

columns

may/june

Landmark Center

A Ramsey County Property

Newsletter and Events Calendar

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Photo by: Bernard Friel

Landmark Center gives back!

In the past few years, you may have read about numerous donations Minnesota Landmarks has made to our community, primarily through silent auction donations to local charity and civic groups. What you may not know is that program activities at Landmark Center also gave back to the community. As part of the "Urban Expedition" program, Minnesota Landmarks has provided an opportunity for food and monetary donations from you, our guests and visitors, to Neighborhood House, our community partner across the river. This past year, donations for Neighborhood House reached over \$1,000 in value. This is a valuable gift for our local food shelf and what makes it so valuable is that it comes straight from the heart.

Our own Landmark Gift Shop has also donated items to charitable causes over the past few years. The store's stock of "Beanie Babies" has been donated to Hurricane Katrina victims, via church groups, and to other countries and continents. These donations have cheered the faces of children in Iraq and Afghanistan (after receiving them from our soldiers), children in African orphanages, as well as children in Nicaragua (the latter as part of a program called "Shoe Box Labels"). The tiny plush animals have also brought smiles and solace to low-income nursing home residents and hospice patients in Minnesota, Texas and Mexico.

Recently, a St. Paul Girl Scout troupe received a donation of 100 St. Paul postcards as part of their "Reach Out America" program, for which, the Scouts sent the cards to countries around the world.

In other words, your participation in programs and activities at Landmark Center provides a "gift forward" and that is something about which we can all feel good.

Rice Park Tours Return!

Become a tourist in your own city and enjoy Rice Park Tours this summer, featuring an exclusive look inside each building surrounding the park. Savor a historic and architectural tour that takes you back in time to learn the hidden secrets of the unique buildings that surround one of the cities' most beloved parks. Rice Park stands as a pillar of downtown St. Paul, flanked with the beautiful architecture of Landmark Center, The Saint Paul Hotel, the St. Paul Central Public Library, the James J. Hill Reference Library, 317 on Rice and The Ordway Center for Performing Arts.

Tours meet at Landmark Center's Visitor Information Center at 10 am on Wednesdays May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19 and September 16. Call 651.292.3063 to reserve your free space.

Rice Park Tours are made possible with support from Landmark Center, The Saint Paul Hotel, James J. Hill Reference Library, St. Paul Central Public Library, 317 on Rice and the Ordway Center for Performing Arts.

Latest at Landmark

AAW's Special Exhibit

Visitors to the American Association of Woodturners Gallery of Wood Art may be surprised to see fiber, clay, metal and more on display in CODAchrome - a Snapshot of Craft in America.

Created in conjunction with the Craft Organization Development Association, which is holding its annual conference in St. Paul this year, the exhibit brings together artists work-

ing in a wide range of styles and materials, each chosen to represent a fine craft guild, association or society.

The exhibit celebrates the work being done by the many craft associations, schools, galleries and guilds that provide support, education and exposure to artists.

The exhibit is on display from April 10th - August 7th.

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2009

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- May 3rd: Saint Paul Conservatory of Performing Arts, *Select Vocal Choirs*
Musser Cortile; 1 pm; FREE
- May 10th: Saint Paul Civic Symphony, *Mother's Day Concert - Pretty as a Picture*
Musser Cortile; 1 pm; FREE
- May 20th: Landmark Center, *Rice Park Tour*,
10:00 am; FREE (call to reserve space)
- May 21st: RCHS, *Panel discussion - Merged Twin Cities: Past, Present and Future*
RCHS Room 317; 7 pm; FREE
- June 2nd: RCHS, *Luncheon Lecture - Saddles and Sliders: History of White Castle in the Twin Cities*
RCHS Room 317; 12 pm; FREE
- June 17th: Landmark Center, *Rice Park Tour*,
10:00 am; FREE (call to reserve space)

SPRING HIGHLIGHTS:

"Pretty as a Picture"

Sundays at Landmark comes to a close with Saint Paul Civic Symphony's popular Mother's Day Concert. This "must see" concert, entitled *Pretty as a Picture*, will feature music by Claude, Astor Piazzolla and Modest Mussorgsky. The concert takes place on May 10th and is free and open to the public. For more information please call 651-292-3276.

The Artie Awards Invade COMPAS' Annual Meeting

COMPAS' annual meeting will be a festive occasion to celebrate the merger with Young Audiences of MN.

Modeled loosely after ceremonies like the Academy Awards, Tony Awards, and Ivey Awards, the first annual Artie Awards will be a unique COMPAS event. Guests will enjoy entertainment by COMPAS artists, an update on the merger, and the award ceremony. In addition, COMPAS will recognize outgoing and new board members and officers.

The Artie Awards will take place on June 4. Contact Lynne Beck (651-292-4313) for more information.

Tie it on this Spring!

Landmark is proud to present Kathy Tauer's spring collection of fashion scarves! Pastels for a romantic spring, hot, bold colors for summer, muted neutrals to enhance your tan...come and browse Kathy's latest creations!



Teaching Youth to Change Their World

SOS Players began in 1990 with a troupe of 20 teen actors and one primary adult leader. In their first year, they performed 33 shows, primarily in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Now SOS has 125 youth in their family and over 100 volunteers. They present up to 100 performances a year for all ages. In 2008, SOS launched a new troupe of teen actors, based at Landmark Center. This expansion allows SOS to have a more influential presence in the urban communities in and near the Twin Cities. On May 12, 2009 SOS will be performing at the F. K. Weyerhaeuser Auditorium in Landmark Center at 2:30pm. An audition for interested youth will follow the performance. The performance and audition are open to the public.

SOS' repertoire of dramatic sketches—and the community of youth and adult volunteers who produce them—centers around the merits of individual responsibility. Their original presentations address and illuminate serious issues that teens face: choices related to substance abuse, sexual behavior, and struggles with depression, bullying, racism, and sexual and physical abuse. Today, SOS maintains a touring cast of 50 actors aged 14 to 18. They reach tens of thousands audience members each year and build a community that supports healthy life choices.

For more information please call 651-438-5416 or e-mail info@sosplayers.org. Web site: www.sosplayers.org.

Landmark Center Goes Green for Earth Day

Landmark Center and five other buildings owned by Ramsey County are going Green this Earth Day by rolling out a new food waste recycling program. Minnesota Landmarks, the nonprofit organization that manages Landmark Center, is working with Saint Paul – Ramsey County Public Health and Ramsey County Property Management to separate food waste from weddings and other catered events. The food scraps will be recycled to feed pigs at a north metro area family farm.

The county's Environmental Health Section has trained Landmark Center staff and caterers to set up and run a food waste program and made arrangements for the food scraps to be picked up by a local hog farm. "Food waste recycling is a great example of how businesses and organizations can create financially sustainable green strategies," said Zack Hansen, Director of Ramsey County's Environmental Health Section. By separating food scraps to recycle, businesses, nonprofits and government can save money by reducing the volume and weight of waste they have to pay to haul away. "Growing concern about the environment, coupled with difficult economic times, makes food waste recycling an idea whose time has come," said Hansen.

Ramsey County, which owns Landmark Center, has also begun the process to roll out food waste recycling at five other county facilities this spring. The county will shrink its garbage and put waste to better use with food scrap programs scheduled to begin by the end of May at the Ramsey County Care Center, the Family Service Center, Boys Totem Town, the Juvenile and Family Justice Center, and the Law Enforcement Center. The county is expanding food scrap separation based on the success of food recycling that has been running for several years at the Ramsey County Correctional Facility.

Landmark Center began food recycling during Earth week. "We are excited to be starting this program. Food recycling not only allows us to reduce the waste after events and minimize our carbon footprint but we are also giving brides and event planners an easy way to green up their event," said Amy Mino, Executive Director of Minnesota Landmarks.

Efforts to work with hospitality industry organizations are part of the county's ongoing work on GreenGatherings, a partnership formed to shape the greening of events, large and small, in the Twin Cities. Project Partners include Ramsey County, Hennepin County, the City of Saint Paul, the City of Minneapolis, the City of Bloomington, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 5. The purpose of GreenGatherings includes building a lasting environmental legacy to protect the region's natural resources, educate citizens and visitors about green choices and their impact on the environment, provide tools and information, and demonstrate the economic and community benefits of greening. More information about GreenGatherings is available at www.co.ramsey.mn.us/ph/mngreengatherings.htm

Visitor and Information Center

The Visitor Center has information about activities and events in downtown St. Paul and surrounding Ramsey County.

Desk hours: Monday through Saturday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.
Sunday 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Landmark Gift Shop:

Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.
Saturdays 11:00 am-3:00 pm
Sundays 12:00 pm-3:00 pm

American Association of Woodturners Gallery of Wood Art

Current Exhibits:

The Spindle; March 14th - May 29th
CODAchrome—a Snapshot of Craft in America; April 10th - August 7th

Exhibit hours: Tuesday through Friday 11:00 am - 4:00 pm, Free
Sunday 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm, Free.
Call 651-484-9094 for more details.

The Schubert Club

Museum of Musical Instruments

Lower Level of Landmark Center

Monday - Friday 11 am - 3 pm, Sunday, 1 - 5 pm, FREE

2nd Floor Galleries-The Gilman Ordway Manuscript Collection now showing:

Hand of the Masters: Letters from Ten Great Composers; and
The Spiering Papers: A German-American Life In Music.

Monday - Friday 11 am - 3 pm, Sunday, 1 - 5 pm, FREE
Call (651) 292-3264 for more information.

Landmark Center Archive Gallery

Basement level on the north end; open during building hours; View artifacts and news articles from the Old Federal Courts Building that opened in 1902, when it was a post office, customs house and much more.

Landmark Center Tour Information

Landmark Center offers a variety of public and private tours for individuals, families and groups of all ages and sizes. Call 651-292-3230 for more tour information.

Ramsey County Historical Society

The latest exhibit, *Where The Twin Cities Meet: A History of the Intersection of University and Prior Avenues*, is being exhibited in the East gallery. The exhibit will uncover the intersection's fascinating history. Call 651-222-0701 for more information.

Uncle Sam Worked Here Exhibit

An interactive interpretive exhibit that gives visitors a glimpse into federal courts, wartime activities, prohibition, immigration and more that occurred in Landmark Center over the past 106 years. Self-guided and guided tours are available during building hours. For tour information call 651-292-3230.

Anita's Café

Come enjoy fine breakfasts and lunches at Landmark Center's own café, where "Chef Jeff" will fill your culinary delights with his daily specials. The café is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 2:00 pm. For catering services call 651-292-4160.

LANDMARK C E N T E R

Where is the exact geographic center of the Twin Cities?
And what do we know about its history?

Some believe that the intersection of University and Prior Avenues in St. Paul is the center, and claim that there was a floor marker in a restaurant, now gone, that marked the exact spot. While some of the early buildings and activities are no longer present, there remains a significant historical record showing what life was like on this corner, going back to the time when the State of Minnesota was founded.

Considerable information is known about a number of the early important businesses at the corner. The Minnesota Transfer Rail Lines were set up by James J. Hill to facilitate exchange of freight between ten rail lines. Barrett and Zimmerman, one of the largest

horse-trading firms in the country was located there, as well as Union Park, an early "suburban" real estate development. There were also lumber yards, businesses tied to the railroads, restaurants, motels, a bridge, and a long gone YMCA facility. Because of its central location and proximity to the huge rail transfer yard, this corner has a fascinating history that sheds light on the development of the entire region and state.

This intersection represents in microcosm the larger changes that have occurred in our region over time. Visit the RCHS Exhibit Gallery to learn more. *An Historical Exhibit Funded, in part, by the Minnesota Sesquicentennial Commission*

Accessibility

If you plan to attend a Landmark Center activity and have a need for special assistance, please e-mail admin@landmarkcenter.org or call 651.292.3233 at least ten days prior to the event.

Landmark Center Building Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Minnesota Landmarks 75 West Fifth Street, Suite 404, Saint Paul, MN 55102
Administrative: 651.292.3233; Information: 651.292.3225 www.landmarkcenter.org

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