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Downtown St. Paul Voice



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Prince Pizza
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Volume 31 | Number 4

Your Community News & Information Source

April 2025



Spring Crawl begins in Lowertown

Jake Spitzack
Staff Writer

With winter in the rearview mirror, it's finally time to stretch those legs and enjoy the sunshine, and what better way to do it than with St. Paul's biannual art crawl. This spring, it's being held over three weekends, with participating sites open based on what city ward they're located in. Downtown and the West Side, both in Ward 2, will kick off the fun April 25-27. Wards 5-7 will run May 2-4, and Wards 1, 3 and 4 will host events May 9-11. A full list of participating sites and what they offer is below.

Lowertown's Calendula Gallery in the Northwestern Building will feature photos by photographer Jared Arvin, as well as 22 other artists showcasing paintings, ceramics, mixed media and much more. Social media goers may recognize Arvin's name. For the past two years he's been regularly posting nighttime photos of St. Paul accompanied with thoughtful descriptions unveiling the meaning behind each picture. The series, which has also been featured in this newspaper, began as a form

Art Crawl / Page 4

Unleash your inner farmer

Opportunities abound at area community gardens



Submitted photo

Planting day at the Capitol View Communal Garden and Orchard.

Tim Spitzack
Editor

If you think the quality of fruits and vegetables in supermarkets these days has diminished, your observation is not off-base. According to a 2024 National Library of Medicine report, the nutritional quality of food worldwide has declined significantly over the past 70-plus years due to changes in farming techniques, artificial fertilization, pesticides, the cultivation of high-yielding varieties and environmental factors that deplete the soil. Apples, oranges, bananas and tomatoes, for example, have lost 25-50% nutritional density since

the 1940s. To combat this trend, many have turned to growing food themselves, either in their own backyard or a community garden. While there is a fair amount of work involved, any avid gardener will tell you it's worth the effort because you can enjoy nutritious, fresh produce within minutes or days of harvest.

There are other benefits as well. Numerous studies show that gardening is a source of exercise that helps improve strength, balance and flexibility, and improves mental health by reducing anxiety, depression and stress. Community

Gardening / Page 6

Downtown loses its sole grocer

Tim Spitzack
Editor

Citing declining revenue, staffing difficulties and security factors, Lunds & Byerlys has decided to close its downtown St. Paul store at 115 E. 10th St. on March 26. The closure will leave downtowners without a grocery store for the first time in over a decade. However, the company is leaving its store equipment behind and working with its landlord and the City of St. Paul to attract another grocery store to the site.

In a March 5 statement, company officials highlighted several incidents that made doing business at the downtown store challenging, including shoplifting, harassment, vandalism and arson. The fire at the store in 2022 caused extensive damage and costly repairs.

They also praised St. Paul for its declining crime trends and increased public safety efforts.

"We deeply admire St. Paul as evidenced by our more than four decades of serving this community, starting with our Highland Park store in 1983 and Downtown St. Paul in 2014," said Tres Lund, president and CEO of Lunds & Byerlys, in a statement. "While we had hoped for a different outcome for our downtown store, we remain optimistic the fabric of St. Paul, including its downtown community, will become

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New Ramsey County deputy manager focused on economic growth

Jake Spitzack
Staff Writer

After serving in the role on an interim basis for nearly a year, seasoned community development leader Kari Collins was recently named Ramsey County's new deputy county manager of Economic Growth and Community Investment. This position oversees community and economic development, housing stability, libraries,



Kari Collins

parks and recreation, property management, public works, workforce solutions and financial assistance services.

Overseeing nearly 600 staff across seven departments, Collins is responsible for helping dole out about \$139 million annually to county programs that support accessible infrastructure, create welcoming spaces, drive economic growth and more. She is ready to implement several big goals. Foremost is the creation of the county's next economic competitiveness and inclusion plan that will identify ways the county can

promote equitable growth across neighborhoods.

Collins joined the county in 2018 as community and economic development director, a position that had been dormant for 18 years. In that role, she spearheaded the creation of Ramsey County's first economic competitiveness and inclusion plan, which received an Excellence in Equity Award from the International Economic Development Council in 2021. The County has

since made economic competitiveness and inclusion a priority and employs 14 on its Community and Economic Development team.

"Through that plan, we learned a lot about Ramsey County in terms of its housing infrastructure," said Collins. "For example, we learned that it was really missing deeply affordable housing at 30% of area median income, to the tune of 15,000 residential units.... We did a holistic look with

great intentionality, ensuring we were really looking at reducing race-based disparities."

She is also credited with reviving the county's Housing and Redevelopment Authority, which had little programming beyond administering community block grants and a few federal programs.

"Since the activation of the HRA levy, we have been

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Collins

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able to invest millions into wonderful affordable housing projects in partnership with our city partners and community," she said.

One of the county's biggest challenges, she said, is securing enough funding to

act on strategic economic development priorities. She said the county hopes to get funding from the state legislature this year for a handful of projects, including the RiversEdge development overlooking the Mississippi River just west of the Wabasha Street Bridge. The proposed large-scale development features multifam-

ily housing, business space and 9 acres of urban park space. She is excited about what this project means for the city and is optimistic that downtown St. Paul will continue to bounce back from the economic slump spurred by the pandemic.

"There's this really great vision for the riverfront that is

developing that I think will become a huge amenity and asset to our region and to our residents and visitors of St. Paul," she said. "I see a tremendous amount of opportunity and I feel like downtown St. Paul is on the cusp of doing some great things and a really cool downtown renaissance.... there's a lot

of work underway to make sure downtown St. Paul gets the attention and love it deserves."

Collins grew up in Ramsey County and has a bachelor's degree in political science from Augsburg University and a master's in urban studies from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Previous work experiences include zoning administrator for the city of Milwaukee and community development director for the city of Roseville. Last year, she was named to the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal 40 Under 40, which recognizes the next generation of community leaders.

Thinking about a move? Let's talk!



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Letter to the Editor What's happening with the former Lowry Apartments?


The community deserves answers. The City of St. Paul condemned and boarded up the Lowry Apartments, displacing residents and leaving behind a vacant, deteriorating building that now threatens neighboring properties. Since then, nothing has been done – no plan, no progress, just an abandoned structure bringing down property values and causing real damage, including water leaks affecting the Lowry Condos next door. Mayor Melvin Carter and

other city officials used this crisis to make political statements about helping people in need, yet after forcing residents out, they've done nothing to fix the situation. Where is the accountability? What's the plan for this property? The city, or whoever now owns it, owes the community an explanation. We need transparency. We need action. We need real solutions – not boarded-up windows and empty promises. If you live, work or care

about downtown St. Paul, make your voice heard. Contact city officials, demand answers, and push for a plan that restores this building and our community. Speak up now – before this eyesore becomes a permanent problem. Contact the Mayor's office at stpaul.gov/departments/mayors-office. Contact City Council president Rebecca Noecker at ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us

Anthony T. Eaton
Downtown resident

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Crispy coal-fired pizza coming to Lowertown

Jake Spitzack
Staff Writer

Longtime Twin Cities restaurateurs Shaz Khan and Antonio Gambino are bringing a slice of their success to St. Paul this summer. They're planning to open Prince Coal-Fired Pizza in the former Black Sheep Pizza space at 512 Robert St. Their pizzas will be made from stoneground wheat sourced from a local miller in Minnesota and baked in a coal-fired oven. Pies range from classics to exotics and can also be purchased by the slice. You'll find meatball pizza, mortadella pizza, and even one topped with pistachio cream sauce. Gambino said the dry heat of the coal-fired oven makes cheese caramelize better

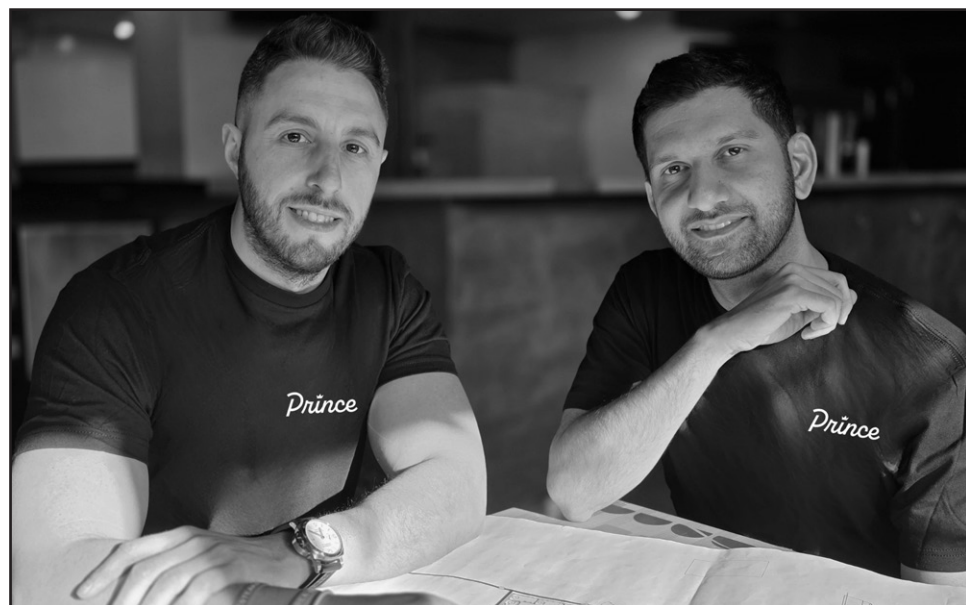
and gives the pizzas a distinct crunchiness. Also on the menu are meatball subs, crostini (toasted bread with toppings) and salad. The restaurant will seat about 65 and operate 11 a.m.-10 p.m. daily. It will have a bar and patio and may offer live music some nights.

"The pizza industry is always evolving as far as what can go on a pizza, so I like to stay on top of the game and improve and come up with new recipes," said Gambino. "My favorite item is the crostini. We're doing a roasted pear with wild mushroom ricotta. It's fantastic. We're also making a Calabrian romesco crostini."

Khan and Gambino have been close friends since high school and began working together about a decade

ago when they opened their first business, Frank and Andrea's, which still operates in Minneapolis and is expanding to Madison, Wis. this year. They also operate Tono Pizzeria + Cheesesteaks, which they founded in 2019 and now has nine locations across the state with three more slated to open this year.

"We have a significant footprint in St. Paul," said Khan. "Our second and flagship location of Tono is in St. Paul, and we have a headquarters based in St. Paul.... St. Paul has always meant a lot to us. It's a great city. There's a huge opportunity for what can only be referred to as the revitalization in Lowertown. We feel that we're equipped and ready for those challenges. With our



Owners Antonio Gambino and Shaz Khan

experience and the passion that we have we can start building bridges and doing work to help open the gates for that revitalization to occur."

Khan is a St. Paul native and Gambino hails from Philadelphia and is the son

of an immigrant from Palermo, Italy. Gambino also operates Andrea's Pizza, which his parents ran from 1999 to 2019 at four locations in Minneapolis. The first Andrea's Pizza opened in Galtier Plaza in St. Paul 1992, but since closed.

"We're taking a very community-centric approach here," said Khan. "Our intention is to engage with local businesses, community groups, neighborhood groups and the city to do whatever we can in order to make this a destination."

Saints Baseball reignites March 28; celebrating a decade at CHS Field

Jake Spitzack
Staff Writer

Fingers crossed, no spring rain will dampen the diamond as top ball players take to CHS Field for the St. Paul Saints season opener on March 28.

The Saints will take on Indianapolis in a 3-game series through March 30, and are slated for a whopping 147 more games after that through September 21. This is the fifth year the team has been the Triple-A affiliate of the Minnesota Twins and some new opponents will be in their crosshairs. In a first-ever crossover between the International League and Pacific Coast League, the Saints will take on the Round Rock Express August 19-24, and close out the season against the Memphis Redbirds in

September. Additionally, the Saints are celebrating their 10th season at CHS Field and, as many have come to expect, the organization has a slew of new zany promotions on tap for every home game.

Toby Gardenhire returns for his fifth year as manager, following a 70-79 record last season and an 84-64 season in 2023. He's joined by returning hitting coach Shawn Schlechter, and a few new pitching coaches promoted from within the system: Carlos Hernandez and Jonas Lovin. In addition to seven seasons as a coach or manager with the Minnesota Twins, Gardenhire played seven seasons in their minor league system.

This season's home game schedule pits the Saints against Indianapolis March

28-30; Omaha Storm Chasers, April 8-13; Indianapolis, April 22-27; Buffalo Bisons, May 6-11; Norfolk Tides, May 20-25; Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders, June 3-8; Toledo Mud Hens, June 17-22; Louisville Bats, June 24-29; Iowa Cubs, July 8-13; Worcester Red Sox, July 22-27; Iowa Cubs, August 5-10; Round Rock Express, August 19-24; and Columbus Clippers, September 9-14.

March 28 will feature giveaways of 1,000 baby blue Saints anorak (hooded pullover) jackets as well as post-game fireworks. Another 1,000 jackets will be given away on March 29. Other home game promotions include Harry Potter Night, Dog Days, Star Wars Night and Peanuts Night. Some will include giveaways

for bags, bobbleheads, card sets and other prizes.

While each home game has its own special promotion, days of the week also have their own themes. Tuesdays highlight travel and Wednesdays have activities that teach about Minnesota. Thirsty Thursdays feature \$2 beers and two-for-one Bud Light seltzers. Post-game fireworks are back on Fridays, complete with music and light shows. Super Fireworks Shows are presented May 25, June 28 and September 13. On Saturdays, visitors are encouraged to wear Hawaiian shirts, and on Sundays, families can let their kids run the bases and get player autographs.

The Saints ball pig for this year was not named as of press time but, as always, will proudly wear a satchel

loaded with baseballs and water for the home plate umpire beginning at the home opener. Additionally, since the Saints transitioned from a minor league team to a Triple-A affiliate in 2022, their season is 50% longer and therefore the little piggy won't be so little by July and a new piglet will take over at that time. It will be named following the June 29 game, where fans can suggest name

options. Last year's two pigs were Ozempig and Joe Sower.

The 8,000-seat CHS Field saw an average of 6,610 fans at each game last season, a slight decrease from 2023. Home game tickets start at \$7.50, with reserved seats starting at \$20. For tickets or more information, visit milb.com/st-paul.

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even stronger with more of the workforce returning to downtown businesses and government offices along with a continued strengthening of the city's

public safety efforts and policies that are designed to attract further development to grow downtown's population."

The store was hit particularly hard by the pandemic and the loss of customers due to the shift to remote work.



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651-457-1177

The Downtown St. Paul Voice is published monthly by the St. Paul Publishing Company
Circulation: 5,500 print + online. Delivered to apartments and condos in downtown St. Paul.
Sister publications: The St. Paul Voice, South St. Paul Voice and La Voz Latina

Story ideas welcome:

To submit story ideas or letters to the editor, contact Tim at tim@stpaulpublishing.com

Advertising:

Our media group reaches 80,000 people in print & online. Learn more at stpaulpublishing.com/advertising, 651-457-1177.

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Art Crawl

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of self-therapy as he worked through a personal challenge but has since become a way to keep in tune with the city's pulse and continually refine his creative eye.

"The best part is being able to see a perspective of things I probably wouldn't have noticed during the day," said Arvin. Prints from his nighttime series will be featured during the Crawl.

Arvin became co-owner of the gallery last fall after former co-owner Rebecca Bowers left for personal reasons. He joined longtime co-owner Helene Woods. Owning an art gallery had always been a goal for him.

"It's a huge privilege because I get to represent and curate some pretty amazing art from local artists and showcase their work to people here in Lowertown and beyond," he said. "Then, you get to have amazing events like the Art Crawl.... It's been trending up more since the pandemic because I think more people are needing that interaction with other people. We had about a thousand people that came

through Calendula [last fall], which is pretty crazy."

Arvin said holding the Crawl across multiple weekends has allowed the public to see more districts rather than choosing one or two, and that the spring Crawl typically has a larger turnout than the one in the fall. While he has attended as a patron many times, this will be just his second time participating as an artist.

Calendula Gallery is named after a flower that is associated with healing. In addition to participating in the art crawls, it holds a new exhibit every seven weeks. Regular hours are weekends 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and it's also open 5-9 p.m. the first Friday of every month, during which artists speak with visitors about their art. Some other galleries in Lowertown and the West Side have also begun hosting First Fridays as well.

Here is a list of all participating sites. All venues were given multiple chances to provide details, and information was accurate as of press time. The Crawl has been



Submitted photo

F-O-K artists will curate work in the gallery space and open their studio spaces as well.

organized by the St. Paul Art Collective since 1977. For more information, visit stpaulartcollective.org.

Ward 2

Art of Counseling, 275 4th St. E.; April 25, 5-10 p.m., and April 26, noon-8 p.m. Twelve artists displaying paintings, photography, chalk pastel, ink, encaustic art, fiber arts, wall hangings, sculpture, assemblage and more. "Reflections of the Self: Art and Inner Harmony" art show in Suite #301. The site also features a rummage sale by artists, featuring artwork, handmade

goods, art supplies, used studio gear, books and more.

Burl Gallery, 308 E. Prince St.; April 25, 6-10 p.m.; April 26, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and April 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. "KALEIDOSCOPE II" exhibit featuring 70 pieces of art created by 70 local artists. Free admission. Artist celebration reception held 5-8 p.m., April 26.

Calendula Gallery, 275 E. 4th St.; April 25, 6-9 p.m.; April 26, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and April 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Discover the work of 23 artists displaying paintings, pottery, mixed media, woodwork, photography and digital art in the gallery

and neighboring dining hall.

Erta Ale, 308 E. Prince St.; April 25, 6-9 p.m.; April 26, noon-9 p.m.; and April 27, noon-6 p.m. This Ethiopian restaurant will display paintings by two Ethiopian born artists.

F-O-K Studios, 106 W. Water St.; April 25, 5-9 p.m.; April 26, noon-8 p.m.; and April 27, noon-5 p.m. More than 50 artists showcasing paintings, jewelry, sculptures, mixed media, photography and more, from open studios and gallery space. Live entertainment all three days. Free chips, salsa and guacamole from Boca Chica starting at noon on Saturday, and Egg Roll Queen food truck onsite all weekend. Complimentary refreshments also provided. Free parking available in F-O-K Studios lot and adjacent All Inc. lot.

Friedli Gallery, 943 W. 7th St.; April 26, noon-7 p.m., and April 27, noon-5 p.m. Five local artists selling paintings, ceramics, textiles, book arts and more. Also includes the gallery's 4th Annual Book Arts Exhibition. Located one block West of the Schmidt Artist Lofts.

Lost Fox, 213 4th St. E.; April 25-26, 8 a.m.-1 a.m., and April 27, 8 a.m.-11 p.m.

This coffee shop, restaurant and bar will feature works of two artists, and possibly live music.

Lowertown Lofts Artists Cooperative, floors 3-5, 255 E. Kellogg Blvd.; April 25, 6-10 p.m.; April 26, noon-8 p.m.; and April 27, noon-5 p.m. Celebrating its 40th anniversary, approximately 35 artists will display paintings, ceramics, mixed media, textiles, jewelry, home goods and more from galleries and artist studios. Music and performances will take place. Enter through the alley connecting Wall and Wacouta.

Nine Lives Thrift, 1165 7th St. W.; April 25-26, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., and April 27, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. This thrift shop will display work from two photographers, and offer a live photo shoot 6-8 p.m. on Saturday. Wine available all weekend.

Owl's Eye Art Collective, 340 N. Sibley St.; April 25, 6-10 p.m.; April 26, noon-8 p.m.; and April 27, noon-5 p.m. Eight artists will showcase printmaking, painting, photography, ceramics and jewelry. Includes opportunities to make your own intaglio print and create a personalized gemstone bracelet. Wine and appetizers on Friday. Entrance is



LENTEN AND EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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Saturdays – 4:15 pm
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All Tuesdays during Lent – 12:30 pm
Fridays during Lent – 5:30 pm

Saint Matthew's Fabulous Fish Fry
All Fridays during Lent
4:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Communal Reconciliation Service
Sunday, March 30 – 2:00 pm

Palm Sunday
Saturday, April 12 – 4:15 pm
Sunday, April 13 – 10:15 am

Holy Thursday, April 17
Celebration of the Supper of the Lord – 7:00 pm
Altar of Repose – 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Good Friday, April 18
Altar of Repose continues
Stations of the Cross – Noon only
Good Friday Service – 3:00 pm
Tenebrae Service – 7:00 pm

Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 19
8:00 pm

Easter Sunday, April 20
10:15 am

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Pig's Eye Pottery, 1163 7th St. W.; April 25, 5-8 p.m.; April 26, noon-8 p.m.; and April 27, noon-4 p.m. Five artists will show ceramics, painting and jewelry in a gallery. Complimentary refreshments and free street parking.

Schmidt Artist Lofts, 900 7th St. W.; April 25, 6-9 p.m.; April 26, noon-7 p.m.; and April 27, noon-5 p.m. More than 80 artists will show paintings, illustrations, graphic design, collages, printmaking, photography, ceramics, fiber art, jewelry, comic books, children's books, wood furniture, handmade brooms, botanical displays, dried floral wall art, shadow boxes, suncatchers, candles, magnet art, sand art and more. Art will be across five floors in common areas, galleries and studios, as well as in the tap room and the rooftop atrium. Open Palette live art demonstrations will happen on the rooftop and walk-in dance lessons are offered 1-3 p.m., Saturday. Food trucks will be onsite. Free street parking. Enter at Door 1.

Tilsner Artists Lofts, 300 Broadway St.; April 25, 6-10 p.m.; April 26, noon-8 p.m.; and April 27, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Twenty artists will showcase mixed media, draping and fashion, paintings and more, from artist studios and hallway spaces. Pop-ups in the back lot of the building, weather permitting. Will host performance artists and offer opportunities for karaoke and open mic sessions

throughout the weekend.

Union Depot, 214 4th St. E., April 25, 5-9 p.m.; April 26; 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; and April 27, noon-6 p.m. Shop local artists including painters, photographers, mixed media artists, jewelry designers and apothecary creators. Hours are

Wards 5-7
ArT @ 967 Payne, 967 Payne Ave.; May 2, 5-9 p.m., and May 3, noon-8 p.m. Twenty artists will display paintings, drawings, prints, sculptures, photographs, jewelry, ceramics and more from artist studios and wall displays. Opening reception for gallery exhibit "Our World We Live In" is May 2. Artist question and answer panel on Friday and Saturday, and live performances expected throughout the weekend. Food trucks may be on site. Free parking in the back lot or on street.

Urban Roots, 1110 Payne Ave.; May 3, 1-5 p.m. Three artists will display mixed media, handmade paper, basket weaving, handmade journals, printmaking and baked goods, from a gallery and outdoors, weather permitting. Music and crafts onsite.

Wards 1, 3 and 4
E&L Bindery Building, 708 Vandalia St.; May 9, 6-10 p.m., and May 10, noon-8 p.m. Ten artists will display paintings, drawings, photography, bookbindings and stone carvings. E & L Bindery will be open on the first floor with artists, and open studios will be on the third floor. Snacks and beverages available, and a tarot card reader onsite. Park in the lot or on Vandalia Street and enter next to the loading dock.



Artwork by Sara Tibbetts, who will show her work at the Tilsner Artist Lofts in Lowertown.

ages available, and a tarot card reader onsite. Park in the lot or on Vandalia Street and enter next to the loading dock.

DOW Gallery, 2242 University Ave. W.; May 9, 5-9 p.m., and May 10, noon-8 p.m. Forty artists will showcase painting, sculpture, photography, mixed media, wood working, notecards, and jewelry. Complimentary refreshments. Free parking on the street and in the Wright Building lot. Not handicap accessible.

House of heART 2, 763 Holly Ave.; May 9, 4-9 p.m.; May 10, noon-8 p.m.; and May 11, noon-5 p.m. Find 28 artists displaying paintings, photography, ceramics and mixed media across three floors of an Airbnb home, and outside, weather permitting. Complimentary refreshments and solo music performances throughout

the weekend.

Midway Clay, 1708 University Ave. W.; May 9, 4-8 p.m.; May 10, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; and May 11, noon-5 p.m. More than a dozen artists will showcase ceramics as well as some 2D art from a gallery and studio space. Light refreshments available. Street parking.

Open Art Space, 2147 University Ave. W.; May 9, 6-9 p.m.; May 10, noon-8 p.m.; and May 11, noon-5

p.m. Ten artists in gallery, hallway and studio spaces will showcase wax paintings, photography, collage and mixed media, ceramics, pastel drawing, greeting cards and more. Light refreshments available and a family friendly art activity will be held Saturday and Sunday. Parking in the lot behind the building.

Spatial Effects, 1759 Selby Ave.; May 9, 4-6 p.m.; May 10, noon-6 p.m.; and May 11, noon-5 p.m. Nearly 30 artists in two gallery spaces will display paintings, drawings, photography, stone and metal sculpture, ceramics, glass paintings, mixed media, carved gourds and more. Also showing furniture by Third Street Studios. Refreshments available all days and live music by the Joel Shapira Jazz Trio 2-4 p.m., Saturday.

Springboard for the Arts, 262 University Ave. W.; May 10, noon-4 p.m. More than 40 artists with prints and printmaking art in the first floor community hall and on the front lawn. OG Za Za Pizza Trailer will be onsite and interactive artist led activities from Street Corner Letterpress will take place.

Free street parking.

St. Paul Neighborhood Network, 550 Vandalia St.; May 9, 6-8 p.m.; May 10, noon-4 p.m.; and May 11, 1-5 p.m. Short documentary screening from first-time filmmakers on Friday, with food available. Photography, art and storytelling exhibits, including works by 10 youth, on Saturday and Sunday. Park in the lot.

University of Minnesota Goldstein Museum of Design, level 2 of McNeal Hall (room #241), 1985 Buford Ave.; May 9-10, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and May 11, noon-5 p.m. An exhibit featuring historical and contemporary letterpress prints, advertising posters, wood type artifacts and graphic design pieces created using traditional printing techniques. Includes an interactive 2-color block printing installation

Virginia St. Church, 170 Virginia St., May 9-11. More than 20 artists will exhibit paintings, mosaics, quilting, ceramics, art glass, collages and drawings. Live music by Blues Stratum and other bands, and Liz Zini will play waltzes and tangos – and the chicken dance – on her accordion. Food available.

Spring Wine Sale

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HOSTS LOCAL ARTISTS FOR

Spring 2025

St. Paul Art Crawl

APRIL 25, 26, 27

FRI 5-9 SAT 10-8 SUN 12-5

WARD 2 NORTH
LOWERTOWN ARTIST CO-OP
MASTER FRAMERS
UNION DEPOT

Gardening

from page 1

gardens benefit neighborhoods by promoting social interaction, creating green space, and improving air and soil quality. Some gardeners have gone a step further and use their hobby to fight food insecurity by giving away the produce they grow. According to the University of Minnesota's Healthy Food, Healthy Lives Institute and the Institute on the Environment, food insecurity in Minnesota has surged as much as 40% since the pandemic.

Gardening season

In the coming weeks, the soil will be turned at community gardens across the city and people will be plodding through the muddy rows to dig in the dirt and plant seeds. If you'd like to give gardening a try, several opportunities await. All gardens are open to everyone, regardless of residency.

GROWS

Growing Resilience on the West Side (GROWS), a coalition of organizations and individuals working on food justice, is looking for gardeners for its communal gardens, which allow multiple people to help tend a garden and enjoy the bounty of it. All food is available free to anyone in the community who wants or needs it.

The Capitol View Communal Garden and Orchard, located at Smith and Cherokee avenues near the Smith Avenue High Bridge, is now in its fourth season. The 8,500-square-foot site is owned by the City of St. Paul and operates with the help of some 200 volunteers. It has 20 organic planting beds for vegetables and at least 20 fruit and nut trees,

including apple, cherry, serviceberry, pear, plum and hazelnut. Paul Pfeiffer, who has lived on the West Side for nearly 20 years, is one of 15-20 volunteers who show up weekly during the growing season for watering, weeding and other chores. Thursdays are the designated work day, from 6 p.m.-dark.

"This is a very different model," he said. "There are no work requirements or fees. It's community-led, not hierarchal. Anyone can help, and anyone can harvest. I'm always asked, 'can I come and take some stuff,' and the answer is always, 'yes, when it's ripe.'"

Pfeiffer said the garden has grown every year, both in size and popularity.

"Every year it grows bigger and more exciting, but bigger isn't what we're after — we're going for community," he said. "It's a very beautiful and welcoming space, and a fun environment. I've seen people doing yoga there, wandering the beds, writing in journals, and of course gardening.... It has allowed me to know my neighbors better because we work side by side and share with each other, no strings attached."

Volunteers are also needed at the three other communal garden sites: the Robert Street Garden at Robert and Morton streets, Garden of Good Hearts at 441 Wabasha St. S. and a plot at 88 Cesar Chavez. Volunteers assist with planting, weeding and food distribution. Like the Capitol View Communal Garden and Orchard, anyone may harvest ripe produce from these gardens. Educational presentations are offered during the summer, and the produce is given away weekly from stands at



Submitted photo

Master gardeners use a section of the garden at First Presbyterian in South St. Paul to run seed trials for the University of Minnesota and also teach free classes and demonstrate organic gardening methods.

Parque Castillo on Sunday afternoons, and Beautiful Laundrette, 625 Stryker Ave., on Wednesday afternoons. Information signage will be installed at all sites this summer to help people better understand the concept of a communal garden and to direct them to other community gardens in the region. For more information on GROWS, visit mfjn.org/take-action/grows or contact Leah Mathiason at leah@rustypatchfarm.com.

Looking to plant your own garden? You can get free seed packets at the West Side Seed Library at Riverview Library, 1 George St. E. The seeds are provided by community gardeners and through other donations.

Dodge Nature Center gardens

Dodge Nature Center runs its community garden program May through October at its main property at 1701 Charlton St., West St. Paul, and its Shepard Farm site at 8946 70th St. S., Cottage Grove. For \$135, gardeners receive a 15-by-15-foot plot, the use of tools, water and

compost, and enrollment in an organic gardening class. Registration opens in early March and runs through Memorial Day, or until all plots are filled. Dodge's farm manager, Don Oberdorfer, said the gardens are particularly attractive to people who live in apartments because they don't have to buy and store their own tools.

"All you have to do is show up and supply the seeds and labor," he said.

The popularity of the garden spiked during the pandemic and remains high. Before 2020, about 40 families participated. Today, the garden in West St. Paul is used by 70 families, and the newer garden in Cottage Grove by 25 families. An orientation session is held at 6 p.m., Wednesday, April 9 in West St. Paul, and Thursday, April 10 in Cottage Grove. The class on organic gardening practices is offered at 6 p.m., Wednesday, April 16 in West St. Paul, and Thursday, April 17 in Cottage Grove. For more information, call 651-789-5285 or visit dodge.naturecenter.org.

South St. Paul Community Garden

The City of South St. Paul has operated a community garden for three decades. It attracts gardeners from South St. Paul and the surrounding communities, including St. Paul and Minneapolis. It has 119 plots and is located near the DNR boat launch and city compost site off Verderosa Avenue, near the I-494 Wakota Bridge. Residents may sign up for a plot beginning Mar. 24, and nonresidents on April 7. Plots are 15-by-20-feet and surrounded by fencing with a lock-secured gate. A total of nine water spigots are available. Rates are \$21.43 for residents and \$32.14 for nonresidents. Residents aged 55 and older pay \$16.07. For more information, call South St. Paul Parks and Recreation at 651-366-6200 or visit southstpaul.org.

Garden on the Hill

First Presbyterian in South St. Paul, 535 20th Ave. N., has been hosting a community garden for a dozen years. It has 20 fenced-in

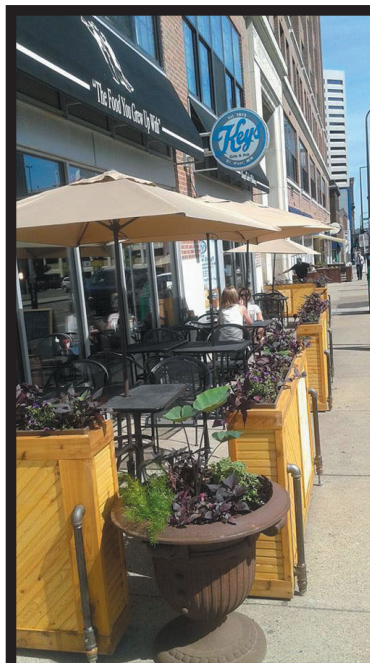
plots, ranging from \$40 for a 10-by-15-foot plot to \$50 for a 10-by-20-foot plot. Master gardeners use a section to run seed trials for the University of Minnesota and to grow produce for the local food shelf, and they also teach free classes and demonstrate organic gardening methods. Experienced gardeners are usually on site to share their knowledge and skills with gardening novices.

Since its inception, gardeners have donated nearly 11,000 pounds of organic vegetables. All plots are for organic gardening, meaning no commercial chemicals are allowed in the garden, including herbicides, insecticides and fungicides. Gardeners are required to maintain their plot, weed the path around it and attend a work session in the spring and fall. Garden coordinator Julie Close said people are attracted to the garden for its serene location, and the opportunity to grow their own food and learn techniques from master gardeners. A kick-off meeting is at 1 p.m., Sunday, April 13. For more information, call 651-459-5607 or visit fpcssp.org.

Farmers markets

Farmers markets are a great place to find fresh produce — without the work. The St. Paul Farmers Market, which operates year-round, begins its summer season in late April at the downtown market. It also hosts neighborhood markets in South St. Paul, West St. Paul and several other communities during the summer and fall. All food is grown within 100 miles of St. Paul. For more details, visit stpaulfarmers-market.com.

The independent West Side Farmers Market is open 9 a.m.-noon every Saturday from June through October at Icy Cup, 63 George St. W.



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One Book | One Minnesota

The Friends of the St. Paul Public Library is hosting One Book | One Minnesota, a statewide book club that invites Minnesotans of all ages to read a common title and discuss it together virtually. The title is "Where We Come From" by Diane Wilson, Sun Yung Shin, Shannon Gibney and John Coy. A virtual discussion with the authors is held at 10 a.m., Tuesday, April 29. The event is free, but registration is required. Visit thefriends.org.

TPAC events

Unless noted, all activities take place at Thompson Park Activity Center, 1200 Stassen Lane, West St. Paul. Events are for ages 55 and older. To register, call 651-403-8300.

Pasque Flowers Blooming at Goat Prairie Remnant in Bloomington, 10 a.m.-noon, Monday, April 7. See Pasque flowers in bloom during a visit to the Goat Prairie Remnant in Bloomington, 2201 W. 108th St. Registration required. \$3.

Otterly Wonderful Otters, 10-11 a.m., Tuesday,

April 22. Facts and stories about river and sea otter history, anatomy, adaptations, lifestyles, key role in Alaskan history, and essential role in keeping our oceans and rivers healthy. Registration required. \$9.

"Music From the World's Greatest Generation," 1-2 p.m., Wednesday, April 23. Iconic tunes from the Great Depression, WWII, big bands, and early country music, all enriched by engaging historical insights of the artists and eras that shaped them. \$10. Dessert included. Register by April 16.

Paint Like Bob Ross: Moonscape, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Thursday, April 24. Work on your latest pencil project. All levels welcome, from novice to skilled. Bring your own pencils and art equipment. Registration required. \$50.

April Foolery: Nature Sense with Eloise Dietz, 1-2:15 p.m., Tuesday, April 29. Nature facts, fiction, trivia and attempts at stumping the naturalist. Register by April 22. \$10.

Nonfiction Book Club, 1-2:30 p.m. the first Thursday of the month. \$10.

Bridge – Home Before Dark, 3-5:30 p.m. Mondays, April-October.

State Capitol

Portraits of Indigenous Authors and Artists, through June 30, at 3rd Floor Exhibit Gallery at the Minnesota State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Now featured is a collection of fine art photography by John Ratzloff. This project started when Ratzloff was invited to photograph the life and natural beauty of White Earth Nation. His photography honors the voices and legacies of Indigenous leaders, offering a unique visual narrative that celebrates their contributions to art, culture and advocacy. Open weekdays 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free.

Union Depot

The following events are held at Union Depot, 214 4th St. E. For more information, visit uniondepot.org/event-calendar.

Station Sounds, 6-8 p.m., Thursday, April 24. 1881 by Lake Elmo Inn presents a new musical artist/group

every third Thursday of the month.

Red Cross blood drive, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Thursday, April 17.

Book discussion with author Nina Hamza on her latest book "Samira's (Worst) Best Summer," 6-8 p.m., Wednesday, April 3.

St. Paul Art Crawl, April 25-27. Shop local artists at Union Depot including painters, photographers, mixed media artists, jewelry designers and apothecary creators. Come support local makers and bring home a new piece of art. Hours are 5-9 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday; noon-6 p.m., Sunday.

Free yoga classes are offered 5:30-6:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, and 9-10 a.m., Saturdays.

Games galore, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. each Wednesday. Giant-size games are available or bring your own. Free.

Public tour of Union Depot, 1-2 p.m., Wednesday, April 2 and 16.

Gatsby at 100

The Minnesota Historical Society will present a collection of items pertaining to "The Great Gatsby" and its author St. Paul native F. Scott Fitzgerald through May in the Gale Family Library at the Minnesota Historical Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul. Entry is free. The display is part of a series of programs this year marking the 100th anniversary of the classic novel's publication. Set in the Jazz Age of the 1920s, the novel explores ideas about class

and society, materialism and the American Dream. Other events include "The Great Gatsby" read in full by various special guests, 1:30-7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 10 at The Minnesota History Center, and Books & Bars: "The Great Gatsby-A Graphic Novel Adaptation" by Katherine Woodman Maynard, 6:30-8 p.m., Tuesday, April 15 at Urban Growler, 2325 Endicott St.

Volunteer In Your Community

Lutheran Social Service of MN is seeks volunteers age 55 or over in your area to provide companionship to older adults or mentor school-age children. Volunteers commit to regular weekly hours for a tax-free stipend and mileage reimbursement. Contact us at 888.205.3770, or AmericorpsSeniors@lssmn.org for more information and to make an impact in your community.



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Arts & Entertainment

Children's Museum

10 7th St. W.
St. Paul
651-225-6000
mcm.org

"Dinosaurs: Land of Fire and Ice," through May 11. Travel back in time and discover what life was like when dinosaurs roamed the earth. Dig for fossils, explore a swampy bog and oozing volcano, climb through icy terrain and more.

Exhibits and activities include "The Scramble," "The Studio," "Creativity Jam," "Sprouts," "Our World," "Forces at Play," "Shipwreck Adventures" and "Imaginopolis." Tickets are \$17 on weekdays and \$19 on weekends. Admission is free the first Sunday of each month; reservations are required, and tickets are

limited. The next free date is April 6.

History Center

345 W. Kellogg Blvd.
St. Paul
651-259-3000
mnhs.org

"Girlhood (It's Complicated)," through June 1. This exhibit from the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History features more than 100 objects that explore how young women have influenced politics, education, work, health and fashion.

"Reframing our Stories" is featured through October. The exhibit was created from a decades-old box of photographs simply labeled "Indians." Inside the box were dozens of pictures of Native community members, organizations, activities, and events that are relevant today.

"Our Home: Native Minnesota" features historic and contemporary photographs, maps and artifacts that show how Minnesota's native communities have retained cultural practices, teachings and values.

Other exhibits include "Minnesota's Greatest Generation," "Then Now Wow," "Grainland" and "Weather Permitting." Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and college students, and \$8 for children ages five to 17. Admission and parking are free on Thursdays, 4-8 p.m.

History Theatre

30 E. 10th St.
St. Paul
651-292-4323
Historytheatre.com

"Secret Warriors," Mar. 29-April 19. Inspired by the stories of the Japanese Americans who served as



"Mean Girls" is presented April 8-13 at the Ordway Center.

translators and interrogators for the U.S. Armed Forces, "Secret Warriors" highlights two men, Koji Kimura and Tamio Takahashi, who took extraordinary risks to save their fellow soldiers in the Pacific Theater during World War II. Discover their compelling personal journeys and heartfelt love stories set against the backdrop of the war and the incarceration of their families. From \$49.

Landmark Center

75 5th St. W.
St. Paul
651-292-3225
landmarkcenter.org

Courtroom Concerts, noon-1 p.m. on Thursdays. Music of Timothy C. Takach, April 3; Cléa Galhano, recorder, Tulio Rondón, cello, Tim Lovelace, piano, April 10; Amos Lucidi, piano, April 17; Lumina, April 24. Free.

Skylark Opera Theatre, 1-3 p.m., Sunday, April 6. Skylark Opera Theatre is known for a wide-ranging repertoire of opera and musical theater. Free.

Ballet Tuesdays, noon-1 p.m. April 8. Ballet performances and demonstrations by Ballet Co.Laboratory. Free.

Romanian Easter Traditions, 1-3 p.m., each Sunday in April, except April 20. Visit the Romanian Ameri-

Crafts • Music • Dance • Food • Animals

March 30 Guatemala

1-3 pm FREE

urban expedition

passport to adventure • 2025

April 13 Venezuela May 4 Ethiopia

landmarkcenter.org

LANDMARK CENTER

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can Cultural Center to learn about painted eggs, Easter customs and painted icons on glass. Free.

Urban Expedition: Venezuela, 1-3 p.m., Sunday, April 13. Authentic music, food, dance performances and crafts. Free.

BandWidth Community Band Festival, noon-6 p.m., Sunday, April 27. Marches, concert band classics, pop, Broadway, and jazz music performed by some of the top volunteer-based ensembles in Minnesota.

Woodturning demonstration, 1-4 p.m., Sunday, Mar. 20 in the AAW Gallery of Wood Art. Free.

Public Building Tour, 12:30-1:15 p.m., every Sunday. Learn about the building's history, gangster connections and restoration. Free.

MN Museum of American Art

350 Robert St. N.
St. Paul
651-797-2571
mmaa.org

"Here, Now" features 150 artworks across media from historically significant and notable new artists. All are in the M's permanent collection. The museum is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday-Sunday.

"When You're in the Mirror," through April 27. A an offering of portraits that considers the repercussions of perception through a relational emphasis. Admission is free.

Ordway Center

345 Washington St.
St. Paul
651-224-4222
ordway.org

"Sister's Easter Catechism: Will My Bunny Go to Heaven?" 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Mar. 30. Sister answers timeworn questions of the Easter season like "Why isn't Easter the same day every year like Christmas?" and "Will my bunny go to heaven?" From \$43.

Sona Jobarteh, 7:30 p.m., Monday, Mar. 31. African Jobarteh blends traditional music, blues and Afropop. From \$54.

Classic Albums Live: U2's "The Joshua Tree," 7:30 p.m., Friday, April 4. The entire album is performed live on stage. From \$40.

"Oceana" by Border Crossing, 8 p.m., Saturday, April 5. "Oceana" is a reinvention of the Bach cantata form for a modern age. From \$5.

"Sacred Voices" by Vo-calessness, 4 p.m., Sunday, April 6. A concert of Sir James MacMillan songs, including "Seven Last Words from the Cross" and "The Sun Danced," based on the miraculous visions of Our Lady of Fatima to three Portuguese shepherd children in 1917. From \$26.

"Mean Girls," April 8-13. Cady Heron may have grown up on an African savanna, but nothing prepared her for the vicious ways of her strange new home in suburban Illinois. Soon, Cady falls prey to a trio of lionized frenemies led by the charming but ruthless Regina George. But when Cady devises a plan to end Regina's reign, she learns the hard way that you can't cross a Queen Bee without getting stung. From \$45.

St. Paul Chamber Or-

chestra concerts - Mozart's 40th Symphony with Dmitry Sinkovsky, 11 a.m., Friday, April 11. Jasmine Chi plays Mozart's Second Flute Concerto, April 25-26. From \$16 for both concerts.

Schubert Club concerts - Musicians on the Rise: Student Competition Winners Recital, 1 p.m., Sunday, April 13. Witness the best of the local rising musical stars in piano, strings, voice, guitar, brass and woodwinds. Free. Jess Gillam, saxophone, will perform April 16-17. From \$28.

The FAWK Hmong (+Friends) Super Show by Funny Asian Women Collective, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 19. An evening of live standup, storytelling, sketches, and short films that celebrate what living in the U.S. for 50 years can do to Southeast Asians - and one Korean. From \$31.

Park Square Theatre

20 W. 7th Place
St. Paul
651-291-7005

parksquaretheatre.org

Kevin Kling and Victor Zupanc, 7 p.m., Saturday, Mar. 29. Heartfelt stories and songs to feed your soul and tickle your funny bone. From \$20.

RiverCentre

175 W. Kellogg Blvd.
St. Paul
651-265-4800
rivercentre.org

Donnie Smith Bike Show, Mar. 29-30. Includes a bike show with over 35 classes and 20 custom bikes, vendors and entertainment. **Minnesota Roller Derby**,

6 p.m., Saturday, Mar. 29 and April 26. From \$22.

People of Color Career Fair, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesday, April 15. A networking and hiring event. Free.

Science Museum of Minnesota

120 W. Kellogg Blvd.
St. Paul

651-221-9444, smm.org

"Butterfly Odyssey" through September 1. An interactive, maze-based exhibit that allows you to experience the fascinating behaviors and inspiring resilience of wild and farmed butterflies. The exhibit also examines how tropical butterfly farming can support the local community, impact the environment, and protect ecosystems around the world.

Virtual Reality Transporter, through December 2026. Use the VRT to hurtle through the cosmos at fantastic speeds, scuba dive into prehistoric seas, and join the astronauts of Apollo 11 as they moonwalk for the first time. \$9.95.

Museum Nights, 5-8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Explore museum galleries, check out special Science Live performances, enjoy food and drink, then catch an Omnitheater show.

OmniFest continues through April 13. Includes: **"Extreme Weather"** - An up-close look at some of the most astonishing and potentially deadly natural phenomena. Learn what causes turbulent tornadoes, receding glaciers and rampant wildfires.

"Cuba" - Journey to the heart of the Caribbean through the eyes of those

exploring under the ocean's surface and dancing in the streets of Havana.

"Fungi Web of Life" - The film unravels how plants and animals would not exist without mushrooms, molds, yeasts and toadstools.

"Secrets of the Sea" - From the smallest krill to the largest whales, explore how ocean ecosystems depend on biodiversity and a surprising level of animal cooperation.

"Stellar Tours: A Star is Born," Wednesday-Sunday. Follow the life cycle of a star through this live digital tele

scope show.

Tickets are \$34.95 for adults and \$24.95 for ages 4-17 and include an Omnitheater show.

Xcel Center

199 W. Kellogg Blvd.
St. Paul
651-726-8240

xcelenergycenter.com

Papa Roach and Rise Against, 7 p.m., Sunday, April 13. From \$51.

Comedian Tom Segura, 7:30 p.m., Friday, April 18. From \$51.

St. Matthew's 36th Annual Dine-in & Curbside-to-go

Table service for dine-in, no buffet line



Every Friday Mar. 7-Good Friday April 18

Serving Time: 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Baked and/or fried wild Alaskan pollock, baked potato, vegetable, cole slaw, roll and dessert. Grilled cheese or spaghetti available as non-fish option.

Beer, wine and pop available for purchase

Adult meal \$16 fish / \$14 non-fish. Cash, check or card.

Children's meals at reduced price

Dine-in: enter at Door 5 at the rear of the church
Curbside-to-go line off Humboldt Ave. onto Robie St.

For more information, visit st-matts.org

St. Matthew's Social Hall, 510 Hall Ave., St. Paul

{ THE FULLER FILES }

by Roger Fuller

The Metropolitan Council is considering dropping the Northstar commuter train between Minneapolis and Big Lake and converting the route to bus service. When the line opened in 2009, Met Council estimated 900,000 riders would use it, but those numbers were never reached. Annual ridership before the pandemic was about 750,000 but has since plummeted to around 97,000. In 2023, the line had \$11.6 million in operating costs and took in just \$324,000 in fares. The train stops at Elk River, Coon Rapids and Fridley.

Flaherty and Collins developers have proposed building 300 market rate apartments near the Green Line Central Station at Fifth

and Cedar. The development would have a 20-story tower and a 6-story building connected by a skyway, and 10,000 square feet of commercial space.

The St. Paul City Council is considering a tree mandate that would require every tree removed from public property to be replaced by a new tree. The council is now debating details on requirements of the replacement trees.

Breakaway Music Festival will be held June 6-7 at Allianz Field in St. Paul, featuring 25 artists including John Summit, Tiësto and Alison Wonderland. Last year's event attracted about 24,000 people.

Morrissey Hospitality is selling the space at 360 St. Peter St. that formerly housed

Pazzaluna and Momento restaurants. Pazzaluna opened in 1998 and closed in 2020 during the pandemic. Momento opened in that space in 2023 and closed a year later.

Zeitgeist will present a chamber music concert at 7 p.m., April 15 and 17 at Nautilus Theatre, 308 Prince St.

Camp Bar and Cabaret at 496 Robert St. will present the following comedians: Kris Shaw, April 4-5; Clayton Fletcher, April 11-12; Ellie Hino, April 18-19; and AJ Finney, April 25-26.

Subtext Books, 6 W. 5th St., will present Mike Croissant, author of "Bombing Hitler's Hometown: The Untold Story of the Last Mass Bomber Raid of World War II in Europe" at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 10.

Burl Art Gallery, 308 Prince St., will hold its second Artistic Kaleidoscope show during April, and a special show April 25-26 during the St. Paul Art Crawl.

The Ramsey County Historical Society will present an exhibit and panel discussion on "Selma 70" from 6-8 p.m., Thursday, April 24 at Landmark Center, 75 W. Fifth St. Registration is required. Visit rchs.com.

Penumbra Theatre, 370 Kent St., will present "When We Are Found" April 24-May 18. Performances are at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday through Friday; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Saturday; and 4 p.m. Sunday.

The skyway walking group meets at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays at the US Bank skyway level, 101 5th St. E. The group travels a mile and a half through the skyways.



Since 1865

THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH LENT & HOLY WEEK

Daily Mass
Noon, Monday-Friday

Stations of the Cross
5:30 pm each Friday through April 11
with soup supper to follow

HOLY WEEK:

Passion (Palm) Sunday: April 13

Sacred Triduum

Chanted and sung liturgies featuring the St. Mary's Schola Choir under the direction of Mr. Josh Wang

Holy Thursday Service, April 17

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 pm, adoration at Altar of Repose until 11 pm

Good Friday Service: April 18

Stations of the Cross at noon; Good Friday liturgy at 3 pm; Tenebrae service at 9 pm

Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil: April 19, 8:30 pm

Easter Sunday Masses: April 20

Mass with organ & cantor 7:30 am; Mass with organ & St. Mary's Schola Choir 9:30 am

Weekend Masses: Sat. 4:30 pm, Sun. 7:30 & 9:30 am

Weekday Masses: Mon.-Fri. Noon

Reconciliation: Mon.-Fri. 11:30 am, Sat. 3:30 pm, and by appointment.

Ample parking & handicapped accessible.

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Worship Guide

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another.” Hebrews 10: 24-25

DOWNTOWN

Church of St. Louis, King of France
506 Cedar St.
651-224-3379
stlouiskingoffrance.org

Church of the Assumption
51 W. Seventh St.
651-224-7536
assumptionsp.org

Central Presbyterian
500 Cedar St.
651-224-4728
centralforgood.org

First Baptist
499 Wacouta St.
651-222-0718
firstbaptiststpaul.org

Church of St. Mary
267 8th St. E., #100
651-222-2619
stmarystpaul.org

WEST SIDE

Cherokee Park United
371 Baker St. W.
651-227-4275
cherokeeparkunited.org

La Puerta Abierta UMC
690 Livingston Ave.
651-558-1896

Our Lady of Guadalupe
401 Concord St.
651-228-0506
www.olgcatholic.org

St. Elizabeth Orthodox
125 Congress St. E.
651-424-0814
seocc.org

St. Matthew Catholic
490 Hall Avenue
651-224-9793
st-matts.org

St. Paul Mennonite Fellowship
371 Baker St. W
saintpaulmennonite.org

WEST ST. PAUL

Augustana Lutheran
1400 Robert St. S.
651-457-3373
augustana.com

Community Christ the Redeemer
110 Crusader Ave. W.
651-451-6123
ccredeemer.org

Crown of Life Lutheran Church & School
115 Crusader Ave. W.
651-451-3832
colwsp.org

Faith United Methodist
1530 Oakdale Ave.
651-457-5686
faithumcmn.com

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121 Butler Ave. W.
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St Mary's Coptic Orthodox Church
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651-455-8947
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POSTSCRIPT

What Peter does

“What is the cat doing?”
I asked my husband, Peter.
“He’s levitating,” Peter said. Or at least I thought that’s what he said.
“The cat is levitating?”
“Meditating!”
“Oh.”

We have a lot of conversations like this and I suspect Peter and I are not alone. I was lying in bed later that evening, imagining our cat, Felix, floating over the nightstand, and the thing that struck me was that Peter would take it in stride.

Peter and I will celebrate



Carrie Classon
CarrieClasson.com

our 10th anniversary this week, which doesn’t seem possible for two reasons. First, because it cannot be possible that 10 years have passed since we got married,

and second, because it cannot be possible there was ever a time I was not married to Peter.

In the past 10 years, I have learned that if the cat were to suddenly start levitating, Peter would not fly off the handle. He would do some quick research and determine how frequent cat levitation was and if there was cause for concern. Will the cat return to normal gravity in time? Will we need to keep him on a harness?

I’d still be watching Felix floating 3 feet off the nightstand and Peter would already have a plan of action in place in case we should need to fetch the cat off the ceiling or retrieve him as he started to float out the window. My

beloved would know what to do. This is what he does. It’s not the only reason I love him but it is one of the reasons.

“Learned helplessness” is when a patient forgets how to make her own coffee (or buy it, for that matter), and everything required for her meal shows up, like magic, in the cupboard. That would be me. Peter occasionally expresses frustration if we run out of something, because he has a secret inventory system that I’m entirely oblivious to. If I start eating an inordinate amount of tuna or honey or potatoes, we will suddenly run low and Peter does not allow us to run low on anything.

Peter plans our travels and

pays the bills. He knows how I’m feeling before I do, which is handy because then I can just ask him.

“Why do I feel this way?” I’ll ask.

“You’ve felt this way before,” he’ll remind me. “It will pass.” And he’s always right.

He does all these things because he cares for me. After 10 years I could easily take what he does for granted.

But I don’t.

Because we weren’t young when we married 10 years ago, and even then I knew that coffee does not appear by magic and the bathroom is not automatically filled with toilet paper. I knew that problems must be solved,

that life would serve up an increasing number of problems as we aged, and that having someone beside me to help solve those problems was a precious gift.

Peter often reminds me that we don’t know if we will be given another day together or another 30 years. “But either way,” he says, “it will be too short.” And he is right.

But as long as we are together, I know he will be there to help figure out whatever comes our way. And so, no, I was not overly worried about the cat levitating yesterday. It would certainly be unusual, but it would be nothing that Peter couldn’t handle.

Till next time.

Viewpoint

‘Structured Silence’

Essay and photo by Jared Arvin

This building tells a different kind of story. It’s not the weathered grit of old diners or neon signs that St. Paul is known for but the quiet precision of concrete and glass that rises above the streets, offering something more contemporary. Its geometric form, defined by deep columns and rhythmic windows, projects a sense of order amidst the city’s daily unpredictability. This is a place that doesn’t wear its history outwardly like other iconic spots. Instead, it exists in its own modernist space, indifferent to the past while firmly planted in the present.

The 375 Jackson Building is not a relic or cultural monument; it is a product of functional beauty. The interplay of light and shadow across its façade introduces depth, almost transforming the rigid structure into something sculptural. The sharp lines and clean design capture the essence of modern urban life in St. Paul – orderly, purposeful and with an understated elegance. Unlike older structures that invoke nostalgia, this building stands as a marker of progress, reflecting a city that has learned to embrace

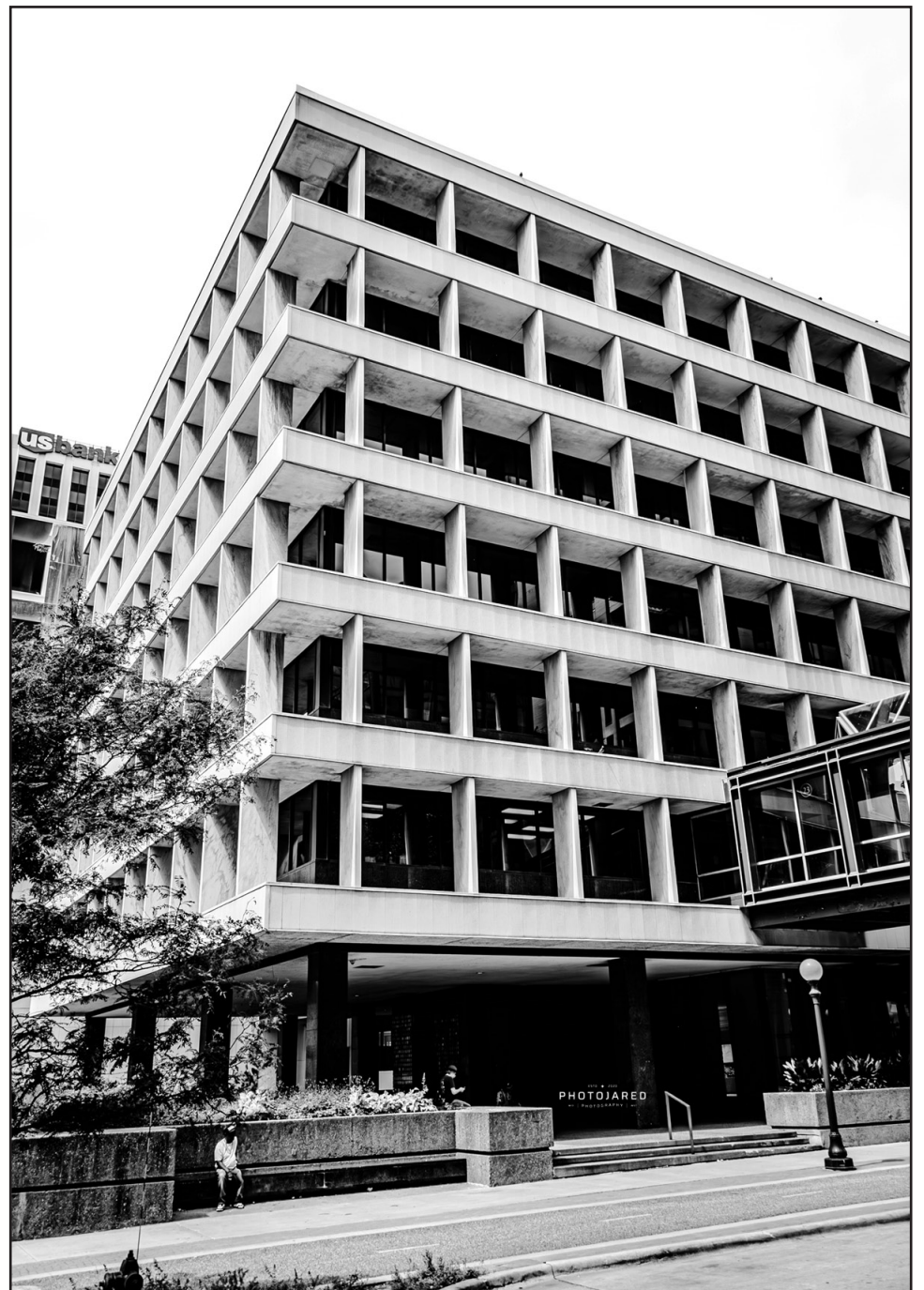
the future.

At the base of this photograph, a lone figure sits on a bench, his small presence against the towering edifice suggesting a tension between the human scale and the city’s architectural ambition. This man, quiet and almost insignificant against the vastness, becomes part of the narrative, his stillness contrasting with the unceasing flow of the urban landscape. It’s a reminder that the city, though grand and often impersonal, still holds space for individual moments – quiet pauses amid the larger rhythm of movement.

The building itself tells a broader story about how we engage with our environments. Its rigid symmetry might initially suggest detachment, but the life within and around it reveals something more intricate. This is not just a space of business and commerce; it’s a canvas for human interaction and connection. The photograph captures a fleeting moment of stillness, where the city pauses long enough for its quieter stories to unfold. In these moments, even the most utilitarian of structures take on new meaning.

This is not the St. Paul of glowing neon or historic façades. It’s the St. Paul of the now – modern, functional and quietly progressive. Through this image, we’re invited to witness the balance between the old and the new, the past and the future. While other buildings may draw from history, the 375 Jackson Building reflects the city’s forward momentum, embodying a minimalist design that speaks to its role in the urban landscape’s ongoing evolution.

In the end, this photograph transforms an otherwise unassuming office building into something more – a reflection of the city itself. St. Paul, like any great city, is a place of layers. And this building, with its clean lines and sharp edges, becomes a symbol of the city’s constant reinvention. It may not hold the same nostalgic appeal as the more iconic landmarks, but through the lens of this photograph, it becomes a vital part of the city’s ever-changing narrative; a quiet participant in the story of a city that never stands still.



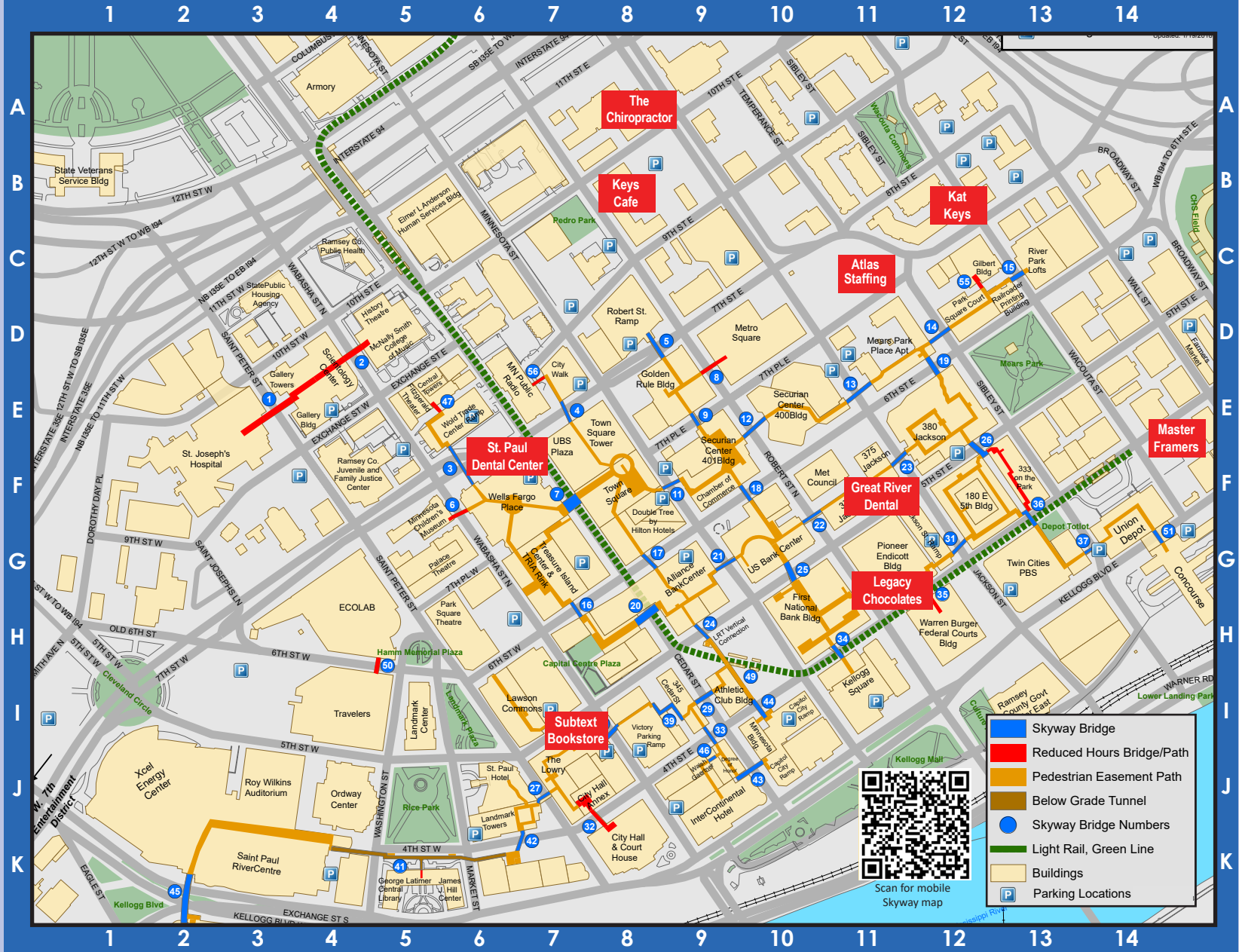
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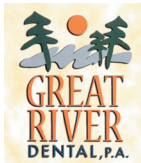
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