Public School System. Jie Ming is a diverse, high-performing school that draws students from across the Twin Cities and surrounding suburbs. According to US News and World Report Best Elementary School rankings, Jie Ming is #15 in Minnesota. Any children who are five years old on or before September 1, 2026, can apply at apply.spps.org.

From Emily Post, Vice President of Jie Ming PTA:

When did you first start your business/efforts in Highland Park? Jie Ming Mandarin Immersion Academy was started in 2011 and then relocated to the Homecroft Building in Highland Park in 2018.

What was the inspiration for doing the work you do? I joined the PTA board because I have a current first grader and a child that will start Kindergarten next year. I want to continue to build a community for families and create forums for engagement between school administration and families.

What's your favorite thing about Highland Park? It is walkable, safe, and we have some great schools!

investigation and subject to legal and public scrutiny, including a recent federal court order preserving related evidence.

St. Paul Public Schools and several neighboring districts have offered temporary online learning options for students whose families are afraid to attend in-person classes. State and city leaders have responded with legal action. Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison, joined by the cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, has filed federal lawsuits challenging aspects of the enforcement surge. The St. Paul City Council has introduced ordinance updates aimed at limiting the use of city property for federal enforcement operations and maintaining access to local services.

For many families, however, immediate relief continues to come not from courtrooms but from neighborhood networks providing food, legal guidance and community care.

Visit [communityreporter.org](https://www.communityreporter.org) for more information and resources to support families in need during this time.



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SUPPORT, PG 1

assistance. Groups including the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota, Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid, the International Institute of Minnesota, MN Advocates for Human Rights and MN8 are providing intake services, legal clinics and specialized support for asylum seekers, detained individuals and Southeast Asian families.

Broader Context

The surge in enforcement activity has prompted statewide protests, including a general strike and march on Jan. 23. It has also coincided with increased anxiety among families and students, especially following the shooting of three people, two fatally, in the first three weeks of their ground offensive. On Jan. 7, 37-year-old Renee Nicole Good died during an ICE enforcement action in Minneapolis. On Jan. 24, Alex Jeffrey Pretti, a 37-year-old intensive care unit nurse, was shot and killed during a separate federal enforcement action in south Minneapolis. Details and official accounts of both killings remain under



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COMMUNITY TRADITIONS

Great Chefs of Grand Avenue to Debut as Upscale Fundraiser Celebrating Food, Community and Cause

BY DAMIAN GOEBEL

An ambitious new culinary fundraiser will make its debut next month when Great Chefs of Grand Avenue brings together many of St. Paul's best-known restaurants under one roof for an evening of food, drink and community impact.

The inaugural event takes place Thursday, Feb. 19, from 5 to 9 p.m. at Macalester College, transforming the campus into a cocktail-style tasting experience featuring chefs and small plates from across Grand Avenue. Tickets range from \$150 to \$810, with proceeds benefiting the Grand Avenue Business Association, neighborhood beautification efforts and the nonprofit Women's Advocates.

Great Chefs of Grand Avenue was conceived as a way to showcase the avenue's culinary diversity while also strengthening the business corridor itself.

"We initially talked about doing a more traditional gala," said Jason Koenig of The Odd Couple Team, who helped develop the concept. "But Grand Avenue is special because of its diversity—retailers, restaurants, service businesses—and I



Great Chefs of Grand Ave. is taking place Feb. 19 from 5-9 p.m.

thought, what if we really leaned into that and made the chefs the headliners?"

Koenig said the idea drew inspiration from chef-driven benefit events in other cities, but with a distinctly local focus. "You can have a fancy supper club experience at The Lexington one night, sushi at Saji-Ya

the next, Korean fried chicken with your kids, or a neighborhood pub meal," he said. "That variety is what makes Grand Avenue a destination."

Rather than a seated dinner, the evening is designed as an upscale stroll. Each

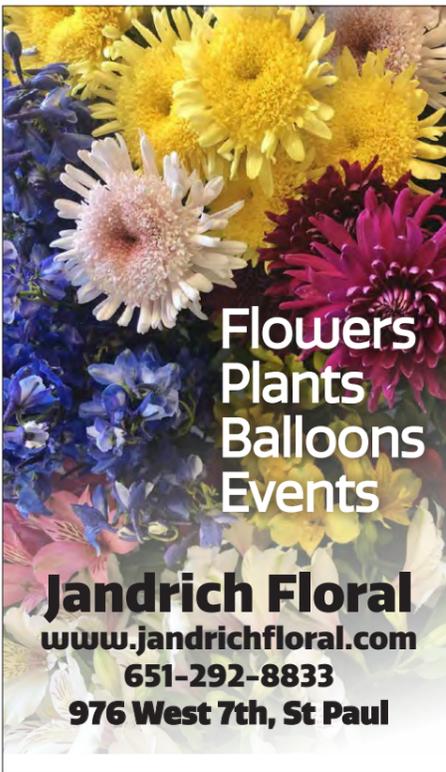
GREAT CHEFS, PG 7

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FILM REVIEW

Train Dream is meditative, generation-spanning tale

By Zach Murphy

Have you ever stopped to think about the train laborers who helped build America's railways? Here's a film that you won't soon forget. Chris Bentley's "Train Dreams" is a meditative, generation-spanning tale about a man witnessing history at a crossroads.

Set in the early 1900s, the wandering plot follows the life of a logger named Robert (Joel Edgerton). Early on, he settles down and builds a home and family with his wife, Gladys (Felicity Jones). But that contentment doesn't last long, as Robert has to leave home for extended periods of time for work. While on the job, Robert witnesses an event that will haunt all of his days and nights.

The picture is presented in a 3:2 aspect ratio, like an old photograph, and the gorgeous, clear-eyed cinematography gives us some stunning views of towering forests and twilight skies. The poetic imagery

and use of natural light is reminiscent of filmmaker Terrence Malick's notable aesthetic. Joel Edgerton's stoic performance does a lot of the heavy lifting in this minimalist story, and William H. Macy shows up in a small but impactful role as an explosives expert working with the railroad crews. He also says the phrase "Minnesota fellows" no less than twice during the film.

"Train Dreams" is constructed with universal themes of family, old-fashioned hard work, and the perils of navigating loss. It really nails just how fragile life could be during this time period. And despite the film taking place many years ago, some of the issues it confronts still resonate today. It comments on the undignified treatment of immigrants, and at one point, a devastating and deadly wildfire changes an entire landscape.

TRAIN DREAMS, PG 6



"Train Dreams" promotional poster



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COMMUNITY NOURISHMENT

ORIGIN STORIES

Part the Ninth: Origins of St. Paul, Radically Revised

By Joe Landsberger

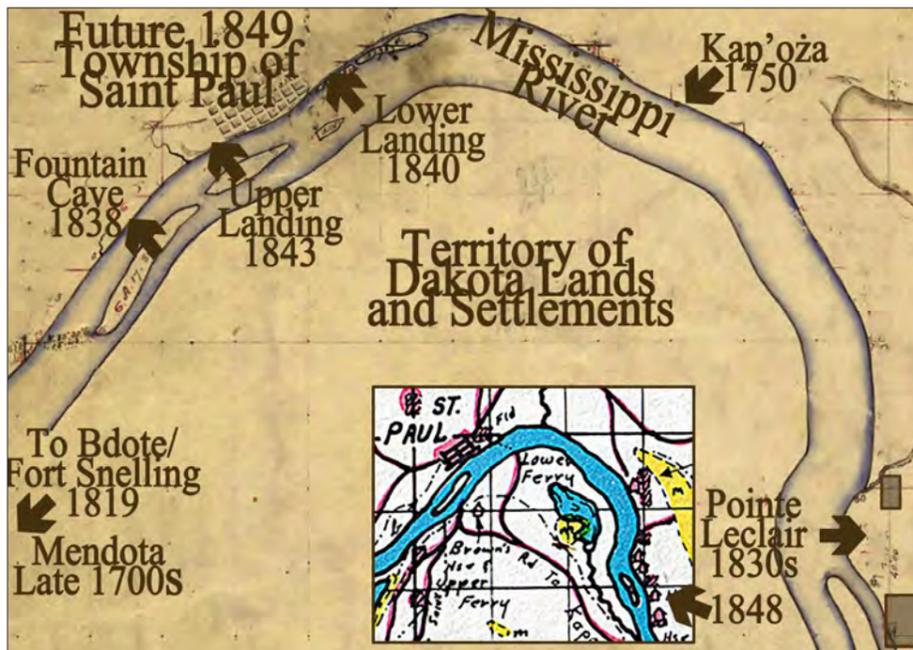
The City of St. Paul was birthed with the expulsion of immigrants by the U.S. military. In the 1600s French explorers, traders and missionaries came to the Midwest via Canada and the Great Lakes. In 1811 the Red River Colony or Selkirk Settlement was founded on 116,000 square miles of land that included parts of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Minnesota and North Dakota. Many settlers had Native (Ojibwe) wives and their descendants made up a unique métis population and culture. The language was primarily French, with Native and English added.

Life on the prairie was brutal: ferocious winters, locusts and mosquitoes, disease, floods and prairie fires, conflicts with native tribes and lack of experience in developing the prairie for agriculture. After an 1826 flood colonists walked their cattle to Fort Snelling, a six-month 700-mile journey. Between 1821 and 1835 it is estimated that close to 500 refugees from Selkirk's Colony found refuge at Fort Snelling.

The 1837 Land Cession Treaty with the Dakota opened territory east of the Mississippi River for American settlement. The Dakota Kap'ozha/Kaposia village was moving to the river's west bank near South St. Paul, originally located below Mounds Park. In 1838 Major Joseph Plympton redefined the boundaries of Fort Snelling's military reserve and forced civilian settlers out with their first stop at Fountain Cave. In 1841 he again expanded the fort's boundary and literally burned out that community. The refugees relocated with their livestock to make claims in what is now St. Paul's downtown plateau above its bluffs as well as at Pointe Leclair/Pointe Basse two miles south.

About 1830, French Canadian Michel Leclaire was probably first to settle the future St. Paul. His claim was at the Grand Marais along the Mississippi River that became known as Pointe Leclaire/Le Clere's, two miles south from Wakan Tipi/Carvers Cave. Michel was a carpenter and employed others at the point in building houses and logging. He built a house for Alexander Faribault in 1835/1836, and windows and doors for Vital Guerin's first house about 1840. The Leclaire family included Apisti, his Dakota wife and six boys and five girls. Their first, Antoine, was born in 1825 in Gilman, Minnesota, about 80 miles north of St. Paul; the last was Marie, born in 1847 a year before Michel died. The children's baptisms were in Mendota at St. Peter's Catholic Church by Father Galtier and Bishop Loras. Census records of 1839 and 1850 have the family at Pigs Eye/Red Rock that became a St. Paul dump 1956-85 and is currently a Superfund site.

In 1839 the fluid community at Pointe Leclair included nine cabins and the families of Antoine LeClair (Michel's brother), Francis Gammel, Raphael Lassarte, Joseph Labissonnière, Henry Belland, (Basil Labbedit) Chevalier, Charles Mousseau and Amable Turpin (1766-1866). Voyageurs worked for



1847 Bureau of Land Management map with superimposed geographic details.

the American Fur Company in Mendota across from Fort Snelling part of the year and farmed with their families at Pointe Leclair the rest. Documentation for these settlers comes from Bishop Loras' marriages, baptisms and confirmations in Mendota in 1839 and 1840 in an early primitive chapel.

Michel Leclaire died in 1849 (buried in Calgary Cemetery) before he was able to purchase his homestead claim from the federal government, north of Pigs Eye Lake. When Apisti died in 1852, the children became orphans. William Forbes, a fur trader and territorial legislator, stepped in and secured the homestead. Guardianship of four of the children was awarded to Edmund Brissett in 1855. Following Michel's death the French-speaking communities eventually merged at the Lower Landing to become a major northern commercial stop for steamships, and eventually the railroads of JJ Hill—and our future City of St. Paul.

How Pigs Eye gets credit

In 1839 after a six-month stay at Fountain Cave, Pigs Eye Parrant relocated to Michel Leclair's settlement and lived with Edmund Brissett "...helping to build houses and get out logs". All did not go well. Historian J Fletcher Williams placed Pigs Eye on Bench Street at the Lower Landing for about a year after the Fall of 1839. However both Lucien Galtier and Bishop Mathias Loras reported that only Edward Phelan's log house was at the landing in 1840. The area was swamp and marsh and subject to flooding.

Parrant made a claim at Pointe Leclair, and counter claims between Parrant and Leclaire came before Justice of the Peace Joseph R. Brown's court in Dacotah, county seat of St.

Croix County. In 1844 a jury trial decided for Leclair; Parrant lost. Williams further confused history with a myth of a foot race between Parrant and Leclair to decide the claims! Parrant then relocated to the St. Croix River with a woman and five-year-old child and returned briefly to sell liquor at the Lower Landing before disappearing altogether. Thus Parrant's role as founder of St. Paul is suspect.

Long story short, while Pigs Eye's colorful moniker gave a lake near Pointe Leclair its name, it was eight exiled settlers and Father Lucien Galtier that built an embryonic chapel that branded St. Paul.

To be continued...

Based on the A History of the City of Saint Paul, and of the County of Ramsey, Minnesota (Williams, 1876); The Letters of Letitia Hargrave (MacLeod 1947); Tells of Early Days in St. Paul (McNulty, The Saint Paul Globe, December 09, 1902); New Light on Old St. Peter's and Early St. Paul (Hoffmann, Minnesota History, March 1927); Correcting Mystery and Myth Not Everything You've Heard about Pig's Eye Parrant is True (Goff, Ramsey County History, 2021); The Tales and Times of Isaac Labissonnière (Labine 2025) Origin Story (Landsberger 2025).

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Sunday, March 8 ²⁰/₂₆ \$35 per person Serving 12:30 p.m. Doors open 12N.

Menu: Soup, Traditional Slovak Bryndzové halušky (potato dumplings, bryndza cheese, and bacon), holubky (cabbage roll), dessert, and coffee.

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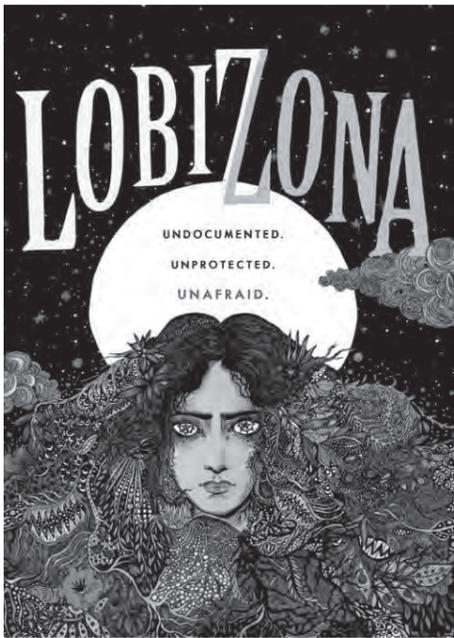
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IN THE COMMUNITY



LIBRARY UPDATE
Read Brave with Lobizona

Read Brave, St. Paul Public Library's annual citywide book club, invites teens, families and community members to read the same young adult book and have bold conversations about issues that matter to St. Paul. This year's Read Brave book—available in English and Spanish—is *Lobizona* by Romina Garber. Through *Lobizona*, we explore the human experience within immigration—the journey to find belonging and sanctuary in worlds both real and imagined.

Pick up your free copy at any SPPL location during open hours while supplies last!

Mark your calendars for Read Brave Talk Brave! March 5, 5:30–8 p.m. Arlington Hills Community Center. Join a panel discussion featuring author Romina Garber and young voices from the community. Enjoy a meal with your neighbors with Immigrant Kitchen. Join the conversation at www.readbrave.org

EVENTS AT WEST 7TH LIBRARY

ECFE at the Library

Monday, Feb 9, 2-3 p.m.
Drop in to an ECFE (Early Childhood Family Education) class at the library second Mondays at from 2-3 p.m.

Playdate

Tuesdays 3-5 p.m.
Playdate is an informal playtime for families to gather at the library.

Family Storytime

Wednesdays 10:30 a.m.
Join MizKathleen for an interactive learning opportunity for you and your child to enjoy stories, rhymes, songs, live music, and fun.

Earth-Friendly Greeting Cards

Monday, Feb 2, 1-4 p.m.

Find more events at sppl.org/events

 **FEDERATION UPDATE**



IT'S A GREAT TIME TO PLUG IN!

Contact the Federation with questions, to connect with neighbors, or to find local resources.

SALT REDUCTION IN WEST 7TH

The West 7th/Fort Road Federation is partnering with the Capitol Region Watershed District to help reduce salt pollution and protect the Mississippi River. When excess salt washes into storm drains, it goes straight to our river—harming plants, wildlife and water quality. Join your neighbors by pledging to follow Salt Smart steps this winter.

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- **Transportation & Land Use**, Feb 4, 6:30 pm!
- **Board Mtg**, Feb 9, 7pm. Gatherings at Station 10
- **Community Engagement & Fundraising**, Feb 24, 6:30 pm

STAY IN TOUCH

"Like" us on Facebook. Subscribe to e-newsletter. More information at fortroadfederation.org

CONTACT

Julia McColley, julia@fortroadfederation.org; 651-298-5599; 395 Superior Street, St. Paul

HEALTH LINE

The Flu: What Is It, What Are The Symptoms, And How Is It Treated?

By Eddy Urena, MD

After spending the holidays with our loved ones we find ourselves getting sick similar to the family we visited and one may think, is this illness the flu? Sometimes it can be difficult to know why we do not feel well as so many viruses are spreading in the community including common respiratory viruses, COVID-19, and RSV. This article will discuss what the flu is, what symptoms it may cause, how it is diagnosed and how it is treated.

The flu, also known as influenza, is a virus that infects the nose, throat and at times the lungs. This virus is different from what people commonly call the "stomach flu" that causes symptoms such as stomach pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Influenza most commonly spreads during the months of October thru May here in Minnesota. The virus is spread through droplets from infected people coughing, sneezing and even talking. These droplets land inside the nose and mouths of an uninfected person and result in an infection. Although less common, one can get in contact with flu droplets from touching surfaces that have been exposed and then touching their faces afterwards. This is why it is important to wash our hands and cover our coughs and sneezes!

Common flu symptoms include fever, chills, fatigue, sore throat, congestion cough, headaches or body aches. Classically these symptoms come on quickly, about two to three days after being in contact with someone ill with the flu. These symptoms are usually at their worst in the first 3-4 days and improve over a week. People infected with the flu are most contagious and thus more likely



to spread the virus within the first three to four days of infection.

More severe symptoms of the flu can require medical care either in a clinic, urgent care or emergency department. These symptoms for adults include trouble breathing, chest pain, dizziness, confusion and dehydration. For children, these severe symptoms include fast breathing, gray/blue lips, no tears being made when crying or decreased urination. These more severe symptoms are more common with certain risk factors such as being under 2 years old or over 65 years old, living in a nursing home, having a weakened immune

system and being pregnant. Complications from the flu can include pneumonia, ear/sinus infections and severe dehydration. To determine if your symptoms are from the flu, you can also be diagnosed with flu at a healthcare facility with a nasal swab that looks for fragments of the virus or viral proteins.

How do we treat the flu? First, getting the flu shot is our most important tool to prevent severe infections related to the flu. Getting vaccinated is safe and critical to protecting yourself and those around you. If you do get the flu, most people will improve with time and recover back to their usual state of health after the body fights off the infection. When sick, it is best to drink plenty of fluids, allow yourself to rest properly, and use pain relievers (if needed) such as acetaminophen (Tylenol). If you are sick with the flu and need to be seen in a clinic or hospital, wearing a mask can be a great way to reduce the spread of the virus to others near you. Those with more severe risk factors and symptoms can be prescribed a medication within the first two days of symptoms called Tamiflu. This can shorten illness by a day at most and prevent serious complications for those with more severe risk factors.

Keep your family safe by getting your flu shot, wearing a mask in public if you do not feel well, washing your hands and covering your cough. See your healthcare provider for more information.

Dr. Urena is a family physician at Allina Health United Family Physicians, 233 Grand Ave, St. Paul, MN 55102, 651-241-5200.

TRAIN DREAMS, PG 4

This is a sad and melancholy film, but it's also beautifully moving. The emotion is intensified by Bryce Dessner's stirring, string-driven score. "Train Dreams" is about how the passage of time can bring both progress and destruction, miracles and tragedies. And sometimes it's about luck, or the lack of it.

"Train Dreams" is available to stream with your Netflix subscription.

Zach Murphy is an avid enthusiast of cinema, theater and storytelling. He lives with his wonderful wife Kelly in St. Paul. You can read more reviews at his blog, Fade to Zach.



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UPCOMING COMMITTEES MEETINGS
1978 Ford Pkwy with a zoom option. Get Zoom link, meeting agendas at highlanddistrictcouncil.org/calendar.

- HDC board meeting - Thu, Feb 5, 7 p.m.
- Transportation - Tue, Feb 10, 7 p.m.
- Community Development - Tue, Feb 17, 6:30 p.m.
- Community Engagement - Mon, Feb 23, 7 p.m.


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Check the website for the latest information or call the Center.

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Through our partnership with Meals On Wheels, we service 10 different areas around the city of St. Paul! They include River, Summit, Winslow, Midway, Montreal, North, West Side, District 12, Highland, and Macalester Groveland.

The program is run through our West 7th Community Center, and it serves locally prepared meals that are delivered by a neighborhood volunteers Mondays through Fridays!

Many homebound elderly and adults with disabilities are fragile and vulnerable, and most struggle to prepare a nutritious meal on their own. Meals on Wheels can help! Locally prepared meals are delivered by a neighborhood volunteer. Keystone's Meals on Wheels program is all about choice and friendly service.

To learn more or to sign up to receive Meals on Wheels, call Metro Meals on Wheels at 612-623-3363 and they will find the provider in your neighborhood. For basic information, call Keystone's senior services staff at 651-645-7424 or 651-298-5493.

Get in Gear with Express Bike Shop

Express Bike Shop, a nonprofit shop and social enterprise of Keystone Community Services, is open Tuesday - Saturday and we're here for all your biking needs! We sell high-quality refurbished bicycles at affordable prices. We are a full-service shop so can tune up your bike or update it to make it more comfortable. We also sell a variety of accessories like seats, locks, helmets, and more. Whatever your bike needs, we're here; give us a call at 651-644-9660 or stop by the shop at 1158 Selby Ave, St. Paul.

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SKETCHY NIGHT WITH ST. PAUL ART COLLECTIVE

Feb. 2, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Schmidt Artist Lofts, St. Paul. Free. A relaxed, drop-in evening for sketching, conversation, and community. Open to members and artists interested in joining. Full schedule at stpaulartcollective.org.

VALENTINES FOR SENIORS

February 7, 12:15-1:30 p.m. C.S.P.S. Hall, St. Paul. Hosted by Sokol Minnesota Youth Link, this drop-in event to make Valentine's cards for seniors. Art supplies and snacks provided. Learn more at sokolmn.org/all-events.



MN ROLLER DERBY

Feb 14, 6 p.m. Roy Wilkins Auditorium. \$24-\$26. Minnesota Roller Derby is back in the legendary Roy Wilkins Auditorium for season 22! Get your tickets to see MNRD's home teams face off in two action-packed bouts! Doors are opening an hour earlier this year, at 5pm, with the first whistle at 6. Kids 9 and under free in General Admission area, ages 2 and under free in Reserved Seats. Must be 18 or older to sit Trackside. More info at MNrollerderby.com

"ENMITY AND EMPATHY" WITH KA F. WONG

Feb 21, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m., Historic Fort Snelling, 200 Tower Ave., St. Paul. Join us for an author talk and book signing with Ka F. Wong, author of *Enmity and Empathy: Japanese Americans in Minnesota During World War II*, published by MNHS Press. The forced eviction and confinement of Japanese Americans after Pearl Harbor in 1941 was one of the worst civil rights violations of the twentieth century, and the repercussions were numerous. The effect in Minnesota was dramatic: only fifty-one Japanese American people lived in the state in 1940, but by war's end there were several thousand. More info: 612-726-1171; ftsneling@mnhs.org

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Feb. 6, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Highland Park Community Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Give blood and help save lives at this community blood drive hosted with Memorial Blood Center. Donating blood is a simple yet powerful way to support local hospitals and patients in need. Reserve your spot and make a meaningful impact in just a short amount of time. Info: mbcherohub.club/donor/schedules

BEING BLACK AND BETTY CROCKER

Feb. 14. Historic Fort Snelling, St. Paul. Free. Join culinary visionary Barbara Jo Davis for a special community program featuring a screening of TPT's *Being Black and Betty Crocker*. Includes a moderated discussion, audience Q&A, and a reception with light refreshments. The program explores race, food culture, and identity through the lens of Minnesota

history, offering both personal and historical perspectives. Event encourages thoughtful conversation and community connection in an accessible and welcoming environment. Advance arrival is recommended due to limited seating. More info: mnhs.org/events

KARNEVAL TANZPARTY 2026

Feb. 7, 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Germanic-American Institute, St. Paul. Celebrate Karneval with EuroPop, costumes, dancing, and a Waltz Ball. Costumes encouraged. Tickets \$20-\$25. Details at gaimn.org/karneval.

COCKTAIL CLASS: COCKTAILS WE LOVE

Feb. 7, 1 p.m. Parlour St. Paul. \$95. Join bartender Tyler Ward for an afternoon cocktail class featuring five tastings and a three-course meal. Learn more at parlourbar.com/locations-st-paul.

SOKOL MINNESOTA FRIENDLY FRIDAY EVENING

Feb. 13, 7-10 p.m. C.S.P.S. Hall, St. Paul. Free. Enjoy a family-friendly evening of cards, board games, and community connection. Bring your own beverages or snacks to share. More information at sokolmn.org/all-events.

HISTORY THEATRE 2026 CONCERT SERIES: NORTHERN SHORES

Feb. 15. History Theatre, St. Paul. Ticketed. History Theatre's 2026 Concert Series continues with Northern Shores featuring Danny Diamond and Brian Miller. More info: historytheatre.com/special_events

BALLET TUESDAYS

Feb. 17, 12-1 p.m. Landmark Center. Free. Free lunch-hour ballet performances and demos, in partnership with Ballet Co.Laboratory. After each performance, audience members are invited to participate in an optional mini-dance lesson, craft, and photos with the dancers. Learn more: landmarkcenter.org/ballet-tuesdays

HIGHLAND PARK TRIVIA NIGHT

Feb. 19, 6:30 p.m. Highland National Golf Course. \$50 per team. Test your knowledge and support a local cause at Highland Park Trivia Night. Teams will compete for prizes while enjoying a fun, social evening benefiting the Highland District Council. Gather friends, neighbors, or coworkers to form a team and tackle questions across a range of topics. The event takes place at Highland National Golf Course and is designed for friendly competition and community connection. Advance registration is encouraged. More info: highlanddistrictcouncil.org



DOWNTOWN ACTION SERIES

Feb 19. Union Depot, St. Paul. Free. Public events focused on civic engagement, community connection, and downtown vitality. Hosted at Union Depot, the series brings together residents, leaders, and organizations to explore ideas and initiatives shaping downtown St. Paul. Each event offers opportunities to learn, share perspectives, and connect with others invested in the future of the city. Open to all and free to attend. More info: stpaul.gov/department/city-council/ward-2

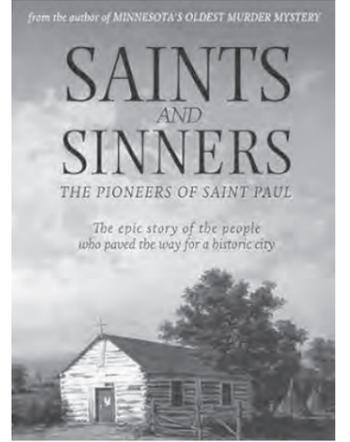
FOR MORE CALENDAR EVENTS, VISIT COMMUNITYREPORTER.ORG/EVENTS

AUTHOR, PG 1

acknowledging the broader injustices faced by Indigenous nations, he emphasizes the importance of understanding local history within its specific historical context.

The book concludes with extensive "afterwards" that follow key figures beyond St. Paul's founding, tracing their roles in events such as westward settlement, the Civil War and the growth of other Minnesota communities. In total, the volume runs nearly 800 pages and reads as both narrative history and reference work — an encyclopedic resource for descendants, researchers and anyone curious about St. Paul's origins.

"Saints and Sinners: The Pioneers of Saint Paul" is currently available on Amazon and will be available at local bookstores in the coming months. Brueggemann will also be giving public talks tied to the book throughout the year.



GREAT CHEFS, PG 4

participating restaurant will host its own station, offering a curated small plate. Beer, wine and cocktails are included with admission, thanks to donated beverages from local partners, and guests can move freely throughout the venue.

"We keep telling people to think 'cocktail party,' not sit-down dinner," Koenig said. "It's an experience—great food, great drinks and the chance to connect."

Among the featured chefs and businesses announced so far are Chef Lawrence Kirkland (The Lexington), Chef Antonio Murray (Russell's St. Paul), Chef Tom Forti (Iron Ranger), Chef Noe Frausto (Emmett's and Saji-Ya), Chef Adam Lerner (Red Rabbit), Razava Bread Co., Big Island Poke, bb.q Chicken and House of Gloor, with more participants still being added. A dedicated dessert table will include contributions from Baking Betty's, Café Latte and Nothing Bundt Cakes.

A silent auction will run throughout the evening, featuring experiential packages, dining and beverage tastings, travel stays and donated goods and services from Grand Avenue businesses and sponsors. Organizers are still accepting auction donations and sponsorships.

For Minda Sherman, director of sales and marketing at The Lexington and a co-organizer of the event, the charitable mission is central.

"Getting the word out about Women's Advocates on Grand is the biggest deal to me," Sherman said. Women's Advocates, founded in St. Paul, is the nation's first domestic violence shelter for women and children and recently expanded its housing services with the purchase of two nearby apartment buildings.

Sherman, who also serves on the Grand Avenue Business Association board, said the fundraiser supports both immediate needs and long-term investment. "Beautification efforts like flower baskets, lighting and infrastructure improvements really matter," she said. "They're what make people want to walk the avenue, shop here and spend time here."

Ticket sales have been strong for a first-year event, organizers say, and they hope Great Chefs of Grand Avenue becomes an annual tradition.

"This feels very grassroots," Koenig said. "It's the business community coming together to showcase itself—and I think that's something we need right now."

More information and tickets are available at grandave.com/events/greatchefs.

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